

Horsham District Council

FAO: Lucy Green

By email

23.08.2026

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

Application Reference: DC/26/0919

Site: SLINFOLD CRICKET CLUB, ANTLER HOMES PAVILION WICKET GARDENS, SLINFOLD
RH13 0BP

Sport England Reference: PA/26/SE/HO/74739

Dear Lucy,

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 paragraph 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 is to deliver a scoreboard and storage hut to help support the principle use of the Slinfold Cricket Club for community cricket use. The location of the site does not impact on the use of the site for cricket use.

Assessment against the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy

Having assessed the application, Sport England is satisfied that the proposed development meets exception 2 of our Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document, in that:

'The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field, and does not affect the quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use'.

The location of the proposed structure does not impact on the cricket pitch and will support the future use of the site for community cricket.

The proposed development is therefore considered to accord with paragraph HC7 of the NPPF.

Sport England's position

Given the above, Sport England raises **no objection** to the application because it is considered to accord with exception 2 of our Playing Fields Policy and paragraph HC7 of the NPPF.

If you would like any further information or advice, please the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Cunningham MRTPI

Planner

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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