

REPORT

To: CORPORATE SERVICES (LICENSING) SUB-COMMITTEE		Subject: SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS - CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS - EXCELSIOR STADIUM, AIRDRIE
From: HEAD OF CENTRAL SERVICES		
Date: 28 May 2013	Ref: LD/MR	

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Council has previously adopted practices in relation to its responsibilities for the certification of "Designated Sports Grounds" in North Lanarkshire and agreed to the establishment of a Safety of Sports Grounds Officer Working Group representing a variety of disciplines which assist 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 Excelsior Stadium, Airdrie, and met with representatives from the Stadium Management to discuss a number of issues relating to the General Safety Certificate for the ground.

2. Current Position

As a result of these inspections, the undernoted matters have been identified as requiring attention, details of which have been passed to the Stadium Manager for attention.

- 2.1. An Annual Periodic Electrical Inspection Report shall be submitted and this shall include evidence that the emergency lighting has been adequately serviced by a competent person.
- 2.2. A Certificate of Risk Assessment of barriers, claddings and structural elements shall be submitted.
- 2.3. A Certificate of Risk Assessment of the Stadium's adequacy shall be submitted.
- 2.4. A statement shall be submitted confirming that a minimum of four weeks notice shall be given of any intention to use any of the stands not normally utilised on match days.
- 2.5. With regard to the structural integrity of the Stadium, a list of matters has been identified which require comment either individually, or, as part of the annual certification arrangements, as detailed in the Appendix to this report.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Sub-Committee hear verbal updates on any outstanding issues by the appropriate Officers and from the Stadium management of Excelsior Stadium and consider the renewal of the General Safety Certificate accordingly.


Head of Central Services

APPENDIX

LIST OF STRUCTURAL OBSERVATIONS

Annual Inspection

Management should arrange a detailed annual inspection of all structures, components and installations and provide appropriate certification in support of the same in accordance with Clause 5.13 of the current Guide.

The Annual Inspection should be carried out by an appropriately skilled and experienced Chartered Engineer and it should clearly state which part(s) of the stadium are fit for purpose and which part(s) of the stadium are not fit for purpose.

Structural Appraisal

Management should arrange a structural appraisal of all existing structures and provide appropriate certification in support of the same in accordance with clause 5.14 of the current Guide.

The appraisal methods described by the Institution of Structural Engineers in the publication *Appraisal of Existing Structures* are recommended. The appraisal should be carried out by a competent Chartered Engineer who has the appropriate skills and experience.

The requirement for a Structural Appraisal was introduced in the 2008 (5th Edition) of the *Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds*. The Standing Committee on Structural Safety (SCOSS) advises that an interval between appraisals of 6-10 years is likely to be appropriate for most large structures at sports grounds. If the Chartered Engineer considers that a Structural Appraisal is not appropriate at this time the reason(s) why should be clearly stated.