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## Key Legislation for Outdoor Festivals and Events in Ireland

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# KEY LEGISLATION FOR OUTDOOR FESTIVALS & EVENTS



There are a number of key pieces of legislation applicable to large outdoor events (5,000 attendees or more). This is an overview of the most relevant legislation.



An outdoor event is defined as a public performance which takes place mainly in the open air or in a structure with no roof or a partial, temporary or retractable roof, a tent or similar temporary structure and which consists of music, dancing, displays of public entertainment or any activity of a like-kind (Planning and Development Act, 2000)

A large outdoor public event comprises of an audience of 5,000 or more people

## The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Acts of 1989 and 2005 and associated regulations

This regulation applies directly to employers, employees, contractors and anyone who is affected by the activity of the event (members of the public, passers-by, etc.)

An event organiser must ensure that their activities are safe and do not endanger employees, contractors, the general public or anyone impacted by the event activities.

## Planning & Development Act 2000-2010 (as amended) and Part 16 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

Organiser's of large-scale events are required to obtain an Outdoor Events License from the Local Planning Authority

Organisers must make themselves familiar with the relevant codes of practice, in particular the Code of Practice for Safety at Outdoor Pop Concerts and Other Musical Events (Dept. of Education - 1996).

## The Fire Services Act 1981 covers all aspects of fire safety and is applicable to both outdoor and enclosed venues

Event organisers have a responsibility to ensure that there are an adequate means of escape for all persons in attendance at an event (both outdoor & indoor).

All materials and temporary structures used or developed by the event must be in compliance with fire safety standards.

## Waste Management Acts, 1996 and 2001

Event organisers have a Duty of Care to ensure the correct management of waste

The Waste Management Acts, 1996 & 2001 set out the legislative requirements for organisers of festivals and events in areas such as litter control, bin provision, poster distribution and clean-up.



**It is the responsibility of the event organiser to ensure they are in compliance with the terms and conditions of the regulations and relevant legislation.**