

Downs Committee - 19th September 2022

Events Update

1. Events that have taken place since last Downs Committee

Pride, Adventure Cinema and Forwards have all taken place on the Downs since my last update. The Born Free Exhibition is still running until early October.

Pride

This year's Pride event was a huge success, making a welcome return. The event was well managed, especially given the high temperatures over the weekend. The event felt very inclusive, and the atmosphere felt safe for families alongside those partying.

Adventure Cinema

There was an incident at Adventure Cinema, which led to the event being cancelled. The organisers felt they were unable to continue with the event, as they couldn't guarantee the safety of their staff or the public, so cancelled the remaining shows for the weekend.

Forwards

Forwards was well received, and we are happy it was well run, pending a full debrief with SAGE. We have received a small number of complaints relating to noise and parking issues.

2. Upcoming Events – 2022

The following events have expressed their intension to return to the Downs in 2022 (subject to site permissions). Note: these are the dates the events are 'live' there will be build and break period either side of each event. A provisional calendar of proposed events for 2023 will be presented at the next meeting.

July	August	September	October
		Student Union event 23 rd - 24 th September	
		Circus 27 th September – 16 th October	

3. Complaints relating to events on the downs

There have been nine new complaints through the official council complaints system relating to events on the downs since my last report. One complaint was about Pride and was related to traffic issues. Eight complaints were about Forwards, of which seven were related to noise and one as related to parking issues. We continue to be mindful of resident feedback when planning events on the downs.