

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 objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I regularly visit Manchester for concerts & events particularly The Arena & O2 Apollo.

We already have plenty of concert & event venues in the city. To build another large venue on its outskirts would add to the already overburdened transport network. Eastlands is a stop too far & not as convenient for us to visit so it would take something special for us to go. Usually we take the metro direct from Altrincham to the city centre. To visit Eastlands we would need to change trains lengthening our journey time. We drive into the city occasionally but each evening the traffic on the M56 & surrounding motorway network is practically gridlocked, on a good day!

The venue could not be used to capacity due to Manchester having 2 premier league football teams & the Arena. Plus The Opera House & Palace Theatre amongst many other smaller venues & Manchester Central Convention Complex. I would expect that any new venue would have to work around football fixtures & Arena performances to avoid swamping the city's police, transport, hotel & restaurant facilities. In the case of football, the fixture list is incomplete due to various domestic & European cup ties. This would complicate things further.

In the Covid-19 era, it is widely accepted that theatres & concert venues are under threat so why build another? We should support all the venues we have rather than threaten their future survival by adding a new facility potentially forcing other venues into closure.

For these reasons I object to the building of a new entertainment & events venue in Manchester.