

Louise St John Howe
Examination Programme Officer

Our ref:
Date: 1 June 2025

Dear Ms St John Howe

Re: Harrow Local Plan Examination – Matter 6 – Statement in relation to Question 12.9

We act on behalf of The Keepers And Governors of the Possessions, Revenues and Goods of the Free Grammar School of John Lyon, who are the owners of the land upon which Harrow School and John Lyon School operate. The two Schools submitted (separate but parallel) representations to the Regulation 19 Consultation, and this statement follows from this. Question 12.9 relates to all allocations in Chapter 11 of the Regulation 19 draft of the Local Plan, and these representations relate to:

- Allocation O5 – representations are submitted on behalf of both Schools in relation to this, and
- Sudbury Hill Fields – representations are made on behalf of John Lyon School, as they operate this site

Allocation O5 – Harrow School and John Lyon School Estate

Although it is noted that the Inspector has no specific questions in relation to this allocation, and the Inspector will evidently review the Regulation 19 representations, we consider it might be helpful to them to confirm that the comments made then still apply. That is, that the allocation is broadly welcomed by the Schools.

However, they consider that it must be recognised that the benefits accruing from Harrow School, to the Borough, are that of a very long-standing, but vital and evolving educational establishment. Further, Harrow School leases the use of Churchfields for local use and enjoyment by the Borough for a peppercorn rent

As such, local planning policy should recognise that sensitive evolution, improvements and (if necessary) supporting development are key to the ongoing health and success of Harrow School, and the benefits it brings to the Borough. Such development can also provide opportunities for greater community access to Harrow School's facilities, which generates additional planning benefits (particularly in the context of the Local Authority's evidence base, which identifies a shortage of sporting and recreational facilities in the Borough). A prime example of this is the new Sports and Sciences development, currently under construction, which was supported by the Local Authority (and are referenced in a hearing statement relating to Matter 4).

In this context, it is still considered that the “allocated use” element of the allocation be amended to:

Refurbishment/redevelopment of school buildings, sports facilities and enhancement of playing fields, and other development which will support the ongoing operation and/or evolution/improvement of Harrow School or John Lyon School

Sudbury Hill Fields

It is recognised that this site is not included as a proposed allocation in the plan, the Inspector will not consider “omission” sites and will have the Regulation 19 representations on the matter. However, we would still like to draw the Inspector’s attention to the planning benefits that the School considers will arise from limited release of MOL in this area. Not least, the proposals would improve the existing sporting facilities on the site, and make them more of benefit to the local public, as there is an established shortage of such facilities in the Borough.

We hope that this is of assistance to the Inspector, but if any further information is needed please do not hesitate to contact Jason Lowes at the details below.

Yours sincerely



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