



## **Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2023 Draft Event Management Plan**

**Mullingar, Co Westmeath  
6<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

## Document Control Sheet

<b>Project Title</b>	Fleadh Cheoil Na hÉireann Mullingar, 2023
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<b>Circulation</b>	Copies to Local Authority Planning Office

Revision Notes	
Status	Draft Plan

### **Notice of Use**

This Draft Event Management Plan has been prepared on behalf of the Fleadh Cheoil Executive Committee (FEC) for the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2023 event.

It applies to the 2023 Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann event only. It does not apply to any previous Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann events, nor does it apply to any future Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann events.

This Draft Event Management Plan is supplied to those on the Circulation List for their exclusive use in relation to this event.

The FEC nor Safety Solutions accepts no responsibility for anything arising out of the unauthorised, improper application of this Draft Event Management Plan to any other event.

### **Development**

This Draft Event Management Plan and all details herein are prepared in line with best practice, government regulations and industry guidelines, nationally and internationally.

It is subject to periodic review and development and represents best practice at the time of its production.

### **Notice of Revision**

This Draft Event Management Plan is subject to revision and revision notes will be included where applicable.

This plan does include details which may in some cases represent finalised information for the event, having hosted the event in 2022, the organisers are able to put forward a more detailed draft event plan for the event license application.

It is however accepted that some additional information and details will be presented in the finalised Event Management Plan, the finalised EMP will be developed closer to the event and will be presented to all relevant stakeholders including statutory agencies at that point.

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Document Objectives

The completion of this Draft Event Management Plan has been coordinated by Safety Solutions Skillnet Limited (Safety Solutions) and is designed to plan and provide for the effective management of this event, with a particular focus on the safety of all spectators, attendees, staff, contractors etc. It is designed and compiled to outline all pertinent elements in the planning and management of this event.

It is a key component of the effective management of the event and, as such, will be referred to by all stakeholders and agencies involved.

### 1.2 Event Organisers

The organisers of the event are the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann Fleadh Executive Committee (FEC). The FEC is a group of voluntary committee members from the Westmeath community.

Their contact details are as per below:

**Address:** Civic Office, Mount Street, Mullingar, Co Westmeath.

**Key Contacts:** Joe Connaire                      Tel: 086 667 8063  
                         Colette Glynn                              Tel: 044 9338954  
                         Ann- Marie Corroon                      Tel: 044 9332064

Acknowledgement is given to Westmeath County Council, for their time and assistance in the planning of the event in 2022 and for their commitment to the event in 2023, as well as in providing event site areas to facilitate elements of the event such as the Gig Rig and all outdoor spaces generally.

### 1.3 Involvement Parameters

Safety Solutions is an established, experienced, safety compliance company, with experience in Event Safety including previous Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann events in Cavan, Sligo, and Ennis and Mullingar (2022)

Safety Solutions, having won a public tender competition, has been contracted by Fleadh Cheoil Executive Committee (FEC) to work on Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2022 and 2023.

Safety Solutions are involved in the overall planning and organising elements of the event in conjunction with the FEC and all stakeholders including the three Principal Response Agencies.

Safety Solutions will provide the key operational staff for this event, including an Event Controller, Deputy Event Controller, Event Safety Officer, Deputy Event Safety Officer as well as holding the statutory roles of PSDP and PSCS.

### 1.4 Sensitive Information

This Draft EMP contains information and procedures, which are particular to this event and are sensitive in nature. This may include coded emergency messages as well as confidential security information.

This information should only be circulated among those parties as noted in the Circulation List and should not be circulated beyond those parties without the express, written permission of FEC.

Circulating this information/EMP to people outside this Circulation List could negatively impact on the safety of the staff and public at this event.



## 1.5 Drawings

Current drawings\* related to this event are included in the Appendices and include the following:

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>APPENDIX</b>
Overall Town Plan	C1
Town Centre Event Plan	C2
Inner Traffic Management Plan	C3
Outer Traffic Management Plan	C4
Gig Rig Blackhall Map	C5

\*Note that additional drawings will be provided in the finalised event plan to be submitted in advance of the actual event.

## 1.6 Insurance

There is full insurance in place for this event provided by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann.

## 2.0 EVENT INFORMATION

### 2.1 Event Outline

Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann is an annual event run by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. The Event was first held in 1951 in Mullingar, and it has grown year on year to become Ireland's national celebration of traditional Irish music, dancing, culture, and learning. It is attended by a national and international audience.

The 2023 Event will be held in Mullingar Town. (The 2022 Event was also held in Mullingar)

The event will comprise a wide range of events, both consecutively and simultaneously. These will include:

- Scoil Éigse (to be held mainly in local established schools)
- Competitions (to be held mainly in local established schools & venues)
- Concerts (to be held in local venues)
- 1 x Gig Rig-outdoor temporary stage (located in Blackhall Place CP)
- Live TV Stage (proposed to be held at Fairgreen Carpark, Mullingar)
- The Cathedral- with indoor stage
- Impromptu traditional music and dancing sessions on streets (note that this will be subject to control as required)
- Céilithe
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Ionad na Gaeilge
- Archives Exhibit
- Retail Area-Fleadh Merchandising
- Food Village/s
- Marching band parade (held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August)
- Entertainment Element

A full Event Programme is provided in [Appendix D](#)

The Fleadh Cheoil will be both an indoor and an outdoor event.

The Indoor element will include but is not limited to Competitions, Scoil Éigse, Céilithe and Signing Sessions, while some concerts will take place in established venues across the town. These venues have been assessed by both Westmeath Fire Prevention Officer and Safety Solutions as well as the organising committee in 2022 and will be subject to reassessment for the event in 2023.

Places at competitions can be pre-registered and tickets for the indoor concerts can be purchased prior to each event

Signing sessions and Céilithe will be operated on a first-come-first-served basis. These will be monitored on the event days by the appointed volunteer venue manager to adhere to set capacities.

The outdoor element will include (but is not limited to) The Gig Rig, TV Area, and musicians as well as all streets of Mullingar Town Centre. There will be some temporary structures in place to accommodate/facilitate the entertainment such as marquees at the TV location and a stage at the Gig Rig area.

These temporary structures will all be signed off prior to the event by an independent structural engineer.

Attendance at the Gig Rig and the TV area will be on a first-come-first-served basis. This will be monitored on the event days by event staff and the Event Controller. They will be aided by capacity-management processes as applicable; this will include ongoing monitoring both on the ground and remotely from the Event Control room.

It is envisaged that Dominic St., Oliver Plunkett St., Pearse St., Mount St., Mary St., Castle St., Bishopsgate St., Market Square and Blackhall, can expect a high volume of transient pedestrian footfall. The pedestrian capacity of these streets and the gig rig areas has been calculated and will be detailed in a pedestrian management plan to be presented in the finalised EMP.

Based on previous All-Ireland Fleadhanna, it is expected that it will be busiest on these main streets from Friday 11th to Sunday 13th August 2022.

The Gig Rig, Cathedral, and Fleadh TV and Town Park are in locations to encourage the attendees to circulate throughout the town and manage an even distribution of pedestrians throughout. Locations have been designed in such a way as to draw attendees through a journey along the main streets of Mullingar.

Alcohol will be sold only from designated licensed facilities, there has been ongoing engagement with the proprietors and management of these facilities to ensure that glass bottles or glasses are not allowed onto the streets.

The entire event space will be manned by professional security, stewards and/or volunteers at all times, this is in addition to the event safety officer(s).

In consultation and cooperation with relevant stakeholders, Safety Solutions will ensure that steward and medical staffing levels are sufficient during the Fleadh.

Appendix C2 provides an overview of the overall event site and the various venues and locations incorporated in the event.

## 2.2 Dates & Duration

Elements of the Fleadh will take place in various venues and locations in Mullingar town from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The proposed details for the main events are detailed in Appendix D.

As there is a 'pop up performance' element to the Fleadh these may occur at various times along the main pedestrianized streets. As such, these will be monitored closely by Event Control and Security/Stewarding personnel to ensure that these performances do not adversely affect pedestrian flows.

Note that amplified music will not be permitted on the streets without an appropriate permit.

## 2.3 Audience Profile

There is a mixed profile attending the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann. This includes but is not limited to:

- Students attending schools and competing in competitions
- Families and friends of the above
- Mixed profile of all ages attending various concerts
- Mixed profile of general spectators ranging from all ages

Previous years have shown that the event is family friendly and positive, with very good cooperation from all involved. The attendees are expected to be Local, National, and International.

## 2.4 Expected Attendance

Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann has grown in popularity and attendance since its initial inception in 1951. The expected attendance for the event is comprised of Scoil Éigse attendees, competition participants, musicians, and general spectators. The profile will range from young children to older generations.

The numbers expected throughout the town during the full duration of the Fleadh may reach more than 300,000 people. This will be a transient crowd and the figure given here is a cumulative estimate. The site layout has been designed in such a way to manage and distribute the flow of people around the various venues and utilise the full streetscape, note that in addition to the town centre there are events at other locations on the periphery of Mullingar in locations such as hotels and the official campsite.

The number of attendees attending the event will be subject to external factors such as the weather conditions. Note that at the time of writing Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted and is not expected to have a significant effect on the event.

There may be potentially up to 45,000 persons on site for each day however based on previous experience, below is a breakdown of the estimated expected attendance at each of the event days.

Event	Date	Forecast Attendance	Breakdown
Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann	Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	20,000pax	Attendees Hospitality guests Staff Volunteers Contractors
	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	15,000pax	
	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> August	15,000pax	
	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> August	15,000pax	
	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> August	25,000pax	
	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> August	40,000pax	
	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	45,000pax	
	Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	40,000pax	
	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	TBC*	

\*There may be some patrons remaining on in Mullingar after the main events have concluded on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August. The number of patrons choosing to do this be dependent on various factors such as the weather. Proportionate arrangements will be in place to manage any remaining patrons on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August.

## 2.5 Weather

Due to the extended duration of the event, weather conditions will be monitored leading up to the event and on an ongoing basis during the event to inform planning and management decisions.

The event organisers will maintain contact through the event with Met Éireann and other forecasters as applicable, this may include direct communications with the Duty Forecaster where required.

An ongoing assessment of the weather and potential impacts will be carried out through the event, this may extend from issuing precautions to attendees through social media, carrying out wind measurements on temporary structures to closing all or part of the event in the event of red or orange weather warnings being issued.

## 2.6 Expected Ground Conditions

Most of the events for the Fleadh Cheoil are being held in established premises. Safety Assessments have been completed of these venues in 2022 and will be repeated in 2023.

The Gig Rig and Fleadh TV are in fully hard surfaced areas, the streets of Mullingar will accommodate many of the patrons to the event, these surfaces are also hard standing and are in good order.

All installations and temporary structures will be signed off by an independent structural engineer. This includes all temporary staging.

The Town Park location will involve grass areas with condition to be monitoring during the event.

Trackway will also be added at key areas of the official campsite as required with the organisers having additional measures available as required such as bark mulch etc.

Car Parks will be a combination of hard standing and grass areas. Car parks will be deployed on a phased basis with the hard standing parks given priority after which the grass parks will be deployed. Works have been completed in 2022 at the various car parks where required including widening entrances and works to provide suitable surfaces.

## 2.7 Event Planning

### Engagement

Safety Solutions have been engaged to hold the roles of Event Controllers, Event Safety Officers, PSCS and PSDP for the event on foot of a tender competition administered by Fleadh Executive Committee (FEC).

### Consultations

Throughout the planning of this event consultations have been ongoing and will continue between Safety Solutions, the Fleadh Cheoil Executive Committee (FEC), Westmeath County Council, and the following stakeholders:

An Garda Síochána	Local residences & businesses
HSE	Ianróid Éireann
Westmeath Fire Services	Bus Éireann
Westmeath Civil Defence	Coaches
The Office of Public Works (OPW)	Mullingar Taxi Representatives
Integrity Security	Mullingar Chambers

### Meetings

Various meetings and communications have been convened and will continue in order to adequately plan for the event, the organisers have, and will continue to convene FEC Meetings and meetings with various relevant stakeholders whilst Safety Solutions working with the organisers have and will continue to convene meetings between the organisers and the statutory agencies.

During the week of Fleadh Cheoil, it is envisaged that twice daily meetings will take place between statutory agencies and key stakeholders, the focus of these meetings will be to ensure active management and ongoing planning and response to issues arising during the event whilst also ensuring a coordinated response between all agencies.

## Event Control Meetings

Event Control Meetings will be held during the event; the meetings will be chaired by Event Control and will have the following agencies present/represented:

- Organisers
- An Garda Síochána
- Fire Service
- HSE EHO
- Westmeath County Council
- Medical Coordinator (Order of Malta)
- Security Controller
- Safety Officer
- Volunteer Coordinator

The meetings will be held in the Event Control Room.

Note that additional meetings may be held where the need for this is identified during the event.

## 2.8 Event Control Room

The Event Control room will be located in the Executive Lounge, County Buildings. It will be manned for the full duration of the event typically from 9am-12/1am daily (later towards the end of the event)

Contact numbers connected to the Event Control Room will be provided for the following:

Event Control

Medical Control

Security Control

## 2.9 Major Emergency Management Exercise

A MEM tabletop exercise has been planned completed on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2023; the objective of this exercise will be to present and explore responses to various realistic scenarios relevant to the event, it is hoped that all agencies will be represented as well as the organisers and key stakeholders. The outcomes of the exercise will be incorporated into the finalised EMP and in the associated risk assessments as applicable.

### 3.0 HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE

#### 3.1 Health, Safety & Welfare Policy

It is the expressed view of the organisers of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2023 that the event is planned and implemented in the safest possible manner.

We recognise the rights of all persons to be free from harm, injury, and ill-health as a result of the events of the Fleadh both directly and indirectly. This includes but is not necessarily restricted to participants, public, contractors, residents of Mullingar and all persons employed in the overall planning and implementation of the Fleadh both on a voluntary and paid basis.

We strive to ensure that all persons are afforded appropriate and equal protection and consideration.

It is our stated commitment that all available and reasonable resources will be provided to achieving the safest possible event. These resources will be forthcoming both in terms of required human resources, time, and finances.

We will be guided by all applicable legislation, codes of practice, best practice, and previous positive and negative experiences.

In all cases we will strive to meet and where possible exceed these standards. The following legislation and publications (amongst others) which will be adhered to and used as reference include the following.

- Planning and Development Act 2000
- S.I. No. 600/2001 — Planning and Development Regulations, 2001
- Safety, Health, and Welfare at Work Act 2005
- Safety, Health, and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 2007-2016
- Safety, Health, and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013
- Code of Practice for Safety at Outdoor Pop Concerts and other musical events
- HSE Requirements and Guidance for Outdoor Events (2013)
- Guidelines for safe presentation of festivals and live events: COVID-19 (The Arts Council and Fáilte Ireland)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Joe Connaire**

Chairperson, Fleadh Executive Committee

### 3.2 Safety Strategy

The Health and Safety Hierarchy of controls will be used in managing hazards and deciding risk controls in all aspects of the Fleadh both in terms of planning and implementation. The Hierarchy of Controls are as follows-

1. Elimination
2. Substitution
3. Isolation / Engineering Controls
4. Administrative Controls
5. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The principles of prevention (Schedule 3 Safety, Health, and Welfare at Work Act 2005) will also be incorporated into Health and Safety management. These are as follows-

1. The avoidance of risks.
2. The evaluation of unavoidable risks.
3. The combating of risks at source.
4. The adaptation of work to the individual
5. The adaptation of the place of work to technical progress
6. The replacement of dangerous articles, substances, or systems of work
7. The giving to collective measure of priority over individual protective measures.
8. The development of an adequate prevention policy in relation to safety, health & welfare.
9. The giving of appropriate training and instructions to employees/persons.

### 3.3 Hazards & Risk Controls

A hazard analysis and risk assessment process will be carried out as part of the overall management of Health and Safety. Hazards will be measured based on the probability of an occurrence and the potential consequences because of such an event/occurrence.

In many cases there will be a need to implement control measures for the various identified hazards to reduce the probability and consequences of such an occurrence. These risk controls are varied with typical examples ranging from training, signage, emergency equipment etc.

Each hazard will be assessed individually to ensure that the best possible solutions can be achieved in each case. The ultimate aspiration will be to eliminate or reduce the risk as far as reasonably practicable.

Draft risk assessments have been compiled and are detailed in [Appendix F](#).



## 3.4 Safety Management

### 3.4.1 Staffing

This event phase will be staffed by people experienced in similar events, including the following personnel:

- Event Controller
- Deputy Event Controller
- Safety Officer
- Deputy Safety Officer
- Medical Coordinator
- Medical Controllers
- Medical Staff (all levels) \*
- Security Controller
- Professional Security
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Stewards/volunteers
- Traffic Management Staff
- Campsite Managers and Staff

\* Sufficient medical provision is being provided for the event, the Draft Medical Plan is detailed later in this document, see [Appendix B](#)

Due to the nature of the event, there will be variations in numbers of persons attending the event, the levels of staffing will be proportionate to the numbers of patrons attending the overall event in line with ratios detailed in the relevant code of practice and collaborative risk assessment.

### 3.4.2 Event Layout

The main outdoor temporary hubs of the Fleadh Cheoil are:

- The Gig Rig (Temporary outdoor live stage in Blackhall Carpark)
- TV Site (Temporary Marquees x 2 at Fairgreen Area)
- The Town Park

These hubs have been located within the event site to encourage dispersal of attendees in so far as possible. The layout of each area has sufficient space for ingress, circulation, and egress.

Large temporary structures will not be placed in any closed pedestrianised streets where they may cause crowd congestion.

A selection of concession units providing hot and cold food and associated refreshments and good will be provided. Their designated locations will be pre-approved by the organisers to ensure maintenance of sufficient crowd flow. See also Section 13 Casual trading.

Trading will not be allowed in any locations other than those approved and detailed in the event plans within the overall event site.

Adequate space will be given between all structures to allow the attendees to circulate in comfort; suitable access and egress routes will be provided and maintained the number and capacity of these will be proportionate to the capacity of each site.

All schools, competitions and concerts, aside from the above venues will be held in established venues in Mullingar town. Capacities of indoor venue will be outlined by the Fire Prevention Officer prior to use.

All established venues will also be subject to health and safety inspections by the Safety Officer.

### 3.4.2 Traffic Restrictions / Diversions

A draft traffic management plan has been completed for the Fleadh Cheoil 2023 in Mullingar. This has been completed with inputs and collaboration from various stakeholders, the process has been led by An Garda Síochana and Westmeath County Council.

The events for the Fleadh Cheoil are both ticketed and open to the public. The following streets are to be pedestrianised to facilitate the safety and comfort of the transient audience and the 'pop up' nature of the performers on the street:

- Dominic Street
- Mount Street
- Oliver Plunkett Street
- Pearse Street
- Austin Friar Street Lower
- Castle Street
- Blackhall Street
- Gaol Hill
- Auburn Road
- Mary Street
- Railway Row
- Grove Street
- Dominic Place
- Martins Lane
- Bishopsgate Street
- College Street

To facilitate this a number of Road Closures and Diversions will be in place. Please refer to Draft Traffic Management Plan [Section 14](#), for details.

### 3.4.3 Expected Attendance

As outlined in Section 2.4 Expected Attendance, the expected attendance is expected to vary across the event with the second weekend likely to attract the most interest.

It is envisaged that the event will be popular, especially at the weekends. This is based on several factors, including the following:

- Attendance in previous years and previous experience of this event
- This being the second and final year (for the foreseeable future) that the event will be held in Mullingar
- The understanding that good or bad weather will impact on the numbers attending

### 3.4.4 Capacity Calculations

Event-specific capacity calculations have been established for the following locations from the event in 2022.

- All indoor venues
- Outdoor Gig Rig Location
- TV Marquees

Note that any new or altered locations for the event in 2023 will also be subject to capacity calculations.

#### **Indoor Venues**

All indoor venues will be subject to assessment by Westmeath County Council, Fire Prevention Officer. This information will be provided to the venue's chairperson and to individual venue managers (when appointed)

Signage will be displayed at a prominent location at each venue displaying the venue capacity for ease of reference and to aid the venue managers in ensuring that capacities are not exceeded.

Seating arrangements proportionate to the venue capacities will assist in being able to manage the numbers of persons on the premises. (Note that all seating will be either interlocking or connected by cables ties front and back to ensure that they do not impede any potential emergency evacuation)

#### **Outdoor Venues**

The occupant capacities will be calculated using the area available within the actual perimeters of the event space. In addition, consideration has been given to the following:

- Space required for the stages, marquees, barriers, and medical areas.
- Location of concession units and toilets

The food villages, located adjacent to the Gig Rig area, are contained in a separate hub to allow for adequate space for queueing whilst not impacting on the main viewing / circulation areas.

When calculating the occupant load in all areas, both the holding and emergency exits capacities have been considered. When calculating the holding capacity, a factor of 0.5m<sup>2</sup> per person has been applied.

When calculating the emergency exit capacity; the formula of 82 persons per minute (8-minute evacuation time) has been applied, this being the most up to date internationally accepted formula. Note that the largest emergency exit is discounted from the final calculations, (in the event that this exit is unusable as a result of the emergency)

Note: The narrowest points on emergency evacuation routes has been the measurement applied when calculating the emergency exit capacities.

The lower of these two capacities i.e., holding or emergency exit capacity will be the agreed capacity for the venue/location. During the event these areas will be closely monitored to ensure a that there is no congestion or over capacity.

### **Emergency Exits**

All exit routes and emergency exits will have adequate directional signage that will be clearly visible from applicable areas in the event space. In addition, all exit activity will be supervised by event stewards and security who will be in position throughout the event, to regulate and manage crowd flows.

In the case of an emergency operations attendees will exit via the nearest road/door to a place of safety initially. In the case of indoor venues this will be the existing emergency assembly point.

In the case of outdoor locations and streets this will be outdoor holding areas.

Holding areas have been identified for key outdoor event spaces and are detailed in the [Pedestrian Management Plan](#).

See following section for breakdown of capacities for the following key areas:

- Gig Rig (Blackhall Place)
- TV Area (Fairgreen)

**Gig Rig Blackhall Place**

<b>Emergency Exit Capacity</b>		
<b>Exit*</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
Exit 1- Mount Street	5m	3280
Exit 2- To Band Hall	6m	Discounted
Exit 3- To Grove Street	7.4m	4854
Exit 4- Past side/back of stage	3.6m	2316
<b>Emergency Exit Capacity is 10,450 persons</b>		
<b>Holding Capacity</b>		
<b>Viewing Area</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	
3696m <sup>2</sup>	7392 persons	
<b>Holding Capacity is 7392 persons</b>		

Conclusion – As the holding capacity is less than the emergency exit capacity this will be the determining factor- **Capacity for Gig Rig Area is 7392 Persons.**

\*Note that exits towards Blackhall St. and Dominick St. are not being considered as emergency exits as these will most likely not be available due to pedestrian levels on these routes.

\*\*Note that this is not the entire space in the Gig Rig 1 area; this area also includes food trading areas, the food trading areas have not been factored into the holding area capacity as this are will typically be utilized as circulation space.

**TV Area Fairgreen**

<b>Emergency Exit Capacity</b>		
<b>Exit</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
Exit 1- Towards Roundabout	2m	1312
Exit 2- Towards Row of Shops	2m	Discounted
<b>Emergency Exit Capacity is 1312 persons</b>		
<b>Holding Capacity</b>		
<b>Viewing Area</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	
Internal in Marquee Approx. 196m <sup>2</sup>	392	
External Viewing Area Approx.	400	
<b>Holding Capacity for total site is approximately 792 persons</b>		

Conclusion – As the holding capacity is less than the emergency exit capacity this will be the determining factor- **Capacity for TV Area is 792 Persons.** (Note this is subject to change depending on further information- Further information was not available at the time of writing. This information will be provided in advance of the event. Best practice will prevail in terms of ensuring that the capacities are accurately calculated and that these capacities are not exceeded during the event)

### 3.4.5 Monitoring of capacity numbers at each location

Various methods will be used to ensure that capacities are not exceeded at each location.

The approach may vary according to the venue, e.g., the Cathedral concerts venue will be ticketed only, the number of tickets issued will not exceed the maximum numbers of persons permitted.

Crowd clicker systems will be deployed as required at the Gig Rig location as required, note that in 2022 the crowd clicker systems were not generally deployed at this location as the capacity numbers were not likely to be exceeded, it is envisaged that the use of the clicker systems may be required in 2023 for peak times such as evening times during the second weekend of the event. The street areas will rely on visual monitoring from CCTV relayed to the event control room in addition to on the ground physical monitoring at the various locations such as Dominic Place, Market Square and Mount Street.

**The current town centre CCTV system covers the following zones:**

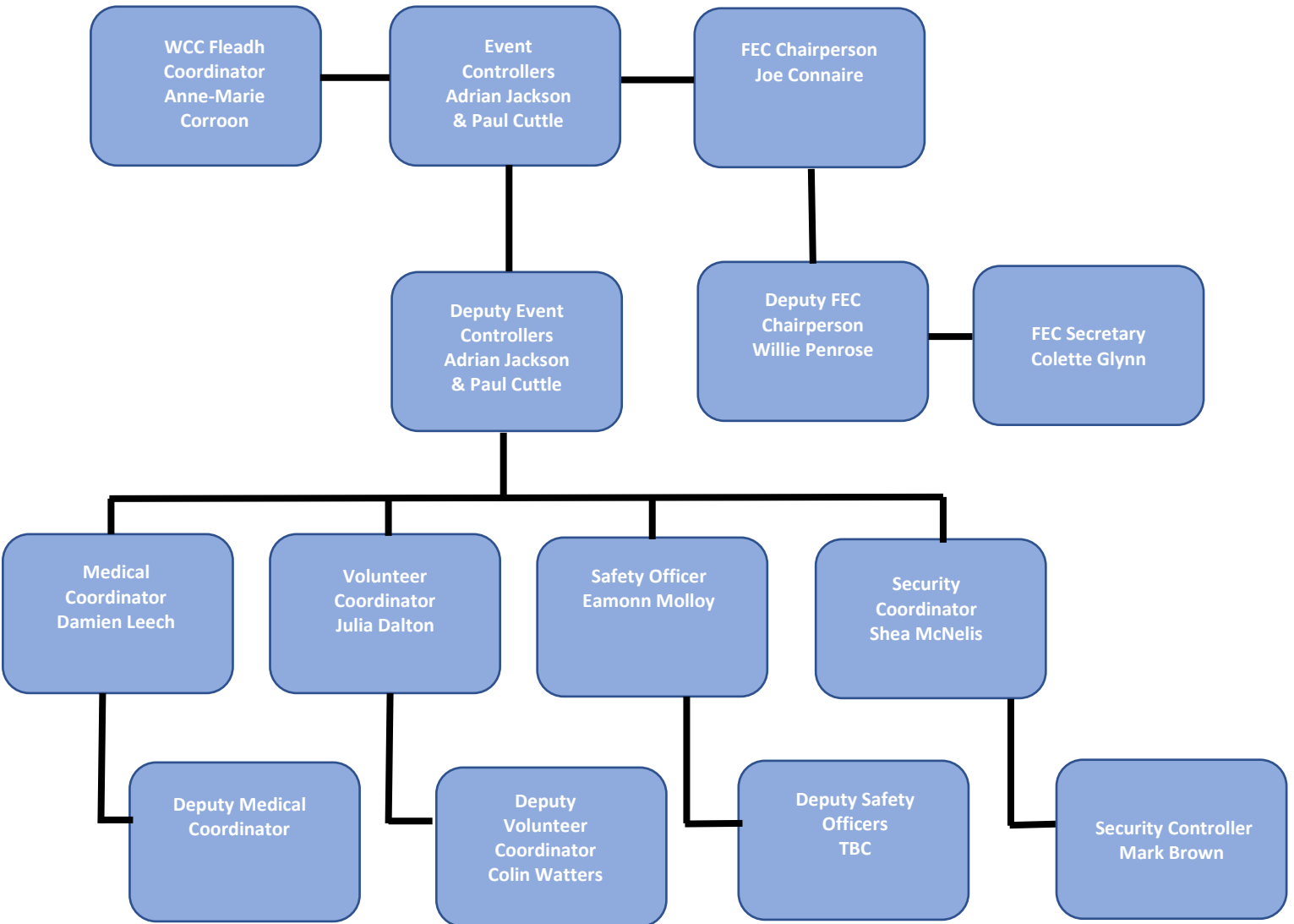
- Camera 1- Green Bridge
- Camera 2 Dominick Street
- Camera 3 Market Square
- Camera 4 Mount Street
- Camera 5 Pearse Street -
- Camera 6 Castle Street
- Camera 7 Austin Friar Street
- Camera 8 Coyne's Corner/Nugent's Corner
- Camera 9 Hospital
- Camera 10 Lynn Road
- Camera 11 Dublin Bridge
- Camera 12 Grove Street
- Camera 13 Church Ave
- Camera 14 Town Park (1)
- Camera 15 Bishop Gate Street (Mary Street)
- Camera 16 Lake point
- Camera 17 Town Park (2)
- Camera 18 Dalton Park
- Camera 19 Harbour Road

Note 2 x additional cameras will be added to Blackhall Place Car Park in order to provide increased visibility at the main Gig Rig site.

These cameras will be monitored so as to inform decision-making in the event control room, this may include assessing the volumes of persons in any particular location, assessing optimum access and egress routes for emergency services or for general supervision of activities.

## 4.0 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

### 4.1 Event Management Structure



## 4.2 Event Management Team

There is a full Event Management Team in place for this event. Key roles have been identified and personnel have been appointed to those roles. All key personnel are experienced in their respective roles and will be supported in the performance of their duties and responsibilities by their colleagues on the Event Management Team.

There will be an Event Controller (EC) and an Event Safety Officer (SO) on site for the duration the event is live each day. There will also be a Deputy Event Controller and Deputy Safety Officer on site for the duration of the busier days of the event.

Event Control will be in the Executive Lounge County Buildings, Mount St. Mullingar Town Centre. The Event Controller will co-ordinate crowd management measures in consultation with the Event Safety Officer. They will work closely with the Event Management Team, as well as with volunteers, stewards and An Garda Síochána at the event.

The Event Controller will be in overall control unless a serious incident occurs that is beyond the response capabilities of the event resources. In the event of this being the case, the Event Controller will hand over responsibility to the Senior Garda Síochána Officer or Senior Person from the relevant responding statutory agency present at the event, this person would then assume the role of Emergency Controller.

TITLE	NAME	ORGANISATION
<b>FEC Chairperson</b>	Joe Connaire	Fleadh Executive Committee
<b>Deputy FEC Chairperson</b>	Wille Penrose	Fleadh Executive Committee
<b>FEC Secretary</b>	Colette Glynn	Fleadh Executive Committee
<b>Event Controller</b>	Adrian Jackson/Paul Cuttle	Safety Solutions
<b>Deputy Event Controller</b>	Adrian Jackson/Paul Cuttle	Safety Solutions
<b>WCC Fleadh Coordinator</b>	Anne-Marie Corroon	WCC
<b>WCC Lead</b>	David Jones	WCC
<b>Safety Officer</b>	Eamonn Molloy	Safety Solutions
<b>Deputy Safety Officer</b>	TBC	Safety Solutions
	TBC	Safety Solutions
<b>Security Coordinator</b>	Shea McNelis	Integrity Security
<b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>	Julia Dalton	Fleadh Executive Committee
<b>Medical Coordinator</b>	Damian Leech	Order of Malta
<b>Garda in Charge</b>	Supt. David Nolan	An Garda Síochána
<b>Westmeath Fire Officer</b>	Alan O'Neill	Westmeath Fire Services

In such an event, the Emergency Controller shall take control over the entire operation until or unless the circumstances of the emergency dictate otherwise e.g., the Senior Fire Officer would take charge in the case of a fire being the emergency. In this case the Event Controller will put at the disposal of the Emergency Controller all resources present and available to aid in dealing with the emergency.



### 4.3 Fleadh Executive Committee

The FEC members and their corresponding roles are as detailed below:

Fleadh Executive Committee	
Position	Name
*Chairperson	Joe Connaire
*Vice Chairperson	Willie Penrose
*Secretary	Colette Glynn
*Joint Treasurer	Niamh Penrose
Joint Treasurer	Pat Flanagan
Marketing/PR Sub- Committee Chairperson	Bernie McHugh
Competitions Venues Sub- Committee Chairperson	Padraic Keena
Accommodation -Sub Committee Chairpersons	Anne Dunne
Events/Youth Events Sub-Committee Chairpersons	Enda Seery
Gig Rig Chairperson	Leona McKenna
Clár Sub-Committee Chairperson	Linda Price
Volunteers Sub-Committee Chairperson	Julia Dalton
*Member of Sponsorship Committee	Declan Leonard
Seachtain na Gaeilge Sub-Committee Chairperson	Danny Mulvihill
Seachtain na hÉigse Sub- Committee Chairperson	Brendan Doyle
Catering Sub Committee Chairperson	TBC
Westmeath County Council- Fleadh Coordinator	*Anne Marie Corroon WCC
*Pauline Hussey WCC	
IT & Traffic Management	Under control of WCC
Chamber of Commerce Representative	Aisling Coleman

\*Denotes member of core strategy group

## 5.0 MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH & SAFETY

Management of Health and Safety will be considered the responsibility of all committees, organisations, bodies, and individuals involved with the planning and implementation of the overall event. Additional responsibilities will however apply to areas where committees, organisations, bodies, and individuals have particular influence and control.

This in effect means that the key role and responsibility of each committee chairperson will be to the maintenance and control of their activities in compliance with the key health and safety objectives of the Fleadh as stated in the Statement of Health, Safety and Welfare Policy.

### 5.1 Roles & Responsibilities

Each role on the Event Management Team has specific responsibilities and duties. The Team will work collaboratively in relation to every element of the effective safe management of the event.

Safety Solutions is comprised of experienced Team members who have all been involved in the planning and management of events similar in scale and complexity as the Fleadh Cheoil 2022.

The main Event Management Team roles for this event are as follows:

Event Controller	Event Safety Officer
Deputy Event Controller	Event Deputy Safety Officer
Volunteer Coordinator	Medical Coordinator
Security Coordinator	

### 5.2 Event Controller

The appointed Event Controller will be capable and experienced, to perform their duties bringing that experience to bear during the event.

Specific responsibilities of the Event Controller include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Fully comprehend the Event Management Plan
- Fully comprehend all relevant and impacting Codes of Practice, Regulations, Guidance, and best practice
- Being present at and effectively participating in meetings during the planning phase of the event
- Ensuring in conjunction with the organisers that there are sufficient measures in place with respect to staffing, Safety Management, Medical and all key elements at the event
- Coordination with of all elements of the event to ensure activities proceed as per the agreed Event Management Plan
- Decision-making, in consultation with the management team as required, to address situations as they arise during the event
- Contributing to all Post Event Reviews and Post Event Reports
- Coordinating event emergency responses as required

Note that Event Control will be fully manned and operation for the duration of the event, a dedicated landline number will be provided for Event Control.

The Event Control room will be based in the same location as 2022, i.e. Westmeath County Council, Executive Lounge.

### 5.3 Deputy Event Controller

The Deputy Event Controller will have the following functions:

- Assume the role of the Event Controller in the absence of the Event Controller both in respect of long- and short-term absence. This may relate to absence(s) both in the planning/lead up to the event and during the actual event itself.
- Assist the Event Controller in the fulfilment of his duties. This will be carried out by attendance at all relevant meetings to liaisons with the various committees on individual and collective basis as applicable.

### 5.4 Emergency Controller

The Emergency Controller, in the event of an emergency and following a Transfer of Primacy from the Event Controller, has specific responsibility for the implementation of the Emergency Management Plan appropriate to the given situation.

A [Transfer of Primacy Form](#) is included in this document and must be completed by the Event Controller to transfer control to the Emergency Controller and likewise in the event of a return of primacy to the Event Controller.

The Emergency Controller may, as required, be one of the following:

- Senior member of An Garda Síochána
- Senior Fire Officer
- Senior Ambulance Officer

In the event of a Major Emergency the relevant Local Authority Major Emergency Plan will be initiated.

### 5.5 FEC Chairperson

- Ensure the co-ordination of all FEC (Fleadh Executive Committee) chairpersons. This will be achieved by regular scheduled meetings between chairpersons of all committees.
- Ensure that required resources are allocated to the management of the event in relation to Health, Safety and Welfare, Emergency and Environmental considerations. Financial resources will be acquired by various means to include sponsorship and donations. Human resources will be sourced from volunteers, sponsorship and paid employment where required such as in the case of Professional Security.

### 5.6 Deputy FEC Chairperson

- Assume the role of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson both in respect of long- and short-term absence. This may relate to absence(s) both in the planning/lead up to the event and during the actual event itself.
- Assist the Chairperson in the fulfilment of his duties. This will be carried out by attendance at all relevant FEC meetings to liaisons with the various committees on individual and collective basis as applicable.

## 5.7 Event Safety Officer

The Event Safety Officer has specific responsibility for the safety arrangements for the event. They have been involved during the planning phase for the event and have advised on all safety elements.

The appointed Safety Officer is capable and experienced to perform their duties. They will work closely with the Event Controller to ensure that all key decisions made have an appropriate input with regard for the relevant safety considerations.

Specific responsibilities of the Safety Officer include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Fully comprehend the Event Management Plan
- Fully comprehend all relevant and impacting Codes of Practice, Regulations, Guidance, and best practice
- Ensuring that all safety arrangements, as per Event Management Plan and any relevant agreements are implemented as appropriate
- Preparing and delivering a safety induction for all contractors working at the event
- Maintain a monitoring brief during the event
- Monitoring crowd movements and build-ups
- Implementing any remedial actions to relieve or avoid undesirable issues during the event
- Ensuring effective reporting and recording arrangements are in place and communicated to staff in advance
- Contributing to all Post Event Reviews and Post Event Reports with a particular focus on safety elements
- Assisting in an emergency response as required
- Undertaking any reasonable duties as necessary to ensure the smooth running of the event
- Management of contractors (see section below)

There are several areas that are related to the various committees where there is particular emphasis from the safety officer.

### Management of Contractors

Contractors will be required to assist and implement the plans and requirements of various Fleadh Sub-Committees. A contractor can be described as any individual or company providing a service to the Event committees or organisers on a paid basis. It will be the responsibility of the person hiring a contractor to ensure that they fulfil the following criteria, assistance in this will be provided by Safety Solutions where requested.

- Ability to display an appropriate competence in the context of the tasks they will be performing and ability to adhere to relevant Health and Safety legislation.
- Availability of appropriate insurance cover in terms of Public Liability and Employers Liability.
- Evidence of appropriate Health and Safety documentation relating to their company activities in general and the specific tasks to be carried out, e.g., Safety Statements, Risk Assessments and Method Statements (RAMS)
- Previous experience and safety record.

Ongoing on-site contractor auditing will be carried out by Safety Solutions in the build and break phases of the event.

### Management of Other Persons

As previously stated, we are committed to ensuring the Safety, Health and Welfare of all persons associated with, and affected by the Fleadh. This applies but is not restricted to environments such as judging arenas and venues, lost children meeting points and first aid posts.

We will implement and be guided by current best practice and legislation in Safeguarding children whilst also incorporating the Comhaltas Child Protection Policy and Co. Council Child Protection Policy.

## 5.8 Deputy Event Safety Officer

The Deputy Safety Officer will have the following functions:

- Assume the role of the Safety Officer in the absence of the Safety Officer both in respect of long- and short-term absence. This may relate to absence(s) both in the planning/lead up to the event and during the actual event itself.
- Assist the Safety Officer in the fulfilment of their duties. This will be carried out by attendance at all relevant meetings with the various authorities and key personnel.

## 5.9 Medical Coordinator

The Medical Coordinator has overall responsibility for the medical provision and medical response to incidents on-site during the event. In relation to matters relating specifically to the medical well-being and safety of all at the event, the Medical Coordinator will work closely with the Event Controller and Safety Officer.

The appointed Medical Coordinator, Order of Malta will be capable, experienced, and qualified to perform their duties having extensive experience in providing medical and first aid cover to events such as this.

Specific responsibilities of the Medical Coordinator include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Being familiar with the Event Management Plan and compiling the Medical Plan.
- Being familiar with all relevant and impacting Codes of Practice, Regulations, Guidance and best practice
- Ensuring that all medical arrangements, as per Event Management Plan and any relevant agreements are implemented as appropriate
- Attending all briefings as requested by the Event Controller.
- Maintain a monitoring brief during the event
- Ensuring all medical personnel are on site are fit for duty
- Ensuring an effective and efficient medical service
- Ensuring medical cover is provided during the agreed times
- Liaising with Event Control in relation to any and all incidents, including any transportations off site to local medical facilities
- Implementing any remedial actions to relieve or avoid undesirable issues during the event
- Reporting and recording any issues or potential issues encountered during the event
- Contributing to all Post Event Reviews and Post Event Reports
- Assisting in an emergency as required
- Undertaking any reasonable duties as necessary to ensure the smooth running of the event

### 5.10 Volunteer Coordinator

The Volunteer Coordinator will be responsible for the co-ordination of all stewards and volunteers for the Event. Co-ordination with the Emergency Services will be a key aspect of the stewarding role.

Volunteer Coordinator will be responsible for:

- Overall responsibility for volunteering for the event.
- Be competent to recognise critical crowd conditions, signs of crowd distress and crowd dynamics.
- Co-ordinating the duties of all volunteers.
- Ensuring that details of all volunteers are recorded pre-event.
- Communicating all deployment of all volunteers pre-event.
- Ensuring that all volunteers sign in on commencement of their shifts.
- Organising training pre-event for all volunteers.
- Deploying volunteers as necessary to deal with situations as they arise.
- Know the layout of the various locations and being fully familiar with the means of escape and evacuation procedures in the event of an emergency.
- Maintaining contact with and reporting directly to the Event Controller as appropriate.
- Assist the emergency services as required and/or as directed by the Event Controller.

### 5.11 Volunteers

Their roles and responsibilities are as follows:

- Not to place themselves or any other persons in danger or harm because of their activities. This is a general responsibility but means that all activities carried out by stewards should have Health, Safety and Welfare as a priority.
- Ensuring that the public are safely accommodated within the viewing / circulation areas in a planned manner, to ensure the safety and comfort of all attendees at the event.
- Be aware of the position of fire-fighting equipment and arrangements for medical facilities, first aid, and ambulances.
- Give immediate access to Gardaí and other emergency services in the event of an emergency.
- Control and / or direct the public who are entering or leaving the area and help achieve an even flow of people as directed by the emergency services, event controller or safety officer.
- Be courteous and provide information to the public and give assistance if required.
- When requested, assist at barriers and giving information to patrons approaching the event.
- Ensure that emergency access routes and emergency egress routes are always kept clear and free from obstructions as directed.
- Prevent any climbing on fences and other structures, if in difficulty they should immediately contact the Senior Steward or a Garda.
- Assist with crowd management or control as requested.
- Investigate promptly any disturbance or other incident coming to notice.
- Report immediately to Security Control or Event Control if any fire or other emergency comes to notice.
- Assist lost children/vulnerable persons as per procedure.

### 5.12.1 Recruitment of Volunteers

There has been a successful recruitment initiative in place in order to ensure sufficient volunteers are available to the event.

### 5.12.2 Training of Volunteers

Training for volunteers has been provided; this training, provided by the Volunteer Coordinator, has provided information around ensuring their own and the public's safety and health as well as general precautionary information.

#### **Identification**

Specifying branded clothing will be used to identify those working at the event.

- Event controllers and Safety Offices will have ID lanyards.
- Medical staff will be wearing their standard high visibility uniform. They will also carry identification denoting their training and qualification level.
- Production and site staff will be wearing high visibility clothing.
- Security staff will be wearing high visibility clothing.
- Volunteers will be wearing branded clothing.

#### **Briefings and information**

There will be on-site briefings each event day. Representatives of all key operational staff / functions will be present at the briefings. Briefings will include the issuing of relevant identification lanyards and resources specific to certain positions and roles on-site and within the event.

A comprehensive briefing & orientation event will be held with security/stewarding staff in advance of the event going live.

Volunteers will receive a handbook with pertinent details including the following:

Event Locations/Layout Map

Event Timings

Key contact numbers for the following:

- Event Control
- Medical Control
- Security Control

### 5.13 PSDP (Project Supervisor Design Process)

As there are construction elements to the Fleadh Build and Break phases, there is a requirement to make statutory appointments under the Safety, Health, and Welfare (Construction) Regulations 2013.

These appointments are as follows:

- PSDP- Safety Solutions Skillnet Ltd- Edel McGoey
- PSCS- Safety Solutions Skillnet Ltd- Stephen Cooney

Duties of the PSDP are as follows:

- Identify hazards arising from the design or from the technical, organisational, planning, or time related aspects of the project.
- Where possible, eliminate the hazards or reduce the risk.
- Communicate necessary control measures, design assumptions, or remaining risks to the PSCS so they can be dealt with in the Safety and Health Plan.
- Ensure that the work of designers is coordinated to ensure safety.
- Organise co-operation between designers.
- Prepare a written safety and health plan for any project where construction will take more than 500 person days or 30 working days or there is a Particular Risk and deliver it to the client prior to tender.
- Prepare a safety file for the completed structure and give it to the client.
- Notify the Authority and client of non-compliance with any written directions issued.
- The PSDP may issue directions to designers or contractors or others.

### 5.14 PSCS (Project Supervisor Construction Stage)

Duties of the PSCS are as follows:

- Co-ordinate the implementation of the construction regulations by contractors.
- Organise co-operation between contractors and the provision of information.
- Co-ordinate the reporting of accidents to the Authority.
- Notify the Authority before construction commences where construction is likely to take more than 500 person days or 30 working days.
- Provide information to the site safety representative.
- Co-ordinate the checking of safe working procedures.
- Co-ordinate measures to restrict entry on to the site.
- Co-ordinate the provision and maintenance of welfare facilities.
- Co-ordinate arrangements to ensure that craft, general construction workers, and security workers have a Safety Awareness card, e.g., Safe Pass and a Construction Skills card where required.
- Co-ordinate the appointment of a site safety representative where there are more than 20 persons on site.
- Appoint a safety adviser where there are more than 100 on site.
- Provide all necessary safety file information to the PSDP.
- Monitor the compliance of contractors and others and take corrective action where necessary.
- Notify the Authority and the client of non-compliance with any written directions issued.
- The PSCS may issue directions to designers or contractors.



## 6.0 VENUES

### 6.1 Proposed Event Locations/Venues

There will be a number of indoor and outdoor facilities required to accommodate the activities of the Fleadh. The proposed locations designated to accommodate outdoor concert activities and stages is the following:

- Blackhall Car Park (Gig Rig)
- Fairgreen (TV Area)

These areas have been subject to consideration in respect of risk assessment, crowd management and supervision.

Note that a layout plan has been developed for the Gig Rig area and is included in Appendix C5.

A detailed plan for the TV area at the Fairgreen will be developed and circulated in advance of the event.

There will be numerous indoor venues required to facilitate the Fleadh due to the overall scale and scope of the event.

The full list of venues is listed on the following pages along with the proposed usage.

<b>No</b>	<b>Venue Location</b>	<b>Proposed Use of Venue</b>
1	Cathedral of Christ the King	Concerts
2	Presentation Junior and Senior Schools	Competitions
3	Loreto College	Competitions
4	Holy Family School	Competitions
5	Mullingar Arts Centre	Concerts
6	Mullingar Harriers Athletic Club	Competitions
7	St. Finian's College	Competitions
8	Gaelscoil an Mhúilinn	Competitions
9	Mullingar Presbyterian Church	Competitions
10	Gaelscoil an Choillín	Competitions
11	Mullingar Town Band Hall	Competitions/Concerts
12	Mullingar Educate Together	Competitions
13	St. Colman's NS	Competitions
14	Colaiste Mhuire	Competitions
15	Mullingar Park Hotel	Concerts
16	Cusack Park	Competitions
17	Westmeath County Council Atrium	Exhibitions
18	Market Square	
19	Tranquility Gardens	Youth Sessions
20	The Chambers Bar	CD Launches
21	Westmeath County Council Library	History Talks
22	Harbour Place Shopping Centre	Instrument Repair Workshop
23	Tennis & Badminton Club	Competitions
24	Days Bazaar Cafe	Singing Café
25	Greville Arms Hotel	Competitions
26	NMCU Gig Rig Blackhall	Concerts
27	Friars Mill Rd Car Park	Disabled Parking
28	TG4 Fleadh TV 2023 - Fairgreen Car Park	Fleadh TV
29	Fleadh Office Parish Community Centre	Fleadh Office
30	Mullingar Town Park	Craft Market
31	St Pauls Church	Concerts
32	Craft Markets (Blackhall & Park)	Craft/Food Markets
33	Bloomfield House Hotel	Awards Ceremony
34	Volunteer HQ	Volunteer HQ
35	Dominick Square	
36	Church Avenue - Media Office	Media/Security Offices & Exhibitions
37	Fleadh Information Office (Old Bank)	Information Office
38	Medical First Aid HQ (Credit Union)	Medical First Aid HQ
39	Campsite - Mullingar Equestrian Centre	Campsite
40	Mullingar Charity Variety Hall	Competitions
41	Peter Burke TD Constituency Office	Office
42	Robert Troy TD Constituency Office	Office
43	Market House - Fleadh Admin Office HQ	Fleadh Admin HQ Office
44	Church Avenue Car Park	
45	Westmeath County Council Executive Lounge	Event Control
46	Mullingar Greyhound Stadium	Competitions
47	Áras an Mhúilinn	Seachtain na Gaeilge Activities
48	Bethany Hall Parish Office	Office
49	St. Mary's Primary School	Scoil Eigse
50	Mullingar Community College	Competitions
51	Annebrook Hotel	Competitions
52	Mount Street Gardens Carpark	Craft/Food Market

### 6.1.1 Management of Venues

The competition venues will be managed overall by the Venue Chairperson. He in turn has delegated venue managers to locally manage each venue. Each venue manager will be provided with appropriate training ensuring that they are fully familiar with their venue and various fire safety and emergency procedures.

### 6.1.2 Venue Assessment

Each confirmed venue to be used as part of the Fleadh events has been subject to audit and assessment in relation to the following:

- Fire Safety
- General Safety

### 6.1.3 Venue Fire Safety

Fire Safety Inspections have been carried out by Westmeath County Fire Service at each venue in 2022 and will be repeated for each venue for 2023.

The inspections have determined the maximum occupancies for the various buildings to be used for the Fleadh. This will enable persons managing the various events at each venue to safely accommodate competitors and the public in terms of ensuring safe access and more importantly egress as well as preventing overcrowding of each venue. The maximum occupancy capacity will be printed, laminated, and posted at each venue.

Proposed seating plans for all competition venues will be provided to Westmeath Fire Authority not later than a date to be agreed.

Seating for more than 50 persons laid out on the floor areas in venues shall be secured together in lengths of not fewer than four seats.

Westmeath County Fire Authority will be notified in writing of the names of various managers appointed to each venue, this will be provided at least 4 weeks prior to the start of the event.

As detailed above, all venues managers will have sufficient fire safety training detailing the various procedures such as actions in the event of alarm activation and actions in the event of discovery of fire.

### 6.1.4 Venue General Safety

Venue safety inspections (and subsequent reports) have been carried out by the Safety Officer in 2022 and will be completed again for 2023. The focus of the checks will be to ensure the safety, health and welfare of persons using each premises.

Issues such as slip, trip, and fall hazards along with welfare facilities and general fire safety will be addressed on the inspections.

### 6.1.5 Consents from Venue Owners

Written consents have been obtained from venue owners or occupiers as applicable regarding the use of their premises for Fleadh activities, these consents will be submitted as part of the Event License Application Process.

### 6.1.6 Handover of Venues Back to Property Owners/Occupiers

It is the stated intention and commitment of the Fleadh Cheoil event organisers to ensure that all venues used for the Fleadh are returned to the owners/occupiers in the condition in which they were received and to take responsibility to reinstate any losses, damage or liability caused by Fleadh activities; this includes all indoor venues as well as outdoor spaces and car parks.

## 6.2 Campsite

There is one single official fleadh campsite for the event, this is located at the Equestrian Centre. The campsite will be managed by the Equestrian Centre. There has been engagement between the Equestrian Centre and the organisers in advance of this plan being submitted.

Please refer to Appendix A for the draft campsite plan and to the traffic management plan.

## 6.3 Crowd Management

It is integral to overall Health, Safety and Welfare that crowd management is planned and implemented in accordance with relevant legislation and best practice.

All indoor venues will be assessed by the Fire Officer with regard to capacities; these limits will be adhered to by means of supervision and door entry control at the various venues- all venue capacities will be posted at each location.

As regards outdoor venue spaces and streets, assessments have been carried out to identify the capacities of the outdoor sites including the Gig Rig location and the TV area. The numbers of persons in these areas can be controlled by means of clicker systems at entry/exit points, the clicker systems will be operated by professional event security.

Street capacities have been calculated for the core parts of the pedestrianised zone with reduced occupancy rates applied to areas where there is likely to be reduced interest.

Ongoing monitoring of crowds in open areas will be carried out by the Event Controllers, Gardai, Safety Officer and Professional Security; this will be considered an ongoing process with sufficient flexibility incorporated to ensure that all eventualities can be catered for, i.e. it is likely that the decision to restrict access to a particular area will be made before that area had reached 100% capacity allowing for decision to take effect and to allow for facilitation of incident response such as emergency vehicle access/egress. Best practice would suggest that the decision to restrict access to any area would be made when the area has reached 80% capacity.

Any decisions in relation to Crowd Management will be made by Event Control in consultation with An Garda Síochana and others as applicable.

Refer also to Draft Pedestrian Management Plan for further details on capacities and evacuation procedures.

## 6.4 Lost Children/Vulnerable Adults

The event organisers will be providing children wristbands at the event, these will be handed out to parents of younger children. The parent contact details can be written on the wristbands thereby enabling more efficient repatriation if required.

Volunteers have all received training in what to do if they find a lost child, i.e. to call the number if the child is wearing a wristband; if not then the volunteer is advised to stay with the child as a pair and not to be alone with the child and to summon a security officer through which a call can be made to Event Control by radio or alternatively to call Event Control landline number.

Lost children will not be repatriated unless the person temporarily supervising them is fully satisfied that they are being handed over to their rightful parent/guardian. Any reluctance on the part of the child to go to the supposed parent or guardian may result in an escalation of the situation to the relevant authority, i.e., in the first instance An Garda Síochana.

If a lost child cannot be repatriated, then a member of AGS will be notified at which point the child may be brought to the Garda Station.

## 6.5 Carparking

The organisers recognize the requirement for significant car parking provision for the event, this aspect is detailed in the Draft Traffic Management Plan in this document.

## 7.0 EMERGENCY PLAN

### 7.1 Emergency Plan Objective

The objective of the Emergency Plan is to outline the procedures to be adopted in the event of an emergency being declared at the event; or somewhere with proximity such that it has an impact on the event and the safety of those in attendance.

### 7.2 Potential Emergency Situations

Emergency situations, by their nature, can take many forms and comprise of many elements. That said, there are some emergency situations, which have been known to occur at events more than others. They include:

- Weather
- Environmental Issue
- Fire
- Crowd Disorder
- Structural Compromising / Collapse
- Explosion
- Terrorist Threat

### 7.2 Major Emergency definition

Under a Framework for Major Emergency Management, a Major Emergency is defined as:

*'any event which, usually with little or no warning, causes or threatens death or injury, serious disruption of essential services or damage to property, the environment or infrastructure beyond the normal capabilities of the principal emergency services in the area in which the event occurs, and requires the activation of specific additional procedures and the mobilization of additional resources to ensure an effective, coordinated response.'*

### 7.3 Activation of Emergency Plan

During all normal operations management and control of the event rests with the Event Controller.

If a Serious Incident occurs which is beyond the normal capabilities of the Event Management team, and after consultation with key personnel including:

- Event Safety Officer
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Medical Coordinator

The Event Controller will initiate a Transfer of Primacy. The Transfer of Primacy will state that when the Emergency Plan is implemented due to an incident occurring, the event management team will no longer manage the event.

The declaration of a major emergency will then be considered by the lead Principal Response Agency (PRA) representative.

In practical terms, a Major Emergency exists when it is apparent that the safety management and medical management resources in place at the event are not sufficient, resulting in the need for external resources to manage the situation.

The Event PR team onsite will be notified and kept up to date on details to coordinate the message going out to the public.

## 7.4 Emergency Controller

The Emergency Controller will take control over the entire operation unless or until circumstances of the emergency dictate otherwise. This may be a representative of any of the three principal response agencies, i.e.

- An Garda Síochana
- Fire Service
- Health Service Executive

## 7.5 Transfer of Primacy

Transfer of responsibility from the Event Controller to an Emergency Controller, and transfer back, will be logged in the Event Log, and will also involve the signing of the Transfer of Primacy form. This form is included in this document in [Appendix H](#).

## 7.6 Key Communication Points

In the event of an emergency, minor or major, the following are key communication points:

- Location of the actual emergency
- Staff on scene – numbers and competencies
- Assessment of casualties and risks
- Access and egress routes to be used by the responding emergency service

## 7.7 Roles and Responsibilities

On being informed of a serious emergency, the Event Controller/Deputy Event Controller will establish communications with:

- All the Statutory Agencies
- The Safety Officer who may be at the scene
- The Head of Security who may be at the scene

The Event Controller will hand over control of the incident to the Statutory Agencies if necessary and provide assistance as required

- Take control of the event's resources and ensure that any assistance required by the Statutory agencies is provided
- Brief the Organisers/Promoters of the situation and what actions are being taken

On being informed of a serious emergency, the Event Safety Officer will:

- Proceed to the scene and take control of event resources there
- Advise the Event Controller of the situation and the safety implications of the incident
- Advise the Security coordinator of any safety considerations while assisting at the scene
- Support the Statutory Agencies at scene

On being informed of a serious emergency, the Security Coordinator/Controller will:

- Report full details of the incident and the action being taken to the Event Controller /Deputy Event Controller
- Assist the Statutory Agencies as requested and report any assistance provided to them to the Event Controller
- Redeploy security staff from other areas if appropriate and authorised by the Event Controller
- Monitor progress of any evacuation by radio and liaise with the Event Controller and Emergency Controller
- Report to the Safety Officer at the scene for instructions

On being informed of a serious emergency, Medical Staff will:

- Render First Aid as appropriate
- Provide advice to the Event Controller/Deputy Event Controller
- Provide support and assistance to the HSE in undertaking their statutory duties responding to a serious emergency or critical incident

### **Evacuation**

Should the Emergency Controller deem a full or partial evacuation necessary, they will inform all relevant parties who will then assist with the procedure. This decision can only be made upon agreement among the Event Management Team that a Major Emergency exists.

All those in attendance will be directed away from the location of the emergency.

### **Emergency Access Routes**

All relevant emergency services have been made aware of the emergency routes in advance of the Event as detailed in planning meetings, the emergency routes are also detailed in the Traffic Management Plan.

The Event Management Team and the stewards will ensure that access is maintained for emergency vehicles during the emergency.



## Emergency Roles

In the event of an emergency, the roles of those involved in the event are enhanced and include the following:

### Organisers

- Place all facilities available at the event at the disposal of the Emergency Controller
- To provide areas suitable for collection and treatment of casualties
- To place all available event personnel at the disposal of the Emergency Controller

### Event Management Team

- Put all expertise on hand at the disposal of the Emergency Controller
- Bring all experience to bear on the situation
- Place all facilities available at the event at the disposal of the Emergency Controller
- To provide areas suitable for collection and treatment of casualties
- To provide maps / drawings of the event site to the Emergency Controller
- To place all available event personnel at the disposal of the Emergency Controller

### An Garda Síochána

An Garda Síochána will carry out their functions in accordance with their own codified instructions and provisions of the plan, as follows:

- Activation of the plan
- Maintenance of law and order
- Evacuation
- Traffic and crowd management
- Scene preservation and collection of evidence
- Arrangements in respect of the dead
- Provision of casualty information services at the event site
- Establishment of an information centre at the event site to be used by services responding
- Securing the location thereof and managing access thereto
- Exercise of some local authority functions pending the response of the local authority to the emergency
- Communicating with the public as necessary

### Local Authorities

The Local Authority shall carry out all of its functions in accordance with the provisions of the plan, as well as:

- Activation of the plan
- Maintenance of all services during the emergency
- Accommodation and welfare of evacuees and persons displaced by the emergency
- Provision of food and rest facilities for personnel responding to the emergency

### **Westmeath Fire Service**

**Westmeath Fire Service shall carry out all of its functions in accordance with the provisions of the plan, as well as:**

- Activation of the plan
- Extinction of fires
- Containment, neutralisation and clearance of chemical spills and emissions
- Protection of rescue of persons and property
- Provision of access to the site of the emergency
- Forensic support for Gardaí
- Advise on evacuation
- Site clearance, demolition, clean-up operations, removal, and disposal of debris
- Control and direction of activities of all agencies within the “Danger Area” at an emergency

### **Health Service Executive**

The Health Service Executive should undertake the following functions in the response to a major emergency: -

- Declaration of a Major Emergency and notifying the other two relevant principal response agencies
- Activation of predetermined procedures/arrangements in accordance with its Major Emergency Mobilisation Procedure
- Acting as lead agency, where this is determined in accordance with Appendix F7 (of the framework), and undertaking the specified coordination function
- Provision of medical advice and assistance
- Provision of medical aid to casualties at the site
- Triage of casualties, and assigning them to hospitals for evacuation
- Casualty evacuation and ambulance transport
- Provision of hospital treatment
- Provision of psycho-social support to persons affected by the emergency
- Certification of the dead
- Support for An Garda Síochána’s forensic work
- Support for the Coroner’s role
- Provision of community welfare 2 services
- Clinical decontamination and decontamination of contaminated persons on arrival at hospital
- Advising and assisting An Garda Síochána and Local Authorities on public health issues arising
- Exercising control of any voluntary or other service which it mobilises to the site
- Any other function, related to its normal functions, which is necessary for the management of the emergency/crisis
- Any function which the On-Site Co-ordinating Group requests it to perform; and,
- Maintaining essential health services during the Major Emergency

## 7.8 Emergency Procedures

### Stopping Operations

Every effort will be made to ensure that the event operations proceed smoothly. It is imperative to plan for all circumstances to ensure public safety. It may be necessary to stop, curtail or limit the event in the interest of safety. If an event has to be stopped, curtailed, or limited, it will only occur upon the direction of the Event Controller in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

There are certain factors that will be considered when deciding to stop, curtail or limit an event these are as follows:

- Advice from Security Coordinator
- Advice from Event Safety Officer
- Advice from the statutory agencies

#### Action to be taken in response to a Fire-

In the event that a member of staff discovers or is informed of a fire outbreak, the emergency procedures as outlined below will be immediately followed. In relaying information about the incident, do not use emotive words like 'fire' as it may be heard by attendees and induce a high level of concern or panic. An agreed codeword shall be used instead.

#### Actions to be taken in response to a crowd disturbance or distress incident

In the event of any crowd disturbance or distress the security or steward lead will immediately inform the Event Controller/ Head of Security using an agreed codeword and seeking additional support if necessary. The Event Controller/Head of Security will dispatch additional security personnel and stewards to the area in question to ensure the situation is brought under control. Garda assistance will be requested if required.

If the crowd disturbance or distress is not resolved and continues to escalate, the Event Controller and/or the Safety Officer will instruct the Stage Manager to stop the concert and direct the event MC to make the following PA announcement in a calm and controlled manner:

*Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a security announcement. Due to crowd difficulties at (specify the location), we are temporarily stopping the event. In the interest of your safety, please move away from (specify the area of disturbance) and follow the instructions of security staff. As soon as the situation is back to normal, we will advise you further.*

In the event that the crowd disturbance or distress cannot be resolved, it may be necessary to evacuate the site and accordingly the procedures as outlined below should be followed. In relaying information about the incident, do not use emotive words like 'crushing or distress' as it may be heard by attendees and induce a high level of concern or panic. The agreed codeword shall be used instead.

Actions to be taken in response to a bomb threat or a suspect device

In the event of the receipt of a bomb threat, the staff member receiving or being made aware of the threat will acquire as much information as possible and immediately inform the Event Controller using an agreed codeword. The Event Controller will coordinate a response to the threat with An Garda Síochána and carry out a dynamic risk assessment in order to consider the following options:

- Conduct a search of the venue using all event resources
- Complete an orderly evacuation of selected area/areas
- Complete a full orderly evacuation of the site

Where a suspect package or device has been found, the person making the discovery will immediately contact the Event Controller giving full details. In conjunction with the Emergency Controller, the Event Controller will carry out a dynamic risk assessment and decide whether to complete an orderly evacuation of the site, or part of the site. An Garda Síochána will take over control of the response to a suspect package or device including a request for a call out of an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team (EOD) from the Defence Forces where appropriate.

Mobile phones and radios cannot be used in proximity to a suspect package or device.

In relaying information about the incident, do not use emotive words like ‘bomb’ or ‘suspect device’ as it may be heard by attendees and induce a high level of concern or panic. The agreed codeword shall be used instead.

Actions to be taken in response to any other serious incident including stage or infrastructure collapse etc

Any temporary structures at the event site will include the stages, crowd control/mojo barriers, facilities for sound and lighting. A marquee will also be provided at the TV site. All of these temporary structures will be designed and constructed in accordance with good engineering and building practice with handover certification to be provided upon erection of the structures with this to be followed by certification by independent structural engineer.

The design of temporary structures will be strictly in accordance with paragraphs 14.3-14.7 of the Code of Practice for Safety at Sports Grounds (Department of Education, 1996).

In the event of a potential or actual structural failure of the stage or any temporary structure the following actions will be taken:

- The incident will be immediately reported to the Event Controller and the area in question evacuated by security personnel, stewards and Gardai
- The corresponding concert will be stopped, and a PA announcement made by the MC as follows – *Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a safety announcement. Due to an incident at (specify the location), we are temporarily stopping the event. In the interest of your safety, please evacuate the (specify the area of the incident) and follow the instructions of security staff. As soon as the situation is back to normal, we will advise you further.*
- Specific arrangements will be in place to safely evacuate event performers.

## 7.9 Evacuation Procedures

If evacuation is necessary due to a serious fire or other emergency, the procedures are:

- Event control will make the 'RED ALERT' radio announcement to all Key Personnel "Attention all units, Attention all units. This is a special announcement. Due to an emergency in (specify area of disturbance) it is necessary to evacuate immediately. Emergency Plan is now in operation".
- Key Personnel will initiate evacuation of their area using agreed evacuation routes in a calm and professional manner to prevent panic movements and potential crushing.
- Designated PA will make the following announcement in a calm and controlled voice:

*"Ladies and Gentlemen this is a Safety Announcement. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we are evacuating the (specify area of the site). Will you please vacate this area immediately and follow the instructions of the Gardai, Security and stewards who will direct you to a safe area. Please leave quietly and without delay. Do not return for personal belongings".*

- On hearing the evacuation announcement all personnel will direct and assist in the evacuation of attendees from the area as appropriate.
- Security/stewards on the perimeters of the event space are to verbally ask people to move before the evacuation announcement is made. This will assist in getting evacuation underway.
- Security/stewards manning barriers at exit routes are to immediately and safely remove these barriers and appropriately secure them.
- The safety officer and security leads will monitor progress of the evacuation and liaise with event control by radio contact and to issue additional instructions as necessary.
- In the event of a total evacuation of the route being necessary this is to be initiated in close consultation with the Gardaí to ensure the necessary Garda preparedness off site.
- After evacuation, all personnel will report to their immediate supervisor

## 7.10 Cancellation Policy

### Pre-event

In case of cancellation the Event Controller will inform all key personnel and Statutory Agencies and the communication plan will be activated to contact external parties. The Event Controller will:

- Inform all key personnel of the cancellation who will in turn ensure that all personnel, event stewards and all other relevant parties are briefed before initiating cancellation.
- If staff are on site already, send out a radio alert to all personnel that the event is being postponed/ cancelled.
- Instruct the PA announcer to make the following announcements informing any public who may be present:

*“Ladies and gentlemen, we regret that for reasons beyond our control, today’s event has been postponed / cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience. Thank you for your support and patience”.*

- Monitor any areas where attendees may have gathered.
- Provide information to Event Control relating to the event.
- Notify the Gardaí if any crowd disturbances arise.

Event security will adopt the following procedures:

- Prohibit admittance to the location
- Keep emergency routes clear.
- Advise attendees.
- Remain courteous to all and provide information to them when requested.

#### During the event

In case of cancellation the Event Controller will inform all key personnel and Statutory Agencies and the communication plan will be activated to contact external parties. The Event Controller will:

- Inform all key personnel of the cancellation who will in turn ensure that all personnel, event stewards and marshals are briefed before initiating cancellation.
- Send out a radio alert to all personnel that the event is being postponed / cancelled.
- Instruct the PA announcer to make the following announcements informing any public who may be present:

*“Ladies and gentlemen, we regret that for reasons beyond our control, today’s event has been postponed/cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience. Thank you for your support and patience”.*

- Monitor any areas where attendees may have gathered.
- Provide information to Event Control relating to the event.
- Notify the Gardaí if any crowd disturbances arise.

All key personnel will supervise and assist to:

- Manage crowds to ensure a calm and control egress and avoid contra-flows forming.
- Instruct concessions to shut down.
- Remove all barriers and begin an orderly egress.
- Remain courteous to all and provide information to them when requested.
- Keep emergency routes clear.
- Advise attendees as maybe necessary
- Remain courteous to all patrons and provide information to them when requested.

## 8.0 CONTINGENCY PLANS

In the planning for this event a range of eventualities have been considered, which may come to pass. This is not an exhaustive list but is informed by experience of events and eventualities.

### 8.1 Inclement weather

- The Event Controller will assess weather conditions pre-event and decide before 09:00hrs each day in relation to the event proceeding.
- The Event Controller will be in constant communications to ensure that operations are stopped if required for safety purposes.
- The Event Controller will make a definite decision re stopping the event and inform all relevant stakeholders. Note that there is a wind management plan in place for the outdoor stage area with ability to carry out wind readings via anemometers on marquee at TV site and Gig Rig location.

### 8.2 Failure of equipment

- Report to Event Control if attention is needed. The Event Controller will decide promptly to replace if repairs are not successful.
- Security personnel will set up the crowd control barriers in advance of the event to establish that all are sufficient to use with general public. Take out of use, any which may cause further hazards.
- The Event Controller will visually inspect all temporary structures, check submitted paperwork and consult with the independent engineer.

### 8.2 Delays

- The Event Controller will endeavour to ensure that there are no delays to the event start however will have Key Personnel briefed just in case.
- Security personnel will be in fixed positions throughout the event spaces to monitor as required.
- The Event Controller will establish if further measures are required and communicate accordingly.

### 8.3 Shortage of Personnel

- The Volunteer Coordinator and Security Coordinator will complete a head count at the start of each shift and report any shortages. If applicable and where possible, the Event Controller may make a request for additional external personnel to be directed to the event.
- Personnel will be redeployed if necessary.
- An assumption of 10% contingency will be considered.

## 9.0 TESTS & INSPECTIONS

### Tests & Inspections

It is the responsibility of the Event Controller to ensure that all appropriate tests and inspections are carried out at all stages of the event.

#### Pre-event

During the planning phase of the event the Event Controller will:

- Ensure that all relevant statutory agencies and stakeholders are aware of and agree to everything in the event management plan.
- Manage all contractors, ensuring adequate provisions, arrangements and documentation are in place regarding safety.
- Ensure that any build elements are carried out safely and adequately, that all safety documentation is provided and, where required, that all structures and installations are certified for use.

#### Pre-Opening

In advance of the event opening to the public, the Event Controller in conjunction with the Safety Officer will:

- Ensure sufficient personnel and stewards are on hand.
- Ensure all medical and fire-fighting arrangements are in place.
- Ensure all signage is in place.
- Ensure all entry and exit routes are free from obstruction and trip hazards.
- Ensure that all emergency exits, and routes are fully operational.
- Ensuring all public-address systems are functioning.
- Ensuring all generators are functioning and that any backup generators are in position and functioning.
- Ensure there is no build-up of combustible waste.
- Ensure there is no hazardous waste materials on site

#### During the event

During the event, the Event Controller will:

- Ensure crowd movement is monitored.
- Coordinate an effective response to any incidents or accidents
- Ensure the event site is monitored for any changes that may represent a safety issue.

#### Event-end

As the event finishes, the Event Controller will:

- Arrange for egress to be monitored, ensuring all attendees exit from the area safely.
- Ensure the de-rig / break down of any elements is done in a safe manner.
- Ensure the removal of any combustible waste.
- Ensure that all event documentation has been completed and is in the event file in Event Control.
- Ensure the event site is reinstated as per event management plan.



## 10.0 DISABILITY ACCESS

### 10.1 Disability Access

The organisers of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2023 will endeavor to ensure that appropriate disabled access and facilities are provided to all key venues and locations.

Most of the areas utilised by the event have hard standing with well-maintained surfaces, there is limited elevated areas in the general overall event space.

Accessible W/C facilities will also be provided at key locations with associated signage indicating these locations. This includes the main stage Gig Rig location at Blackhall Place Car Park.

Stewards will be briefed accordingly to ensure that they can direct patrons to the appropriate facilities and access points.

### 10.2 Disability Parking and Transport

The various public transport operators will have facilities for disabled patrons this to include Bus Eireann, Iarnróid Eireann as well as local transport operators providing local shuttle services.

Disability parking spaces have been provided for at Friar's Mill Road Car Park. (See also [Traffic Management Plan](#))

Access will be available to holders of appropriated designated parking certificates/permits.

Disabled badge holders will be permitted vehicular access to the Concerts at the Cathedral at Bishopsgate Street.

### 10.3 Viewing Areas

A dedicated area will be provided at gig rig location as well as the main concert venue, i.e., the Cathedral. These areas will be clearly marked and reserved for intended use. The areas at the Gig Rig will be along the Mojo barriers at front of stage.

### 10.4 Emergency Assistance

Security and stewarding personnel will be available to assist persons with mobility issues in the event of an emergency evacuation if this is required.

## 11.0 EVENT INFRASTRUCTURE

### 11.1 Sanitary Provision

Appropriate sanitary provision will be available to all areas and venues; additional temporary equipment will be acquired and placed at key areas such as campsites and areas where there is an increased volume of persons. Temporary facilities will be subject to regular maintenance and replacement as applicable with flexibility arranged to increase volumes as the need arises. This service will be provided by the contracted supplier. The contracted supplier will be responsible for routine cleaning as well as attending to any required repairs during the event.

The quantity of facilities being provided is in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Outdoor Events 1996* where the corresponding ratios have been factored into the provisioning of temporary w/c facilities.

Urinal areas will be protected by suitable robust privacy screens, at least 1.8metres high with these areas enclosed by appropriate security fencing.

The organisers will endeavor to ensure that toilet blocks are located equidistant from all portions of the crowd.

Suitable handwashing facilities shall be provided at each toilet station across all locations.

Checking will be carried out by the Safety Officer to ensure that maintenance of these facilities is to the required standards.

Existing welfare facilities in venues to be used for Fleadh events have also vetted and reviewed as part of venue safety checks by the Safety Officer, examples of this include schools and colleges being utilised for competitions.

The temporary W/C facilities being planned for the event are as follows:

	<u>Location of Portaloo's</u>	<u>Quantity of standard portaloo's</u>	<u>Quantity of disabled portaloo's</u>	<u>Urinals</u>
1	Patrick Street (Part)	5	0	
2	Friars Mill Rd	3	2	
3	Martins lane	10	0	
4	Church Avenue	10	1	
5	The Cathedral	5	1	
6	St Paul's Church	5	1	
7	Mount Street Gardens Carparks	40	1	5
8	Mount St Gardens Vendors	5		
9	Fleadh Office	5	0	
10	Railway Row	5	0	
11	Bishopsgate st	5	0	
12	Town Park	10	1	0
13	Bleach Yard	5	1	
14	College Pitch	5	1	
15	Train Station	10	0	
16	QTP Carpark	5	1	
17	Blackhall Carpark West	30	1	4
18	Buckleys Carpark	10	2	
19	Fairgreen Carpark	10	1	
20	Glenveagh	3	1	
21	Science Park	3		
22	St Lomans	3		
23	Forest Park Car Park	3		
	<b>Total</b>	195	15	9

## 11.2 Temporary Structures

The following temporary structures are currently planned for the event.

Structure	Location	Deployment
Gig Rig 1 Main Stage – (Built Structure) 15m x 11m (footprint) & associated speaker tower Mixing desk Marquee	Blackhall Place Car Park	Utilised for the full duration of the event, the main focal point for various acts and performances for the public-free access provided
Temporary Stages	Loreto x 2 (1 in large gym, and 1 in concert hall) Colaiste Mhuire x 1 Park Hotel x 1	Raised areas for competition venues  Park Hotel- Concert
Marquees 1 x 25m x 20m 1 x 16m x 6m	Fairgreen Area	TV Production Larger marquee for TV Production Smaller marquee for crew
Medical Tent 6m x 6m	Gig Rig 1 -Blackhall	Medical First Aid Tent

All temporary structures will be erected by specialist contractors in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications, they will be subject to examination and sign off with certification by registered structural engineers.

Fire ratings on all external material fabrics, linings and drapes will be flame retardant fabric adhering to BS 5438 or equivalent, certification to be obtained by the Safety Officer.

### 11.2.1 Wind Loadings

The main Gig Rig stage at Blackhall Place and the main marquee at the TV location at the Fairgreen will have an anemometer fitted providing information as regards wind speeds. In the event of wind speed measurements approaching the relevant levels, precautionary measures will be taken in accordance with the manufacturer's directions.

The Event Controller working in conjunction with other key stakeholders will make decisions as regards show stops etc. accordingly to the conditions and prevailing information at any given time.

Weather forecasts will also be consulted on a daily and ongoing basis as required.

A wind management plan for the stage at Gig Rig 1 will be provided.

### 11.2.2 Electrical Power/Connections

Temporary electrical power to the main stage will be by mobile generator, all electrical connections will be secured from unauthorised access and will be fully earthed.

Appropriate first aid firefighting equipment, serviced up to date will be provided at these locations.

All temporary connections will be certified by a registered electrician to RECI or ETCl.

## 11.3 Temporary Lighting

Much of the event areas will be illuminated by existing street lighting; there will be locations where temporary lighting will need to be provided, an example of this will be the campsite where ambient lighting will be provided to allow for safe access and egress.

Temporary lighting towers will be sourced; the lighting towers will be secured from unauthorised access or will be lowered when not in use.

The temporary lighting towers integrated fuel storage tanks will be serviced as required.

Note the organisers will provide back-up tower lights in the town centre in the event of mains supply power failure with specific location to be agreed with the relevant statutory authorities.

#### 11.4 Fencing and barriers

A Mojo barrier will be erected at the front of the main Gig Rig 1 stage at Blackhall Place.

The Mojo barrier system is approved for outdoor concerts in the UK and Europe with engineering test reports provided to confirm its capacity to withstand pressure of 5kN/m run, applied at 1.2m height.

Temporary fencing and crowd control barriers will be used at various points to secure boundaries, protect structures and facilitate crowd management where necessary. They will also be used to assist in maintaining the pedestrianised street zones restricting access to traffic in these areas.

Barriers are also used to organise the trading areas providing security and screening between trading units and securing back of trading areas ensuring that these are reserved for traders.

Similarly, back of stage areas will be secured by Herras fencing.

A barrier supply company has been sourced to supply and erect barriers, the company name is Sunbelt Ltd.

## 11.5 Communications

### 11.5.1 Communicating with the public

Various means of communications will be provided at the event, this will vary according to the location in question as follows, the various means of communication are detailed on the following table.

Location	Means of Communication	Comment
<b>Gig Rig</b>	PA systems as provided on stage	Also megaphones available in case of power failure. Planned standard announcements will be provided for typical scenarios.
<b>Streets</b>	Megaphones, also large information screen located at Dominick Street	Signage will also be provided directing pedestrians to venues and events spaces.
<b>Indoor Venues</b>	PA systems/amplification will be installed as part of the competition and concert infrastructure	Person to person communication as required
<b>TV Area</b>	PA system as provided for the show infrastructure	
<b>Approach routes/roads</b>	VMS Signage	VMS signage will be provided at various locations with approximately 25 signs in total having been procured for the event. Messages can be altered remotely as required through TM partner.

### 11.5.2 Radio Communications

The Fleadh Security Company, Integrity security are providing radios to the Event Control Team., these are handheld radios and associated infrastructure. Radios will have multiple channels allowing for communication between various groups if required.

Event Control will operate on a dedicated channel with the following agencies on this channel:

- Event Control
- Garda Control
- Medical Control
- Fire Service
- Security Control

### 11.5.3 Social-Media/Press

A Fleadh website has been set-up and is operational this will be used to communicate both before, during and after the event.

A PR Company has been appointed and is in place to deal with all communications both proactively and reactively.

Examples of proactive communications may be to advise patrons to bring all medication to the event or to prepare for the weather, whilst reactive communication may be to advise patrons of a road closures, an incident or any amendments to the event schedule.

## 12.0 GENERAL EVENT SCHEDULE

See Appendix D for full schedule

## 13.0 CASUAL TRADING

Casual trading licensed vendor areas are being provided to ensure that the needs of the patrons attending the Fleadh are met. These traders will supplement the permanent traders based in Mullingar.

The main trading areas are detailed in the Town Centre Event Plan in Appendix C3, they are detailed as *Food/Trade Area*. The main locations are Blackhall at three separate locations in this overall space, Town Park with reduced provision at larger competition venues. Overall, there will be approximately 25-30 vendors of varying sizes offering various foods and items.

All traders are being managed by a management company namely *Vindictive Pufferfish*. This company also provided this service for the event in 2022.

This company has engaged (and continues to engage) with the organisers and relevant statutory agencies including the HSE EHO and the Fire Service as well as the Event Controller and Safety Officer to ensure compliance.

The organisers anticipate that license conditions will be put forward by both the Fire Service and HSE EHO in respect of the Traders as well as general guidance information. All such conditions and guidance will be adhered to.

Examples for these are included below, note this is not a comprehensive list.

- Adherence to local fire regulations concerning separation distances between all units with increased distances where units are using that are using gas and/or open flame.
- Ensuring that all gas is certified on-site by a qualified gas engineer.
- Dealing directly with the EHO to ensure compliance with all regulations e.g.: separated trader toilets, hot and cold hand wash basins, separation and collection of waste and any other requirements that may be stipulated.
- Being available to meet with relevant persons e.g., Fire Officer to conduct a walk-through and implement any measures deemed necessary prior to trading commencing
- Monitoring noise levels
- Providing a team that will supervise the situating and setting up all the traders and supervising the get-out. There will be a member of the team monitoring and always managing traders throughout the event.

Note that in relation to food workers, separate food worker toilets with adjacent wash hand basins will be provided for every four catering units. The WHB's shall be located adjacent to the toilets. These WHB's shall be equipped with an instantaneous supply of hot and cold water, liquid soap and paper towels for hand drying.

The location of the staff WC's shall be in reasonable proximity to the food worker trading locations.

The organisers undertake to submit a definitive list of proposed food and drinks vendors to the HSE Environmental Health Office in advance of the event by the first week of July 2023.

The list will identify all food vendor locations, locations of support / ancillary kitchens, etc.



All food business operators will be required to comply with the following food hygiene legislation:

- Regulation (EC) 853/2004 on the Hygiene of Foodstuffs
- EC (Hygiene of Foodstuffs) Regulations 2006 – 2018
- Regulation (EC) 178/2002 on the General Principles and Requirements of Food Law
- EC (General Food Law) Regulations 2007 - 2012
- Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011 on the Provision of Food Information to Consumers
- Health (Country of Origin of Beef) Regulations 2006-07
- Food Safety Authority of Ireland Act 1998 and Associated Regulations
- Food Hygiene Regulations 1950-89

## 14.0 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

### 14.1 Introduction

This traffic management plan (TMP) has been prepared on behalf the Fleadh Executive Committee. The plan has been prepared in consultation with An Garda Síochána, Westmeath County Council, Fire Services Department and the HSE Ambulance Services. The plan is intended to address the following:

1. General traffic management.
2. Campsite and directions/intended traffic routes for visitors to same.
3. Street closures, access, and parking restrictions.
4. Parking provision, Park & Stride
5. Temporary Taxi Ranks
6. Emergency Routes

#### Maps accompanying TMP report

- Outer Traffic Management Plan- Appendix C2
- Town Centre Event Plan- Appendix C3

#### Note:

The proposed road closures contained within this Traffic Management Plan were the subject of a separate order under Section 75 of the Roads Act 1993 (Temporary Closing of Roads).

### 14.2 General Traffic Management

With the closure of many town centre streets and a significant increase in traffic in the greater Mullingar town area, it is critical that the main thoroughfares through the town are kept clear at all times and that optimum use is made of these streets.

The following *traffic types* will have to be facilitated during the Fleadh:

- Through traffic – to be accommodated along the outer orbital route where possible. In this regard it is of utmost importance that the outer orbital route is used to maximum capacity.
- Local traffic – those travelling to shops / businesses in and around the Mullingar town area.
- Fleadh Traffic – to be diverted to and accommodated in designated Fleadh car parks where possible.

A number of Garda Traffic Motorcyclists will be designated to specific routes, including key routes to and from the Regional Hospital, to ensure that no obstructions take place and to act when and where necessary to alleviate traffic congestion. Particular attention will be paid to emergency routes to ensure that they remain clear at all times.

A tow truck operator will be on 24hr stand-by to assist An Garda Síochána and Westmeath County Council in removing illegally parked vehicles during the Fleadh week. Such vehicles will be stored at secure location.

The tow truck company is Hamill and Sons, with whom engagement has taken place. An area has been designated for the storage of towed vehicles; this is located in the Red Car Park – QTP.

### 14.3 Campsite

There is one confirmed official campsite for Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann Mullingar 2023 as follows:

- Mullingar Equestrian Centre

#### 14.3.1 Traffic Routes to Campsite

Traffic coming from the northwest via the N4 Dual Carriageway will be diverted off at Jct. 17 and will then follow the R394. They will exit at the Grange South Roundabout onto the R390 and follow the R392 at the Newbrook Junction out to the Rathcolman Junction. Traffic will turn left onto the L1137 where they will enter the campsite. A one-way system will be in place along the L1137 with traffic entering this road from the R392 and exiting onto R390.

Traffic coming from east via the N4 Dual Carriageway will be diverted off at Jct. 15 and will then follow the N52 to the Tullaniskey Roundabout. Traffic will then follow the R400 to the Grange South Roundabout exiting onto the R390 and following the R392 at the Newbrook Junction out to the Rathcolman Junction. Traffic will turn left onto the L1137 where they will enter the campsite.

Traffic coming from the south via the N52/ West via N6 and destined for the campsite will travel to Tullaniskey Roundabout and follow the same route as traffic from the East.

Traffic coming from the north via the N52 and destined for the campsite will travel to the N4 via Junction 16 and be diverted off at junction 17 following the same route as traffic from the northwest.

#### 14.3.2 Campsite Shuttle Bus Service

A regular campsite shuttle bus service will commence from Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August and will operate throughout the weekend of the Fleadh up until Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August. Shuttle buses will operate between the campsite and Fairgreen following the one-way system in place along the L1137.

Details will be clearly posted at pickup locations and on the Fleadh website. The frequency will increase as the week progresses based on expected increased demand. Campers will be actively discouraged from walking to or from the campsite.

### 14.4. Street Closures, Access, and Parking Restrictions

Numerous street closures and traffic restrictions will be necessitated throughout the week of the Fleadh event. Traffic restrictions and parking restrictions will take effect from approx. 4pm Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August until 4am on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023. It is noted that closures and restrictions may be extended depending on visitor numbers, pedestrian volumes and levels of activity in and around the Town Centre and at the discretion of An Garda Síochána.

The proposed closures outlined below are the subject of a separate order under Section 75 of the Roads Act 1993 (Temporary Closing of Roads).

*The following street closures and restrictions will apply:*

The events for the Fleadh Cheoil are both ticketed and open to the public. The following streets are to be pedestrianised to facilitate the safety and comfort of the transient audience and the ‘pop up’ nature of the performers on the street:

- Dominic Street
- Mount Street
- Oliver Plunkett Street
- Pearse Street
- Austin Friar Street Lower
- Gas Lane
- Castle Street
- Church Avenue
- Martins Lane
- Blackhall Street
- Gaol Hill
- Auburn Road (may remain open, and be monitored)
- Mary Street
- Railway Row
- Grove Street
- Dominic Place
- Martins Lane
- Bishopsgate Street (Open to residents- midnight to 3pm, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August to Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Aug)
- College Street (Open to residents- midnight to 3pm, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August to Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Aug)
- Eastern end of Patrick Street
- Southern end of Green Road
- Western end of Friars Mill Road

All these roads will be closed to vehicular traffic from 10am Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023 until 4am on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023 with some potential closures on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> to ensure that streets are clear ahead of the official opening on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August. Parking will not be permitted on these streets during this time. Barriers will be placed preventing vehicles from entering these streets, these will be manned by the professional security company with each closure point having a specific reference number allowing for more efficient communication between all agencies and within the security company.

Servicing of premises will be permitted each morning between the hours of 4am and 10am during which time premises can organise deliveries, maintenance etc. Note that vehicular access to the pedestrianised areas (streets listed above) will be fully restricted and enforced.

Note that a sweep of the pedestrianised areas for vehicles will be carried out each morning. Registration numbers of vehicles in the zone will be taken by security or safety officer, with assistance requested from AGS to help contact the registered owners; any vehicles remaining after this process will be towed by the Fleadh tow truck operator. During the Fleadh motorists will be required to traverse the Outer Orbital Route (N52 Bypass, Joe Dolan Bridge, Western Bypass and N4 etc.) or via the Robinstown Link Road. Parking will not be permitted on any of these streets during the dates and times above.

*Austin Friar Street between its junction with Millmount Road and the entrance to Austin Friar St Carpark* will remain open will be restricted to one-way traffic in a westerly direction only at all times. Parking restrictions will apply on the eastern end of Austin Friar Street.

Barriers will be placed on *Austin Friar Street at the entrance to Austin Friar St Carpark* (outside Shaws) preventing vehicular traffic from entering the street with traffic being diverted into *Austin Friar St Carpark*.

Blackhall Carpark and Fair Green Carpark are the designated locations for the Fleadh Gig-Rig and TG4.

These spaces will host outdoor events / concerts for the duration of the Fleadh. Consequently, parking will not be permitted in these carparks from 5pm on Friday 4th August until 8am on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August. Servicing for adjacent business premises will be permitted each morning between the hours of 4am and 10am. A portion of these carparks will be closed earlier in the week to allow for Stage installation.

*Bishopsgate Street* will typically be closed to vehicular traffic generally except emergency vehicles (see below)

Blue badge holders with concert tickets will be accommodated for concerts at the Cathedral for the Cathedral events only. Parking will not be permitted on Bishopsgate St. or College St. during this time. Note An Post may require limited access to the rear of their premises at limited specific times. Access will also be provided for residents from midnight to 3pm Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Aug to Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Aug 2023.

*Auburn Road* remain open to vehicular traffic, however it will be monitored and closed if necessary to traffic except emergency vehicles. Access will be provided for residents.

The Western end of *Patrick Street* as far as the entrance to Market Point will remain open to traffic at all times however parking will not be permitted along the southern side of the street, as this area will be designated as a temporary taxi rank between from 10am Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 until 4am on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

**Taxi Ranks**- The southern side of Pearse Street and the northern side of Dominic Street are currently designated for use as a permanent taxi rank. These will be taken out of use for the duration of the Fleadh. Temporary Taxi Ranks will be provided at Gaol Hill, Railway Station Road, Fairgreen, Harbour St and Austin Friar St Carpark during the Fleadh.

*Dominic Street, Mount Street, Oliver Plunkett Street, Pearse Street, Austin Friar Street Lower, Castle Street, Blackhall Street, Jail Hill, Mary Street, Railway Row, Grove Street, Dominic Place, Martins Lane, Church Avenue Gas Lane, East End of Patrick Street, South end of Green Road College Street eastern end of Patrick Street, southern end of Green Road, and western end of Friars Mill Road* will be closed to vehicular traffic from 10am Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023 until 4am on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023. Parking will not be permitted on these streets during this time. Servicing will be permitted each morning between the hours of 4am and 10am. Parking and servicing restrictions will be strictly enforced. Barriers will be placed preventing vehicles from entering these streets.

### Parking Restrictions

From 10am Sunday 6th August 2023 until 4am on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023 parking will be prohibited at the following locations:

- Dominic Street
- Mount Street
- Oliver Plunkett Street
- Pearse Street
- Austin Friar Street Lower
- Gas Lane
- Castle Street
- Church Avenue
- Martins Lane
- Blackhall Street
- Gaol Hill
- Auburn Road
- Mary Street
- Railway Row
- Grove Street
- Dominic Place
- Martins Lane
- Bishopsgate Street
- College Street
- Eastern end of Patrick Street
- Southern end of Green Road
- Western end of Friars Mill Road

### also

- Harbour Road
- Green Road

## 14.5 Parking Provision, Park & Stride

### Off-Street Parking

During the week of the Fleadh event off-street parking will be available at the following public car parks:

• McCurtain Street Carparks 2 No.	50 No. spaces
• Canal Ave car park	20 No. spaces
• Springfield Tunnel car park	43 No. spaces
• Infirmary car park, Delvin Rd.	68 No. spaces
• Dog Track car park, Lynn Road	36 No. spaces
• Car Park at Clonmore Railway Bridge	104 No. spaces
• Austin Friar St car park, Eastern end	17 No. spaces
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>328 No. Spaces</u></b>

Off-street parking is also available at the following private car parks:

• Harbour Place car park	465 No. spaces
• Fairgreen Underground Carpark	297 No. spaces
• Tesco Carpark	361 No. spaces
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1123 No. spaces</u></b>

### On-Street Parking

On-street parking may be available at selected locations along a number of town streets, however it will be necessary to restrict or indeed prohibit car parking at certain locations in the interest of maintaining traffic flow.

### Designated / Disabled Parking

Additional designated parking spaces will be made available at the following locations during the Fleadh:

• Austin Friar Street Car Park	30 No. spaces
• Friars Mill Road Car Park	85 No. spaces.
• Bleach Yard	20 No. spaces



Access will be available to holders of appropriated designated parking certificates / permits.

### Media Parking

Media parking (10 No. spaces) will be provided at Bleach Yard car park

### Park & Ride/Stride

In order to deal with the large influx of visitors during the week, *Park & Ride & Park & Stride* facilities will be provided at strategic locations around the periphery of the Town. All Park & Ride/Stride facilities will be stewarded and adequately signposted.

For traffic approaching from the northwest via the N4, Park & Ride/ Park & Stride will be available at the following location:

- Ashe Rd/ Western Bypass (Glenveagh)- BROWN 1,775 No. spaces

For traffic approaching from the north via the N52 and/or from the east via the N4, Park & Ride/Stride will be available at the following locations:

- Clonmore Link Road, Quality Tractor Parts- RED 1020 No. spaces
- Forest Park, Bennetts-BLUE 324 No. spaces

For traffic approaching from the south via the N52 and/or from the east via the N4, Park & Ride/Stride will be available at the following locations:

- Clonmore Link Road, Quality Tractor Parts (QTP)-RED 1020 No. spaces
- Forest Park, Bennetts -BLUE 324 No. spaces

For traffic approaching from the west via the R390 and R392, Park & Stride will be available at the following locations:

- Clonmore Link Road, Quality Tractor Parts -RED 1020 No. spaces
- Forest Park, Bennett- BLUE 324 No. spaces

Parking will also be available at the following locations for traffic that do not follow the initial signage

- National Science Park Dublin Road - YELLOW 300 No. spaces
- St Loman's Hospital, Delvin Road- PURPLE 500 No. spaces

### Competition Parking

The main competition venues are Loreto College & St Finian's College.

Parking will be available at these venues (Loreto Parking in Harbour Field)

### Operational, Volunteer and Permit Holder Parking

- Operational staff will park in the Council Staff Carpark at Bleach Yard 150 No. spaces.
- Volunteer Parking will be available at the Healthcare Centre Harbour Road & Wallace's Yard Fairgreen 250 No. Spaces
- Permit Holder Parking will be available at the Lift Hire premises Clonmore 150 No. Spaces

### Emergency Overflow Carpark

An additional green field site with a capacity of 1,750 cars will be made available in the event of major tailbacks on the N4 off ramps at Jct. 17. (Note that this was not required in 2022)

### Car Park Capacities

Car parks will be closed to further traffic when they approach 80% capacity, this is to allow the closure to take effect and to take account of traffic already making its way to the particular car park.



### Emergency Vehicle Access to Car Parks

Car parks will be populated so that access can be maintained for emergency vehicle particularly fire tenders in the event of a vehicle fire.

#### 14.6 Emergency Routes

In cases where emergency vehicles responding to emergency calls are required to enter pedestrianised zones, this will be facilitated and managed through Event Control, from where a co-ordinated response can be provided.

A number of Garda Traffic Motorcyclists will be designated to specific routes, including key routes to and from the Regional Hospital, to ensure that no obstructions take place and to act when and where necessary to alleviate traffic congestion. Particular attention will be paid to emergency routes to ensure that they remain clear at all times.

Designated emergency routes:

- Bishopsgate St
- Auburn Road
- Harbour Road
- Green Road

##### 14.6.1 Fire Services

For Fire Emergencies in North Mullingar, emergency vehicles responding to emergency calls may be required to enter and traverse the pedestrianised zone between the Railway Station and Fairgreen Roundabout. This will be facilitated and managed through Event Control, from where a co-ordinated response can be provided.

Similarly, Fire Personnel in private vehicles responding to an emergency call who require to enter and traverse the pedestrianised zone between the Fairgreen Roundabout and the Railway Station will be facilitated and managed through Event Control, from where a co-ordinated response can be provided.

### 14.6.2 Ambulance Service

The following is likely to apply:

*For Ambulances departing Mullingar Regional Hospital:*

When responding to emergency calls outside the Town Area and in the instance where the Ambulance is departing from Mullingar Regional Hospital the Ambulance Services will use the outer orbital route then the National or Regional Road Routes where possible:

For example: An emergency north, northwest, or east of Mullingar Town – the vehicle will travel via the R394 Castlepollard Road and the N4 Dual Carriageway

In the event of an emergency south of Mullingar Town – ambulance will travel via the R394 Castlepollard Road and the N4 Dual Carriageway and N52 south.

*For ambulances returning to Mullingar Regional Hospital:*

In most instances when returning to Mullingar Regional Hospital following a call-out, it is anticipated that Ambulance Services will return to the Hospital via the Routes as suggested above

*Responding to calls within Town Centre*

In the case of 112/999 calls being made by a member of the public at the event site the following will apply:

Emergency calls from members of the public at the Fleadh will be taken by National Ambulance Service, as per normal procedures.

NAS to contact the Event Medical Control or NAS Liaison in the Event Control Room (if available) on the dedicated number to notify the Event Medical Coordinator of the call and/or to seek assistance from appropriate responders on duty at the event. A decision can be made as to whether a NAS ambulance is required or if the event medical resources can respond to the call-out.

Event Control in conjunction with the Gardai and all other event resources will ensure that the relevant access route is kept clear in so far as possible for the approaching ambulance.

### 14.6.3 An Garda Síochana

In cases where An Garda Síochana require emergency vehicular access to any area of the event, this will be coordinated with Event Control

## 15.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PLAN

### 15.1 Noise

All noise will be for a limited period and shall not cause any unreasonable disturbance to any nearby noise sensitive premises.

Due to the number of official event venues where music may be played simultaneously, it will not be possible to carry out predictive noise surveys in advance of the event to identify specific noise sensitive locations.

In order to mitigate the potential for the generation of noise nuisance to residents living close to the centre of Mullingar, a specific phone contact number will be identified on the Fleadh website where residents may register their noise complaints. These complaints will be investigated with appropriate proportionate actions taken.

In order to prevent any nuisance from noise the following measures shall be taken:

- Operational arrangements will be adhered to
- Amplified equipment shall not be directed into neighbouring premises
- Speakers will be aligned to efficiently deliver sound to the audience
- No unauthorised amplified music will be permitted.
- Soundchecks completed during daylight hours.

### 15.2 Vibration

There are no elements of the overall event that gives rise to any exposure to vibration.

### 15.3 Water

Attendees will be able to purchase bottled water from the concession units on site, venues, and shops throughout the town. Additionally, it is the intention of organisers to install temporary/permanent water dispensing units to be established at several locations. Water quality will be tested and verified at these points to ensure that the supply is potable. Results of water testing will be made available to the HSE EHO prior to the event.

Drinking water supply will comply with E.C. (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014.

Drinking water taps / dispensers will be suitable for the intended purpose and maintained at all times to facilitate the dispensing of water which complies with the provisions of the aforementioned Regulations.

The drinking water stations will be suitable signposted with clear and unobstructed access maintained.

### 15.4 Waste Management

There will sufficient bins supplied throughout the town and environs by approved contractor (Allied Waste LTD), who will also supply large euro bins/skips for all rubbish to be emptied into and stored until removed off site, the bins provided will include 240L "wheelie bins" as well as large 1100L "eurobins."

A reliable and frequent refuse collection service will be provided at all Fleadh Cheoil venues so that all related locations are maintained in a clean and tidy condition both during and after the event.

Refuse bins shall be provided adjacent to food stalls so that adequate storage and disposal of refuse generated by these can be maintained throughout the Fleadh Cheoil.

Full bins will be moved from busy areas to bin hubs as soon as possible to avoid build-up of waste at recycling points. All operational staff will be briefed to monitor the situation and report any areas that require attention.

Facilities for the disposal of wastewater from catering units shall be provided. A programme for the collection and adequate disposal of same at regular intervals shall be drawn up and implemented.

### 15.5 Food Vendors

Dedicated brown bin (food) bin will be provided for food vendors operating in the dedicated vendor areas. Vendor manager will ensure that all vendors are aware of their responsibilities around correct waste management and food separation.

Food waste must be kept separate from other waste. Single use sachets should be discouraged in the area, vendors should be encouraged to use dispensers. Licensed waste contractor will not collect from traders who are non-compliant with current food regulations. Organisers should also inform the local authority if a trader refuses to use a brown bins service.

In this instance, event organisers should contact: [environment@westmeathcoco.ie](mailto:environment@westmeathcoco.ie) or Phone 044 9332126

### 15.6 Green Fleadh

The large number of people descending on the town and its surrounds, over the event period present potential environmental impacts.

Therefore, the organisers of the event in consultation with the local authority will endeavour to follow the Environmental Protection Agency's "Green Your Festival" guideline which aims to reduce the environmental impact of a festival/event.

Many events and destinations throughout the country have previously been greened in partnership with Local Authorities. Green Your Festival is an initiative undertaken by participating Local Authorities in Ireland's Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN) and forms part of the National Waste Prevention Programme.

The greening of the Fleadh will require numerous partnerships including the Environment Section, Westmeath County Council, working in conjunction with the Fleadh Executive Committee, Mullingar Tidy Towns, the local business community etc.

Litter picking will be carried out at various intervals during the event in the key locations, handheld litter pickers will be used to assist in this process. It is expected that these activities will be carried out by both the waste contractor appointed by the fleadh, Mullingar Tidy Towns staff, as well as volunteers to the event.

### Actions to Green the Fleadh

- Distinctive high-profile signage to support correct waste management
- Vendors endeavouring to use compostable packaging
- Reverse vending machines for waste collection at busiest competition venues
- Street litter picking throughout the day
- Commitment from local vintners to cooperate with plastic collection for recycling
- Compacting, baling, and recycling plastic waste
- Proper waste segregation of various waste streams
- 30 Recycling bin centres provided with appropriate signage in town centre areas
- Green your festival tent for education and awareness activities in Mullingar Town Park

- Manage your waste packs for local business's available from WCC Environment section
- Collection of plastic waste each day for recycling

### 15.7 Protected Structures/Damage to Property

It is highly unlikely that any damage will be sustained by any protected structures at the event, previous experience of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann events has not indicated this as being a high risk, however monitoring of this will be carried out during the event with proactive preventative measures taken where required.

During the event all security staff will be briefed to maintain a monitoring role in relation to the same and to intervene where required.

### 15.8 Sanitary Provisions

There will be temporary toilet facilities provided for the event. Locations and numbers of the portable toilet units will be proportionate to the event and will be provided in accordance with the ratios listed in the *code of practice (section 20:10) for outdoor pop concerts and other musical events 1996*

Welfare facilities will be available for all patrons and will include accessible units.

All toilet facilities will be serviced and replenished regularly; this function will be managed by the appointed contractor- Envira Ltd.

### 15.9 Flora and Fauna

It is not expected that the event will adversely affect the existing flora and fauna. The existing large flower boxes in locations such as Dominick Place, Market Square and Park Gates will be removed for the event so as to allow increased circulation space and to reduce potential unauthorised access.

**APPENDIX A CAMPSITE PLAN**

**APPENDIX B MEDICAL PLAN**





**APPENDIX C MAPPING**

**Appendix C1 Overall Town Plan**

**Appendix C2 Town Centre Event Plan**





**Appendix C3 Inner Traffic Management Plan**

## Appendix C4 Outer Traffic Management Plan



**Appendix C5 Gig Rig Blackhall Map**



## APPENDIX D EVENT SCHEDULE

The following is a schedule of the headline events for Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2023.

Venue	Capacity	Sun 06/08	Mon 07/08	Tue 08/08	Wed 09/08	Thu 10/08	Fri 11/08	Sat 12/08	Sun 13/08	Mon 14/08
<b>Cathedral</b>	1800	7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm	8pm	7pm	7pm
<b>St Pauls</b>	700		6pm	6pm	6pm	6pm	7pm	7pm		
<b>Arts Centre</b>	400 (Seated) 600 (Standing)	11pm, 12.30am	3pm, 8.30pm, 11pm,12.30am	3pm, 6pm 8.30pm, 11pm,12.30am	3pm, 6pm 8.30pm, 11pm,12.30am	3pm, 6pm 8.30pm, 11pm,12.30am	3pm, 8.30pm, 11pm,12.30am	3pm, 8.30pm, 12.30am	8.30pm, 11pm	
<b>All Saints Church</b>	250		1pm, 4pm	1pm, 4pm, 10pm	1pm, 4pm, 10pm	1pm, 4pm, 10pm	1pm, 4pm, 10pm	7.30pm, 10pm		
<b>Mullingar Park Hotel</b>	1000			8pm	8pm					
<b>Bloomfield House Hotel</b>	420			8pm	8pm		8pm	8pm		
<b>Gig Rig 1 Blackhall</b>		12pm -10pm	3pm-10pm	3pm-10pm	12pm-10.30pm	12pm-11pm	12pm - 11:30pm	12pm-11:30pm	12pm-11.30pm	
<b>Competitons ( Various Venues)</b>							2.30pm - 6pm	10am -6pm	10am -6pm	
<b>Scoll Éigse ( Schools around Cathedral)</b>			9am-2.30pm	9am-2.30pm	9am-2.30pm	9am-2.30pm	9am-1pm			

**APPENDIX E DRAFT PEDESTRIAN MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**APPENDIX F DRAFT RISK ASSESSMENTS**



APPENDIX H Transfer of Primacy Form

**FORMAL HANDOVER OF CONTROL DOCUMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE EVENT CONTROLLER AND THE EMERGENCY CONTROLLER**

As a result of an actual or potential accident/incident at Fleadh Cheoil Na hÉireann, it is necessary to formally handover control of the event from the Event Controller to the Emergency Controller. Details of the accident/incident and the rationale behind the formal handover are outlined below:

Once the formal handover has taken place, the Event Controller will ensure that all event resources are made available to support the Emergency Controller as required. This document will be retained for further reference if necessary.

Date and Time of Formal Handover: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Event Controller

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Controller

**FORMAL HANDBACK OF CONTROL DOCUMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE EMERGENCY CONTROLLER AND THE  
FESTIVAL EVENT CONTROLLER**



In response to the conclusion of an actual or potential accident/incident at Fleadh Cheoil Na hÉireann that had been handed over to the Emergency Controller, it is necessary to formally hand back control of the event from the Emergency Controller to the Event Controller. Details of the conclusion of the accident/incident and the rationale behind the formal hand back are outlined below:

Once the formal hand back of control has taken place, the Event Controller will ensure all event resources resume normal duties. This document will be retained for further reference if necessary.

Date and Time of Formal Hand Back of Control: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Event Controller

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Controller

## APPENDIX I Newspaper Notices

**APPENDIX J Consent letters (Venue Owners/Managers)**