



CENTENARY FIELDS

Commemorating World War I 2014-2018

Fields in Trust
15 Crinan Street
London N1 9SQ

Dear Sir/Madam

The Centenary Fields Programme – protecting flagship green space

The Royal British Legion and Fields in Trust are pleased to be leading a nationwide initiative aimed at securing recreational spaces in perpetuity in honour of the memory of the millions of people who lost their lives in World War I.

The objective of this new programme is to encourage every local authority in the UK to nominate at least one recreational space to be dedicated as a Centenary Field to commemorate this significant milestone in our shared history and to create a tangible local legacy that will be valued by your local community for generations to come.

As the UK's largest Armed Forces charity and the Custodian of Remembrance, The Royal British Legion will be leading the nation in respecting the sacrifices made during World War I.

Fields in Trust – the operating name of the National Playing Fields Association – has been the leading independent charity campaigning to secure and improve playing fields for more than 85 years with the long standing support of the Royal Family.

Both organisations are therefore pleased to be working together to deliver the Centenary Fields programme, which aims to protect the war memorial parks and playing fields given in memory of those who lost their lives, or other green spaces that local authorities may want to dedicate. As well as providing an opportunity to commemorate the sacrifice made, this initiative is also in keeping with the spirit of the Armed Forces Community Covenant which you have committed to.

To join us in the Centenary Fields programme please:

1. Complete the enclosed form informing us of a) the name of any site(s) you would like to protect as Centenary Fields in addition to, or as an alternative to, our suggested site and b) the contact details of the appropriate member of your team
2. Alternatively, please encourage the appropriate member of your team to contact the Development Manager for your area.
3. Once an appropriate site has been agreed the local authority will be required to complete a deed of dedication to protect their nominated green space(s) in perpetuity (a copy of this deed has been enclosed for your reference). Please note that this does not require any change to the ownership and management of the site which remains entirely at local level.

Each Centenary Field will be provided with signage indicating its designated status, enabling a local event to be arranged to mark the site's dedication as part of your Centenary commemorations.

In addition, Fields in Trust will be working to raise charitable funds to provide occasional improvement grants to sites protected as part of the Centenary Fields programme.

During these difficult economic times we believe that this programme has the dual merits of being inexpensive to implement whilst also appropriately recognising the enormous sacrifice made by earlier generations for us all.

We are both delighted that HRH The Duke of Cambridge will be supporting this campaign.

We look forward to hearing from you and hope you will join us in commemorating World War I through the Centenary Fields programme.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Phillips CBE
Chairman
Fields in Trust

cc. Leader of the Council

Encs.



The Centenary Fields programme will safeguard in perpetuity our war memorial parks, playing fields and other green spaces in memory of those who lost their lives in World War I.

Working with local authorities and landowners, this project will deliver a fitting tribute to the sacrifices made then by local people, while also protecting our green spaces for the future.

Please support Fields in Trust and The Royal British Legion to commemorate this important landmark in our history and help remembrance to live on through Centenary Fields.

HRH The Duke of Cambridge
President, Fields in Trust

Dr Chris Simpkins
Director General
The Royal British Legion

