

To: GENERAL PURPOSES (LICENSING) SUB-COMMITTEE		Subject: SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS: CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS – FIR PARK, MOTHERWELL
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 11 SEPTEMBER 2002	Ref: CA/GP/16 JM	

1 Introduction

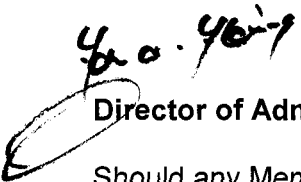
- 1.1 The Council has, at a series of earlier meetings, adopted practices in relation to its responsibilities for the certification of "Designated Grounds" in North Lanarkshire and agreed to the establishment of a Safety of Sports Grounds Officer Working Group representing a variety of disciplines which assists the process of certification.
- 1.2 The Council has also agreed that a programme of annual inspections be established and, over the past few months, Officers of the Working Group have carried out a series of inspections at Fir Park and have met with representatives from stadium management to discuss a number of issues relating to the General Safety Certificate for the Stadium.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 As a result of these inspections the undernoted matters have been identified as requiring attention, details of which have been passed to the General Manager for his attention:-
 - 2.1.1 Procedures to be put in place to prevent the main power supply to the East Stand being switched off by catering staff, as this drains the batteries of the emergency;
 - 2.1.2 The Structural Inspection report recommends various actions be taken in the immediate, medium and long term. Although confirmation has been received that the "immediate" actions have been attended to, confirmation is required that a programme/schedule is in place to attend to the "medium" and "long" term requirements.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee hear verbal updates on these outstanding issues by the appropriate officers and representations from Motherwell Football Club's General Manager and consider the renewal of the General Safety Certificate.

John Murray

Director of Administration

Should any Member require further information please contact John Murray of the Department of Administration at extension 2259.