

**From:** [Dave McGuire](#)  
**To:** [DCAdmin](#); [Ellie Worth](#)  
**Subject:** 2023/90348 Erection of community sports complex Former Hillhouse Bowling Club, King Cliff Road, Birkby, Huddersfield HD2 2RR  
**Date:** 03 May 2023 16:36:46

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Dear Ellie Worth

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above application.

### **Sport England – Non Statutory Role and Policy**

The Government, within their Planning Practice Guidance (Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities Section) advises Local Planning Authorities to consult Sport England on a wide range of applications. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space#open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities>

This application falls within the scope of the above guidance as it relates to the development of major sports facilities

Sport England assesses this type of application in light of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and against its own planning objectives, which are Protect - To protect the right opportunities in the right places; Enhance - To enhance opportunities through better use of existing provision; Provide - To provide new opportunities to meet the needs of current and future generations. Further information on the objectives and Sport England's wider planning guidance can be found on its website:

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

Sport England has worked with Kirklees Council to understand the adequacy of both indoor and outdoor sports facilities to meet both current demand and that associated with population growth across the area. In broad terms, there are a number of areas where provision is in short supply, particularly around outdoor sports. Sport England considers that the indoor cricket wicket and football pitch provision will be particularly beneficial in this respect.

Sport England, therefore, considers this proposal addresses an identified need for this facility type and has the potential to be of benefit to the development of . We would wish to see this accorded an appropriate weight in the decision that is reached on this application.

Sport England seeks to ensure the new sports facilities are fit for purpose and where appropriate designed in accordance with respective sport's specifications. There is insufficient detail with the application to assess the indoor football pitches and cricket wicket. We would recommend that the applicant has regard to the following design guidance:

<https://www.thefa.com/-/media/cfa/durhamfa/files/facility-and-football-pitch-development/field-of-play/fa-guide-to-ftp-designs-layouts.ashx>

[https://platform-static-files.s3.amazonaws.com/ecb/document/2016/08/29/6cdd25d7-7ca5-44c8-98d1-c76694d8f5d5/Indoor\\_sports\\_halls\\_with\\_cricket\\_provision.pdf](https://platform-static-files.s3.amazonaws.com/ecb/document/2016/08/29/6cdd25d7-7ca5-44c8-98d1-c76694d8f5d5/Indoor_sports_halls_with_cricket_provision.pdf)

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/>

This being the case, Sport England offers its **support** for this this application, as it is considered to meet the Provide Objective - as set out above.

The absence of an objection to this application, in the context of the Town and Country Planning Act, cannot be taken as formal support or consent from Sport England or any National Governing Body of Sport to any related funding application, or as may be required by virtue of any pre-existing funding agreement.

If this application is to be presented to a Planning Committee, we would like to be notified in advance of the publication of any committee agendas, report(s) and committee date(s). We would be grateful if you would advise us of the outcome of the application by sending us a copy of the decision notice.

Yours sincerely,

**Dave McGuire**

Planning Manager

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Sport England



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