One Great George Street

Questions from Eitherlive: What should event organisers ask venues about Wi-Fi – complete with One Great George Street's answers

Q1. How much Wi-Fi bandwidth does the venue have to offer?

The system allows for 100 mbps (higher speeds of up to 200 mbps available with notice and subject to cost)

Q2. Does the Venue have a Wi-Fi provision in the:

- Public areas - Yes
- Meeting rooms - Yes
- Halls - Yes

Q3. Is the Wi-Fi provision free of charge or a paid for service:

Free of charge in all public and private areas, on the One Great George Street Network

Q4. Is the Wi-Fi provision likely to cope with the way you expect it to be used at your event, for example:

- Checking emails - Yes
- Streaming video - This would depend on video quality and number of streams, for streaming video we would recommend a wired connection
- Research projects - Yes
- Running websites & demos - Yes

Q5. What is the maximum number of concurrent users your system allows for, and how much bandwidth could each user expect as a minimum during maximum utilisation?

Each room has enough access points to cover the maximum number of people allowed in it. The free One Great George Street network shares a 40mbps connection. All users share this bandwidth. For browsing, checking emails, etc, this bandwidth is ample for all users.

Q6. Can the venue increase the amount of internet access?
This may solve "slow" Wi-Fi networks since it's actually the internet connection that is the bottleneck.

Yes we can increase the amount of internet access. Notice is needed and there would be a charge.

Q7. Is this number based on an even spread throughout the venue?

Yes it is even throughout the whole of the building

Q8. Do you have any way of increasing capacity in high density areas, such as cafes?

The system is built for the maximum number of users for each given room; however we do have extra access points that can be put in on a temporary basis.

Q9. What system does your venue use for logging users on, how easy is it and is there any opportunity for the landing page to be sponsored and provide a possible revenue stream?

There is a basic page in which users have to accept the 'terms and conditions' before being able to connect. A custom network with a client's own landing page can be created, but this requires notice and at an additional charge.

Q10. Do you allow event participants to create their own Wi-Fi networks following the purchase of a hard-wired connection?
(most venues will not allow this as independently set-up Wi-Fi networks will cause interference with the official infrastructure, impacting on the quality of all other networks.)

We do allow this, however it is on a case-by-case basis so the team looking after the One Great George Street network can assess the client's network and see if it will cause any interference.

Q11. Do you actively manage and potentially shut down rogue/unauthorised Wi-Fi networks?

We wouldn't unless it was causing problems with the One Great George Street network. We would always prefer to be consulted beforehand when a separate Wi-Fi network is added.