

# FORWARDS Festival & FORWARDS presents Lorde

Friday 28th, Saturday 29th  
Sunday 30th August 2026

Reply to Mr Thomas Paine, [forwards@teamlove.org](mailto:forwards@teamlove.org)  
**Main office number** 01179 411 811  
**On Site contact number** 0330 120 1651  
(operational Mon 24th August - Tues 1st Sept 9am - 6pm,  
8am - Midnight on live event days)

Dear Local Resident & Neighbour,

We are writing to you about FORWARDS Festival which is scheduled to take place on The Downs on Friday 28th, Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th August 2026. The purpose of this letter is to give you notice of the plans for both events and to outline measures we are taking to minimise our impact on the local area.

On Friday 28th August, FORWARDS presents Lorde will be a standalone show, however it is being produced by Team Love and will use the same infrastructure that we have in place for FORWARDS. This event will have one main stage for music, food traders and licensed bars. The concerts will be accessible to all ages and family friendly.

Following a discussion with The Downs Committee and Bristol City Council, we have been granted permission to slightly increase the festival site footprint to provide a better experience for festival goers. We will use the space to add more toilets, food traders, increase the kids and teens area and also have the space required for WECA and Bristol City Council's Sustainable Power pilot that we are taking part in this year. We will not be increasing the capacity of tickets, nor adding more music stages.

FORWARDS Festival will have two main music stages, a smaller stage called The Arches, a talks and community partners area called The Information, kids and teens area, food traders and licensed bars.

## Key Event Details

**Friday 28th August - FORWARDS presents Lorde - Running Times: 14:00-23:00**

**1 Stage - Maximum Audience Size: 29,999**

**Line Up:** Lorde, Djo, Audrey Hobert, Rose Gray, Esha Tewari, Grove

**Saturday 29th August - FORWARDS - Running Times: 12:00-23:00**

**2 Stages + The Information Stage + The Arches + Kids Area - Maximum Audience Size: 29,999**

**Line Up:** Tems, Self Esteem, Wet Leg, Joy Crookes, Tricky, Goldie (Live), Paraorchestra presents Kraftwerk RE:WERK with Charles Hazlewood plus special guests Maribou State

**Sunday 30th August - FORWARDS - Running Times: 12:00-23:00**

**2 Stages + The Information Stage + The Arches + Kids Area - Maximum Audience Size: 29,999**

**Line Up:** Little Simz, Amyl and the Sniffers, Dijon, Viagra Boys, Oklou, Jim Legxacy, Princess Nokia, Jean Dawson, Gena ft. Liv.e & Karriem Riggins, Analis

## Site Planning & Noise

There will be increased noise in the area on the event days. We have employed an independent specialist noise management company to carry out tests throughout the events to ensure that levels do not exceed those set by the Bristol City Council. They will be taking readings from various points off-site including local residential areas. If you have any concerns that you would like to raise prior to the show, please contact us using the details on this letter.

Please note that sound checks are scheduled to be carried out on Thursday 27th August between 10:00-20:00. On Friday 28th August between 10:00-13:00 prior to the event starting at 14:00. Also there will be some sound checks prior to gates opening on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th August between 10:00-12:00 noon, although we will do our best to keep these to a minimum. Please note that the checks will consist of intermittent bursts of sound, not constant music during these hours.

### Waste Management

We will be working with a professional waste management company that specialises in sustainable practices. They will provide us with an offsite team who will respond to any residential reports of festival-related litter build up. Any concerns about rubbish during the events can be called in to 0330 120 1651. After the events, our Waste Management Team will be working until Friday 4th September to ensure that the site is cleared of all festival litter.

### Use of the Downs

Initial infrastructure deliveries will start arriving onsite on Tuesday 18th August and we are aiming for the site to be cleared by Friday 4th September. This amount of time is required to install the necessary infrastructure to put on safe events of this size and is the same build/break period as last year. Our plans only encompass one section of The Downs, so there will be large green areas still available for use by other members of the public at all times. We will put diversion signage in place for the pathway that runs across the site which will be closed for 19 days for safety reasons during the build, event days and break period. We will be installing ground protection so site vehicles can move around The Downs without causing damage. Full reinstatement – to be implemented immediately after FORWARDS - has been agreed with Bristol City Council should bad weather cause any damage to the ground.

### Resident Parking Scheme / Road Closures

We have had generally good feedback from the Resident Parking Scheme and will be looking to implement it again this year. The scheme would cover properties at the following addresses on Friday 28th, Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th August only: *Avon Grove, Bishops Close, Bramble Drive, Bramble Lane, Church Avenue, Church Road, Cook's Folly Road, Downleaze, Druid Road, Eastmead Lane, Goodeve Park, Goodeve Road, Hazelwood Road, Hollybush Lane, Hollymead Lane, Ivywell Road, Julian Road, Knoll Hill, Mariners Drive, Old Sneed Park, Pitch & Pay Lane, Rockleaze, Rockleaze Avenue, Rockleaze Road, Seawalls Road, Stoke Park Road, The Avenue, Stoke Park Road South, Towerleaze.*

Our stewards will be managing the closures and will adopt a common-sense approach, whereby anyone with a copy of this letter, proof of address (such as a utility bill) or who displays a clear knowledge of a specific property they wish to visit, will be able to gain access. We have not put a full pass system in place, as we are trying to keep it as straight-forward as possible for residents. We actively encourage festival goers to use public transport or walk to the event, with no parking provided.

The aim of the parking scheme is to prevent problems with parking, public nuisance and noise issues for local residents. We ask that all residents please be respectful of the stewards working on the road closures as they are there to help.

As well as the closure of the Sneyd Park roads to non-residents, we will be applying for the following closures (which affect the same roads as previous years) on Friday 28th, Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th August 2026 only.

- **Circular Road:** Closed to all vehicles except production traffic, forms part of the sterile area around the event.
- **Stoke Road:** This will be closed to private vehicles. Our shuttle buses will have access. Cars requiring access to Stoke Park road will need to take a short detour around The Downs.
- **Ladies Mile:** Parking will be suspended. Access only to event traffic and pick up / drop off point for private vehicles and private hire taxis.

All of the above are designed to prevent gridlock around the site. Small detours should not impact on normal road traffic. We have spoken with First Bus and they have told us there are no diversions planned during any events for local buses so they will continue to run as normal.

### Resident Tickets

We are offering a resident ticket scheme, whereby qualifying addresses will be able to buy tickets at a reduced price. Please note that you will need to pre-register before you are able to buy these tickets via email.

**Friday OR Saturday OR Sunday only** (weekend or multi-day resident tickets not available)

**Adult Ticket (18+ years)** - £35 + BF

**Teens Ticket (13-17 years)** - £35 + BF (please see restrictions below)

**Kids Ticket (5-12 years)** - £20 + BF

**4 years and under** - free but still need a ticket

Everyone who will be aged 18 and over at the time of the event requires an adult ticket. Teen tickets will be available for those aged 13-17 years of age and there will be Kids Tickets available for those aged between 5-12 years – **these must be added on and purchased at the same time of purchasing adult resident tickets**. Children aged 4 and under are free, but please note that they **must still be registered for a ticket** and booked with an adult ticket. Please note that there is a limit of **2 adult tickets available per household for each day**. There will also be the option to purchase Kids or Teens tickets in addition but they must be accompanied on site at all times.

Please email us on [forwards@teamlove.org](mailto:forwards@teamlove.org) to receive a form, we will close the registration **Friday 7th August**. The form will require your full name, address and proof of address (bank statement / utility bill etc dating within the past 3 months). We will not store these documents and will securely delete them after initial verification of address. Residents at qualifying addresses will be sent a link via email once tickets are available, through which you will be able to buy your tickets. **Please note**, if we sell out ahead of the event taking place, then resident tickets will also be sold out.

#### **Resident Consultation Meeting**

We continue to welcome input from local residents - local knowledge can help to ensure that an event is as successful as possible and causes the least possible disruption to people who live nearby. Members of the Event Management Team will be available to answer questions and take feedback at our resident consultation that will take place **online via video call** on **Thursday 23rd July from 5.30pm-6.30pm**. Please contact us to register your interest for this meeting so we can send you a link for the call.

**If you are not able to attend the Consultation Meeting, if you have comments on any of the above or there is anything else you would like to raise with us beforehand, please don't hesitate to get in touch - [forwards@teamlove.org](mailto:forwards@teamlove.org)**

#### **Alternative Resident Event - Saturday 29th August**

We will again be organising an alternative evening of entertainment at St. Mary's Church, Stoke Bishop on the evening of Saturday 29th August. The event will be put on specifically for local residents and will be free of charge, for a night of jazz and nibbles. Please let us know in advance if you are interested in attending so we can estimate numbers for refreshments.

**We will be in the on-site Production Office from Monday 24th August until Tuesday 1st September where you can reach us on 0117 9411 611 or 0330 120 1651 between the hours of 9am and 6pm (except on event days when we will be available from 8am until midnight). Outside of these hours, please email us on [forwards@teamlove.org](mailto:forwards@teamlove.org) and we will respond as soon as we can.**

For more information about FORWARDS presents LORDE: <https://www.lordebristol.co.uk/>

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Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.



Yours sincerely,  
Thomas Paine