

From: Nicola Spencer on behalf of Planning.Responses
Sent: 07 April 2022 17:05
To: Planning Scanning
Subject: FW: App Ref: LU/61/22/PL- Linden Park Recreation Ground - Sport England Ref: PA/22/SE/AR/61108

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From: Jo Edwards
Sent: 06 April 2022 17:41
To: Planning.Responses
Subject: App Ref: LU/61/22/PL- Linden Park Recreation Ground - Sport England Ref: PA/22/SE/AR/61108

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To whom it concerns,

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above 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 or has been used as a playing field in the last five years, 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 (particularly Para 99) and against its own playing fields policy, which states:

'Sport England will oppose the granting of planning permission for any development which would lead to the loss of, or would prejudice the use of:

- all or any part of a playing field, or
- land which has been used as a playing field and remains undeveloped, or
- land allocated for use as a playing field

unless, in the judgement of Sport England, the development as a whole meets with one or more of five specific exceptions.'

Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document can be viewed via the below link:

https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy

The proposal is for the construction of a new fibre broadband exchange at the southern end of the recreation ground and the installation of a new 4m wide access road and turning head on the east side of the recreation ground.

Having assessed the application, Sport England has concluded that the proposal does not meet any of the exceptions to our playing field policy. Specifically, the proposed development fails to meet exception 3 that requires;

'The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:

- reduce the size of any playing pitch
- result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
- reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
- result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
- prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.'

The proposed site plan demonstrates that the access road would be sited within less than 6m of the existing football pitch goal post and that the road and turning head would also encroach onto the area of land associated with that goal that would be expected to form part of the pitch and its safety run off area beyond.

That being the case, Sport England **objects** to this application.

If you would like any further information or advice please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

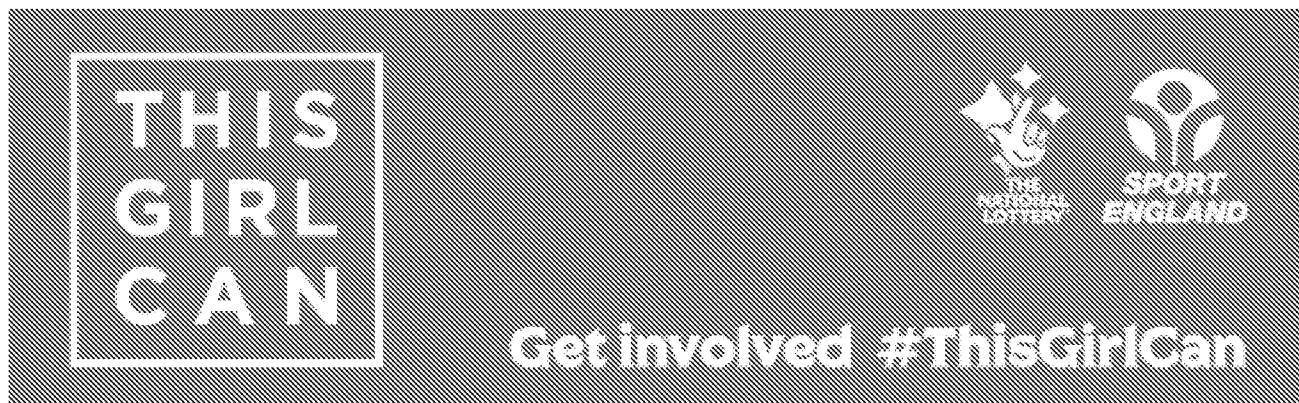
Jo Edwards MRTPI
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WINNER



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