



New Community and Social Facilities

Policy CT3: New Community and Social Facilities

- A. The Council will support the provision of new and the expansion of existing, social and community uses¹ which predominantly serve, or which provide significant benefits to, borough residents.
- B. Proposals for new or improved social and community facilities will be supported, provided that:
 - ii. Outside of designated town and district centres² proposals are highly accessible, have a Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL) postcode rating of 5 or over.
 - iii. There is a demonstrable local need or demand that cannot be located at/in another facility in the local vicinity; and
 - iv. There is no unacceptable impact on residential amenity.
- C. Where new facilities are provided, they should seek to make the best use of land and co-locate a range of social and community uses where possible. All new provision must be well-designed, inclusive and easily accessible.
- D. All major largescale residential developments will be required to provide on-site community and/or social facilities to facilitate the creation of sustainable and mixed communities. Such facilities must not result in a shared or communal residential/social and community entrance.

Places for Everyone Links

Policy JP-P3

Relevant Strategic Objectives

SO2, SO6 and SO9

¹ See para 11.7 to Policy CT1 for definition

² As defined in Policy TC1



- 11.16. New community and social facilities play a crucial role in fostering stronger, more connected neighbourhoods, providing spaces for people to connect, interact, and build relationships. They serve as meeting points for diverse groups, helping to bridge gaps between different generations, cultures, and backgrounds, helping to encourage social inclusion and ensure that everyone has a place to come together and feel part of the community.
- 11.17. Many community facilities offer educational programs and skill-building workshops that contribute to personal and professional development. Whether it's through after-school programs for young people, language courses, or adult learning initiatives, such facilities help individuals grow and acquire new knowledge, ultimately benefiting the community as a whole.
- 11.18. Supporting the development of new community and social facilities is therefore an investment in the well-being of current and future generations.
- 11.19. In order to function and thrive, however, they must be accessible to the community. Greater Manchester has developed the Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL), a detailed and accurate measure of the accessibility of a point to both the conventional public transport network (i.e. bus, Metrolink and rail) and Greater Manchester's Local Link (flexible transport service), taking into account walk access time and service availability. The accessibility index score is categorized into eight levels, 1 to 8, where level 8 represents a high level of accessibility and level 1 a low level of accessibility.
- 11.20. Using a minimum postcode GMAL level 5 index score is appropriate for Trafford, allowing for both accessibility and provision throughout the borough.
- 11.21. Co-location of a range of social and community uses can help facilitate the creation of new civic hubs and enable the optimum use of land available, as well as also facilitating social interactions by bringing together diverse uses and community groups. The Council recognises the



opportunities that co-location presents and will encourage it where possible.

- 11.22. Where new social and community facilities are provided as part of a mixed-use development, they must be well-designed, inclusive and preferably located on the ground level to ensure accessibility. When provided on other floors these spaces must be of high quality and should be easily accessible to the intended community. Shared entrances with residential development must be avoided as this can impact on residential living conditions and vice versa.

Consultation Question 11-4

Do you support Policy CT3? Are there any changes required which would improve the policy? Please provide any supporting evidence which you think is relevant.