

From: [REDACTED]
To: [West Midlands Interchange](#)
Subject: Greensforge Sailing Club and FAL: Statement of Common Ground - Ongoing Discussion
Date: 26 August 2019 11:07:01

Dear Sir,

My name is Ian Cooper and I am the Principal and Trustee of Greensforge Sailing Club. We have been trying to finalize a Statement of Common Ground with FAL. There remain a good number of areas where we fail to agree.

Our representative of the club, Allison Blakeway, who has been submitting our official responses to the Examiner's questions is currently unavailable and cannot address the outstanding issues within the SoCG until at least the 3rd September. Allison will respond to Matt Royall of Ramboll at the earliest opportunity. I have responded to Mr Royall in the meantime covering some of the points that have been raised.

Could the Examiner be made aware of this please?

A summary of some of the issues in the SoCG I have listed below.

If you have any queries please contact me on [REDACTED] or by email on [REDACTED]

Regards,

Ian Cooper
Greensforge SC

Unresolved issues within the draft SoCG

Sailing in the SW corner of the reservoir below the clubhouse:

FAL and Greensforge have got ourselves into a specious argument about where we currently sail on the pool. We sail the whole reservoir, it's only 18 acres, we sail as much of it as possible.

Wind Speeds:

The Wolfson report interpolates the RWDI study. Assumptions have been made that are unsupported in relation to increased turbulence at higher wind speeds. FAL has used low speeds because they are 'more suitable for novices.' We sail in 20+ mph winds regularly, both novices and experienced sailors alike.

Wind Direction:

We contend that the wind curves significantly around the pool when from the South-West and Westerly directions. FAL refute this; it doesn't show in their model. We have produced empirical data to support our case but it has been ignored. We say that since the CFD

model of the existing conditions is flawed, how can there be any reliance on any of the model's results?

Backwashing and Downdrafts re: winds from a North and North-Easterly Direction:

FAL have produced no evidence that the warehouses will not cause backdrafting and changes to the wind flow when the wind comes over the motorway embankment, then over the reservoir, and meets the warehouses on the leeward side of the pool. They simply state there will be 'no significant difference' to the quality of sailing.

Warehouse Height:

FAL say that the higher warehouses will be in the central area of the plot, lower buildings nearer the reservoir. If that is the case why waste so much effort in modeling an example of a single 34m high warehouse adjacent to the pool? This comprised half the RWDI report and was unnecessary. We requested the model be presented with warehouses of a lower, more realistic height, but this was refused.

Greensforge or South Staffs Sailing Club:

FAL suggest we can always sail elsewhere! Yes there is an alternative local sailing club. The two clubs have a totally different ethos. South Staffs is a large sailing club with an emphasis on racing which newcomers and experienced sailors alike can find intimidating. They also sail a restricted number of classes of boat whereas we sail a large variety of dinghies at Greensforge. Also, our fees are about one third of theirs so we encourage a different demographic.

End