

Jennifer Atkinson
Planning - Case Officer
Strategic Development Directorate
Manchester City Council
P O Box 532
Manchester
M60 2LA

16th July 2020

Dear Jennifer

Re: Application number 126431/FO/2020 - Erection of a multi-use arena

I am writing on behalf of SharpFutures to support the above application for a new arena in East Manchester. SharpFutures is a social enterprise that supports young people into employment in the creative and digital and tech sectors. It offers a range of interventions including apprenticeships, work experience and volunteering and is located just over a mile from the proposed site for the new arena.

I support the proposal for a new arena for the following reasons:

Firstly, because over 3000 jobs and 100 apprenticeships will be created to build the arena and a further 1000 when it is open. The applicants, Oak View Group, have said they will ensure as many jobs as possible go to local people and will prioritise hiring people who live within walking distance. Those who get jobs will be paid at least the Manchester Living Wage. This will make a difference to communities in East Manchester.

Secondly, and building on this, Oak View Group has committed to ensuring local people benefit from skills and training and that they will support community and social activities and will look to work with SharpFutures as a successful local social enterprise to do this.

We are also interested in Oak View Group's commitment to inspiring young people through the world of live entertainment.

Yours sincerely,



Rose Marley
Chief Executive Officer