

Report to:	Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Date of Meeting:	Monday 14 June 2021
Subject:	Reissuing of Safety Certificates at Southport FC		
Report of:	Head of Economic Growth and Housing	Wards Affected:	Kew;
Portfolio:	Planning & Building Control		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

Safety Certificates for two regulated viewing grandstands at Southport FC's Haig Avenue stadium need to be re-issued - to include the name of the Club's new Secretary who will be the holder of the certificates.

Recommendation(s):

- (1) That Members agree to re-issue the General Safety Certificates for the Main Grandstand and for the Jack Carr Stand at Southport FC's Haig Avenue stadium.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To ensure that Southport Football Club has a valid Safety Certificate for each of its two 'regulated' grandstands and that both the Club and the Council comply with the requirements of the Safety at Sports Grounds Act 1975 and the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs
Nil

(B) Capital Costs
Nil

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None	
Legal Implications: None	
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.	
Climate Emergency Implications: The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	Y/N
Have a neutral impact	Y/N
Have a negative impact	Y/N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y/N
There are no negative environmental impacts associated to this report – the proposal / recommendation will have a neutral impact.	

Contribution to the Council’s Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Will help to ensure members of the public are kept safe whilst viewing sporting events in the Borough
Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: Not applicable
Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable

Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: Not applicable
Greater income for social investment: Not applicable
Cleaner Greener; Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD6417/21) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4618/21) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

Consultations with Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service and NW Ambulance Services have been undertaken.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee / Council meeting.

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Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

- Draft Safety Certificate for the Main Grandstand
- Draft Safety Certificate for the Jack Carr Stand

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1.0 Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Southport FC's stadium in Haig Avenue contains two 'regulated' grandstands, namely the Main Grandstand and the Jack Carr Stand. In accordance with the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 and the Fire Safety and Safety of Places Sports Act 1987 the Club has previously been granted a Safety Certificate for each of those stands.
- 1.2 Once issued, Safety Certificates remain valid until such time as there is a material, physical alteration to the fabric of the stand, or there is an amendment to any club official named within the Certificate. In such circumstance, Safety Certificates have to be re-issued in order to reflect the change in circumstance.
- 1.3 After the conclusion the 2020/21 season, the Club indicated that it wished to have the Club's Secretary, Frank Hughes, as the named Certificate holder, replacing the person named on the current certificates.
- 1.4 In accordance with the above-mentioned legislation, the emergency services (police, fire and Ambulance) have been consulted in respect of the changes referred to above and they have no objections to the proposed change to the named certificate holder

2.0 Current position

- 2.1 In accordance with Section 29(5) of the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987, the new Club Chief Executive Officer has formally requested that the Safety Certificates at Southport FC are both altered to indicate that the named holder of the Certificates is Frank Hughes.
- 2.2 Both Certificates have been amended (in draft format) for consideration by the Councils Regulatory and Licencing Committee.

3.0 Future actions

- 3.1 Should Members agree to re-issue the Safety Certificates, Officers will take the necessary steps to issue those certificates and will undertake annual, statutory inspections of both stands, in order to verify that the contents, requirements and conditions contained within the issued Safety Certificates are being met. Those inspections will be carried out jointly with the three emergency services.