

Rothmans

Dear Sirs

SITE Mo3 IMPERIAL SPORTS GROUND

I am writing to you as a local employer, I have offices in nearby Sutton, and as a sponsor and general supporter of TM United and the community facility that is on their ground. In the above capacities I fully support the inclusion of SITE Mo3 (Imperial Fields, T&M Hub) for residential redevelopment within the new Local Plan for the following reasons:

-) It will provide much needed housing, including affordable housing for local people, in a deprived ward in the borough;
-) It is an unused piece of scrub land with no landscape or ecological value which should be redeveloped;
-) It should not be classed as Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) since it serves no useful purpose or function within it;
-) It is an obvious and logical piece of land to release from MOL for development, with good road frontage and next to other houses;
-) It has very good accessibility for public transport including local bus routes and the nearby tram link;
-) As an 'enabling development' and in the current climate of on-going financial cuts to public services, this is an imaginative and very clever way of delivering community benefits;
-) The resultant funds will be re-invested back into the existing public/private partnership helping to consolidate and secure the long-term future of the hub;
-) It will bring forward the development of two further valuable community-based buildings (i.e. a new changing block/educational suite and new entrance block/centre for dance and gymnastics within a flexible space);
-) Without this site coming forward for development the wider strategic plans of TM United hub and the associated further community benefits will not be realised so it would be a massive missed opportunity;
-) The proposed community benefits and on-going viability of the hub will not be secured without this site being developed;
-) It will provide the economic catalyst needed to deliver the completion of the wider hub project including significant social and community benefits;
-) The overall hub project responds to both the local and national agenda for improving sport; health and wellbeing; and education and enterprise;
-) This is a great example of delivering mixed uses and sustainable development, with the new apartments enjoying a natural synergy with the existing sports and community uses encouraging healthy lifestyles;
-) It is a unique opportunity in the borough to deliver a truly sustainable development through completion the 'community hub' project;
-) It will help towards delivering broader regeneration objectives within what is a deprived ward in the borough;
-) It will secure the long-term future and viability of the hub which is a much cherished and valued local community facility;
-) It will provide long term security for the hub so that the project can maintain its important social enterprise role in the local community;

The proposed scheme has an attractive design that will improve the street and incorporates sustainable features.

Regards

For and on behalf of Rothmans