

S77 Disposal of School Playing Fields; Former Sedgeford Primary School site

Norfolk County Council wishes to dispose of the school playing fields at the former Sedgeford Primary School, Ringstead Road, Sedgeford, Norfolk, PE36 5NQ which was closed on 31 August 2020, because of low pupil numbers.

To dispose of these playing fields, it will be necessary for Norfolk County Council to apply for written consent from the Secretary of State for Education, under the provisions of Section 77 of the School Standards and Frameworks Act 1998. It is only at that point the Council will be able to dispose/change use of the land.

The former school site has an overall area of some 0.53 hectares of which 0.38 hectares are classed as playing field land. Playing field land is defined in the above Act and is categorised into five types, three of which have been identified on this site and seen in the below plan as being land coloured green, hatched green and blue.



What has happened since the closure of the school

Norfolk County Council's policy for the re-use of its school estate involves establishing whether there is any educational need which can be met through use or adaptation of the premises. If this is not possible, the next stage is to consider non-education use initially at Departmental level and following that across the County Council before approaching the wider public sector e.g. NHS, Police, for potential use.

Discussions have taken place and no further use of the school was identified.

Our Proposal

Norfolk County Council is required to achieve best consideration from the disposal of its property assets and in this case it is anticipated this is most likely to be achieved through the disposal of the property for residential redevelopment.

Any residential development proposal would be subject to a full planning submission to the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, which would involve consultation with the public.

Please note: There is a separate process to dispose of the school buildings with the Secretary of State, which is not part of this consultation.

How can I have my say

We would like to hear your views on our disposal proposals. The closing date is 12 noon, 11 August 2022. You can have your say by;

- completing the online questionnaire via this link;
<https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/sedgeford-s77>
- Sending an email to; schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- Writing to: School Organisation Team, FREEPOST 1H 2076, Children's Services, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2BR. You don't need a stamp.

What happens next

We will collate all responses received in response to this consultation.

If we need any further information from you, we will contact you via your email address.

Following the consultation process, all comments will be forwarded along with the application under s77 of the School Standards and Frameworks Act to the Secretary of State for Education, who will consider these and will make a decision on the proposal to dispose of the land at the former Sedgeford Primary School, Ringstead Road, Sedgeford, Norfolk, PE36 5NQ.