

Please Tell GLA and The London Mayor That You Object to the AELTC Planning Application

There are two quick and easy ways that you can tell the GLA (Greater London Authority) that you object to the AELTC planning application. You may wish to do both:

- 1) Submit a comment on the [GLA website](#), which will be recorded as an official objection (see instructions below);
- 2) Send a separate email to [Jules Pipe](#) (Deputy Mayor of London for Planning, Regeneration and Skills) cc [Leonie Cooper](#) (Assembly Member for Merton and Wandsworth and Chair of the London Assembly's Economy Committee, and Deputy Chair of the Environment Committee). This will let them know how strongly you feel. (See email guidance below).

Background

On 26th October, [Wandsworth Council rejected the planning application](#) submitted by the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC). [Merton Council had previously approved the application](#) on 26th October.

Merton and Wandsworth Councils both now have to write separately to the GLA (Greater London Authority) so that the GLA can then review AELTC's plans. Wandsworth tell us they will be doing this in December or January - it takes a while as they have to include all papers and submissions.

Once both notifications have been submitted, the GLA has 14 days to decide what to do next.

We believe that the GLA has two options:

1. reject the application
2. declare itself the planning authority and consider the application

The Mayor has recused himself, so his Deputy Jules Pipe or another deputy will take the decision.

Please now tell the GLA that you object to the AELTC planning application and ask them to reject the application.

1. [GLA Planning Website](#)

Using the GLA website to submit your objection is easy and ensures that all the relevant information is provided and validated. This makes it easy for GLA to count your objection.

- 1.1) Go to <https://glaplanningapps.commonplace.is/> and enter the planning reference "21/P2900" in the "search" box and press enter to locate the AELTC application which will be shown as "Wimbledon Park Golf Club";

1.2) Click on "Wimbledon Park Golf Club" to select this application, then scroll down and click on "LEAVE A COMMENT";

The comments form shown below will be displayed.

1.3) Tick "object" (the default is support!);

1.4) Select multiple options from the list of "material considerations" (in this case nearly all could apply except the "housing" ones);

1.5) Enter your comments (*note 2 - see a list of suggested comments to raise at the end of this post);

1.6) Click on "SUBMIT COMMENT";

1.7) When you "submit" the form an email will be sent to you with a link to confirm your email address. Please make sure that you click on the link in the email, or your objection will not be counted.

(*1) GLA Planning Website Submit Comments Form:

View: Support **Objection** Neutral comment

Material considerations

Loss of residential amenity Parking Highway safety Traffic

Noise Impact on heritage Impact on local townscape

Impact on nature/biodiversity Loss of green/open space Over density

Poor design Poor quality housing Lack of affordable housing

Accessibility Building(s) height Environmental impact Other

Comment:

Your comment

[Attach file](#)

Keep me updated on this planning application

Keep me updated about any new planning application in the London area.

Submit comment

[2. Email](#)

Email Jules Pipe jules.pipe@london.gov.uk, copying in our GLA representative Leonie Cooper leonie.cooper@london.gov.uk

Please include the "planning reference 21/P2900" in the email title. In the email body include your name, postal address, the relevant "material considerations" (see image of the comments form above *1) and your comments (*2 see below some suggested issues to raise, but please use your own words).

(*2) Suggested issues to raise

If you need some inspiration for your comments, below is an image containing some of the issues you might want to raise.

Please also see more information on the SWP website home page - the section titled "Planning Applications".

NB please do not cut-and-paste from our text, or you risk your views being grouped into 1 single objections with other similar ones. We suggest you select a maximum of three issues and use your own words.

Possible Reasons to ask the GLA to refuse the AELTC application (jpeg)

DO NOT CUT AND PASTE THESE INTO AN EMAIL OR WEBSITE SUBMISSION

The land under consideration is 73 acres of Grade II* Heritage parkland. The loss of more than two-thirds of this open space would represent a major detriment to the environment and ecology of the area.

The London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provide the strongest possible protection for Metropolitan Open Land (MOL), equivalent to that of Green Belt. The development of an 8,000 seat stadium, 38 courts, 10 other buildings, 9km of roads and paths would remove the Open Land Status of the area and once lost it would never be recovered. The proposal is inappropriate and harmful.

The claim that there are 'Very Special Circumstances' (VSC) warranting such over-development have not been substantiated. The officers report from Wandsworth states clearly that VSC do not exist. The GLA's own Planning Report stage 1 referral GLA/2021/0914/S1/01 (November 1st 2021) states "Whilst the redevelopment of the site to provide tennis infrastructure and a new publicly accessible park is supported in strategic planning terms, the proposal constitutes inappropriate development on MOL which must be robustly justified by very special circumstances. At this stage a VSC justification which clearly outweighs the potential harms to the MOL has not yet been demonstrated."

The development would set a dangerous precedent for development of other Metropolitan Open Land in London which is under threat.

No replacement provision of Open Space has been offered.

No alternative proposals for provision of the facilities that the applicant has identified as necessary have been considered or identified.

Some desilting of the lake for the purpose of restoring Capability Brown's original design may have merit, but insufficient consideration has been given to this important topic and insufficient investigation has been done. The desilting method proposed could kill the lake's ecosystem and generate toxic waste.

Given the existing legal obligation on AELTC for a walkway around the lake, the offer to build a shorter walkway, largely over the lake and disturbing wildlife, is a poor offer.

AELTC failed to document many of the existing trees, so the number to be lost is not the claimed 300 but more like 800. It will take at least 50 years to replace the tree canopy – too late for Net Zero.

The GLA requires a holistic approach to Air Quality monitoring, achieving Air Quality Neutral during the construction phase of large-scale developments. Air pollution on the main routes identified for construction traffic at Wimbledon Park Road and at Southfields crossroads is already at levels substantially above the WHO guidelines (09/2021). Emissions from up to 50 additional construction vehicles per day, and their stop-start progress on crowded residential roads, would be highly detrimental to the health of our community and to the children of 33 schools and nurseries close to the main routes.