

# Comments for Planning Application 126431/FO/2020

## Application Summary

Application Number: 126431/FO/2020

Address: Site South Of Sportcity Way, East Of Joe Mercer Way, West Of Alan Turing Way And North Of The Ashton Canal At The Etihad Campus Manchester

Proposal: Erection of a multi-use arena (Use Class D2) (61082 sqm) with a partially illuminated external facade together with ancillary retail/commercial uses (Classes A1, A3 and A4), with highways, access, servicing, landscaping, public realm and other associated works.

Case Officer: Jennifer Atkinson

## Customer Details

Name: Not Available

Address: Not Available

## Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: As an exiled Mancunian with a professional interest in economic decline and regeneration, I observe events in Manchester with close interest. In respect of a second arena, it strikes me as interesting that the complacency in allowing the existing arena to decline in quality has been shaken by the proposal for a second steams. Suddenly there are renovation plans! There are moments in time when cities have civic leaderships that have courage and vision. In the UK Leeds in the 1970/80s was an example. Glasgow Smiles Better another. Gateshead Council with the Baltic and Sage another. Over the past couple of decades it has been Manchester leaders that have helped engender growth and change. The sad days when the opportunity to host Opera North was rejected, Northern Ballet allowed to leave (Leeds jumped at the chance to take it on) and Belle View allowed to decline, are long gone. The recent debacle of losing Chancel 4 hopefully reminded local leaders of why Greater Manchester had become successful and how not to lead a bid. So, does Manchester need another arena? My view is yes. City economies never stand still. Forward development requires growth (I accept growth must benefit all citizens) not retrenchment. A cake can be grown. In the context of COVID and BREXIT, those cities that win will - because plenty will lose - will have demonstrated leaderships with vision, imagination and courage.