

FINAL Minutes SSAG Meeting held on 3 August 2021 @ 11am Via Teams video conferencing

Attendees:	Sheila Roberts (SRO)	LBN – Licensing and Regulatory Services - Chair
	Edward King	LBN – Licensing and Regulatory Services
	Leah Pratten	LBN – Licensing and Regulatory Services
	Heeren Parmer	LBN – Building Control
	Pete Ng	LBN – Highways & Traffic Management
	Heeren Parmar	LBN – Building Control
	Matt Bury	Public Health Newham
	Derek Worsfold	British Transport Police
	Gary Ashe	TFL Underground
	Mark Camley	LLDC
	Sara-Ellen Williams	LLDC
	Tony Tolley	LLDC
	Phil Hill	London Stadium185
	Jason Eglash	London Stadium185
	Peter Swordy	London Stadium185
	Anna Jankowski	London Stadium185
	Bode Akanbi	London Stadium185
	Natalie Freeman	London Stadium 185
	Andy Sheldon	Metropolitan Police Service
	Lou Elliston	Sports Ground Safety Authority
	Matt Atkinson	St John Ambulance
	Stuart Phillips	South Eastern
	Jason Callaghan	West Ham United FC
	Ben Illingworth	West Ham United FC
	Nicola Keye	West Ham United FC
	Jake Heath	West Ham United FC
	Philippa Cartwright	West Ham United FC
	Adrian Howles	Westfield Stratford City
	Tim Lish	Westfield Stratford City
	Chris Mitchell	Westfield Stratford City

1. Introductions

Meeting convened via Microsoft Teams. Minutes from the last meeting held 6 July 2021 agreed.

AGENDA ITEMS	Actions
2. Upcoming Fixtures	
Sat 7 Aug - West Ham v Atalanta (Friendly) KO: 15:00 Small number of away fans will be attending this fixture.	
Mon 23 Aug - West Ham v Leicester City KO: 20.00 First Premier League game of the season with full capacity. New coach parking protocols to be shared with away clubs.	WHUFC
Sat 28 Aug - West Ham v Crystal Palace KO: 15.00 No potential issues noted.	
Sun 20 Sept - West Ham v Man United KO: 14:00 Intelligence shared of a potential protest at this fixture.	



Sun 3 Oct - West Ham v Brentford KO: 15:00

No potential issues noted.

New coach plan to be shared with partners for review and planning.

LBN

LS185 announced that there will be additional bars installed to facilitate the supply of alcohol.

WHUFC shared their concerns and challenges of implementing rules and emergency measures as well as protocols for Autumn/Winter season. There is ongoing dialogue and meetings with the Premier League to seek guidance and consistency amongst all the football clubs in relation to Covid measures and protocol expectations.

The SGSA will feedback on what measures other clubs are putting into place as staff are in the younger demographic and some in vulnerable groups and it's important to have consistency and structure amongst all stadia. Members discussed the option and merits of random testing to balance risk.

SGSA

LS185 added that under the Health & Safety at Work Act they have a duty of care to their staff and will make the wearing of face coverings mandatory. Discussions continued reviewing provisions and protocols for any positive Covid cases onsite, lateral flow test kits, medical staffing, Covid signage and cleansing, ventilation and pre event comms.

LS185, LBN and WHUFC agree that should Covid safe pass be mandated by the government then this will need to be done at ticketing stage.

3. Public Health Newham Covid-19 update

There is a pattern of cases levelling out in Newham and this is also reflected in other boroughs. The highest demographic of cases remains amongst the 21-30 year old cohort with Stratford still the ward with the highest cases being recorded.

Public Health are continuing with ongoing messaging of 'hands, face, space' and promoting vaccination.

Vaccination rate in Newham is 58% first dose with 45% second dose with walk-in clinic still open.

Test and trace will remain available and recommended good practice to keep it in place and encourage face coverings and lateral flow testing when in enclosed environments.

4. SGSA Covid-19 Guidance update

No further updates to be shared.

5. Ingress and Egress Operation update and impact on travel hubs in relation to resourcing/capacity uplift

Industrial action has been postponed and the station is back to BAU.

TFL announced that the egress stewarding plan from the stadium to the station remains the same with no issues anticipated. The one-way system has been discontinued and patrons will be encouraged to wear face masks. Covid compliance messaging will remain in place and TFL will continue to manage crowd control within the station footprint. Management of stop and holds remain an issue as the primary focus will be on passengers in the station.



South Eastern are back to normal with no enforcement of social distancing. Face coverings are advisory. Currently operating a reduced train service due to numbers travelling, extra train on egress for weekend fixtures to manage event days. Some concern about mid-week fixtures as South Eastern will be running a reduced service.

WSC have been managing footfall since restrictions were lifted there hasn't been a need to restrict access through Westfield, however, for the fixture on the 7 August with a capacity of 30k WSC will direct fans around the centre for both ingress and egress and can be supported with NTH signage. Gates will be closed as usual. No huge concerns in relation to car parking capacity.

LS185 added they have been working closely with PN (LBN Highways) to reinstate the mass guard with a suitable ballasting system. Works to commence shortly and will be replaced with an interim solution which will be in place for the game on the 7 August. Two static HVM blockers on Sidings Street are to be decommissioned and they are being replaced with temporary HVM for event day.

6. Plans to address verification of the vaccination status of spectators

LBN informed partners that verification of vaccination will have a huge impact on all events over 20k due to the practicalities and challenges involved to administer the programme.

Is it accepted by WHFC that verification will need to be carried out at point of sale. Discussions continued reviewing digital solutions. Issues were raised regards the ongoing requirement for boosters and updated information, overseas and exempt fans.

Ongoing considerations and challenges reviewed in relation to the roll out of interim procedures ahead of the 1st October. It was noted that the best solution would be digital and not manual checks as this poses several fundamental issues.

MPS advised partners that there should be staff working in the background should the digital infrastructure fail.

WHUFC and LS185 need to work closely to overcome issues and give feedback on what the consequences will be for forged documentation, what is good industry practice, if not match ready will PL close doors and what support will be given by the PL.

WHFC

7. Communication with fan groups

It was noted the SAG Chair will be invited by WHUFC to attend three fan forum meetings a year and bring any issues raised to Stadium SAG for further discussion.

WHUFC

8. Any other football safety related business

Street Trading

Fans are looking to operate a trial stand on LLDC land and advised that fees charged were prohibitive. LBN requested LLDC review the request.

LLDC

WHUFC have aspirations to have roaming retail units selling official merchandise, LBN to raise request with the Chair of Licensing for comments. E20 are reviewing this and WHUFC to start dialogue with E20 Commercial Director.

LBN/WHU



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9. Madison Square Garden Stratford (MSG)	
It was announced that MSG is still progressing through planning and will be invited to LOPSG when ready.	
11. Date of next Football SAG Tuesday 7 September 2021.	
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