

From: Sharron Wilkinson <Sharron.Wilkinson@sportengland.org>
Sent: 26 January 2024 11:04
To: Planning Folder New
Subject: App No: 23/01226/FUL - Installation of Shipping Container for sports equipment at Jubilee Playing Fields, Markfield - Sport England ref: PA/24/EM/HIN/66591

Dear David Spring,

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 103 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 relates to the installation of a shipping container on land at Jubilee Playing Fields to store sports equipment. The siting of the structure would involve the loss of part of this playing field which is used for football and cricket.

As part of the assessment of this proposal Sport England has sought the views of the Football Foundation (FF) and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) who act as Sport England's technical advisors in relation to their sport and its facilities. Both of these technical advisors have confirmed that the proposed siting of the container would have not have an impact on any of the grass pitches on the site.

Assessment 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 container would be used for storing sports equipment. Both the FF and the ECB have confirmed that the siting of the container would not have an impact on any of the grass pitches on site. As such, the proposal would meet exception 2 of Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and the requirements of paragraph 103 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 103 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,

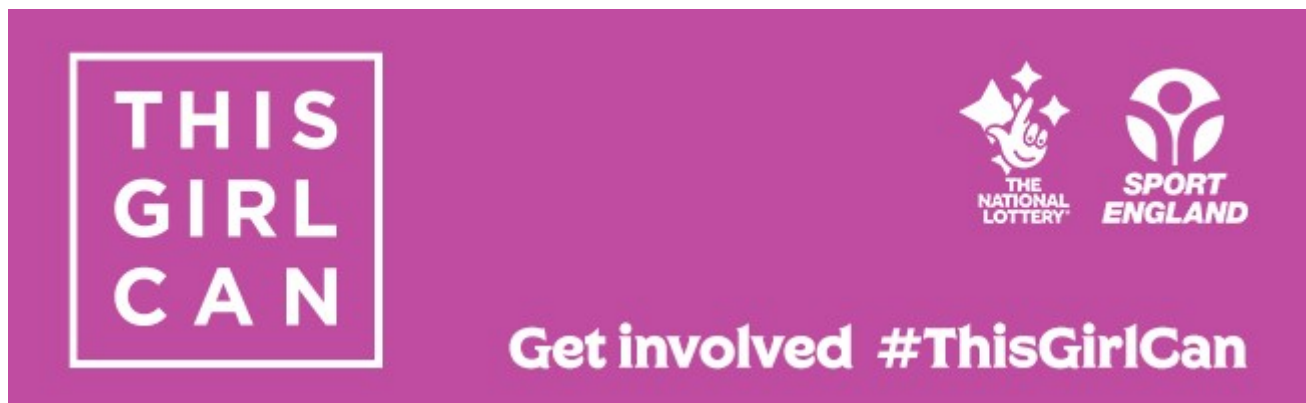
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