

Report to:	Licencing & Regulatory (Urgent Referrals)	Date of Meeting:	19 July 2018
Subject:	Reissuing of Safety Certificates for the Main Grandstand and the Jack Carr Stand at Southport FC to a new named holder and to reflect physical alterations undertaken to the Main Grandstand.		
Report of:	Chief Planning Officer	Wards Affected:	Kew
Cabinet 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 are to be transferred to a new named holder. In addition, the amended Safety Certificate for the Main Grandstand is to make reference to physical alterations of the viewing area and the hospitality accommodation.

Recommendations:

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

Reasons for the Recommendations:

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)

No alternative options considered.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

None.

(B) Capital Costs

None.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None
Legal Implications: None
Equality Implications: None

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Not applicable
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:
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 Head of Corporate Resources (FD5212/18) has been consulted and notes the report indicates no financial implications. The (LD4436/18) has 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 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. 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 (or transferred to a new named holder) in order to reflect the change in circumstance.
- 1.3 After the conclusion the 2017/18 season, the Club indicated that it wished to have the Clubs Chief Executive Officer, Natalie Atkinson as the named Certificate holder, replacing the person named on the current certificates. The reissued Certificates will need to be in place before the start of the 2018/19 season in order to allow both grandstands to be used by spectators.
- 1.4 The named Club Safety Officer is to remain as Mr Stephen Haw.
- 1.5 In accordance with the legislation, the emergency services (police, fire and Ambulance) have been consulted in respect of this proposed change and they have no objections to the proposed change in named holder of the Safety Certificates. A minor recommendation from Merseyside Fire Brigade concerning steward training, has been included within the draft certificates.

2 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 transferred into her name and that as such, she will be the new 'named holder'.
- 2.2 Under the terms of Sections 28(1a) and 29(5&6) of the Fire Safety and Safety of Places Sports Act 1987, Officers have determined that Natalie Atkinson is a suitable person to hold a safety certificate and it is recommended to Committee that both Safety Certificates at Southport FC be transferred into her name.
- 2.3 Between May and July 2018, the Club undertook alterations to the Main Grandstand in order to reconfigure the viewing area and to refurbish the

hospitality accommodation. The result of the remodelling works has reduced the capacity of the Main Grandstand from 1,700 to 1,566.

- 2.4 A Building Regulation for the works described above was deposited with the Council in May 2018. It is envisaged that by the time of the Committee meeting, the Building Control Team will be able to report that the deposited application will have been given approval and the works on site have been inspected and found to be in compliance with the technical requirements of the Building Regulations.
- 2.4 Both Certificates have been amended (in draft format) for consideration by the Councils Regulatory and Licencing Urgent Referral Committee.

3 Future actions

- 3.1 Should Members agree to issue the new Safety Certificates, Officers from the Council 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.