

Good afternoon,

I am unsure on who the case officer is on the above application, but the leisure team would like to submit a formal consultation response to the application APP/23/00345 as below.

The Council's Leisure team are supportive of the scheme to replace the floodlights at Hooks Lane Rugby Pitches.

The Havant Borough Council Playing Pitch Strategy highlights that there is a deficit of rugby provision across the Borough, which means that there is more demand for facilities than there is supply.

The use of floodlights at Hooks Lane enables evening training and match play on pitch No.2. The existing floodlights have reached the end of their life and require replacement with modern, more energy efficient solutions. Installation of new floodlights protects existing capacity and provision.

Unless the floodlights are replaced, the capacity of this playing pitch will reduce and the deficit for rugby provision in the borough would be further increased. This in turn would cause a negative impact on participation rates in the sport and the long-term future sustainability of the Boroughs only rugby club. This would contribute negatively to the already higher than average physical inactivity rates experienced in the borough.

Kind regards
Simon

Simon Hasted

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