

Design & Access Statement

Cleator Cricket Club – Proposed New Ladies' Changing Rooms

1. Introduction

This Design & Access Statement supports a planning application by Cleator Cricket Club for the construction of new ladies' changing room facilities. The proposal responds to growing demand from women and girls participating in cricket and ensures compliance with ECB standards for modern, inclusive facilities.

2. Site Context

Cleator Cricket Club is an established community sports ground serving Cleator and surrounding areas. The site consists of a cricket pitch, clubhouse, existing changing rooms, car parking and associated outdoor spaces. The proposed building will be positioned adjacent to the existing clubhouse on level, previously unused grassed land within the club boundary.

3. Purpose of the Proposal

The project aims to:

- Provide dedicated, modern ladies' changing facilities.
- Improve safeguarding and privacy.
- Help the club meet ECB and Sport England guidance.
- Support the growth of women's and girls' cricket in West Cumbria.
- Strengthen the club's ability to host fixtures and community programmes.

4. Design Proposal

4.1 Design Principles

The building has been designed to complement the existing clubhouse while providing a durable, low-maintenance, and visually clean appearance. It prioritises comfort, privacy, functionality and inclusive access.

4.2 Layout

The internal layout includes:

- Entrance lobby
- Team changing area with benches and storage
- Individual shower cubicles
- WC facilities
- Accessible WC provision
- Cleaners' store / plant room
- Rear access for servicing

4.3 Appearance & Materials

The external appearance is designed to harmonise with the character of the cricket club while providing modern detailing. Materials include:

- External Walls: Cedral fibre-cement cladding boards.
- Roof: Powder-coated metal profile sheeting roof.
- Windows & Doors: Powder-coated aluminium or high-quality UPVC units.
- External Flooring: Non-slip surface treatments to pathways and entrances.

5. Access Statement

5.1 Inclusive Access

Features include level or ramped access, compliant door widths, accessible WC provision, and appropriate lighting and signage.

5.2 Vehicular & Pedestrian Access

Access to the site remains unchanged. Existing car parking is sufficient for regular match-day and training use.

5.3 Parking

No additional parking spaces are required.

6. Environmental Considerations

Cedral cladding and metal roofing provide longevity and reduced maintenance requirements. Energy-efficient systems and sustainable drainage measures will be used where appropriate.

Electricity for the new building will be supplied from the existing clubhouse's solar array and battery storage facility, improving sustainability and reducing grid reliance.

7. Heritage & Visual Impact

The building's modest scale and materials result in minimal visual impact. No heritage assets are affected.

8. Community Benefits

The new facility will support the growth of women's cricket, improve inclusivity, and strengthen the club's ability to host matches and training.

9. Conclusion

The proposed ladies' changing rooms will significantly enhance the club's facilities, providing an inclusive, modern environment. Planning approval is respectfully requested.