



## Representation form for Submission Version of the Epping Forest District Local Plan 2011-2033 (Regulation 19 publication)

This form should be used to make representations on the Submission Version of the Epping Forest District Local Plan which has been published. Please complete and return by 29 January 2018 at 5pm. An electronic version of the form is available at <http://www.efdclocalplan.org/>

Please refer to the guidance notes available before completing this form.

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Please return any representations to: Planning Policy, Epping Forest District Council, Civic Offices, 323 High Street, Epping, Essex, CM16 4BZ

Or email them to: [LDFconsult@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:LDFconsult@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

**BY 5pm on 29 January 2018**

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This form has two parts –

Part A – Personal Details

Part B – Your representation(s). Please fill in a separate sheet for each representation you wish to make.

*Please attach any documents you wish to submit with your representation*

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### Part A

1. Are you making this representation as? (Please tick as appropriate)

a) Resident or Member of the General Public  or

b) Statutory Consultee, Local Authority or Town and Parish Council  or

c) Landowner  or

d) Agent

Other organisation (please specify)

**2. Personal Details****3. Agent's Details (if applicable)**

Title	<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>	<input type="text"/>
First Name	<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>	<input type="text"/>
Last Name	<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>	<input type="text"/>
Job Title (where relevant)	<input type="text" value="Planning Manager"/>	<input type="text"/>
Organisation (where relevant)	<input type="text" value="Sport England"/>	<input type="text"/>
Address Line 1	<input type="text" value="Sport Park"/>	<input type="text"/>
Line 2	<input type="text" value="3 Oakwood Drive"/>	<input type="text"/>
Line 3	<input type="text" value="Loughborough"/>	<input type="text"/>
Line 4	<input type="text" value="Leics"/>	<input type="text"/>
Post Code	<input type="text" value="LE11 3QF"/>	<input type="text"/>
Telephone Number	<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>	<input type="text"/>
E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="REDACTED"/>	<input type="text"/>

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**Part B – If necessary please complete a separate Part B form for each representation**

**4. To which part of the Submission Version of the Local Plan does this representation relate? (Please specify where appropriate)**

Paragraph  Policy  Policies Map

Site Reference  Settlement

**5. Do you consider this part of the Submission Version of the Local Plan:**  
\*Please refer to the Guidance notes for an explanation of terms

a) Is Legally compliant      Yes       No   
 b) Sound      Yes       No

If no, then which of the soundness test(s) does it fail\*

Positively prepared       Effective   
 Justified       Consistent with national policy

c) Complies with the duty to co-operate      Yes       No

**6. Please give details of why you consider the Submission Version of the Local Plan is not legally compliant, is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible. If you wish to support the legal compliance, soundness of the Local Plan or compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments**

Policy D1 which sets out the Council's broad approach to the delivery of infrastructure in general terms is welcomed. Policy D4 which specifically covers community and leisure facilities which would include sports facilities is also welcomed because it seeks to ensure that appropriate provision is made by new development, a positive approach is taken to proposals for new and enhanced facilities and that existing facilities are protected. The intentions of the policy are supported and are considered to accord with the NPPF especially paragraphs 70 and 74. The content of the policy is also broadly supported. However, the concerns set out below require addressing before the local plan is finalised in order to ensure that the policy meets the tests of soundness.

As set out in paragraph 8.37 of the supporting text, the Council has recently published a Playing Pitch Strategy and Built Facilities Strategy to provide the evidence to support the implementation of this policy. The preparation of these strategies responds positively to representations made by Sport England on the Draft Local Plan in 2016 about the lack of an up-to-date and robust evidence base for sports facilities. Sport England and other stakeholders have been engaged by the District Council in the preparation of the strategies which has been welcomed. However, the issue of concern is that the local plan has been published before the strategies have been finalised. This has resulted in the following concerns:

- Sport England is not able to confirm at this time that the strategies provide a robust evidence base for supporting the implementation of policy D4. As noted on the front cover of both strategies, the documents are not completed as they are in the final stages of consultation with Sport England and sports governing bodies who have made substantive comments on the draft strategies. Until these comments have been fully considered and satisfactorily addressed, Sport England is unable to confirm that they will provide a robust evidence base for the supporting the policy which will accord with Government policy in paragraph 73 of the NPPF. While initial amendments that Sport England has been consulted on since the draft strategies have been published suggest that there is strong potential for the concerns raised in our substantive comments to be resolved it is not possible to confirm this at the time of writing as the process is ongoing. It is hoped that the comments will be satisfactorily addressed before the local plan is submitted or at least before the matter is considered through the examination. If our comments are addressed, Sport England would be willing to complete a Statement of Common Ground with the District Council before the examination hearing to update our position on this matter.
- Due to the playing pitch and built facility strategy drafts not being finalised before the local plan consultation, there has not been the opportunity to consider the local plan implications of the issues identified in the evidence base or the strategy and action plan proposals to address these issues. For example, the emerging playing pitch strategy has identified significant current and future deficiencies for a range of playing pitch types. The proposals in this strategy's emerging action plan for addressing such deficiencies could potentially require new sites to be allocated or require new or enhanced facilities to be built on existing outdoor sports sites which may have planning implications. If applicable, site based matters should be addressed in the settlement specific chapters of the local plan and reference should be made to more generic policy implications in the supporting text to this policy. The approach to sports facility provision in new development proposed in these strategies should also be covered in the policy or its supporting text.

If these concerns are not addressed, the policy would not be considered sound as it would not be supported by a robust evidenced base as required by paragraph 73 of the NPPF. Furthermore, the planning policy implications of the evidence base would not be accounted for in the local plan policies and site allocations. Consequently, the plan would then not be considered to meet the 'justified' and 'consistency with national policy' tests of soundness.

*(Continue on a separate sheet if necessary)*

7. Please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Submission Version of the Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to the test you have identified in the question above (Positively prepared/Justified/Effective/Consistent with National Policy) where this relates to soundness. You will need to say why this change will make the Submission Version of the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

To address these concerns, it is requested that the Council undertakes the following actions before the local plan examination:

- Addresses the comments made by Sport England and sports governing bodies on the draft playing pitch and built facility strategies so that Sport England is able to confirm that the finalised strategies are robust for supporting the local plan;
- The Infrastructure Requirements\* section for each settlement in chapter 5, should summarise the strategic needs in each area and set out how the plan intends to address them where applicable.
- Consideration should also be given to whether any of the proposals in the actions plans of the strategy require site allocations to be made in the local plan.
- Commentary should be provided in the supporting text to policy D4 on the key planning policy implications of the issues and proposals in the finalised playing pitch and built facility strategies e.g. a positive approach to the principle of proposals for new and enhanced sports facilities on existing sites which will meet identified needs. Amendments should be made to policy D4 itself if necessary
- Guidance on the approach to providing for community sports facilities to meet the needs of developments based on the proposals in the strategies should be set out in the supporting text to policy D4 to support section B-E of the policy in particular e.g. how will developer contributions be calculated and how will it be decided what projects contributions will be used for?
- Policies for allocated major residential development sites where on-site sports facility provision will be appropriate to meet the needs identified in the strategy should be amended where appropriate to account for the strategy proposals e.g. new secondary schools to provide dual use leisure facilities or new playing fields to be provided within development. In particular the approach to provision in the planned Garden Communities around Harlow should be set out in policies SP4/SP5 and their supporting text which is consistent with the approach taken by the other local authorities that will be planning these communities.

*(Continue on a separate sheet if necessary)*

8. If your representation is seeking a modification, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination?

No, I do not wish to participate at the hearings

Yes, I wish to participate at the hearings

9. If you wish to participate at the hearings, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

To provide impartial and specialist advice to the Inspector on the matters raised in the representation to assist the Inspector in reaching conclusions on sports facility planning policy matters.

*Please note the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate at the oral part of the examination.*

10. Please let us know if you wish to be notified when the Epping Forest District Local Plan is submitted for independent examination (Please tick)

Yes       No

11. Have you attached any documents with this representation?

Yes       No

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Signature:



Date:

29-01-2018

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