

REPORT TO: Musselburgh Racing Associated Committee

MEETING DATE: 24 September 2019

BY: General Manager

SUBJECT: General Manager's Report

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the MRAC with an update on the general management of the Racecourse and any matters requiring the attention of the MRAC.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The MRAC is asked to approve, in principle, the completion of repairs to the grandstand surface (subject to the cost) prior to the handover to the third-party operator and in the first instance, obtain quotes to establish the cost of the repairs.
- 2.2 The MRAC to consider if it wishes to give notice to Heritage Portfolio Ltd (HPL) and Heineken UK Ltd (HUK) by 30th September if it wishes to end these existing supplier arrangements on 31st march 2020.
- 2.3 The MRAC is asked to note that the employment tribunal to hear the claim against the MRAC for unlawful deductions from an employee's pay has been postponed to December 2019. ET Scotland have been asked to allocate 5 days for the hearing.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 **Tarmac** - The tarmac around the grandstand has deteriorated significantly in the past 9 months – please see pictures as the background paper 7.1. It is unlikely that the new operator will spend money repairing the surface around the grandstand and further deterioration will be rapid as we approach winter.

- 3.2 The General Manager and Gary Houston have inspected the surface and Gary Houston is asking Harley Haddow to provide a specification for repairs in preparation to seek quotes to repair the surface.
- 3.3 It is recommended that the MRAC carry out the necessary repairs so that the new operator takes over the Racecourse in a satisfactory and safe condition.
- 3.4 **HPL and HUK** – it was anticipated that ELC would appoint a new racecourse operator in early September, which would give the new operator time to indicate if it wanted the MRAC to give notice to HPL and HUK
- 3.5 No announcement has been made so the MRAC will need to consider whether it wishes to give notice on these supply contracts. Each contract requires a six-month notice period to end on 31st March 2020. If notice is not given, the HPL contract will continue to 31st March 2023 and HUK to 2022.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 N/A

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 N/A

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial – the financial implications of the repairs to the grandstand surface and the claim against the MRAC for unlawful deductions from an employee's pay are unknown but could be significant.
- 6.2 Personnel - See above
- 6.3 Other – NA

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Grandstand surface deterioration

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