



Red Hall
Red Hall Lane
Leeds
LS17 8NB

T: 0844 477 1113
info@rfl.uk.com
rugby-league.com

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

8th June 2020

Dear Jennifer,

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

This letter sets out why the Rugby Football League Ltd. (RFL) gives our support for the above arena on the Etihad Campus, Manchester.

The RFL is the national governing body for Rugby League in the UK. We administer the England Rugby League team, the Great Britain Rugby League Lions team, the Coral Challenge Cup and Women's Coral Challenge Cup, the Betfred Rugby League Championship and Betfred League 1, the Women's Super League, and also supports and administers the grassroots game.

The RFL supports the application both as a passionate supporter of investment in the North of England and as a future tenant of the Etihad Campus.

Early in 2018 the RFL Board took the decision to relocate to the Etihad Campus to be on site prior to the 2021 Rugby League World Cup. The relocation will provide an iconic new home in a renowned sporting city and will offer world-class facilities for every level of the game, from community to the England Senior teams.

The proposed 23,500-capacity entertainment arena would join the RFL headquarters, other national sport governing bodies (British Cycling / England Squash) and Manchester City Football Club to form a globally significant sport and leisure cluster.

This is in-keeping with our ambition for the UK home of Rugby League and is in alignment with the city's plans. Manchester's Core Strategy identifies Eastlands as important for the creation of employment through a major sports and leisure visitor destination with complementary commercial, retail and hotels.

It is also important to point out the significance of £350m private investment at this particular time given the heightened economic uncertainty due to coronavirus. The RFL has a proud tradition of supporting communities when times are tough. We recognise and welcome the social and economic benefit £350m investment would bring to communities across Greater Manchester. It will create thousands of jobs in construction and save thousands more as orders ripple through the construction supply chain. Many of



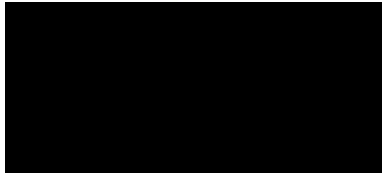
RFL (Governing Body) Ltd
Registered address:
Red Hall, Red Hall Lane, Leeds, LS17
8NB
Registered No. 5835638

RFL is the trading name of The Rugby Football League Ltd which is wholly owned by RFL (Governing Body) Ltd.
Registered address: Red Hall, Red Hall Lane, Leeds, LS17 8NB
Registered No. 3845473

the jobs saved would be in rugby league towns like Wigan, Leigh and Salford due to a high concentration of construction companies.

These short-to-medium term benefits combined with the longer-term aim of creating a globally significant centre of sporting and leisure excellence are why the RFL fully supports the proposed new arena.

Yours faithfully,



Tony Sutton
Chief Operating Officer
Rugby Football League Ltd



RFL (Governing Body) Ltd
Registered address:
Red Hall, Red Hall Lane, Leeds, LS17
8NB
Registered No. 5835638

RFL is the trading name of The Rugby
Football League Ltd which is wholly
owned by RFL (Governing Body) Ltd.
Registered address: Red Hall, Red Hall
Lane, Leeds, LS17 8NB
Registered No. 3845473