

Sport, Recreation and Leisure Policies

General

R1A

New indoor and outdoor sports and recreation facilities and the expansion of existing facilities will be permitted within or on the edge of settlements, subject to there being no significant adverse landscape implications and provided they are accessible by means of public transport and other sustainable modes of transport.

R1B

Where a new indoor leisure use is proposed on the edge of or outside a city/town centre, the impact of the proposal on the vitality and viability of the centre will also be assessed. Proposals for indoor leisure facilities will be encouraged in city/town or district centres. In the absence of any suitable available site in such locations, edge of centre or out of centre locations highly accessible by public transport will be considered favourably if deemed suitable in all other respects.

R1C

In the countryside, proposals for new outdoor recreation facilities will be subject to the following considerations:

(i) where the proposal involves the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a Site of Special Scientific Interest, an Area of High Ecological Value, an Area of Archaeological Significance or the Landscape Settings of Salisbury and Wilton, such development will be permitted only if there would be no adverse impact on these designated areas;

(ii) elsewhere in the plan area, outdoor recreation facilities will be allowed provided there will be no significant adverse impact on the surrounding landscape or nature conservation value of the area, there is a satisfactory means of access, the local highway network is adequate, and appropriate services can be made available;

(iii) the proposal is not dependent upon the construction of large buildings or other large structures; and

(iv) there is no adverse impact on the amenities of residents or other recreational users.

Open Space Provision

R2

New residential development will be required to make provision for recreational open space (comprising facilities for communal outdoor sport

and children's play) in accordance with a standard of 2.43 hectares per 1000 population. Additional amenity open space (including landscaped areas, public gardens and roadside verges) will be sought as appropriate.

The Local Planning Authority may consider reducing this requirement where developments comprise accommodation for those with special needs.

Further details of the District Council's open space requirements are contained in Appendix IV.

R3

The recreational open space requirement for new development providing accommodation for the elderly will be reduced to 0.8 hectares per 1000 population. Additional amenity open space within the site will be sought as appropriate.

Development proposals for nursing homes will be required to provide on-site amenity space.

In both cases, on-site amenity space should be of a sufficient size and appropriately landscaped to provide informal sitting out areas, and should be located to maximise the south and south western aspects of the site and the outlook from it.

In both cases a planning obligation will be sought with regard to the future occupancy of the dwellings.

Indoor Community and Leisure Provision

R4

Where proposed development, either individually or cumulatively with other developments in the settlement, is of a sufficient size to generate an identifiable need for additional indoor community or leisure facilities, developers will be expected to provide a suitable facility within the site or make a contribution towards improving facilities within the settlement.

Protection of Existing Outdoor Facilities

R5

Development which would lead to the loss of public or private sports fields, other recreational open space, or school playing fields, will not be permitted unless:

(i) sports and recreation facilities can be best retained and enhanced through the redevelopment of a small part of the site; or

(ii) alternative equivalent provision is made available in the the locality; or

(iii) there is an excess of sports pitch provision and public open space in the area, taking account of the recreation and amenity value of such provision.

Urban Parks

R6

Development unrelated to the recreational use of urban parks will not be permitted.

Dual Use of Education Facilities

R7

The District Council will encourage the dual use of education facilities for recreation purposes wherever possible.

New Sports and Recreation Provision

R8

Land to the east of the A345 and north of the Stockport Road, Amesbury is allocated for new recreation facilities in association with the development of the area.

R9

Land to the north of Wick Lane, Downton is allocated for new recreational facilities and allotments.

R10

Land to the east of Netheravon Road, Durrington is allocated as Public Open Space.

R11

Land to the south of The Street, West Knoyle is allocated as a new recreation ground.

R12

Land to the west of The Avenue, Wilton is allocated for new recreational facilities.

R13

Land to the north of Middleton, Winterslow is allocated as an extension to the existing recreation ground.

New Leisure Provision

R14

Land is allocated at London Road, Salisbury for leisure uses, as part of a mixed development subject to the following:

- (i) there are no suitable sites available within the city or town centres, or on the edge of these centres
- (ii) there is no adverse effect on the vitality and viability of the city centre;
- (iii) a high standard of building design, site layout and landscaping; and
- (iv) agreement with the Local Planning Authority concerning the type and extent of advertising or other material designed to attract the attention of the public.

Golf Courses

R15

Golf course developments, and golf driving ranges, will not be permitted within the Salisbury River Avon System, Special Area of Conservation or a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Landscape Settings of Salisbury and Wilton, an Area of High Ecological Value, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, an Area of Archaeological Significance, a park or garden listed as being of Special Historic Interest, or any other historic park or garden, golf course developments, together with associated buildings and facilities, including golf driving ranges, will only be permitted if they would have no adverse effect on the area in question, and the criteria set out below are satisfied.

Elsewhere, golf course development will be permitted, subject to the following criteria:

- (i) it would not detract from the character of the landscape or the nature conservation value of the area;
- (ii) the local highway network is adequate and a satisfactory means of access can be achieved;
- (iii) an adequate water supply can be secured without unacceptable effects on existing abstraction river flows or water quality;
- (iv) the viability of a farm unit is not adversely affected; and
- (v) the proposal will not result in the irreversible loss of grade 1,2 or 3a agricultural land.

The land and buildings associated with golf course proposals will be expected to return to agricultural use in the event of the cessation of their use for golf.

Developments with River Frontages and Public Access

R16

In connection with all development proposals involving sites abutting a river in settlements, the desirability of seeking the dedication and laying out of a strip of land adjoining the river of not less than six metres width for the purposes of public access will be examined.

Public Rights of Way

R17

The Local Planning Authority will encourage the improvement and increased use of the public rights of way network. Proposals to close or divert existing rights of way will not be permitted unless an alternative route is available which is as attractive and is not significantly longer than the original route. Wherever possible, local extensions and improvements to rights of way will be sought as part of development proposals.

R18

The Local Planning Authority will, where it is considered appropriate, seek the expansion of public access to the countryside through the creation of new paths and publicly accessible areas and extensions to existing facilities.

Avon Valley Project

R19

The District Council will continue to promote the Avon Valley Project in order to reconcile the competing needs of nature conservation and informal recreation.

Allotments

R20

The development of allotment sites will not be permitted unless alternative facilities are provided in an appropriate location, or the allotments are no longer required in the locality.