

Dear Mr Christie,

Thank you for reconsulting Sport England on the above application. As you are aware Sport England objected to the proposal under our playing fields policy given the impact on the playing field at the site.

Sport England set out that subject to agreeing the details of the mitigation package Sport England would be prepared to withdraw our objection. In summary, this included:

1. Pitch quality improvements/drainage to remaining pitches;
2. Ongoing maintenance and management arrangements to ensure these pitch improvements are maximised and remain fit for purpose;
3. Implementation of a community use agreement, to provide improved security of access to community users of the sports facilities/pitches.

Sport England is aware and welcomes the fact that a separate planning application has been submitted and is currently under consideration for proposed pitch quality/drainage improvements at the site in line with the proposed mitigation package (app ref: APP/22/00838). Sport England has responded separately to this application and has requested further detail and confirmation on the proposed scheme of works which appears to be lacking in some areas. As it stands, Sport England is awaiting further information and is not at the stage of being able to support the proposed qualitative improvements to the pitches.

In addition, we are not aware that the other elements of the mitigation package have been satisfactorily addressed by the applicant/agent ie nos. 2. and 3. referred to above.

On this basis, **Sport England wishes to maintain our objection** until further details and confirmation on the mitigation package have been submitted and agreed by Sport England.

Best wishes,

Owen Neal

Planning Manager

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