

Action Plans South Norfolk Indoor Bowling Centres

	Action Plan/Indoor Bowling Centres	Action Required
<p>PROTECT</p>	<p>IB1 – South Norfolk District to retain the existing supply and capacity for indoor bowling up to 2026.</p> <p>The needs assessment for indoor bowling centres has identified that the 4 centres in South Norfolk provide 16 rinks for public/club use and the South Norfolk demand is for 11 rinks (rounded) in 2014. So in 2014 the supply of the rinks is sufficient to meet demand. Based on the benchmark of rinks per 10,000 population South Norfolk has 1.46 rinks and this compares favourably with East Region figure is 0.54 rinks per 10,000 population and for England wide is 0.33 rinks.</p> <p>The centres range from: 2 rinks at Loddon Indoor Bowls Centre ((opened in 1968 and modernised in 2011); 4 rinks at Diss Indoor Bowls Club (opened in 1966 and modernised in 2007) 4 rinks at Shotford indoor Bowls Club (opened in 1969 and modernised in 1997) ; and 6 rinks at Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club (opened in 1964 and modernised in 1998).</p> <p>The needs assessment on the profile of sports participation for South Norfolk has identified that indoor bowling is an important activity/facility type and likely to become more important up to 2026 and beyond with the aging of the core resident population (participation is highest over 45years of age).</p> <p>So on balance the existing centres and overall supply should be retained on the basis of the positive supply and demand balance now and potential for an</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The emerging South Norfolk Development Management Policies Document includes policy DM3.17 'Improving the level of community facilities'. The policy aims to the 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. • The needs assessment for indoor bowling centres does support the policy in regard to supporting the retention of existing centres and endorses this policy. The needs assessment has identified that the location/catchment area of the existing indoor bowling centres 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. • 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 indoor bowling supports this saved policy. Any revision to this saved policy should apply the needs assessment in its revision – with retention of the policy. • Maintain a watching brief on the level of

Action Plan/Indoor Bowling Centres	Action Required
<p>increase in demand based on the profile of sporting participation across the District. There are no plans by the clubs to expand their supply.</p> <p>Participation and membership of indoor bowling clubs can and does fluctuate, depending on the management of the centre and the promotion of the activity. Therefore any potential consideration to close a centre based on declining membership should be viewed in the long term as the activity and participation rates do support the retention of four centres and this level of supply.</p> <p>The needs assessment has identified that the location and catchment area for the centres is quite good. The needs assessment is that the in 2014 some 93% of the South Norfolk demand is located inside the 20 minute drive time of an existing centre (some of these centres located in neighbouring authorities).</p>	<p>participation/membership of the indoor bowling centres. Any proposals to expand the centres based on increased membership and demand should be supported. This is because whilst the supply and demand positive balance is a favourable 5 rinks in 2014 indoor bowling is an important facility type/activity that matches closely the South Norfolk sporting profile of participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any proposals to reduce the supply of centres should be reviewed and the rationale for the reduction. This for the same reasons that indoor bowling is an important facility type that matches the South Norfolk and sports participation profile now and more so in the future.
<p>IB2 – Support clubs in their leadership of improvement projects at the existing centres.</p> <p>As set out under the protect heading The needs assessment for indoor bowling has identified that the centres are old, with all four centres having opened in the 1960's and none since. All four centres have been modernised with the most recent at Diss in 2007 and at Loddon in 2011. There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the buildings and the age of the buildings suggests a need to replace.</p> <p>The Indoor Bowling Association does not have priority</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the basis that indoor bowling is an important activity for the South Norfolk sporting population then South Norfolk to work with the Indoor Bowling Association and individual clubs and possibly as part of a Greater Norwich initiative to assist the clubs in capital grant aid applications to the Sport England Inspired Facilities Capital fund for modernisation of the centres.

	Action Plan/Indoor Bowling Centres	Action Required
ENHANCE	<p>areas for development for indoor bowling centres and it does not have a capital fund to support development of centres. The findings for South Norfolk on the need to maintain and modernise the centre based on age of buildings and the importance of the activity are mirrored in Broadland and to a lesser extent in Norwich.</p> <p>There is a collective scope to develop an initiative with the Governing Body across Greater Norwich to provide technical and grant aid governing body support for clubs. It is understood the Association has worked with Acle Indoor Bowls Club opened in 1994 and the County Arts Indoor Bowling Centre opened in 1962 both in Broadland District on previous grant aid projects for capital works but these were not submitted.</p>	