

CUSTOM HOUSE SQUARE - BELFAST FLEADH

Rationale for extended hours

This year, the annual CHSQ music festival was scheduled to run from Sat 8th August - Tues 1st September. In response to the Belfast Fleadh, we are opening Custom House Square on Thursday 6th August, Friday 9th August and extending our hours of operation on Saturday 8th August (6pm-1am) which will further enhance the Fleadh offering.

During Thurs 6th and Fri 7th Aug we intend to open the custom house site from 2pm until potentially 1am (dependent on demand), we will also be extending the hours of operation on Saturday 8th August for the Lush! Classical Concert to 1am. This provides an additional space for five thousand people in Belfast city Centre. Bar, food, toilet facilities and medical provision for five thousand people will be during our operational times.

We will not be selling tickets or charging into Custom House during these two dates, however we have asked Cancer Fund For Children to be present for donations for entry. The Lush! Classical event on Saturday 8th August is ticketed, as per normal CHSQ events.

We are asking for an extension to our entertainment hours on Thursday 6th, Friday 7th and Sat 8th August to 1am. This is to provide a better service for Fleadh guests in that we offer all the additional services noted. After discussions with Belfast City Council, we feel that guests should be kept on site rather than egress happening as normal at 10:45pm, which may overburden the city centre.

Should our extension be granted, Entertainment will be provided between the hours of 2pm-1am with a mixture of bands, DJ and solo performers on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th August, with Saturday 8th August operating from 5pm-1am. We note that this may cause inconvenience to nearby residents and offer mitigations in our event management plan including security and reduced volume.