

Planning Policy

From: Owen Neal <
Sent: 07 September 2018 15:05
To: Planning Policy
Subject: Issues and Options Consultation for the next Local Plan - Test Valley

Dear Planning Policy Team

Please find below Sport England's response to Test Valley's Issues and Options consultation for the Local Plan.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Q23: Do you agree that we should have a specific policy on health and wellbeing? What sort of issues do you think it should cover?

Sport England supports a specific policy on health and wellbeing. We consider that any such policy should focus on encouraging and promoting healthy and active lifestyles including the benefits of being physically active in line with Sport England's strategy *Towards an Active Nation (May 2016)*.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES WHICH SERVE THE COMMUNITY

Q24: Should some types of facilities and services be given more protection than others?

Planning policies should protect sports and recreation facilities as well as land used for sport, including playing field land, unless exceptional circumstances apply in accordance with the revised NPPF para 94 and Sport England's own planning objectives. Sport England would expect to see any draft local plan policies specifically identify sports and recreation facilities, land used for sport including playing field land as valuable community facilities which should be protected.

Q25: Should we continue to protect all existing community facilities and services?

Yes, please see above response to Question 24. Existing sports and recreation facilities should be protected unless in exceptional circumstances in accordance with para 97 of the NPPF.

DESIGN

Q39: How can we improve design quality within the Borough?

Sport England considers that any policy on design should make specific reference to enabling and encouraging healthy lifestyles to be consistent with section 8 of the NPPF and Sport England's active design guidance. Sport England's Active Design guidance has been developed in partnership with Public Health England <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/active-design/> and sets out Government endorsed guidance on how the design and layout of new developments can be planned to make communities more active and healthier. Sport England would welcome consideration of how some of the principles in this guidance could be incorporated into a policy on good design. Any supporting text to the policy could refer to the Active Design guidance to signpost applicants to detailed advice.

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Q40: Should the local plan be specific on the type of open space to provide or should it take account of existing provision/ future requirements?

Sport England would recommend that any requirements for land used for sport including playing field should take account of current and future needs based on a robust assessment of existing provision. Sport England considers that Test Valley's sports facilities and playing pitch strategies are now out of date having been produced over 3 years ago, and do no longer constitute a robust and up to date assessment of needs for the authority's area. Sport England strongly recommends that the council undertake additional work to update their assessments and strategies in

accordance with Sport England's guidance. This will ensure that any new provision or enhancements to existing provision is based on robust evidence.

Q41: Should we continue to set a per dwelling or per hectare standard for recreational open space provision on residential developments? Or, should the Council require the provision of recreational open space on residential developments to be based on the needs set out in the Playing Pitch Strategy?

Sport England strongly supports the latter approach and opposes the former approach. A Playing Pitch Strategy provides a more detailed, nuanced picture of the authority area's playing pitch needs. This will identify whether improvements to existing provision could provide additional capacity to help meet the additional demand generated by new housing development; or whether new provision is needed. A standards-based approach based on per dwelling or per hectare constitutes a generic approach which does not take sufficient account of the specific needs of the area.

Q42: Should alternative open space for mitigation be provided as part of new developments or should land be specifically allocated, or a combination?

Sport England does not have a strong preference for either approach. The key issue is that suitable replacement provision is delivered where playing field or sports facilities are lost in accordance with para 97 of the NPPF and Sport England's planning objectives. Replacement provision therefore should be equal to or better than that which has been lost in terms of quality; quantity and accessibility.

TRANSPORT

Q44: How can the Council promote more sustainable forms of transport such as walking, cycling and public transport?

Please see response above to Question 39. Our Active Design Guidance promotes active and sustainable travel.

Best wishes,

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Planning Policy

From: Trevor Codlin <trevor@hampshire-wildlife-trust.org.uk>
Sent: 07 September 2018 15:45
To: Planning Policy
Subject: TVBC Issues and Options Consultation
Attachments: 180904 TVBC Issues and Options 2018 TC.pdf

Dear Policy Team

Please find attached the Wildlife Trust's comments to the above referenced Issues and Options consultation.

If you would like to discuss our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Trevor
Trevor Codlin
Senior Specialist for Planning & Development



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Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Registered Charity Number 201081.



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