

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee.
Date: 9th May 2013.
Report for: Information.
Report of: Director of Environment.

Report Title

The Annual Match Visit of the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee.

Summary

Report describing the annual match visit to Manchester United Football Club on Saturday 2nd March 2013 at the match against Norwich City.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Alan Finney
Extension: 1011

Background Papers: None

SAFETY AT SPORTS GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

ANNUAL MATCH VISIT MANCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. Each football season the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee is invited to carry out a match visit to Manchester United Football Club (MUFC). This season's visit took place on Saturday, 2nd March at the Premier League fixture, Manchester United versus Norwich City.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1. Councillor David Higgins, Chairman of the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee, and Councillor David Quayle, attended with Council Officers Paul Harvey, Iain Veitch, and Alan Finney. The Group were greeted on arrival by George Johnstone, Head of Group Property Services and Gary Hebblewhite, Group Project Manager.
- 2.2. George Johnstone outlined the programme for the visit and the party proceeded to the pitch perimeter track to view the proposal to install new electronic pitch perimeter advertising boards. The party were then informed of the improvements that have been made to the disabled spectators viewing areas.
- 2.3. The requirement, of the television companies, to build a second TV Studio, was outlined by Gary Hebblewhite. From the groups location on the pitch perimeter track they could observe where the new studio would be located.
- 2.4. The Group then attended the Stewards' Briefing in the Press Conference Room where Steward Supervisors were given the specific matchday intelligence along with the routine safety management information.
- 2.5. This was followed by a visit to the Stadium Control Room when George Johnstone and Gary Hebblewhite gave an overview of the proposed remodelling of the Stadium Control Room.
- 2.6. The Group then proceeded to the visitor's concourse area where it is proposed to install new additional visitor's turnstiles and concourse segregation. This will enable more flexible arrangements to accommodate the visiting spectators dependant on ticket sales.
- 2.7. The party were then taken to view one of the North Stand remodelled kiosks. It was explained that this is a trial which if successful will be rolled out around the Stadium.

- 2.8. The visiting party then walked through the ground floor concourses and observed the deployment of the stewards throughout these areas.
- 2.7. The group considered the following matters during the tour:
- the location and assistance for disabled patrons;
 - the disabled viewing platforms.
 - CCTV.
 - Security Control.
 - Planning issues.
 - Pitch replacement.
 - Crowd behaviour.
 - Police Communications.
 - The museum.
 - Stadium Betting.
 - Safety Control.
 - Forward evacuation.
- 2.8. The visiting party were joined for refreshments by Michael Bolingbroke, the Chief Operating Officer, Manchester United Football Club and Guy Smith, Director of Operations.

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