South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Draft Submission (regulation 19 consultation)

Brackley Bowls Club

Response to question 4 (1)

Statement of Support

1) Brackley Bowls Club (BBC) supports the principle of the co-location of sports club to a new site on the periphery of Brackley. The benefits of a Sports Hub may be summarised as being:

   1. The opportunity to expand private recreational facilities so as to encourage greater participation in sport by existing residents of the town and the enlarged population.

   2. The ability to secure space for the provision of modern clubhouse facilities and associated requirements including adequate off-street parking facilities.

   3. The ability to share infrastructure costs in the establishment of new sport and recreational facilities with other clubs in the town, including the provision of services e.g. electrical supplies and drainage, and in the provision of access.

   4. The opportunity is created to enable existing sports grounds which have inadequate space to meet increased patronage to be redeveloped for other urban uses.

2) BBC consider that all too often development plans overlook the requirements of existing sports clubs who are confined to playing facilities which are long outdated and no longer fit for the 21st Century Private sports club cannot compete with land values for other urban land uses and hence the opportunity to relocate and expand is frustrated.

3) The identification of a Sports Hub on land that is not required to meet future development needs of the town would provide a catalyst for existing club to plan for relocation, safe in the knowledge that a new home had been identified to enable the club to be firmly established in a long term location.