

3 BBC LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS - 11 SEPTEMBER 2010 (AN94-2010)

Traditionally the Scottish element of BBC Proms has taken place annually in Glasgow. This year for the first time the concert will be screened from the Caird Hall on 11th September 2010, with a capacity audience of 2,000, and free ticket entry. The Executive Producer of the BBC Proms has contacted Dundee City Council to see if the City Council would be interested in staging an outdoor broadcast of the Caird Hall event in the City Square.

The BBC has indicated that it has had in excess of 3500 applications for the 2000 free tickets available for the Caird Hall. The capacity of the City Square is estimated at 600 seated or 4000 standing. Half seating and half standing would allow for up to 2300 tickets and this is the option preferred by the City Council.

This is the first time that the Proms event has been held at the Caird Hall and would be first event of this kind to be staged in the City Square. In terms of logistics and crowd safety those issues can be satisfactorily dealt with and the Council's Emergency Planning Officer has been involved in the discussions. The screen will be located in front of the Caird Hall steps leaving sufficient space for those attending the Caird Hall event to enter and leave the building.

The main risk for the Council in staging the event will be poor weather discouraging those with tickets from attending. This is a risk that cannot be mitigated however the track record of the outside event in Glasgow has shown that adverse weather does not greatly put off the crowd.

Whilst the last night of the Proms event will be broadcast on the night on BBC2 Scotland, the UK audience will only see the Dundee component for a few minutes at most and then only in short sections. The City will however benefit from the 4300 people attending the event, many of whom may be visitors to the City.

The outdoor event in City Square will cost no more than £15,000 to put on and will be met from the Council's General Contingency and it is recommended that the Recess Sub Committee agrees to this event being held.