



PLANNING STATEMENT

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

**Installation of a new floodlighting system consisting of
18no LED floodlights fitted to 6No. new 15m columns**

at

AFC Knowsley

Lord Derby Pavillion

Liverpool

L34 7HD

FEBRUARY 2026

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PLANNING STATEMENT/DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

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DRAWINGS AND DOCUMENTS

No Title

2026/AFCK/01 – LOCATION PLAN

2026/AFCK/02 – EXISTING BLOCK PLAN

2026/AFCK/03 – PROPOSED BLOCK PLAN

2026/AFCK/04 – FLOODLIGHT ELEVATIONS

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Appendices

Appendix A Wiseman Lighting Plan – 0200-RevC 10-12-25

Appendix B Wiseman Light fitting LEDture ABE1440 Datasheet

Appendix C Wiseman Light fitting LEDture ABE960 Datasheet

Appendix D 15MC LEDture X3

Appendix E ILP Guidance

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Design and Access Statement is submitted in support of a full planning application for replacement LED directional sports lighting on new columns at AFC Knowsley. The statement sets out detailed design and access considerations relating to the proposed installation and demonstrates conformity to planning policy covering the relevant information with respect to the issues set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) The Design and Access Statement is to be read in conjunction with all the supporting application documents.

2.0 CLUB HISTORY

- 2.1 The club was formed in 1987 under the banner of Knowsley South, with teams for juniors and adults playing their games at Lord Derby Playing fields. The club achieved their community-chartered club status in 2001 with the FA and grew year on year and facilitating more teams growing us to one of the biggest clubs in Merseyside.

In 2019 the club underwent a £1.4m redevelopment of the existing site removing container-based dressing rooms and toilets in exchange for a state-of-the-art pavilion including changing rooms, café and function room. With the new development the club took the decision to rebrand and renamed the club AFC Knowsley with a new badge and kit for all teams. Boasting a new site, the club grew to a footprint of 41 teams, including men, junior, girl, academy, and disability teams with over 600 registered players.

The Chairmans objective was to create a pathway to 1st team football noting the facilities and headline pitch would allow the team to compete at step 7 football. As a result, a first team manager was appointed and a team created who entered into the 2nd division of the Cheshire League. Within 3 seasons the team was promoted to the Premier Division after being crowned champions of Division 1.

In 2023 the Club made the decision to switch to the West Cheshire league which is a feeder league to the Northwest Counties League and currently currently occupy position of top of the league. Under the stewardships of the new first team management, the club feel the time is right to build on our current position and strive to achieve football promotion to step 6 in the NWCFL. We have now initiated conversations with key stake holders, Football Foundation, LCFA and Knowsley Borough Council informing them of our aspirations and intentions. We fully understand the application process and are looking for all key stakeholders to share and support our goals.

- 2.2 For the 2025/26 season there are 29 teams total with various age groups of teams in the club:
- 2 Adult Senior Teams
 - 27 Junior Teams U7 to U18 including girls teams.
- 2.3 The club has a mix of Adult Members and Junior Members.
- 2.4 The first team compete in National Feeder League level in West Cheshire Football League Division 1 (step 7)
- 2.5 AFC Knowsley is also an accredited FA Charter Standard Club.

3.0 EXISTING PITCH AND FLOODLIGHT LOCATION

- 3.1 The existing main pitch is located to the north side of the main clubhouse building. There are currently no floodlights. See drawing 2026/KAFC/02

Photo 1: Google maps



4.0 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND REASON FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The proposal is to install 6 No 15m columns and install the very latest directional LED floodlighting by way of 4No. Wiseman LEDture ABE-1440-T4 LED lights and 14No. Wiseman LEDture ABE-960-T4 LED lights (3 lights to each column)
(See Drawing 2026/AFCK/03 PROPOSED BLOCK PLAN and Appendix A-D)
- 4.2 The construction process comprises of installing new LED floodlights to new columns and electrical equipment from the main clubhouse building. The proposed finish of the luminaires is a brushed dark grey finish. (See Appendix B,C,D)
- 4.3 Installation of a modern floodlight system that is efficient and gives minimal light pollution will enable the club to progress further within the FA Football Pyramid. They will need floodlights among many other requirements. They strive to achieve football promotion to step 6 in the NWCFL within the next 12-24 months depending on the success of this application and endeavours on the football pitch.
- 4.4 This development is part of a programme of improvements in facilities. The club has a detailed development plan in place with floodlighting being a priority improvement currently. Discussions between GrassRoots Power CIC and AFC Knowsley have taken place to ensure the best optical control is delivered, in keeping with LPA Planning Policy, whilst achieving lighting standards to National Governing Body specifications to minimise the local impact. All proposed installations are well within the Institute of Lighting Professionals Guidance on light to buildings.

5.0 LIGHTING SYSTEM DESIGN AND CONSIDERATION

- 5.1 The design has taken account of key material planning considerations:
- Impact of floodlighting upon the character and appearance of the surrounding area.
 - Impact of floodlighting upon neighbouring properties.
 - Impact of floodlighting columns to the visual amenity.
- 5.2 The proposal is in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework and the proposed floodlighting solution meets the Institute of Lighting Professionals – Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light. The system is designed taking account of the latest planning guidance and AGI32 software which is the latest software to accurately map out light spill.
- 5.3 The proposed lighting system comprises of 6No. new 15m columns with 4 x Wiseman LEDture ABE-1440-T4 LED lights and 14No. Wiseman LEDture ABE-960-T4 LED lights delivering 235 lux average. (See Appendix A).
- 5.4 The pitch is surrounded by the clubhouse and other junior/training pitches. The 5 Lux redline area is shown on the Wiseman lighting and this does not impact any residential properties as they are too far away. The vertical light to buildings guidance does not apply.

Photo 2 – Wiseman LEDture ABE1440-T4



Photo 3 – Wiseman LEDture ABE960-T4



6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

- 6.1 Reference to The Institute of Lighting Professionals: Guidance Notes for The Reduction of Obtrusive Light GN01:2011. The Guidance Notes categorises five zones ranging from E0 (Protected) to E4 (City Centres). The application falls within E3 Suburban. (See Appendix D)
- 6.2 The proposed design delivers a scheme that falls within the planning guidance of The Institute of Lighting Professionals. One key issue to consider is the different types of LED sports lighting technology available which produce very different outcome on spill and glare. The club have taken great lengths to review the different manufacturers.

7.0 VISUAL IMPACT

- 7.1 New columns are raise and lower type for easy maintenance and access to the LED lights and will have a grey finish. There are no properties in the vicinity impacted by this.

8.0 TIMES OF USE

- 8.1 The proposed usage of the lighting will be as follows: (winter months)
Monday to Friday 1800hrs – 2230hrs
Saturday and Sunday 1500hrs – 1800hrs.

9.0 ACCESS AND PARKING

- 9.1 Access to the facilities will continue to be via the existing main entrance and parking arrangements remain unaltered.

10.0 DRAINAGE

- 10.1 The works will not impact or change any existing drainage arrangements.

11.0 ECOLOGY

- 11.1 The primary use of the lighting will be during the winter (November to Easter) and the directional lighting is confined to lighting the pitch. As the use is outside the season where bats would be foraging, and the average level is 235 lux a bat survey has not been commissioned.

12.0 FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

- 12.1 This application relates to the installation of new fixtures and fittings. As the working parts are located 15m in the air it is deemed an FRA is not required.

13.0 LIGHTING IMPACT

- 13.1 The attached lighting design report (Appendix A), provides details of the level of illumination the proposed lighting scheme will produce. The scheme incorporates the latest LED technology to ensure that light spillage beyond the pitch area is kept at an absolute minimum. As demonstrated from the below tables taken from the ILP Guidance to planners and system designers the proposed lighting system is within Zone E3 Suburban. (See Appendix D)

Table 1 – Environmental Zones			
Zone	Surrounding	Lighting Environment	Examples
E0	Protected	Dark	UNESCO Starlight Reserves, IDA Dark Sky Parks
E1	Natural	Intrinsically dark	National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty etc
E2	Rural	Low district brightness	Village or relatively dark outer suburban locations
E3	Suburban	Medium district brightness	Small town centres or suburban locations
E4	Urban	High district brightness	Town/city centres with high levels of night-time activity

Table 2 – Obtrusive Light Limitations for Exterior Lighting Installations – General Observers						
Environmental Zone	Sky Glow ULR [Max %] ⁽¹⁾	Light Intrusion (into Windows) E _v [lux] ⁽²⁾		Luminaire Intensity I [candelas] ⁽³⁾		Building Luminance Pre-curfew ⁽⁴⁾
		Pre-curfew	Post-curfew	Pre-curfew	Post-curfew	Average, L [cd/m ²]
E0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E1	0	2	0 (1*)	2,500	0	0
E2	2.5	5	1	7,500	500	5
E3	5.0	10	2	10,000	1,000	10
E4	15	25	5	25,000	2,500	25

14.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- 14.1 This Design and Access Statement has explained the need for the proposed directional lighting and described the many benefits that the development would bring.
- 14.2 This installation is required to meet ground grading and promotion requirements for the League and will ensure the future of the club for many years, not only at the current level of competition, but it will also enable opportunity for progression through promotion.
- 14.3 The proposal can be considered installation of a new system.
- 14.4 The proposal is based on the most up to date LED lighting system..
- 14.5 The comprehensive lighting design has shown that careful positioning and choice of manufacturer will minimise the visual impact both at night and during the day.

Matthew Bissex

GrassRoots Power CIC

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