



How to get involved

Public Exhibition

A public exhibition will be held where you can view the detailed proposals, including visualisations of the finished development. You will have the opportunity to speak to University representatives and members of the design team. The exhibition will take place in Grinders Café at the University on the following days:

Friday 5th February 2010 **from 10am to 7pm**
Saturday 6th February 2010 **from 11am to 5pm**
Sunday 7th February 2010 **from 11am to 5pm**

The exhibition will be also available to view on an unstaffed basis until 12th February.

You can also make your views known by writing to us at:

Edge Hill Sports Development
Edge Hill University
St Helens Road
Ormskirk, Lancashire
L39 4QP

email at:

newsport@edgehill.ac.uk

or online at:

edgehill.ac.uk/newsport

Comments should be received by
28th February 2010

SPORTING EXCELLENCE

*A proposed regional sporting centre of excellence and world-class facility
for Edge Hill University for the community*



Edge Hill University is proposing a new state-of-the-art sports complex at its Ormskirk campus for students and the local community. As a West Lancashire resident, we would like to know what you think about our plans to improve sporting facilities – now and for future generations.

Edge Hill University

Edge Hill University, based in Ormskirk, close to Liverpool, is a dynamic and responsive higher education institution offering a range of undergraduate, postgraduate, professional development and research opportunities to UK and international students. With a reputation for widening access and high quality services and provision the University is investing over £200 million over the next 10 years to offer a global education to students and to ensure that staff and students have the best resources and facilities available to them.

In 2000 the University embarked upon a major growth programme and, recognising its ambitions, the Government Planning Inspector appointed to conduct the West Lancashire Replacement Local Plan public inquiry in 2005 established that:

- there was (and remains) a genuine and urgent need for the University to expand;
- the expected scale of growth envisaged to 2020 was credible and realistic;
- there are clear educational advantages in maintaining a single integrated campus;
- failure to grow would harm the future success of Edge Hill and undermine the local socio-economic benefits provided by the University, and;
- limitations on the remaining development capacity within the present campus, are likely to demonstrate the need for some future extension into the green belt.

(Source: West Lancashire Replacement Local Plan Inspector's Report - May 2006)

Edge Hill University needs to update and relocate its current sports facilities to allow further academic growth and redevelopment to continue. The University is therefore proposing to create a purpose-built modern sports complex on the land to the east of the present campus.



Why the need for new facilities?

Historically, Edge Hill University has provided one of the best sports complexes for students and the local community in the region for many years. However, with an increasingly competitive Higher Education market place, the enhancement of the facilities is now necessary.

There are six critical reasons why the proposed sports development is crucial to the future of Edge Hill University:

Campus Redevelopment

The University is now in the position where all new development opportunities on the campus have been exhausted, so the current sports facilities need to be relocated to enable further campus redevelopment and relieve pressure on the town.

Improved Community Provision

The proposed facilities will be fully available to the local community and will offer an unrivalled range of indoor and outdoor facilities.

Improved Participation

New and improved sporting facilities will enable more students and local residents to participate in sport during their recreational time, with community health benefits.

Sport Standards

Broadening the range and quality of sports facilities at Edge Hill will enable the University to compete in more sports events and to a higher standard. Edge Hill aims to be one of the top UK universities for sport within the next 10 years.

Academic Excellence and Demand

The recent growth of the Department of Sport and Physical Activity means that increased capacity is needed if facilities are to continue to accommodate community and student leisure use and maintain academic standards.

Student Leisure and Recreation

An improved complex is needed to encourage the growth of sports clubs and societies for students, by providing facilities that can accommodate a wider range of sports and activities.



The Proposals

Outdoor sports pitches and facilities

- a floodlit synthetic 8-lane running track with twin 10-lane sprint tracks;
- a natural grass track centre marked out for the full range of field athletics and a senior rugby league pitch;
- 3 natural grass senior football pitches;
- 1 natural grass senior rugby union pitch;
- 1 floodlit full-size synthetic third generation football pitch;
- 1 floodlit full-size sand-filled synthetic hockey pitch;
- 3 floodlit synthetic 5-a-side football pitches;
- 4 floodlit combined netball and tennis courts;
- 1 natural grass training pitch;
- a trim trail with exercise stations.

Internal sports facilities

A single storey building will accommodate:

- an 8-court sports hall with viewing gallery for basketball, netball, badminton, 5-a-side football and general sports use;
- a 25m swimming pool;
- a 100-station fitness suite;
- an aerobics studio;
- a health suite with sauna and steam rooms;
- male / female changing areas;
- a café and lounge area;
- reception area.

Environmental Benefits

The proposals would be set within a new campus landscape incorporating new ecological features and wildlife habitats, including:

- creation of new mixed-woodland areas and footpaths linking to Ruff Wood;
- creation of wildflower meadows, open grassland and a new wildlife pond;
- new structural screen planting and hedgerow replacement;

Sustainability

The sports proposals will incorporate sustainable drainage and low carbon design and building technologies.

Access Improvements

The sports development will be served by a new access road and junction formed onto the A570 St Helens Road, together with new cycle lanes, pedestrian routes and a bus-drop off.

