

## CITY OF PLYMOUTH

**Subject:** Plymouth Albion – Safety Certificate for East and West Stands

**Committee:** Licensing Committee (Miscellaneous)

**Date:** 13 April 2010

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Brookshaw

**CMT Member:** Director for Community Services

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**Ref:** PF/Planning

**Part:** I

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### **Executive Summary:**

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 Licensing Committee (Miscellaneous) determined that the east and west stands of Plymouth Albion Rugby Football Club Limited (PARFC) meet the criteria for regulation under the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987. It delegated authority to the Licensing Sub Committee (Miscellaneous) to consider any application made by the Club for a General Safety Certificates for the east and west stands.

It is proposed that the delegation made on the 13 October 2009 is reconsidered and that delegated authority is now granted to the Assistant Director of Development (Planning) to enable the consideration of the application and issue of the Safety Certificate for Plymouth Albion to be resolved during the period of Council elections. It is further proposed that officers report back to the Licensing Sub Committee on progress made on this matter and any issues that may arise.

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### **Corporate Plan 2010- 2013:**

This report links to the delivery of the corporate improvement priorities. In particular:

1. Providing more and better culture and leisure activities.

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**Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:  
Including finance, human, IT and land**

No direct financial implications.

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**Other Implications: eg. Section 17 - Community Safety, Health and Safety,  
Risk Management, Equalities Impact Assessment, etc.**

The matters addressed in this report relate to the Council's community safety and health and safety obligations as outlined in the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 and Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987

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**Recommendations and Reasons for recommended action:**

It is recommended that Licensing Committee:

Delegates to the Assistant Director of Development (Planning) authority to consider the application and issue the Safety Certificate for the Plymouth Albion east and west stands and officers report to the Licensing Sub Committee on progress made on this matter and any issues that may arise..

**Reason:** To enable the matter to be resolved as a matter of urgency during the period of Council elections.

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**Alternative options considered and reasons for recommended action:**

The Committee could decide that the delegation of decisions is retained by the Licensing Sub Committee. This would either result in the need to arrange and hold an additional Licensing Sub Committee meeting before the end of the current constitutional year, or, delay the consideration of this to a meeting at the beginning of the next constitutional year which would delay the issuing of the Safety Certificate and the Council's ability to enforce the operational conditions set out in the certificate.

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**Background papers:**

Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975

Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987  
Plymouth City Council Constitution 2006 (amended September 2009)

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**Sign off:**

Head of Fin	<b>KF Dev F910 0089</b>	Head of Leg	AG/7903/26.3.10	Head of HR		Head of AM		Head of IT		Head of Strat Proc	
Originating CMF Member											

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 Licensing Committee (Miscellaneous) determined that the east and west stands of Plymouth Albion Rugby Football Club Limited (PARFC) meet the criteria for regulation under the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987. It delegated authority to the Licensing Sub Committee (Miscellaneous) to consider any application made by the Club for a General Safety Certificate for the east and west stands.
- 1.2 Since that date officers have been in consultation with PARFC and also members of the Sport Advisory Group (SAG) to formulate and finalise the necessary risk assessment and contingency plans required from PARFC to enable the drafting of the General Safety Certificate for the east and west stands to take place.
- 1.3 This consultation is in the final stages but will not be completed in time to bring this matter for consideration by the Licensing Sub Committee within the current remaining constitutional calendar of meetings.

## 2 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members could continue with the current delegation and retain the decision in this matter. To ensure the Council's ability to enforce the operations conditions set out in the certificate this will result in the need for an additional meeting of the Licensing Sub Committee to be arranged before the end of the current constitutional year, as delay in the issuing of the Safety Certificate will delay the Council's ability to enforce the operational conditions set out in the certificate.
- 2.2. It is therefore recommended that Licensing Committee:

Delegates to the Assistant Director of Development (Planning) authority to consider the application and issue the Safety Certificate for the Plymouth Albion east and west stands and officers report to the Licensing Sub Committee on progress made on this matter and any issues that may arise..

**Reason:** To enable the matter to be resolved as a matter of urgency during the period of Council elections.