

APP/24/00342

**Outline Planning Application for the development of up to 190 units, with associated vehicular access, infrastructure and landscaping (all matters reserved except access).
Woodcroft Farm Development Site, Woodcroft Lane, Waterloo**

HBC Leisure Officer Comments

04.07.2024

The site has good provision for younger children's play with the provision of a LEAP and LAP's and the provision of fitness trails for adults. It has the potential to contribute positively to the health and wellbeing of residents. However, proposals do not make reference to enabling older children and younger adults to be active and requires consideration of NEAP and MUGA facilities.

Havant Borough Councils Open Space Strategy adopts Fields in Trust Guidance, which would suggest for a development of this scale with 478 dwellings (190 in this phase and 288 in a previous phase) that LEAP, LAP and MUGA facilities are provided on site, with a contribution towards a NEAP.

Once quantity, typology and location of play spaces are rationalised, consideration needs to be given through the reserved matters stages to their detailed design, including the equipment mix to encourage all ages and abilities to be physically active and enjoy the areas safely, together. It should detail how each area is inclusive and accessible for all regardless of age or ability as to remove any inequalities in access of provision.

These designs for each facility should consider the recommendations of the Havant Borough Council Open Space Strategy, Play England Guidance, Fields in Trust Standards. They should be of a general high-quality design and explain the type of play equipment provided within the LEAP and LAP's and detail the level of play value it provides. It should explain the types of play experience, such as spinning, swinging, climbing, bouncing and any sensory provision to ensure a complete offering that provides young people the best chance to learn and experience challenge and fun.

Details will also be required on the robustness of materials to be used, their life expectancy, types of safety surfacing and whether fencing and gates are to be used.

Detail should also be provided on the ancillary items to be provided such as number and location of bins, seating areas and cycle storage and how the play provision links into walking and cycling routes within the development.

Consideration for the MUGA design is particularly important and will require a creative approach to provide a welcoming space for all, considering national research which evidence that high fenced, caged facilities can be unappealing, especially to young women and girls.

Simon Hasted - Strategic Lead Active Wellbeing, Havant Borough Council.