

Action Plan South Norfolk Swimming Pools

	Action Plan/Swimming Pools	Action Required
PROTECT	<p>SW1 South Norfolk Council to protect the existing supply of swimming pools on both South Norfolk Council and education sites.</p> <p>The needs assessment for swimming pools has identified that across the authority based on the population growth, location of new housing and aging of the core resident population the existing supply of swimming pools will be working close to the demand level for being comfortably full (Sport England assess this benchmark as 70% of pool capacity being used at peak times) and the estimate for South Norfolk is 67% in 2014 and increasing to 72% by 2026.</p> <p>The needs assessment has also identified that the combination of <u>pool numbers/locations/catchment area and locations of demand</u> are creating substantial movements across local authority boundaries in swimming demand. There is net pull of South Norfolk demand to the Sportspark and Riverside pools based on the nearest pool for some South Norfolk residents being these pool sites. This demand pull is projected to increase based on the location of population growth.</p> <p>In addition, the needs assessment has identified the demand pull of the South Norfolk pools in Diss and Wymondham to demand from Mid Suffolk and Breckland Districts, based on the same assessment of the nearest pool for some residents of these districts being in a neighbouring authority – this time South Norfolk.</p>	<p>The emerging South Norfolk Development Management Policies Document includes policy DM3.17 'Improving the level of community facilities'. The policy aims to resist the loss of local facilities, including indoor sports provision. The policy supports the provision of new facilities in accessible locations, particularly within defined Development Boundaries, but gives the flexibility to locate sites outside of those Boundaries where this would serve the local community.</p> <p>The needs assessment for swimming pools supports and endorses this policy. The needs assessment has identified that the location/catchment area of the existing swimming pool supply halls and the settlement pattern of the district means the existing provision is required to maintain accessibility as well as meet demand up to 2026 and beyond.</p> <p>The South Norfolk District Local Plan saved subject policy LE18 is concerned principally with the protection of existing open space, however in principle this would also be applicable to indoor provision. Again the needs assessment for swimming pools supports this saved policy. Any revision to this saved policy should apply the needs assessment in its revision – with retention of the policy.</p> <p>Work with existing schools to understand the actual level and type of use for clubs at their sites. Is there more scope for school pools to absorb more club use and release capacity at the public pools for other swimming activities</p>

Action Plan/Swimming Pools	Action Required
<p>The interaction of South Norfolk residents demand being met at the South Norfolk pools and the import/export pull is leading to the assessment the South Norfolk pools will be close to/just over comfortably full by 2026.</p> <p>There is a need therefore to protect and retain the SCALE of the existing swimming pool supply at the existing locations.</p> <p>There is a tipping point of whether protection of the existing supply and linked to enhancement of the existing stock can meet the small scale projected increase in demand and meet the current high levels of use. OR based on the age condition and some limitations of the size of the pool tanks on the school sites at Archbishop Sancroft High School (188 sq metres of water), Hobart High School (112 sq metres of water) and Long Stratton High School (90 sq metres of water) there is cost/sports effective case for re-provision of the school based swimming pools. pool (considered under provision).</p> <p>The margins and judgment are fine and up to date condition surveys are required to make the assessment. The needs assessment is that there is a need for a more sports/cost effective approach required for Diss Swim and Fitness Centre.</p>	<p>that require a 25m x 4 lane or larger main pool.</p> <p>For guidance the Sport England cost guidance on the capital costs of a 25m x 4 lane swimming pool (25m x 8.5m) (without any teaching/learner pool) is £2.9m. As at October 2013 prices and projecting an annual 1.8% increase thereafter.</p> <p>Consider with the other Greater Norwich Council's the scope for the development of a professional leisure management use, bookings and lettings system, which is co-ordinates across all school swimming pool sites. This action is much more valid for Norwich and Broadland as there are many more school pools with individual management/access arrangements.</p>
<p>SW2 – Support improvements at existing swimming pools where this would: lead to: increased capacity; and improve the quality of the venues and potentially offer greater flexibility of use and improve viability for community use.</p>	<p>Support and work with individual schools to understand their commitment to retention and enhancement of school based swimming pools (three schools/sites). Undertake at least a desk based assessment of the condition of the pools and scope/works to improve the ancillary swimming pool facilities. Include Wymondham</p>

	Action Plan/Swimming Pools	Action Required
ENHANCE	<p>The needs assessment has identified an aging stock and which has increasing demands on its use.</p> <p>The biggest constraint on the supply and demand balance, as set out, is the size of the pool tank at the school sites. Enhancement of existing pools will not increase the pool tank size and so enchainment is increasing the quality of the ancillary facilities. Acknowledging that school pools will meet the needs of club use and learn to swim programmes as their type of community use.</p> <p>All school pool sites have undertaken modernisation over the 2007 – 2008 period and so there maybe limited/scope for further moderinsation.</p> <p>The bigger issue is then this tipping point of modernisation or re- provision based on age, condition and need to increase the pool tank size to provide for a more extensive and effective range of use – curriculum and community. This is constrained by capital funding/costs. Up to date condition surveys are required to understand the balance between modernisation and realistic scope for re-provision. The key point is the current supply is required and with a slight increase in scale/supply and at these locations.</p> <p>The scope to have fewer but bigger pools thereby reducing revenue, if capital can be funded does appear limited because the school pools are funded by education – school and county. Also the two public pools are already larger scale pools. Finally fewer pools in more strategic locations will reduce accessibility for residents, given the dispersed settlements in the District.</p>	<p>Leisure Centre pool in this assessment.</p> <p>Funding for capital works to be considered as integral part of the outlined CIL Capital Modernisation Fund for provision or improvements to school based community sports facilities on the basis that new pools are not required but new population growth will access/create demand for the existing swimming pool supply. The scale of this increase is built into the needs assessment.</p> <p>Review with the other Council's the scope to meet increased community use at neighbouring pool sites but which are within the 20 minute drive time catchment area of some of the South Norfolk demand notably population growth in the Easton area and use of Sportspark and Riverside pool sites in Norwich.</p>

	Action Plan/Swimming Pools	Action Required
<p>PROVIDE</p>	<p>SH3 – Provision of a new community level swimming pool located in Diss as RE-PROVISION of the Diss Swim and Fitness Centre.</p> <p>The needs assessment has identified that Wymondhan followed by Diss are the areas where demand for swimming increases most between 2014 and 2026. The demand increase for swimming in both areas does not justify additional swimming pool provision; the demand increase being between 50 – 60 sq metres of water in the Wymondham area and around 40 sq metres of water in the Diss area.</p> <p>The Diss Swim and Fitness Centre opened in 1987 and is now nearly 30 years old. It is the second largest pool in the District at 313 sq metres of water for the main tank. It does have a unique catchment and does not overlap the catchment area of other pools in Diss or in Mid Suffolk and Breckland. It is estimated to import considerable demand from both authorities and the increase in demand or swimming in Breckland up to 2026 is highest in the area closest to South Norfolk.</p> <p>Overall the Diss location is very important for retention of a swimming pool to meet swimming demand up to 2026 and beyond. The cost benefit of modernisation of the existing pool, set against the opportunity to re-provide as part of an integrated swimming pool and sports hall project at the Diss Academy has to be assessed as to which is most viable.</p> <p>The needs assessment does support a strong case for an integrated swimming pool and sports hall with health</p>	<p>To develop the core business case for the provision of a replacement swimming pool located in Diss at the Diss Academy site as the first option.</p> <p>The needs assessment identifies a main pool size of 25m x 6 lanes of 320 sq metres of water and a teaching/learner pool of 100 sq metres of water. The later being based on the projected increase in demand for swimming in the catchment area of the existing Diss swim pool up to 2026. Also for the learner pool to provide more and flexibility in use of both pools.</p> <p>The projected capital cost of a pool with these dimensions based on the Sport England capital cost guidance as of October 2013 is £4.7m, with a projected annual increase in costs of 1.8% thereafter.</p> <p>The swimming pool business case to be established based on the project specification in Sport England guidance for affordable swimming pools and the facility mix for the project overall to be based on the needs assessment findings but also to provide project viability for South Norfolk District Council.</p> <p>A joint use agreement between the Council and Diss Academy setting out the type of use and a full programme of community use should be committed to as an integral part of the project development and progressed through the planning process.</p>

Action Plan/Swimming Pools	Action Required
<p>and fitness at the one site of Diss Academy. It creates critical mass and integrates school and community use on one site with shared costs of development and management. This subject to a business case review of the costs/benefits of re-provision or enhancement of the Diss Swim and Fitness Centre.</p>	