

REP 19/7

Gosport Borough Council Pre-submission Local Plan Hampshire County Council Response Schedule – September 2014										
1. To which part of Plan does this representation relate?			2. Do you think the Local Plan is:				3. Tests of soundness			
a. Para	b. Policy	c. Document	a. Legally compliant		b. Sound		a. positive	b. justified	c. effective	d. consistent
			Yes	No	Yes	No				
	<b>LP32 Community, Cultural and Built Leisure Facilities</b>		X			X		X	X	
<b>4. Why is the Local Plan not legally compliant or unsound?</b>										
<p>Public services provided by Local Authorities such as Hampshire County Council and also by other public service providers including sections of the Health Service, Police and Fire Authorities are under increasing pressure to improve and respond to public needs and requirements. This in turn is resulting in more frequent service rationalisations.</p> <p>Such rationalisations may result in the expansion or relocation of existing community facilities, or the development of new ones. They also often result in the public service provider having surplus land which it is required to dispose of to provide capital receipts which in turn, are required to fund rationalisations or provide new or improved facilities. At present the County Council considers that the criterion set out in Policy LP32 could be more flexible to enable public service providers to reinvest the proceeds of sale of surplus land into improved local services:</p> <p>'5. Planning permission will not be granted for development which would result in the loss of existing community, cultural, sports recreation and built leisure facilities unless it can be demonstrated that:</p> <p>a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the buildings to be surplus to requirements for that particular purpose; or</p> <p>b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; and</p> <p>c) it can be demonstrated that there are no other viable community, cultural, sports, recreation or built leisure uses for the premises or site and that there have been reasonable attempts to sell/let them for these purposes, <u>unless it is part of a service providers plans to provide improved local services in equally accessible locations.</u>*</p> <p>*This wording is similar to adopted Policy CS8 New Forest District Council Core Strategy (October 2009).</p>										

**5. What changes are necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound?**

Hampshire County Council as a public services provider requests that the Borough Council make the following amendments to Policy LP32:

'5. Planning permission will not be granted for development which would result in the loss of existing community, cultural, sports recreation and built leisure facilities unless it can be demonstrated that:

- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the buildings to be surplus to requirements for that particular purpose; or
- b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; and
- c) it can be demonstrated that there are no other viable community, cultural, sports, recreation or built leisure uses for the premises or site and that there have been reasonable attempts to sell/let them for these purposes, unless it is part of a service providers plans to provide improved local services in equally accessible locations.\*

\*This wording is similar to that used in the adopted Policy CS8 New Forest District Council Core Strategy (October 2009).

**6. Speak at EIP?**

No

**X**

Yes

If Yes, on what grounds?