

James, Chris

From: Vicky Aston <Vicky.Aston@sportengland.org>
Sent: 05 October 2016 11:46
To: James, Chris
Subject: BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON CATHOLIC SCHOOL, Fawley Road, Reading, RG30 3EP - Sport England Ref: SE/RG/2016/43644/P

Dear James

Thank you for consulting Sport England on your proposal for the above site.

Sport England –Statutory Role and Policy

The site is considered to constitute playing field, or land last used as playing field, therefore Sport England advises that this proposal would require statutory consultation, under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, at the formal planning application stage.

Sport England considers proposals affecting playing fields in the light of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (in particular Para. 74), and its Playing Fields Policy: 'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England', which can be accessed via the following link: www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy

Sport England's policy is to oppose the granting of planning permission for any development which would lead to the loss of, or prejudice the use of, all or any part of a playing field, unless one or more of the five exceptions stated in its policy apply:

Sport England Policy	
Summary of Exceptions	
E1	An assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of playing fields in the catchment and the site has no special significance for sport
E2	The development is ancillary to the principal use of the playing field and does not affect the quantity/quality of pitches
E3	The development only affects land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and would lead to no loss of ability to use/size of playing pitch
E4	Playing field lost would be replaced, equivalent or better in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility
E5	The proposed development is for an indoor/outdoor sports facility of sufficient benefit to sport to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of playing field

Assessment against Sport England Policy

It is proposed to provide additional car parking spaces at the School. The proposed development results in a minor encroachment onto the playing field. However, having considered the nature of the playing field and its ability to accommodate a range of pitches, it is not considered that the development would reduce the sporting capability of the site. As such, Sport England is satisfied that the proposed development broadly meets the intention of the following Sport England Policy exception 3 which states;

E3 - The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming, or forming part of, a playing pitch, and does not result in the loss of, or inability to make use of any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins), a reduction in the size of the playing area of any playing pitch or the loss of any other sporting/ancillary facility on the site.

Sport England is therefore unlikely to object to this planning application. Sport England reserves the right to object to any subsequent planning application if we do not consider that it accords with our playing fields policy or para 74 of NPPF.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Aston

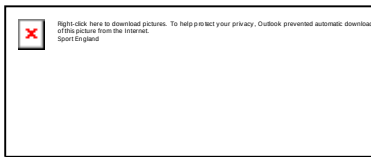
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