



Northumberland  
National Park

Northumberland County Council Dev  
Management  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 2EF

Date : 6 February 2020  
Our Ref : 20NP0003CO  
Your Ref : 18/00846/FUL  
Contact : Jay Smith  
Direct Line : 01434 611552

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Neighbouring Authority Consultation - Discharge of condition 3 relating to approved planning application 18/00846/FUL at Arena, Soppit Farm, Otterburn, Northumberland, NE19 1AF**

It is welcomed that the applicant has amended the scheme, altering the floodlighting to be set level, thus reducing the overall glare visible from outside the boundary of the scheme.

The National Park Authority (NNPA) does however still consider that the total lumen output (348,000 lumens) to be excessive within a rural landscape. It is the understanding of the NNPA that the lighting scheme is currently in operation and as a result of the brightness of the lighting, light glare has been allowed to escape beyond the boundary of the site, being particularly visible from viewpoints at a lower elevation than the site and also across the valley, affecting the 'intrinsic darkness' of the area. This is in the context where the information submitted in support of the original application suggests little light spill would occur beyond the arena boundaries.

The NNPA would therefore encourage NCC to discuss with the applicant changes to the proposed scheme to ensure that the total lumen output level is reduced to no more than required to safely light the arena, ensuring minimal light spill beyond the arena boundary. The LPA should also ensure that the 8pm lighting curfew is strictly adhered to.

**Tony Gates**

Chief Executive (National Park Officer)

[www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk](http://www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk)  
[www.thesill.org.uk](http://www.thesill.org.uk)

**Northumberland National Park Authority**

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Prior to discharging condition 3, the LPA should satisfy itself that the proposed lighting scheme will have no adverse impact on the intrinsically dark landscape of the Northumberland International Dark Sky Park, in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 180 of the NPPF. The information submitted, in the view of the NNPA does not do this.

Yours faithfully,

*Susannah Buylła*

Interim Head of Planning

e-mail: [planning@nnpa.org.uk](mailto:planning@nnpa.org.uk)

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