

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Licensing Committee
DATE	14 June 2016
DIRECTOR	Richard Ellis (Interim Director)
TITLE OF REPORT	Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 as amended – General Safety Certificate Pittodrie Certificate
REPORT NUMBER	CG/16/079
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To request that the Licensing Committee agree to the adoption of the General Safety Certificate issued to Aberdeen Football Club annexed as Appendix 2 to this report and as set out in paragraph 5 below.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:

Approves the General Safety Certificate June 2016 to be issued to Aberdeen Football Club.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There may be legal and health and safety implications if the Licensing Committee does not approve and issue the Safety Certificate. The practical effect would be that Aberdeen Football Club would be unable to carry out their specified activities including Association Football, Rugby Union and other sporting event(s) attended by more than 500 spectators

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

In terms of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 (as amended) any sports stadium which has accommodation for more than 10,000 spectators shall require a Safety Certificate.

The Act defines a sports ground as: 'A place where sports or other competitive activities take place in the open air, and where accommodation has been provided for spectators, consisting of artificial structures or of natural structures artificially modified for the purpose.'

The only sports ground which currently meets the relevant statutory requirements in Aberdeen City is Pittodrie Stadium.

The certificate is renewed on an annual basis and a number of inspections are carried out at the stadium during the year.

The certificate requires to be in place before the commencement of each new football season.

The amendments to the Safety Certificate have been highlighted in the Certificate and in particular the following amendments have been made:

1. Appendix 2 has been updated and replaced
2. Appendix 5 has been updated
3. Appendix 6 has been updated and replaced
4. Appendix 7 has been updated and replaced.

Due to the technical nature of the work involved, the Sports Ground Advisory Group has established a working group made up of officers to deal with relevant matters arising and in particular to prepare the Safety Certificate for renewal each year. The officers on the working group have no objections to the proposed amendments and recommend that the draft Certificate can be approved.

The Safety Certificate is before the Licensing Committee for their approval.

6. IMPACT

Public –

The Safety Certificate is likely to be of interest to the public as it outlines the safety standards which must be adopted by Aberdeen Football Club for the benefit of those who attend the Stadium.

The Safety Certificate seeks to promote the general equality duty in terms of disability by promoting accessibility and accommodation for disabled supporters. The proposal has a neutral impact on groups with protected characteristics and an impact assessment is therefore not required. (See Appendix 1)

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

If the Safety Certificate is not approved by the Committee Aberdeen Football Club would be unable to carry out their specified activities including Association Football, Rugby Union and other sporting event(s) attended by more than 500 spectators

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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7- EHRIA Summary and Action Planning				
Report Title				
Assessment not required	<p>Evidence</p> <p>The Safety Certificate helps to advance equality of opportunity for people with the following protected characteristics: age and disability by taking account of disabled people’s requirements and removing or minimising disadvantage. The Certificate holder shall ensure that s/he and all relevant stadium personnel take reasonable steps to ensure compliance, so far as reasonably practicable, with the Equality Act 2010.</p>			
Assessment completed	<p>As a result of completing this assessment, what actions are proposed to remove or reduce any risks of adverse outcomes which were identified.</p>			
Identified Risk and to whom:	Recommended Actions:	Responsible Lead:	Completion Date:	Review Date:

8: Sign off

Completed by (Names and Services) :

Arlene Dunbar, Legal & Democratic Services.

Signed off by (Head of Service) :

Only sections 7 and 8 will be attached to the committee report

The full EHRIA will be published on Aberdeen City Council's website under
http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/xeq_EHRIA_Search.asp

Please send an electronic format of the full EHRIA without signature to SHoward@aberdeencity.gov.uk

