Dear The Development Management Team,

London Borough of Havering Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above.

Sporting and recreation facilities are included within the definition of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) infrastructure in the 2008 Planning Act (section 216), which means money raised can be used to fund new or enhanced sports facilities.

Sport England does welcomes that the Council are considering to fund sport and leisure facilities but has concerns that the general term, ‘Sport and Leisure Facilities’, is included within the Draft Regulation 123 List. A general term included within the list could cause difficulties in directing funds to actually be spent on particular sport and leisure projects due to them having to compete with other infrastructure needs.

In order to ensure that the CIL funds collected has a chance of being spent on sport, Sport England consider that the Regulation 123 list should contain specific projects rather than a generic wide ranging term. Sport England recommend that the Regulation 123 List contains high level priority projects of a strategic nature that CIL has potential to deliver rather including a general term or a long list of projects that CIL will never be able to fund. Since the Council have a Playing Pitch Strategy the key projects and actions contained within that Strategy could be listed in the Regulation 123 List with the other actions/projects being able to be potentially funded by Planning Obligations. This approach, Sport England consider, would increase the likelihood of money into sport and delivery of needed sport and leisure infrastructure that meets
current and future needs. Unless the Council identify specific projects on the Strategic Infrastructure List it may be more effective for sporting contributions to be sought through planning obligations, however this is only in the case where it can be linked to a strategic housing development.

I hope this is helpful. If you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

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