

PROTESTOR GUIDANCE

RB HEALTH AND SAFETY SOLUTIONS

MONITOR

Regularly monitor who the likely protestor groups might be. Identify their social media platforms and monitor daily. For example, 'Just Stop Oil' have been known to announce a general plan on twitter at the start of the day to increase press coverage. Assess any productions you have for content which may attract such protests.

PREVENT

Search procedures – Have a heightened awareness when searching bags etc. Ensure bag checks are looking for items which can cause maximum impact of protests such as paints and glues. Move bags checks away from the building during heightened risk if possible. Accept you will not stop everything (i.e., super glues can be easily hidden).

Groups - Have an awareness of groups who may be strategically seated in separate areas with good access to stage or other high-profile areas

PREPARE

Have plans in place on how you will react and run through these with staff regularly.

MINIMISE

Minimise the impact, consider bringing in the curtain if the situation is serious or likely to be protracted (i.e. protesters have glued themselves to the stage).

Consider evacuating the building - This will minimise the number of photos / videos taken and press interest. Remember protestors will not want to be sitting in an empty theatre.

TRESPASSERS

Anyone who exceeds venue permissions or outstays their leave will become a trespasser and potentially classed as an "aggravated trespasser" - preventing the venue from carrying out its lawful activities. In this scenario, police intervention may be required, and you should:

- Immediately inform the customer they are trespassing and record the time.
- Video or photograph their actions and note what they are saying.
- Document how their actions are: intimidating, disrupting and/or obstructing you from doing your lawful activity. (This can be completed via the Security Incident Recording Forms.)

To inform the customer that they are trespassing, you should use the following wording, which has been tested in court. You should not change it or add words such as "please" or "thank you", as it could leave the warning open to legal challenge:

“You are trespassing in this building. I believe your actions are intended to intimidate, obstruct, or disrupt persons engaged in lawful activity in this building. I am asking you to leave.”

DO NOT ENGAGE IN PROTESTOR REMOVAL

CALL THE POLICE - 999

