



SOUTH ESSEX INDOOR BUILT FACILITIES STRATEGY

BASILDON STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

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QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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SOUTH ESSEX INDOOR BUILT FACILITIES BASILDON STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

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INTRODUCTION

This is the Basildon Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2037. It sits alongside similar documents for Castle Point, Rochford, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock Councils for the same period of time. It also feeds into the Overarching Strategy and Action Plan for South Essex. The evidence for the Strategy is found in Basildon's Need Assessment 2018. Strategy recommendations are Basildon specific and are based on the Councils' Needs Assessment report, researched and prepared between August 2017–March 2018 by specialist sport and leisure consultancy, Knight Kavanagh and Page Ltd (KKP). It has been prepared in accordance with Sport England's ANOG (Assessing Needs and Opportunities for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities) guidance and in consultation with the Council, Essex County Council, Active Essex, Sport England, national governing bodies of sport, local sports clubs and key stakeholders.

Basildon has an aspiration, and need, to consider its indoor sports facilities planning particularly in the context of local government reorganisation, an ageing stock of leisure facilities; different management arrangements, future growth needs; changing economic and demographic profile of the area.

Purpose

The purpose of this Strategy and action plan is to:

- ◀ Provide clear direction and strategic vision to all partners so that together they can plan and develop a more modern, efficient and sustainable range of community based sport and leisure facilities that Basildon requires.
- ◀ Present the objectives, priorities and recommendations for Basildon which will inform policy, planning and investment.
- ◀ Provide a deliverable action plan based on the vision, objectives and priorities.

This will ensure residents have the opportunity to be physically active and healthier and where appropriate develop their sporting ambitions within their local community.

Partners

This is a plan for Basildon. It does, however, sit within an overarching strategy and action plan for the wider South Essex sub-region. This report is predicated upon wider partners such as local authorities, Active Essex, Essex County Council, national governing bodies and local clubs accepting and taking responsibility for different aspects of its implementation. The partnership approach to Strategy delivery is necessary to make best use of the assets and resources available to drive the development of sport and physical activity across Basildon in particular, and the wider South Essex sub-region.

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Local context

Basildon Borough is located within the County of Essex and comprises the three main towns of Basildon, Billericay and Wickford. These are flanked by a number of villages including Bowers Gifford, Crays Hill, Dunton, Great Burstead, Little Burstead, Nevendon, North Benfleet, Ramsden Bellhouse, Shotgate and Great Berry. Eight local (town, parish and village) councils provide a level of administrative cover for one quarter of the Borough; the main one of these being Billericay Town Council.

The Authority area is dissected by a number of major roads including the A127 and A13. The A127 is an east-west link connecting Basildon town centre to the M25 (to the west) and Southend-on-Sea (to the east). The A13 connects the south of the Borough to Thurrock and the port of Tilbury. The London-Tilbury to Southend railway line runs east to west through the Authority, providing residents with a direct rail link into the City of London.

Basildon experiences slightly higher levels of deprivation than other parts of the country. Nearly one quarter of its population (24%) falls within areas covered by the country's two most deprived cohorts compared to a national average of c.20%. In terms of health, a small percentage of the population (7.2%) falls within areas covered by the two most deprived cohorts (national average; c.20%). Conversely, nearly one third of the population (29.1%) live in the two least deprived groupings compared to a 'norm' of c.20%.

The projected increase in the population and general age of it in Basildon will place increasing pressure on a range of services. The importance of ensuring that more people, especially the older generation (which is expected to increase by 53.9% by 2037) remains or gets more active (with a view to sustaining and improving the general health of the local population) will become increasingly relevant. It is thus, incumbent on operational staff at local sports facilities to ensure that facility programming and access at the right times, is considered as part of the Borough's sport and physical activity offer.

There is an objectively assessed need (OAN) in South Essex for between 19,491 and 19,771 dwellings in the period 2014 to 2034, equating to between 972-986 new dwellings per annum. Areas identified for significant housing growth includes Basildon (Laindon, Pitsea and Noak Bridge) for which 9,220 dwellings are identified.

In broad terms, Basildon's ethnic composition differs from that of England as a whole. According to the 2011 Census, the largest proportion (97.2%) of the local population classified itself as White; this is higher than the comparative England rate of 85.4%. The next largest population group (by self-classification) is Asian, at 2.7% which is markedly lower than the national equivalent (7.8%).

The total population of the Borough is 183,378 (mid-year estimate 2016). The most recent ONS projections indicate a rise of 18.9% in Basildon's population (34,197) over the 23 years from 2014 to 2037. The most significant increase is the number of persons aged 65+ (a 53.9% increase) resulting in this cohort accounting for just over 22.1% of the total population by 2037.

The increase in the over 65+age cohort may have a negative impact on demand for indoor sports facilities (or at least traditional uses thereof) at peak times but may also lead to an increase in demand during the day time; as experience shows that older people tend to make more use of facilities during the day than in the evening.

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Active Lives incorporates a broader definition of sport and physical activity including walking, cycling for travel and dance. Its 2015-16 survey identifies that 25.9% of adults aged 16+ in Basildon are completing less than 30 minutes moderate intensity activity per week. This is commensurate with the regional figure of 25.3% and national average of 25.6%.

This Strategy needs to be considered within the wider South Essex sub-region. It is noted that a partnership approach is needed to produce the best quality facilities which are efficient to manage and to ensure that facilities are protected and/or enhanced via new development (in line with national planning policy). It thus looks to address a range of fundamental challenges; and assesses how sports facilities can be used to meet the needs of, or associated with:

- ◀ A changing population, which is economically stable but one which has an age profile increasingly dominated by older age groups.
- ◀ The limited accessibility of facilities, especially during the day time, because the majority of sports halls, in particular, are located on school sites.
- ◀ Health partners' ambitions to address physical inactivity and obesity levels.
- ◀ A growing and active 'grey market' which is time rich, especially during the day.

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RESEARCH FINDINGS

The following is an overview of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats identified for Basildon within the Needs Assessment 2018. This takes account of sport and facility specific findings within the Borough including gap analysis and projected future demand. This is reflected in the action plans found later in this document.

Strengths

- Basildon Sporting Village (BSV) is a genuine flagship sporting complex accommodating a wide range of clubs and sporting activities (indoor and outdoor) at all levels of ability. It is in good condition and there is a good relationship between the operator and Council. It offers a wide range of programmes including No Strings badminton, disability inclusion programmes and a doorstep sport club.
- A range of village halls/community centres offer different local opportunities for residents to take part in sport and physical activity, making it accessible to the local population.
- All three towns (Billericay, Basildon and Wickford) in the Borough have good access to sports halls and fitness facilities; 70% of the population lives within one mile of sports halls and health and fitness facilities.
- Two schools have community use agreements with the Local Authority, ensuring these are available for use by local residents.
- There are strong levels of community use at schools sites, especially in sports halls during peak hours. Further, many school pools also offer extensive learn to swim programmes.
- The wide ranging health and fitness provision incorporates a range of different membership prices and is distributed across the Borough.
- Basildon and Phoenix Swimming Club is a strong, successful club operating from BSV. It has c.350 members and offers opportunity for both development and elite swimming with several athletes on the Team GB performance pathway.
- Gymnastics is a developing and growing sport. There is the opportunity to achieve potential as the current programme offers recreational gymnastics through to Olympic performance levels of ability. There is a strong workforce and sustainability ethic around the sport. Clubs are supported by both BG and BBC.
- Basketball is also very strong; its offer caters for juniors, women and men and ranges from participation through to performance and national league opportunity.

Weaknesses

- Five swimming pools and five sports halls are rated as below average or poor and will require investment to bring them up to a standard which is modern and welcoming (the average age of sports halls and swimming pools is over 30 years).
- Three of these swimming pools are fully accessible to the community (BSV, Wickford and Billericay). The remaining pools have some restrictions due to price or restricted programming. Just over one third (35%) of the Authority's population resides within a one mile radial catchment of the listed pools.
- Two sports halls have daytime capacity. This will reduce in 2018 with the conversion of Eversley Leisure Centre to a dedicated gymnastics facility. Although BSV reports having capacity to accommodate more day time usage, there will be a requirement for more people to travel further to access indoor sports hall facilities from the area.

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- ◀ BSV is the only venue in the Authority which offers a variety of inclusion activities. The extent to which these are available to people living in Wickford or Billericay is questionable due to journey times etc.
- ◀ There are no pay and play indoor squash or indoor tennis facilities in the Authority, with facilities all requiring an advanced membership.
- ◀ Whilst some sports (such as netball) have been able to develop strongly, there does not appear to be any level of programme co-ordination across the different leisure facilities in the Borough.
- ◀ Fragmented sports hall management means disjointed programmes and limited coordination.
- ◀ Lack of formal community use agreements with certain schools would suggest that the reliability of future access to their facilities is questionable.

Opportunities

- ◀ Review timing is opportune. BBC has the chance to review how it intends to offer facilities in the future, the communities it wishes to serve and how it will underpin its commitment to tackling wider health and wellbeing, obesity and social care agendas.
- ◀ There is a commitment to future BBC planning policy being developed to support sport and leisure facility provision in line with the needs set out in this assessment and the strategy.
- ◀ A cross sport volunteer workforce development strategy could be developed to build on and enhance the work already taking place in gymnastics; thus leading to further support for local clubs leading to their increased sustainability.
- ◀ Improved and coordinated programming may lead to increases in daytime opportunities as the ageing population continues to grow.
- ◀ There is a need to work with village halls/community centres and BSV to ensure that displaced sports hall users from Eversley are effectively accommodated.
- ◀ BBC to consider if it can improve the level of affordable access to learn to swim options for children (in particular) living in areas of higher deprivation.
- ◀ Improve marketing and communication processes to share good practice and continue to encourage wider demographic usage at all of BBCs facilities.
- ◀ Implementation of the Billericay Swimming Pool feasibility study should result in a fit for purpose leisure facility in Billericay and address the potential future water space shortage. It is expected that a six lane facility with appropriate learning/teaching water will be required but this will be determined in more detail by the ongoing feasibility study.
- ◀ Support the development of netball, basketball and badminton in the Borough making best use of the strong demand for the sports.
- ◀ School sports sites require support to secure funding to maintain/upgrade sports halls and swimming pools, if they are to continue to provide for the community.
- ◀ There is spare capacity in sports halls across certain sites indicating opportunity to expand the sports offer to the wider community.
- ◀ Improved and co-ordinated data collection to see who is using what and when (and therefore target groups and individuals to increase utilisation of facilities).

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Threats

- ◀ The increasing financial constraints within which BBC has to work.
- ◀ The rising age profile of the population is likely to lead to increased daytime demand for facilities (when education stock is generally inaccessible). Losing Eversley Leisure Centre sports hall may exacerbate this.
- ◀ Ageing sports halls and swimming pools (other than BSV).
- ◀ Reduced quality can lead to lower usage affecting both participation and venue viability.
- ◀ Swimming pool capacity is approaching the Sport England comfort factor of 70%. With future population levels expected to grow, user experience will be affected.
- ◀ Billericay Swimming Pool will need to be replaced/refurbished within the life time of the Local Plan.
- ◀ BBC limited influence on educational facilities (the majority of sports halls in the Borough).
- ◀ BBC needs to ensure that its own venues continue to be accessible to disadvantaged and the more inactive/sedentary groups and extend this to community centres/village halls.
- ◀ If investment in sport/physical activity facilities is not co-ordinated opportunities via CIL or s.106 will be implemented on a piecemeal basis to less than optimum impact.
- ◀ Without support and intervention, current sports hall users at Eversley could lose opportunities to continue to participate, particularly in badminton.
- ◀ Not expanding the variety of programming witnessed at BSV to other towns could lead to certain residents being isolated.
- ◀ The increasing population will also place pressure on facilities, particularly swimming pool provision. Continued investment in facilities is of paramount importance.

Summary

In summary, and reflecting council and partner policies and objectives, BBC in partnership with key partners needs to:

- ◀ Improve the basis of strategic work across a range of agencies including Public Health and Active Basildon to ensure that real progress is made in respect of all aspects of increasing physical activity and sport.
- ◀ Ameliorate the closure of Eversley Leisure Centre by ensuring that displaced users are accommodated at BSV and other local sites. This will require consultation with users and to generate partnerships with other venues (including village halls), to ensure that users are accommodated.
- ◀ Improve the breadth, depth and quality of performance management data collected (and shared) and the associated analysis of facility usage to inform future marketing, promotion, programming and pricing etc.
- ◀ Set in train a multi-partner programme (including key schools) to improve and or replace the existing stock of sport and physical activity facilities (in particular swimming pools and sports halls). These are at an age and level of condition where they need to be replaced simply to keep pace with current demand. Moving forward, this should also reflect the future demand that will be created by identified housing and population growth, especially the increased 'grey market'.
- ◀ Ensure that all school sports facilities are made fully available for community use (through binding and appropriate community use agreements) and that an agreed minimum level of availability is agreed.

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- ◀ Coordinate community access to, and the programming and pricing of, facilities (including schools) across the Borough within the public estate.
- ◀ Consider the outcome of the feasibility study, which is considering providing a new replacement pool in Billericay, due to the age and condition of the current facility. Consideration needs to be given to accommodate future population growth as well as current demand.
- ◀ Ensure that any new swimming provision is complemented by high quality health and fitness provision. Not only are ‘working out’ and fitness classes popular, but membership revenue is essential to income generation, which in turn underpins the business model, potentially eliminating the need for revenue subsidy.
- ◀ Consideration should also be given to whether other complementary services can be hosted within any new build facilities (e.g. library, health facility, etc).
- ◀ Support other developments (via planning, developer contributions and officer expertise) which may assist in increasing sport and physical activity within the wider community (e.g., table tennis, basketball, netball and badminton).
- ◀ Continue to work with local sports clubs to ensure facilities and workforce development programmes meet the needs of all clubs. With the Authority hosting a number of nationally recognised sports club, it important that they have good access to facilities supported by growing workforces.
- ◀ Ensure that BBC owned facilities make a progressively greater (and measured) contribution to reducing health inequalities and are fully accessible from all the Borough’s communities through targeted initiatives, facilities, programming and training.
- ◀ Identify ongoing investment, maintenance and refurbishment requirements to protect and improve existing sports facilities

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VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Vision

“To improve the lives of the Basildon Borough residents by inspiring communities to lead active, healthy and fulfilling lifestyles, with better access to sporting facilities which are of a high standard and enable participation at every level.”

This builds upon the conclusions identified in the Assessment Report (April 2018) and Sport England’s recently released five-year strategy ‘Towards an Active Nation’, which aims to target the 28% of people who do less than 30 minutes of exercise each week and focuses on the least active groups; typically, women, the disabled and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

This strategy provides a framework within which a clear, coherent way forward for the management and delivery of leisure and sports facilities in Basildon can be identified. The primary focus is to enable residents to gain access to leisure facilities of which they can be proud of. It is also vital to ensure that facilities support sport and physical activity programmes that lead to increases in regular participation, taking account of the projected changes in age profile of the population in the Borough up until 2037.

Facility hierarchy and core principles

The site-by-site action plan which follow this section seeks to address key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It should be reviewed in the light of staff and financial resources in order to prioritise support for strategically significant provision and provision that other providers are less likely to make.

In order to complete this, there is a need to clarify the sports facility provision within a hierarchy (identified below). This will enable Basildon to establish specific venues with distinct roles and functions; the extent to which they carry differing levels of community importance, operational weight and related staffing.

It is important that facilities have a defined function from a user perspective. The hierarchy identified below considers whether facilities are Regional, Borough-wide and/or key community facilities. As such programmes of activity can be orchestrated to deliver physical activity geared to extended participation (hubs and spokes approach) and improving health whilst key neighbourhood facilities offer accredited clubs opportunities to develop their sports.

Broad principles are illustrated in Figure 1 overleaf, whilst key principles are as shown in Table 1.

It is worth noting that facilities identified to service very localised (and in particular rural) areas, are often valuable assets for a specific local area or community offering either a range of recreation/participation opportunities or, in some instances, offering beginner to performance opportunities.

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Figure 1 Facility hierarchy – core principles

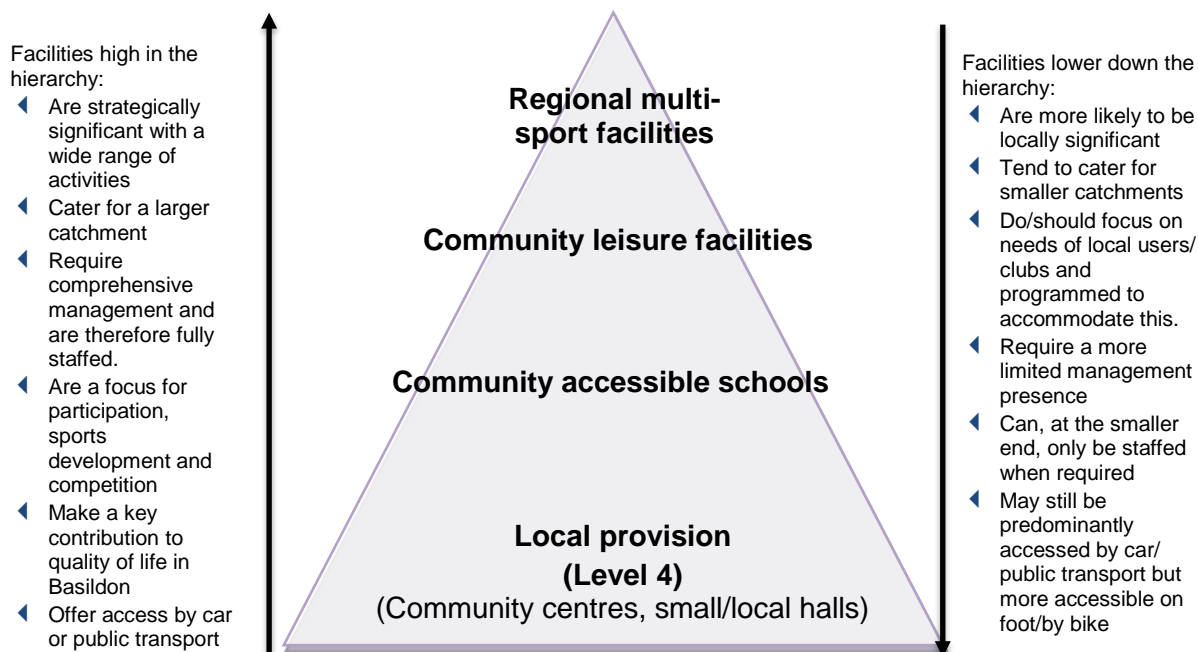


Table 1: Proposed facility hierarchy – site designation and definition

Designation	Role and function
Level 1: Regional or sub-regional facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a regional or sub-regional significant facility which is the primary performance venue for a single or select number of priority sports. A venue with the potential to host sub-regional, county, borough-wide and local events. Provides a wide a range of opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in sport and physical activity, contributing significantly to the quality of life of residents across the whole of the Borough. Provides/programmes opportunities for local people to try new activities, develop their skills and progress to a higher performance level. Is a core venue for training and development of teachers, coaches, volunteers, officials and others in key sports.
Level 2: Community Leisure facilities which service the Borough or local town population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to quality of life of residents in the local community served and/or borough and provide a range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity. Generally, a combination of stand-alone community facilities and sports facilities on school sites (where this is the primary facility within the locality). Is a venue with potential to host borough-wide, community/ local events. Provides a base for the provision of opportunity (delivered by a range of providers) for local people to develop their skills and try new activities. One of several core venues offering health/fitness provision and activity across the Borough. Core venue accommodating the Borough’s Learn to Swim programmes (where a pool is incorporated).

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Designation	Role and function
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides options for a range of sports organisations to participate, compete and develop skill within their chosen activity. • Supports voluntary sports sector to cater for club activity and raise standards in respect of coaching, coach education, administration and volunteer development in chosen sport. • Facility use should reflect the demographic profile of the local community. • If applicable, increases/ improves quality of PE and school sport opportunity for young people attending the school at which it is based.
Level 3: Community accessible schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where within the vicinity of a 'community sports facility' it should complement the programming and opportunities offered to the local community. • Contributes to quality of life of the neighbourhood, accommodating a range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity. • Either stand-alone smaller dry-side community facilities or sports facilities on school sites which operate within a lettings policy. • Provides opportunities for range of sports organisations to participate, train and compete in their chosen activity. • Facility use to reflect demographic profile of the local community.
Level 4: Local facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tend to be stand-alone small dry-side community/ sports facilities which operate independently. • Contributes to quality of life of residents within the locality providing a limited range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity. • Provides opportunities – often for just for one or two dedicated sports organisations to participate, train and compete (e.g. boxing, martial arts). • Programming generally appeals to a specific demographic e.g. young people or faith groups.

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Strategic objectives

The above vision is based upon a clear, achievable framework of strategic objectives to **protect, enhance and provide** and are summarised below.

Strategic Objective 1:

Protect the current stock of facilities in order to meet the sport and physical activity needs of the local residents, by introducing a hierarchy of use with defined roles and functions for different facility types which will be supported by appropriate investment

BBC and partners will consider how to ensure that the Borough network of leisure and sports facilities works to maximum benefit and that, where possible, each facility performs a specific role and function in the drive to increase participation in sport and physical activity and contribute to wider community health and wellbeing. It will also need to take account of how facilities will cope with the projected increase in dwellings (projected for between 19,491 and 19,771 dwellings in the period 2014 to 2034, equating to between 972-986 new dwellings per annum) and, therefore, increases in population.

Strategic Objective 2:

Enhance the borough-wide approach to programming and management at all sites with a view to improving sports development aspirations and increasing physical activity outcomes, based on identified strategic need

In delivering the above BBC needs to consider how it will work with partners to:

- ◀ Ensure that the current stock of facilities (which has a proven need), remains open and accessible to the general public.
- ◀ Work through Everyone Active and other partners to develop a process that brings together as many operators of local sports facilities as possible.
- ◀ Develop an agreed approach and a Basildon definition of community use which all partners sign up to and agree to implement. This will recognise the importance of well programmed community use and attracting people from older age groups into facilities.

In delivering this BBC and partners will need to consider the following:

- ◀ How partners might engineer a holistic approach to strategic programming across sites, including smaller but strategically placed community/village halls in order to increase and improve provision.
- ◀ How (reflecting the community use standard cited above) relationships are developed and maintained with schools across the Borough.
- ◀ The development of strategic plans that take account of the increasing demand for facilities from the ageing population will affect facilities in the area and how those facilities in the more rural locations can be accessed.

Strategic Objective 3:

Provide a coherent range of good quality, accessible facilities reflecting the hierarchy and serving key current and future communities across Basildon

The following section identifies major investment requirements over the life of this Strategy. It describes what is needed in order to 'protect', 'enhance' and 'provide' sport and leisure

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facilities for the residents of Basildon and enable the Council to meet its wider objectives. It first considers BSV, Wickford Swimming and Fitness Centre and Billericay Swimming Pool as key facilities in the Borough.

Basildon Sporting Village is a regional facility which provides a variety of high quality sporting opportunities. Opened in 2011, following a £36 million investment, the facility has a 50 metre swimming pool, two gymnastics halls, an 8 court sports hall and an 86 station fitness suite. The indoor facilities are part of a wider sports complex which also includes an outdoor full size sand dressed pitch, six mini football cages, an athletics track and six full size adult grass football pitches.

The gymnastics halls are home to South Essex Gymnastics Club, which has over 3,500 members, including a number of international gymnasts. There are a range of participatory programmes delivered in the sports hall, including fitness classes, netball and badminton sessions. Time is also given over to pay and play and inclusion activities. BSV is the only sports hall to provide daytime use in the Borough following the recent closure of Eversley Leisure Centre.

The swimming pool hosts a significant learn to swim programme and is home to Basildon and Phoenix Swimming Club. Both the swimming pool and sports hall are very busy and are reported to be operating above at 86% and 100% respectively. In partnership with its leisure operator, Sport England and relevant national governing bodies of sport, BBS needs to continue investment in maintaining this regional facility in order to maintain it to the highest standards.

Wickford Swimming and Fitness Centre provides opportunities in swimming and health and fitness. The facility received £2.4m investment in 2012; to primarily develop new health and fitness provision on site. Improvements also included new pool tiles and refurbished changing rooms within the swimming areas. The facility does not accommodate a swimming club, however, it does have a popular learn to swim programme. This swimming pool has capacity to grow. Ongoing investment will be required to maintain this facility and ensure that this it continues to provide a quality service to customers

Billericay Swimming Pool offers poor quality swimming provision; it is currently managed by First Strokes, although it is owned by BBC. The site is currently subject to a feasibility study which will identify options for the site. This is due to be completed in summer 2018, which will be followed by a BBC decision regarding the site. Investment will be required either to upgrade this facility or to invest in a new facility depending upon the findings of the feasibility study later in 2018

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MONITORING AND REVIEW

The Indoor and Built Facilities Strategy identifies the investment and actions required to deliver and maintain a high quality built facilities infrastructure for Basildon.

It is important that the Strategy is a live document and is used in a practical manner to prioritise investment, develop key work programmes and partnerships, guide planning gain investment and ensure that built sports facilities are a vital component which contribute to the quality of life in Basildon.

Its production should be regarded as the start of the strategic planning process with a requirement for all partners to engage in ongoing dialogue and review in order to ensure that a strategic approach is adopted throughout its life.

It will be important for Basildon Borough Council and its partners to develop a short (1-3 years), medium (3 – 5 years) and long term (up to 10 years) action plan based around the Strategy and for this to be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis. This process should not only be reviewed against a current action plan, it should also identify potential changes to supply and demand for facilities across the authorities. This is predicated upon the assumption that the Strategy is as much about how facilities are used as it relates to ensuring that the physical infrastructure is maintained and is of a good quality.

In particular the annual review process should include:

- ◀ A review of annual progress on the recommendations; taking into account any changes required to the priority of each action (e.g. the priority of some may increase following the delivery of others).
- ◀ Lessons learnt throughout the year.
- ◀ New facilities that may need to be taken into account.
- ◀ Any specific changes of use of key sites in the Borough (e.g. sport specific specialisms of sites, changes in availability, etc.).
- ◀ Any specific changes in demand at particular facilities and/or clubs in the area (e.g. reduction or increase in club numbers, new housing growth *etc.*).
- ◀ New formats of traditional sports that may need to be taken account of.
- ◀ Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.

The outcome of the review will be to develop a new annual and medium-term action plan for indoor and built sports facilities across the Borough and feed into the wider South Essex Strategy.

Funding to implement the strategy

The Strategy has not addressed in detail how proposals and recommendations will be funded. An informed (and committed) combination mix of sources and solutions will be required to deliver the vision and ambitions of the strategy. These are likely to include:

- ◀ Judicious multi-partner revenue contributions at a level that can be justified and that will allow some form of longer-term sustainability.
- ◀ Further development and implementation of individual districts' developer contributions process associated with the development of urban extensions.
- ◀ Use of capital receipts from land disposal, where applicable.

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- ◀ Asset rationalisation and use of revenue saving and/or future liabilities to pay back borrowing aligned to capital investment in other sites.
- ◀ Prudential borrowing where an 'invest to save' justification can be made, particularly for longer-term proposals which may be considered in light of any future borrowing strategy.
- ◀ External funding sources aligned to specific facilities and/or sports (e.g. Sport England funding, other charitable grant awards and funding streams).
- ◀ Third party borrowing where a suitable, robust business case exists (although this will be more expensive than prudential borrowing).

Developer contributions

For any application warranting a developer contribution Appendix 1 sets out a toolkit (process) which should be followed in order to help inform the potential needs a new housing development may require and/or should look to consider, with regard to indoor and built facilities

Basildon Borough Council Corporate Plan –2017-2021

As identified and amplified in Basildon's Indoor Needs Assessment the Corporate Plan's vision aims to improve the lives of residents across the Authority's five towns (Basildon, Billericay, Pitsea, Wickford and Laindon) and create opportunities and prosperity for local people and businesses. This vision is underpinned by three promises for the people who live, work and learn in the Borough; they are:

- ◀ Strong, safe and healthy communities with access to quality homes.
- ◀ Vibrant town centres and a thriving economy for everyone.
- ◀ Enhance local environment and increased pride in our Borough.

To ensure that the Authority keeps communities strong, safe and healthy it is also committed to improving the physical and mental health and well-being of all residents. The health and wellbeing priorities cited in the Corporate Plan include:

- ◀ • Reducing the prevalence of child and adult obesity.
- ◀ • Improving mental health and wellbeing.
- ◀ • Reducing health inequalities by tackling poverty.

The actions identified below will continue to support these and other key objectives of the Council.

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ACTION PLAN

Management and programming

The following actions are relative to the overall management and programming of key facilities in Basildon. All actions identified below should take account of accessibility issues (hearing, visual and wheelchair access). Short term- 1-2 years; medium 3-5 years; Long term 5-10 years.

Strategic objective	Recommendation	Action	Timescale	Responsibility	Importance
Borough wide programming (Enhance)	Ensure holistic approach to programming across all facilities leading to improved access for all sections of the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Consider current programming across the Borough. ◀ Define the role of each facility within the wider community use offer across Borough. ◀ Develop a site by site action plan for improving programming across the Borough. 	Short	Schools, leisure centres & village halls / community centres	High
Community use agreements (Enhance)	Ensure current Community Use Agreements are maintained. Explore the option of developing community use agreements with other school sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Regular dialogue with schools which have community use agreements to ensure pricing, programming and hours of availability are maintained. ◀ Open dialogue with other schools/academy trusts to explore the opportunity to establish community use agreements. 	Short	Schools/BBC	High
Sports halls (Protect)	Monitor programming at BSV to ensure the needs of the Authority's residents are accommodated. Identify potential maintenance funding options for schools as and when required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Regular consultation with users, and monitoring of data to ensure sports hall use at BSV provides for the local community ◀ Work with schools and Essex CC to identify funding opportunities, as and when required, to address maintenance issues at school sites. 	Short	BBC/Everyone Active/schools	Medium
Swimming pools (Protect)	Ensuring sufficient water space at community available sites is available to current and future residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Strategically programme water time for all residents to ensure the public have sufficient access all pools at peak times. 	Short	BBC, Everyone Active, schools	High

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Strategic objective	Recommendation	Action	Timescale	Responsibility	Importance
	Support schools, as and when required, to identify funding opportunities to improve maintenance programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with schools and Essex CC to identify funding opportunities to develop long term maintenance programmes. 			
Health and Fitness (Protect and Enhance)	Ensuring health and fitness facilities are accessible to people living in the more rural areas of the Borough and that the facilities will meet the needs of the growing and ageing population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When reviewing Council owned leisure centres to ensure that equipment is appropriate for an increasingly ageing population (as well as the wider population). Consider developing a range of outreach fitness programmes and activities within the more rural communities. 	Medium	BBC, Parish and Town Councils	High
Incorporating local facilities into the broader activity portfolio (Enhance)	<p>Understanding programming, availability and the quality of the 53 community facilities is a challenge. These are generally small facilities which are spread throughout the Borough but which enable physical activity to be made accessible to those living in rural and harder to reach areas.</p> <p>Develop an improved understanding of the importance of Level 4 facilities with regard to the physical activity offer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a project coordinator to lead on this element of work. Review Level 4 facilities to see which are realistically able to increase physical activity in the context of scale, configuration, management arrangements and existing commitments. Consider how they fit into the wider programming offer. Identify improvements to Level 4 facilities (ensuring that they are fit for purpose). 	Medium	BBC, Parish and Town Councils, Active Essex, community group, private facilities	Medium
Planning	To recognise the importance of this study and ensure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To adopt the recommendations in this Study and ensure that they are encapsulated in planning policy 	Medium	Planning & Leisure Team	High

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Strategic objective	Recommendation	Action	Timescale	Responsibility	Importance
(Protect, Enhance, Provide)	recommendations are acted upon.	<p>documents (Local Plans) and other relevant BBC strategies where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Develop priorities to assist BBC to identify developments that could be funded through developer contributions, CIL and other sources of funding, informing the regulation 123 List and identification of infrastructure requirements within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. 			
Monitor and review	Keeping the Facilities Strategy relevant and up to date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Complete a light touch review of the study annually. ◀ Undertake a complete review within 5 years of its implementation. 	Medium	BBC	High

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Facility by facility action plan

Facility, level and objective	Management	Overview and Challenges	Actions	Lead Agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)
Basildon Sporting Village Level 1 (Protect and Enhance)	Everyone Active	Strategic site. Facilities include a 50m swimming pool, an 8 court sports hall and a regional gymnastics centre of excellence. The key challenge is to ensure that the facility continues to meet the needs of the local community, both during the day and in the evening, as well as support respective club ambitions. Also, that it remains fit for purpose and has continued investment throughout the lifetime of this Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Continued investment in current facilities to maintain them to the best standard. ◀ Continue to maintain high level of participation in sport and physical activity and, supporting the needs of residents and local organisations. ◀ Intelligent use of data to identify current and future residents needs to ensure those displaced by the closure of Eversley sports hall are accommodated at BSV. 	Everyone Active/BBC	Medium	High
Beauchamps High School Level 3 (Protect Enhance)	Beauchamps High School	The School facilities include a poor quality 4 court sports hall and a below average 1 court hall. Identify investment opportunities to upgrade sports hall, particularly focusing on the removal of asbestos from the sports hall roof.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Support the School/Essex County Council to identify funding sources to support the refurbishment of the sport hall. ◀ Continue to work with the School to ensure that sports hall activities complement that of BBC's wider sporting objectives, through the current community use agreement. 	School/ Essex CC	Short	High
Billericay Sports Centre Level 2 (Protect)	Compass Educational Trust	Multi venue site which is below average quality. It has significant community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Invest in current facilities to improve the quality maintain them to the best standard possible supporting both swimming and sports hall use. 	Compass Educational Trust	Medium	Medium

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Facility, level and objective	Management	Overview and Challenges	Actions	Lead Agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)
Billericay Swimming Pool Level 3 (Protect Provide)	BBC	Poor quality facility currently subject to a feasibility study. The challenge is to ensure the residents of Billericay have a high quality swimming facility in the Town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Make key decision about the future of the facility. ◀ Work with the commissioned consultants to ensure that a suitable facility mix is developed for the site. ◀ Identify investment to deliver the new or refurbished facility. 	BBC	Short	High
Castledon School Level 3 (Protect)	School	The School has a small hydrotherapy pool, used to deliver learn to swim programmes. The challenge is to ensure this pool continues to be available for the community supporting the learn to swim programme in the Authority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Continued investment in current facilities to maintain them to the best standard. 	School/ Essex County Council	Long	Low
De La Salle School Level 3 (Protect)	Brentwood Diocese	Above average sports halls (4 court and 1 court) which has significant spare capacity reported. The challenge is to support the School to ensure the facility is used keeping the sports halls attractive for the wider population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Invest in ongoing maintenance of the sports halls. 	Brentwood Diocese	Medium	Medium
Eversley Leisure Centre Level 3 (Protect)	Everyone Active	Sports hall is in the process of being converted to a dedicated gymnastics facility, the challenge is to ensure that the new gymnastics facility remains high quality and offers a full programme of gymnastics appealing to the wider community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Work with South Essex Gymnastics Club to ensure the Club accommodates local residents, particularly those from hard to reach communities. ◀ Ensure that the remaining facilities are available to the local community and invested in accordingly. 	South Essex Gymnastics Club/BBC/Everyone Active	Short	High

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Facility, level and objective	Management	Overview and Challenges	Actions	Lead Agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)
James Hornsby High School Level 3 (Protect)	JHS Academy Trust-	School comprises a sports hall and swimming pool, with the pool rated below average. The challenge is the potential increased maintenance costs for the swimming pool due to its age.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued investment in current facilities to improve their quality and maintain them to the best standard possible. 	JHS Academy Trust-	Medium	Medium
Laindon Community Centre Level 4 (Protect)	Laindon Trading Company	Local community facility. The challenge is to ensure this centre continues to support the local community and the needs of Briscoe Badminton Club.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Centre to ensure the facility is maintained to a high standard to support the development of community sport. 	Laindon Trading Company/ BBC	Long	Low
Lee Chapel Primary School Level 3 (Protect)	Lee Chapel Multi-Academy Trust-	The key challenge is to understand the breadth and amount of community use offered at this facility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the School to understand what activities are currently delivered and provide complementary programming support to the rest of the Borough. Maintain the quality of the facility as it ages. 	BBC/ Lee Chapel Multi-Academy Trust-	Medium	Medium
Mayflower High School Level 3 (Protect)	Mayflower Academy Trust	School site, which has a community available sports hall and swimming pool. The key challenges are to keep the facilities attractive for the wider population and ensure the Community Use Agreement is maintained at the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued investment in current facilities to maintain them as high quality. Continue to work with the School to ensure that the sport hall activities complement that of BBC's wider sporting objectives, through the current community use agreement. Revenue from swimming lessons could be used to offset maintenance required. 	Mayflower Academy Trust/ Essex CC	Medium	Medium

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Facility, level and objective	Management	Overview and Challenges	Actions	Lead Agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)
Nuffield Health at Bromfords Sports Level 3 (Protect)	Nuffield Trust	Managed by Nuffield Trust, the site has two sports halls, with the main hall rated below average. The challenge for the site is to ensure that the facility continues to provide a range of sports for the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in ongoing maintenance. 	Nuffield Trust/ Compass Educational Trust	Medium	Low
St Johns School Level 3 (Enhance)	St Johns School	There is no community use of this 4-court hall at present.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor demand across the Authority's sports halls, and approach the school if community demand exceeds supply. 	BBC	Medium	Medium
The Basildon Lower Academy Level 3 (Protect and Enhance)	The Basildon Academies	The site, which has a 4-court sport hall and a swimming pool, was not available for assessment. Research indicates it is available for community use. The key challenge is to understand the breadth and amount of community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Academy to understand what activities are currently delivered and provide programming support to complement other sports delivered in the Borough. Maintain the quality of the facility as it ages. 	The Basildon Academies, BBC	Medium	Medium
The Basildon Upper Academy Level 3 (Protect)	The Basildon Academies	This facility comprises of three sports halls (4-court, 2 court and 1 court), but was not available for assessment. Research indicates it is available for community use. The key challenge is to understand the breadth and amount of community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand what activities are currently delivered and provide programming support to complement other sports delivered in the Borough. Maintain the quality of the facility as it ages. 	The Basildon Academies, BBC	Medium	Medium
Woodlands School Level 3	Skanska	Key site for basketball development, with a national side. It is important to ensure that the facility, rated good,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued investment in current facilities to maintain them to the best standard possible. 	Skanska	Short	Low

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Facility, level and objective	Management	Overview and Challenges	Actions	Lead Agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)
(Protect)		continues to support the needs of the Club.				
Wickford Swim and Fitness Centre Level 3 (Protect)	BBC- Everyone Active	Community health and swimming provision. The key challenge is to ensure that the facility remains accessible for local residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Continued investment in current facilities to maintain them to the best standard possible. ◀ Intelligent use of data to identify current and future resident needs reflecting venue programming. 	BBC/Every one Active	Medium	Medium

Sport specific recommendations

Sport	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Timescale	Objective
Badminton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ To ensure that Briscoe Badminton Club, as the only affiliated club in Basildon, continues to provide competitive opportunities in the Authority. ◀ BSV continues to deliver No Strings sessions providing for the wider community. ◀ Ensure recreational badminton is available and growing at other sports halls in the Borough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Develop a workforce development plan with the Club to ensure it has the skills and capacity to allow it to grow. ◀ Regular evaluation of sports hall programming at BSV and other sports halls to ensure recreational badminton is available in addition to No Strings sessions. 	County Badminton Association / Briscoe Badminton Club/BBC/ Everyone Active/ Essex	Medium	Enhance
Basketball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Ensure enough coaches and volunteers are available for the continued development of basketball. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Develop a workforce development plan with Southend Swifts to ensure that the Club has capacity and continues to drive up participation in the sport. 	BBC/Everyone Active/ Southend Swifts//Essex Leopards	Medium	Enhance

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Sport	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Timescale	Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to the sports hall sites are maintained for the basketball clubs ensuring development in the Authority. To maintain the level of recreational delivery, particularly at BSV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular evaluation of programming at all sports halls across Basildon to ensure there is capacity to support regular participatory sessions. Identify potential funding opportunities to support recreational sessions within the Authority. 			
Gymnastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the new facility at Eversley Leisure Centre is available to local residents as well as the wider community. Increase the number of volunteers and coaches in gymnastics to deal with the demand for the sport. Reduce waiting lists across all gymnastics clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the number of local residents who are able to participate at the newly developed facility. Consider how to attract local residents into the facility. Work with South Essex Gymnastics Club to develop a workforce development plan that works across all the gymnastic clubs and activities in Basildon. 	BBC/British Gymnastics/ local gymnastics clubs	Medium	Enhance
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support training and recreational delivery within sports halls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake regular consultation with netball clubs and work with respective sites to ensure courts remain accessible to accommodate training needs Maintain and possibly increase the number of Back to Netball sessions, whilst ensuring that pathways exist between these session and local clubs. See PPS 2018 for further detail 	BBC /Everyone Active	Medium to long	Enhance
Swimming/ aquatic sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the needs of different clubs, aquatic activities and community users are satisfied via effective programming and pricing within the Authority's pools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular review of the pool programme specifically at BSV to ensure that all user needs are considered in the context of the wider swim offer at the pool. 	BBC, Everyone Active, Swim England	Short	Protect and Enhance

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Sport	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Timescale	Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of school pools are rated below average, which may affect user's experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with respective schools and academy trusts in the Authority, to identify funding opportunities to upgrade facilities as and when required. 			
Squash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no community accessible pay and play facilities in Basildon. Courts are located at sites which require membership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach management at both sites to encourage them to consider pay and play options, particularly during off peak periods when there is less demand for courts. 	BBC, and England Squash.	Short	Enhance
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no community accessible pay and play indoor tennis courts in Basildon. Courts are located at sites which require membership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach the two sites to encourage them to consider pay and play options, particularly during off peak periods when there is less demand for courts. 	BBC. LTA,	Short	Enhance

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Appendix 1: Planning gain contribution toolkit

Introduction

The purpose of this toolkit is to ensure that planning gain contribution sought from an individual development is based on a tailored approach, using the robust evidence bases provided as part of the South Essex Overarching Strategy and Action Plan for indoor and built sports facilities. This will help to clearly justify the needs arising from the development and how they are to be met.

It provides a step by step guide which should be used by those stakeholders which are directly involved in negotiating developer contributions either local authority case officers or housing developers/planning consultants acting on their behalf.

The following processes should be followed in order to inform the potential additional demand that a new housing development generates. This sets out the process for indoor and built sports facilities.

There is also a checklist summary for the process which should be completed as evidence of working through each step. In terms of social sustainability, a series of questions to explore are provided with possible options to consider.

For all developments (regardless of size) developer contributions should be sought towards social, sport and open space facilities. Where a development may be considered too small to provide a contribution, consideration should be given to where a number of small developments may have a cumulative impact on the community infrastructure and refer to local planning policy.

In instances where a development may fall within two or more local authorities it is recommended that the demand from the more urban area or locally reflective area are applied in calculating the requirements. This is in order to reflect the on the ground use of provision in the context of its setting. If provision is to be provided on the outskirts of an urban settlement and therefore is to act as an extension of that settlement, it is justifiable to utilise the demand/standards most appropriate.

The suite of evidence documents making up the Overarching Strategy and Action Plan includes:

- ◀ Basildon Needs Assessment Report
- ◀ Basildon Sports Strategy
- ◀ Castle Point Needs Assessment Report
- ◀ Castle Point Sports Strategy
- ◀ Rochford Needs Assessment Report
- ◀ Rochford Sports Strategy
- ◀ Southend Needs Assessment Report
- ◀ Southend Sports Strategy

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Process

Step 1	Determine the key indoor sports facility requirement resulting from the development	Navigation
	<p>The key tools to assess this are provided within Sport England's Sports Facility Calculator which is accessed via the Active Places Power website. https://www.activeplacespower.com/</p> <p>This will enable you to determine the demand for sports halls, swimming pools and indoor bowls facilities that the new population from a development generates.</p>	<p>Access to the calculator is restricted and requires a username and password be set up.</p>

The individual local authorities IBF strategies provide an estimate of future demand for key indoor sports facilities based on population forecasts as a result of key housing growth areas. This key demand is translated into units of badminton courts, swimming pool lanes and indoor bowls rinks.

As the exact number of units are identified from specific housing developments then the Council will need to apply the household occupancy rate to this to determine the total population.

$$\text{Number of dwellings} \times \text{household occupancy rate}^1 = \text{associated population}$$

This is the population that is applied within the Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC) to determine the additional provision that is required to meet the additional demand.

The SFC is a modelling tool designed to assist local planning authorities to quantify how much additional demand is generated by increasing populations and new housing areas. The model has no spatial qualities or dimension and can only be used to estimate the facility needs for whole area populations. The model makes no reference to:

- ◀ Location of existing facilities compared to demand.
- ◀ Capacity and availability of facilities (i.e. opening hours, how well they are used)
- ◀ Cross boundary movements of demand.
- ◀ Travel networks and topography.
- ◀ The attractiveness of the existing facility network.

The SFC uses information that Sport England has gathered on who uses facilities and applies this to the population profile of the local area. This ensures that the calculations take on board the population profile (e.g. age, gender, etc) of the local area.

The SFC then turns this estimation of demand (visits per week) into the equivalent amount of facility which is needed to meet these visits. For swimming pools it uses 25m lane equivalents and for sports halls it uses the number of badminton courts.

Registration is required to access Active Places Power (APP) and therefore the SFC. If you are not already registered, you can register for free via the link under the login button on the APP homepage.

Please note the SFC is one tool and should not be used on its own to determine the need for sports facilities from a single development.

¹ National occupancy rate of 2.3 persons per household is used

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Step 2	Determine the other indoor sports and community facilities required as a result of the development	Navigation
	<p>Use the Indoor Built Facilities Strategy to identify level of need that may generated from new development(s) for indoor sporting provision not included within the SFC.</p> <p>This should also extend to community centre facilities within the area.</p>	Indoor and built facilities strategy

There is no clear calculation of the requirements for other indoor sports provision and community centre facilities (not covered by SFC) as a result of a new housing development. In this instance, the Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Strategy should be used to determine the need for additional facilities within the area. This should take into account the requirement for other dedicated sports facilities if the Strategy identifies this. For example, in Southend there is a recognised need for more sports hall space and as such, a contribution towards this may be seen as a priority.

The Assessment Report (within the specific sections of the report) should identify the need for other provision within the area. This will be as a result of the consultation with specific clubs and organisations, facility operators and national governing bodies of sport. It will also take account of the size, scale and quality of existing provision in order to inform this. The type of facilities identified within the Assessment report is determined by the scope of the study which the Council commissions.

This will also be informed by how busy existing facilities are. As an example, if an existing leisure centre (adjacent to the new housing development) is fully programmed with high demand for space, it is unrealistic to expect this facility to accommodate the demand generated from the new development. Therefore, additional provision will be required.

Step 3	Demonstrate an understanding of what else the development generates demand for	Navigation
	<p>Consideration also needs to be given to the other infrastructure that will be generated as a result of the development. As an example, this could include primary and secondary schools, health centres, library, etc.</p> <p>The key focus here is to determine where there may be duplication of facilities and where there may be opportunities for shared provision.</p>	Consultation with other council services, partners and developers

In reality it will take a significantly large development to generate the requirement for a new stand-alone wet and dry leisure centre. Therefore, it is important to identify where other provision may be required as a result of the development in order to determine if this could replace or supplement the need to provide sports facilities or community facilities.

A key example of this is the requirement for primary and secondary school provision as a result of the development. A primary school will require a multi-purpose indoor hall, playground and playing field space to deliver its national curriculum requirements for PE. A secondary school will require at least a four court sports hall and playing field space in order to deliver its national curriculum requirements for PE.

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Therefore, further investigation should be undertaken to identify if the opportunity exists to ensure that community use of the school sports facilities can be guaranteed, thus minimising the potential duplication of facilities. In this instance the ‘contribution’ associated with the increased demand for sports facilities could be used to enhance the school provision to ensure it was appropriate for community use (e.g. extend fitness facilities, community access arrangements, etc.).

In relation to other service (e.g. library, health centre, etc) there is a need to consider how these could be co-located with alongside sports and community facilities, thus creating a community hub. This is a key driver for sports facilities in attracting users that might not otherwise use these types of facilities.

The financial, social and sporting benefits which can be achieved through development of strategic sites (also known as hub sites) are significant. Sport England provides further guidance on the development of community sports hubs at:

<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/>

Step 4	Consider if there are existing facilities within close proximity that could be enhanced or extended to accommodate increased demand.	Navigation
	Further investigation is required to determine if there is an existing facility that is close enough to the development site which, if extended /refurbished / remodelled could accommodate the increased demand generated from the new development.	Facility mapping within the Sports Facilities Assessment Report

Detailed analysis of facilities within the vicinity of the new development should be undertaken to assess the suitability of these facilities to accommodate the increased demand generated from the development. As an example the following information should be pulled together in order to determine if this is an appropriate solution to accommodate the increased demand:

- Is the facility close enough to the development to accommodate the increased demand?
- The quality of the facility.....does it need investment?
- Is there capacity to accommodate increased demand....how well used is the facility?
- Are there any restrictions in access to the facility?
- Are there plans in place to maintain or refurbish the facility?
- What type of activities are accommodated within the facility?
- Are the current management arrangements appropriate to accommodate changes or increased demand at the facility?
- Are there opportunities to co-locate other services alongside or within the facility?

In addition to the above it will also be important to assess the potential impact of the additional demand on clubs and organisations within the vicinity. As an example, some clubs and organisations may already be at capacity; therefore, there may be no capacity to accommodate increased demand within the existing infrastructure.

Step 5	Consider the design principles for new provision	Navigation
	The exact nature and location of provision associated with either onsite or off-site developments should be fully determined in partnership with leisure and community specialists (e.g. NGBs, local authority, advisers, etc.) and community groups themselves.	https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/

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It is important to ensure that the design of new or extended facilities is in line with the needs of local clubs and organisations as well as relevant design guidance. It will be important that any design reflects best practice design guidance taking into account all the key considerations which will be relevant to each facility. As an example this will include aspects such as: health and safety, safeguarding, storage, sport specific design features, etc.).

Where an extension or refurbishment of an existing facility takes place it will be important to ensure that the local community is involved in that design. It will also be important to ensure that continuity of provision is also considered as clubs and organisations will need alternative accommodation during the construction period associated with a refurbishment or extension. This is important in ensuring these organisations continue to exist in the longer term.

The development of community hubs is a key focus for many organisations as the benefits derived from the co-location of facilities is often greater than from stand-alone facilities. Therefore, there is a need for developers and stakeholders to consider how different facilities may 'fit' together. As an example, this could include the following facilities which may be required as part of a development:

- ◀ Indoor and outdoor sports facilities
- ◀ Primary and Secondary schools
- ◀ Health centres and GP surgeries
- ◀ Library
- ◀ Early years provision.
- ◀ Community centre
- ◀ Children's play areas
- ◀ Allotments and community growing areas
- ◀ Local retail centres

The master plan for new developments need to consider the strategic location of facilities and the clustering and co-location of facilities in order to maximise the benefit for the local community.

There is also a need to ensure that the location of outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities are appropriately located in the context of indoor sports provision (if also being provided onsite) to ensure a cohesive approach to the whole sporting offer.

Step 6	Strategic pooling of financial contributions to deliver new provision	Navigation
	Consideration needs to be given to the multiple developments across the local authority or a combination of local authorities in order to determine if the combined increased demand is sufficient to warrant a contribution to a strategic leisure development.	Wider housing growth strategies.

If authorities consider each housing growth area in isolation then it is unlikely that there will be sufficient demand generated from a single development to warrant a new stand-alone leisure provision, especially swimming pools

As such the council needs to consider how the cluster of housing developments within the local authority boundary, or relevant cross border area should make a contribution to strategic sport and leisure facilities. As discussed previously, this may be to provide new provision or to enhance existing in order that it can accommodate increased demand.

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This in turn requires the Council and developer to consider the wider housing growth within the area which may also include that within a neighbouring authority. Where the combined increased demand generates the requirement for a strategic facility this should be pooled via developer contributions to a strategic development. However, it should be noted that the contribution may go towards a facility which is outside of the local authority boundary but reflects how people will live their lives within that specific development. A key example of this is in Southend where residents within the Rochford boundary will gravitate to Southend rather than using facilities within the authority's boundary.

In order to calculate the contribution from each housing development into a strategic leisure facility fund the Council should use the Sport England Sports Facilities Calculator. Using the population growth and process identified from stage 1 this will provide a basis for negotiation with developers on the contribution from each development.

<https://www.activeplacespower.com/>

<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>

Checklist summary

Prompt	Evidence	Navigation
Step 1: Determine the indoor sports facility requirement resulting from the development		https://www.activeplacespower.com/
Step 2: Determine the other indoor sports and community facilities are required as a result of the development		Indoor and built facilities strategy
Step 3: Demonstrate an understanding of what else the development generates demand for		Consultation with other council services, partners and developers)
Step 4: Consider if there are existing facilities within close proximity that could be enhanced or extended to accommodate increased demand.		Facility mapping within the Sports Facilities Assessment Report
Step 5: Consider the design principles for new provision		Consultation https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/
Step 6: Strategic pooling of financial contributions to deliver new provision		https://www.activeplacespower.com/ https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/