

Report

9

Report to:	Corporate Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	14 September 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Safety at Sports Grounds
----------	---------------------------------

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise on the action taken, in terms of the Scheme of Delegation because of the timescales involved, by the Chief Executive to issue a Special Safety Certificate for Hamilton Park Racecourse for the purpose of holding concerts on 22 and 23 July 2011

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the action taken, in terms of the Scheme of Delegation, by the Chief Executive to issue a Special Safety Certificate to Hamilton Park Racecourse Company Limited for the purpose of holding concerts on 22 and 23 July 2011 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".
- 3.2. Hamilton Park Racecourse had previously been identified as a sports ground with a regulated stand and the current General Safety Certificate came into force on 11 June 2010. The General Safety Certificate listed primary and ancillary activities to which spectators could be admitted, however, other events required the issue of a Special Safety Certificate.

4. Application for Special Safety Certificate

- 4.1. An application for a Special Safety Certificate had been received from Hamilton Park Racecourse Company Limited to hold outdoor concerts featuring The Wanted on Friday 22 July 2011 and Westlife on Saturday 23 July 2011.
- 4.2. A number of consultation and planning meetings had been held with Hamilton Park Racecourse Company Limited and various other organisations to agree on the arrangements that were to be put in place to ensure that the venue was fit for the purpose of holding such concerts.

4.3. The Grandstand was only to be used by Hospitality ticket holders and Step and Bar ticket holders who were issued with colour coded wristbands to allow them entry. The maximum number of people to be admitted to the Grandstand and outdoor areas was specified in the Special Safety Certificate as follows:-

- ◆ 1,250 - Viewing area A, B and C
- ◆ 220 (standing) - Viewing area J/Hospitality boxes
- ◆ 2,500 - front of stage area
- ◆ 6,769 - main viewing area

4.4. No modifications were made to the Grandstand for the purposes of the concerts. Modifications to the outdoor areas were detailed in the Event Safety and Operational Plan and the Special Safety Certificate.

4.5. Site inspections took place on 22 and 23 July 2011 and the site was found to be in order and had been set up as agreed at the previous meetings.

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. The fee for the issue of a Special Safety Certificate currently stands at £150.00.

7. Other Implications

7.1. Relevant risk assessments, including the identification of foreseeable hazards, evaluation of the risks associated with them, and mitigating measures to reduce the risks to an appropriate level, were undertaken as part of the application process for the Special Safety Certificate at Hamilton Park Racecourse.

7.2. The risk assessments were then used to help develop the Event Safety and Operational Plan. The final version of the Plan took account of the feedback from the attendees of the consultation meetings.

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. In terms of the Special Safety Certificate for Hamilton Park Racecourse, a number of consultation meetings regarding arrangements for the concert were held involving attendees from:-

- ◆ Hamilton Park Racecourse Company Limited
- ◆ Prestige Scotland (catering)
- ◆ Relevant services within South Lanarkshire Council
- ◆ Servoca Security
- ◆ SHS Stadium and Arena Safety
- ◆ Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
- ◆ Strathclyde Police

Robert McIlwain
Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

25 August 2011

Link(s) to Council Values/Improvement Themes/Objectives

- ◆ Improve Community Safety

Previous References

- ◆ Corporate Resources Committee – 1 September 2010

List of Background Papers

- ◆ General Safety Certificate for a Regulated Stand – Hamilton Park Racecourse Grandstand, Bothwell Road, Hamilton
- ◆ Special Safety Certificate for the purpose of holding concerts at Hamilton Park Racecourse on 22 and 23 July 2011

Contact for Further Information

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

Stuart McLeod, Administration Officer

Ext: 4815 (Tel: 01698 454815)

E-mail: stuart.mcleod@southlanarkshire.gov.uk