



Environment & Regeneration  
Municipal Offices  
222 Upper Street  
London N1 1YA

E [REDACTED]@islington.gov.uk  
W www.islington.gov.uk

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Arsenal Football Club  
Highbury House  
75 Drayton Park  
London  
N5 1BU

8<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Dear [REDACTED],

**Subject: [REDACTED]**

I'm writing to confirm the discussions at our meeting on the 6th February 2013, attended by the key Safety Team members who would be consulted by the Council [REDACTED] – Police, Medical and Sports Grounds Safety Authority.

[REDACTED]

### **Issues arising from the difference in the rake of the upper and lower tiers**

- The upper tier is far steeper with a rake of 30/32 degrees as opposed to under 25. The Safety Certificate and capacity level has been set with the away fans situated on the lower tier.
- In almost all stadiums where they currently use the upper tier for away fans, it is combined with a lower tier option so that risk supporters can be moved.
- There would be a greater risk of slips, trips and falls with unfamiliar visitors to the stadium, especially where they had been drinking alcohol. Controls may mean considering restricting the use of alcohol as well as tighter admission policies.
- Situations arise where spectators have to be relocated as they suffer from vertigo when finding the stadium higher than expected. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

## Crowd Management

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- The persistent standing that is seen for most away games would need to be eliminated. The rake of the stand makes this inherently higher risk especially when combined with behaviour like jumping. It is accepted that the number of stewards required to manage this would vary but would always be more than for the lower tier unless the capacity was lowered.
- Searching regimes would need to be reviewed as we have had incidents with flares at European games which have the potential to be far more hazardous in the upper tier if it induced panic or caused fans to suffer from the effects of the smoke.
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Islington Council



If you would like this document in large print or Braille, audiotape or in another language, please telephone 020 7527 2000.

