

Appendix 2 Support from the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and Sport England

2.1 Support from the LTA



Lawn Tennis Association
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Mr Jonathan Stephenson
Head of Commercial Services, Public Realm
Regeneration and Environment Department
Enfield Council.
PO Box 58
Silver Street
Enfield
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Thursday 24th August 2017.

RE: Edmonton Cemetery Expansion.

Dear Jonathan,

Further to our conversations in recent week, I can confirm that in principle the LTA are happy for Enfield Council to progress with plans to switch the tennis provision from Church Street to the Firs Farm site. The LTA is in agreement with the council in that it becomes harder to justify the level of investment planned at the Church Street site given the planned level of works to the cemetery, especially if the cost of enabling the courts to be redeveloped borders on the costs of building new courts on another location. The choice to switch the tennis provision to Firs Farm where access to the courts and future sustainability is improved, appears to be a much more appropriate use of the funds earmarked to grow tennis throughout Enfield.

Should the plans to switch the provision from Church Street to Firms Farm be approved, the LTA approval is subject to the below;

-Any application made to the LTA for capital funding will need to meet the criteria of Transforming British Tennis Together. More information can be found via the following link <https://www.lta.org.uk/venue-management/facilities-advice/>

-If the decision is to not include floodlit or indoor provision at Firs Farm in the first stage of the project, and the council wish to use any funding allocated to the scheme as partnership funding towards future applications for match funding from the LTA, a network plan detailing this investment alongside the other planned investments throughout the Borough must be submitted and approved by the LTA prior to the works starting on site.

-The council will continue to work with the LTA to produce a detailed tennis development plan for the Borough, including the operation models for the various tennis sites within the Borough, to ensure that all sites promote a level of sustainability going forward.

-The securing of additional funding over the amount of £250,000 previously agreed to support the capital developments, given the increased cost of developing Firs Farm compared to Church Street. The LTA will continue to be consulted as to where this funding should be invested, especially when funding from the LTA is requested.

-The specification used to obtain quotations must be approved by the LTA technical consultant and the court works are to be completed by a member of the SAPCA tennis division.



I hope that this letter gives you and the Council the necessary assurances the Council needs to progress the Edmonton Cemetery project. If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact wither myself of Mandana Mehranpour.

Yours Sincerely



Christopher Donkin
Facilities Project Manager – London and South East.

CC'd
Mandana Mehranpour (LTA)
John Golding (LTA)
Mark Furnish (Sport England).



2.2 Support from Sports England

Dear Jonathan,

Thank you for your email.

Sport England had concerns when consulted in 2015 for the proposal that would have resulted in the loss of 10 of the 14 courts without replacement and did not consider it to be consistent with Sport England Policy to protect sports facilities especially since the Council did not have an up-to-date strategy for tennis in the Borough so it couldn't be demonstrated to Sport England's satisfaction that these courts are surplus to requirements. It is understood that now the intention is to remove all the tennis courts at the site.

Although the Council still do not have this evidence base, Sport England understand that the London Borough of Enfield is an area where the LTA are seeking to increase the participation in tennis and the LTA have confirmed that the existing tennis courts appear in a bad state, have limited usage and are not located in the best location due to the adjacent A10. As a result the tennis courts, in their current state, do not have a significant impact on tennis participation in the Borough. Sport England is aware that the Council and the LTA have had ongoing discussions in relation to the site and tennis within the Borough and an agreement is in place where £500,000 would be spent on tennis within the Borough, including at the nearby Firs Farm and providing new tennis courts (albeit less than the 14 that could be lost at Church Street) to mitigate the loss the of the Church Street tennis courts. The LTA have indicated that a lot of this investment would be to the east of the Borough which is where the Church Street tennis courts are located and that the existing limited usage of the Church Street tennis courts can relocate to Firs Farm.

In light of the above, it appears that despite the loss of a considerable number of tennis courts there would greater benefits for tennis in Borough therefore Sport England would not object to the proposals provided the conditions set out in the LTA's letter dated 24th August 2017 to yourself are imposed and that the £500,000 is secured. In regard to the latter, it is understood that there is a dedicated holding account ringfenced for tennis development but in the absence of a S.106 agreement, Sport England would seek a letter, signed by the Council's Chief Executive, setting out this commitment.

Please note that this view is on the basis that there would not be an impact on any other sports, playing field sites or other sports facilities in the Borough by any new or improved facilities at other sites.

If you have any questions relating to the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Planning Manager



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