

EVENT DAY EMERGENCY ROUTES AND PARKING ZONE ORDER 20__ CELTIC PARK AND EMIRATES ARENA & IBROX STADIUM

To the Programme Officer Team

Thank you for your e-mail forwarding the message from the Reporters.

The situation regarding attendance at the stadia, unfortunately, has not changed since the Reporters agreed to sist the hearings in July. While Scottish professional football has resumed, games are currently being played without spectators. A few trial events with small numbers of spectators have taken place, but other scheduled trial events were postponed. While it is possible further trial events may take place in the coming weeks and months, there is nothing to suggest a return to anything approaching full capacity is likely in the near future. The use of public transport is currently discouraged except where necessary and there is not yet any indication of how public transport usage may be affected in the short to medium term.

Since July, some officers from the Council's Neighbourhood and Sustainability team (the team responsibility for among other things roads and transport) have returned to the office, but they are primarily involved in undertaking essential work to support the Council's COVID response. Other non COVID related work is now undertaken by officers from home. Access to the Council's specialist systems isn't however available for all staff, and as such the Council officers who would deal with the technical matters inevitably thrown up by the hearing would not be fully able to deal with such requirements at the present time.

For these reasons, the Council requests that the sist for each hearing process be extended to 21 January 2021. I note that representatives of Celtic and Rangers have responded to your e-mail indicating that they respectively do not object to/are supportive of extending the sist to 21 January.

Regarding the legal challenge by Celtic, the relevant members of the Council's team are now available and we are working through the issues raised in the challenge. The intention is to submit the Council's written response to the challenge by 18 November.

I trust this is sufficient for the Reporters' purposes, but please let me know if anything else is required.