

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Safety at Sports Grounds Sub - Committee  
Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2014  
Report for: Information  
Report of: Director of Environment

### Report Title

Annual Match Visit of the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee to Altrincham Football Club, on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

### Summary

Report describing the annual match visit 2014.

### Recommendation

That the report be noted.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Tony Bibi  
Extension: 3840

Background Papers: None

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

# **SAFETY AT SPORTS GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE**

## **ANNUAL MATCH VISIT ALTRINCHAM FOOTBALL CLUB**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. Each year the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee are invited to carry out a match visit to Altrincham Football Club. This year's visit took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at the League fixture, Altrincham FC v Harrogate Town.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1. Councillors David Higgins and Paul Lally attended with Council Officers Paul Harvey, Iain Veitch and Tony Bibi. They were met and welcomed by Derek Wilshaw, Club Secretary and Alison Lewis, Safety Officer.
- 2.2. The party was invited to undertake a walking tour of the Stadium, both internally and externally.
- 2.3. Members were taken on a tour of the ground and discussed the proposed Sports Hall on the south west side of the ground and proposed new catering facilities, toilet block and turnstiles on the east side that had been granted planning permission in September 2013. Maintenance issues and safety concerns in particular were highlighted following storm damage to a wall in the north east area of the ground as well as a new advertising board that had only been installed in October 2013. The area was cordoned off from spectator use and the storm damage was set by the loss adjuster at a cost of approximately £30K. The Club were optimistic that the necessary repair works would be approved for works to commence in early April. In addition, ground safety, stewarding and security were discussed with representatives of the Club. Apart from the storm damage, no areas of concern were raised as a result of the tour.
- 2.4. The match ended in a three goals to one defeat for Altrincham and was attended by 704 spectators including a coach load contingent of approximately 50 away fans.
- 2.5. There were no safety issues raised during the game as regards:
  - Stewarding.
  - Stadium Security.
  - Segregation.

### **3. RECOMMENDATION.**

- 3.1. That the report be noted.