

**Director of Environment
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My ref:
Your ref:
Date: 23 April 2021

Dear Ms St John Howe

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council Local Plan Examination – Supplementary Education Statement in respect of school site sizes

During the Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (WHBC) Examination in Public Stage 9 Hearing Sessions the Inspector questioned what proportion of new school sites would be comprised of school buildings and what proportion would be comprised of playing fields.

The County Councils response to this question is set out below.

Hertfordshire County Council seeks land allocations to ensure school sites are of sufficient size to fully comply with the site size guidance in the Department for Education guidance “*Area guidelines for mainstream schools: Building Bulletin 103*” (BB103).

The approximate site sizes for 2 Form of Entry (FE) and 3FE primary schools and 6FE, 8FE and 10FE secondary schools are summarised in Table 1 below. This is set out in terms of built areas (which includes buildings, hard surfaces, car parking etc) and soft areas (which includes formal playing field and habitat area).

Table 1: Approximate school site areas (set out by building areas and soft areas)

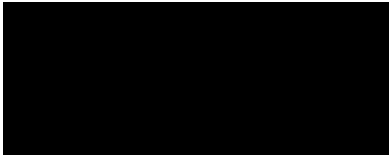
Schools	Total School Area* (ha)	Built Areas (ha) (inc playgrounds)	Soft areas and habitat (ha)
PRIMARY SCHOOLS:			
2FE Primary School	2.03ha	0.76ha	1.27ha
3FE Primary School	2.92ha	1.1ha	1.81ha
SECONDARY SCHOOLS:			
6FE Secondary School	8.36ha	2.73ha	5.63ha
8FE Secondary School	10.8ha	3.7ha	7.2ha
10FE Secondary School	13.24ha	4.34ha	8.9ha

**note some rounding results in the totals not aligning.*

These site areas are based on the Department for Education guidance “*Area guidelines for mainstream schools: Building Bulletin 103*” (BB103) and include a float to allow for site abnormalities.

The County Council trusts that this information is of assistance. However, please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any clarification in relation to the information in this Statement.

Yours sincerely



Antony Proietti

Growth Area Team Leader (North East Growth Area), Growth & Infrastructure Unit