

20251116 Norwood Lane Meopham

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above application.

### **Non-statutory planning advice**

The proposed development does not fall within our statutory remit (Statutory Instrument) but we have provided a detailed response in this case, but would wish to give the following advice to you. General planning guidance and advice can be found on our website:

- <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-facilities>

#### **Loss of sports facilities**

If the proposal involves the loss of any sports facility, then full consideration should be given to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), is in accordance with local plan policies and it meets any approved Playing Pitch Strategy or Built Sports Facility Strategy that the local authority has in place.

#### **New sports facilities**

If the proposal involves the provision of a new sports facility, then consideration should be given to any approved Playing Pitch Strategy or Built Sports Facility Strategy that the local authority has in place. If not, such facilities should be designed in accordance with design guidance from the National Governing Body.

- Design Guidance notes: <http://sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/>

#### **Meeting the needs of new housing**

If the proposal involves the provision of additional **housing**, then it will generate additional demand. If the site has the capacity to absorb the additional demand, then new and/or improved sports facilities should be provided in line with any approved local policy for social infrastructure, and priorities set out in any Playing Pitch Strategy that the local authority has in place. Our Sports Facility Calculator is a tool that can be used to estimate the demand for sports facilities from a new population and convert that demand into sport facility requirements. The tool is available on the link below.

- Sports Facility Calculator: <https://www.activeplacespower.com/>

#### **Other relevant guidance, tools and contacts**

##### Active Design

In line with the Government's NPPF (including Section 8) and PPG (Health and wellbeing), new development, especially new housing, will provide opportunities for people to be active. Sport England's Active Design guidance can be used to help with this when developing new development. Principles to help ensure the design and layout of development encourages and promotes active living are set out in NPPF Section 8: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/8-regional-planning-policy-framework> PPG Health and wellbeing section: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing> Sport England's Active Design Guidance: <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-facilities/guidance/active-design>

##### Planning conditions

We maintain a list of model planning conditions covering issues such as - creation of new sports facilities, sports lighting and community use.

##### Community Use Agreements (CUA)

Central Government wishes to see the availability of sports facilities to the wider community as they see schools being at the heart of local communities. To help with this ambition, we have developed a model Community Use Agreement.

- Planning Conditions and Community Use Agreements: <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-facilities/guidance/active-design/planning/planning-sport/planning-applications>

##### National Governing Bodies of Sport

Although Sport England is not in a position to provide a detailed response on this occasion, where relevant information is provided by recognised sport National Governing Bodies (NGBs), a list of which is available on our website.

- NGBs: <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/national-governing-bodies?section=1>

*Please note: this response relates to Sport England's planning function only. It is not as part of any grant application/award that may relate to the site.*

Yours sincerely,

**Planning Technical Team**

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