

Bath & North East Somerset Placemaking Plan

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO ID/3: Matter 14 – Tourism, Culture & Sport

Issue – Whether the relevant policies in the Placemaking Plan will be effective

Q1. Do policies support and facilitate the development of a sporting, cultural and leisure stadium at the Recreation Ground?

(A Statement of Common Ground including any agreed modifications between the Council and Turley on behalf of Arena 1865 Ltd (297) would be welcomed)

1. Yes. The Core Strategy and Placemaking Plan policies, in particular SB.2 from the Draft Placemaking Plan, support and facilitate the development of a sporting, cultural and leisure stadium to come forward within the plan period, subject to proposals responding appropriately to other relevant planning policies.
2. In addition to positive engagement with both Arena 1865 and with the Recreation Ground Trust during the preparation of the Placemaking Plan, the Council has also been working proactively with Arena 1865 towards the production of a Development Brief which will provide the detailed framework to enable the development of a stadium, in accordance with Core Strategy policy B1(8)b.
3. A Statement of Common Ground between the Council and Turley (acting on behalf of Arena 1865 Ltd) is in the process of being produced and will be made available to the Inspector by the end of August 2016.

Q2. Do policies support and facilitate the provision of a new cultural / performance/ arts venue within the Central Area as set out in CS Strategic Policy B2 (4i)?

1. The Core Strategy, through policy references in Policy B1: Bath Spatial Strategy 8 (d) and Policy B2: Central Area Strategic Policy (4i) is supportive about enabling the provision of a new cultural/performance/arts venue within the Central Area. The Placemaking Plan does not provide any more detail as the Core Strategy policy framework is considered to be sufficient within the Core Strategy.
2. Should such a proposal come forward for a new cultural/performance/arts venue within the Central Area, the planning policy framework is flexible enough to accommodate such a use as long as it does not prejudice the delivery of other priority objectives