

Eugene Minogue MCIMSPA  
Head of Physical Activity, Leisure & Sport  
Westminster City Council  
The Pavilion  
Paddington Recreation Ground  
Randolph Avenue  
London W9 1PD

9th October 2020

Dear Eugene,

#### **WESTMINSTER CITY PLAN 2019-2020**

I am writing to confirm Sport England's position in relation to the Westminster City Plan 2019-2020.

In October 2019 Sport England and Westminster City Council signed a Statement of Common Ground on several matters concerning the City Plan. One area of agreement related to the Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategies being completed by 1st April 2020 thereby ensuring that the City Plan had robust and up-to-date evidence to inform its Policies. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown measures and furlough of Sport National Governing Body and consultant staff the deadline for both Strategies has not been met.

As you are aware Sport England and Westminster City Council have been in regular contact throughout this period of uncertainty and Sport England can confirm that work to develop the Strategies has now re-commenced. It is anticipated that both Strategies will be completed by the end of November, or early December, at the latest. This would allow both Strategies to reflect the current sporting environment in Westminster, including allowing the Council to update its Sport Facility Planning Modelling.

Sport England consider this course of action appropriate given the circumstances and that it would result in a robust evidence base to guide and support the City Plan. Sport England are, therefore, still of the view that the City Plan would be sound provided these emerging Strategies are finalised by December and remain referenced in the relevant City Plan Policies and supporting text.

I trust the above clarifies Sport England's position in relation to the City Plan's sporting evidence base but if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely



Mark Furnish  
Planning Manager