



Planning, Strategic Development Directorate
Manchester City Council
PO Box 532
Manchester
M60 2LA

Monday 18th May 2020

Dear Sir / Madam,

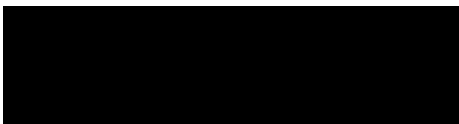
Reference: Planning application number 126431/FO/2020

I write in connection with the above planning application for the erection of a multi-use arena at The Etihad Campus in Manchester. I have examined the plans and wish to offer my support to the proposal, for the following reasons:

1. We are very supportive of developments that benefit the sports industry as well as the local community of Manchester. As the full social and economic impact of Covid-19 becomes apparent, Manchester and indeed the sports and entertainment industry will benefit from this £350m private sector investment which includes 3000+ jobs and the £1bn GVA the arena will generate each year.
2. The proposed location is identified as suitable for a major sports or visitor location and that land around the stadium provides an opportunity for 'a leisure, recreation and entertainment visitor attraction of national significance.' We are therefore enthusiastic to potentially have more sporting events in Manchester, as a consequence of having the additional 2nd arena, which will add to the vibrancy and aesthetics of the local area as well as support the regeneration of East Manchester in alignment with the city's long-term vision as set out in the Core Strategy.

In such uncertain times I believe that this investment into the Eastlands area will not only benefit Manchester through an increase in jobs and therefore disposable income, but it will also benefit the sports community who wish to host world class sporting events in Manchester.

Yours sincerely,



Colin Bridgford
Chief Executive Officer & Senior Safeguarding Lead
Manchester Football Association

