

Likelihood	
1 =	Very unlikely
2 =	Unlikely
3 =	Likely
4 =	Very Likely
5 =	Almost certain

Risk Rating	
1-4	Low
5-8	Medium
9-25	High/ intolerable risk

Potential Severity	
1 =	Minor risk
2 =	Some risk
3 =	Substantial risk
4 =	Major risk of infection
5 =	Catastrophic, risk of multiple infection

Severity	Likelihood				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5
2	2	4	6	8	10
3	3	6	9	12	15
4	4	8	12	16	20
5	5	10	15	20	25

Area:	Backyard Comedy Club (inc Bar & Kitchen?)
Assessor (<i>Your name</i>):	Daniel Dearlove
Date of planned activity/event:	May 2021 onwards
Start time:	5pm-12pm (variable)
Location of planned event/activity:	Backyard Bar & Kitchen and Backyard Comedy Club
Overview of the event or activity:	<p>Assess the impact of operating during the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Reducing risk to customers staff and suppliers of the virus.</p> <p>The effects of the government guidelines, the added stress and impact on staff</p>
Risk Rating (<i>risk rating having completed risk assessment - low, medium or high</i>):	5.8 Medium
Expected number of attendees:	Capped at 150 for each performance (50% of seated capacity)
Event type:	Live Entertainment/Talks/Screenings
Detailed description	<p>Predominantly stand-up comedy in seated auditorium</p> <p>with the supply of soft and of alcoholic drink and food</p>
Any additional information/comments:	
Date completed:	12 May 2021

Backyard Covid Risk Assessment

This risk assessment should be read before attending the venue to ensure everyone is satisfied with the precautions taken either as a customer, supplier, artist, contractor, or member of staff. Its aim is to reduce the risks from contact and airborne transmission of the Covid-19 virus as we understand them August 15th 2020, following the UK government guidelines laid down on 15th August 2020 for performing arts & hospitality.

This assessment also aims to address potential areas of conflict arising from misunderstanding and ignorance of the Covid-19 related guidelines and aims to reduce incidents of conflict, anxiety, between customers and staff, as well as considering the impact on the mental health of our staff whilst working on the front line during this pandemic.

Activity	Hazards	Who Could Be Harmed?	How?	Risk of Harm Occurring?	Control Measures	Is Risk Adequately Controlled?	Adjusted Risk of Harm Occurring?
Before setting off to visit the venue	Accelerated transmission of virus	Customers, Staff, Acts.	Some customers / staff may feel unwell but attend event because: 1) Don't want to lose ticket value. 2) Succumb to peer pressure. 3) Need to earn money. 4) Don't wish to let their colleagues down.	8	1) Customers are urged in booking conditions to follow the latest government advice and not to attend if feeling unwell. To temp check before leaving if they have any doubts. Or take an at home test. 2) Customers can transfer the value of tickets by contacting the box office in advance of the event. 3) Staff have to engage in training before commencing work and will include temp check at start of each shift to ensure they present the least possible risk to each other and customers on site.	YES	4
Travelling to venue	Accelerated transmission of virus by contact & airborne	Customers, Staff, Acts, Contractors, Suppliers	Choice of transport leading to infection and transmission on way to venue	8	All visitors and staff are advised to travel in booking "pod" if possible, by walking or cycling. Our website offers details of transport links and Our staff are advised to avoid using public transport where possible. If it is not possible, they must wear appropriate PPE when travelling at all times. 1) Out pre-planned staggered entry times for customers and staff will reduce queues.	YES	4
Queuing outside to enter venue	Airborne and contact transmission of virus	Customers, Staff, Acts	A tight queue in limited space may be likely to increase transmission, especially if huddling for protection occurs in poor weather conditions	12	2) We will define a designated queue pathway with signage and barriers reminding attendees of social distancing guidelines where appropriate. 3) Security staff and management will monitor queues 4) We will create a safe space to sort out issues at check-in to prevent build-up of queues and ensure where possible social distancing is maintained.	YES	4
Cloakroom	Contact transmission of the virus	Staff, Customers	Transmission of virus caused by contact of clothing from many customers	12	1) We will make customers aware we have no cloakroom facilities 2) Customers will be advised at time of booking to only bring necessary items	YES	0

Checking in	Contact and airborne transmission	FOH Staff, Customers	<p>1) Cramped area leading to reduced social distancing.</p> <p>2) Communication with 'check-in' staff leading to airborne transmission.</p> <p>3) Random bag checks made by security staff increase likelihood of contact transmission.</p>	12	<p>1) Customers will receive specific details of entry times at point of booking to prevent the build-up of queues. This will also ease access to all facilities.</p> <p>2) Customers will be prompted to use sanitising stations on entry to the premises.</p> <p>3) Security staff will wear appropriate PPE .</p> <p>4) FOH staff will limit the number of people in the area to allow social distancing will take place.</p> <p>5) Signage on the floors and walls (where and when appropriate) will indicate social distancing guidelines.</p> <p>6) We may perform random bag checks for contraband. If this occurs, customers will be asked to remove items from their own bags for security checks so that our staff do not have to closely approach or contact personal belongings.</p> <p>7) Customers bringing contraband into the venues may be asked to leave without refund.</p> <p>8 Area will be cleaned by fogging between shows.</p> <p>9) Where possible we will create a signed contraflow system indicating direction of travel and social distancing guidelines. (Keep Left System)</p> <p>10) Customers will be issued wristbands to identify them and their table</p>	YES	6
Finding seats	Airborne transmission of the virus	Customers	<p>Social distancing would be compromised during communication of seating position and venue operation</p>	7	<p>1) Staff wear appropriate PPE.</p> <p>2) FOH staff will be polite but limit verbal communication at close quarters.</p> <p>3) Further information regarding service/venue layout and show timings will be available at the entrance to the auditorium and around the venue.</p>	YES	3
Obtaining food and drink	Airborne and contact transmission of the virus	Customers, Staff	<p>Pre-Covid bar service would contravene social distancing guidelines leading to the possibility of increased infection for staff and customers.</p>	14	<p>1) If the event uses Table service, we will have this as a method of purchasing food & drink throughout the evening</p> <p>2) We may use bar service if this is the case screens have been installed to allow an added barrier at the bar and signage will be used to ensure minimal contact and safe queueing We will also ask customers to get drinks for the table to discourage congregation.</p> <p>3) Due to social distancing guidelines the number of staff will be limited to work behind the bar in order to provide adequate distancing (which is why we will also have the option of providing table service to the show customers)</p> <p>4) All staff will wear disposable gloves when clearing used items which they will change each interval.</p>	YES	6

					5) We will be encouraging customers to pay by contactless card where possible.		
Staff preparation for work	Airborne and contact transmission	Staff, Customers	Contact transmission from wearing the same clothes during the day as when working	7	1) All staff will go through training and assessment before returning to work 2) Staff to bring a change of top and shoes in plastic bags if using public transport. 3) Staff to sanitize at point of entry and regularly during the evening 4) Long hair to be tied back. 5) Clothing worn on public transport must be put into bags and bags must be separated. 6) Staff temperatures will be taken at the start of each shift	YES	3
Customer & staff interaction with surfaces while moving around the venue.	Contact infection	Customers, FOH staff	Contact with door plates / tables / seats / bar surfaces / toilet doors / toilet seats / flush mechanism / taps	9	1) Whole auditorium is cleaned with fogging machines between each show. 2) Hand sanitiser is available in toilets the bar area and check-in. 3) Common Touchpoints (identified in "How" column), are cleaned regularly. 4) Customer seating is allocated and only accessible by other members of the same pod. 5) Menus will be laminated and cleaned after each use and a version will be available on our website	YES	6
Purchasing tickets in advance and communication of government guidelines and enhanced protocols	Conflict / abuse / violence / transmission of virus	Customers, Staff	Lack of knowledge, confusion and misunderstanding of changes made to operating procedures could lead to increased stress, possible verbal and physical conflict between customers and venue staff.	8	1) We will collect data from every booking attending at the point of booking to enable 'track and trace' and allow check in with the NHS app 2) An agreement to new booking conditions and enhanced guidelines will be electronically acknowledged by booker. 3) All changes to conditions are advertised on our website before booking. 4) Risk assessment is made available to all members of the public. 5) Enhanced conditions are posted at 'check-in' and re-enforced by public announcements.	YES	5
Games Tables (Pool and Table Football)	Contact Infection	Customers, Staff	Contact with tables, balls and necessary equipment	8	1) Tables and equipment will be sanitised between each usage 2) Equipment will be kept sanitised behind bar and deposit scheme operated 3) Tables will be fogged at end of each day	YES	4

Kitchen staff risk of contact transmission	Contact transmission	Kitchen staff, Customers	Prep tools, surfaces & uniforms come into contact with many staff	8	<p>1) Food menu edited to reduce number of staff working in the kitchens and to allow different area of the kitchen to become separate working zones in order to comply with social distancing guidelines.</p> <p>2) Kitchen staff bring fresh clothing and footwear which they change into before entering the kitchen.</p> <p>3) All non-uniform is kept in plastic bags separated from other staffs bags.</p> <p>4) All mobile phones are left in the office. Staff sanitise surfaces constantly.</p> <p>5) Staff prep raw and uncooked food with disposable gloves changed several times a session.</p> <p>6) All service flat wear is handled wearing disposable gloves.</p> <p>6) Head coverings are worn in the kitchen.</p> <p>7) Salad prep is carried out wearing face covering.</p> <p>8) Chef on pass must wear face covering. All PPE must be personal to prevent accidental sharing</p>	YES	5
Kitchen risk of airborne transmission	Airborne transmission of the virus	Kitchen staff, Customers	Current thinking is that hot dry atmosphere is conducive to replication of virus	4	<p>1) Kitchen extract is on full during all food prep.</p> <p>2) Area is fogged between sessions.</p> <p>3) Signage indicating social distancing requirements.</p> <p>4) Floor staff should wear face coverings.</p>		2
Cleaning	Contact transmission of the virus	Cleaners	Cleaners interact with almost every surface in the venue after a show	16	<p>1) Tables and chairs are sanitised at the end of the evening.</p> <p>2) Cleaners bring change of clothes to work in contained in plastic bag.</p> <p>3) All mops and buckets and other equipment are cleaned before and after use with appropriate detergent. All cleaning cloths are disposable.</p> <p>4) Before cleaning any bodily fluids appropriate PPE including disposable gloves and face coverings are worn and appropriate detergents used to neutralise.</p>	YES	8
Cleaning	Airborne transmission of the virus	Cleaners	Cleaners work in every room in the venue less than 12 hours after the show	9	<p>1) Cleaning staff will use a fogger to sanitise the auditorium, corridors, kitchen and office.</p>	YES	3

General transmission between staff departments	Airborne and contact transmission of the virus	Staff, Customers	Staff usually socialise in the staff rooms and share tasks in the same spaces	8	<p>1) Staff will mark up their own PPE to prevent accidental sharing.</p> <p>2) Radios used in different departments will be sanitised at the end of the shift.</p> <p>3) Radio headsets/ mouthpieces will be personalised and not be shared. A labelling system should be used to indicate cleaning has taken place</p> <p>4) The number of staff in staff room will be limited and the breaks broken up</p> <p>5) Staff from different departments will not share the same rest space at the same time .</p> <p>6) Where possible we will utilise other dormant areas of the venues to create more staff room space to allow social distancing.</p> <p>7) Staff must have their temperature taken at the start of each shift.</p> <p>8) Staff who become unwell during a shift should if possible be assessed by the first aider wearing appropriate PPE, and sent home to isolate by the safest method available.</p> <p>9) Managers will aim to create buddy working groups groups who always work together to reduce unnecessary risk.</p> <p>10) Mobile phones should be left in the office during shifts.</p>	YES	2
Bar Staff	Contact transmission		<p>Normal drinks service in busy weekend venues usually requires many people to work in crowded spaces regularly brushing past one another. There are multiple contact points by several individuals passing stock and drinking vessels around. There are large queues of customers shouting and leaning over the bar to make themselves heard. Combined with handling cash which represents and increased risk of transmission.</p>	9	<p>1) Table service or Bar service will be used as per current guidelines</p> <p>2) To comply with social distancing we will reduce the number of staff behind the bar.</p> <p>3) Signage behind the bar will designate separate working areas for each member of staff.</p> <p>4) All mobile phones are left in the office.</p> <p>5) Staff will asked to sanitise surfaces regularly.</p> <p>6) We will be encouraging contactless payments.</p> <p>7) Some cocktails and other drinks previously sold with straws will be offered without them to prevent contact transmission.</p> <p>8) All trays returning to the bar will be sanitised.</p>	YES	5
Bar Staff	Airborne transmission of the virus	Staff, Customers	Customers queuing at the bar, shouting orders, leaning over the bar to attract staff attention.	11	<p>1) Staff will wear masks</p> <p>2) Queue systems will operate and screens have been installed at the bar</p>	YES	7

Floor staff	Contact transmission of the virus	Floor staff, Customers	Floor staff set up the auditorium, meet and greet customers, serve food, clean down the furnishings in the auditorium at the end of the event.	14	<p>1) Floor staff will all be asked to wear disposable gloves which they will change regularly when clearing tables</p> <p>2) Mobile phones will be left in the offices.</p> <p>3) Floor staff will be taking orders from customers at tables and will be delivering to tables trays of drinks. They will sanitise card machines after the machine has been touched</p> <p>4) All the tables and chairs will be sanitised using fogging at the end of each shift.</p>	YES	5
Floor staff	Airborne transmission of the virus	Floor staff, Customers	Floor staff have to interact with customers to serve food and drinks and sort problems out for the customers	16	<p>1) Floor staff will all be asked to wear face coverings.</p> <p>2) Much of the usual verbal communication will be replaced with extra signage and public announcements.</p> <p>43 The venue air handling will be in operation at all times they are in the venue.</p> <p>4) We will reduce the level of house / background music to enable conversations to be carried out respecting current guidelines.</p>	YES	3
Performance and artists risks	Airborne and contact transmission of the virus	Customers, Staff, Other Acts	Cross contamination from sharing microphones / stands / drinks facilities / toilets. Elevated performance position and animated delivery may project airborne virus further than general social distancing guidelines.	10	<p>1) Acts arrival times will be staggered by prior contractual arrangement to allow low occupancy of the dressing rooms.</p> <p>2) Each act will be provided with their own sanitised microphone clearly colour coded or they can bring their own.</p> <p>3) Stands will be sanitised between acts.</p> <p>4) Passing on stage will be limited</p> <p>5) No handshake rule will be applied.</p> <p>6) Acts will be temp checked on arrival.</p> <p>7) All tech equipment will be sanitised and wiped down at the end of each show.</p> <p>8) The stage area will be marked to create a safer performance area.</p> <p>9) Sanitiser will be available in dressing rooms and stage side.</p> <p>10) Bottled water will be provided to replace open jugs.</p>	YES	3
Staff - protecting the high-risk groups	Airborne and contact transmission of the virus	Staff	Increased risk of serious illness and fatality	13	<p>1) We will survey the staff to establish vulnerability.</p> <p>2) Those at very high risk will if possible, stay on furlough.</p> <p>3) if furlough is no longer available they will be asked to perform as many task as possible from home or when the venue is empty of customers. (job description permitting).</p> <p>4) We will endeavour where practically possible to remove those at higher risk from front lines roles of other roles if and when they become available.</p>	YES	7

Staff - managing anxiety and mental health	Mental health	Staff	Increased risk of anxiety and damage to mental wellbeing	10	<p>1) All staff will undergo an assessment before returning to work to establish their suitability to return to work</p> <p>2) We endeavour to assure staff that our company will do everything practically possible to reduce the apparent risks.</p> <p>3) If possible we will manage tasks accounting for the individual's anxiety levels including reduced length of shift, and moving staff away from front line duties.</p> <p>4) We will endeavour to support those whose mental health is affected and provide contacts for counselling.</p> <p>5) Were appropriate we will increase the number of rest breaks during shifts in order to reduce stress.</p>	YES	3
Customers - protecting high risk groups	Increased anxiety / severity of illness	Customers, Staff	Those in high risk groups considering attending events during social distancing	22	Advised not to attend until social distancing has been relaxed.	YES	0
Dealing with absenteeism due to cautionary self-isolation	Airborne and contact transmission of the virus	Staff	Increased stress, overworking of team members leading to compromise / breaches of Government guidelines, and increasing the risk of transmission	2	Managers consider operating standby mode to cover last minute dropouts' staff in key positions.	YES	2
Dealing with drunkenness while complying with social distancing	Contact and airborne transmission. Risk of aggressive and violent behaviour	Staff, Customers	Drunkenness leading to lack of respect for social distancing guidelines, causing anxiety amongst other customers. Aggressive behaviour which threatens the safety of other customers and staff.	18	<p>1) Bar / waiting staff to notify management of incidents of drunkenness.</p> <p>2) Management consider refusing further service of alcohol (as per licensing regulations).</p> <p>3) Party organiser will be approached to intervene and escort customer home.</p> <p>4) If further action is required, we may consider ejection, but this is always the last resort.</p> <p>5) When executing an ejection fresh disposable gloves, face coverings & face shields must be worn by staff, these must be replaced with fresh PPE after ejection has occurred. Police asked to attend if risk is deemed too high for security.</p>	YES	13
Air handling	Airborne transmission	Staff, Customers, Suppliers, and Customers.	We have been told stagnant and recirculated air can increase levels of infection	10	All our venues have air handling and air-conditioning systems. We will adjust our systems to increase the amount of fresh air to the venues and reduce the amount of recirculated air. Where practical we will open doors throughout the venue. The venues will use fogging machines to clean all surfaces in the auditorium between shows.	YES	5

Food Service	Contact transmission	Staff, Customers, Suppliers	Handling of plates / cutlery / condiments	8	<p>1) Cutlery and flatware will be cleaned at above 70 degrees centigrade.</p> <p>2) Washed flatware will be handled by staff wearing disposable gloves.</p> <p>3) Cutlery and condiments will be taken to the table if food is ordered</p>	YES	4
Toilet checks and management	General transmission of the virus	Customers, Staff, Cleaners	Transmission of virus caused by contact and proximity / bodily fluids	7	<p>1) The public toilets will be sanitised with fog machines between each show.</p> <p>2) They will be inspected hourly and where necessary spray sanitised between sections of the show.</p> <p>3) Every other cubicle will be locked to comply with social distancing regulations.</p> <p>4) Every other position at the urinals will be blocked.</p> <p>5) Soap will be available in all toilets</p> <p>6) We will encourage by way of signage and public announcement the use of the toilets throughout the show rather than waiting until the intervals to avoid queues</p> <p>7) We will endeavour to create a contra flow system to and from the facilities</p>	YES	7
Contractors and suppliers	General transmission of the virus	Staff / Suppliers / Contactors	Contact transmission from any product being delivered / contamination from uncleaned areas of the venue / airborne transmission through close contact between contractors / delivery people and staff.	7	<p>1) The venue will request risk assessments from suppliers and contractors.</p> <p>2) We will record for track and trace, the names and contact details of all those who work in the venue (these may be private or work contact numbers).</p> <p>3) We will sanitise the areas required either by fogging or by hand with industrial antiviral products.</p> <p>4) Where accessible the air handling will be on one hour before arrival and one hour after the activity has taken place. Social distancing will be practised at all times possible.</p> <p>5) All outside contractors and staff will be encouraged to use hand sanitiser upon entry.</p> <p>6) Handwashing will take place before handling any items delivered.</p> <p>7) Any equipment will be wiped or sprayed to sanitise appropriately before and after the delivery / event, (trolleys trucks etc) .</p> <p>8) Any work area will be cleaned thoroughly.</p> <p>9) If there is any risk social distancing cannot be observed face coverings and protective visors will be worn.</p> <p>10) Packaged stock will be sprayed after delivery.</p> <p>11) Temperature checks may be taken.</p>	YES	3