ADDENDUM TO PLANNING APPLICATION 2026//62/92395/W

location	School Playing Fields to North of 51 Clare Hill, Huddersfield, HD1 5BS.
application	Erection of 2.4m High Security Fence
client/applicant	Greenhead College
job number	26/1376
date	October 2026

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INTRODUCTION

This Addendum has been prepared to accompany the current/live submitted Planning application in response to Sport England consultation on the planning application.

The Sport England consultation can be found in Appendix A of this addendum.

Communication has been held with both the LPA case officer, Sport England and the applicants (Greenhead College) following Sports England consultation.

Greenhead College Sports and Enrichment department have confirmed that the Galic football pitch (the pitch situated in the middle of the 2 football pitches on the aerial within the Sport England Consultation report) has been converted into a football pitch. NB Gaelic football pitches are considerably bigger in size compared to football and rugby pitches.

Summer and winter pitches, moving forward will be as demonstrated on the plan, reference 26/1376/04, showing football pitches. Rugby pitches will also be marked out but it's important to note these are the same size as the football pitches.

This accompanying plans also indicates the 3m run off distances to all 3 pitches.

As the accompanying plan demonstrates there will be no loss of pitch quality or quantity.

The College have confirmed that athletics and rounders pitches are not provided for on this application site.

The College have confirmed that the pitches will remain as football/rugby pitches at all times, moving forward.

Gaelic Football was a 'letting' that the Greenhead College facilitated previously but, for the last year, have not entered into this letting due to the Health and safety concerns at the site but also due to the 'wear and tear' on the pitches/playing surface. Furthermore, Greenhead College are entitled to accept or decline lettings as they see fit. They do however support community sport by allowing Junior Football teams to hire the field but again, this has been curtailed due to security issues, the College only uses the pitches during the winter months.

The pitches are marked out by Greenhead Colleges ground team. They have an automated robot that line marks using GPS. Pages 2 & 3 of this addendum contain images of the GPS marking system used confirming the size of the pitches.


Soccer 11 man 2/9/2026
Football 11 man
Side line: 102.27 m, Goal line: 55.5 m


08:43
Robot ⇄ Tablet
Internet
Robot Internet
Unknown
Robot GPS
Unknown
Soccer 11 man 2/9/2026
Football 11 man
Side line: 101.78 m, Goal line: 55.4 m
Start

CONCLUSION

We trust this additional information and accompanying plans, showing the marking out of the 3 pitches will satisfy Sport England sufficiently to remove the current object to the proposals.

The facility and playing surfaces are currently out of action due to the health and safety concerns. The erection of the proposed fence we consider will resolve this and bring this important facility back into purposeful use.

The above and accompanying plans demonstrates that the proposed fence will not adversely affect the sport use of the application site. Indeed support and approval of this application will enable the provision of sport to recommence on the application site.

Should any further information be required please don't hesitate to contact us.

It would be appreciated if you could contact Paul Matthews Architectural Ltd, following further consultation with Sport England and prior to drafting up your recommendation for determination.

APPENDIX A

SPORT ENGLANDS CONSULTATION

Kirklees Metropolitan Council

FAO: James Evans

By email only

Date: 17th September 2026

Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

Application Reference: 2026/62/92395/W
Site: Playing fields north of, 51, Clare Hill, Huddersfield, HD1 5BS
Proposal: Erection of security fence
Sport England Reference: PA/26/Y/KK/74952

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above application.

Sport England – statutory consultee role and policy

We understand that you have consulted us as a statutory consultee in line with the above Order. Therefore, we have considered the application in light of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), in particular policy HC7, and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy, which is presented within our 'Playing Fields Policy and Guidance Document': www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy (summary of exceptions annexed to this letter).

The proposal and impact on playing field

The proposal involves the erection of a 2.4m high security fence along the southern periphery of a grass playing field used for a range of pitch sports. The following Google aerial imagery shows that the grass playing field has accommodated a variety of pitch configurations over time, including in the vicinity of the proposed fence line.

SportPark, 3 Oakwood Drive
Loughborough,
Leicestershire, LE11 3QF

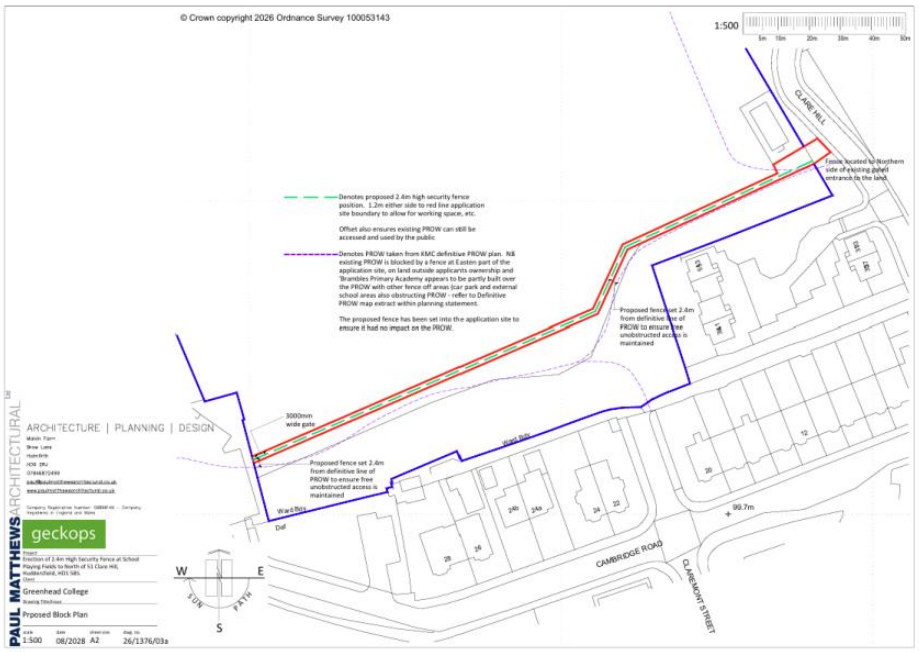
Registered address: Loughborough, SportPark, 3 Oakwood Drive, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3QF



2002 Google aerial image showing how playing field was historically used



2025 Google aerial image showing playing field with a variety of pitches



Proposed Site Plan showing no pitch sport and associated safety run off areas

Assessment against Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and NPPF

Sport England's policy to protect playing fields covers the entire playing field site and not just the areas currently marked out with a pitch. This is because playing field is seen as a resource for pitches to be marked out on, pitches to be changed from one pitch sport type to another to meet new demand, or to allow areas of the playing field to rest from over play. It also allows the potential for non-pitch sports such as athletics to be marked out.

Playing field policy is a restrictive policy based on a presumption against any development which results in the loss of playing field (in whole or part) or prejudices its use. As such, for development not to encounter an objection from Sport England it must be shown to be of a form covered by one of the exceptions (to the presumption against) set out in the below Annex.

When reviewing the planning application, exception 2 of Sport England's Playing Fields Policy is considered the most relevant (see Annex). However, the application is not supported by a site plan that clearly shows all summer and winter pitch provision across the playing field, including associated safety run off areas. Where development affects a playing field, such information is required to enable Sport England and the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport to assess the impact of the proposal on the playing field and its sporting use. In the absence of this information, Sport England has not consulted the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport. Consequently, there may be additional sport-specific issues that have not yet been identified and which can only be considered once sufficient information has been submitted.

As a result, insufficient information has been submitted to demonstrate that the proposal would not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches (including associated safety run off areas) or otherwise adversely affect their use.

Sport England's position

Given the above, Sport England raises a statutory objection to the application because insufficient information has been provided to demonstrate that the proposal accords with any of the exceptions to Sport England's Playing Fields Policy or Policy HC7 of the NPPF.

Potential to overcome the statutory objection

Sport England would be pleased to review the objection with a view to considering potentially withdrawing it if the applicant can provide the following:

- In accordance with Annex B of the Playing Fields Policy and Guidance, a proposed site plan should be submitted that clearly shows all of the playing field's winter and summer pitches and their associated safety run off areas in relation to the proposed fence.
- To accord with exception 2 of the Playing Fields Policy, the proposed fence should be positioned so that it does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches (and their safety run off areas) or otherwise adversely affect their use.
- Please refer to our Natural Turf for Sport guidance (Section 3) for the sizes of sports pitches and their safety run off areas.

Determining the application

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).

Sport England would be pleased to comment on further details that address the above comments. However, so that there is a formal audit trail and so that workload commitments can be effectively managed, Sport England would kindly request that any additional information is submitted to Planning.North@sportengland.org and not the Planning Manager directly.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Carroll
Planning Manager

Annex

The Five Exceptions to Sport England's Playing Fields Policy

Exception 1
A robust and up-to-date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.

Exception 2
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.

Exception 3
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.

Exception 4
The area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:

- of equivalent or better quality, and
- of equivalent or greater quantity, and
- in a suitable location, and
- subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.

Exception 5
The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.

The full 'Playing Fields Policy and Guidance Document' is available to view at:
www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy