



NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN 2016 - 2033

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NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

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GLOSSARY

APS	(Sport England) Active People Survey
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
FPM	(Sport England) Facilities Planning Model
NEDDC	North East Derbyshire District Council
NGB	National governing body (of sport)
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office of National Statistics
SE	Sport England

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INTRODUCTION

This is the Indoor Sport and Leisure Facility Strategy for North East Derbyshire District Council (NEDDC) for the period 2016 – 2033. Recommendations are drawn from the Assessment Report, researched and prepared between April – September 2016 by specialist sport and leisure consultancy, Knight Kavanagh and Page (KKP). The Assessment Report and Strategy were prepared in accordance with the 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities (ANOG, Sport England, December 2014).

As the Strategy commissioning body, NEDDC has identified a number of priorities which align to its corporate plan 2015-2019 and its Sustainable Community Strategy for Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire. The vision for the District is to be *"a place that is clean and attractive, a place where people are proud to live and work, where they will prosper and are safe, happy and healthy"*.

To support this vision, the Council has four aims, which are:

- ◀ Unlocking **Growth** Potential.
- ◀ Providing **Customers** with Excellent Services.
- ◀ Supporting **Communities** to be Healthier, Safer, Cleaner and Greener.
- ◀ **Transforming** the Organisation.

This is supported by the Sustainable Community Strategy for Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire 2009-2026 which was developed by the *CHART* Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) after consultation with public, private and voluntary sectors and the communities which it represents. This encourages partnership work between key service providers, business and voluntary sector organisations to address issues that face local communities and improve the quality of life for people who live and work in the District.

Although CHART LSP was dismantled in September 2012, it is hoped that the Sustainable Community Strategy will serve as a useful resource and that organisations will continue to embrace the spirit of partnership working that has existed for many years in the area.

The primary theme of local strategies is the requirement to ensure that there is a real focus on improving quality of life. The core relevant messages are:

- ◀ Improving the quality of life of local residents.
- ◀ Reducing health inequalities.
- ◀ Developing communities.
- ◀ Reducing levels of inactivity.

Increases in levels of participation in sport and physical activity can be achieved via targeting increasingly scarce resources. It is essential that partner agencies understand the importance of accessible sport/leisure venues to the community and the 'offer' developed reflects the needs of said communities.

Partners

This is a strategy for the District. While NEDDC is the key driver, plans and actions emanating from it will need to be delivered through partnership with and between other key stakeholders and be predicated upon them accepting and taking responsibility for different aspects of its implementation.

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A 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 in North East Derbyshire. This Strategy has involved, and taken account of consultation with, a range of agencies and will require input from, for example, management operators, national governing bodies of sport (NGBs), local clubs, Derbyshire Sport, Derbyshire County Council (DCC), Sport England, businesses, other leisure centres and North East Derbyshire schools.

Key strategic outcomes

The core message running through local strategic documentation is the importance of sport and physical activity in enabling communities to be healthier in order to improve standards of living and achieve general cross cutting benefit. Key strategic outcomes are considered to be:

- ◀ That the health and wellbeing of District residents is improved and maintained via participation in physical activity.
- ◀ That a lifelong interest in sport and physical activity is created among young people and older people are encouraged and assisted to remain active for longer.
- ◀ That all North East Derbyshire residents have the opportunity to take part in physical activity to contribute positively to their health and wellbeing.
- ◀ The Council is able to formulate a positive and reasonable response to the increasing pressure on financial resources within NEDDC and DCC.
- ◀ That NEDDC works effectively with partners to ensure that facilities and infrastructure are provided to support and enhance sustainable communities in the District.
- ◀ That facilities and the programmes of activity they accommodate and enable will continue to contribute to reducing health inequalities across the District for all age groups.
- ◀ Informed planning ensures that increases in population are supported by appropriate indoor sport and leisure infrastructure that takes account of the needs of an ageing population.

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LOCAL CONTEXT

NEDDC is located in Derbyshire in the East Midlands. It wraps around Chesterfield and also abuts Bolsover, Amber Valley and Derbyshire Dales which are all rural in nature and the more heavily populated Sheffield and Rotherham local authorities.

The District has a population of 99,352¹. Its most densely populated areas are Dronfield and Clay Cross. There is a significant difference between its age structure and that of the region. There are, for example, lower proportions of people aged 20-34 (NEDDC -15.2%, East Midlands -19.2%) and higher proportions of people aged 55-79 (NEDDC - 31.4%, East Midlands - 25.5%).

Just over one fifth (21.0%) of the District's population resides within the most deprived 30% nationally. Conversely, however, 34.8% live within areas categorised as being within the three least deprived groups (national figure - 30%). At 4.2% unemployment in North East Derbyshire is below both national (5.2%) and regional (4.7%) averages. Average earnings are above those found in the East Midlands but below the national average.

Adult obesity (26.8%) is above national (24.0%) and regional (25.5%) averages; whilst child obesity rates (at 17.6%) are, slightly lower than the national (19.1%) and regional (18.5%) rates. Child obesity rates increase significantly between reception and Year 6, by which time just under one third of children (31.9%) are categorised as being either overweight or obese.

The projected increase in the general age of the population of North East Derbyshire will place increasing pressure on a range of services. The importance of ensuring that this cohort gets more active (with a view to sustaining and improving the general health of the local population) will become increasingly relevant. It is important that facility programming and access is considered as part of the District's sport and physical activity offer.

According to the 2011 Census, 98% of the local population classified its ethnicity as White. This is higher than the England rate of 85.4%. The next largest population group (by self-classification) is Asian, at 0.8%; markedly lower than the national equivalent (7.8%).

Over the period to 2025, ONS projects that the overall number of people in the District of North East Derbyshire will rise by 3,037. The age profile will also change with increases in a number of age groups expected. ONS indicates an increase of 504 (3.2%) in 0-15 year olds but a fall of 1,347 (14.0%) 16-24 year olds. By 2033 there is a predicted increase of 5,075 (5.1%) from 2014. This includes a 37.5% rise in numbers aged 65+ to become almost one third of the population.

Sport England segmentation indicates that participation, sports tuition and sports club membership are comparable with national/regional averages. In common with other areas, fitness/gym and swimming are the most popular activities and are known to cut across age groups and gender. In North East Derbyshire, approximately one in nine adults goes to a gym at least once a month, with nearly one in eleven adults going swimming.

Partnership based work is essential and is likely to produce the best facilities, ensure maximally efficient facilities management and ensure that they are protected and/or enhanced via any new development (in line with national planning policy).

¹ Source: ONS 2014 Mid Year Estimate

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The Strategy 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.
- ◀ An increasingly ageing swimming pool stock some of which was built over 40 years ago and by the end of the strategy period will be closer to 60 years old.
- ◀ Limited capacity and ambition among NGBs to invest time and effort in developing clubs and programmes of activity in the area.
- ◀ Health partners' ambitions to address physical inactivity and obesity levels.
- ◀ A growing and active 'grey market' which is time rich, especially during the day.

Planning

NPPF paragraph 74 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

It is, therefore, essential that NEDDC, as the local planning authority, retains oversight with regard to all potential facility developments. This includes policies and potential supplementary planning documents setting out the approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development. It also includes the Council's approach to ensuring that community use of any new facilities is agreed at the outset so as to ensure that they contribute to the wider sport and physical activity aspirations of the Council and its partners. The approach taken to this is pivotal to strategy delivery over coming years.

Housing growth in North East Derbyshire

North East Derbyshire Local Plan Consultation Draft 2011 – 2033 (Extract Feb 2017):

Table 1 shows overall recommended growth level of 5,740 dwellings, which combined with the 1,016 dwellings already built is more than sufficient to meet the minimum provision of 6,600 dwellings, as set out in Policy SS2. This along with commitments in areas that do not align with the strategy and on small sites below 10 dwellings provides an added level of flexibility. Thus ensuring that delivery issues associated with individual development sites would not affect the ability to deliver the overall minimum of 6,600 dwellings.

Generally speaking, the Council aims to bring forward a more balanced approach of housing distribution throughout the district (especially between the north and south) which means that almost the half of the housing growth would go to the principle towns of Clay Cross and Dronfield and the secondary towns of Eckington and Killamarsh.

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The current resident population in North East Derbyshire is recorded as 99,352 (based on the 2015 MYE)². Building on the current housing allocations and options that the Council has identified there will be a need to ensure that contributions from all new developments are secured to provide for the sporting needs arising from the residents of that development.

Table 1: Proposed number of new homes North East Derbyshire

	Number of dwellings	Total population ³
Level 1 Settlements (Towns)	2,508	5,768
Strategic Sites	1,270	2,921
Level 2 Settlements (Large Villages)	1,962	4,512
Total	5,740	12,202

Identified housing growth in North East Derbyshire demonstrates the need for the Council to protect its key strategic sites such as Sharley Park Leisure Centre, Dronfield Leisure Centre Eckington Swimming Pool and Killamarsh Sports Centre within planning policy. Section 106 contributions or CIL (the Community Infrastructure Levy) should be used to improve the quality and scope of existing indoor and built facilities to enable increased capacity and use to be accommodated, enhancing the operator's ability to increase participation at relevant centres. Consideration should also be given to applying such funds to improve the quality of school sports facilities, where they enhance and extend the community use of schools

Sports facility requirements

Using Sport England's Sports Facility Calculator⁴ it is possible to estimate the requirement for additional indoor sports hall and swimming pools across the District using the total increase in population of 12,202. Table 2 shows the estimated requirement with costs of provision

Table 2: Estimated swimming pool and sports hall requirement with estimated costs

Facility	Estimated cost
3.3 badminton courts	£1,769,000
2.35 lanes of a 25m pool	£2,113,000
Total cost	3,882,000

*Based on the average national occupancy rate of 2.3 persons per household

In terms of overall new facility requirements⁵ Table 2 identifies that neither facility type will generate enough demand for an additional new facility in its own right at this stage.

Potential specific facility improvements in the vicinity of the key growth sites have been identified in the strategy action plan. The exact nature and location of provision associated with these developments should be fully determined through the local planning process. In essence the Council will need to use the evidence base to determine which developments could fund built facility provision and if this is appropriate use of planning gain resources.

² Source: ONS 2015 Mid-Year Estimates

³ Based on the average national occupancy rate of 2.3 persons per household

⁴ More information on the Sports Facility Calculator can be found here <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/sports-facility-calculator/>

⁵, (using a four court hall , 25 x 4 lane pool as a minimum)

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ASSESSMENT REPORT RESEARCH FINDINGS

The following section summarises the key findings of the Needs Assessment Report. These enable key conclusions to be drawn:

Sports halls

- There are six main sports halls in North East Derbyshire and 16 within one mile of its border. All halls are rated above or below average, none are good or poor.
- Nearly half (46%) of the resident population lives within 20-minute walk time of a sports hall and all residents live within a 20-minute drive.
- Existing sports halls are located in the more densely populated areas.
- All six sports halls are available for community use although three are joint use and on school sites thus limiting their availability during the school day,
- The sports halls accommodate a variety of activity and perform a valuable function supporting local sports and teams to train and compete.
- NGBs suggest that current access to, and the quality of, venues is adequate to meet local demand.
- There is identified demand for more sports hall space for fencing. Wingerworth Fencing Club trains fencers to international standard and is keen to grow in the area.
- FPM data confirms that North East Derbyshire has a balance of quality and available sports halls.
- Satisfied demand is relatively high at 93.2% and unmet demand 6.8%, almost exclusively due to people living outside of facility catchment; most restricted by lack of access to a car.
- Sport England's Sports Facility Calculator (SFC) suggests that future population increases will result in a demand for an additional 2.07 badminton courts worth of sports hall space by 2037 in comparison to current requirements.

Swimming pools

- There are four main swimming facilities in North East Derbyshire (Dronfield Leisure Centre, Eckington Swimming Pool, Nuffield Fitness Centre and Sharley Park Leisure Centre) and four within one mile of the Authority boundary (Alfreton Leisure Centre, Queens Park Sports Centre, Graves Tennis and Leisure Centre and Westfield Sports Centre)..
- The main swimming pools are a mixture of good and below average in quality.
- Two (Eckington and Sharley Park) were built 40+ years ago and despite investment in Shirebrook in 2007, both are considered to be in below average condition and are likely to require increasing investment to keep them operational and fit for purpose.
- Existing pools are located in more densely populated areas and approximately one third (32%) of the population lives within a 20 minute walk of a facility.
- One pool, Nuffield Health Fitness Centre, which is located in the north east of the District, offers limited availability.
- The other three NEDDC main pools are each supported by a learner/teaching pool.
- People aged 65+ will comprise almost one third of the population by 2025. This age group is more likely to participate in swimming, confirming potential increased demand for pool space.
- NEDDC pools management reports that demand is being met at all sites and there are no waiting lists for lessons.
- All three local authority sites offer a balanced programme of aquatic activity
- There are swimming clubs based at each NEDDC swimming pool venue.
- North East Derbyshire has a balance of quality and available swimming pools in terms of number, capacity and distribution, effectively at present demand matches supply.
- Satisfied demand is relatively high at 92%.
- Population increases will lead to demand for an additional 1.51 lanes of water space by 2033 which should be accommodated within current facility stock.

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Health and fitness

- ◀ Including commercial and smaller facilities, there are 425 stations available in the District.
- ◀ The eight health and fitness suites with 20+ stations all offer community use - a total of 387 stations.
- ◀ The largest Local Authority owned facility is at Dronfield Sports Centre which has 76 stations.
- ◀ Facilities are generally located in the more populated areas of the District.
- ◀ Nearly half (46.73%) of residents live within a 20-minute walk of a health and fitness suite and 100% live within a 20 minute drive of one.
- ◀ The majority of facilities assessed were rated as good or above average.
- ◀ Three of the eight main health and fitness suites are local authority owned; it is important that these remain affordable and accessible to the wider community. Membership is spread throughout the District and beyond for all three facilities.
- ◀ UK penetration rates suggest a current shortfall of 135 stations. This will, if left at current levels, increase to a shortfall of c.250 by 2033, based on current supply.
- ◀ Provision of health and fitness facilities is key to underpinning the business case for multi sports facility venues; this should not be overlooked where there is an indication that supply is sufficient within the local area.
- ◀ There are five identified studios based at four different sites across North East Derbyshire.
- ◀ Studios are an important part of the wider health and fitness offer and are particularly important in attracting hard to reach groups.
- ◀ Studios are distributed across areas of higher population.
- ◀ Studios' condition is generally below average. The one rated above average is at the Sitwell Arms Hotel.
- ◀ The disparate nature of the management of studios makes it difficult to co-ordinate the sport and physical activity offer they make. It is nonetheless important that they are considered and used to engage the inactive, the overweight and people from hard to reach groups.

Squash courts

- ◀ There are currently seven squash courts at three sites in North East Derbyshire.
- ◀ Courts are distributed across the District, however there are large rural areas without access to a court.
- ◀ Four courts are in above average condition and two are below average. All are available for community use.
- ◀ Squash facilities appear to be meeting demand with capacity for the game to grow within the existing infrastructure.
- ◀ There is demand for the majority of courts in the District at peak times in the form of two teams plus pay and play activity.
- ◀ Protection of courts is a primary focus for the NGB as supply is deemed to be adequate.

Athletics

- ◀ There are currently two six lane track and field facilities at two school venues in North East Derbyshire (Nuffield Health Fitness Centre Mount St Mary's College and Tupton Hall School)..
- ◀ One is of above average quality and is home to Chesterfield Athletics Club. The other is good quality, UKA certified and used for a number of local, regional and national events.
- ◀ Both are well utilised and can meet demand.
- ◀ Priority should be given to maintaining track quality and ancillary to ensure that future demand can be met.

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Summary

NEDDC:

- ◀ Recognises the importance of the current leisure facility stock to the health and well-being of its residents
- ◀ Understands the requirement to take account of this in its planning to meet future needs.
- ◀ Appreciates the importance of working with partners to maintain and extend the facility base in the Authority.
- ◀ Appreciates the need to ensure coordinated programming within its own facilities to maximise levels of physical activity opportunity and increase levels of participation
- ◀ Recognises the need to work in partnership with other bodies to achieve this.

The situation is relatively simple, given that there are relatively few facilities in a small and largely rural population. The service providers include Fitness for All, schools and the local authority itself. Both via its relationship with Facilities for All and independently NEDDC has a good relationship with many of these.

With regard to specific facilities the Assessment Report confirms the following:

- ◀ Sports hall management is diverse with local authority, parish council, schools and a third party operator all responsible for different facilities.
- ◀ Most sites offer extensive community use although because half of the main sports halls are located on school sites this is limited during the day.
- ◀ All but one swimming pool are local authority operated, providing accessible facilities for local residents.
- ◀ Although there is variation in facility quality in sports halls in North East Derbyshire, two are rated as below average.
- ◀ Health and fitness suites are generally good or above average.
- ◀ Other facilities are generally of good or above average quality. Exceptions to this include squash courts and Sharley Park and Eckington swimming pools which are assessed as below average.
- ◀ There appears to be a relatively balanced and varied programme of activities in sports halls, catering for both pay and play and sports club / community organisation activity
- ◀ Swimming pools are also programmed with a variety of activities and opportunities and cater for the local swimming clubs as well as the wider community.
- ◀ There are insufficient health and fitness suites to meet either current or future demand
- ◀ There are sufficient squash courts and athletics tracks to meet local demand.
- ◀ Current supply of squash courts and athletics tracks (if all are retained and kept in reasonable or better condition) will also meet predicted future demand.
- ◀ Population projections suggest that the number and proportion of older residents in North East Derbyshire will increase over the next 20 years. This may lead to increased demand for swimming pools. sports hall usage during the day and possibly health and fitness suites and studios.

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STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The key strategic priorities to be considered in delivering this strategy include the need to:

- ◀ Recognise and ensure that sport and leisure facilities make an important contribution to quality of life in the District.
- ◀ Ensure that NEDDC owned facilities contribute to reducing health inequalities and are fully accessible to, and used by, people from harder to reach communities
- ◀ Ensure the two swimming pools (Eckington and Sharley Park), which are considered to be below average, are refurbished or replaced to ensure that they meet the needs and expectations of the local community.
- ◀ Reflect the fact that facilities are managed by multiple operators which makes coordination and planning difficult.
- ◀ Address the lack of daytime access to sports.
- ◀ Subject to relevant planning considerations, to support other developments (via planning and officer expertise) which will underpin increased levels of sport and physical activity in the wider community.
- ◀ Continue to develop and maintain relationships with a range of leisure providers/partners which offer potential to make facilities more accessible to the community especially during the day (these include a range of schools).
- ◀ Improve the breadth, depth and quality of data collected (and shared) and the associated monitoring and analysis of facility usage to inform future marketing, promotion, programming and pricing.

Planning

The results of the needs assessment and recommendations of the Strategy should be considered in the future Local Plan policy making review and infrastructure delivery plans. It is, therefore, important that NEDDC, as the local planning authority uses the findings of the needs assessment and strategy to inform development of any new appropriate planning policy setting out its approach to securing sport and recreational facilities via new housing and other development where appropriate.

It should also consider the potential role of supplementary planning documents in helping to provide and enhance such facilities and as guidance to form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate indoor facilities.

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STRATEGY VISION AND OBJECTIVES

“To work with partners to create high quality, sustainable leisure and sports facilities which meet community need, increase participation, help tackle health issues and provide accessible, inclusive activities for North East Derbyshire residents as part of an active lifestyle.”

This builds upon the Assessment Report (September 2016) and Sport England’s recently released five year strategy ‘Towards an Active Nation’, which aims to target people who do less than 30 minutes of exercise each week and focuses on less active groups; typically women and girls, the disabled and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

NEDDC’s strategy provides a framework within which a clear, coherent way forward for the management and delivery of leisure and sports facilities in North East Derbyshire can be aspired to predicated upon the need 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 District up until 2033.

Strategic objectives

The vision is based upon a clear, achievable framework of strategic objectives (not in any priority) and summarised in the boxes below. The three main themes of the strategy to *protect, enhance and provide* reflect North East Derbyshire priorities and Sport England’s planning aim and objectives for sport. It is recommended that NEDDC and its partners adopt the following (as policy) to enable the above vision to be achieved:

Objective 1: Protect

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.

Objective 2: Enhance

Enhance the district-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

Objective 3: Provide

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

Facility hierarchy

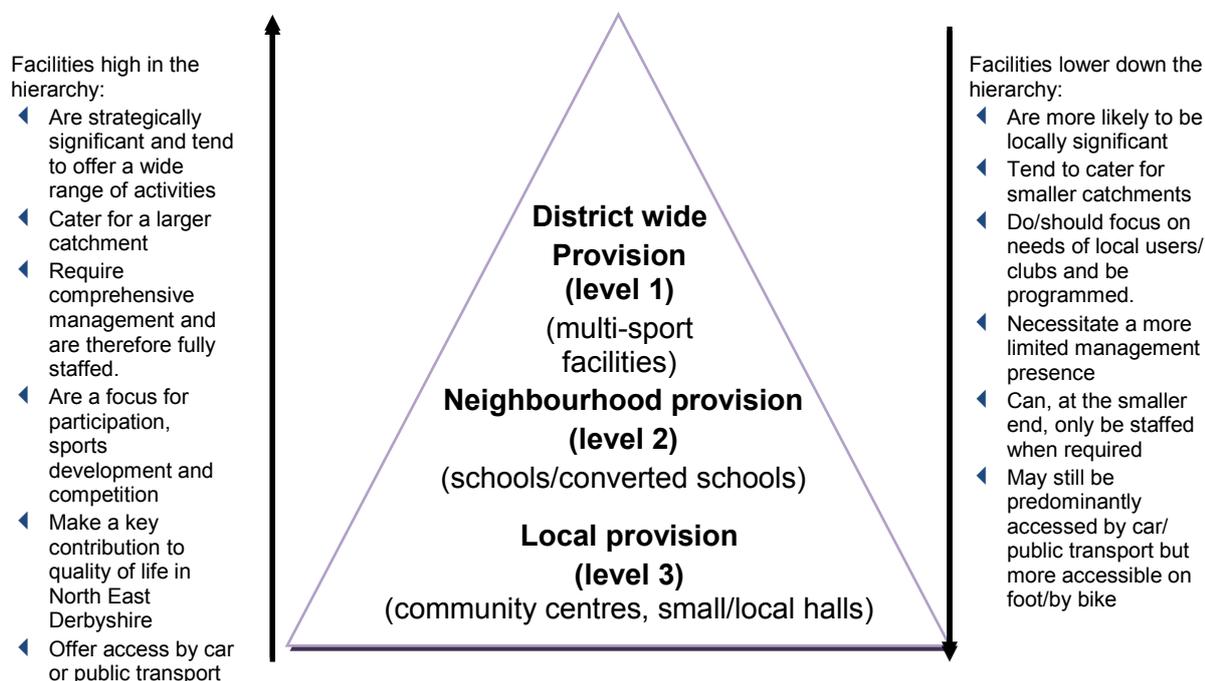
NEDDC and partners will ensure that the network of leisure and sports facilities across the District works to maximum benefit and that, where possible, each facility performs a specific role and function in the drive to increase participation in sport and physical activity and contribute to wider community health and well-being.

In keeping with this, there is a need to develop a sports facility hierarchy in North East Derbyshire in which specific venues have distinct roles and functions; carry differing levels of community importance, operational weight and related staffing.

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In parallel, it is important that facilities have a defined function from a user perspective. Hence district wide and key community facilities deliver orchestrated physical activity geared to extended participation and improving health whilst key neighbourhood facilities offer accredited clubs opportunities to develop their sports. Broad principles are illustrated in the hierarchy diagram shown below, whilst key principles are as shown in Table 1.

Figure 2 Facility hierarchy – core principles



It is worth noting that facilities identified in local provision are generally smaller than those identified within the scope of this commission. They are, however, 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.

Table 1: Proposed facility hierarchy – site designation and definition

Designation	Role and function
Key provision: of district significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary performance venue for a single or select number of priority sports. Offers potential to host district and local events and draw in people from surrounding rural areas. Provides a range of opportunities for residents (and visitors) to participate in sport and physical activity, contributing significantly to quality of life. Provides and programmes opportunities for local people to try new activities, develop their skills and progress to taking part with greater frequency and/or at higher performance levels. A core venue for training and development of teachers, coaches, volunteers, officials and others in key local sports organisations.

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Designation	Role and function
Neighbourhood provision: education or multi sports hubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to quality of life of residents within the local community, and provides a range of opportunities to participate. • Generally either stand-alone community facilities or dual use sports facilities on school sites. • Venues with potential to host locality/town-based local events. • A base for provision of opportunity (delivered by a range of providers) for local people to develop their skills and try new activities. • Core venue for health and fitness activity in the local area. • Core venues to accommodate swimming lesson programmes (where pools are available). • Options for sports organisations to train, play and compete. • Supports the voluntary sector to raise standards with respect to coaching, coach education, administration and volunteer development. • Use reflects demographic profile of the local community and draws in people from adjacent rural areas. • Improves quality of PE and school sport opportunity for young people attending the school at which it is located.
Local provision Community centres and village halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tend to be stand-alone small informal/sports facilities which operate independently and are found in villages or distinct urban community settings. • Where in the vicinity of neighbourhood provision it should seek to complement programming and the range of opportunities offered to the locality. • Contributes to quality of life of the locality, accommodating a small range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity. • Provides opportunity – often for just for one or two dedicated sports organisations to participate, train and compete (e.g. aerobics. martial arts). • Programming can be set out, or have evolved to, appeal to a specific demographic e.g. older people or community groups.

Facility development

The following section identifies major investment requirements over the life of this Strategy, which is to the end of the Local Plan 2033. It describes what is needed in order to 'protect', 'enhance' and 'provide' sport and leisure facilities for the residents of North East Derbyshire and enable the Council to meet its wider objectives. It first considers swimming as a key opportunity, which appeals across age and gender to the wider population.

Sharley Park Leisure Centre: is a key facility in the District. Built in 1974 it was in receipt of significant investment in its pools in 2007 but both swimming facilities and the sports hall (plus the associated changing facilities) are now considered to be in below average condition. It will be necessary to undertake a feasibility/cost benefit analysis (which will take account of local need) to understand whether investing in this facility is preferable to developing new facilities. This may well lead to increases in participation and prove to be the most economically viable for a discerning public.

Eckington Swimming Pool: There is no record of significant investment in this site and it is also identified as being of below average quality. There are plans for investment in 2017, which should lead to improved quality.

Consideration needs to be given to the long term viability of these two facilities in particular given the likely potential increased requirement to invest.

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Enhancing facility management and operation

In delivering the above NEDDC 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 the leisure operators in the District 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 North East Derbyshire definition of community use to which all partners sign up and agree to implement. This should be done with a view to recognising the importance of making well organised collectively programmed community use the norm in sports halls across the Authority and, for example, attracting people from older age groups into facilities.

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

- ◀ How partners might engineer an 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 District, seeking to 'even out' the range of presently disparate management arrangements currently in place.
- ◀ How to ensure that price is progressively tackled as a barrier to participation; especially for young people, older people and economically challenged residents.
- ◀ How housing developments (and planning contributions), despite them being relatively small, in comparison to many other parts of the country (Killamarsh, Dronfield and Eckington) can complement current and projected future demand for sport and physical activity.
- ◀ How to increase activity and reduce inactivity.

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

ACTION PLAN

The following actions are relative to the overall management and programming of key facilities in North East Derbyshire. All actions identified below should take account of accessibility issues (hearing, visual and wheelchair access).

Strategic function/aim	Challenges	Recommended actions	Facilities	Time-scale	Partners	Importance
District wide programming Provide	To ensure an holistic approach to programming across all facilities leading to improved access for all sections of the community.	Consider current programming across the District Define the role of each facility within the wider community use offer across North East Derbyshire Develop a site by site action plan for improving programming across the District based on user need and sports development opportunities	All	Short	Schools & community centres	High
Community use agreements Provide	To increase the availability of the current stock of sports halls to more sections of the community.	Using partnership working, identify available time (especially during the day) to extend community use. Consider this on a site by site basis with a view to increasing opportunities for the ageing population.	All sites	Short	Schools	High
Sports halls Provide	To improve access to facilities during the day time given the current reliance on educational facilities for indoor activity	On a site by site basis consider whether there are appropriate solutions to extending day time access, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Key holder access to specific sports groups ◀ Designing in good access to new facilities ◀ Working with schools to accommodate community based organisations ◀ Use of CIL receipts (if available)for schools to improve community access 	Level 2 facilities	Short	Schools	Medium
Incorporating Level 3 facilities into the broader activity portfolio	To develop an improved understanding of the importance of Level 3 facilities with regard to the physical activity offer	NEDDC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Identify a project coordinator to lead on this element of work ◀ Review Level 3 facilities to see which are able to increase physical activity...and consider how they fit into the wider programming offer. ◀ Identify improvements to Level 3 facilities (ensuring that they 	Level 3 facilities	Medium	Parish councils Community groups Private	Medium

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Strategic function/aim	Challenges	Recommended actions	Facilities	Time-scale	Partners	Importance
Provide		are fit for purpose).			facilities	

Strategic function/aim	Challenges	Recommended actions	Facilities	Time-scale	Partners	Importance
Planning Protect, Enhance, Provide	To recognise the importance of this study and ensure recommendations are acted upon.	<p>NEDDC to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Adopt the recommendations in this Study and ensure that they are encapsulated in planning policy documents (Local Plans) and other relevant NEDDC strategies where appropriate. ◀ Identify and determine priority developments that could be funded via CIL/Section 106 plus other sources of funding, informing the regulation 123 List and identification of infrastructure requirements within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. 		Medium	Planning & Leisure Team	High
Monitor and review	Keeping the Facilities Strategy relevant and up to date	<p>NEDDC to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Complete a light touch annual review of strategy implementation ◀ Undertake a complete implementation review in 2022. 		Medium	NEDDC	High

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)	Objective
Sharley Park Leisure Centre (District wide provision)	NEDDC	This significant wet and dry site is of below average quality. The key challenge is, thus, to ensure that its quality rating is good and that the facility provides what the community needs. This might mean refurbishment or more likely a new facility.	Define the role of the facility within the local community use offer in North East Derbyshire and invest in it accordingly. Ensure investment is made in the facility with a view to improving its quality or consider building alternative provision. Ensure that programming of all the various facilities it contains complements that of other venues in the District. (Replacement programme required for key public sector pools is required if insufficient ongoing maintenance is undertaken)	NEDDC	Medium	Medium	Provide
Killamarsh Leisure Centre (District wide provision)	Killamarsh Parish Council	This good/above average facility offers 40+ hours of community use weekly including gymnastics, cricket, martial arts and badminton. The primary issue is ensuring its ongoing availability to the general public at the requisite level of quality and maintaining the quality and variety of the programme of activities provided.	Define the role of the facility within the local community whilst taking account of wider needs in North East Derbyshire.	NEDDC	Medium	Medium	Provide
Tupton Hall School (Neighbourhood provision))	Education	This is a good quality venue with a programme encompassing athletics, football, badminton The key challenge is to ensure that what it offers complements other activity in the District. A key challenge is ensuring that it remains available to the general public and maintains the quality and variety of its activity programme.	Define the role of the facility within both the local and wider community use offer in North East Derbyshire	School	Medium	Medium	Provide

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)	Objective
Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School (Neighbourhood provision)	Education	This is a good quality venue. Its programme of activities includes badminton, cricket, gymnastics, and aerobics. The key challenge is to ensure that programmes of activity complement other activity in the District. A key challenge is ensuring that it remains available to the general public and maintains the quality and variety of its activity programmes.	Define the role of this facility within the local and wider community use offer in North East Derbyshire	School	Medium	Medium	Provide
Smaller community facilities (Local provision)	Various	Understanding programming, availability and the quality of community facilities is a further challenge for the authority. These are generally small facilities which are spread throughout the District but which enable physical activity to be made accessible to those living in rural and harder to reach areas. If programming of them is commensurate with the wider principles of this strategy then there can be an increase in physical activity via complementary programmes.	A commitment to understanding the sporting offer at these sites needs to be agreed. This should link to integrating/supporting community use of these into the wider North East Derbyshire network. The potential to start with sites already hosting activity is recommended.	NEDDC	Short	Medium	Provide

Sport specific recommendations

Sport	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Time-scale	Objective
Athletics	Ensuring that the maintenance regimes are in place to ensure that both tracks in the District remain fit for purpose. There are currently two six lane tracks at two school venues in North East Derbyshire.	Priority should be given to maintaining track quality (and ancillary facilities) to ensure that future demand can be met.	Education facilities, England Athletics and local clubs	Medium	Provide and Enhance

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Sport	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Time-scale	Objective
Badminton	The key challenge is to continue to increase badminton participation, given the limited support available from the NGB	Liaise with schools and clubs to ensure complementary programming across North East Derbyshire. This has the potential of leading to increases in participation opportunity. Create a comprehensive workforce development plan to ensure that numbers and quality of volunteers and coaches are commensurate with the requirement of ongoing development of clubs in general.	Derbyshire Sport, local badminton clubs and NEDDC facility managers.	Medium	Provide and Enhance
Basketball	Arrows Basketball Club uses Killamarsh and Dronfield leisure centres, plus a number of other venues in Sheffield and Chesterfield. Killamarsh and Dronfield need facilities to be upgraded to meet club requirements. The sports hall floor at Killamarsh is reported to be very slippery. Facility hire costs are an ongoing challenge for the Club, with many of the juniors requiring bursaries to play. There is currently no additional demand identified for further basketball activity in North East Derbyshire.	NEDDC to work with the basketball club to ensure facilities are fit for purpose for both training and match requirements (consider different funding pots to enable upgrades to facilities). Ensure that a comprehensive workforce development plan is in place to ensure the numbers of volunteers and coaches are commensurate with the requirement of ongoing development of the Club	England Basketball, Centre management, Derbyshire Sport	Medium	Provide and Enhance

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Sport	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Time-scale	Objective
Fencing	<p>Wingerworth Fencing Club has a membership of c.50 members. It is based at a number of sites including Sharley Park Leisure Centre, where it runs two sessions per week. There is a satellite Centre at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School but uses the school dining hall as the sports hall is fully booked. It needs access to a three court sports hall in order to grow. It currently fields a number of national and international fencers.</p> <p>The Club also uses Tupton Hall School for three competitions per year and has developed a junior after school club at this facility.</p> <p>Storage of equipment is an ongoing challenge.</p>	<p>The Club needs support to help identify appropriate space that it can move into, in order that it can continue to grow.</p> <p>Ensure that a comprehensive workforce development plan is in place to ensure the numbers of volunteers and coaches are commensurate with the requirement of ongoing development of the Club</p>	England Fencing, local club and Derbyshire Sport	Medium	Provide and Enhance
Gymnastics	<p>Sharley Park Gymnastics Club is based at Sharley Park and Dronfield leisure centres, it has a capacity of 40 and waiting list of 200 for girl's gymnastics only. Events at the leisure centre can and do disrupt bookings, causing challenges of continuity. The Club aspires to have its own facility and produced a business plan four years ago. It, however, reports that it does not yet meet funding requirements to progress further.</p>	<p>Work with the Club to identify appropriate space that it can consider moving to, supporting its long term aspiration which will lead to increasing participation in gymnastics.</p> <p>Ensure that a comprehensive workforce development plan is in place to ensure the numbers and quality of volunteers and coaches are commensurate with the requirement of ongoing development of the Club</p>	British Gymnastics/ local gymnastics clubs and management at different facilities Derbyshire Sport	Long	Enhance and Provide
Squash and racketball	<p>Increasing participation in squash. Squash participation has gone down in general over the past decade. Squash facilities appear to be meeting demand with capacity for the game to grow within the existing infrastructure. There is demand for courts at peak times in the form of teams and pay & play activity.</p>	<p>Protection of courts is a primary focus for the NGB as supply is deemed to be adequate. This will entail adequate investment from NEDDC going forward to maintain supply and improve quality.</p>	NEDDC and local squash clubs.	Medium to long	Provide

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Sport	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead agency	Time-scale	Objective
Swimming/ other aquatic sports	Ensuring that the needs of different aquatic activities and community users continue to be satisfied via effective programming and pricing at the three pools.	NEDDC to undertake regular analysis of membership data with a view to identifying who is gaining access to which aquatic facilities. This will enable the Local Authority to better understand how members use the facility and how the programme might be modified to attract/service others Consideration of incentives to get the inactive more active based on the analysis of data.	NEDDC	High Priority Medium	Provide and Enhance