HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	King George V Recreation Ground Shermanbury Road Partridge Green West Sussex
DESCRIPTION:	**Creation of a new multi-use games area.**
REFERENCE:	DC/25/0721
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice / No Objection ~~/ Objection /~~ More Information ~~/ Modification / Refusal~~

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION:

I support this application. The addition of this open access, all weather activity facility will help to address a deficiency of provision for young people in the Parish of West Grinstead.

Further clarification is required on the surface and drainage to help ensure that the facility doesn't flood.

There are some improvements that could be made to the space to make it more gender inclusive.

MAIN COMMENTS:

West Grinstead has an existing deficiency in youth facilities of 0.12 ha. The addition of this open access facility will help to address this deficiency by adding in 0.09 ha of all-weather activity space which is likely to be well used by young people.

There is an opportunity here to make the area more gender inclusive by introducing a more welcoming seating area in the grass location between the MUGA and the pavilion. The use of curved or circular benches interspersed with trees would make this a more welcoming and inclusive space to be shared by everyone.

The proposal shows that the MUGA is sunk into the field. A detailed Drainage Strategy will be required to support the proposals. Until a Drainage Strategy is received, we are unable to determine the suitability of the proposal regarding surface water.

Clarification is required on the type of surface to be used and the construction method. This also impacts the drainage strategy.

The pitch is slighter smaller than the recommended size for 5-a-side football. The recommended size is 27.5m x 36.5m with an additional 3m run off. The proposed MUGA has a total size of 25.5m x 37m, which using a minimum run-off of 2m, gives a pitch size of 23.5m x 35m. This size is still within the FA recommended range for five and six-a-side pitches. Given that this is a free to use facility and the scale of the development appears to fit the space, between the tree root zone and the car park, this is an acceptable compromise.

Gates must be at least 1.2m wide to ensure the site is accessible for all. Consideration may be given to creating some permanent gaps in the fence, possibly at the sides of the goal, to improve safety and reduce the chances of someone being or feeling trapped inside the fenced area.

ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS:

A detailed Drainage Strategy will be required to support the proposals, to determine that the site drainage meets the requirements of the NPPF and PPG, National standards for sustainable drainage systems (June 2025), and the Horsham District Planning Framework (2015) – Policy 38.

NAME:	Anna Chapman
DEPARTMENT:	Parks and Countryside
DATE:	2nd September, 2025