

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Finance and Corporate Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>20 June 2018</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Safety at Sports Grounds – Re-issue of General Safety Certificate – Hamilton Park Racecourse</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise on the action taken, in terms of Standing Order No 36(c) because of the timescales involved, to re-issue the reviewed General Safety Certificate for Hamilton Park Racecourse, Hamilton

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the action taken, in terms of Standing Order No 36(c) by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, to re-issue the General Safety Certificate for Hamilton Park Racecourse, Bothwell Road, Hamilton, be noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. In terms of the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987, a General Safety Certificate is required for a stand at a sports ground which can accommodate at least 500 spectators under cover to view the activities at the ground. A stand which falls within this classification is referred to as a “regulated stand”. Hamilton Park Racecourse had previously been identified as a sports ground with a regulated stand.

3.2. The revised format of the General Safety Certificate for Hamilton Park Racecourse was approved by this Committee at its meeting on 11 December 2013 and the Certificate is required to be reviewed and re-issued annually.

## 4. Re-issue of the General Safety Certificates

4.1. The annual safety inspection and race day inspection have taken place at Hamilton Park Racecourse. The Grandstand was found to be well maintained and in a good state of repair and the engineer’s annual inspection report concluded that the Grandstand was considered to be in satisfactory structural condition. The report identified some minor remedial and maintenance works and these have been addressed by ground management.

4.2. Ground management had provided copies of the appropriate annual inspection and test certificates and the relevant records were available for inspection during the visits.

4.3. Ground management and the South Lanarkshire Sports Grounds Safety Advisory Group have reviewed the General Safety Certificate and the safety management arrangements at the Racecourse and the following changes have been made to the Certificate:-

- ◆ the names of the Safety Officer and Deputy Safety Officer have been changed to Mark Holt and Alan Scott respectively
- ◆ the operational manual has been reviewed and updated for the 2018 racing season

4.4. The Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, approved the reviewed General Safety Certificate for Hamilton Park Racecourse to allow it to be re-issued prior to the start of the new racing season which commenced on Sunday 6 May 2018.

## **5. Employee Implications**

5.1. None

## **6. Financial Implications**

6.1. The Council is authorised by regulations to charge fees for work reasonably done as a result of an application for the issue, amendment, replacement, transfer or cancellation of a safety certificate.

## **7. Other Implications**

7.1. There is a risk to the Council as the body responsible for administering safety certificates for sports grounds that any incident involving public safety where proper guidelines have not been followed could damage the Council's reputation. This risk is mitigated by the requirements and conditions contained within the General Safety Certificate on ground management to implement measures within the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (Fifth edition) to ensure the reasonable safety of spectators.

7.2. In addition to this, an annual inspection and annual race day inspection will be carried out at Hamilton Park Racecourse which include checks of safety procedures, physical inspections of the Grandstand and checks of inspection and test certificates of various installations and equipment.

7.3. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the contents of this report.

## **8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

8.2. Consultation has taken place with ground management at Hamilton Park Racecourse and the South Lanarkshire Sports Grounds Safety Advisory Group which comprises of representatives of the following:-

- ◆ relevant services within South Lanarkshire Council
- ◆ NHS Lanarkshire
- ◆ Police Scotland
- ◆ Scottish Ambulance Service
- ◆ Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

**Paul Manning**  
**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

23 May 2018

**Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Make communities safer, stronger and sustainable

**Previous References**

- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council – 18 May 2017

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ General Safety Certificate for a Regulated Stand – Hamilton Park Racecourse, Bothwell Road, Hamilton

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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