Dear The Strategic Planning and Design Team,


Sport England aims to ensure positive planning for sport by enabling the right facilities to be provided in the right places based on robust and up-to-date assessments of need for all levels of sport and for all sectors of the community. To achieve this aim our planning objectives are to protect sports facilities from loss as a result of redevelopment, enhance existing facilities through improving their quality, accessibility and management and to provide new facilities that are fit for purpose and meet demands for participation now and in the future through twelve principles. You will also be aware that Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications affecting playing fields. Further detail on Sport England’s role and objectives within the planning system can be found via the following link:

https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/

Sport England has reviewed the draft in light of these planning objectives and national planning policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and welcome Modifications MM5, MM5a, MM9 and MM13 that relate to the provision of sports pitches, although Sport England would prefer reference is made to playing field so it aligns with the terminology used in the Sport England’s policy and the NPPF, paragraph 97.

Sport England also supports the specific reference to Active Design as proposed by Modification AM82 as this would enable developments to be designed and construction with health and wellbeing in mind.

If you have any questions in relation to the above and/or Sport England’s policies or Active Design please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Faithfully
Mark Furnish
Planning Manager
T: 020 7273 1631
M: 07920560435
E: Mark.Furnish@sportengland.org

Sport England
We have updated our Privacy Statement to reflect the recent changes to data protection law but rest assured, we will continue looking after your personal data just as carefully as we always have. Our Privacy Statement is published on our website, and our Data Protection Officer can be contacted by emailing Erin Stephens.

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