
From:

Sent: 14 August 2025 15:24

Subject: RE: HPK/2024/0481 GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL (GLOSSOP SITE) (CLOSED), TALBOT ROAD SK13 7DR (SE ref: PA/25/EM/HI/70888)

Dear Rachael,

I understand you have been in contact with [redacted] on this case previously. [redacted] has recently left Sport England, and so your recent email below has been passed to myself to consider and respond to. I do not propose to re-state Sport England's views on the application which already are fully set out in our letter response on 20th June 2025 to this application. Rather, this email briefly responds to the applicant's rebuttal letter dated 25th July 2025. The applicant is seeking to make the following points:

- That the lawful use is for education (use Class F1) and not playing fields (which fall within Use Class F2)
- That the former school facilities (including its sports facilities) were previously replaced, and
- It is not necessary to replace playing fields/pitches which do not exist following the demolition and clearance of the site

We do not dispute that the existing use relates to an education use, where part and parcel of that use is an existing (disused) playing field.

We have previously commented on why we do not consider the playing field to have already been suitably replaced, so I don't repeat our views on that point here.

On the final point, we would draw to the Council's attention the principle considered in Pioneer Aggregates case (Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Limited v SSE [1985]) where the House of Lords held that where a planning permission had authorised a use of land, in the absence of an intervening use or an act of Parliament one cannot abandon said use. The clearance of the former school buildings may have removed certain facilities associated with the use of the playing field, such as car parking, changing rooms and so on, but this does not mean that the use as playing field has been lost, even where the site may not have been in active use for some years. On the basis that the use of the site as playing field, as part and parcel of the former school were established via a planning permission, and given there has been no intervening use it is not possible to abandon the use as playing field.

We have previously explained that policy, in both the Framework and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy, does not distinguish between privately and publicly owned playing field sites, nor does policy distinguish between playing field sites that are in active use and those that are currently disused. There are many appeal decisions that support this position. As such, Sport

England remains of the view that relevant policies in respect of the loss of playing fields should be applied and given appropriate weight when determining this application. We have previously set out our views to explain why we consider that the applicant has not demonstrated, to date, how these relevant policies would be met.

I hope this is helpful to you.

Principal Planning Manager

We have updated our Privacy Statement to reflect the recent changes to data protection law but rest assured, we will continue looking after your personal data just as carefully as we always have. Our Privacy Statement is published on our [website](#), and our Data Protection Officer can be contacted by emailing [Gaile Walters](#)
