

Adur and Worthing Borough Councils

FAO P Barnett Esq.

By email only

22nd April 2026

Application Reference: AWDM/0448/26

Site: Recreation Ground Old Barn Way Southwick West Sussex

Proposal: Application to Vary Conditions 1 (Approved Plans), 22 (levels) and 26 (surface water drainage) of previously approved AWDM/1217/23. Amendments: Repositioning of pitch; reduction in clubhouse size and alterations including relocation of main entrance; formation levels change and two new access ramps; amended surface water drainage strategy incorporating new soakaway design based on perimeter-only infiltration. ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION: Redevelopment of the Former Southwick Football Club, comprising the replacement of existing turf pitch with 3G pitch and replacement floodlights, demolition of existing clubhouse and erection of replacement Sports Hub Building, erection of spectator stand along with other ancillary infrastructure.

Sport England Reference: PA/26/SE/AAW/73655

Dear Peter

Thank you for consulting Sport England in respect of the details submitted under the above planning reference for the application to vary conditions 1 (Approved Plans), 22 (levels) and 26 (surface water drainage) of previously approved AWDM/1217/23.

We have consulted with Sussex Football Association/the Football Foundation and we are setting out their comments below verbatim:

The FA and FF are supportive of this project. This project is currently going through our Football Foundation investment process. This is a reapplication following a change in pitch position which considers the required easement from the HV cable to the south of the site.

Design

The proposed works meet FF and FA guidelines, and the revised pitch position considers the required easement from the HV cable to the south of the site. In relation to official changing provision, an accessible WC can be utilised as a second officials' changing room. The FA and the Football Foundation are satisfied that the proposed works are fully compliant.

Local need

Adur LFFP 2025

One 11v11 3G FTP has secured Football Foundation funding, at Old Barn Way and is in early stages of development. As this will soon provide additional capacity, the

project is considered within the current supply of 3G FTPs for Adur.

There is no up to date PPS and, therefore, demand for 11v11 3G FTPs has been calculated using the FA Training Ratio Model 1:38 as the starting point with further steering group interrogation.

On the basis of 230 teams in Adur (2024/25 affiliation data), there is a requirement for six 11v11 3G FTPs. There are currently three 11v11 3G FTPs as well as three small-sided 3G FTPs which contribute to the FA Training Model (three 5v5 3G FTPs). Based on the total supply (3.75 11v11 3G FTPs), there is a current shortfall of 2.25 11v11 3G FTPs in Adur.

The site for the project was home to a National League Pyramid (NLP) team, however, due to the failure of the leaseholder at the time to maintain the changing facilities and supporting infrastructure, the site was closed and the club lost its membership in the Supply League. The local club has worked hard to rebuild and now has a thriving youth section, this along with engagement with other local club and the Russell Martin Foundation strengthens the demand for changing accommodation and the Stadia 3G FTP to allow for promotion within the NLP while creating a base for all teams.

Based on this response, Sport England raises no objection to application to vary conditions 1 (Approved Plans), 22 (levels) and 26 (surface water drainage) of previously approved AWD/1217/23 on the basis of implementation in line with the submitted details.

If you have any queries, please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Bob

Bob Sharples RIBA ARB MRTPI

Principal Planning Manager - South Team Planning & Active Environments

M: 07830315030

E: bob.sharples@sportengland.org

cc J Hall Esq. FF
Ms M Burwood FF
P Saunders Esq. SFA