Dear Lesley,

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above application under the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

We have considered the application in light of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), in particular paragraph 104, and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy, which is presented within our 'Playing Fields Policy and Guidance Document': 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, or
- land which has been used as a playing field land remains undeveloped, or
- land allocated for use as a playing field

unless, in the judgement of Sport England the development as a whole meets with one or more of five specific exceptions. A summary of the exceptions is provided in the annex to this response.

The proposal is to vary condition no.1 of Planning Permission APP/23/00004 to extend the time to use 2No. test boreholes for ground investigation works.

Sport England does not wish to object to the application as the planning permission retains other conditions which safeguards the protection of the playing field, and these remain unaffected.

Sport England therefore considers that the application broadly accords with our E3 exception in our playing fields policy. This states:

The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:

- *reduce the size of any playing pitch;*

- *result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);*
- *reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;*
- *result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or*
- *prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.*

Best wishes,

Owen Neal (MRTPI)
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We have updated our Privacy Statement to reflect the recent changes to data protection law but rest assured, we will continue looking after your personal data just as carefully as we always have.

Our Privacy Statement is published on our website, and our Data Protection Officer can be contacted by emailing Gaile Walters