**From:** Planning - <planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk> on behalf of Planning -
**Sent:** 07 August 2023 13:21
**To:** Planning -
**Subject:** Fwd: App Ref: AWDM/0759/23 - Fishergate Recreation Ground - Sport England Ref: PA/23/SE/AAW/65107

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Bob Sharples** <Bob.Sharples@sportengland.org>
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 2023 at 07:33
Subject: App Ref: AWDM/0759/23 - Fishergate Recreation Ground - Sport England Ref: PA/23/SE/AAW/65107
To: gary.peck@adur-worthing.gov.uk <gary.peck@adur-worthing.gov.uk>
Cc: Joseph Hall <Joseph.Hall@footballfoundation.org.uk>

Dear Gary,

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**

The proposal is for the Installation of two modular buildings to the rear courtyard. This will result in an old skate rink which was marked out for football.

**Assessment**

As the skate rink has football markings I have consulted with the county Football Association/Football Foundation (FA/FF). I have set out their comments below:

> *The grass pitch on site is not impacted by the proposal.*
>
> *With regards to the skate rink, whilst this has markings which would enable football use – the surface is not a preferred football surface and Sussex FA have been able to find no evidence that the rink has been used for any football training / activities. Furthermore, its condition is expected to be too poor to allow for the facility to be used.*
>
> *Therefore, we have no objection to the application.*

Having assessed the application, Sport England is satisfied that the proposed development meets exception 3 of our playing fields policy, in that:

*'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.'*

**Conclusion**

This being the case, Sport England **does not wish to raise an objection** to this application.

If you would like any further information or advice please contact the undersigned at the address below.

Yours sincerely,

Bob

**Bob Sharples** RIBA MRTPI ARB Principal Planning Manager - South Team Planning & Active Environments

**M:** 07830315030

We have updated our Privacy Statement to reflect the recent changes to data protection law but rest assured, we will continue looking after your personal data just as carefully as we always have. Our Privacy Statement is published on our website, and our Data Protection Officer can be contacted by emailing Gaile Walters

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