
From: Sharron Wilkinson <Sharron.Wilkinson@sportengland.org>
Sent: 19 October 2023 17:00
To: Planning Folder New
Cc: Matt Jedruch
Subject: App No: 23/00922/FUL - Two storey rear extension and stairs to clubhouse at Hinckley Town Cricket Club, Leicester Road, Hinckley - Sport England ref: PA/23/EM/HIN/65782

Dear Matt,

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above planning application.

It is understood that the proposal prejudices the use, or leads to the loss of use, of land being used as a playing field, as defined in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (Statutory Instrument 2015 No. 595). The consultation with Sport England is therefore a statutory requirement.

Sport England has considered the application in light of the National Planning Policy Framework (in particular paragraph 99 and the presumption that playing fields should not be built on), and against its own playing fields policy, which is presented within its '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 would prejudice the use of all/part of a playing field. Exceptions to this policy are contained in the Playing Fields Policy Document.

The Proposal and Impact on Playing Field

The proposal would involve the construction of a two storey extension to the clubhouse at Hinckley Town Cricket Club. Approximately 153m² of internal floor space would be created to provide toilet provision on the ground floor with a staircase and passenger lift up to the first floor and an extended bar and viewing platform on the first floor. The siting of this structure would involve the loss of playing field.

As part of the assessment of this proposal Sport England has sought the views of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) who act as Sport England's technical advisor in relation to cricket and its facilities. The ECB confirm that the proposed siting of the extension would not have an impact on the cricket pitch. The inclusion of a passenger lift would meet DDI compliance.

Assessment of Application against Sport England Policy/NPPF

The proposal would be sited on playing field. Sport England considers proposals of this nature against exception 2 of our playing fields policy which states:

'The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field, and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.'

In assessing whether a proposal meets exception E2, facilities should be of an appropriate scale and comply with relevant Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport design guidance. They should also have no impact on the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.

The advice from the ECB confirms that the siting of the extension would not adversely affect the use of the cricket pitch and that the inclusion of a passenger lift would meet DDI compliance for the clubhouse. As such, the proposal would meet exception E2 of Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and the requirements of paragraph 99 of the NPPF.

Conclusion

Sport England has **no objections** to the proposal which would meet exception 2 of our playing fields policy and the requirements of paragraph 99 of the NPPF in that the proposed development would support the principal use of the

site as a playing field and would not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.

If you wish to discuss the above further please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

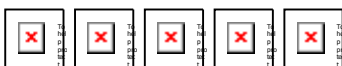
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