

TITLE OF REPORT: **Gateshead International Stadium Safety Certificate**

REPORT OF: **Darren Collins, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources**

SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to provide an update regarding the implementation and review of Gateshead International Stadium (GIS) Safety Certificate.

Summary of Progress

1. Certificate 25A was updated and replaced by certificate 25B on 2nd May 2017. Since then a number of improvements have been initiated to ensure that the requirements of the safety certificate are embedded into all elements of the operation of the facility, which include;
 - A qualifications and competency audit has been conducted to include Council Officers and key partners.
 - Members of the GO Gateshead Sport and Leisure management team have received accredited safety at sports ground and counter terrorism training. Further training is planned in 2018, such as 'Working in Safety Advisory Groups (Purple Guide), and NVQ level 4 in Managing Spectator Safety.
 - Employees and partners have been briefed regarding all of the elements and key requirements of the safety certificate.
 - A full annual inspection and testing regime was carried out in June 2017. All actions / recommendations contained in the report have been implemented in full.
 - A GIS specific Safety Advisory Group (SAG) meets at least twice per year, with additional meetings as required. In the lead up to the delivery of the Little Mix concert the SAG is currently meeting on a monthly basis.
 - The terms of reference including representation at the SAG have been reviewed.
 - A security audit of the site has been carried by the Regional Counter Terrorism unit. As a result an action plan is currently being developed with colleagues from the Council's Emergency Planning and Resilience team.

Proposed Amendment

2. In order to ensure that Gateshead International Stadium can continue to attract and facilitate a wide range of events, an amendment is proposed to certificate 25B relating to clause 7(b);

The requirement of clause 7:

Unless a notified Safety officer or Deputy Safety Officer, whose appointment has been notified to the Council, is present, the capacity of the sports ground will be zero for the specified activities, except for the following:

- *(b) that when the public is admitted to the sports ground for a specified activity where the Holder estimates less than 500 spectators will be admitted, the Holder shall ensure the attendance of a minimum of two safety stewards.*

3. The Certificate Holder requests an amendment of 7(b) as follows;

- an industry established risk assessment scoring matrix is used to determine the number of stewards required for a spectator event.

Recommendation

4. The Regulatory Committee is asked to approve the amendments to Gateshead international Stadium General Safety certificate 25b Clause 7(b).

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