

Southbourne Allocation Development Plan

Sport England response

19.07.2026

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the Southbourne Allocation Development Plan Regulation 19. Sport England aims to ensure positive planning for sport and creating opportunities for physical activity by enabling the right facilities to be provided in the right places based on robust and up-to-date assessments of need and strategies for all levels of sport and for all sectors of the community. To achieve this aim our planning objectives are to PROTECT sports facilities from loss as a result of redevelopment, ENHANCE existing facilities through improving their quality, accessibility and management and to PROVIDE new facilities that are fit for purpose and meet demands for sport participation and physical activity provision now and into the future.

Active Design

We wanted to highlight the importance of including Active Design within a Development Plan. Sport England, working with Active Travel England and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, has produced the 3rd version of 'Active Design' (May 2023), a guide to planning new developments that create the right environment to help people get more active, more often in the interests of health and wellbeing. The guidance sets out ten key principles for ensuring new developments incorporate opportunities for people to take part in sport and physical activity. The Active Design principles are aimed at contributing towards the Government's desire for the planning system to promote healthy communities through good urban design. Sport England would recommend the use of guidance in the master planning process for new residential developments. The document can be downloaded via [this link](#)

We have developed a series of case studies and illustrative places which will help shape this development - <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design?section=case-studies-section>

Demand from new developments

The occupiers of new development, especially residential, will generate demand for sporting provision. The existing provision within an area may not be able to

accommodate this increased demand without exacerbating existing and/or predicted future deficiencies. Therefore, Sport England considers that new developments should contribute towards meeting the demand that they generate through possible financial contributions to sport. The level and nature of any provision should be informed by an up-to-date Playing Pitch Strategy and Built Facilities Strategy in addition to any other assessment of need strategies for the local area.

To assist the Council, an estimate of the demand generated for outdoor sports provision can be provided by Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator strategic planning tool. Team data from the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy can be applied to the Playing Pitch Calculator which can then assess the demand generated in pitch equivalents (and the associated costs of delivery) by the population generated in a new residential development. It can also calculate changing room demand to support the use of this pitch demand.

In relation to built sport facilities, Sport England's established Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC) can help to provide an indication of the likely demand that will be generated by a development for certain indoor sports facility types. Consideration should be given by the Council to using the figures from the Sports Facility Calculator for informing the level of any financial contribution if indoor sports provision was to be made through a S106 agreement.

Sport England have noted that the Development Plan makes reference to the updated Chichester Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). This evidence base should continue to inform the level of provision delivered as part of the on-site provision as well as any additional provision delivered off-site through financial contributions.

If you require any further advice, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Emma Cunningham MRTPI
Planning Manager

