



PLANNING CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Application No	2026/0108
Proposal	Erection of 4 padel courts with a covering structure, installation of a football pitch and erection of a new associated building to include changing facilities and cafe/social areas
Address	Burntwood Sports and Leisure Centre, Common Road, Brierley, Barnsley, S72 9ET
Date of Consultation Reply	02/06/2026
Consultee	Claire Wilson, Planning Ecologist

Consultation Assessment and Justification

An updated EcIA and metric have been submitted. However, the report continues to propose very small areas of other neutral grassland, now in moderate condition, located directly adjacent to areas of modified grassland. As set out in my initial response, this is neither an achievable nor realistic habitat in the proposed locations, and modified grassland should instead be specified. I acknowledge that revising the habitat in this way will result in the scheme failing to achieve the required 10% biodiversity net gain. Accordingly, it is recommended that the applicant increases the extent of off-site provision to secure the necessary uplift.

In addition, the metric indicates no improvement in condition for the off-site grassland. The baseline habitat is recorded as poor condition other neutral grassland, with the post-development habitat also remaining in poor condition. It is unclear whether this is an error, or whether the applicant does not intend to deliver moderate condition other neutral grassland at the off-site location. Clarification is required.

Furthermore, the location of the proposed 40 new trees has not been provided. Careful consideration must be given to their siting to ensure that shading does not adversely affect the grassland habitat.

With a well-designed and appropriately evidenced mitigation and enhancement strategy, the scheme should be capable of achieving the required 10% biodiversity net gain. For example uplifting the offsite grassland from poor to moderate condition, and planting 10 medium trees to achieve moderate condition results in a 14.43% gain, this also takes into account reducing the value of the grassland within the red line boundary.

	Defer – further information required	
*Delete as applicable		
<u>Consultation Suggested Conditions:</u>		
<u>Consultation Informative(s):</u>		
<u>Planning Obligations required:</u>		



BARNSLEY

Metropolitan Borough Council

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