

**TRAFFORD COUNCIL**

**Report to: Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee**  
**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
**Report for: Information**  
**Report of: The Chief Executive**

**Report Title**

**Annual Match Visit of the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee to Lancashire County Cricket Club, on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Summary**

**Report describing the annual match visit 2017**

**Recommendation**

**That the report be noted.**

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Tony Bibi Team Leader (Environmental Control & Sports Ground Safety)

Extension: 3840

Background Papers: None

# **SAFETY AT SPORTS GROUNDS ADVISORY GROUP ANNUAL MATCH VISIT LANCASHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB**

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. Each year the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee are invited to carry out a match visit to Lancashire County Cricket Club (LCCC). This year's visit took place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at the Royal London One Day International, England against West Indies.

## **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1. The match was attended by Councillor Mark Cawdrey, Chairman of the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub Committee and Councillor Brian Rigby along with Council Officer's Iain Veitch (Head of Regulatory Services) and Tony Bibi (Team Leader Environmental Control & Sports Ground Safety)
- 2.2. The visiting group were welcomed by Mark Hughes, Senior Gate Steward who escorted the group around the ground whilst advising of the various security and check controls at the different gate entries. The party observed the baggage checks and personal searches as well as the stewarding of spectators at bars and food concessions.
- 2.3. This was followed by a visit to the Medical Centre where the group was advised on the emergency service provision and emergency vehicular routes. Observations were then made of potential 'pinch points' close to Brian Statham Way and spectator access off the metro link directly to the ground.
- 2.4. A visit was then made to the Players and Media Building to view the broad casting areas, as well as the operations within the stadium control room where the party met Anthony Mundy (Operations Director) and Ian Aspey (Safety Officer). The party were advised by the safety management team that the planned start of the game at 12.30 was unlikely due to a damp and soft outfield in important playing areas such that the umpires were arranging a pitch inspection to determine whether the game can be played. This was likely to cause frustration for the crowd with an expected attendance of approximately 15,000, since the weather was dry and sunny, it was therefore important for the stadium staff to keep spectators updated on ongoing matters as the situation developed. The tour continued with a visit to the temporary 'D' stand where the group were advised on seating arrangements and the managing of any customer care issues that may arise.
- 2.5. The party then met Peter Ash (Conference and Events General Manager) who provided a tour of the new Hilton Garden Inn Hotel which had recently opened. The tour included a visit to view a number of premium guest rooms which have a pitch facing room overlooking the cricket pitch with an external balcony space. Safety controls were discussed as regards the use of the balcony for

outdoor concerts and high profile cricket matches. In addition, security arrangements and controls were also highlighted in terms of guest access to the stadium.

- 2.6 To conclude, the match eventually started at 14.30 hours following a series of pitch inspections. No safety implications or incidents were observed as a result of the 2 hour delay with most supporters accepting the situation and compliant to safety requests. The match was restricted to 42 overs which England won by 7 wickets.

### **3. RECOMMENDATION.**

- 3.1. That the report be noted.

Financial Implications:	N/A
Legal Implications:	N/A
Human Resources Implications:	N/A
Asset Management Implications:	N/A
E-Government Implications:	N/A
Risk Management Implications:	N/A