

non designated Sports Grounds and will include terms and conditions relating to Spectator Safety. Spectators can continue to be admitted to Grounds between the Council receiving the application and the issuing of the Certificate.

Officers will assess the stand(s) physical characteristics and safety management arrangements using the Northern Ireland Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (the 'Red Guide') and other guidance issued by DCAL or Sport NI on behalf of DCAL and will determine a safe capacity. The capacity will be stated on the Safety Certificate along with terms and conditions relating to spectator safety.

The Council must also consult with PSNI and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service a regarding the terms and conditions on the Safety Certificate as required by the provisions of the Sports Grounds Order before issuing it.

In GB Safety Advisory Groups; (SAG) have been established by local authorities to facilitate the consultation process and it is proposed that a similar forum will now be established in the xxxx Council area in respect of activities at xxxx.

Membership of the SAG will include representatives of PSNI, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service, the Council Department responsible for the enforcement of health and safety legislation and the relevant first aid agency. Experience in GB has shown that it is desirable for the safety certificate holder to attend at least some of the SAG meetings as this will help facilitate an informed decision within the SAG whilst ensuring that the certificate holder is aware of the issues underlying the District Council's requirements.

The Safety Advisory Group will provide specialist advice to the District Council so that it may effectively discharge its functions under the legislation. It will also provide a vital forum within which the District Council and other agencies will develop a corporate approach to spectator safety at xxxx while each exercises its own responsibilities.

Recommendation

In order to facilitate the successful implementation of this legislation it is recommended that **xxxx** Council consider authorising the previously identified Officers under Article 23 of the Safety of Sports Grounds (NI) Order 2006 and make the appropriate arrangements within the Councils procedures to address the requirements of Part III