

Our Ref: [REDACTED]180800105

6 September 2018

E-mail: [REDACTED]@rangers.co.uk

[REDACTED]
Rangers FC
150 Edmiston Drive
Glasgow
G51 2XD

Dear [REDACTED]

I have been provided with a copy of your letter to Glasgow City Council dated 3 September which I feel I must respond to. I understand that other areas may be addressed separately by senior officers in Glasgow City Council. For the purposes of this letter, I want to concentrate on areas which pertain to Glasgow Life. I also want to begin by reiterating our position – Glasgow Life has no opposition to the use of Ibrox Football Complex as a Fanzone, but as it is a community asset, we cannot allow such a use without the support of the local community.

Rest assured, we do want to find a positive resolution and move forward. In doing so, I must, address some key issues.

In your correspondence, you state:

“At lunchtime on 2 August, we received written confirmation intimating the withdrawal of the permission to use the Ibrox Football Complex for a Fanzone ... Until that moment, the permission to use was on the table.”

This is not correct.

Email correspondence from Glasgow Life to you and other senior officials at Rangers sent on 13 July stated that while community council objections remained in place, Glasgow Life could not sanction the use of the facility as a Fanzone (copy enclosed).

You will also be aware of an article in the Evening Times on 27 July, with the headline: Rangers fan zone CANCELLED after objections from community council – here is the link:

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/16383183.rangers-fan-zone-cancelled-after-objections-from-community-council/>

It/...



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Directors: Sir Angus Grossart, Dr Bridget McConnell CBE (Chief Executive), Councillor David McDonald (Chair), Dilawer Singh MBE, Iain MacRitchie, John McCormick, Lee McConnell, Dr Lesley Sawers OBE, Professor Anton Muscatelli, Councillor Elaine Ballantyne, Councillor Christina Cannon, Councillor Maureen Burke, Bailie Norman MacLeod, Benny Higgins.

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It includes the statement:

A spokeswoman said: "Following a licensing objection from Ibrox and Cessnock Community Council, Glasgow Life has communicated to all involved parties that no Rangers family fan zones will take place in our Ibrox Football Complex while the objection is still in place.

This remains our current position.

"Should the objection be withdrawn we would, of course, reconsider any proposals to utilise the facility as a family fan zone."

This was followed on 28 July with similar articles in both the Scottish Sun and Daily Record. The links are below:

<https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/2992438/rangers-fan-zone-cancelled-stephen-dornan-city-council-ibrox-glasgow/>

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/rangers-fc-fan-zone-scrapped-12995533>

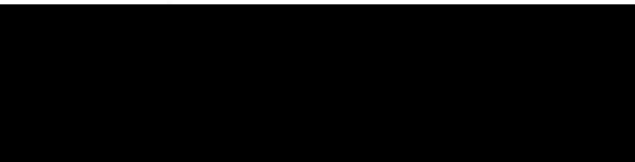
Given significant coverage and direct correspondence, I find it difficult to believe that you were of the opinion in early August that permission to use the facility remained in place.

In correspondence in previous months, officials from Glasgow Life made it clear that any consent would be predicated on engagement with the local community, through the community council. Any discussions with officials which followed were in regard to that engagement and our responsibility to ensure the use of this community asset could be taken forward with the support of the community. That was reiterated in the email of 13 July 2018 and in public within the Evening Times article of 27 July 2018 and subsequent press coverage. The decision was taken on 13 July, not on 1 August. Far from accepting that this was the end of the matter, Glasgow Life were ready to facilitate further engagement between Rangers and the community to address remaining concerns.

Please also be assured that there were no instructions to senior officers of Glasgow Life from Elected Members with regard to these decisions. Any representation of these discussions suggesting otherwise, by Glasgow Life staff, in subsequent email correspondence is inaccurate. Meetings and conversations between officers and elected members take place to ensure that decision making and processes (particularly those which relate to democratic bodies, such as community councils), are discussed with elected representatives – and this is no different in this case.

We do want to move forward in a more positive manner. In so doing, we are willing to help with any community engagement required to meet concerns raised. As you know, Glasgow Life works with communities across the city and our senior officers are prepared to assist, in the expectation that progress can be made.

Yours sincerely




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 July 2018 10:05
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fanzone

Hi [REDACTED]

Good to hear of your planned approach.

As discussed previously Glasgow Life are supportive of the fan zone proposal, however in view of the objections, particularly from the Community Council we are unable to sanction the use of the Ibrox Football Complex, under these circumstances. It is hoped that through local community engagement that the situation can be satisfactorily resolved, so it good to hear of your intentions to attend the community council meeting

Just to confirm that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will be in attendance at the meeting on Wed to offer input on the proposal.

More than happy to discuss further if required.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Glasgow Life/Glasgow Sport
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1000 London Road
G40 3HG
0141 287 [REDACTED]
www.glasgowlife.org.uk



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: [REDACTED]@rangers.co.uk]
Sent: 13 July 2018 09:46
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fanzone

[REDACTED]

I just wanted to say thank you for your time this week, it has been appreciated.

I also wanted to let you know that we are attending the Ibrox and Cessnock Community Council meeting on Wednesday 25 July to present the Fanzone plans to the CC and to see if we can address the issues which have led to them raising the objection.

As we have discussed this is only a trial and neither the CC nor Cllr [REDACTED] raised any objections to the application for the alcohol licence, therefore not providing any indication that there would be objections raised to the Public Entertainment Licence. However they are entitled to do so and we look forward to presenting our case to the Community Council and to the Hearing in due course.

I have also attached an email which was sent to all four of our local councillors and each of the community councils within our locus, regarding the establishment of a Community Forum where we all meet quarterly to discuss issues pertinent to local residents and businesses. It would be great if Glasgow Life could also send a representative to these meetings.

Thanks again

Best Regards

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
T0141 [REDACTED] F0141 [REDACTED]
www.rangers.co.uk

Visit the official Rangers web site at <http://www.rangers.co.uk> to catch up on the latest Rangers news, views and interviews and to find out more about our full range of official products and services.

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