

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee
Date: 24 September 2015
Report for: Information.
Report of: The Deputy Chief Executive

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 Sunday 15th March 2015 at the match against Tottenham Hotspur.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Tony Bibi
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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 Sunday 15th March at the Premier League fixture, Manchester United versus Tottenham Hotspur.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1. Councillor Paul Lally, Chairman of the Safety at Sports Grounds Sub-Committee, Councillors Helen Boyle and Matthew Sephton, attended with Council Officers Helen Jones, Iain Veitch, and Tony Bibi. The Group were greeted on arrival by Guy Smith Director of Operations, Gary Hebblewhite Head of Group Property Services, and Paddy Lord Deputy Chief Operating Officer.
- 2.2. The programme for the visit commenced with the party assembling in the lower tier of the South Stand, in close proximity to the East Stand blocks, to view the use of netting to segregate the visiting supporters, as well as the arrangements for concourse segregation.
- 2.3. Phil Rainford (Head of Stadium Safety and Security) was then introduced and presented a detailed talk firstly on stewarding controls, in particular on 'bull ring security', persistent standing, away supporter match day intelligence and ground regulation enforcement. Secondly, the talk highlighted the problems caused by the discharging of pyrotechnic devices and the safety procedures and controls carried out within the stadium to ensure spectator safety.
- 2.4. A demonstration was then shown on the pitch side on how the new exit levers are activated on the LED advertising boards, to facilitate an emergency escape route on to the pitch perimeter.
- 2.4. The Group then proceeded to the Stadium Control Room where they observed how match day safety operations are controlled by each of the relevant responsible agencies. CCTV and real time data information on spectator entry to the stadium were highlighted as effective safety controls.
- 2.5. The Steward's Briefing was then attended by the party in the Press Conference Room where the Steward Supervisors were briefed and given the specific match day intelligence, along with the routine safety management information.

- 2.8. The visiting party then walked through the ground floor concourses and observed the deployment of the stewards throughout these areas.
- 2.9. The visiting party were welcomed during refreshments by Richard Arnold, Group Managing Director, Manchester United Football Club.

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