

# EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LOCAL PLAN PART 2

## STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

Between

### North Northamptonshire Council and Sport England

Sport England submitted detailed representations in response to the East Northamptonshire Local Plan Part 2 Regulation 19 consultation. Following the examination hearing sessions, this Statement of Common Ground has been produced to set out the agreed position between Sport England and North Northamptonshire Council in relation to Sport England's representation on Policy EN40.

The following table sets out Sport England's comments on Policy EN40 of the Local Plan Part 2 received through the Regulation 19 consultation and outlines the proposed main modifications agreed between Sport England and North Northamptonshire Council which address this comment.

**Table 1: Matters raised by Sport England, in relation to Policy EN40 of the Local Plan Part 2**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Policy</b>	<b>Sport England Comments</b>	<b>Suggested Change</b>	<b>Agreed Outcome</b>
10	EN40	Sport England notes that the loss of the Former Rushden and Diamonds FC Stadium site would need to be mitigated unless it can be demonstrated that the	Despite the supporting text for Policy EN40 highlighting the need for replacement provision this is not reflective in the allocation of the site for employment uses. Therefore	The following modifications are proposed:  <i>Amend paragraph 10.52 of the LPP2 as follows:</i> The Former Rushden and Diamonds FC Stadium (site 3, Nene Park), was demolished in

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		<p>stadium site is surplus to requirements, in accordance with NPPF paragraph 97. However, as currently drafted it implies the statement only applies to the Stadium site and not the other playing pitches which form part of the site. The requirement for the mitigation is also not contained within the policy and therefore this should be amended accordingly with it being a principal requirement for the release of the site for development.</p> <p>It is also unclear how the replacement leisure facilities are to be delivered with there being no policy requirements for leisure facilities (ensuring replacement provision as a minimum) at the major strategic sustainable urban extensions. Further to this</p>	<p>it is recommended that the policy contains the following provisions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mitigation for the loss of playing pitches (and ancillary provision) unless it can be demonstrated that the provisions are surplus to requirement in line with NPPF paragraph 97 (now paragraph 99); and</li> <li>- Replacement leisure provision in line with NPPF paragraph 97 (now paragraph 99)</li> </ul>	<p>2017. <b><u>The site was identified as a lapsed site in the Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan (PPS) (October 2016). The PPS identified that the site contained three poor quality adult pitches. The PPS recommended that opportunities to bring the site back into use were explored to meet identified shortfalls. However, if this is not feasible or sustainable or disposal is inevitable then the PPS sets out that requirements of NPPF paragraph 99 must be met. The PPS states that this requires replacement provision of an equivalent or better quantity and quality within a suitable location.</u></b> The loss of the <b><u>playing pitches and ancillary facilities</u></b> stadium requires suitable mitigation (i.e. alternative provision, unless it can be demonstrated that <del>the stadium site is</del> <b><u>they are</u></b> surplus to requirements), in accordance with NPPF paragraph <del>97</del><b>99</b>. <b><u>Account should also be taken of the findings of any subsequent Playing Pitch Strategy.</u></b> Replacement leisure facilities are anticipated to be developed in accordance with the Healthy and Active Lifestyles Strategy through the masterplans for the major strategic sustainable urban extensions.</p>

Section	Policy	Sport England Comments	Suggested Change	Agreed Outcome
		no assessment of leisure facilities in line with NPPF paragraph 92 and 96 has been undertaken to establish the need for leisure facilities within the authority.		<p>Add the following criteria to Policy EN40:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Mitigation for the loss of the playing pitches and ancillary facilities, unless it can be demonstrated that the facilities are surplus to requirements in line with paragraph 99 of the NPPF.</u></b></li> </ul>

### Conclusion

Table 1 sets out the proposed main modification agreed between the parties to address the issue raised by Sport England in relation to Policy EN40.

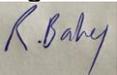
Signed on behalf of North Northamptonshire Council



Richard Palmer, Planning Policy Manager (East Northamptonshire Area)

Date: 14/10/2022

Signed on behalf of Sport England



Rajvir Bahey, Planning Manager.

Date: 17/10/2022