



Trafford's Outdoor Sports and Recreation Offer

Policy OS2: Outdoor Sports and Recreation Facilities and Provision

A. The Council will:

- i. Provide and connect a high-quality network of outdoor playing pitches, sport and recreation facilities.
- ii. Protect, enhance and make the most use of existing sport and recreation facilities; and
- iii. Require and support new and/or expanded high-quality outdoor sport and recreation facilities to be provided.

Existing Outdoor Facilities

B. The following pitches and facilities (both public and private) will be protected, and any loss will be resisted:

- i. Grass sports pitches for football, cricket, rugby league, rugby union pitches, lacrosse, Gaelic football
- ii. Artificial grass pitches (AGPs) including hockey
- iii. Bowling greens
- iv. Tennis courts
- v. Athletics tracks and stadia
- vi. Sale Water Park
- vii. Golf courses

C. Within existing facilities, supporting and/or ancillary outdoor sports or recreation development which does not have an adverse effect on the environmental and open character, appearance and function of protected sports pitches and facilities listed under criterion B, will be supported.

Access to Outdoor Facilities

D. All major residential developments must ensure their occupants are able to access at least one type of outdoor sports provision within a repeating radius of 1.2km, starting at the site's centre point, as listed under criterion B.

Provision of Outdoor Pitches and Facilities



- E. Major developments that are not able to ensure access to outdoor sports provision in accordance with criterion D, will be required to provide and/or contribute towards new outdoor sports provision and/or improvement or enhancement of appropriate existing facilities.
- F. All new facilities shall be designed to simultaneously serve other green and blue infrastructure functions (see Policy GI2), linking into the wider natural infrastructure network.

Places for Everyone Links

Policy JP-G2; JP-G6; JP-P6 and JP-P7.

Relevant Strategic Objectives

SO2, SO3, SO7 and SO9

- 9.15. The importance of access to high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities is emphasised in national policy.
- 9.16. Correspondingly, the need to increase provision and invest in existing outdoor sports and recreation is recognised at both a national and local level, through the Department of Media Culture and Sport Get Active: A Strategy for the Future of Sport and Physical Activity) August 2023 and the Trafford Moving Partnership.
- 9.17. It is appropriate therefore, to ensure that outdoor sports and recreation facilities and access to them is both protected and enhanced wherever possible.
- 9.18. In doing so, Sport England's approach to planning for outdoor sport is embedded in the Council's, which is underpinned by a detailed understanding of existing provision, condition and capacity across the borough to respond effectively to development proposals that create significant potential levels of demand in terms of outdoor sports facilities.
- 9.19. As such, the Council will use Sport England's most up to date Facilities Costs to determine the amount, type and cost of new and/or improved



sport and recreation facilities required by new development, with further detail and guidance set out in the Planning Obligations SPD.

- 9.20. Requirements and calculations will be informed by the most recent playing pitch strategy, or any subsequent updated playing pitch and outdoor sports strategy.
- 9.21. As well as providing opportunities for sport and promoting opportunities for healthy life styles, many outdoor sport and recreation facilities have an important function as green infrastructure, providing valuable habitats, landscape and routes for walking and cycling. Often situated on the edge of the urban areas or in the Green Belt, they connect to the wider countryside and provide opportunities to support and accommodate dual-uses within the green and blue infrastructure networks, whilst also relieving pressure on other natural and human-made infrastructures.

Consultation Question 9-2

Do you support Policy OS2? Are there any changes required which would improve the policy? Please provide any supporting evidence which you think is relevant.