

NEW MILLS LEISURE CENTRE PARKING STATEMENT

1.0 Introduction

It is proposed to refurbish and expand the facilities of the existing leisure centre at New Mills. HPBC's brief is to improve and update the existing leisure centre to better meet the needs of the local community and ensure financial viability. This includes enlarging the fitness gym as well as providing an additional community wellbeing suite.

The overall brief includes:

- Enlarged fitness gym
- Relocated Group Exercise Studio
- New Community Wellness Suite
- Refurbished pool viewing area
- Refurbished Dry Changing
- Refurbished Spin Studio

Externally the brief requires a small fire escape stair for the first floor Group Exercise studio. There is no change to the Gross External Floor Area of the existing leisure centre.

Due to the confined nature of the site, and the minimal increase in floor area (6.5%) additional car parking capacity is not included in the proposals, the following document details the parking guidance and provision to be retained.

2.0 Parking Requirements

The Derbyshire County Council Parking Guidance for New Developments has been consulted to establish the principles for proposed parking on the site.

The existing car park is split into two areas; combined they provide 56 car parking spaces (3 of which are for disabled users) plus an area for cycle parking.

2.1 Derbyshire County Council Parking Guidance for New Developments

Excerpt from Parking Guidance:

"7.1. Car Free Development / Reduced Parking Levels

7.1.1. For both residential and commercial developments in town and city centres it is anticipated that a reduced parking provision or no car parking spaces are provided at all.

Consideration must be given to the opportunity to access the site sustainably, the availability and capacity of public car parks, existing parking restrictions, the number of linked trips and the implementation of an approved Travel Plan or welcome pack."

There are no prescriptive requirements for Leisure Centre car parking numbers in the Derbyshire Parking Guidance document. Instead, the building operator should understand the needs of their business and determine appropriate parking numbers.

The proposed development will provide a small increase in the maximum building occupancy, from 342persons (existing) to 355persons (proposed). This increase will have minimal impact on the required parking, and it is determined that this can be accommodated in other nearby public car parks or supported via active travel methods.

3.0 Sustainability

3.1 Infrastructure for changing electric vehicles

Under Building Regulations Part S

The works are not classed as a 'major renovation work', as such there is no requirement to install electrical charging points to be installed.

3.2 Other transportation

It is noted that active methods of transport should be encouraged wherever possible.

The building is a short walk from the town centre (350m or 5mins). Bicycle parking will be retained to the front of the building.

Alternatively, the nearest bus stop is on Hyde Bank Road, approximately 135m from the main entrance of the Leisure Centre.