

From: Councillor Max Wilkinson <cldr.max.wilkinson@cheltenham.gov.uk>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 1:19 PM
To: Lucy White <Lucy.White@cheltenham.gov.uk>
Cc: Chris Gomm <Chris.Gomm@cheltenham.gov.uk>; Tracey Birkinshaw <Tracey.Birkinshaw@cheltenham.gov.uk>; Councillor Rowena Hay <cldr.rowena.hay@cheltenham.gov.uk>; Councillor Peter Jeffries <cldr.peter.jeffries@cheltenham.gov.uk>; Paul Jones <Paul.Jones@cheltenham.gov.uk>; Richard Gibson <Richard.Gibson@cheltenham.gov.uk>
Subject: 23/00117/FUL - comments by cabinet member with responsibility for wellbeing

Dear Lucy

I write as the cabinet member with responsibility for wellbeing.

I have been briefed on Belmont School's application for a new facility to serve children and young adults, principally those with additional needs. I understand that after many months of consideration, conditions have recently been added to the recommendation which would prohibit the use of the facility from lunchtime on Saturdays until the end of the weekend. The consequence of this is that weekend clubs that serve as fun outlets for SEND children and respite for families would likely have to cease. This includes the Goals Beyond Grass cycling group, which I understand runs on Sundays. I am certain that this consequence is unintended and not intended to be discriminatory. However, this consequence runs counter to the emerging Physical Activity and Sport Strategy, which aims to widen access and participation among groups that often find themselves excluded from sports and physical activity.

A more appropriate condition might be to restrict activities on Saturday afternoon and Sunday to "only activities undertaken by SEND groups and clubs".

I trust members of the planning committee will consider the impact of your recommendations on the clubs and groups affected, as well as the emerging Physical Activity and Sport Strategy, when this matter goes before committee on Thursday.

For the avoidance of doubt, I would be grateful if you would include this correspondence in the committee pack.

Yours sincerely

Max

Councillor Max Wilkinson

Oakley ward

Cabinet member for Economic Development, Culture, Tourism and Wellbeing
Cheltenham Borough Council

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