Policy WS/NC: Meeting the Needs of New and Growing Communities

The University of Cambridge is supportive of the principle of the policy, to ensure that new development supports the needs of new and growing communities. However, to ensure that it is clear and effective in line with **National Policy PM15**, it is requested that the wording of the policy is modified in the following ways (our changes in red):

6. *Contributions for community facilities will be based on a standard of 129 square metres of such floorspace per 1,000 additional population. Contributions for cultural facilities will be 100 square metres per 1,000 additional population.* ~~*and 1.5% of Net Internal Area commercial space*~~.

As currently drafted, it is not the intention for the policy to apply these requirements to commercial development, and its inclusion creates uncertainty regarding implementation. Removing this wording would provide greater clarity and ensure the policy is applied as intended.

In addition, a definition of "large employment developments" should be included within the policy. Where justified, this definition should be incorporated into the wording of paragraph 8, rather than applying the requirement for on-site sports provision to all commercial developments regardless of scale.

This amendment is necessary because, as acknowledged in paragraph 6.30 of the supporting text, only one of the three supporting sports strategies, namely the Indoor Sports Facility Strategy (2026), specifically identifies impacts arising from employment development, and specifically 'large employment developments'. The current approach therefore does not provide sufficient justification for imposing on-site sports provision requirements across all employment schemes.

On this basis, some modification to the wording of the policy is necessary to ensure that the policy is justified and that the DLP can be found sound at examination.