



SOUTH NORFOLK BUILT FACILITIES ASSESSMENT OF NEED AND STRATEGY 2022 – 2038



Norfolk
County Council



NORWICH
City Council



FINAL ASSESSMENT

SEPTEMBER 2022

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Appendices

Appendix A – Strategic Document Review;

Appendix B – Greater Norwich Demographic Insight Report;

Appendix C – Sports Hall FPM Report; and

Appendix D – Swimming Pool FPM Report.



The Greater Norwich Physical Activity & Sport Strategy 2022-38 was jointly funded by the Greater Norwich Growth Board and Sport England. Sport England's support is gratefully acknowledged.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In December 2013, Norfolk County Council ('Norfolk CC'), Norwich City Council ('NCC'), South Norfolk Council ('SNC') and Broadland District Council ('BDC') together with the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership signed a City Deal with government, adopting shared growth targets and forming a voluntary partnership.
- 1.2 The area known as Greater Norwich is now overseen by two separate partnership boards; the Greater Norwich Development Partnership ('GNDP'), who oversee the development of the emerging Greater Norwich Local Plan ('GNLP'), and the Greater Norwich Growth Board ('GNGB'), who oversee the strategic delivery of infrastructure that is required to support the planned growth.
- 1.3 FMG Consulting Ltd ('FMG') was commissioned by the GNGB to undertake the Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sports Strategy ('PASS') and associated Action Plan. This report, the 'South Norfolk Built Facilities Assessment of Need and Strategy 2022 – 2038' ('needs assessment') is required to assess the current and future need for a range of community indoor sport and leisure facilities, and provide an evidence base, which underpins the Greater Norwich PASS.
- 1.4 The aim is to develop a clear strategy for providing effective and sustainable sport and physical activity infrastructure for local communities up to 2038 and support the planned growth within the GNLP.
- 1.5 Following the development of the individual needs assessments for South Norfolk, Broadland and Norwich, an overarching GNGB Action Plan has been developed. This considers the three individual needs assessments and Action Plans and provides a joint Action Plan for built facilities in Greater Norwich.

Vision, Mission and Aims of the Built Facilities Strategy (BFS)

- 1.6 A vision, mission and aim for the strategy has been created, and this sets out what the BFS is trying to be achieve and why. It will cover the period 2022 to 2038.

Vision

“To enhance the health, well-being, and quality of life of our residents, by creating opportunities for and inspiring people to become more active.”

Mission

“To provide high quality built facility sports provision, to meet current need and future demand”.

Aims

1.7 The BFS will also follow the three overarching aims recommended by Sport England, which are:

1. **Protect** existing built facility provision up to 2038;
2. **Enhance** built facility provision by improving the quality and management of facilities; and
3. **Provide** new built facility provision where there is demand.

Scope of the Work

1.8 This needs assessment has been developed in line with Sport England's published guidance for developing a local assessment of need and evidence base for indoor sports and recreational facilities. This guidance is entitled 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance' ('ANOG', [view the ANOG Guidance here](#)).

1.9 This report provides a quantitative and qualitative audit assessment of the following facility types (in line with ANOG):

- Swimming pools;
- Sports halls;
- Health and fitness
- Indoor tennis centres;
- Indoor bowls centres;
- Squash courts;
- Athletics;
- Cycling;
- Gymnastics
- Boxing; and
- Community Halls.

Structure of the Needs Assessment

1.10 The structure of the needs assessment is as follows:

- Section 2 – Background and Context;
- Section 3 – Assessment Approach and Methodology;
- Section 4 – Sports Halls;
- Section 5 – Swimming Pools;
- Section 6 – Health and Fitness;
- Section 7 – Indoor Tennis Centres;
- Section 8 – Indoor Bowls Centres;
- Section 9 – Squash Courts;
- Section 10 – Other Built Facilities; and
- Section 11 – Action Plans.

2. National and Local Context

Introduction

- 2.1. In this section, we have summarised the national and local context for South Norfolk.

National Context

Sport England - Uniting the Movement ([Click here for Uniting the Movement](#))

- 2.2. This 10-year strategy was published in 2021 and is Sport England's vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity. It is the result of an 18-month consultation period with a wide range of partners and stakeholders who have helped to shape Uniting the Movement.
- 2.3. There is a recognition that more investment into sport and physical activity is needed through National Governing Bodies (NGBs), sports clubs, other organisations, and community groups.
- 2.4. It aims to remove existing barriers to sport and has three key objectives.
1. Advocation for movement, sport and physical activity;
 2. Joining forces on 5 big issues:
 - Recover and reinvent;
 - Connecting communities;
 - Positive experiences for children and young people;
 - Connecting with health and wellbeing;
 - Active environments; and
 3. Creating the catalyst for change.
- 2.5. NGBs also have their own strategy documents that set out their sport's national strategic priorities. An overview of these has been provided in Appendix A of this report.

Local Context

Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) ([Click Here for Regulation 19 Publication](#))

- 2.6. The emerging GNLP (Regulation 19) identifies where growth is needed during 2018 to 2038, with Government targets leading to around 49,500 new homes being required. It also provides up to date policies to guide developments and meet Government requirements set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 2.7. There are a number of policies within the GNLP that are relevant to the BFS. An overview has been provided in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1 – Greater Norwich Local Plan Overview

Policy	Overview
<p>Policy 1</p> <p>The Sustainable Growth Strategy</p>	<p>Policy 1 sets out the broad strategic approach. It provides the context for subsequent more detailed strategic locational, thematic and site policies within the plan. Sustainable development and inclusive growth are supported by delivery of the following, between 2018 and 2038:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the need for around 40,550 new homes, provision is made for a minimum of 49,492 new homes; • To aid delivery of 33,000 additional jobs and support key economic sectors, around 360 hectares of employment land is allocated, and employment opportunities are promoted at the local level; • Supporting infrastructure will be provided in line with policies 2 and 4; and • Environmental protection and enhancement measures including further improvements to the green infrastructure network will be delivered. <p>Housing growth is distributed in line with the following settlement hierarchy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Norwich urban area, which consists of Norwich and the built-up parts of the fringe parishes of Colney, Costessey, Cringleford, Drayton, Easton, Hellesdon, Old Catton, Sprowston, Taverham, Thorpe St. Andrew, Trowse and the remainder of the Growth Triangle; 2. The main towns, which are Aylsham, Diss (including part of Roydon), Long Stratton, Harleston and Wymondham; 3. The key service centres, which are Acle, Blofield, Brundall, Hethersett, Hingham, Loddon/ Chedgrave, Poringland/ Framingham Earl, Reepham and Wroxham; and

Policy	Overview
	<p>4. Village clusters which cover the remainder of the GNLP area.</p> <p>The strategy distributes around 74% of the growth in the “Strategic Growth Area”. This area includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main Cambridge to Norwich Tech Corridor area, including Norwich, the North East Growth Triangle, the remainder of the Norwich Fringe, Hethersett and Wymondham; • All the key strategic employment areas in the plan; • All but one of the strategic scale housing growth locations (the exception is Long Stratton); • High quality public transport, road and cycling infrastructure (both existing and planned); and • The great majority of brownfield sites in the area.
<p>Policy 2 Sustainable Communities</p>	<p>Development must be high quality, contributing to delivering inclusive growth in mixed, resilient and sustainable communities, to enhance the environment, and to mitigating and adapting to climate change, assisting in meeting national greenhouse gas emissions targets.</p> <p>This includes ensuring safe, convenient and sustainable access to on site and local services and facilities including schools, health care, shops, recreation/ leisure/ community/ faith facilities and libraries.</p>
<p>Policy 7.1 The Norwich Urban Area including the Fringe Parishes</p>	<p>Norwich and the fringe parishes will be the area’s major focus for jobs, homes and service development to enhance its regional centre role and to promote major regeneration, the growth of strategic and smaller scale extensions and redevelopment to support neighbourhood renewal. The area will provide 30,500 additional homes and sites for a significant increase in jobs, including around 257 hectares of undeveloped land allocated for employment use.</p>
<p>Policy 7.2 The Main Towns</p>	<p>This policy sets out proposed developments within the main towns of Aylsham, Diss (with part of Roydon), Harleston, Long Stratton and Wymondham. This will account for roughly 6,850 new houses. The towns play a pivotal role in the rural economy, providing employment opportunities and services for wider hinterlands.</p>

Policy	Overview
Policy 7.3 The Key Service Centres	The Key Service Centres of Acle, Blofield, Brundall, Hethersett, Hingham, Loddon / Chedgrave, Poringland / Framingham Earl, Reepham and Wroxham will continue to be developed to enhance their function as places to live and providers of employment and services to serve the settlement and its hinterland
Policy 7.4 The Village Clusters	The Policy states that a minimum of 4,220 houses will be provided to support village services, as stated in policy 1. The GNLP Sites Plan allocates sites to meet the strategic requirement for up to 482 more homes in addition to the 1,146 homes already committed in the village clusters in Broadland.

2021 Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan (GNIP) ([Click here for the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan 2021](#))

- 2.8. The GNIP concentrates on the key infrastructure requirements that support the major growth locations. It does not seek to review or prioritise agreed infrastructure, but instead it is a means of refreshing and managing the strategic programme, keeping it up to date and fit for purpose.
- 2.9. From a BFS perspective, the plan seeks to support:
- Projects that improve the quality and capacity of sports facilities;
 - Projects that encourage adoption of healthier lifestyles through individual and community participation in sport and physical activity;
 - Projects that support the delivery of the playing pitch and built facilities strategies; and
 - Projects that have an identified management strategy which provides financial sustainability in the long term.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-22 ([Click here for the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-22](#))

- 2.10. This is a joint strategy between Norfolk and Waveney Health and Wellbeing Board. In Norfolk, it is estimated that 68,700 people live in the most deprived areas of England. The difference in the life expectancy gap between those living in the most deprived and the least deprived areas is about 7 years for men and 4.5 years for women.
- 2.11. People living in deprivation are more likely to experience violence, crime and accidents, despite Norfolk having a low overall crime rate.

2.12. People living in the 20% most deprived areas are more likely to smoke, have an unhealthy diet and be less active.

2.13. The strategy identifies the following relevant priorities:

- Prioritising Prevention:
 - Creating healthy environments for children and young people to thrive in resilient, safe families;
 - Delivering appropriate early help services before crises occur; and
 - Helping people to look after themselves and make healthier lifestyle changes.
- Tackling Inequalities in Communities:
 - Identifying and ensuring access to services for those most vulnerable;
 - Promoting healthy relationships in families and communities; and
 - Helping people out of poverty, particularly hidden rural poverty.

South Norfolk Local Plan – Wymondham Area Action Plan (2015) ([Click here for the Wymondham Area Action Plan](#))

2.14. Wymondham is a forward-looking market town which embraces sustainable growth to enhance its unique identity and sense of community, whilst ensuring that its historic character and natural environment are preserved and enhanced for future generations to enjoy.

2.15. A minimum of 2,200 new houses will be built on a number of sites around the town, meeting the highest standards of design, energy efficiency and affordability whilst recognising the need to sustain and improve the historic character and natural environment of Wymondham and provide the necessary infrastructure and public open space to support new development.

2.16. 20 hectares of land will be developed for a range of employment uses to support local employment opportunities and economic growth in and around Wymondham, building on the historically strong take-up of employment land in the town and Wymondham's prominent position on the A11 corridor. Links with, and accessibility to, strategic employment growth at Hethel Technology Park will be improved.

2.17. Existing public open space in the town will be protected and enhanced and additional public open space and formal recreation will be provided to support new development with the aim of encouraging healthy and active lifestyles, improving the quality of life of local residents and alleviating visitor pressure on environmentally sensitive areas.

- 2.18. Informal recreation and public access to the countryside will be improved through the extension of existing non-vehicular access to provide a network of circular walks and links to long distance footpaths which could be enhanced to provide improved ecological networks.
- 2.19. The use of public transport (both bus and rail) will be maximised, and safe and direct pedestrian and cycle routes will be provided to link key locations in and around Wymondham and to enhance longer distance access to Hethersett.

Shaping the Future of Long Stratton to 2026 ([Click here for the Long Stratton Area Action Plan](#))

- 2.20. Long Stratton is a revitalised large village based around its historic linear street pattern and Conservation Area, growing and building on its existing broad range of jobs and services into a thriving small town. The delivery of a bypass will enable a safer and more inviting town centre with increased shops and services and an enhanced Conservation Area.
- 2.21. A minimum of 1,800 new houses will be built in locations which support the form and function of the village and deliver a bypass. The bypass will be completed before 250 of the new homes are occupied. The new housing will meet the highest standards of design, energy and water efficiency and affordability whilst recognising the need to sustain and improve the distinctive character of Long Stratton and its surroundings. The necessary infrastructure, including social and community facilities, and public open space will be provided to support new development. Good walking and cycling routes will link the new housing to the town centre.
- 2.22. Provision will be made to support a mix of local job opportunities and economic growth in Long Stratton including further opportunities for small businesses, and new commercial development relating to the enhanced town centre.
- 2.23. The town centre will be revitalised following the removal of heavy lorries and other traffic through the delivery of a new bypass. The historic streetscape of the Conservation Area will be enhanced, and a safer and more attractive environment will be created with potential to provide a new 'marketplace' to act as a focal point. The improved centre will enable the reuse of vacant buildings be brought back into use and additional retail provision will be made which is well related to the existing centre.
- 2.24. The health, wellbeing and quality of life of local residents will be improved and the sense of community that already exists within the village will be maintained and enhanced by protecting existing public open space and providing new recreation and community facilities to support existing and new development. Walking and cycling routes within the new developments will link with existing networks and provide access to both the town centre and surrounding countryside.

- 2.25. Transport improvements including bus priority routes at the A140/A47 junction and an enhanced route to the city centre will be provided. The use of public transport will be maximised, and safe and direct pedestrian and cycle routes will be provided to link existing and new development to town centre and local employment locations in Long Stratton. Bus waiting facilities will be improved.

Summary of South Norfolk Demographics

- 2.26. The full demographic insight report can be found in Appendix B to this report, the 'Greater Norwich Demographic Insight Report'. The key findings for South Norfolk from this report have been summarised below:
- The 2020 Office of National Statistics (ONS) Mid-Year Estimates projects South Norfolk to have a population of 143,066 people in 2018, an estimated growth of 13.3% since the 2011 census (124,012);
 - The population of South Norfolk is older than average, with all age groups 45 years old and above higher than the national average;
 - Residents from ethnic minority groups living in South Norfolk are below the national averages;
 - Unemployment rates are lower than the national averages;
 - There is an above average of residents in employment of professional occupations and an above average number of people in full-time employment, suggesting higher than average job security in the area and potential to access disposable income for leisure spend;
 - 88% of households own at least one car or van, this is higher than the national average of 74%, which indicates a reliance on vehicles in South Norfolk;
 - Index of Multiple Deprivation data from 2019 (IMD 2019) has ranked South Norfolk 225th out of 317 local authorities, meaning the district is in the 30% least deprived in England. However, there are some pockets of higher deprivation in the south, south-east and south-west of the district, as well as in areas located north-west of Wymondham;
 - General health is in line with national averages, with obesity in adults just below the national and regional average; and
 - Sport England Active Lives data from November 2019/ 20 details a below average number of people participating in 150 minutes or more exercise per week.

Population Growth by 2038

- 2.27. Significant population growth as a result of new housing provision is expected in Greater Norwich, as highlighted by the GNLP. The ONS Population Projections are based on considering only the mortality and death rates within the district, and therefore does not consider wider housing growth and the impact on populations.
- 2.28. To understand the potential impact on built facilities in the future, we have projected the population growth for South Norfolk and considered the impact and profile of the housing growth. Assumptions have been made on an occupancy basis of the projected housing allocations (in line with ONS and Council recommendations) on a year-by-year basis. This has been agreed with each Greater Norwich local authority, in order to provide the population data required for this detailed built facilities needs assessment.
- 2.29. Overall, the methodology considers the number of houses needed to meet the natural population growth from the ONS projects, as well as the additional population projections as a result of the proposed growth from housing. The full report and assumptions can be found in Appendix B of this report.
- 2.30. Figure 2.1 below details the wider Greater Norwich housing growth and Figure 2.2 focuses on housing growth in South Norfolk.

Figure 2.1 – Housing Growth in Greater Norwich

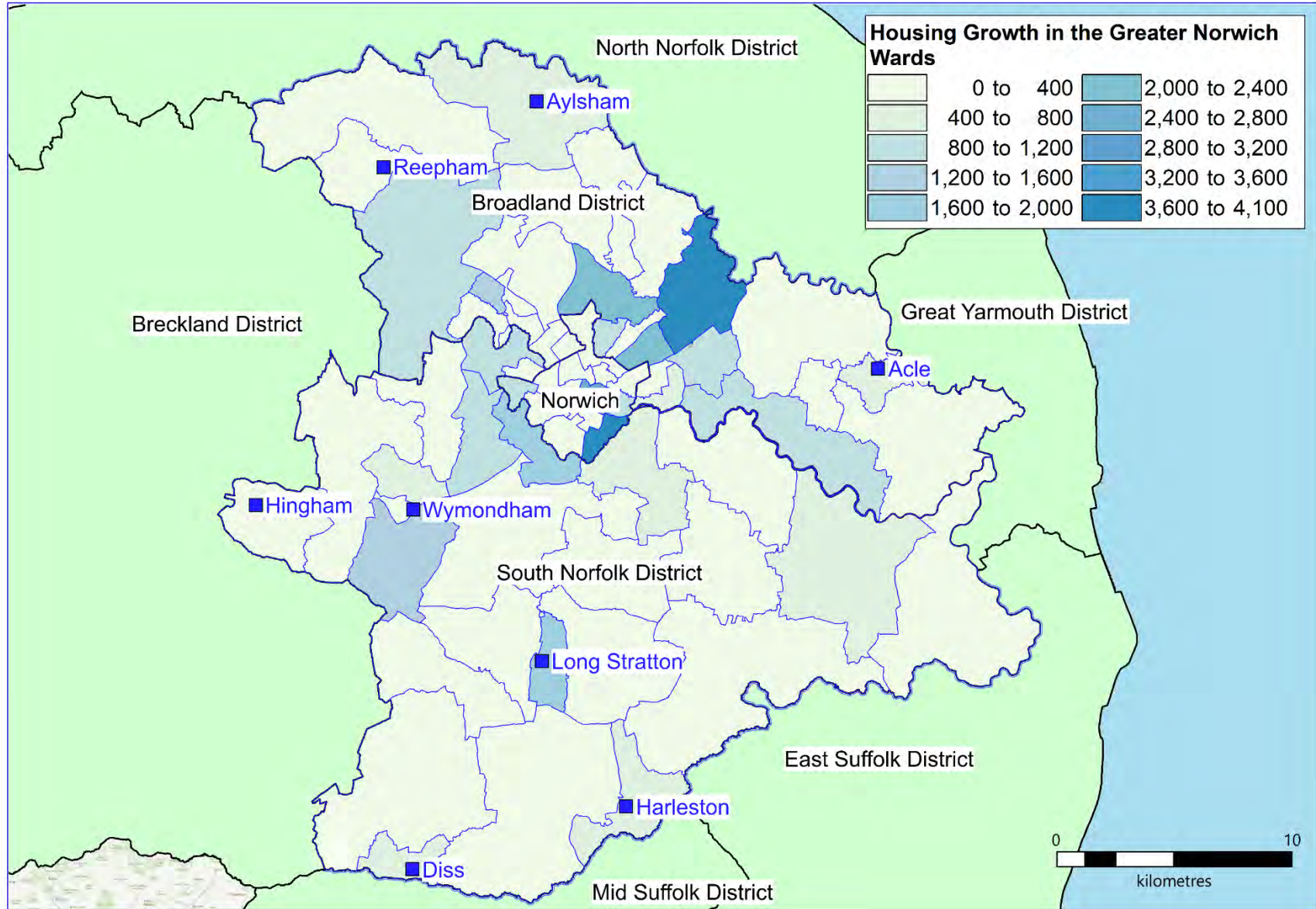
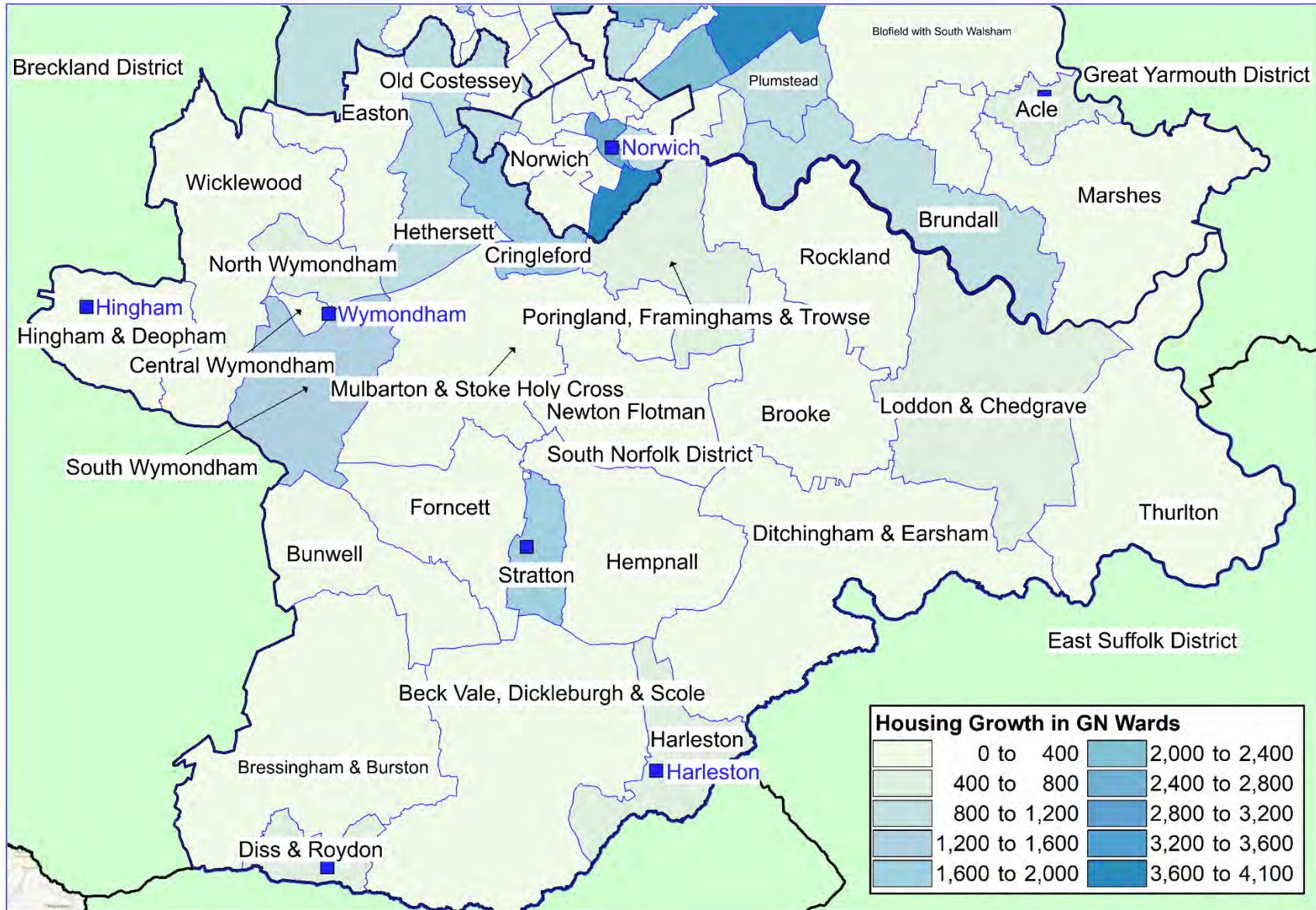


Figure 2.2 – Housing Growth in South Norfolk



- 2.31. Table 2.2 below details the estimated population growth in South Norfolk between 2018 and 2038 in 4-year gaps; 2018, 2022, 2026, 2030, 2034 and 2038.
- 2.32. Overall, the population has been projected to increase from circa 143,000 in 2018, to 185,000 by 2038. This is an increase of circa 42,000 people or 29%, with increases in the population across all age groups. Of note, there will be a growing ageing population with circa 23,000 of the population increases in people aged 50 years and above (54%).

Table 2.2 – Population Growth with Housing Growth in South Norfolk

Ages	2018	2022	2026	2030	2034	2038	Difference	Difference %
0-4	7,118	7,192	7,746	8,085	8,328	8,631	1,513	21.3%
5-9	8,338	8,634	8,854	9,134	9,418	9,602	1,264	15.2%
10-14	8,820	9,494	10,134	10,173	10,180	10,368	1,548	17.5%
15-19	7,256	7,868	9,555	10,068	10,003	9,819	2,563	35.3%
20-24	6,050	5,725	5,829	6,812	7,263	7,170	1,120	18.5%
25-29	7,048	7,365	7,398	7,178	8,071	8,694	1,646	23.4%
30-34	7,637	8,055	8,696	8,721	8,295	8,986	1,349	17.7%
35-39	8,459	8,953	10,068	10,583	10,572	9,962	1,503	17.8%
40-44	8,555	9,442	10,803	11,753	12,227	12,214	3,659	42.8%
45-49	9,593	9,253	10,236	11,607	12,454	12,845	3,252	33.9%
50-54	10,410	10,668	10,297	10,407	11,809	12,467	2,057	19.8%
55-59	10,256	10,721	11,214	10,958	10,389	11,765	1,509	14.7%
60-64	9,117	9,859	11,276	11,760	11,643	10,635	1,518	16.7%
65-69	8,515	8,881	10,274	11,686	12,314	12,261	3,746	44.0%
70-74	9,427	8,873	8,822	9,935	11,376	12,273	2,846	30.2%
75-79	6,931	8,312	9,076	8,356	9,158	10,447	3,516	50.7%
80-84	4,824	4,980	6,451	7,863	7,231	7,707	2,883	59.8%
85+	4,712	5,096	5,784	7,008	8,794	9,340	4,628	98.2%
Total	143,066	149,371	162,513	172,086	179,523	185,186	42,120	29.4%

Sub-Analysis Areas

- 2.33. Importantly, to help inform this needs assessment further, it is also key to understand where the growth will happen and how it will impact on built facilities within that area.
- 2.34. For the purpose of this work the area of South Norfolk has been broken down into Sub-Analysis Areas. Sub-Analysis Areas provide a more localised assessment of supply and demand issues within the district by grouping wards geographically.
- 2.35. The following Sub-Analysis Areas have been agreed for South Norfolk in Table 2.3 below.

Table 2.3 – South Norfolk Sub-Analysis Areas

East	West	South
Poringland, Framinghams & Trowse	Cringleford	Forncett
Rockland	Old Costessey	Stratton
Brooke	New Costessey	Hempnall
Thurlton	Easton	Harleston
Ditchingham & Earsham	Wicklewood	Diss & Roydon
Loddon & Chedgrave	Hingham & Deopham	Beck Vale, Dickleburgh & Scole
Newton Flotman	Mulbarton & Stoke Holy Cross	Bressingham & Burson
N/A	North Wymondham	Bunwell
N/A	Central Wymondham	N/A
N/A	South Wymondham	N/A
N/A	Hethersett	N/A

- 2.36. The Sub-Analysis Areas are represented in this needs assessment by the following colours:
- East – Green;
 - West – Orange; and
 - South – Blue.
- 2.37. Tables 2.4-2.6 below show the estimated population growth in the Analysis Areas.

Table 2.4 - East Analysis Area Population Growth

Ages	2018	2022	2026	2030	2034	2038	Difference	Difference %
0-4	1,474	1,478	1,547	1,583	1,614	1,669	195	13.2%
5-9	1,699	1,746	1,739	1,760	1,795	1,825	126	7.4%
10-14	1,901	2,028	2,115	2,086	2,065	2,097	196	10.3%
15-19	1,719	1,853	2,213	2,291	2,255	2,206	487	28.3%
20-24	1,292	1,214	1,215	1,393	1,467	1,442	150	11.6%
25-29	1,365	1,416	1,384	1,317	1,466	1,572	207	15.2%
30-34	1,517	1,592	1,673	1,644	1,546	1,668	151	10.0%
35-39	1,690	1,775	1,936	1,995	1,969	1,851	161	9.5%
40-44	1,831	2,007	2,229	2,380	2,451	2,440	609	33.3%
45-49	2,198	2,103	2,267	2,526	2,681	2,758	560	25.5%
50-54	2,681	2,729	2,583	2,566	2,882	3,031	350	13.0%
55-59	2,640	2,745	2,822	2,712	2,548	2,874	234	8.9%
60-64	2,371	2,553	2,875	2,951	2,894	2,633	262	11.0%
65-69	2,241	2,327	2,654	2,970	3,100	3,074	833	37.2%
70-74	2,430	2,273	2,229	2,477	2,813	3,020	590	24.3%
75-79	1,814	2,159	2,321	2,106	2,286	2,599	785	43.3%
80-84	1,254	1,290	1,641	1,966	1,796	1,907	653	52.1%
85+	1,215	1,307	1,460	1,745	2,168	2,285	1,070	88.1%
Total	33,332	34,593	36,902	38,466	39,797	40,949	7,617	22.9%

- 2.38. Population in the East Analysis Area is expected to increase from circa 33,000 in 2018 to circa 41,000 in 2038, an increase of circa 8,000 people, or 23%.
- 2.39. The main areas of growth are; Poringland, Framingham and Trowse and Loddon and Chedgrave.

Table 2.5 - West Analysis Area Population Growth

Ages	2018	2022	2026	2030	2034	2038	Difference	Difference %
0-4	3,836	3,917	4,322	4,517	4,631	4,777	941	24.5%
5-9	4,362	4,566	4,800	4,957	5,087	5,160	798	18.3%
10-14	4,581	4,983	5,433	5,461	5,437	5,509	928	20.3%
15-19	3,562	3,900	4,824	5,085	5,019	4,902	1,340	37.6%
20-24	2,905	2,779	2,887	3,375	3,575	3,509	604	20.8%
25-29	3,707	3,913	4,024	3,902	4,357	4,668	961	25.9%
30-34	4,082	4,347	4,800	4,813	4,552	4,906	824	20.2%
35-39	4,490	4,803	5,540	5,829	5,790	5,426	936	20.8%
40-44	4,446	4,961	5,827	6,347	6,572	6,529	2,083	46.8%
45-49	4,551	4,445	5,062	5,737	6,119	6,269	1,718	37.7%
50-54	4,704	4,876	4,814	4,884	5,502	5,777	1,073	22.8%
55-59	4,464	4,716	5,044	4,936	4,656	5,240	776	17.4%
60-64	3,806	4,158	4,853	5,065	4,984	4,527	721	18.9%
65-69	3,522	3,714	4,383	4,994	5,236	5,186	1,664	47.2%
70-74	3,901	3,711	3,765	4,243	4,836	5,190	1,289	33.0%
75-79	2,946	3,568	3,994	3,665	3,992	4,529	1,583	53.7%
80-84	2,022	2,110	2,787	3,388	3,104	3,291	1,269	62.8%
85+	1,989	2,173	2,519	3,040	3,794	4,016	2,027	101.9%
Total	67,876	71,640	79,679	84,238	87,243	89,408	21,532	31.7%

2.40. Population in the West Analysis Area is expected to increase from circa 68,000 in 2018 to circa 89,000 in 2038, an increase of circa 22,000 people, or 32%.

2.41. This main areas of growth around are; Wymondham, Hethersett and Cringleford.

Table 2.6 - South Analysis Area Population Growth

Ages	2018	2022	2026	2030	2034	2038	Difference	Difference %
0-4	1,808	1,797	1,877	1,984	2,082	2,186	378	20.9%
5-9	2,277	2,321	2,315	2,417	2,535	2,617	340	14.9%
10-14	2,338	2,483	2,585	2,627	2,678	2,762	424	18.1%
15-19	1,975	2,115	2,518	2,692	2,729	2,711	736	37.3%
20-24	1,853	1,733	1,727	2,044	2,222	2,220	367	19.8%
25-29	1,976	2,036	1,989	1,958	2,248	2,454	478	24.2%
30-34	2,038	2,116	2,223	2,264	2,196	2,411	373	18.3%
35-39	2,279	2,375	2,592	2,760	2,813	2,686	407	17.9%
40-44	2,278	2,475	2,748	3,026	3,204	3,245	967	42.4%
45-49	2,844	2,705	2,907	3,343	3,654	3,819	975	34.3%
50-54	3,025	3,063	2,901	2,957	3,425	3,659	634	21.0%
55-59	3,152	3,260	3,348	3,310	3,185	3,650	498	15.8%
60-64	2,940	3,148	3,547	3,743	3,765	3,475	535	18.2%
65-69	2,752	2,840	3,238	3,722	3,979	4,002	1,250	45.4%
70-74	3,096	2,888	2,827	3,216	3,726	4,064	968	31.3%
75-79	2,171	2,585	2,760	2,585	2,880	3,319	1,148	52.9%
80-84	1,548	1,581	2,023	2,509	2,331	2,509	961	62.1%
85+	1,508	1,616	1,806	2,224	2,832	3,039	1,531	101.5%
Total	41,858	43,138	45,932	49,382	52,484	54,829	12,971	31.0%

2.42. Population in the South Analysis Area is expected to increase from circa 42,000 in 2018 to circa 55,000 in 2038, an increase of circa 13,000 people, or 31%.

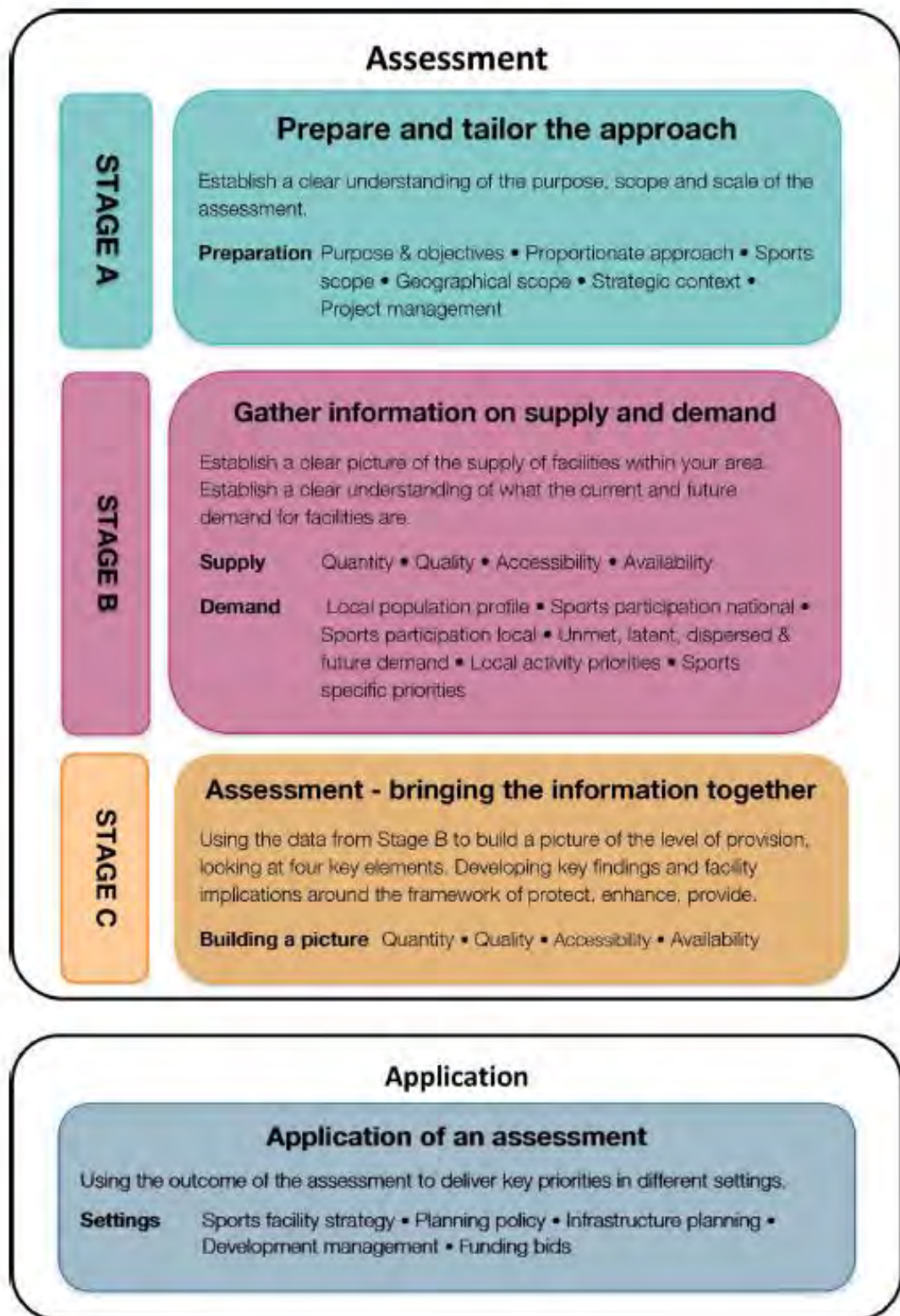
2.43. The main areas of growth are; Stratton, Diss & Roydon and Harleston.

3. Assessment Approach and Methodology

Introduction

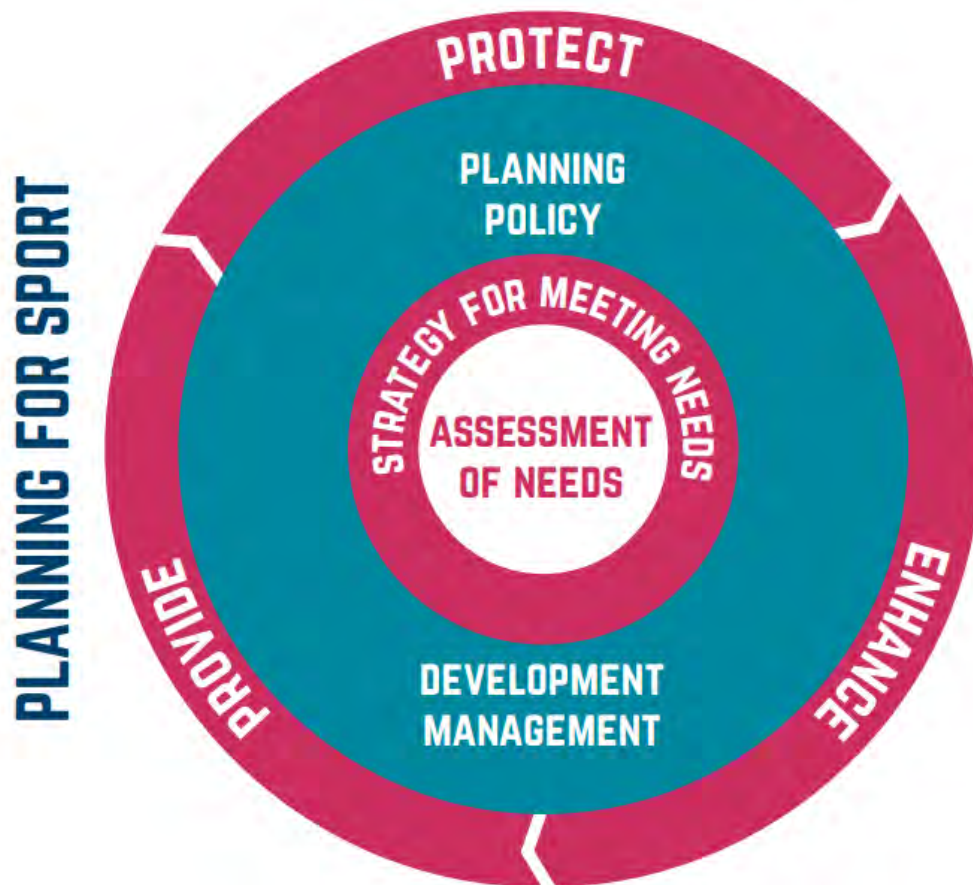
- 3.1 The Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (ANOG) is aligned with the first National Planning Policy Framework, which was published in 2012.
- 3.2 ANOG is intended to provide detailed guidance to local authorities on how to develop a local evidence base for all types of indoor and outdoor sport and recreational facilities (Paragraphs 73 and 74 of the 2012 guidance).
- 3.3 ANOG has four stages of work identified and these are shown in Figure 3.1 overleaf. The work for this needs assessment has followed the ANOG stages. The assessment for each of the facility types follows the same ANOG sequence of **Quantity, Quality, Accessibility and Availability**.
- 3.4 It should be noted that there are many alternative places and ways to be physically active, some of which fall outside the scope of ANOG. However, these are addressed through a combination of other strategies, which should all be viewed holistically, when considering the issue of how to help people become more active.
- 3.5 These strategies include, but not limited to, the Greater Norwich PASS, the Playing Pitch Strategies, the Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk, Parks and Open Spaces Strategies and the Joint Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 3.6 The recommendations from the three BFS's for Norwich, Broadland and South Norfolk will feed into a Greater Norwich BFS Action Plan, which will provide a key evidence base for the Greater Norwich PASS.

Figure 3.1 - Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance Sport England 2014



- 3.7 The Sport England ANOG guidance advises that findings from the needs assessment should be set out in the following terms for future recommendations:
- **Protect** - an evidence base which can inform policy formulation and seeks to protect existing facilities, where there is an identified current need and projected future need for community use;
 - **Enhance** - an evidence base which can inform policy and seeks to enhance the provision of existing facilities, where there is an identified current and projected future need and the most effective way to meet this need is by improvement to what already exists. This could be by improving facilities, expertise and/or personnel, or enhancing existing provision; and
 - **Provide** - an evidence base which can inform policy and lead to provision of new facilities, where there is an identified need now and in the future. It has been agreed that the most cost and sports effective way to meet this need, is by provision of new facilities.

Figure 3.2 – ANOG Approach



Sport England Data

- 3.8 There are three key Sport England data sets that have been utilised in this needs assessment.

Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM)

- 3.9 The FPM helps to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities. It has been developed as a means of:
- Assessing the requirements for different types of community sports facilities on a local, regional or national scale;
 - Helping local authorities to determine an adequate level of sports facility provision, in order to meet their local needs; and
 - Testing ‘what if’ scenarios in provision and changes in demand. This includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities, and any impact population changes would have on the needs of the sports facilities.
- 3.10 In its simplest form, the model seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport are capable of meeting local demand for sports halls and swimming pools.
- 3.11 The FPM shares many of the same attributes as other spatial planning models, such as retail modelling. In order to estimate the level of sports facility provision in an area, the FPM compares the number of facilities (supply), by the demand for that facility the local population will produce.
- 3.12 The FPM then combines these two elements and shows how much of the demand is being met and not met. It also suggests how much supply is being used and not used, while also considering how far people are prepared to travel to a facility.

Calculating the Capacity of Sports Halls – Hall Space in Courts (HSC)

- 3.13 The capacity of sports halls is calculated by each sports hall site having a capacity in Visits Per Week in the Peak Period (VPWPP). In order for this capacity to be meaningful, these visits are converted into the equivalent of main sports hall courts and referred to as ‘Hall Space in Courts’ (HSC).
- 3.14 This ‘court’ figure is often mistakenly read as being the same as the number of ‘marked badminton courts’ included in the Sport England Active Places data. However, for clarity, this is not the same and it is recognised that there will usually be a difference between this figure and the number of ‘marked badminton courts’ in Active Places.

3.15 The reason for this difference is because the HSC is the 'badminton court' equivalent of all the main and activity halls capacity; this is calculated based on sports hall size (area) and whether it is the main sports hall or a secondary (activity) hall. This gives a more accurate reflection of the overall capacity of the sports halls than simply using the 'marked badminton courts' figure. This is due to two reasons:

- In calculating the capacity of sports halls, the model uses a different 'At-One-Time' (AOT) parameter for main sports halls and for activity halls. Activity halls have a greater AOT capacity than main sports halls. Marked badminton courts can sometimes not properly reflect the size of the actual main sports hall. For example, a sports hall may be marked out with 4 badminton courts, when it has space for 3 courts. As the model uses the 'badminton courts' as a unit of size, it is important that the sports hall's capacity is included as a 3 'badminton court unit' rather than a 4 'badminton court unit'; and
- The model calculates the capacity of the sports hall as VPWPP, and then uses this unit of capacity to compare with demand, which is also calculated as VPWPP. It is often difficult to visualise how much sports hall space there is when expressed as VPWPP. To make things more meaningful, this capacity in VPWPP is converted back into 'main sports hall court equivalents' and is noted in the output table as 'Hall Space in Courts'.

Sport England Sports Facility Calculator (SFC)

3.16 The SFC is a planning tool which helps to estimate the amount of demand for key community sports facilities, created by a given population.

3.17 The SFC looks at demand for facilities and does not consider any existing supply. The SFC should not be used for strategic gap analysis, due to the fact it does not consider facility locations, capacity and availability etc. For these reasons, total demand figures generated by the SFC should not simply be compared with facilities within the same area.

3.18 However, the SFC does help with quantifying the demand side of the facility provision equation. It helps to answer questions such as, "How much additional demand for sports hall courts will the population of a new development generate, and what would be the cost be to meet this new demand at today's values?".

Sport England Active Lives Data

3.19 Sport England's Active Lives Adult Survey focuses on people aged 16 and over, while their Active Lives Children and Young People Survey looks at the activity levels of children aged 5-16.

3.20 For the Adult Survey, the overall sample size is around 175,000 people for each survey. Their minimum annual sample size for each English local authority is 500 residents, though some key areas will involve surveying a larger number of people.

- 3.21 Data is published in April for the mid-November to mid-November full year results (e.g. November 2021/22) and October for the mid-May to mid-May interim results each year (e.g. May 2020/21). The survey will take place during this time period and will ask the same questions, for example, 'have you participated in swimming at least twice in the past 28 days?'
- 3.22 In this report, we have focused on participation levels at least twice in the past 28 days. This is measured as the equivalent of 30 minutes or more activity at least twice in the last 28 days. Each session must last at least 10 minutes and be of at least 'moderate' intensity. An individual can reach the minimum threshold by a combination of two 30-minute sessions across the last 28 days or by six 10-minute sessions, for example. This is measured for all activities including sports, fitness, dance, cycling and walking (including for travel).
- 3.23 For the Children and Young People Survey, schools are randomly selected and arrange for up to three mixed ability classes in up to three randomly chosen year groups, to complete an online survey. The survey has a different design for Years 1-2, Years 3-6 and Years 7-11, to ensure suitability for each age group.

Consultation

- 3.24 As part of the evidence base development, consultation sessions and surveys were carried with various key stakeholders:
- **National Governing Bodies (NGBs)** – consultation sessions were undertaken with relevant NGBs to understand their current views on quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of the current provision. These discussions also helped identify the current and future demand and highlighted by any key clubs using facilities in the district;
 - **Built Facility Sports Clubs** – this was a survey of Greater Norwich sports clubs to establish their views about supply of current facilities, quality of facilities, accessibility and their views on current and future demand for the needs of their club;
 - **Local Authority and Operators** – consultation sessions were held with SNC, as key owners and operators of community sport and recreation facilities in the district;
 - **Education Providers** – consultation sessions and surveys were completed by schools and education providers in South Norfolk, to establish their policy towards community use, the types of community use and identify any opportunities to increase community provision and meet the needs for curriculum use; and
 - **Parish and Town Councils** – this survey was completed by Parish and Town Council's to understand the facilities provided by these authorities, identify their policy towards community use, the types of community use and highlight any opportunities to increase community use.

Monitoring and Review

- 3.25 The BFS identifies the investment and actions required to protect, enhance and provide high-quality built facilities infrastructure for South Norfolk and the Greater Norwich area up until 2038. For South Norfolk, the action plan can be found in Section 11 in this report.
- 3.26 Further to this, the Greater Norwich BFS Action Plan has been developed following the development of the three local authority needs assessments and will enable the GNGB and the Local Authorities to prioritise investment across the Greater Norwich area and work in partnership to deliver this. It will also support any related investment coming through the Community Infrastructure Levy ('CIL').
- 3.27 Each individual BFS is based on current and planned facilities in each Local Authority and there will be a need to periodically review the recommendation and actions, especially when there are changes in the facility provision both within South Norfolk and in the surrounding local authorities.
- 3.28 It will be important for the key partners to continue to monitor the Action Plan and review it on an annual basis. For Greater Norwich, the Sport and Physical Activity Working Group will be important to oversee delivery of the PASS, BFS and PPS.
- 3.29 The annual review process should include the following as a minimum:
- A review of annual progress on the recommendations, considering any changes to the priority of each action (e.g. the priority of a recommendation may change following the delivery of others);
 - Lessons learnt throughout the year;
 - New facilities that may have been developed and the subsequent impact on the recommendations and Action Plan;
 - Any specific changes of use of key sites in the district (e.g. sport specific specialisms of sites, changes in availability, etc.);
 - Any specific changes in demand at facilities and/ or clubs in the area (e.g. reduction or increase in club membership, impact of new housing growth, changes to the profile of the housing delivery;
 - New formats of traditional sports that may need to be considered; and
 - Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.

4. Sports Halls

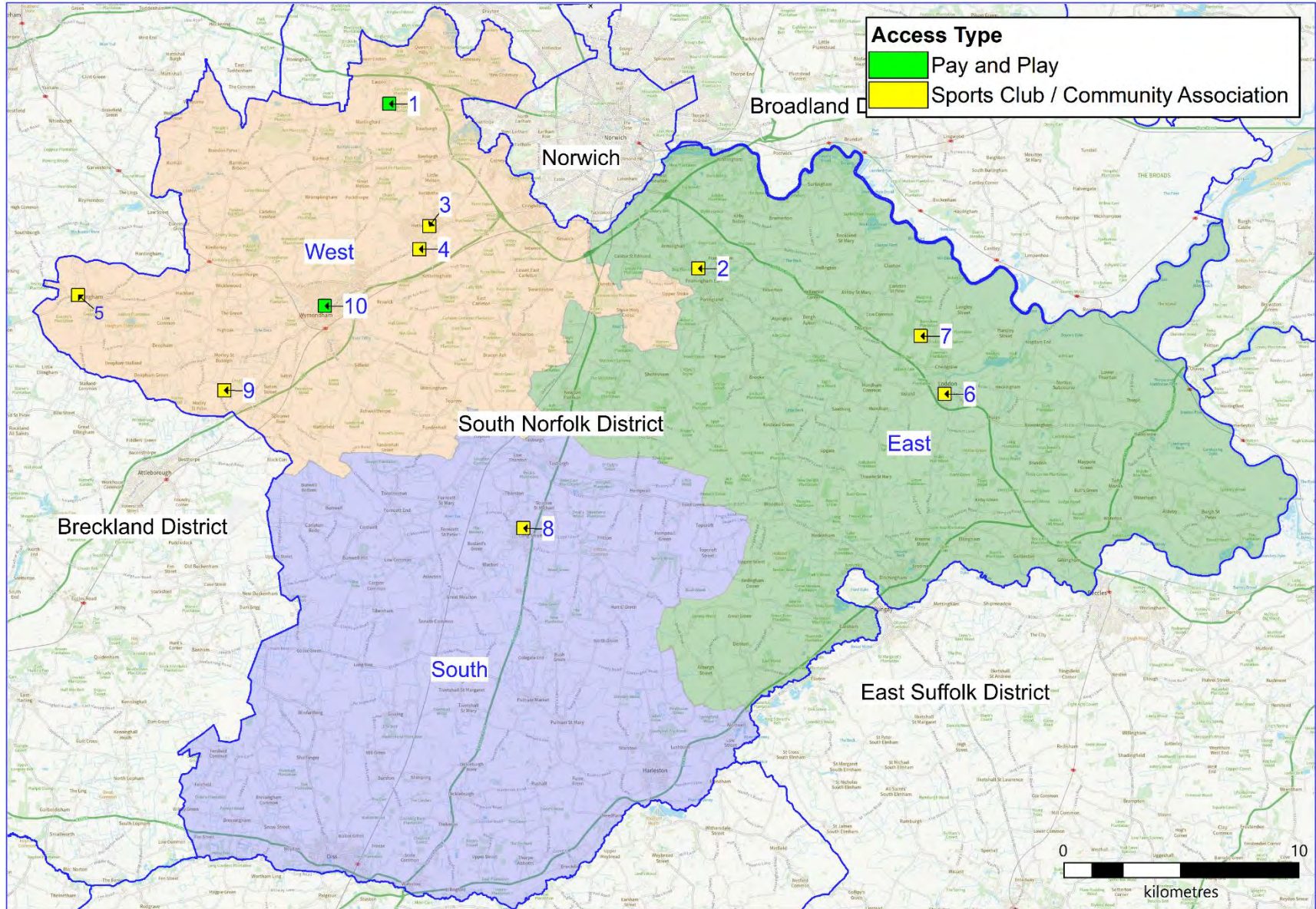
Introduction

- 4.1 Indoor sports halls are often one of the key sports facilities, allowing for various community sports and physical activity. These facilities are often suitable to allow participation in a wide range of sport and recreational activities.
- 4.2 This needs assessment uses the FPM assessment of sports halls, which was produced on behalf of Sport England for South Norfolk in 2020. It was commissioned by SNC in order to provide a current assessment of sports hall provision and provide an evidence base for the supply, demand, and access to sports halls in 2020 (to note, 2020 was the latest Sport England data set available at the time of commission). In order to understand the potential future demand for facilities, the FPM was used as a base, along with population projections and the SFC. This helped to identify future need up to 2038.
- 4.3 The standard methodology for measuring provision of sports halls is the number of badminton courts contained within the floor area. Sports halls are generally considered to be of greatest value if they are at least 3 badminton courts in size, coupled with sufficient height. Only sports halls of at least 3 badminton court size are included in the FPM assessment. The exception to this is where smaller sports halls (or activity halls) are on the same site as a sports hall with at least 3 courts, and so these are included within the assessment. Please also note the methodology of calculating sports hall courts, which is detailed in Section 3 of this needs assessment.
- 4.4 A 4-court sports hall provides greater flexibility and allows more activities to take place, such as basketball, football, netball and indoor cricket. Larger halls (5 badminton court size and above) can also accommodate higher level training and/or competition sport, as well as meeting day to day need more effectively.
- 4.5 The data and findings from the FPM study are reviewed in this needs assessment. This has been presented to ensure it follows the same structure and sequence of reporting as the other facility types in the BFS and is therefore consistent in applying the ANOG methodology. This report presents the strategic district-wide findings taken from the FPM study.
- 4.6 The full FPM report can be found in Appendix C. The key findings from the supply, demand and access assessment are set out below and are described in full under each ANOG heading.

Quantity

- 4.7 There are 10 sports halls, of which 7 are educational sports hall sites, 2 are local authority leisure centre sites and 1 is a sports club owned sports hall site. The public leisure centres account for 20% of the total supply, educational providers are 70% and the sports club is 10%.
- 4.8 The total supply is the equivalent of 56 badminton courts, of which 16 badminton courts are unavailable for community use in the weekly peak period (mostly at the educational sites), which represents 28% of the total supply.
- 4.9 Map 4.1 overleaf details the locations of the sites with at least one sports hall of at least 3 badminton courts.

Map 4.1 – Sports Hall Locations in South Norfolk



Site ID	Site Name	Site ID	Site Name
1	Easton And Otley College	6	Hobart High School
2	Framingham Earl Sports Centre	7	Langley School
3	Hethersett Academy	8	Long Stratton Leisure Centre
4	Hethersett Old Hall School	9	Wymondham College
5	Hingham Sports And Social Club	10	Wymondham Leisure Centre

Quality

- 4.10 Excluding the educational sports hall sites which opened before 1960, the average age of the sites is 32 years. The newest sports halls are Hobart High School, which opened in 2006, and Framingham Earl Sports Centre, which opened in 2005. No new sports halls have opened since 2006.

Site Visits and Survey Responses

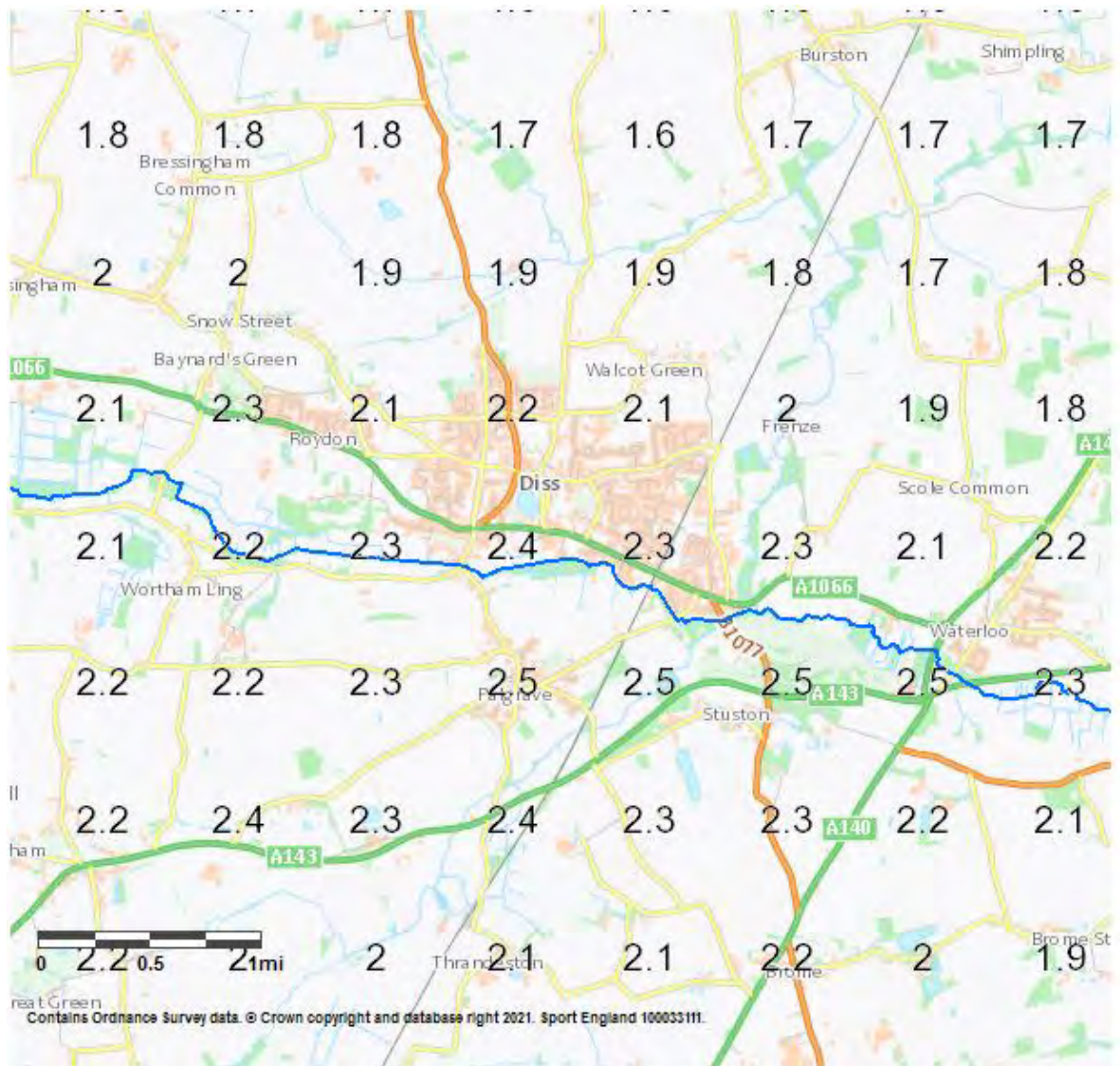
- 4.11 Site visits took place at the following key sports hall facilities in South Norfolk; Framingham Earl Sports Centre, Hethersett Academy, Long Stratton Leisure Centre and Wymondham Leisure Centre. Surveys were also sent out to clubs/ organisations and education providers, to seek additional feedback on the quality of the sports halls.
- 4.12 Framingham Earl Sports Hall is average to good condition, but the facility requires refurbishment of the floor and the changing rooms in the medium term. Norwich Floorball Club, East Anglian Skating Team and Norfolk Badminton had a mixed view on the quality, from average due to a bumpy floor to excellent, but all identified the need for a new floor.
- 4.13 Long Stratton Leisure Centre sports hall was part of a refurbishment in 2016 and is in good condition. Hethersett Academy's hall was built in 1975 but remains in average to good condition despite its age.
- 4.14 The survey identified that Drayton Cricket Club use Wymondham Leisure Centre and is good quality by the club for cricket usage. Langley School is used by Aylsham St. Giles Cricket Club, who state the facilities are of good quality.

Demand for Sports Halls in 2022

Accessibility

- 4.15 Map 4.1 shows the geographic locations of the sports halls in South Norfolk. In total, 6 of the sports halls are located in the west (orange), 3 sports halls are located in the east (green) with only 1 sports hall located in the south (blue).
- 4.16 Considering the district becomes more rural the further south and east you travel, this is not surprising due to the more built-up urban areas being located closer to Norwich, and this is where you see larger population numbers and more demand.
- 4.17 According to the FPM, only 2 of the 10 sports hall sites in South Norfolk, Long Stratton Leisure Centre and Wymondham Leisure Centre, provide full accessibility for residents (i.e. full availability for sports clubs, community groups and recreational use).
- 4.18 Access for community use at the 7 educational sports halls is limited by the type of use, mainly for sports clubs and groups due to hours of availability. The hours available varies from 15 hours in the weekly peak period at Hobart High School, to 41 hours at Easton and Otley College. The variable hours of access available means that aggregated provision across the educational facilities is the equivalent of 16 courts, out of the total supply of 56 courts.
- 4.19 The FPM suggests that 88% of sports hall demand is being met in South Norfolk. Of the satisfied demand, 55% is retained within South Norfolk and 45% is exported to outside of the district. The data does not identify how much of South Norfolk's demand goes to which local authority or site, but only provides the total figure for exported demand. The FPM states that with the cluster of sports hall sites in Norwich located close to the South Norfolk boundary, it suggests that most of the exported demand goes to Norwich. Overall, this means 5 out of 10 visits to a sports hall by a South Norfolk resident is to a facility located within the District.
- 4.20 Unmet demand is only 12% of total demand, which equates to 4.5 badminton courts. Of which, 86% of the unmet demand is located outside a sports hall catchment area and 14% is from a lack of capacity. Therefore, the vast majority is demand located outside a catchment area and is not due to lack of sports hall capacity. Hence, whilst the public leisure centres are estimated to be full, it is important to manage the programme of use effectively at SNC's public leisure centres in order to accommodate the current demand.
- 4.21 Unmet demand is distributed across South Norfolk in very low values. However, there is a potential location hot spot in Diss, which would cover unmet demand of 2.5 badminton courts (see Map 4.2 below).

Map 4.2 – Unmet Demand around Diss – FPM 2020



Availability

- 4.22 As a South Norfolk average, the estimated used capacity of the sports halls is low at 47% in the weekly peak period. However, it is 100% at both of SNC’s local authority sports halls at their leisure centre sites. This is above the Sport England benchmark, which states sports halls are comfortably full at 80% capacity during peak times.
- 4.23 The South Norfolk average capacity is considerably lower than found within other local authorities. For context, this ranges from 64% in East Suffolk and Great Yarmouth, to 74% in Norwich. The East Region average sports hall capacity in the weekly peak period is 65%.

4.24 Table 4.1 details the used capacity of each of the sports hall sites contained within the FPM report (colours reflect the Analysis Areas).

Table 4.1 – Percentage of Used Capacity at South Norfolk Sports Halls (2020)

Name of Facility	% of Capacity Used
Easton and Otley College	25%
Framingham Earl High School Sports Centre	49%
Hethersett Academy	28%
Hethersett Old Hall School	18%
Hingham Sports and Social Club	56%
Hobart High School	87%
Langley School	17%
Long Stratton Leisure Centre	100%
Wymondham College	100%
Wymondham Leisure Centre	100%

Consultation

4.25 Consultation with the following stakeholders was carried out to support the development of the evidence base:

- National Governing Bodies;
- Built Facility Sports Clubs;
- Local Authority and Operators; and
- Education Providers.

National Governing Bodies (NGBs)

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and Norfolk Cricket Board (NCB)

4.26 A detailed consultation session was undertaken with the ECB and the NCB.

- 4.27 Consultation with the NCB has identified that there is a lack of quality indoor facilities for both the NCB talent pathways and for club training sessions. Currently, there is a need to roll out matting across various sites in order to allow indoor cricket, and when combined with access issues (due to the irregularity of the booking requirements, e.g. winter months only), this can create significant barriers for indoor cricket access. Often, new sports hall sites will also include sprung flooring, which is then not suitable for indoor cricket.
- 4.28 Cricket clubs tend to have to travel to find a suitable facility and there is a clear demand for sports halls that can cater for indoor cricket. Many sports hall facilities also do not include dedicated flooring for cricket training. The NCB are keen to find a facility to work in partnership with and develop it as a regional facility.
- 4.29 There has been significant growth in women's and girls' cricket in Norfolk, with 23 clubs now operating a female section (circa 25% of clubs).
- 4.30 Langley School is a key facility for indoor cricket in South Norfolk and is used by the NCB for their County Junior Pathway Programme. This site is in excellent quality for cricket, providing 4 lanes with a flooring suitable for cricket. However, access is an issue to the facility.
- 4.31 Hethersett Academy, Long Stratton Leisure Centre, Wymondham Leisure Centre and Easton College are also used by clubs, but require matting to be rolled out over the sports hall floor.
- 4.32 There has been a significant growth in women's and girls' cricket in the County, with 23 clubs now operating a female section at their club (out of 96 clubs, circa 25%).

England Netball

- 4.33 England Netball provided a profile of netball participation within South Norfolk and highlighted facilities where netball can be played. They also explained their strategic objectives and associated participation programmes. This was followed by a detailed consultation session.
- 4.34 England Netball estimate 80% of netball is played on education sites. The impact of the pandemic and more restricted access has meant some clubs across England have now lost their facilities. A key priority for England Netball is to now secure access for clubs in the future and try to influence access policy.
- 4.35 There were no specific needs identified for England Netball in South Norfolk. Often facilities are not the issue, but rather the access to the sites. In addition, the floor space required for a dedicated netball training and match facility exceeds the Sport England guidance and this is often not available for netball clubs.

- 4.36 England Netball state that the majority of netball is undertaken in neighbouring Norwich, with the UEA being a key facility for indoor and outdoor netball provision. Similar to trends across the country, the majority of netball matches are played on outdoor courts, with indoor courts being used for training, after being appropriately risk assessed.

Badminton England

- 4.37 Badminton England provided a profile of badminton participation within South Norfolk and highlighted facilities where badminton can be played. They also explained their strategic objectives and associated participation programmes. This was followed by a detailed consultation session.
- 4.38 Badminton England data shows a slight oversupply of badminton courts, but there is unmet demand of 1.4 badminton courts (higher than the average of 0.7 courts).
- 4.39 Consultation with Badminton England identified that badminton is often played in sports halls on education sites. During the pandemic, there has been issues with accessibility, because some providers did not, or could not, re-open their sports halls. A 50% recovery in badminton participation was estimated in Autumn 2021 nationally, although this is expected to keep rising, following the resumption of the normal operation of sports halls.
- 4.40 Framingham Earl Sports Centre is a key site in South Norfolk and is used by Norfolk Badminton. This facility is considered to be of good quality by Badminton England. Hethersett Junior Badminton Club provide coaching sessions at Hethersett Academy and Hethersett Old School.
- 4.41 An ideal model for Badminton England is 2/ 3 clubs using 1 sports hall. This then allows for block bookings for badminton (this is currently being piloted by Badminton England).

Basketball England

- 4.42 Basketball England provided a profile of basketball participation within South Norfolk and highlighted facilities where basketball can be played. They also explained their strategic objectives and associated participation programmes.
- 4.43 Basketball did not highlight any issues with sports halls that negatively impact the development of basketball. There are 3 basketball clubs within South Norfolk, with an estimated total of 61 members living in South Norfolk. By 2029, it is expected that an additional 2 teams will be generated.
- 4.44 The two key facilities are Framingham Earl Sports Centre (Lions Basketball Club and Wildcats) and Hethersett Old Hall School (Attleborough Basketball Academy). These are all senior clubs, with Lions being a male team, Wildcats a female team and Attleborough Basketball Academy being a mixed team. It should be noted that Attleborough is located outside of Greater Norwich.

- 4.45 According to Basketball England, there appears to be an undersupply of basketball visits per week, hours per week and courts per week both now and likely in the future.

Sports Clubs

- 4.46 The survey had responses from 6 clubs who use 5 facilities, with 2 cricket clubs, 1 badminton club/association, 1 archery club, 1 skating club and 1 floorball club. Clubs use various facilities across South Norfolk including Easton College, Framingham Earl Sports Centre and Wymondham Leisure Centre.
- 4.47 Framingham Earl Sports Centre had the most responses to the survey, and it is likely to meet the needs of both South Norfolk and Norwich residents, due to its geographical location.
- 4.48 Most users will hire the hall for a few hours per week for their various activities, with a seasonal requirement for cricket. In general, the clubs regard the facilities as average to good quality, although some improvements to the equipment and flooring is needed at Framingham Earl Sports Centre.
- 4.49 The COVID-19 Pandemic has generally impacted clubs in terms of participation, finances and also impacted access to sites due to closures, restrictions on capacity and operational decisions e.g. use of sports halls for fitness classes so facilities could adhere to social distancing requirements.
- 4.50 It appears from the survey findings that the clubs do not require additional time in the halls and tend to utilise a facility that suits their needs and booking times, rather than due to its location. This will have an impact on future Council strategies to improve active travel, sustainable transport links etc. as users remain car dependent.
- 4.51 Norfolk Badminton is the exception to wanting more time at Framingham Earl Sports Centre, where they hire 4 hours a week but would like additional time.
- 4.52 The survey identified that Drayton Cricket Club use Wymondham Leisure Centre. The club are located in Broadland which suggests there is a need to travel for indoor cricket provision. Also, Langley School is used by Aylsham St. Giles Cricket Club. Again, due to the travel distance of the club, this suggests there is a need to travel for indoor cricket provision.
- 4.53 The overall impression is of a sports club sector which is “getting by” and is being forced to be imaginative in how they find appropriate facilities to establish a club base. This often means travelling outside of South Norfolk. The public leisure centres appear to be key facilities, with education providers providing additional capacity.

Local Authority and Operators

- 4.54 Wymondham Leisure Centre, operated by SNC, has a joint use agreement with Wymondham High School (who have their own changing rooms underused by the school and own separate entrance). The plan is to review this agreement, to try to ensure the times offered to the school are accurate and isn't resulting in the facility being underutilised.
- 4.55 The facility is a 4-court sports hall with sprung floor. It was previously a 5-court sports hall, but this reduced in order to allow an extension of the gym.
- 4.56 Long Stratton Leisure Centre, also operated by SNC, was refurbished in 2016 and has a well-used sports hall for various activities. SNC have also recently taken over the management of Framingham Earl Sports Centre out of school hours.

Education Providers

- 4.57 There were 3 schools that responded to the survey; Framingham Earl High School, Hethersett Academy and Langley School. All of the sites offer 15 hours or more community use at their facilities during evenings and weekends. The most popular activities are badminton, cricket, netball, football and martial arts.
- 4.58 Langley School does not have any additional capacity available for community use.
- 4.59 Hethersett Academy does have additional space but regards the quality of their sports hall as average.

Sports Halls by 2038

- 4.60 Using the baseline FPM model from 2020, this section will assess the future strategic supply and demand for sports halls, up to 2038.
- 4.61 This analysis will assist SNC to plan and assess what sports hall provision may be required, in order to meet the projected changes in demand. If applicable, the assessment will identify if there is a need to provide additional sports halls to meet projected demand and if so, at what scale.

Quantity

- 4.62 Consultation with SNC and local key stakeholders has identified there are no projects currently planned to be developed of 3 badminton courts or larger. A 4-badminton court sports hall for Diss has been investigated previously as part of SNC feasibility work, but there are not currently plans to deliver this facility in the short term.

Quality

- 4.63 Sports halls will continue to age and not be replaced. The last sports hall to be built was Hobart High School in 2006 and will therefore be 32 years old by 2038. Most of the sports halls in South Norfolk will be at the end of their life span or near the end (30-40 years represents the average age of a sports hall).
- 4.64 There is also potential that sites will have closed down due to their age and condition.
- 4.65 This relates to Hethersett Academy, which was built in 1975 and refurbished in 2006, Hethersett Old Hall School which was built in 1955, Hingham Sports and Social Club which was built in 1990 and refurbished in 2004, Langley School which was built in 1946, Long Stratton Leisure Centre which was built in 1983 and refurbished in 2010 and Wymondham College which was built in 1970 and refurbished in 2001. All of these sports halls were built on or before 1990 and will be nearly 50 years old by 2038. Wymondham Leisure Centre will also be 46 years old (built in 1992 and refurbished in 2015).

Demand for Sports Halls by 2038

Accessibility

- 4.66 In terms of access to sports halls, taking into account travelling both by car and by foot, when population growth between 2022-2038 is also considered, there will be no change in the number of sports halls that are not accessible. This is because the main pockets of housing growth will be concentrated close to existing sites.

Availability

- 4.67 As detailed by the population growth in Section 3, 62% of the population increases will be in the 45 years and above age group (26,000 of the 42,000 people). This equates to a total of 54% in the 45+ years and above age group, an increase from 52% in 2018 (FPM uses the 2018 ONS projections).
- 4.68 Overall, the population is expected to age, with the number of people 44 years and below reducing from 48% in 2018 to 46% in 2038. However, due to the housing growth projected, the number of people is expected to increase across all age groups, regardless of whether growth is above or below average, with 16,000 additional people 44 years and below. So, there will be an ageing population, but one that grows in numbers across the majority of age groups.
- 4.69 The age range with the highest propensity to participate in sport and physical activity within sports halls is in the 15 – 44-year age range and this is expected to increase by 12,000 people, or 28% of the overall population increases. Overall, this will see a small decrease from 32% of the population in this age range in 2022 to 31% in 2038, but due to the significant growth, it actually increases by 12,000 people in total.

- 4.70 As a result, it is expected that the population growth will exceed the impact of the ageing population and result in additional demand for sports halls in the district.
- 4.71 Table 4.2 below outlines the impact of the population growth in South Norfolk on the supply per 1,000 people and Table 4.3 compares the 2038 supply per 1,000 people to the FPM run in 2020.
- 4.72 As the FPM uses HSC (see Section 3), we have focused on sports halls with 3 courts or more only, to help analyse the future demand.

Table 4.2 – Supply of Badminton Courts per 10,000 People in South Norfolk

Total Supply	South Norfolk FPM Run	South Norfolk 2038	West Analysis Area 2038	East Analysis Area 2038	South Analysis Area 2038
Number of sites	10	10	6	3	1
Number of badminton courts	42	42	26	12	4
Population	142,704	185,186	89,408	40,949	54,829
Courts per 10,000	2.9	2.3	2.9	2.9	0.7

Table 4.3 – Compared to 2020 FPM Run

Total Supply – Badminton Courts per 10,000	FPM Run 2020	2038
South Norfolk	2.9	2.3
West Analysis Area	3.6	2.9
East Analysis Area	3.5	2.9
South Analysis Area	0.9	0.7

- 4.73 Based on information available, we have estimated that the supply of sports halls has remained the same in 2038, so the findings of the total supply of sports halls remains unchanged in this analysis. The key headlines are:
- the average number of courts across South Norfolk per 10,000 reduces by circa 0.6 courts per 10,000 people by 2038 as a result of the population increase;
 - there is a reduction in the number of people per court in all of the analysis areas;

- the West and East Analysis Areas continue to remain well catered for despite the larger populations, but the sports halls will begin to face pressure due to increased demand;
- the South Analysis Area continues to be under supplied based on a theoretical supply and demand balance, with only 1 sports hall at Long Stratton Leisure Centre catering for the south of the district.

Sport England Sports Facility Calculator (SFC)

4.74 Table 4.4 below shows the findings from the SFC for the projected additional population growth for sports halls in the district.

Table 4.4 – SFC Need for South Norfolk

Total Supply	South Norfolk 2038	West Analysis Area 2038	East Analysis Area 2038	South Analysis Area 2038
Population increase between 2018 - 2038	42,120	21,532	7,617	12,971
Courts	11.57	5.92	2.09	3.56
Halls	2.89	1.48	0.52	0.89
Visits per Week in a Peak Period (vpwpp)	3,407	1,742	616	1,049

4.75 Overall, the SFC has stated there is a need for up to three 4 court halls by 2038 across South Norfolk. This includes up to 6 courts in the West Analysis Area and 4 courts in the South Analysis Area:

- West Analysis Area:
 - As highlighted in the FPM run for 2020, Wymondham Leisure Centre, as well as the Wymondham College are both very full, whereas the remaining education sports halls have capacity for additional usage;
 - This area is subject to the largest population growth in South Norfolk, so any additional provision would need to be justified following reviews of the education sites (Wymondham College has only 22 hours of community use per week for example);
 - Significant growth is expected around Wymondham (circa 1,870 additional houses by 2038), Hethersett (circa 1160) and Cringleford (circa 1871);

- We understand that Cringleford Parish Council are considering a small 1-2 badminton court sports hall, utilising their neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income from local housing developments.
- East Analysis Area:
 - Usage at Framingham Earl Sports Centre has increased under SNC operation, whilst Hobart High School (newest facility) is regarded at near capacity;
 - Langley School has spare capacity which is likely to be able to cater for the additional usage from the population growth.
- South Analysis Area:
 - Long Stratton Leisure Centre is the only facility in the area and is regarded as full in peak periods. This is not surprising as it will also likely cater for residents of Diss; and
 - The majority of the growth in the south is expected in Long Stratton (1,800 houses), Harleston (725) and Diss (560), putting further pressure on the current SNC leisure centre in Long Stratton.

What does this mean for Sports Halls in South Norfolk?

- 4.76 The key point to be taken from this assessment is that the majority of South Norfolk's demand can be met by the accessible supply of sports halls. Unmet demand is low and the public leisure centre sites are very busy, although educational sites are not as busy. Despite these findings, there is an isolated evidence case from the FPM for a sports hall in Diss based on criteria of increasing access for residents across the district.
- 4.77 Of concern is the 35-year average age of the sports hall sites, but this excludes Langley School sports hall which opened in 1946 and Hethersett Old Hall School sports hall which opened in 1955. In total, 50% of sports hall sites have been modernised, including the two public leisure centre sites operated by SNC (Wymondham Leisure Centre or Long Stratton Leisure Centre).
- 4.78 The 2020 FPM evidence base findings are that the educational site supply does not need to be increased to meet demand for community use because the available supply is meeting demand. However, there are two caveats:
1. SNC has limited control over the type and hours of community use at the educational sites, which is 70% of the total supply. It would therefore have a big impact should the educational sites reduce the hours that are available for community use; and

2. The public leisure centres are estimated to be operating at 100% capacity in the weekly peak period and therefore no further capacity is available at Wymondham Leisure Centre or Long Stratton Leisure Centre.
- 4.79 A discovery which appears to contradict these findings is the evidence base for a sports hall located in Diss. There is no sports hall site in Diss, and the evidence case is based on increasing access to sports halls for residents and not the overall supply and demand balance in South Norfolk. When the unmet demand is aggregated into a potential catchment, the 'hot spot' is in Diss and equates to 2.5-badminton courts.
- 4.80 Therefore, the evidence base for a new sports hall in Diss is for a 3-badminton court hall, ideally located at an educational site with a community use agreement to secure usage. To allow for the full range of indoor hall sports, this should be a 4-badminton court hall, however, this scale is not supported by the FPM findings.
- 4.81 The FPM indicates that the most important educational site is Framingham Earl High School, due to its location and because it is the largest educational site in South Norfolk. This has recently moved from education control to SNC operation in non-school hours and this will continue to saturate local demand.
- 4.82 At other educational sites, if SNC does not already have community use agreements, they may wish to secure these agreements through a partnership of investment to secure community access. Creating more access to the secondary school sports hall facilities and with a pricing policy that allows the clubs to take long term lettings, would create a home base for many sports. This would allow clubs to develop their sport with some facility certainty.
- 4.83 In terms of future population growth, the FPM stated that the current supply is extensive, with less than half the capacity used across South Norfolk. There is also the equivalent of 16-badminton courts that are currently unavailable for community use. Therefore, based on this one-year set of findings, it should be possible to accommodate growth in the future within the current stock. If, however, there are any extensive new residential sites in the Long Stratton and Wymondham areas, this will increase demand at the two public leisure centres, and these are already estimated to be working at capacity. The scale of population growth in these areas and its impact on increased demand at the two leisure centres should be considered in the future years.
- 4.84 The demand analysis for 2038 has confirmed that demand will increase across all areas of the district, but the growth around Long Stratton will continue to put demand pressures on Long Stratton Leisure Centre. As a result, the unmet demand around Diss and surrounding areas will increase, emphasising the need for a sports hall facility in the Diss area. In addition, the growth around Wymondham and the north of the district will also put pressure on already busy sites at Wymondham Leisure Centre and Framingham Earl Sports Centre.

- 4.85 If access is increased to the education sites that have low levels of used capacity, this may be able to reduce the demand in the medium term. However, as the number of houses continues to grow, the data suggests there will be additional need for a facility in the West Analysis Area or towards Norwich to cater for the future demand of South Norfolk.

Recommendations for South Norfolk – Sports Halls

- Across most of South Norfolk, demand can be met by the accessible supply of sports halls in 2022. However, there are four recommendations across South Norfolk for the future:
 1. Protect the existing sports hall stock, maintaining the accessible supply for residents;
 2. The need to modernise the educational sports hall sites;
 3. Consider the evidence case for a new sports hall in Diss; and
 4. Consider the projected population growth and the impact this could have on increasing demand for sports halls.
- There is a need to modernise the current facilities and increase sports halls access. This will help to cater for current demand as well as the future demand;
- Demand analysis suggests there is likely a need for a 4-court sports hall in Diss in the short to medium term. This could be developed on the Diss High School site, or it should be considered as part of any new leisure provision in the area. This would cater for the current unmet demand in the south of the district;
- The significant growth in the West analysis area will put additional pressure on sports halls on educational sites. To meet this demand, the educational sites would therefore need to increase the level of community access available. If this cannot be achieved, then there is likely to be a need for an additional 4-6 court sports hall situated in a growth area, such as Wymondham (c.1,870 additional houses by 2038), Hethersett (c.1,160 additional houses by 2038) or Cringleford (c.1,871 additional houses by 2038); and
- In 2022, SNC will complete a feasibility study regarding future use of Trowse Sports Hall. If deemed financially viable, returning this site back to a community sports hall, should be considered. This would help meet demand in the north of the district. This would become even more important, should the 2-court sports hall not be built in Cringleford.

5. Swimming Pools

Introduction

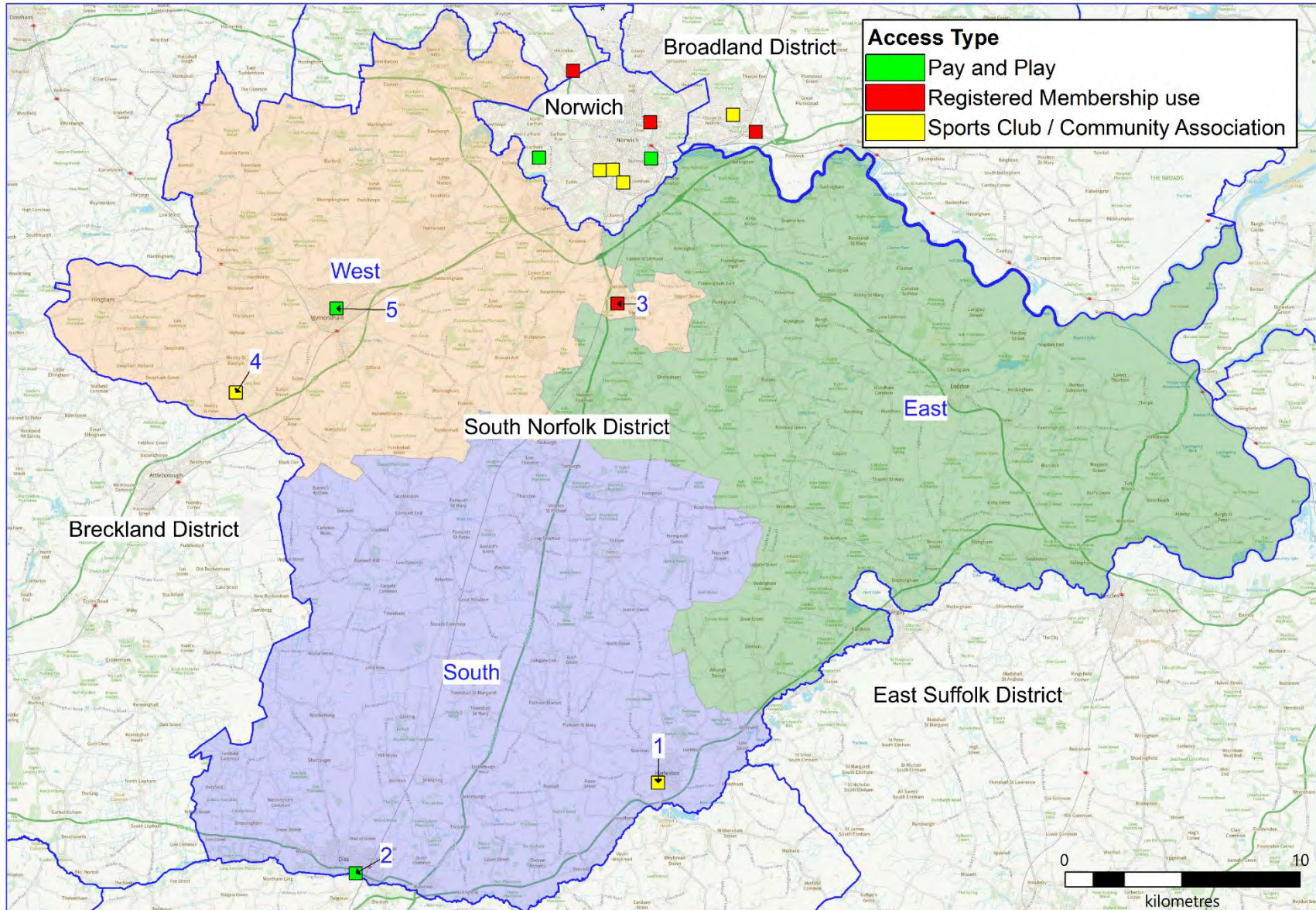
- 5.1 A swimming pool can host various water-based activities in the form of indoor and outdoor pools, freeform leisure pools and specific diving tanks. A pool can be used for general lane swimming, teaching, training, diving, water polo and synchronised activities as well as being used for informal leisure and recreational activities.
- 5.2 This needs assessment uses the FPM assessment of swimming pools, which was produced on behalf of Sport England for South Norfolk in 2020. It was commissioned by SNC in order to provide a current assessment of swimming pool water provision and provide an evidence base for the supply, demand, and access to swimming pools in 2020 (to note, 2020 was the latest Sport England data set available at the time of commission). In order to understand the potential future demand for facilities up to 2038, the FPM was used as a base, along with population projections and the SFC.
- 5.3 The standard methodology for measuring swimming pools is the total m² of water space. The assessment incorporates all operational indoor pools available for community use that are over 20m in length, or which have a total area of 160 m² of water, whichever is the lower.
- 5.4 The data, and findings from the FPM study are reviewed in this needs assessment and are presented to ensure it follows the same structure and sequence of reporting for the other facility types in the BFS and is therefore consistent in applying the ANOG methodology. This report presents the strategic district wide findings from the FPM study.
- 5.5 The full FPM report can be found in Appendix D of this report. The key findings from the supply, demand and access assessment are set out below and are described in full under each ANOG heading.

Quantity

- 5.6 In 2020 there were 7 individual pools, located at 5 swimming pool sites in South Norfolk; 2 are local authority public leisure centres, 2 are educational pools and 1 is a commercial pool.
- 5.7 The water space available for community use is 1,120m² of water in the weekly peak period, for context, a 25m x 10m 4-lane pool is 250m².

- 5.8 There are 2 local authority public swimming pool sites in South Norfolk. These are Diss Leisure Centre (opened in 1987 and modernised in 2004), which has a 25m x 13m six-lane main pool and a teaching/learner pool of 13m x 3m and Wymondham Leisure Centre, (opened in 1999) which has a 25m x 14m six-lane main pool and a 14m x 6m teaching/learner pool. Wymondham is the largest swimming pool site in the district.
- 5.9 Map 5.1 below shows the locations of the sites with at least 160m² of pool water or 20m in length, as per the FPM guidelines.

Map 5.1 – Swimming Pool Locations in South Norfolk



Site ID	Site Name
1	Archbishop Sancroft High School
2	Diss Leisure Centre
3	Dunston Hall Norwich
4	Wymondham College
5	Wymondham Leisure Centre

Quality

- 5.10 The average age of all the swimming pool sites is 35 years and three of the pool sites have been modernised.

Site Visits and Survey Responses

- 5.11 Site visits took place at the following key swimming pool facilities in South Norfolk; Archbishop Sancroft High School, Diss Leisure Centre and Wymondham Leisure Centre. Surveys were also sent out to clubs and organisations and education providers to provide additional feedback on the quality of the sites.
- 5.12 Site visits highlighted that SNC's Wymondham Leisure Centre was in excellent condition, the facility had a £4.5m refurbishment and extension which included a new café, gym and pool viewing area. In addition, during lockdown, SNC replaced the plant for the facility.
- 5.13 The swimming pool at Diss Leisure Centre continues to be a key facility for the population, but the facility is ageing and needs replacement or significant investment in the medium to long term. There is a requirement to undertake some essential maintenance works in the next year to ensure the facility continues to be operational.
- 5.14 Finally, a site visit to Archbishop Sancroft High School detailed a good quality educational facility swimming pool, with changing rooms recently refurbished (including disability changing). Some improvements to the surrounds are needed including the roof, and there is no reception area. However, the swimming pool remains a good quality facility for learn to swim and club bookings. Archbishop Sancroft High School consider their facility as average quality, as the wooden building has a limited lifespan, but the pool itself is adequate and the changing rooms have recently been refurbished.
- 5.15 Diss Otters have reported that the Diss Leisure Centre pool is dated but rate it good to excellent considering the age, although state the tiling needs to be improved or replaced. They also hire Archbishop Sancroft High School for one hour a week, and they regard this facility as average to good quality, noting some issues regarding noise and ventilation.

- 5.16 Norwich Water Polo Club hire Wymondham Leisure Centre and regard the pool as good quality.

Demand for Swimming Pools in 2022

Accessibility

- 5.17 In terms of geographical locations, Map 5.1 shows that 3 of the swimming pools are located in the west (orange), 2 swimming pools in the south (blue) and no swimming pools in the east (green). Considering the district becomes more rural the further south and east you travel, the findings are not surprising as the built-up urban areas and areas of growth are located closer to Norwich.
- 5.18 The public leisure centres provide access for all swimming activities such as learn to swim, recreational swimming, lane and fitness swimming activities and swimming development by clubs. Therefore, 40% of the swimming pool sites provide full public and swimming club access for residents' use.
- 5.19 There are two educational swimming pool sites; Archbishop Sancroft High School (opened in 1980 and modernised in 2007) has a single pool of 23m x 8m and 4 lanes. It provides a learn to swim school and is available for community hire. There is also Wymondham College pool (opened in 1970) which has an 18m x 11m 4-lane pool. The pool is available for community hire outside of school hours.
- 5.20 Finally, there is 1 commercial swimming pool at Dunston Hall (Norwich), opened in 1996 and modernised in 2005. It operates a membership system for local residents for recreational swimming.
- 5.21 Of note are the swimming pools in the north and south of South Norfolk which are very close to the boundary with Norwich and Mid Suffolk respectively. This means these sites will be accessible by car to residents in these authorities and will import demand.
- 5.22 A total of 84% of swimming demand in South Norfolk is met. Only 55% of the satisfied demand is retained within the district with 45% being met outside South Norfolk. The district is quite dependent on access to these neighbouring sites to meet swimming pool demand.
- 5.23 The data does not identify how much of South Norfolk's demand goes to which local authority or pool site, but only provides the total figure for exported demand. However, with the cluster of four swimming pool sites in Norwich located close to the South Norfolk boundary, the FPM suggests that the majority of the exported demand goes to Norwich. The only South Norfolk site in this area is the Dunston Hall commercial swimming pool.
- 5.24 South Norfolk's unmet demand is 15.5%, which equates to 224m² of water, slightly less than the size of a 25m x 10m four-lane swimming pool. Only 14% of unmet demand is due to lack of capacity and 86% is demand located outside the catchment area of a pool.

- 5.25 There is no single area that has high unmet demand. Unmet Demand is highest in the east of the district in the Loddon area. Here, there are no swimming pool sites that meet the FPM criteria. Hobart High School in Loddon has a pool with community access, but it is 112m² and does not meet the FPM criteria, although it's important to note that this swimming pool will saturate some of the demand for activities such as swimming lessons. The unmet demand totals between 40-50m² of water in Loddon.
- 5.26 The location with the highest value of 'potential catchment unmet demand' is in the far south-east of the district, in the Gillingham area (to the south of Loddon). Here, the potential catchment unmet demand is 151m² of water.
- 5.27 Overall, there is not a sufficient cluster of unmet demand in any one location to consider increasing swimming pool provision in order to improve accessibility for residents.

Availability

- 5.28 South Norfolk's average estimated used capacity of swimming pools is 63% in the weekly peak period. This provides some working headroom before the Sport England benchmark of 70% of pools being comfortably full at peak times is reached.
- 5.29 Out of the 52.5 maximum available peak period hours, Diss Leisure Centre has 51.5 available hours and Wymondham Leisure Centre has 46 hours. The estimated used capacity is 70% at Diss Leisure Centre and 69% at Wymondham Leisure Centre, at or very close, to the Sport England comfort level above which pools are perceived as uncomfortably busy to use. There is little scope to increase the use of these pool sites without the pools becoming uncomfortably full. This can discourage participation, because the pool itself becomes too crowded, as do the changing and circulation areas.
- 5.30 There is more capacity that could be available at Wymondham College by increasing the hours available to the community, but the pool is only available for hire outside of school hours. Whilst there are only 26 hours available at Archbishop Sancroft High School, the estimated used capacity is at 100%.
- 5.31 The scope to increase swimming pool capacity exists at Archbishop Sancroft High School, Wymondham College and Dunston Hall (i.e. the number of hours available for community use). However, SNC has no control over the community use at these sites and their programme of use is limited.
- 5.32 Table 5.1 overleaf shows the used capacity of each of the swimming pools included in the FPM run.

Table 5.1 - Percentage Used Capacity of South Norfolk Swimming Pools (2020)

Name of Facility	% of Capacity Used
Archbishop Sancroft High School	100%
Diss Leisure Centre	70%
Dunston Hall Norwich	35%
Wymondham College	44%
Wymondham Leisure Centre	69%

Consultation

5.33 Consultation with the following stakeholders was carried out to support the development of the evidence base:

- National Governing Bodies;
- Local Authority and Operators;
- Built Facility Sports Clubs; and
- Education Providers.

National Governing Bodies

Swim England

- 5.34 In general, Swim England are concerned about the future of pools, many of which are an ageing stock – ‘Decade in Decline’ [report can be viewed here](#). Swim England have estimated up to 40% of swimming pools are likely to be lost by 2040.
- 5.35 In South Norfolk, there is a deficit of pool water in the east. However, despite the deficit, demand is being met in many areas which is a positive. In terms of previous feasibility work in Diss to replace the current Diss Leisure Centre, this is a positive for Swim England as it appears SNC are looking to deal with the ageing pool.
- 5.36 Clubs will be key in understanding their needs and usage, as well as the local operators. Other swimming activities such as water polo, diving and artistic swimming should also be considered.
- 5.37 There are no known plans regarding building new facilities in surrounding local authorities – most local authorities are focussing on their existing stock, rather than considering a new facility. Stowmarket Swimming Club and Halesworth & District Swimming Club are the closest clubs to the South Norfolk border in the south that use neighbouring facilities.

5.38 The following key clubs in Table 5.2 have been identified in the Greater Norwich area. It should be noted that clubs will travel to a pool that suits their needs and so this table identifies all clubs in the Greater Norwich area.

Table 5.2 – Key Clubs in Greater Norwich

Club	Details
City of Norwich Swimming Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Para Swimming (to Olympic level), competitive swimming, masters, open water; • 411 members.
Diss Otters SC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive swimming, masters (to Regional level); • 150 members.
East Anglian Swallow Tail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters (National level); • 93 members.
Loddon White Dolphin SC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive swimming (county level); • 426 members.
Norwich Swan SC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive swimming, masters (regional level); • 512 members.
Norwich Synchro Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artistic swimming (county level); • 70 members.
Norwich Water Polo Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water polo (regional level); • 37 members.

5.39 Located outside of the Greater Norwich area but should be considered are Great Yarmouth SC (competitive swimming to national level occasionally with 327 members) and North Norfolk Vikings SC (competitive swimming, masters to regional level with 156 members).

5.40 The artistic swimming and water polo clubs need deep water pools (a minimum of 2m) to train to a good standard. There are not any diving clubs or activity provided in South Norfolk or Norfolk, so Norfolk in general is lacking for this sport.

Built Facility Sports Clubs

5.41 Survey responses were received from two of the key clubs in South Norfolk; Diss Otters who use Diss Leisure Centre and Archbishop Sancroft High School and Norwich Water Polo Club who use Wymondham Leisure Centre.

- 5.42 Diss Otters hire Diss Leisure Centre for 8 hours a week. They require additional water space time in their programme, but due to SNC's swim school, they cannot hire any additional hours. SNC are trying to find a balance of club activity and public lane swimming alongside their own Learn to Swim. They also hire Archbishop Sancroft High School for one hour a week.
- 5.43 Membership levels have dropped by around 30% following the COVID-19 Pandemic, which has had a significant financial impact and the club are currently running at a loss.
- 5.44 Norwich Water Polo Club has 45 members and also use Wymondham Leisure Centre for up to 2.5 hours per week. They would like more hours and had 4 hours prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, but currently no further hours are available for hire. The pool ideally would be deeper for Water Polo, but the club can still use it for their activities.
- 5.45 The club say there are lots of juniors (and some seniors) that would like to join the club, but with less time to train and play, they cannot take on many other members on at present.
- 5.46 In general, it appears the two clubs require additional water space time, but with SNC requiring balancing of the programme (casual and membership swimming, clubs and learn to swim), this is often not available. It also appears that clubs will travel to whatever facility is available for hire, due to the limited availability of pool facilities in the district.
- 5.47 The public leisure centre swimming pools are priority facilities, with education providers providing additional usage.

Local Authority and Operators

- 5.48 Wymondham Leisure Centre swimming pool is regarded by SNC as very well used and as of Autumn 2021, the swim school was back at 80% of the pre-covid levels.
- 5.49 Diss Leisure Centre is an ageing pool and it's acknowledged by SNC that the site has limitations and needs to be replaced or require significant investment.

Education Providers

- 5.50 Archbishop Sancroft High School responded to the survey regarding their swimming pool. They offer 15 hours or more community use at their sites in evenings with Waterlilies Swim School, Diss Otters and Waveney Valley Canoe Club the key organisations that hire the site.
- 5.51 The school have reported that the community want to use the pool. Access during day time on weekdays is not available and they do not have lifeguards to enable an 'open' casual swim session in the programme. There is no reception area in the pool which could be an issue for community access. Primary schools also come and use the pool for lessons during the school day.

- 5.52 Improving sport is high on the school's priority list but a lack of funds prevents them developing their community offer. They would be interested in working with SNC on pool management and potentially handing management over to an operator.
- 5.53 SNC has identified that several schools are key providers for national curriculum learn to swim activities for their school and surrounding schools in their catchment. The pools are not always large enough to meet the FPM criteria but still provide a key service for local children. For South Norfolk, the schools swimming pools that provide this include:
- Archbishop Sandcroft High School;
 - Hobart High School;
 - Wymondham College; and
 - Hethersett Junior School.
- 5.54 Long Stratton High School is currently closed but previously was also a key provider for school swimming.

Swimming Pools by 2038

- 5.55 Using the baseline FPM model from 2020 and the 2022 needs assessment, this section will assess the future strategic supply and demand of swimming pools up to 2038.
- 5.56 This will assist SNC to plan and assess what changes might need to be made in swimming pool provision, in order to meet the projected demand. If applicable, it will identify if there is a need to provide additional pool water to meet projected demand and at what scale.

Quantity

- 5.57 Consultation with SNC and local key stakeholders has identified there are no projects currently planned to be developed. A replacement swimming pool for Diss has been investigated previously, but there are no current plans to deliver this facility in the short term.
- 5.58 SNC have also previously explored the option to re-open Long Stratton High School pool, in connection with Long Stratton Leisure Centre. However, this project has now been deemed as un-feasible and so will not progress.

Quality

- 5.59 SNC continue to undertake maintenance for Diss Leisure Centre, but due to the age and condition, it is very unlikely to still be in use by 2038.

- 5.60 It is expected that the remaining pools will continue to be operational, albeit refurbishment is likely to be needed, especially at Wymondham Leisure Centre, which provides key lane and learner pools for the district (this would be c.39 years old and the most recently built pool).
- 5.61 All pools in South Norfolk were built before 2000 and therefore likely to be near the end of their lifespan by 2038 (30-40 years).

Demand for Swimming Pools by 2038

Accessibility

- 5.62 In terms of access to swimming pools, taking into account travelling both by car and by foot, when the population growth between 2022-2038 is also considered, there will be no change in the number of swimming pools that are not accessible. This is because the main pockets of housing growth will be concentrated close to existing sites.

Availability

- 5.63 As detailed by the population growth in Section 3, 62% of the population increases will be in the 45 years and above age group (26,000 of the 42,000 people). This equates to a total of 54% in the 45+ years and above age group, an increase from 52% in 2018 (FPM uses the 2018 ONS projections).
- 5.64 Overall, the population is expected to age, with the number of people 44 years and below reducing from 48% in 2018 to 46% in 2038. However, due to the housing growth projected, the number of people is expected to increase across all age groups regardless of whether growth is above or below average, with 16,000 additional people 44 years and below. So, there will be an ageing population, but one that grows in numbers across the majority of age groups.
- 5.65 The age range with the highest propensity to participate in sport and physical activity in swimming pools is in the 15 – 44-year age range and this is expected to increase by 12,000 people, or 28% of the overall population increases. Overall, this will see a small decrease from 32% of the population in this age range in 2022 to 31% in 2038, but due to the significant growth, it actually increases by 12,000 people in total.
- 5.66 As a result, there will be an ageing population, but one that grows in numbers across all age groups. This means there will be more demand on facilities within the district and wider Greater Norwich area.
- 5.67 Table 5.3 below outlines the impact of the population growth in South Norfolk on the supply per 1,000 people and Table 5.4 compares the 2038 supply per 1,000 people to the FPM run in 2020.

Table 5.3 – Supply of Water Space per 1,000 Population in South Norfolk

Total Supply	South Norfolk FPM Run	South Norfolk 2038	West Analysis Area 2038	East Analysis Area 2038	South Analysis Area 2038
Number of sites	5	5	3	0	2
Pool water (m2)	1,395	1,395	857	0	539
Population	142,704	185,186	89,408	40,949	54,829
Water space (m2) per 1,000	10	8	10	0	10

Table 5.4 – Compared to 2021 FPM Run

Total Supply – Water Space per 1,000	FPM Run	2038
South Norfolk	10	8
West Analysis Area	13	10
East Analysis Area	0	0
South Analysis Area	13	10

5.68 As set out above, there are no changes in the supply of swimming pool water. The key headlines are:

- the water space across South Norfolk reduces by circa 2m² per 1,000 people by 2038 as a result of the population increase;
- there is still no water space in the East Analysis Area;
- there is a reduction in the number of people per water in both the West and South Analysis Areas from 13m² to 10m², but this is in line with the district average; and
- South Norfolk appears to be well catered for despite the larger populations but will begin to face pressure as the populations increase.

Sport England Sports Facility Calculator (SFC)

5.69 Table 5.5 below shows the findings from the SFC for the projected additional population growth for swimming pools in the district.

Table 5.5 – SFC Need for South Norfolk

Total Supply	South Norfolk 2038	West Analysis Area 2038	East Analysis Area 2038	South Analysis Area 2038
Population increase between 2018 - 2038	42,120	21,532	7,617	12,971
Water Space (m2)	447	229	81	138
Lanes	8.4	4.3	1.5	2.6
Pools	2.1	1.1	0.4	0.6
Visits per Week in a Peak Period (vpwpp)	2,721	1,391	492	838

5.70 Overall, the SFC has stated there is a need for up to c450m2 of pool water or the equivalent to 8 lanes by 2038 (i.e. 2 pools x 25m length):

- West Analysis Area:
 - The majority of the demand is in the west where there is potential theoretical demand for up to one 4 lane x 25m pool;
 - As highlighted in the FPM run for 2020, SNC’s leisure centre at Wymondham Leisure Centre is close to capacity, whereas the education sites have capacity for additional usage;
 - There is significant growth expected around Wymondham (estimate of circa 1,870 additional houses by 2038), Hethersett (circa 1,160) or Cringleford (circa 1,871), most of the houses being delivered by 2030. As the West Analysis Area is subject to the largest population growth, any additional provision would need to be justified following reviews of availability at the education sites.
- East Analysis Area:
 - There are currently no facilities in the East Analysis Area and the SFC has highlighted the potential increase in demand of up to 2 lanes, which in isolation does not justify additional swimming pool provision;

- The FPM highlighted that most of the unmet demand was identified in Loddon, and therefore it is likely unmet demand in this area will continue to increase with the Hobart High School swimming pool only able to cater for some of the swimming needs of the residents e.g. learn to swim. However, this could be alleviated by swimming developments in other parts of the district.
- South Analysis Area:
 - Diss Leisure Centre continues to be a key facility. It is likely demand is to continue to increase in the area with up to 3 lanes of additional demand in the south of South Norfolk according to the SFC, mainly due to housing development around Long Stratton;
 - The FPM has highlighted that Diss Leisure Centre is at 70% capacity which is on the threshold for comfort, and this is supported by intelligence on the ground that highlights that the facility is very busy and additional capacity is not available for clubs. As a result, it is unlikely the current facility would be able to cater with the growth from additional population up until 2038. Archbishop Sancroft facility is also very well used for the limited out of school hours available for swimming clubs and hirers; and
 - The majority of the growth in the south is expected in Stratton (circa 1,800 houses), Harleston (circa 725) and Diss (circa 560), putting further pressure on the current SNC site in Diss.

What does this mean for Swimming Pools in South Norfolk?

- 5.71 The key point to be taken from the assessment is that most of the South Norfolk demand can be met by the accessible supply of swimming pools, unmet demand is low, and the pool sites are busy. However, South Norfolk is exporting a lot of demand to pool sites outside the district, which is partially a reflection of the pool site locations, both inside and outside South Norfolk.
- 5.72 The average age of the South Norfolk swimming pool sites is 35 years, making them less attractive to residents, although three sites have been modernised since construction.
- 5.73 Only 2 of the 5 swimming pools in South Norfolk; Diss Leisure Centre and Wymondham Leisure Centre, provide full accessibility for residents, with a full programme of swimming activities including learn to swim, recreational swimming, lane and fitness swimming and swimming development by clubs.
- 5.74 At the 2 educational sites, access is limited by the type of use, organised hire by clubs or groups. At Wymondham College, community use is available outside of school hours for group hire. The Dunston Hall site is a commercial site and available for use by the centre membership for recreational swimming.

- 5.75 A combination of the following, all contributes to the finding that 55% of the South Norfolk demand for swimming pools is met in South Norfolk and 45% is exported:
1. a lack of access and availability at some sites;
 2. swimming pool site locations and catchment areas;
 3. the age of the swimming pool sites; and
 4. sites in Norwich, notably UEA Sportspark (which is a modern and extensive swimming pool site with full community access).
- 5.76 Unmet demand is low in South Norfolk, and the vast majority is demand located outside a catchment area. Unmet demand is highest in the east of the district in the Loddon area and east of Loddon. There are no swimming pool sites in this area, and unmet demand totals to between 40 and 50m² of water. Overall, there is not a sufficient cluster of unmet demand in any one location, to consider increasing swimming pool provision, to improve accessibility for residents. The remainder of unmet demand is dispersed across the district at low levels of 1-2km per km²
- 5.77 The public leisure centres operated by SNC are busy pool sites and there is little scope to increase the use of these pool sites, without the pools becoming uncomfortably full. This can discourage participation, because the pool becomes too crowded (as do the changing and circulation areas).
- 5.78 To alleviate any demand pressures, consideration to increase the hours for community use at Archbishop Sancroft High School, Wymondham College (available outside of school hours), and Dunston Hall would be beneficial. However, SNC has no control over the community use at these sites and their programme of use is, as reported, limited by type of use and availability.
- 5.79 Consequently, there is very little scope to increase swimming pool capacity for the full range of swimming activities within South Norfolk. The intervention is to ensure the pool programmes at the two public leisure centres are providing for the most popular activities at peak times, thereby providing most opportunities.
- 5.80 This raises a related question: is there a need to increase public swimming pool provision because the two public sites are busy sites?
- 5.81 Most of the findings within the FPM report does not support the increase of public swimming pool provision. Unmet demand (at 224m² of water) is less than the size of a 25m x 10m 4-lane swimming pool, and only 14% of this unmet demand is from lack of swimming pool capacity (the rest resides outside the catchment area of a pool). In terms of locating a new facility, the highest value of 'potential catchment unmet demand' identified was 151m² of water in the Loddon area, which is insufficient to meet unmet demand from lack of pool capacity through increased provision.

- 5.82 Therefore, currently, while the public leisure centres are busy swimming pools, there is not a lot of unmet demand across the district from lack of capacity, based on these 2020 findings. At present demand is being met but with an aging stock and more modern pool sites in neighbouring local authorities, the amount of demand being met by the South Norfolk's pools could decrease as more demand is exported.
- 5.83 Looking ahead, population growth is likely to increase the demand for swimming and add to the costs of maintaining the swimming pools. The FPM stated that the current supply is extensive for the current demand and despite the busy SNC sites, there is capacity at the education sites, albeit they are out of SNC's control.
- 5.84 However, despite this, there is a clear need for a replacement or significant investment at Diss Leisure Centre and therefore re-provision of this facility would ensure that some of the district's demand is met through adding additional pool water e.g. more lanes and a larger learner pool. This will also help to alleviate some the unmet demand forming in the east, although it falls out of the catchment of Loddon. However, we do not believe there is sufficient demand both now and in the future to justify a community pool in Loddon, and there currently is a small pool at Hobart High School that can cater for learn to swim requirements.
- 5.85 In addition, the future demand analysis has detailed that there will be additional demand for a 4-lane 25m pool in the West Analysis Area and up to 3 lanes in the South Analysis Area by 2038. With Wymondham Leisure Centre already busy, as well as the UEA (see Norwich demand assessment) also above capacity levels, there is potential that there will be a lack of supply in the West in the future, and this should be monitored as the housing development continues.
- 5.86 The scale of population growth in these areas and its impact on increased demand at the two leisure centres will need to be considered. Wymondham (estimate of circa 1,870 additional houses by 2038), Hethersett (circa 1,160) or Cringleford (circa 1,871) are all subject to significant housing growth, with most dwellings being delivered by 2030.

Recommendations for South Norfolk – Swimming Pools

- Across South Norfolk, most of the demand can be met by the accessible supply of swimming pools in 2022. However, there are three recommendations across South Norfolk for the future:
 1. the need to modernise the swimming pool sites;
 2. the need to increase the access to education sites at Archbishop Sancroft High School and Wymondham College; and
 3. the need to assess the projected population growth and the impact on increasing demand for swimming pools.
- There is a short to medium term requirement to re-provide water space in Diss. The facility is ageing and continues to require maintenance to ensure it is operational. As a result, the future of the site needs to be considered, and if re-provided, there should be consideration of increasing the pool water to at least a 6 lane 25m pool and a larger learner pool. This will increase the flexibility in programming in the area to cater for all the groups using Diss Leisure Centre, and will also cater for additional population growth where demand is expected to increase, especially around Long Stratton;
- Based on the significant planned housing growth in the West Analysis Area, if access cannot be secured to the educational sites and with Wymondham Leisure Centre and the UEA Sportspark (in Norwich) already deemed busy, there is potential that there will be a lack of supply in the West Analysis Area. Consideration for a community pool on the South Norfolk / Norwich border should be investigated through individual feasibility studies as the population grows. This would enable demand generated in Wymondham to be alleviated and ensure access to the growing population around the north of South Norfolk. This will also help to meet some of the catchment demand generated by the area surrounded by Loddon and Gillingham; and
- SNC should support Archbishop Sancroft High School in assessing the viability of opening the facility to the community on a pay and swim basis. This will help to meet immediate and future demand that is growing in the south of the district. The school are open to discussing management opportunities and this avenue should be investigated by all key stakeholders.

6. Health and Fitness

Introduction

- 6.1 Sport England defines health and fitness provision as facilities that provide both cardiovascular and strength training equipment. Health and fitness exclude spaces/ studios for aerobics and dance activities. The assessment below is an audit and accessibility assessment for health and fitness provision in South Norfolk.
- 6.2 Market trends across the UK have changed in recent years, which may have resulted in an increase in the sector. As well as increased access to sites that offer strength and conditioning, functional fitness, and sessions such as CrossFit, there has been an increased importance and need for flexible spaces to accommodate classes, which are becoming an increasingly popular aspect of health and fitness provision.
- 6.3 The size of health and fitness facilities are measured using the stations provided. A station is a piece of static fitness equipment and larger health and fitness centres with more stations, are generally able to provide a more attractive offer to users. In general, a station is the equivalent of 4-5m² of space (5m² meets the Inclusive Fitness Initiative). As trends change, often space is an important factor, rather than the physical piece of equipment, but for the purpose of this assessment, we will assess the number of stations per site.

Quantity

- 6.4 According to Sport England's Active Places Power database ([Active Places Power website](#)), there are 16 health and fitness facilities in South Norfolk in 2022 and they provide a total of 766 health and fitness stations. Across the 16 facilities, there is an average of 49 stations per facility.
- 6.5 The largest health and fitness site is Bannatyne Health Club (Norwich West) located in Thorpe St. Andrew, close to the Norwich boundary and this has 140 stations. The next largest is Wymondham Leisure Centre, which has 100 stations.
- 6.6 These are the only two facilities with over 100 stations. The next 3 largest sites all have 70-75 stations and are Dunston Hall, Long Stratton Leisure Centre and MG Fitness Studio in Diss.
- 6.7 Details of all the health and fitness centres in South Norfolk are set out in Table 6.1 and Map 6.1 overleaf.

Map 6.1 – South Norfolk Health and Fitness Facilities

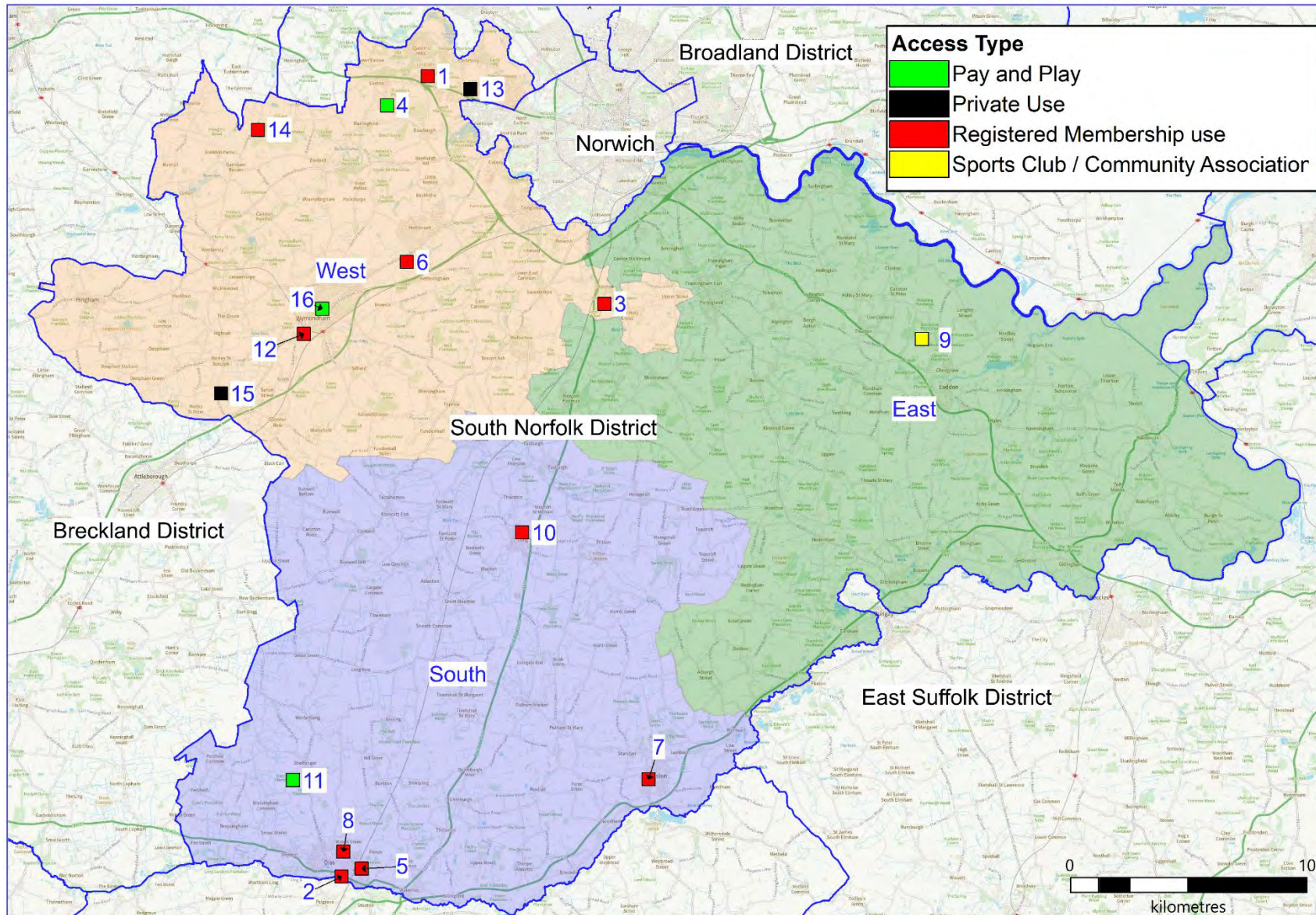


Table 6.1 – Supply of Health and Fitness Stations in South Norfolk

Number	Site Name	Post Town	Stations	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type
1	Bannatyne Health Club (Norwich West)	Norwich	140	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management
2	Diss Leisure Centre	Diss	18	Registered Membership use	Local Authority	Local Authority (in house)
3	Dunston Hall, Norwich	Norwich	74	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management
4	Easton And Otley College	Easton	34	Pay and Play	Further Education	School/ College/ University (in house)
5	Fit Club (Diss)	Diss	41	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management
6	Fitness Express at Park Farm Hotel	Norwich	47	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management
7	Harleston Community Leisure Facility	Harleston	40	Registered Membership use	Local Authority	Local Authority (in house)
8	Heywood Sports & Leisure Club	Diss	24	Registered Membership use	Sports Club	Sport Club
9	Langley School	Norwich	25	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/ College/ University (in house)
10	Long Stratton Leisure Centre	Norwich	75	Registered Membership use	Local Authority	Local Authority (in house)
11	MG Fitness Studio	Diss	70	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management

Number	Site Name	Post Town	Stations	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type
12	NR Health And Fitness Club	Wymondham	41	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management
13	Ormiston Victory Academy	Norwich	5	Private Use	Academies	School/ College/ University (in house)
14	The Edge Health & Fitness Club at Barnham Broom Hotel	Norwich	26	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management
15	Wymondham College	Wymondham	6	Private Use	Foundation School	School/ College/ University (in house)
16	Wymondham Leisure Centre	Wymondham	100	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Local Authority (in house)

Facilities per 1,000 population

- 6.8 A benchmark measure used in the assessment of a facility type is facilities per 1,000 population. A manual calculation of the pro rata provision of health and fitness for South Norfolk, including the neighbouring local authorities in the region is set out in Table 6.2 below.

Table 6.2 – South Norfolk Facilities per 1,000 Population

Total Supply	Population 2022	Health and Fitness Facilities	Stations	Stations per 1000 population
South Norfolk	149,371	16	766	5.1
Broadland	133,378	6	316	2.4
Norwich	144,424	20	1,627	11.3
Breckland	144,592	13	633	4.4
Great Yarmouth	100,794	14	701	7.0
North Norfolk	107,051	12	347	3.2
Mid Suffolk	105,724	12	654	6.2

- 6.9 Based on this measure, it shows South Norfolk has a fairly good supply of stations when compared with other local authorities in the region. In general, with the exception of the City of Norwich, the remaining local authorities have quite a narrow range of stations per 1,000. For context, the median in South Norfolk is 5.1 stations per 1,000.

Quality

- 6.10 In terms of age, 8 facilities opened before the year 2000 with 8 facilities opening between 2000 and 2013. The oldest facility is located at Heywood Sports & Leisure Club, which was opened in 1977 and the most recent facility to open is Ormiston Victory Academy in 2013.
- 6.11 In total, 11 of the facilities have been refurbished since 2005. The more recent refurbishments were at Long Stratton Leisure Centre in 2018 and NR Health and Fitness Club in 2019. This is positive and may suggest there is a good track record of refurbishment in the district.
- 6.12 Of note, no commercial operators have built a site since 2009 (MG Fitness Studio was the last development), and therefore, this suggests that the market is catered for in South Norfolk with no market led developments.

- 6.13 SNC continues to ensure that its Council owned, and managed facilities are of good quality. They have invested in refurbishment at 3 of their sites since 2015, including significant investment at Wymondham Leisure Centre and Long Stratton Leisure Centre.
- 6.14 Table 6.3 below shows the postal town of the facilities (please note despite the postal towns, all facilities are in South Norfolk), the year the facility was built and the refurbishment dates if applicable.

Table 6.3 – Age of South Norfolk Health and Fitness Facilities

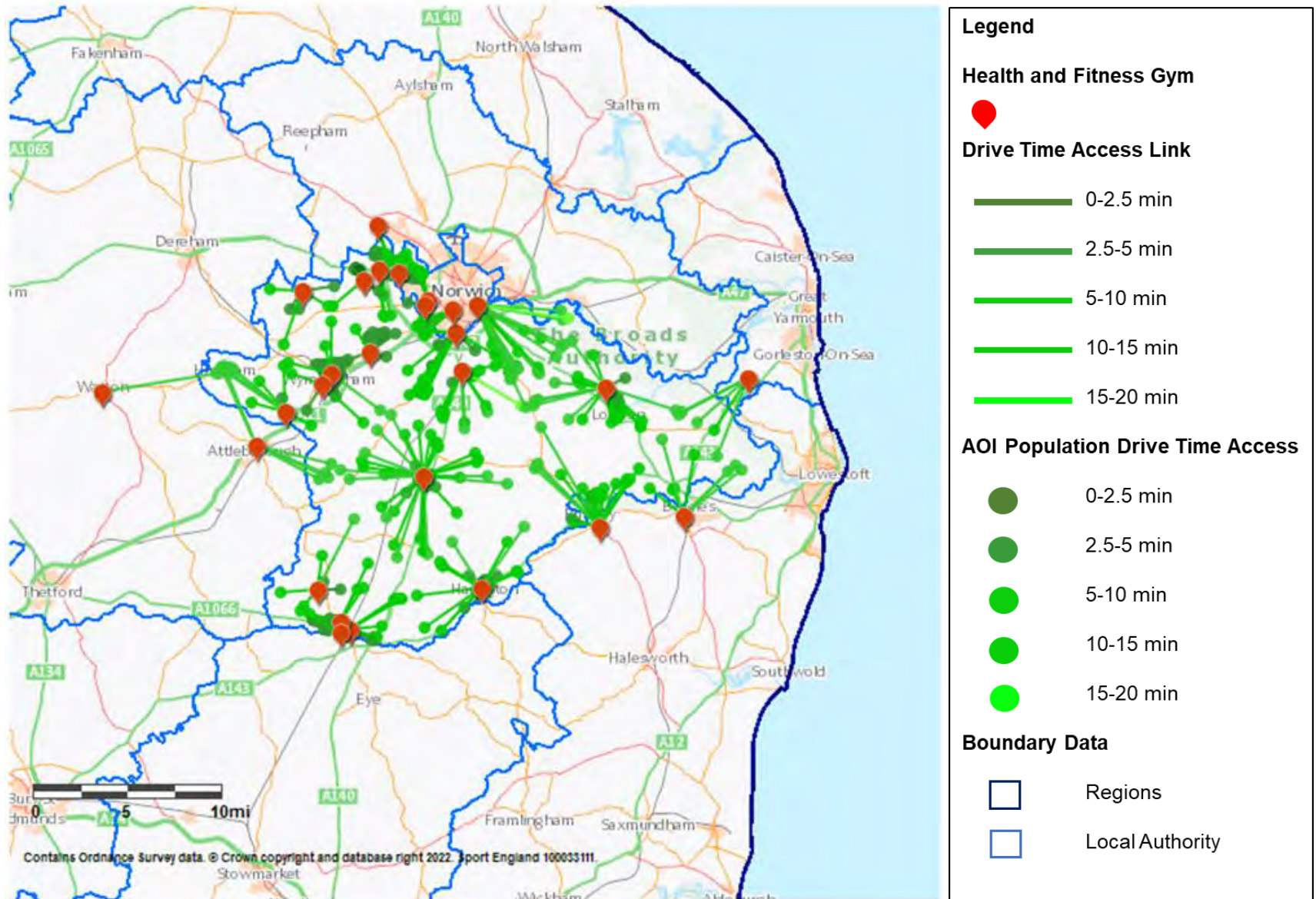
Number	Site Name	Post Town	Stations	Year Built	Year Refurbished
1	Bannatyne Health Club (Norwich West)	Norwich	140	2000	2006
2	Diss Leisure Centre	Diss	18	1987	2015
3	Dunston Hall, Norwich	Norwich	74	1996	2015
4	Easton And Otley College	Easton	34	1998	2010
5	Fit Club (Diss)	Diss	41	2002	2005
6	Fitness Express at Park Farm Hotel	Norwich	47	1991	2015
7	Harleston Community Leisure Facility	Harleston	40	2003	n/a
8	Heywood Sports & Leisure Club	Diss	24	1977	2011
9	Langley School	Norwich	25	2006	n/a
10	Long Stratton Leisure Centre	Norwich	75	1983	2019
11	MG Fitness Studio	Diss	70	2009	n/a
12	Nr Health And Fitness Club	Wymondham	41	2007	2018
13	Ormiston Victory Academy	Norwich	5	2013	n/a
14	The Edge Health & Fitness Club at	Norwich	26	1995	2014

Number	Site Name	Post Town	Stations	Year Built	Year Refurbished
	Barnham Broom Hotel				
15	Wymondham College	Wymondham	6	2004	n/a
16	Wymondham Leisure Centre	Wymondham	100	1992	2016

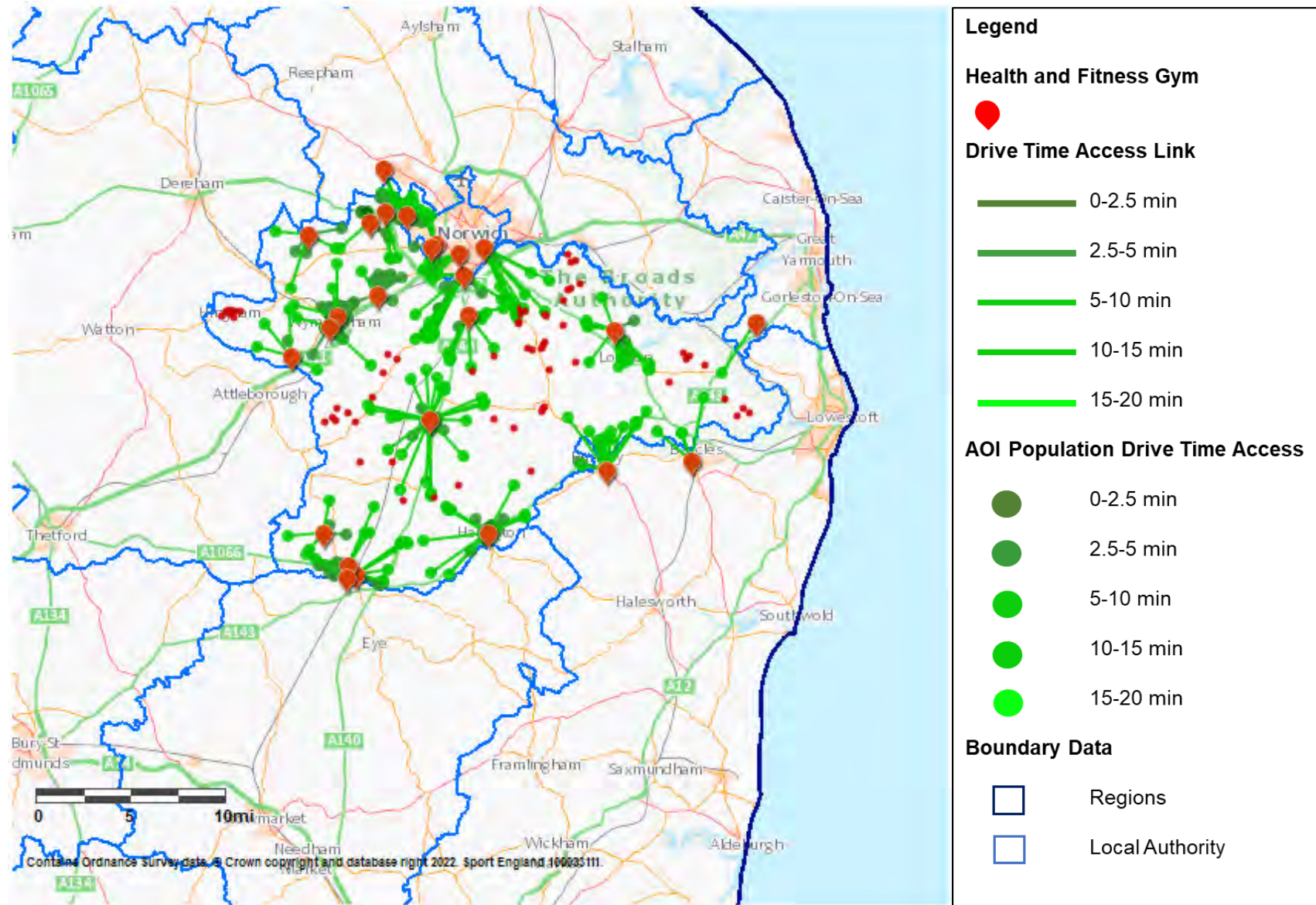
Accessibility

- 6.15 In terms of accessibility, 99% of stations (755) are available either on a pay and play, membership or sports club / community association access.
- 6.16 The Area Access Report (from Active Places Power) helps determine the accessibility of specified sport facilities (type and sub type) for a defined population and defined travel catchment. The data shows the population with access to health and fitness centres within a 20-minute drive time of the facilities.
- 6.17 In total, the map estimates the facilities in South Norfolk and the surrounding local authorities reach 125,000 people, of which 99,000 are located within South Norfolk (i.e. 26,000 are in neighbouring local authorities). As a result, 66% of the South Norfolk population has access to a health and fitness facility within a 20-minute drive time, although this also does not consider any access policies/ restrictions.
- 6.18 Map 6.2 shows details that there are no key identifiable areas within South Norfolk with a significant number of people without access to a health and fitness facility and therefore most of the population can access a facility. Any resident with no access is likely to come from the more rural areas of South Norfolk. There will always be areas with a lack of access, but importantly there is access for all within a 20-minute drive time.
- 6.19 If this is reduced to 10 minutes, Map 6.3 details how there are some more prominent areas of 'no access' within the more rural areas of South Norfolk.

Map 6.2 – Access to Health and Fitness Facilities in South Norfolk (20 Minutes)



Map 6.3 – Access to Health and Fitness Facilities in South Norfolk (10 minutes)



Availability

- 6.20 There are 4 public leisure facilities with health and fitness facilities. These are Diss Leisure Centre, Long Stratton Leisure Centre, Wymondham Leisure Centre (all SNC owned and operated) and Harleston Community Leisure Facility (Town Council owned with a charitable trust operating). These sites have a total of 233 stations, which is 30% of the total supply of stations. The average number of stations on local authority sites is 44 stations, with the largest public leisure centre facilities being Wymondham Leisure Centre and Long Stratton Leisure Centre.
- 6.21 There are 7 commercial health and fitness facilities, and they have a total of 439 stations, which is 57% of the total number of stations. The average size of the commercial facilities is 63 stations (larger than local authority sites), and they range in scale from Bannatyne Health Club (Norwich West) with 140 stations to the Edge Health & Fitness Club at Barnham Broom Hotel with 21 stations.
- 6.22 There are 4 educational facilities, and quantity of stations ranges from 34 at Easton and Otley College, to 5 at Ormiston Victory Academy. In total, there are 70 stations and an average size of 18 stations. The education facilities represent 9% of the total number of health and fitness stations located in South Norfolk.
- 6.23 Finally, there is 1 sports club, Heywood Sports & Leisure Club, which has a 24-station gym, totalling 3% of the provision in South Norfolk.

Consultation

- 6.24 Consultation with SNC, as the local authority and operator, was undertaken in order to support the development of the evidence base.

Local Authority and Operators

- 6.25 SNC reported that their gym facilities are well used and are continuing on their recovery from the pandemic. There are no immediate plans to refurbish the gyms at Long Stratton Leisure Centre or Wymondham Leisure Centre as the sites have been through refurbishment in the last 5-6 years. However, there are plans to replace the fitness equipment at Wymondham and Diss Leisure Centres in the next 12 months.
- 6.26 Harleston Community Leisure Facility is owned by the Town Council and operated by a charitable organisation, so any profit from the site is reinvested back into the facility. The site is in good condition across a large room (old gymnasium hall) and a small 9 station room. Purchasing and replacement of the equipment is ad-hoc and the equipment is regarded as slightly dated but in good condition. The changing rooms have been refurbished in the past. In Autumn 2021, the site had circa 350 members (pre pandemic there was circa 550 members at the site).

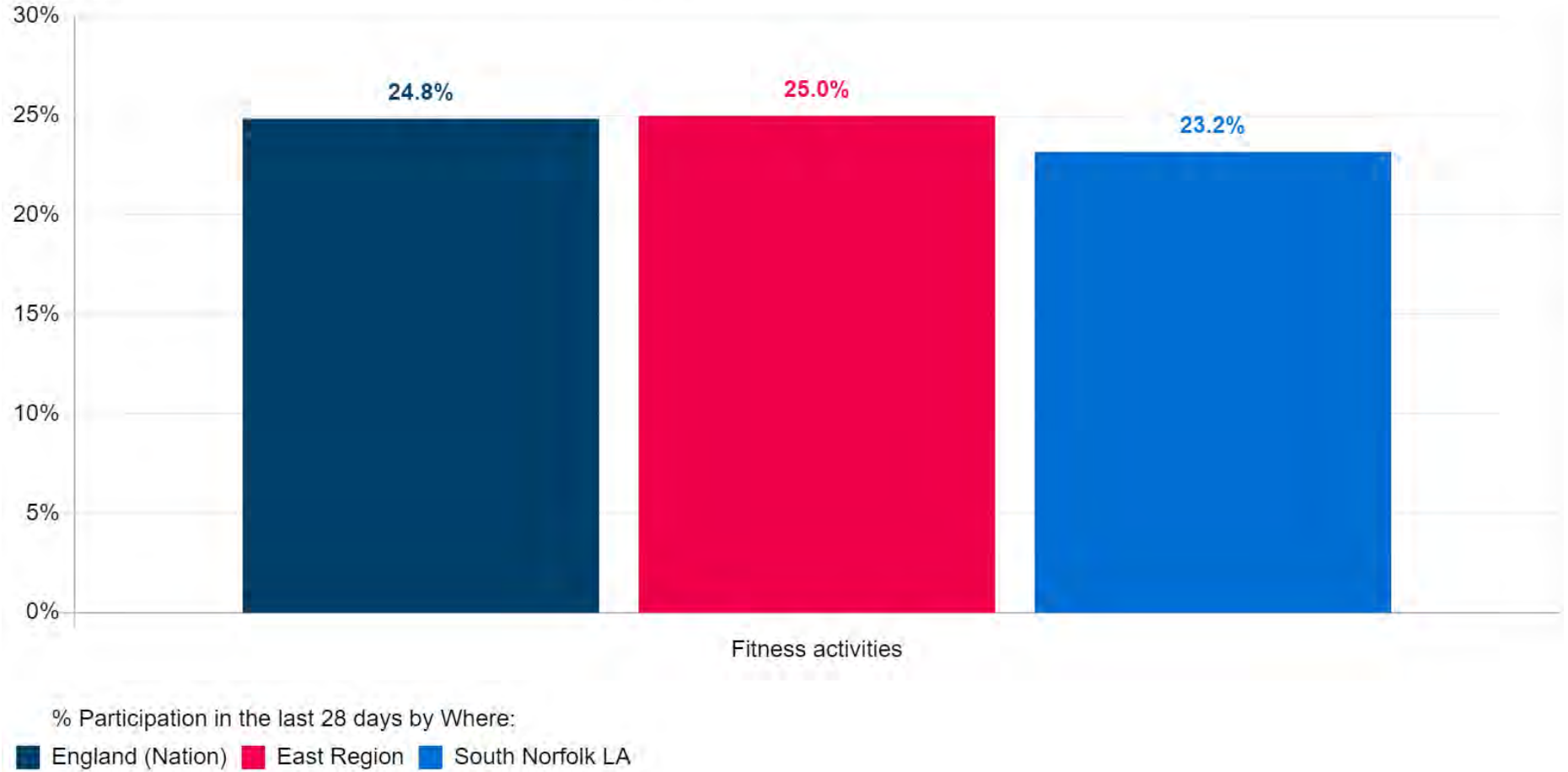
- 6.27 Heywood Sports and Social Club is a racket focused facility with tennis, squash and padel provision. It has a small community gym available on a pay and play basis. The facility had circa 300 members in Autumn 2021 but pay and play access is also very popular with users. The site does not have a studio, but this has not affected membership take up.

Demand for Health and Fitness in 2022

- 6.28 This demand assessment has been based on data that has been collected before and during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Pandemic had a significant impact on the health and fitness industry, with many key operators reporting a recovery of only circa 70-80% of previous member numbers.
- 6.29 This could be attributed to various factors, including but not limited to; residents finding alternative methods of fitness (e.g. home exercise), health issues that may have resulted in them no longer being able to attend and existing dormant memberships being cancelled during lockdown. However, the market is projecting that there will be a gradual return to a steadier state and this assessment has been based on this assumption.
- 6.30 Figure 6.1 below shows that the current level of participation in South Norfolk is 23.2%. This is lower than the regional (25.0%) and national (24.8%) averages for fitness activities.
- 6.31 In adults, this would equate to 28,800 of the population participating in fitness activity at least twice a month (based on the population of circa 124,000 people aged 15 years and over).

Figure 6.1 - Fitness Activity Participation at least twice in the last 28 days

Participation in the last 28 days : At least twice in the last 28 days by activity
May 20-21



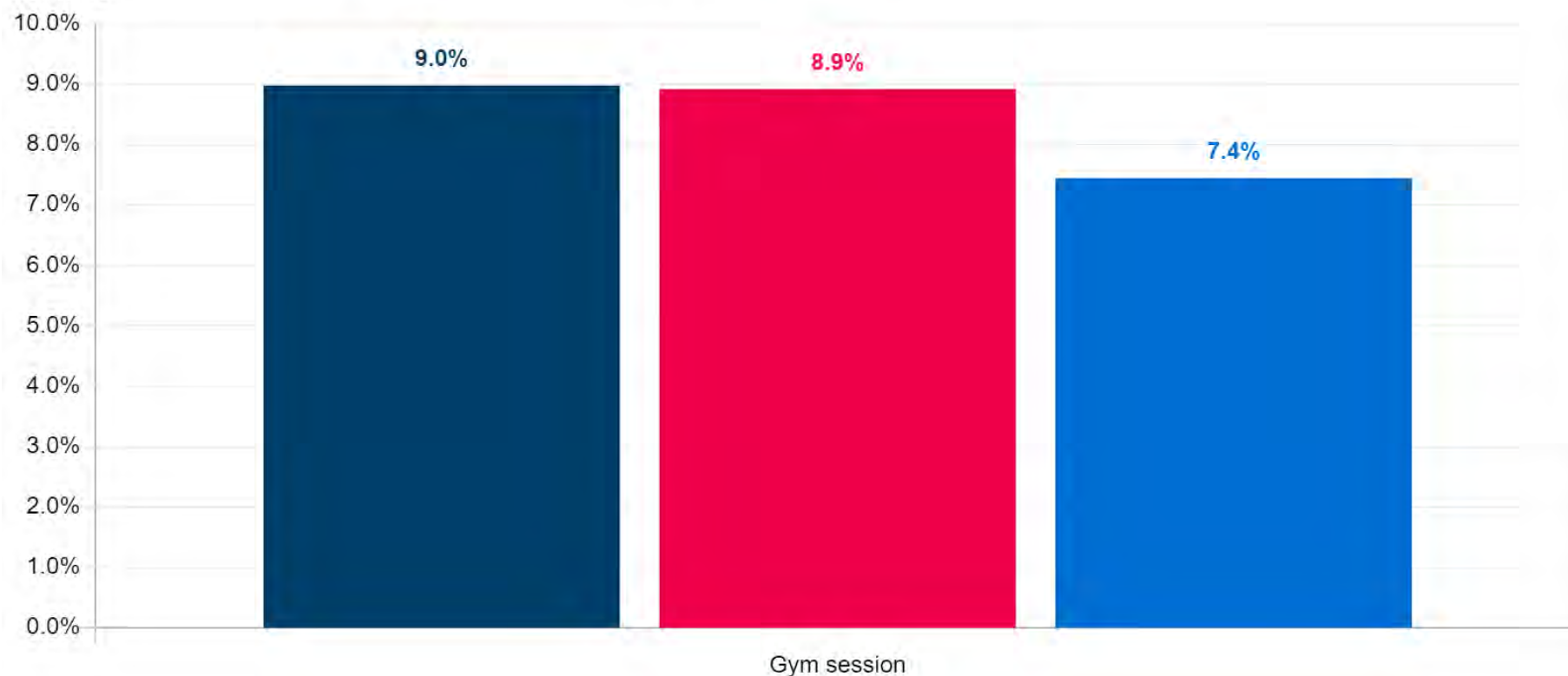
6.32 Participation can cover any type of fitness activity, so below narrows this down to only include formal fitness activities that can be undertaken in a health and fitness facility. Figures 6.2 and 6.3 detail the number of people in South Norfolk participating in a gym session or fitness class, at least twice every 28 days.

6.33 South Norfolk is below average for gym session participation, with 7.4% of the population participating. This compares to 8.9% regionally and 9% nationally (latest data is from November 2019/ 20). It should be noted that this has decreased from the peak in November 2017/ 18 of 12.2%. Based on the adult population, this equates to 9,200 people participating in gym sessions in South Norfolk at least twice a month.

Figure 6.2 - Gym Session Participation at least twice in the last 28 days

Participation in the last 28 days : At least twice in the last 28 days by activity

Nov 19-20

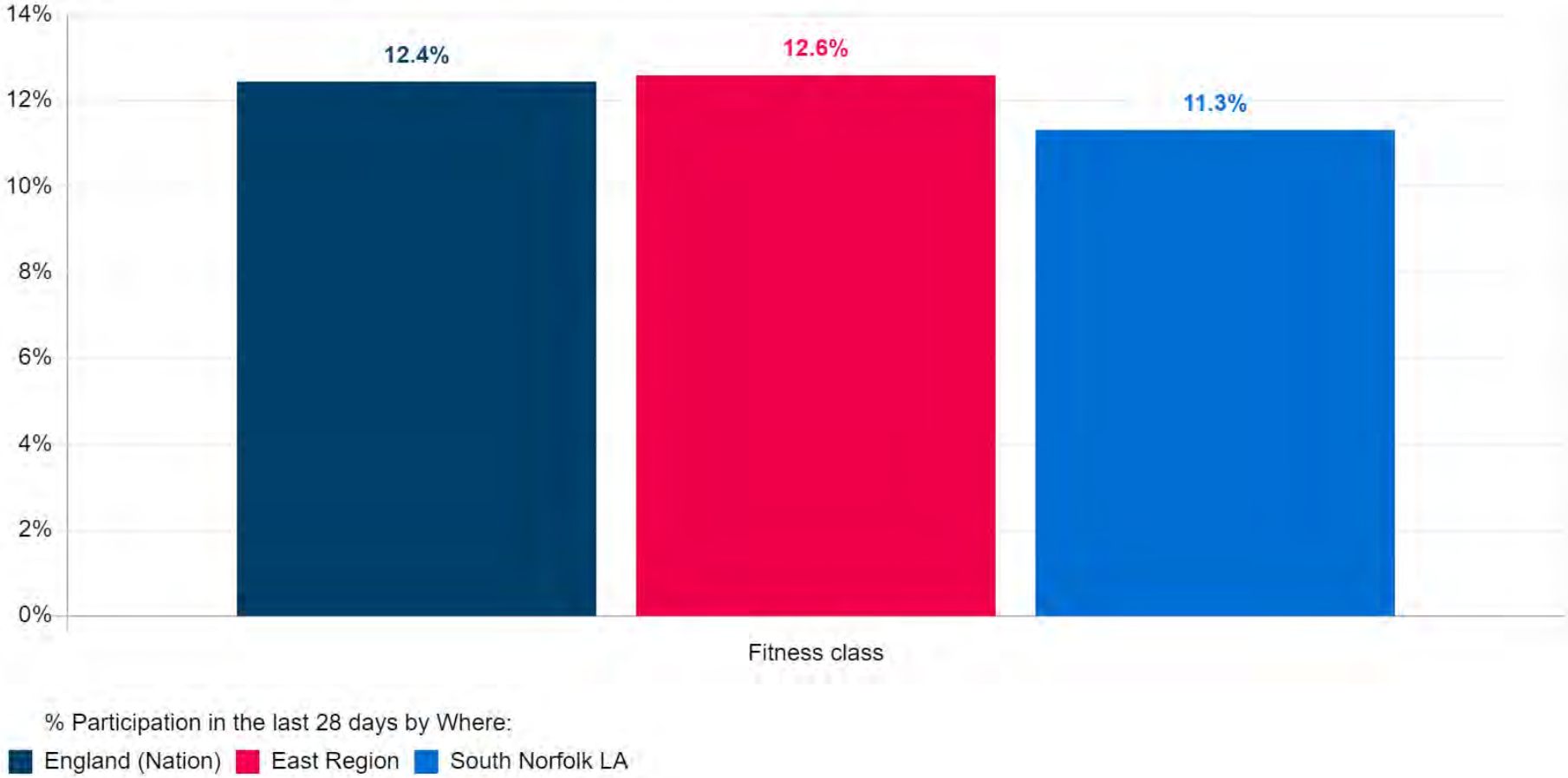


% Participation in the last 28 days by Where:

■ England (Nation) ■ East Region ■ South Norfolk LA

Figure 6.3 - Fitness Class Participation at least twice in the last 28 days

Participation in the last 28 days : At least twice in the last 28 days by activity
May 20-21



- 6.34 Figure 6.3 shows that fitness class participation is also lower than average in South Norfolk, with 11.3% of the population participating twice every 28 days (latest data is May 2020/ 21). This is lower than the regional (12.6%) and England (12.4%) averages. This has decreased from previous data, with a peak of 14.9% in May 2019/ 20. Based on the adult population, this equates to 14,000 people participating in fitness class sessions in South Norfolk.
- 6.35 In total, it is estimated that there are circa 9,000-14,000 people in South Norfolk participating in either a gym session or health and fitness class at least twice every 28 days. It is likely a high proportion of this group will be a member of a facility in order to access the gym or class. Low-cost budget gyms can offer memberships for as little as £15-£20 per month, which often includes classes and gym access.
- 6.36 The Leisure Database Company (TLDC) are a leading provider in analysing demand for health and fitness through latent demand reports. Many of the country's leading leisure operators will use the TLDC to provide an accurate assessment on the level of demand for a fitness facility.
- 6.37 The TLDC produce a 'State of the UK Fitness Industry Report' every year. In 2019 (pre COVID-19 Pandemic), the report stated that the industry had continued to grow to a total penetration rate of 15.6%, equating to 1 in 7 people being a member of a gym. This is higher than the Active Lives data for gym sessions or class sessions in South Norfolk, which totalled between 7-11% people participating at least twice every 28 days.
- 6.38 If we are to apply this 15.6% to the population of 124,000 that are 15 years and over in South Norfolk, it equates to 19,400 people being a member of a gym. It should be noted that this was pre-COVID-19 Pandemic, and the market is currently not operating at these levels. This also does not consider people using facilities in the neighbouring local authorities, or near to their workplace.
- 6.39 This data has also been considered in more depth for each of the Analysis Areas. Table 6.4 details the demand across the various geographical areas.

Table 6.4 – Supply and Demand Balance in Analysis Areas

Total Supply	South Norfolk 2022	West Analysis Area 2022	East Analysis Area 2022	South Analysis Area 2022
Total Supply of Stations	755	463	25	268
Population (15 years and above)	124,000	58,000	29,000	37,000
Maximum Membership Demand from Population	19,400	9,100	4,600	5,700
Equivalent Demand in Stations (25 members per station)	776	364	184	228
Theoretical Supply and Demand Balance	-21	99	-159	40
Adjusted Total Capacity of Health and Fitness	23,500	14,700	700	8,100
Adjusted Total Supply of Stations (based on 25 members per station)	940	588	28	324
Adjusted Supply and Demand Balance (25 members per station)	164	224	-156	96

6.40 Table 6.4 above shows there is theoretical demand for up to 19,400 people being a gym member in South Norfolk. If we are then to apply an industry average of 25 members per station to 19,400 users, this would identify demand for 776 stations, in order to meet the maximum membership demand. Therefore, based on the supply of 755 available stations, this identifies a very small deficit of 21 stations in South Norfolk.

6.41 Many large commercial operators will be able to accommodate up to 35 members per station due to the size of the gym, opening hours and studio space and so this will increase the capacity of gyms across South Norfolk, reducing this deficit. If we were to assume the 5 large health and fitness facilities (70 stations or more) could accommodate up to 35 members per station, this equates to increased capacity from 459 of the 755 stations (61%). The 5 facilities with 459 stations catering for 35 members per station would be able to accommodate up to 16,000 members, with the remaining 296 stations catering for 25 members per station, totalling up to 7,400 members. This would mean total capacity is 23,500 members across South Norfolk (adjusted from 19,400).

6.42 If we are to equate this adjusted supply back to an industry number of stations (based on 25 members per station), it totals a theoretical supply of 940 stations. As a result, once the additional capacity is considered, there appears to be over supply of 164 stations in South Norfolk. However, it should be considered there is a possible lack of balance due to the East Analysis Area having a lack of supply. Nevertheless, due to the rural nature of the east of the district, the demand will be dispersed across the area and will be difficult to identify key areas of demand.

Demand for Health and Fitness by 2038

6.43 In terms of future demand, and assuming supply remains the same as in 2020, the 2038 population is expected to increase to circa 185,000 people. Of these 185,000, 157,000 will be 15 years and older. The data has also been considered in more depth for each of the Analysis Areas for 2038, Table 6.5 details the demand across the various geographical areas.

Table 6.5 – Supply and Demand Balance in Analysis Areas in 2038

Total Supply	South Norfolk 2038	West Analysis Area 2038	East Analysis Area 2038	South Analysis Area 2038
Total Supply of Stations	755	463	25	268
Population (15 years and above)	157,000	75,000	35,000	47,000
Maximum Membership Demand from Population	24,500	11,500	5,600	7,400
Equivalent Demand in Stations (25 members per station)	980	460	224	296
Theoretical Supply and Demand Balance	-225	3	-199	-28
Adjusted Total Capacity of Health and Fitness	23,500	14,700	700	8,100
Adjusted Total Supply of Stations (based on 25 members per station)	940	588	28	324
Adjusted Supply and Demand Balance (25 members per station)	-40	128	-196	28

6.44 Using the same methodology and metrics as the 2022 assessment, this would identify demand for 24,500 people or a need for 980 stations, based on 25 members per station. This would result in a deficit of 225 stations.

- 6.45 However, when the adjusted total supply of stations of 940 is applied, this results in a small deficit of 40 stations across South Norfolk. The West Analysis Area remains well catered for, but there is expected to still be an undersupply in the East Analysis Area.

What does this mean for Health and Fitness in South Norfolk?

- 6.46 Despite a small theoretical deficit of stations across South Norfolk, the current level of health and fitness supply meets the demand in 2022 once the capacity of the larger facilities are considered. These facilities can increase capacity above and beyond 25 stations per week, especially when combined with studio provision.
- 6.47 The analysis has detailed that the West and South Analysis Areas are well catered for, but there is some unmet demand in the East Analysis Area both now and in the future. However, this is most likely due to the rural nature of this part of South Norfolk, meaning there are no large settlements of population that justifies a specific health and fitness facility in very close proximity. In addition to this, the data shows there are no key areas that aren't within a 20-minute drive of a health and fitness facility.
- 6.48 There is also a very high number of public facilities (99%), and of these stations, there is a good number of stations on local authority leisure sites (30% of all facilities), with the remaining stations on registered membership sites (57%). This means that the facilities are accessible to most of the population across South Norfolk.
- 6.49 In terms of future demand by 2038, the needs assessment details there is an expectation of a small deficit of stations across the district because of the planned population growth, with the East unmet demand increasing as the population grows. The West Analysis Area remains well catered for, whilst the South Analysis Area provides a balance between supply and demand.
- 6.50 In contrast, the East Analysis Area grows in its deficit, but there are no significant clusters of housing identified in this area, apart from near the Norwich boundary where there are already accessible facilities and an oversupply of stations (see the Norwich Needs Assessment).
- 6.51 Due to the low deficit of stations expected in the future, current gym provision should be market driven by the sector. Health and fitness can be an integral part of a multi-use site as in the case of public sector provision, or it can be a free-standing low-cost health and fitness centre located in city centres to capture a distinct market and location (e.g. Pure Gyms). Health and fitness is very susceptible to fluctuating changes in participation, driven by disposable levels of income, the supply of facilities available, lifestyle choices and a seasonal variation in participation. Other facility types, such as swimming pools, normally have more balanced participation trends.

- 6.52 With all this considered, future gym provision is likely to be very market driven. For the public sector, it is often an integral part of provision, especially for facilities that include swimming pools and sports halls. The reason for this is to provide more critical mass at a leisure facility and improve the core business case.
- 6.53 Furthermore, it is likely that there will be isolated issues of demand meeting supply, especially considering the dispersal of population growth and the rate of this within certain areas of the district. For example, Wymondham will see significant growth, and this may result in a market led solution in an individual location.

Recommendations for South Norfolk – Health and Fitness

- Given the findings on current and future supply and demand, the recommendations are as follows:
 1. For the commercial sector sites to meet the projected increases in demand;
 2. Should SNC decide to re-furbish or replace any existing public leisure centre, with a swimming pool, and studio provision, then the need and scale of the gym provision should be assessed as part of the feasibility at that time. As an outline, the benchmark provision could be a minimum 75-100 station facility; and
 3. Provision of any new additional public leisure centres should also consider the inclusion of a health and fitness gym and studio provision.
- The current supply of health and fitness stations can meet the current demand across South Norfolk. Population growth by 2038 will result in additional demand on the fitness facilities, but there is currently enough supply to cater for the demand. However, there will be a requirement to protect and modernise the current facilities to meet the latest current market trends;
- There are specific areas of South Norfolk that has large-scale growth planned (e.g. Wymondham and Long Stratton). With this in mind, the recommendation is to allow health and fitness provision to be market-driven and largely delivered by the commercial sector;
- Having adequate public health and fitness provision is important and often helps strengthen the business case and feasibility of wider leisure infrastructure projects. This should be considered when developing new projects.

7. Indoor Tennis Centres

Introduction

- 7.1 The indoor tennis centre assessment includes three types of indoor tennis centres. All three can either be temporary or permanent structures, depending on where they are located and for how much of the year they are needed:
- **Airhalls**, more commonly known as bubbles, are relatively inexpensive and efficient to construct. Air structures usually comprise single or multi-layered fabric, which are erected and supported using air pressure, provided by substantial air blowers, which are also used to ventilate and control the climate within the bubble;
 - **Traditional** fabric frame structures comprise a steel, aluminium or wood framework, with a fabric similar to that used on air structures, stretched tightly over the framework. An inner lining is often used in places where the climate is variable, to help retain the heat in winter and resist it in summer. The structures have sloped walls, as they need to be able to cope with modest snow falls and high winds. Fabric frame structures are modular and usually cover between one and four courts. However, they can be designed to cover as many courts as needed; and
 - **Steel** is the most common material used to construct the frame of an indoor tennis centre. Steel buildings cost more to construct than air or fabric framed structure but will offer better insulation and therefore provide savings on the overall running costs. A steel framed building can last up to 65 years.

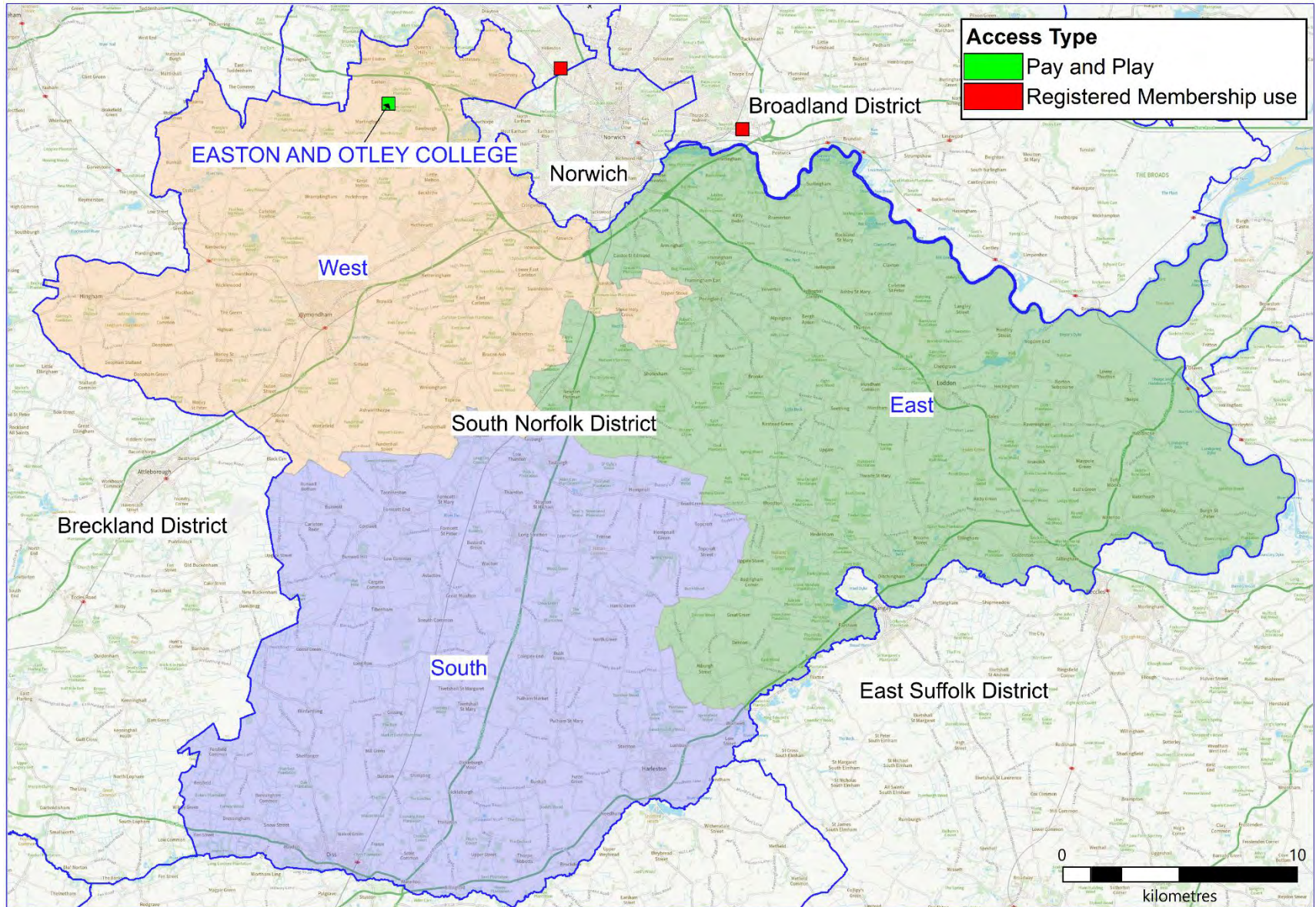
Quantity

- 7.2 There are 2 indoor tennis facilities in South Norfolk, both located at Easton and Otley College, totalling 8 tennis courts. For context, Norwich does not have any provision, whilst there are 10 indoor tennis courts across 2 sites in Broadland.
- 7.3 Table 7.1 and Map 7.1 outlines the details of the supply in South Norfolk.

Table 7.1 – Supply of Indoor Tennis Centres in South Norfolk

Site Name	Type	Indoor Tennis Courts	Surface Type	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type
Easton And Otley College	Airhall	4	Acrylic	Pay and Play	Further Education	School/ College/ University (in house)
Easton And Otley College	Traditional	4	Acrylic	Pay and Play	Further Education	School/ College/ University (in house)

Map 7.1 – South Norfolk Indoor Tennis Centres



Facilities per 1,000 population

- 7.4 A benchmark measure used in the assessment of a facility type is facilities per 1,000 population. Using data from Active Places Power, the supply of indoor tennis courts for South Norfolk and the neighbouring local authorities in the region are set out in Table 7.2.
- 7.5 Table 7.2 shows that based on this measure, South Norfolk has a good supply of indoor tennis courts compared to other local authorities, the regional and England averages.

Table 7.2 – South Norfolk Facilities per 1,000 Population

Total Supply	Population 2022	Sites	Indoor Tennis Courts	Courts per 1000 population
South Norfolk	149,371	1	8	0.05
Broadland	133,378	2	10	0.08
Norwich	144,424	0	0	0.00
Breckland	144,592	0	0	0.00
Great Yarmouth	100,794	0	0	0.00
North Norfolk	107,051	0	0	0.00
Mid Suffolk	105,724	0	0	0.00
East Region	6,346,769	41	214	0.03
England	57,282,105	309	1,431	0.03

Quality

- 7.6 A quality assessment has been undertaken using data from Active Places Power on the date of construction and whether the facility has been refurbished, which is a useful proxy for quality. Table 7.3 shows the details of the 2 facilities in South Norfolk.

Table 7.3 – Supply of Indoor Tennis Centres in South Norfolk

Site Name	Type	Indoor Tennis Courts	Surface Type	Year Built	Year Refurbished
Easton And Otley College	Airhall	4	Acrylic	2008	n/a
Easton And Otley College	Traditional	4	Acrylic	2009	n/a

- 7.7 The data details that the facilities were built in 2008 and 2009. It is not possible to be definitive about quality and condition, but it is likely that the centres are in good quality, given their age and usage levels, despite not being refurbished. It is also likely that the courts undertake routine maintenance to ensure they remain good quality.

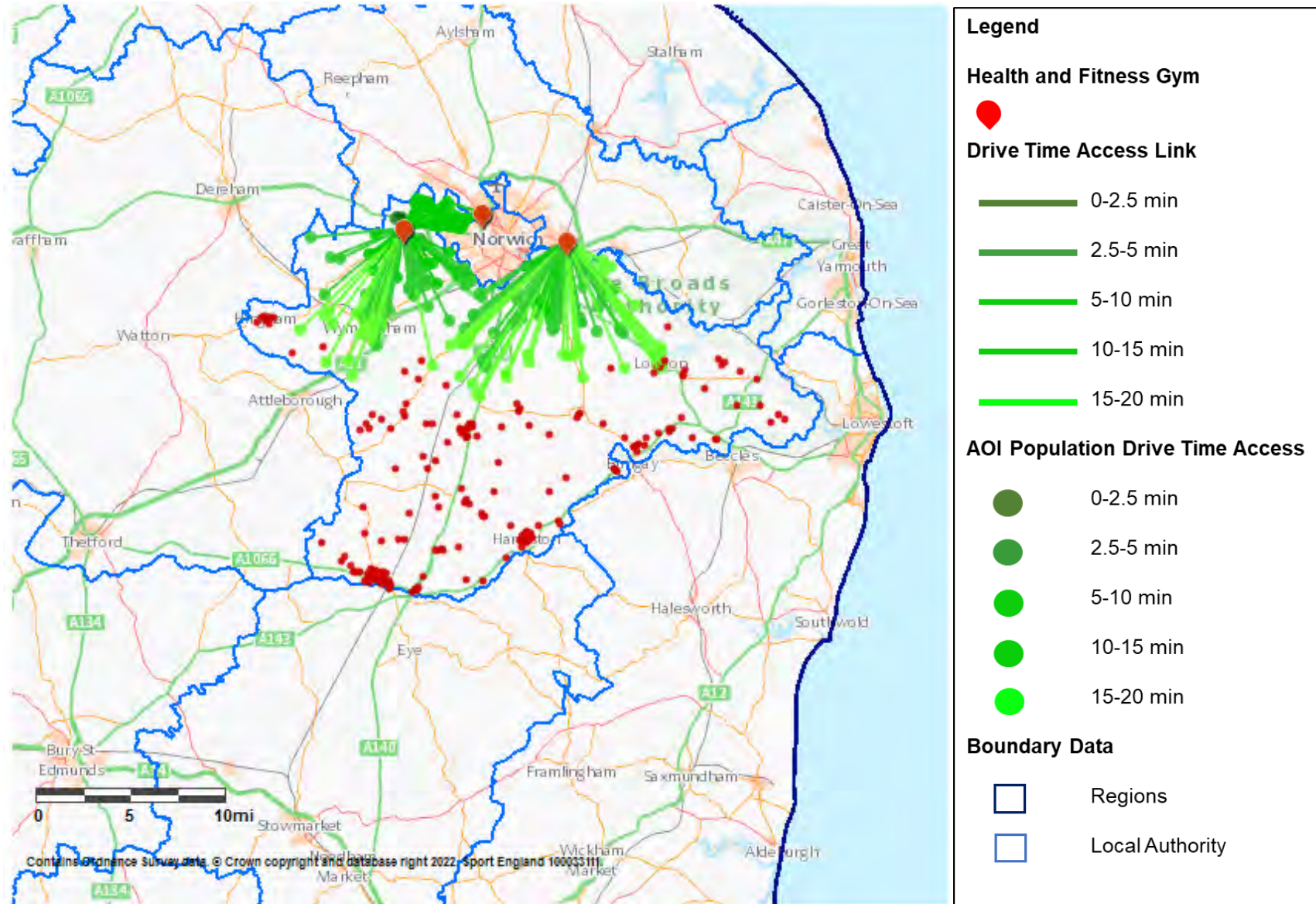
Survey Responses

- 7.8 Taverham Tennis Club hire the facility and regarded the quality as good in the club survey.

Accessibility

- 7.9 Map 7.2 shows the facilities are located around large settlements, with both the South Norfolk (and Broadland courts) geographically located near their boarder with Norwich. This provides access for residents in all three Greater Norwich local authorities.
- 7.10 As highlighted in Table 7.2, the location of indoor tennis courts tends to be near to larger population settlements, and this has been reflected in the lack of supply in the neighbouring local authorities. As a result, the facilities may attract users from outside the district and further than a 20-minute catchment.
- 7.11 The catchment area of an indoor tennis centre for regular participation is defined by the Lawn Tennis Association as 20 minutes' drive time.
- 7.12 The Area Access Report (from Active Places Power) helps determine the accessibility of specified sport facilities (type and sub type) for a defined population and defined travel catchment. The data shows the population with access to indoor tennis centres within a 20-minute drive time of the facilities.
- 7.13 In total, the map estimates the facilities in South Norfolk and the surrounding local authorities reach 86,000 people, of which 51,000 are located within South Norfolk (35,000 are in neighbouring local authorities). As a result, 34% of the South Norfolk population have access to an indoor tennis centre within a 20-minute drive time, although this also does not consider access policies. Map 7.2 below details the access findings for South Norfolk.

Map 7.2 – Access to Indoor Tennis Centres in South Norfolk (20 Minutes)



- 7.14 Map 7.2 details that there are key areas within South Norfolk with a significant number of people that cannot access indoor tennis centres. There will always be areas with a lack of access, but the areas of South Norfolk without access are the central, south and east areas of South Norfolk. This is also impacted by the lack of indoor tennis facilities in neighbouring facilities surrounding South Norfolk.

Availability

- 7.15 Easton and Otley College is a publicly accessible facility with all 8 tennis courts available on a pay and play basis.

Consultation

- 7.16 Consultation with the following stakeholders was carried out to support the development of the evidence base:

- National Governing Bodies;
- Local Authority and Operators;
- Education Providers; and
- Built Facility Sports Clubs.

National Governing Bodies

Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)

- 7.17 To establish target locations for future community indoor tennis centres, the LTA have modelled data from existing successful Community Indoor Tennis Centre's (CITC's). This helped to identify the demographic type, volume and catchment size of a successful CITC. This modelling was applied across England, Scotland and Wales to establish the areas of potential demand. The key metrics established are:
- A target location must demonstrate a minimum threshold population of 70,000 within a 20-minute drive. Of this population, at least 12,500 must identify as having an interest in playing tennis. Please note this drive time extends to 30 minutes for rural areas; and
 - Filtered for competition within the catchment in order to prioritise the addressing of indoor tennis provision gaps.
- 7.18 This methodology has enabled the LTA to identify 72 target locations for new indoor tennis facilities in England, 12 in Wales and 12 in Scotland.
- 7.19 The LTA have identified 'East Norwich' as a priority; however they also indicated that south of Norwich could be preferred (between Ipswich Road and Newmarket Road), within the ring road, located in Norwich or South Norfolk.

- 7.20 Easton and Otley College is a community indoor facility located in South Norfolk. However, there is a need for more indoor tennis courts in the Greater Norwich area based on the levels of demand identified. There are limits on the current number of indoor tennis courts available to the community, due to the remaining courts being commercially operated on a membership basis (e.g. David Lloyd and Bannatyne in Broadland).
- 7.21 The LTA are flexible in their approach to providing another facility as partnership is key, both SNC the UEA are obvious key partners. Historically, the LTA have held conversations with the UEA due to the range of facilities available, including outdoor courts, but a development has not occurred.
- 7.22 There is also an opportunity for tennis providers and local authorities to continue to create partnerships with the National Tennis Association (NTA) in Greater Norwich, a local operator who run coaching programmes at Easton and Otley College and Parks tennis sites in Norfolk.
- 7.23 There are no priority projects in the pipeline in the surrounding local authorities of Lowestoft, Great Yarmouth and West Norfolk. The LTA have stated that even if facilities in these locations were to become a priority, it would not impact usage on other facilities in Greater Norwich.
- 7.24 In terms of the current site at Easton and Otley College, the LTA outlined the following:
- access is available for the community, but demand is so high it can be hard to book when needed. Another indoor facility would not be a threat for Easton due to the demand;
 - the facility is in good condition and is well maintained;
 - price point is £25 per court which is similar to the national average but geographically for the location it is in, it may not be accessible to the whole community. Often a CITC would look to provide lower prices but higher usage levels to be sustainable; and
 - the facility is a performance centre but there are no clubs based at the site (all hire). There is a programme with leagues and events etc.

Local Authority and Operators

National Tennis Association (NTA)

- 7.25 The NTA are a key local operator of 70 facilities across Norfolk and currently manage programmes at Easton and Otley College, as well as operate and run programmes at Park Tennis locations.

- 7.26 The NTA are interested in creating a partnership with the LTA to deliver an indoor tennis centre. They have had initial discussions with The Hewett Academy (in Norwich) regarding provision of a centre on the school site, linked to the outdoor tennis courts.
- 7.27 They are looking to deliver a mass participation model which can also include other facilities such as health and fitness.
- 7.28 In terms of the facilities currently available, the NTA have outlined that East and Otley College is focused on a performance programme, whilst the facilities in Broadland (David Lloyd and Bannatyne) have barriers to accessibility.

Built Facility Sports Clubs

- 7.29 Taverham Tennis Club has 50 members and hires Easton and Otley College for 1 hour a week, but they do not require any additional programme time.

Demand for Indoor Tennis Centres in 2022

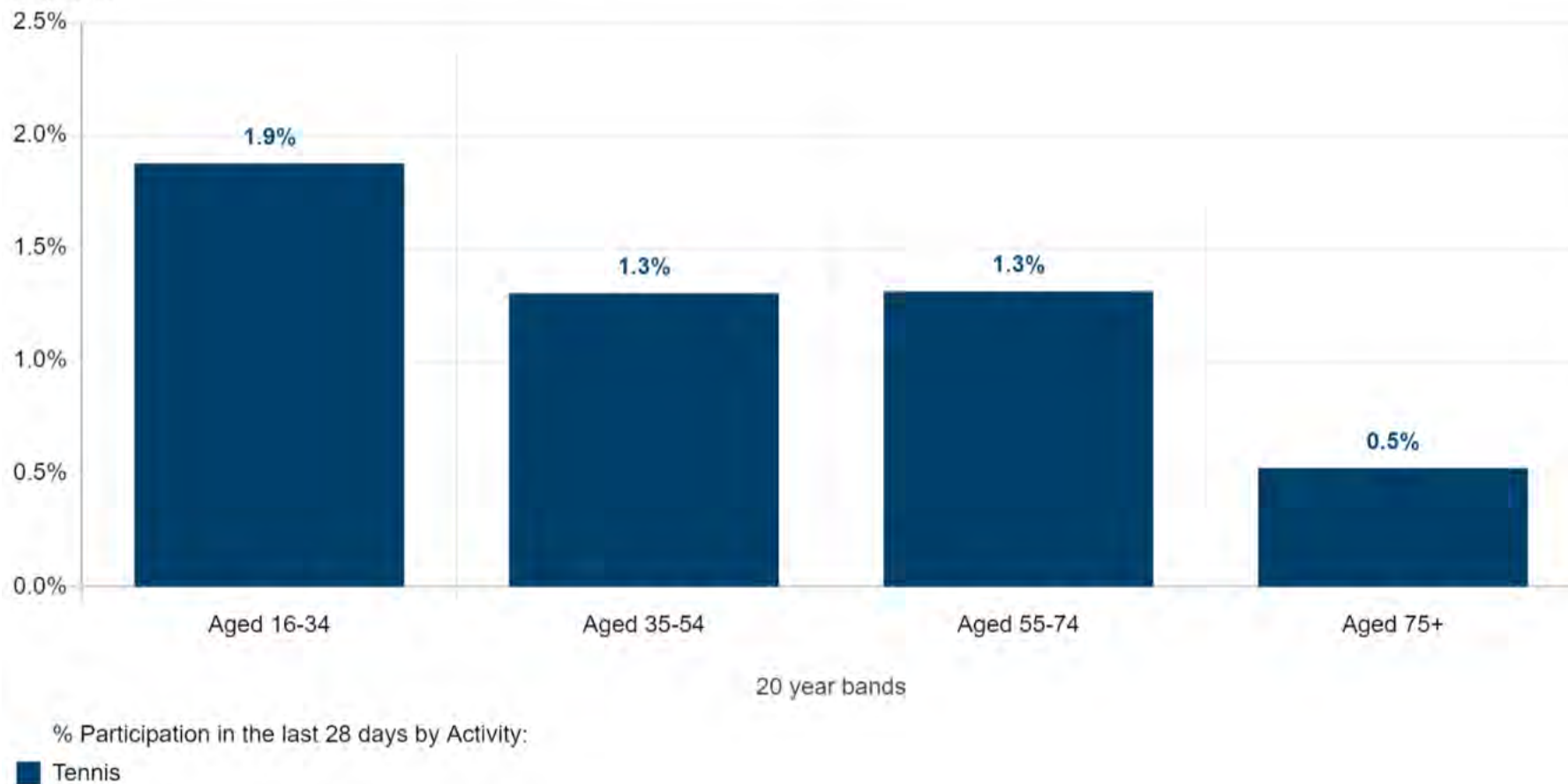
- 7.30 There is not one consistent source/ methodology to calculate the demand for indoor tennis. There is also very little data on the age profile of indoor tennis players. Nationally, Sport England's Active Lives Survey has detailed that 1.4% of people participate at least twice in the last 28 days. Figure 7.1 below details the age breakdown of the participants.

Figure 7.1 – Age Breakdown of Tennis Participation in England

Participation in the last 28 days : At least twice in the last 28 days by activity

Age

May 20-21

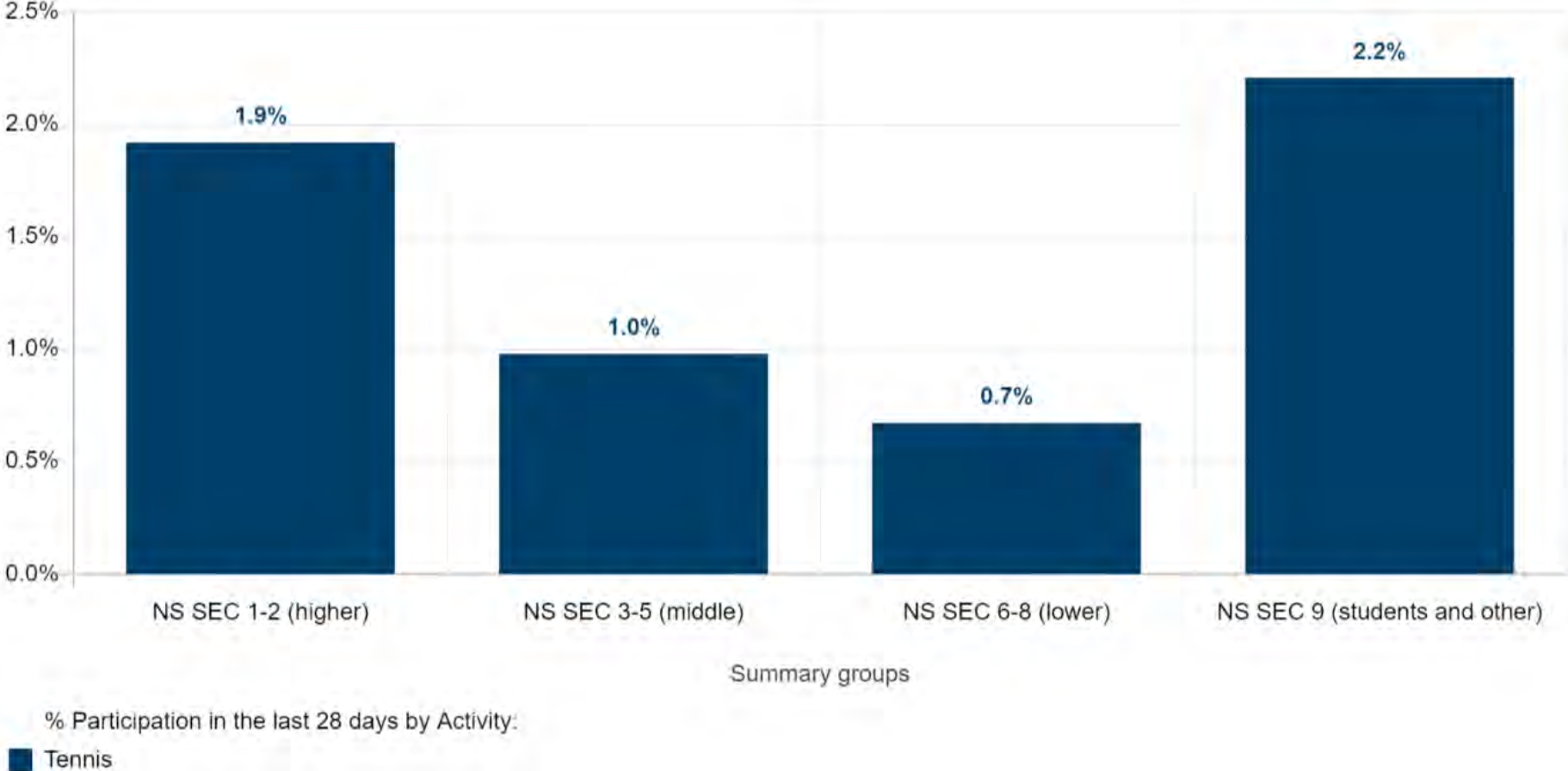


7.31 The most popular age group and the only group above the national average is the 16-43 years old group, although it does still have good levels of participation for people up to 74 years old.

7.32 In terms of socio-economic status of players, Figure 7.2 details the findings nationally.

Figure 7.2 – Social Status of Participation in England

Participation in the last 28 days : At least twice in the last 28 days by activity
Social status
May 20-21



- 7.33 The measure used is a National Statistics Socio-Economic Classification (NS-SEC) measure derived using the self-coded method from the ONS Socio-Economic Classification guidance ([click here for more information](#)). This assigns people aged 16-74 to a classification using information collected about employment status (self-employed or employed), the size of organisation and supervisory roles. People are then asked to place themselves in one of eight occupational groups. From this, a five class NS-SEC measure can be derived.
- 7.34 There is a trend that people from higher socio-economic backgrounds are more likely to participate in tennis and this figure is 1.9% (compared to 1.4% nationally). Despite this, highest participation is from NS-SEC 9 which is students and other, which are likely to be of the younger generation and these have already been highlighted as a key user group.
- 7.35 Active Lives has outlined that there were 1.2% of participants aged 16 years and over taking part in Tennis at least twice per month in the East Region in 2020/ 21, with 1.2% participating in Norfolk in 2019/ 20. Data is not available on a district level. Nationally, 1.4% of people participate in tennis according to Active Lives.
- 7.36 In terms of children and young people, Active Lives has detailed that 3.2% have participated in tennis in the last week, which is lower than the East (6.8%) and England (6.3%)
- 7.37 In terms of historical data around tennis participation, the following stats are key:
- The LTA previously outlined that 5m adults play tennis at least once a year with 35% (circa 1.75m) playing once a month;
 - During the pandemic, outdoor tennis was one of the first sports that was first allowed to return, and this has led to significant growth in participation. In October 2021, the LTA reported that tennis participation had grown by 8%, despite the long periods of lockdown;
 - The LTA also stated that circa 67,000 juniors under the age of 16 compete regularly in tennis;
 - Pre pandemic, the most popular places to play were parks (33%), education facilities (20%), clubs (19%) and other (28%, e.g. David Lloyd, leisure centres etc.);
 - Of the 23,000 tennis courts in the UK, 55% are located at club sites, 31% at parks and 14% at other locations (Universities, schools, leisure centres etc.);
 - 1 in 3 courts are floodlit but only 1 in 7 are community based. Therefore, this will increase demand for indoor provision in areas where community courts are not floodlit; and
 - Only 1 in 4 people are unaware of tennis courts near to their house with 50% believing outdoor park courts are not up to the required standards.

- 7.38 If we were to apply data from the region, Sport England data suggests 1.2% of the adult population of Norfolk play tennis. Applying this to the 2022 population for South Norfolk, this presents a market opportunity of up to 1,488 adults. If we were also to apply the 8% growth as identified post COVID-19 Pandemic, this would increase to circa 1,607 adults playing at least twice a month (124,000 adult population). In terms of juniors, based on 3.2% playing once a week, this totals circa 800 juniors playing at least once a week (25,000 junior population 15 years and under).
- 7.39 As a result, it is estimated there is potential for up to 2,400 users playing at least twice a month, or a minimum of 81,000 visits per annum.
- 7.40 This number of potential players would equate to provision of 12 indoor tennis courts, based on the LTA measure of 1 indoor tennis court equating to 200 players. This is a deficit of 4 indoor tennis courts.

Demand for Indoor Tennis Centres by 2038

- 7.41 Assuming the provision remains the same as 2022 and using the same metrics as 2022, the adult population of 157,000 would total a market opportunity for 1,884 adults, with the population under 15 years totalling a market opportunity for 928 children.
- 7.42 This would equate to a total participation of 2,812 residents playing at least twice a month, or 93,000 visits a year. Based on the same metric of 1 indoor tennis court equating to 200 players, this will total demand by 2038 of 14 indoor tennis courts, an increase of 2 indoor tennis courts from 2022.

What does this mean for Indoor Tennis in South Norfolk?

- 7.43 The needs assessment has highlighted that there are currently 8 indoor tennis courts available on a pay and pay basis at Easton and Otley College. The facility is accessible to the residents located in the north of South Norfolk; however, the 20-minute catchment does not stretch further south than Long Stratton, and when combined with the lack of provision in neighbouring local authorities, there is a lack of access to the population in the south.
- 7.44 The LTA recommend a 20-minute drive time of at least 75,000 people and sites are often located close to population centres, such as the 8 indoor tennis courts at Easton and Otley College and the 10 indoor tennis courts located in Broadland, all close to the Norwich boundary.
- 7.45 Easton and Otley College is regarded as a busy facility, but it will not be accessible to all due to capacity issues, programming demands and pricing policy. In addition, David Lloyd and Bannatyne Health Club (both in Broadland) are both membership facilities, with limited access for residents because it requires a monthly membership.

7.46 For indoor tennis, the Greater Norwich area should be considered together and it's important to understand the provision and demand in both Norwich and Broadland alongside these findings. Table 7.4 below details the overall supply and demand position for Greater Norwich.

Table 7.4 – Supply and Demand Balance in Greater Norwich

Greater Norwich Indoor Tennis Courts	2022 Supply	2022 Demand	Supply and Demand Balance in 2022	2038 Supply	2038 Demand	Supply and Demand Balance in 2038
Broadland	10	11	-1	10	13	-3
Norwich	0	11	-11	0	12	-12
South Norfolk	8	12	-4	8	14	-6
Total	18	34	-16	18	39	-21

7.47 The table demonstrates that there is a significant deficit of indoor tennis courts across Greater Norwich, substantially impacted by the lack of provision in Norwich. In total, there is a deficit of 16 indoor tennis courts in 2022, increasing to 21 indoor tennis courts by 2038. This is the equivalent of over 5 x 4 tennis indoor tennis court halls.

7.48 Providing this level of provision to meet the full demand is unlikely to be financially viable, but that there is a clear need for an additional facility both now and in the future within Greater Norwich. Due to the commercial operation of the courts in Broadland, the additional provision should be a CITC, with access for the wider tennis network on a pay and play basis.

7.49 Further to this, the LTA have already undertaken their own detailed analysis and highlighted that the east of Norwich, or the south of Norwich, are their priority locations for a potential new CITC, complementing the current provision across Greater Norwich. The NTA have also expressed interest in developing a facility, further emphasising the need for additional provision in Greater Norwich.

Recommendations for South Norfolk – Indoor Tennis Centres

- Given the findings on current and future supply and demand for indoor tennis courts, the recommendations are as follows:
 1. Develop a 4-6 indoor CITC in the Greater Norwich area; and
 2. Consider the covering of outdoor courts with an air hall if demand continues to arise from the Greater Norwich area.
- The needs assessment has identified there is a significant deficit in courts across Greater Norwich and this is expected to increase by 2038. Not all the courts are accessible to the community, with 56% of the courts being under commercial management with a registered membership access policy;
- Further to this, the key local stakeholders (local authorities, LTA, NTA and UEA) should work together to identify the preferred development opportunities.

8. Indoor Bowls Centres

Introduction

- 8.1 Indoor bowls is played in a similar way to lawn bowls and although there are slight differences between the two, it is essentially an indoor version of the outdoor game. The length of a rectangular green is still between 31-40 metres; however, the width of a green varies from as little as 8 metres (enough for one rink) to as much as 60 metres or more. The width of a rink for indoor play must be a minimum of 4.6 metres.
- 8.2 Indoor bowls centres are purpose built, bespoke facilities and the game is completely different to short and long mat bowls, which is played on a rectangular carpet (15m x 2m) that is rolled out. Short and long mat bowls can be accommodated in any indoor space large enough to fit the carpet and tends to be played at a recreational level.
- 8.3 For the purpose of this assessment, the data will be focused on dedicated indoor bowls centres.

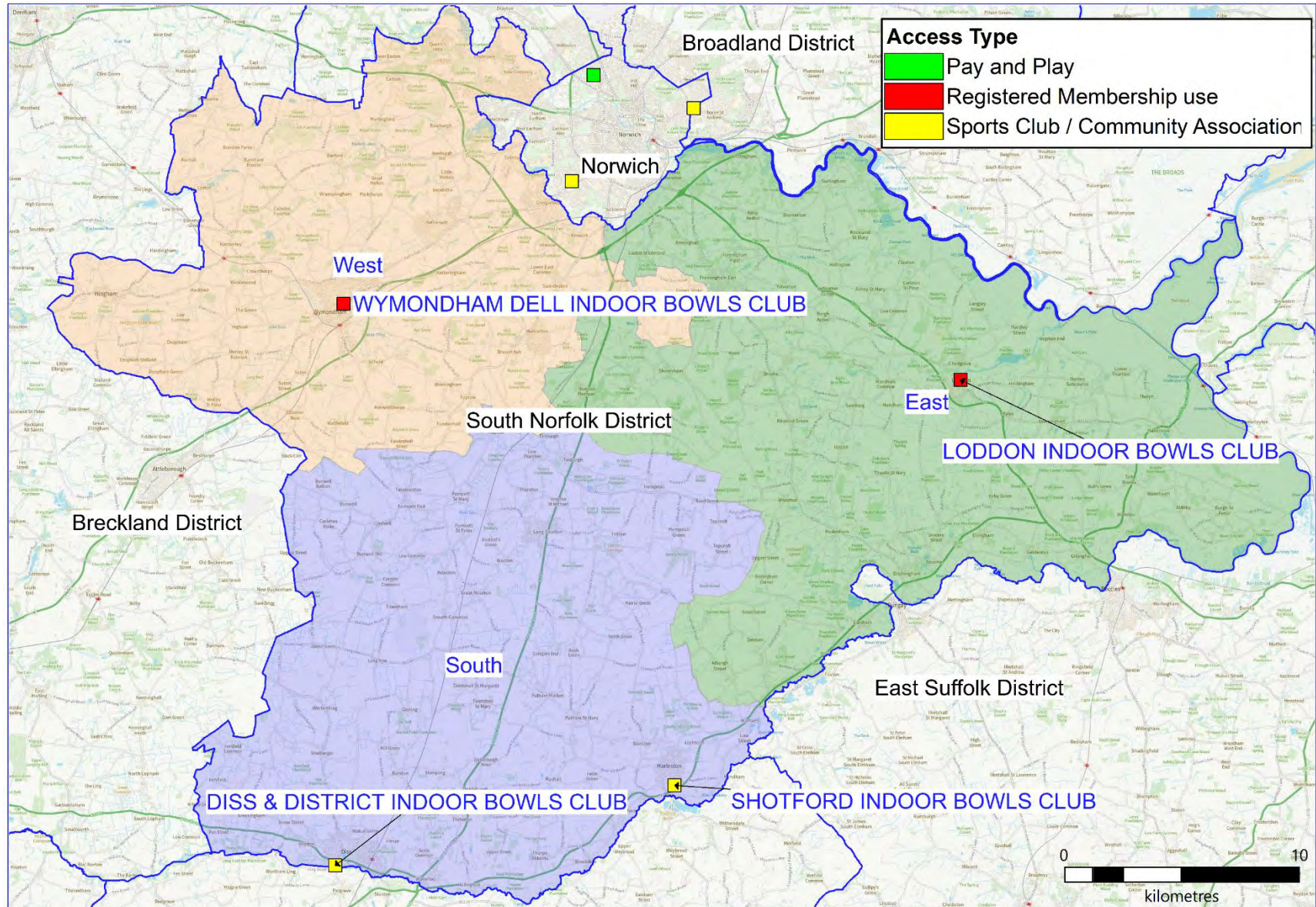
Quantity

- 8.4 There are 4 indoor bowls centres in South Norfolk, providing a total of 16 rinks.
- 8.5 The largest facility is Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club, which has 6 rinks. Diss & District Indoor Bowls Club and Shotford Indoor Bowls Club both have 4 rinks, whilst Loddon Indoor Bowls Club has 2 rinks.
- 8.6 There is no local authority owned or managed indoor bowls centres. Table 8.1 and Map 8.1 outlines the details of the supply in South Norfolk.

Table 8.1 – Supply of Indoor Bowls Centres in South Norfolk

Site Name	Rinks	Area	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type
Diss & District Indoor Bowls Club	4	600	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club
Loddon Indoor Bowls Club	2	173	Registered Membership use	Sports Club	Sport Club
Shotford Indoor Bowls Club	4	558	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club
Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club	6	972	Registered Membership use	Sports Club	Sport Club

Map 8.1 – South Norfolk Indoor Bowls Centres



Facilities per 1,000 population

- 8.7 A benchmark measure used in the assessment of a facility type is facilities per 1,000 population. Using data from Active Places Power, the provision of indoor bowls rinks for South Norfolk and the neighbouring local authorities is set out in Table 8.2 below.
- 8.8 It shows that based on this measure, South Norfolk has a good supply of indoor bowls rinks, compared to other local authorities within the region and England.
- 8.9 The 0.11 rinks per 1,000 population is higher than the regional and national average and is just below Great Yarmouth (0.14) and Mid Suffolk (0.13). For context, the median is 0.11 rink per 1,000 population for the neighbouring local authorities.

Table 8.2 – South Norfolk Facilities per 1,000 Population

Total Supply	Population 2022	Sites	Rinks	Rinks per 1000 population
South Norfolk	149,371	4	16	0.11
Broadland	133,378	3	18	0.14
Norwich	144,424	2	11	0.08
Breckland	144,592	2	10	0.07
Great Yarmouth	100,794	1	14	0.14
North Norfolk	107,051	1	4	0.04
Mid Suffolk	105,724	3	14	0.13
East Region	6,346,769	66	346	0.05
England	57,282,105	308	1,645	0.03

Quality

- 8.10 A quality assessment has been undertaken using data from Active Places Power of the date of construction and whether the facility has been refurbished, which is a useful proxy for quality.
- 8.11 Table 8.3 shows details the age of the current indoor bowls centres in South Norfolk.

Table 8.3 – Supply of Indoor Bowls Centres in South Norfolk

Site Name	Rinks	Year Built	Year Refurbished
Diss & District Indoor Bowls Club	4	1966	2007
Loddon Indoor Bowls Club	2	1968	2011
Shotford Indoor Bowls Club	4	1969	1997
Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club	6	1964	1998

- 8.12 The data details that the facilities were all built in the 1960's. It is not possible to be definitive about quality and condition, but it is likely that the centres are in good quality, despite their age and usage levels.
- 8.13 Indoor bowls rinks are required to regularly replace and stretch their carpet, so the carpet is often maintained to a high standard. All of the rinks have been refurbished and continue to be updated on an ad-hoc basis, but it is likely that due to the ages, there will be structural improvements required.
- 8.14 Loddon Indoor Bowls Club is not affiliated to EIBA, and the indoor green does not comply with Laws of the Sport.

Site Visits and Survey Responses

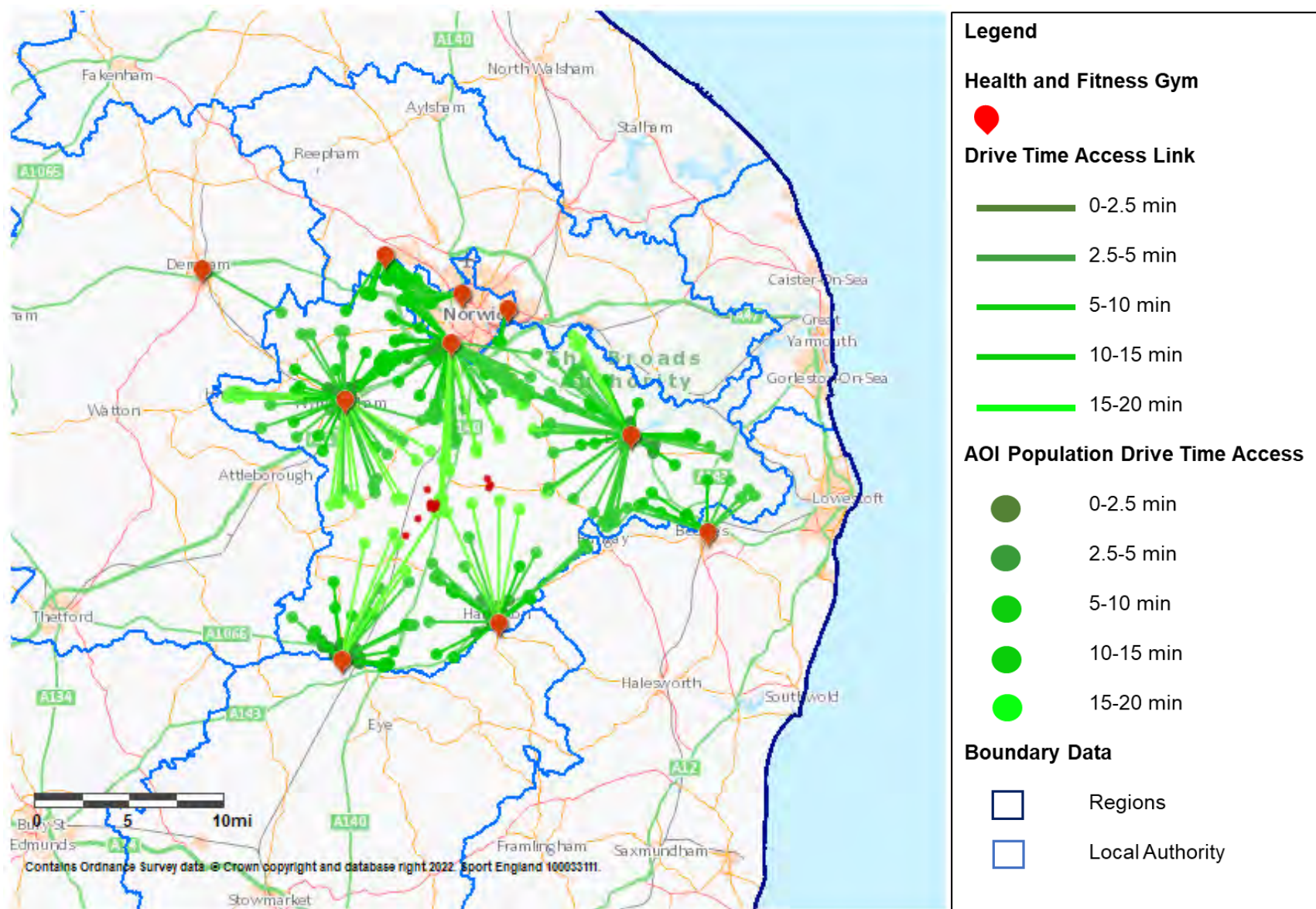
- 8.15 A site visit was undertaken to Shotford Indoor Bowls Club. The 4 rinks and ancillary facilities were of good quality, with a new ventilation system in place following the COVID-19 Pandemic. The carpet is stretched twice a year and is currently 8 years old. The club keep a lifecycle account for replacement, so it is constantly kept to a high quality.

Accessibility

- 8.16 Map 8.1 shows that the facilities are geographically spread out across South Norfolk, with 1 facility in the East Analysis Area (Loddon Indoor Bowls Club), 1 in the West Analysis Area (Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club) and 2 in the South Analysis Area (Diss & District Indoor Bowls Club and Shotford Indoor Bowls Club).
- 8.17 Due to all 4 facilities being located close to the district boundary, it is likely they will also import demand from neighbouring local authorities outside of the Greater Norwich area. The catchment area of an indoor bowls centre for regular participation is defined by the English Indoor Bowling Association (EIBA) as 20 minutes' drive time.

- 8.18 The Area Access Report (from Active Places Power) helps determine the accessibility of specified sport facilities (type and sub type) for a defined population and defined travel catchment.
- 8.19 The Area Access Report data from Active Places Power shows the population with access to indoor bowls centres within a 20minute drive time of the sites. In total, the map estimates the facilities in South Norfolk and the surrounding local authorities reach 140,000, of which 85,000 are located within South Norfolk (i.e. 55,000 are located in neighbouring local authorities). As a result, 69% of the South Norfolk population have access to an indoor bowls centre within a 20-minute drive time, although this also does not consider access policies.
- 8.20 Map 8.2 below details the access findings for South Norfolk.

Map 8.2 – Access to Indoor Bowls Centres in South Norfolk (20 Minutes)



- 8.21 Due to the geographical location of the facilities, the areas of South Norfolk without access are mainly the rural areas, as well as parts of the centre of South Norfolk. It will always be unrealistic to provide access to the whole of the district in a large land area such as South Norfolk.
- 8.22 Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club has the greatest reach of the South Norfolk facilities, meeting 25% of the population within the 20-minute drive time range. In addition, the following outlines the reach of the remaining South Norfolk facilities; Diss & District Indoor Bowls (14%), Loddon Indoor Bowls (13%) and Shotford Indoor Bowls (9%). These are more rural facilities with smaller population catchments, so the finding that they do not reach to large population catchments is not surprising.

Availability

- 8.23 All the facilities are owned and managed by a sports club, but the access policies vary. Both Loddon Indoor Bowls Club and Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club requires a registered membership, whereas Diss & District Indoor Bowls Club and Shotford Indoor Bowls Club are both sports club / community association access.
- 8.24 It is important to note that for all the centres, the indoor bowls programme of use is managed by the resident clubs and there is no community pay and play access. All the clubs offer a membership, but social and friendly play is only available if you are a member.

Consultation

- 8.25 Consultation with the following stakeholders was carried out to support the development of the evidence base:
- National Governing Bodies; and
 - Built Facility Sports Clubs.

National Governing Bodies

English Indoor Bowling Association (EIBA)

- 8.26 The EIBA state that when you have determined the general location for your facility, the catchment area should be defined and assessed. The following guidelines on catchment for indoor bowls centres must be interpreted in the light of local circumstances:
- Assume the majority of users will live locally and not travel more than 20 minutes;
 - Assume 90% of users will travel by car, with the remainder by foot;

- As a guide, demand is calculated as one rink per 14,000-17,000 of total population;
- A six-rink green, therefore, is required for a population of 85,000-100,000. This will be dependent upon the population profile of your area; and
- The number of rinks required can be related to the estimated number of members: assume 80-100 members per rink.

8.27 In addition, the EIBA are currently reviewing the market analysis guidance, as they feel that additional criteria / parameters are now appropriate:

- Travel time – consider an extension to 30 minutes. EIBA anticipate that there will be regional variations, depending upon the current provision of Indoor Bowls sites;
- Means of travel – EIBA consider that the provision of “public transport” will be relevant in some parts of the country, especially the rural areas; and
- Members per rink ratio – this figure is still relevant, but the EIBA also need to factor in “spare rink capacity” for each session played, bearing in mind that the older population are not keen on travelling in the dark.

8.28 Diss & District Indoor Bowls Club, Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club and Shotford Indoor Bowls Club all have social membership access and are affiliated to a Men’s and Women’s County League. Security of tenure is protected at all sites. Loddon Indoor Bowls Club is not affiliated to EIBA, and the indoor green does not comply with Laws of the Sport.

8.29 There has been some loss of sites from surrounding local authorities including Rossi’s in North Walsham and the Marina Centre in Great Yarmouth, as a result of the pandemic.

8.30 Table 8.4 below details the level of membership at the three affiliated clubs, pre COVID-19 Pandemic and during the pandemic up to December 2020.

Table 8.4 – Membership Levels at Affiliated Clubs

Site Name	December 2019	Members per Rink 2019	December 2020 (Covid)	Members per Rink 2020
Diss & District Indoor Bowls Club	218	55	147	37
Shotford Indoor Bowls Club	231	58	227	58
Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls Club	375	63	205	34

- 8.31 Membership in 2019 (pre pandemic) was healthy at the clubs, albeit there was spare capacity at all sites (based on 80-100 people per rink). It should be noted that there was a steady decrease in participation prior to the pandemic; in 2017 there was 904 members across the 3 sites, and this has reduced to 824 in 2019. As a result of COVID-19 Pandemic, and the impact on health and confidence, this reduced the membership across all of the sites.
- 8.32 The sport is popular with the over 50's, so with an ageing population, growth is possible. However, the EIBA state the onus is on the club to promote their facility.
- 8.33 There has been no identification of the need to refurbish sites across South Norfolk for the EIBA. However, money available has a large impact on this and limited funding is available to clubs.
- 8.34 The EIBA also do not see any issues with pay and play access facilities not being available, as most clubs are open if a user joins the membership scheme.
- 8.35 Overall, the EIBA do not believe there are any significant gaps in provision, and many users will drive further than 20 minutes if required. However, due to the age of many participants, this is normally only in daylight hours.

Built Facility Sports Clubs

- 8.36 Shotford Indoor Bowls Club has a 4-rink indoor centre and an outdoor green. The club are hoping that a similar level of membership will return to the club post Covid pandemic.

Demand for Indoor Bowls Centres in 2022

- 8.37 The Active Lives data for once-a-week participation at least twice every 28 days on for indoor and outdoor bowls shows that participation has declined in the last 6 years.
- 8.38 National rates have fallen from 0.8% in 2015/16 down to 0.2% in the latest 2020/21 data. This has followed a similar trend in the East Region (fallen from 1.1% in November 2015/16 to 0.2% in May 2020/21) as well as in Norfolk (fallen from 1.6% in November 2015/16, peaking at 2.2% in May 2017/18 and reducing again to 1.1% in May 2019/20).

Sport England Study on Indoor Bowls Participation 2013

- 8.39 In 2013, Sport England undertook a national indoor bowls facility assessment and this study set out participation rates for indoor bowls for a range of age bands and both genders. This provides more detailed information on the profile of participation than the Active People Survey. However, the two sources have a different basis and so cannot be compared.
- 8.40 The findings from the Sport England research is set out in Table 8.5 below. The highest rates of participation for both genders are in the 65+ age ranges. Perhaps surprisingly though, is that participation is highest in the 75+ age group. Up until age 64, participation is below 1% of the adult population for females and is 1% for males.

Table 8.5 - Participation Rates in Indoor Bowls by Age and Gender

Age Range (Years)	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)
Male participation rate	0.00	0.09	0.49	1.03	2.84	4.01
Female participation rate	0.00	0.06	0.27	0.93	2.11	2.61

- 8.41 It is possible to apply these participation rates to the South Norfolk population for indoor bowls, for both genders, in order to identify the numbers of potential bowlers.
- 8.42 Table 8.6 overleaf identifies the male for male participation in indoor bowls in 2022, Table 8.7 identifies the female participation in indoor bowls in 2022 and Table 8.8 summarises the total participation projected for 2022.

Table 8.6 – South Norfolk Male Participation in 2022

Male Age Range (Years)	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)	Total Male Bowls Population
South Norfolk Population 2022	25,320	56,661	21,389	9,859	17,754	8,312	139,295
Percentage of Population Male	49%	49%	49%	49%	49%	49%	49%
Male Population	12,407	27,764	10,481	4,831	8,699	4,073	68,255
Males Indoor Bowls Participation Rate	0.00	0.09	0.49	1.03	2.84	4.01	N/A
South Norfolk Male Population Participating in Indoor Bowls	0	25	51	50	247	163	561

Table 8.7 – South Norfolk Female Participation in 2022

Female Age Range (Years)	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)	Total Female Bowls Population
South Norfolk Population 2022	25,320	56,661	21,389	9,859	17,754	8,312	139,295
Percentage of Population Female	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%
Female Population	12,913	28,897	10,908	5,028	9,055	4,239	71,040
Females Indoor Bowls Participation Rate	0.00	0.06	0.27	0.93	2.11	2.61	N/A
South Norfolk Female Population Participating in Indoor Bowls	0	17	29	47	191	111	395

Table 8.8 – Bowls Participation in 2022

Age Range (Years)	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)	Total Bowls Population
Male Participation	0	25	51	50	247	163	561
Female Participation	0	17	29	47	191	111	395
Total Participation	0	42	80	97	438	274	956

- 8.43 The advantage of this assessment is that it allows Sport England participation rates to be applied to the male and female population in 2022 and for the 6 age bands. It provides a more informed view of the potential demand for indoor bowls by the South Norfolk population.
- 8.44 The key findings here are:
- The overall total potential indoor bowls population is 956 people in 2022, across all age bands from 16 – 79 years;
 - At an assumed per rink capacity of 100 bowlers per rink, this equates to between 9 and 10 rinks in 2022;
 - The age band with the highest participation is the 65 – 74 age band for both females and males with 247 male bowlers and 191 female bowlers;
 - Participation in the 65 – 74 age band is higher than the combined 16 – 64 age range for females and males. This reinforces both the narrow age range and significance of the age band with the highest participation; and
 - The footnote to these findings is that it assumes the England wide participation rates for indoor bowls identified by Sport England does apply in South Norfolk, but it is the best guide possible to identify the potential indoor bowls population and level of demand.
- 8.45 As a result, there is a current theoretical surplus of 6 rinks in the district.

Demand for Indoor Bowls Centres by 2038

8.46 Assuming the provision remains the same as 2022 and using the same metrics as 2022, Tables 8.9-8.11 outline the impact of the population growth on demand for indoor bowls centres.

Table 8.9 – South Norfolk Male Participation in 2038

Male Age Range (Years)	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)	Total Male Bowls Population
South Norfolk Population 2038	28,601	69,689	24,231	10,635	24,535	10,447	168,138
Percentage of Population Male	49%	49%	49%	49%	49%	49%	49%
Male Population	14,014	34,148	11,873	5,211	12,022	5,119	82,387
Males Indoor Bowls Participation Rate	0.00	0.09	0.49	1.03	2.84	4.01	N/A
South Norfolk Male Population Participating in Indoor Bowls	0	31	58	54	341	205	689

Table 8.10 – South Norfolk Female Participation in 2038

Female Age Range (Years)	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)	Total Female Bowls Population
South Norfolk Population 2038	25,320	56,661	21,389	9,859	17,754	8,312	139,295
Percentage of Population Female	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%
Female Population	14,587	35,541	12,358	5,424	12,513	5,328	85,751
Females Indoor Bowls Participation Rate	0.00	0.06	0.27	0.93	2.11	2.61	N/A
South Norfolk Female Population Participating in Indoor Bowls	0	21	33	50	264	139	507

Table 8.11 – Bowls Participation in 2038

Age Range (Years)	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)	Total Bowls Population
Male Participation	0	31	58	54	341	205	689
Female Participation	0	21	33	50	264	139	507
Total Participation	0	52	91	104	605	344	1,196

8.47 The key findings here are:

- The overall total potential indoor bowls population is 1,196 people in 2038, across all age bands from 16 – 79 years. This is an increase of 240 people from 956 in 2022;
- At an assumed per rink capacity of 100 bowlers per rink, this equates to between 11 and 12 rinks in 2038;
- The age band with the highest participation is the 65 – 74 age band for both females and males with 341 male bowlers and 264 female bowlers;
- Participation in the 65 – 74 age band is higher than the combined 16 – 64 age range for females and males. This reinforces both the narrow age range and significance of the age band with the highest participation.

8.48 As a result, there is a projected theoretical surplus of 4 rinks in the district in 2038, decreasing from the surplus of 6 rinks in 2022.

What does this mean for Indoor Bowls in South Norfolk?

8.49 The needs assessment has highlighted that there are currently 16 indoor bowls rinks, of which 14 are affiliated to the EIBA. The facilities are geographically spread across the district and are accessible for circa 70% of the South Norfolk population. However, there are no local authority owned or managed indoor bowls centres.

8.50 There are some areas that exceed the 20-minute drive time, but these are central to the district or in more rural areas, and as per EIBA guidance, these are within a 30-minute drive time.

8.51 One key issue is the age of the stock, and all the 4 facilities were built in the 1960's. The newest centre is the Shotford Indoor Bowls Club, opened in 1969, so now is some 50 years old. There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the buildings. The facilities remain of good quality and are maintained by the clubs, but there may be a need to invest in the long term.

8.52 Indoor bowls centres, along with swimming pools, are the most important facility type for people aged over 60. There are contrasting directions, (1) the sport is losing popularity and participation has declined in recent years at most indoor centres across England but (2) the percentage of the population in the 60 – 75 age range is increasing in South Norfolk (as well as the growing population) and there is the potential to increase participation based on demographic change.

8.53 Also, indoor bowls offers a lot of scope to increase physical activity through health and well-being programmes. There is the potential to increase physical activity and turn the casual players into participating more regularly.

- 8.54 The assessment has outlined that the current provision of indoor bowls centres and the number of rinks is adequate for the demand in 2022 and 2038. This totals a surplus of 6 rinks in 2022 (4 rinks when assessing affiliated only sites) and 4 rinks in 2038 (2 rinks when assessing affiliated only sites). This is supported by previous EIBA data and consultation that states there are no gaps in provision and with sites having spare capacity available.

Recommendations for South Norfolk – Indoor Bowls Centres

- The needs assessment has identified there is an appropriate level of provision to cater for demand both now and in the future, with capacity available at each of the 3 affiliated sites. Therefore, given the findings on current supply, accessibility, current demand and projected future demand by 2038, the recommendation is to protect and enhance the current provision, where possible;
- Of concern is the age of the buildings. It is suggested SNC, and the Greater Norwich authorities work with the EIBA and clubs to assist the clubs in capital grant aid applications; and
- If a centre should close, the current supply is likely to be sufficient, however, there may be a need to re-provide indoor bowls centres if there are increases of the number of memberships in future years at other sites. The location of the centre which closes also needs to be considered in any evidence base to re-provide an indoor bowls centre.

9. Squash Courts

Introduction

- 9.1 Squash is a racket and ball sport, played in a 4-walled court. The players alternate in striking the ball with their rackets onto the playable surfaces of the 4 walls of the court. The standard court size is suitable for 2 players and totals a rectangle of 9.75m x 6.4m or 62m².

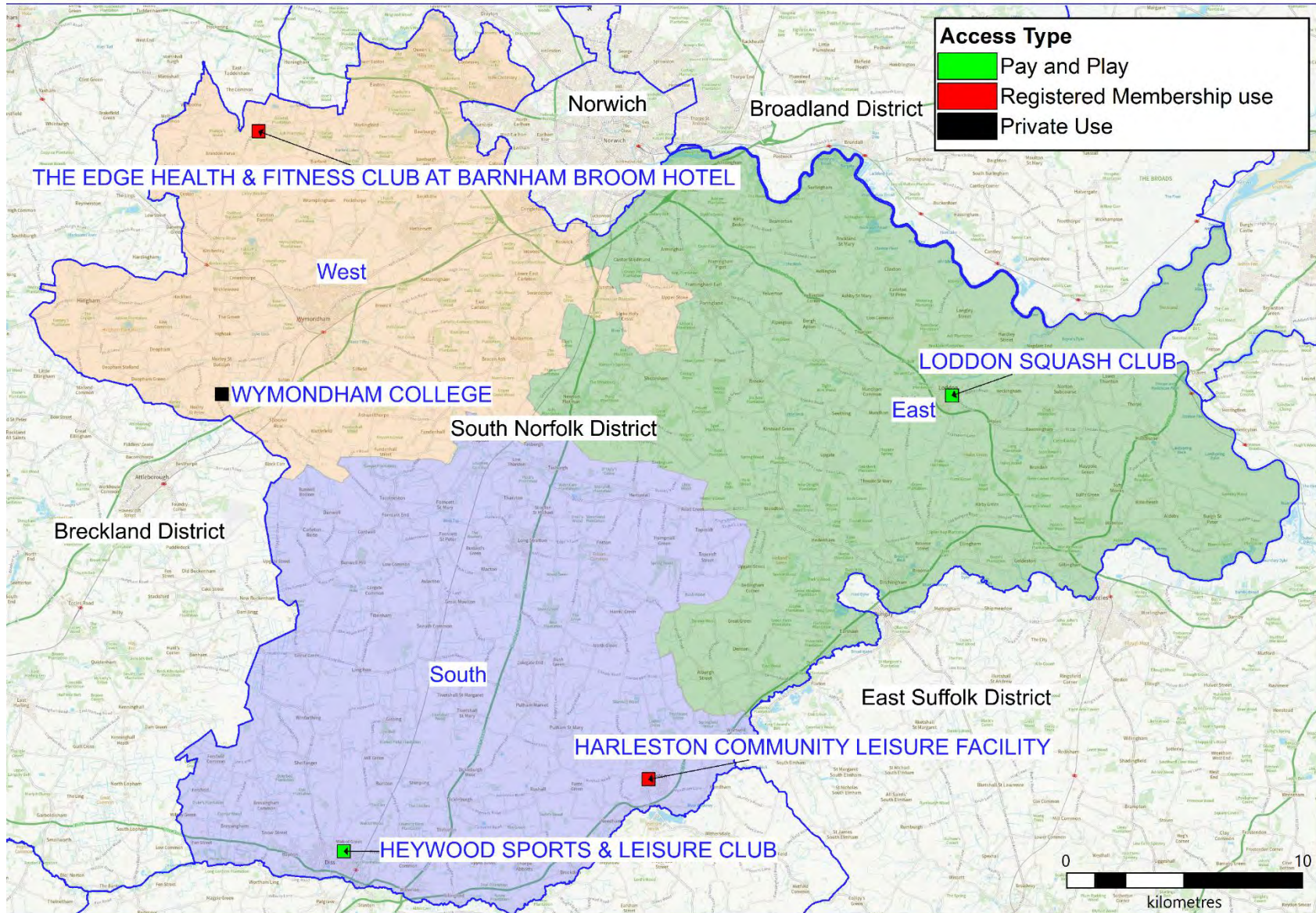
Quantity

- 9.2 There are a total of 10 courts across 5 sites. The largest facilities are The Edge Health & Fitness Club at Barnham Broom Hotel with 3 courts and Heywood Sports & Leisure Club (with 1 glass backed court), whilst there are 2 courts at Harleston Community Leisure Facility and 1 court at Wymondham College and Loddon Squash Club.
- 9.3 There are no SNC owned or managed squash courts, but there are 2 courts at Harleston Community Leisure Facility which is Parish Council owned and managed by a charitable trust.
- 9.4 Table 9.1 and Map 9.1 outlines the details of the supply in South Norfolk.

Table 9.1 – Supply of Squash Courts in South Norfolk

Site Name	Total Courts	Glass Backed	Double Courts	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type
Harleston Community Leisure Facility	2	0	No	Registered Membership use	Local Authority	Local Authority (in house)
Heywood Sports & Leisure Club	3	1	No	Pay and play	Sports Club	Sport Club
Loddon Squash Club	1	0	No	Registered Membership use	Community Organisation	Community Organisation
The Edge Health & Fitness Club at Barnham Broom Hotel	3	0	No	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management
Wymondham College	1	0	No	Private Use	Foundation School	School/ College/ University (in house)

Map 9.1 – South Norfolk Squash Courts



Facilities per 1,000 population

- 9.5 A benchmark measure used in the assessment of a facility type is facilities per 1,000 population. Using data from Active Places Power, the provision of squash courts for South Norfolk and the neighbouring local authorities is set out in Table 9.2 below.
- 9.6 It shows that based on this measure, South Norfolk has a similar supply of squash courts, compared to other local authorities within the region and England. The 0.07 courts per 1,000 population is slightly lower than the regional average, but in line with the national average. For context, the median is 0.07 courts per 1,000 population for the neighbouring local authorities.

Table 9.2 – South Norfolk Facilities per 1,000 Population

Total Supply	Population 2022	Sites	Courts	Courts per 1000 population
South Norfolk	149,371	5	10	0.07
Broadland	133,378	2	4	0.03
Norwich	144,424	3	12	0.08
Breckland	144,592	3	6	0.04
Great Yarmouth	100,794	2	5	0.05
North Norfolk	107,051	3	7	0.07
Mid Suffolk	105,724	3	9	0.09
East Region	6,346,769	192	488	0.08
England	57,282,105	1,458	3,821	0.07

Quality

- 9.7 A quality assessment has been undertaken using data from Active Places Power using the date of construction and whether the facility has been refurbished, which is a useful proxy for quality.
- 9.8 Table 9.3 overleaf details the age of the current squash courts in South Norfolk.

Table 9.3 – Supply of Squash Courts in South Norfolk

Site Name	Courts	Year Built	Year Refurbished
Harleston Community Leisure Facility	2	2003	2007
Heywood Sports & Leisure Club	3	1977	2013
Loddon Squash Club	1	1929	2014
The Edge Health & Fitness Club at Barnham Broom Hotel	3	1998	2006
Wymondham College	1	1970	n/a

- 9.9 The data details that the facilities were all built during various decades, with the oldest Wymondham College in 1970 and the latest in 2003 at Harleston Community Leisure Facility. It is not possible to be definitive about quality and condition, but it is likely that the centres are in adequate to good quality, despite some of the facilities age and usage levels. Table 9.3 also details that 3 of the 4 sites have been refurbished, with the latest in 2014 at Loddon Squash Club.

Site Visits and Survey Responses

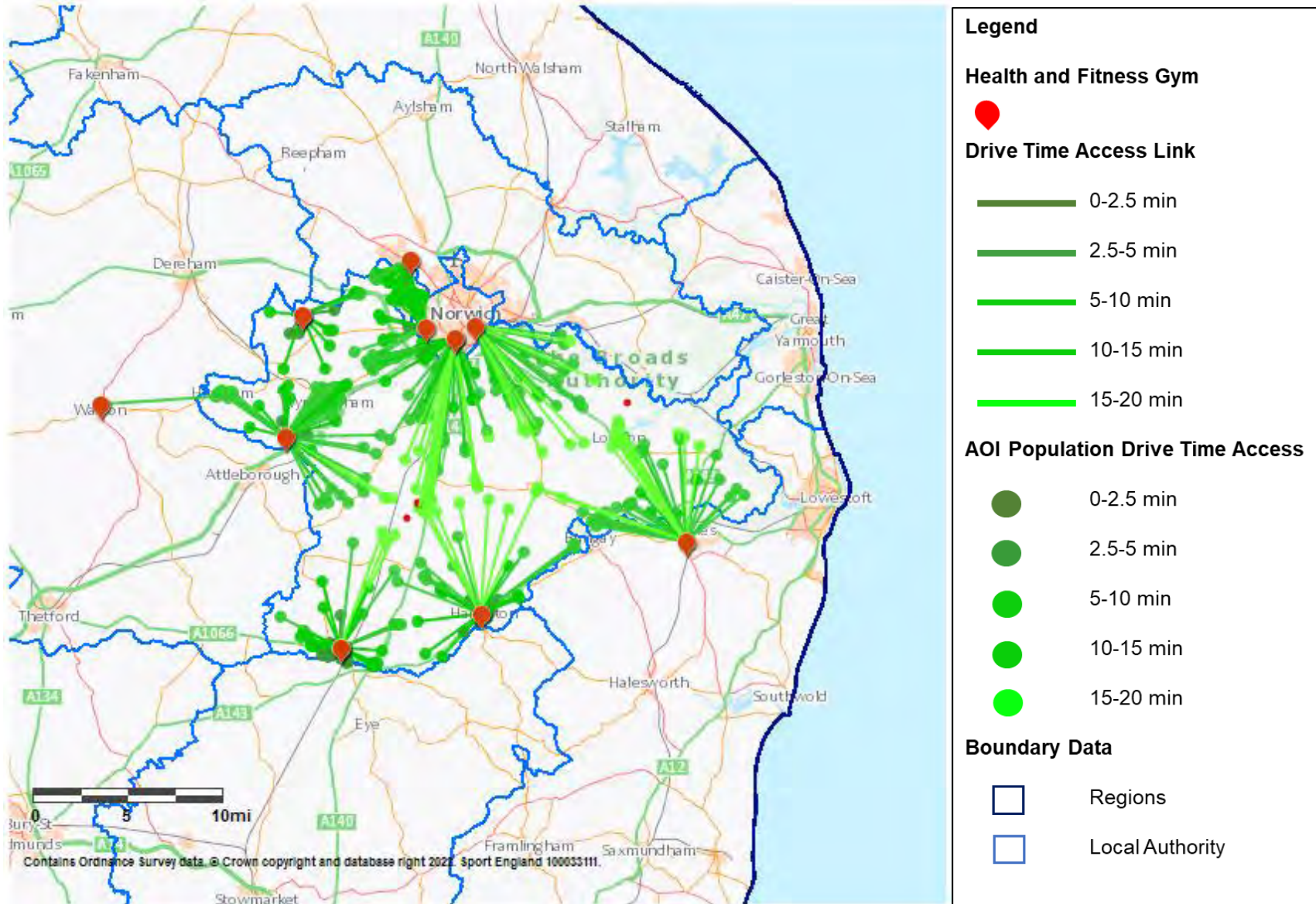
- 9.10 A site visit was undertaken to Harleston Community Leisure Facility and Heywood Sports & Leisure Club.
- 9.11 Heywood Sports & Leisure Club has been subject to refurbishment and updating of the facility mix at the site, with continual maintenance of the courts. The 3 squash courts were all in good condition, including the glass backed court.
- 9.12 Harleston Community Leisure Facilities squash courts have less usage, especially in peak periods and therefore have not been a priority for the site. They are in adequate condition and used by a squash club.
- 9.13 Loddon Squash Club is one of the oldest courts in Norfolk (built in 1929). The site was refurbished in 2014 and is now of good quality, although there are areas to improve such as the heating upgrades.

Accessibility

- 9.14 Map 9.1, the facilities are located in the south towards Diss (Heywood Sports & Leisure Club) and Harleston (Harleston Community Leisure Facility), with the remaining 2 facilities located in the West Analysis Area and 1 facility in the East Analysis Area.
- 9.15 Due to the location of all 5 facilities, it is likely they will import demand from neighbouring local authorities outside of the Greater Norwich area.

- 9.16 The Area Access Report (from Active Places Power) helps determine the accessibility of specified sport facilities (type and sub type) for a defined population and defined travel catchment.
- 9.17 The Area Access Report data from Active Places Power shows the population with access to squash courts within a 20-minute drive time of the sites. In total, the map estimates the facilities in South Norfolk and the surrounding local authorities reaches 143,000 people, of which 65,000 are located within South Norfolk (i.e. 78,000 are in neighbouring local authorities). As a result, only 44% of the South Norfolk population have access to a squash court within a 20-minute drive time, although this also does not consider access policies.
- 9.18 It should be noted that the Loddon Squash Club facility is not on Active Places Power so has not been included in the map. We will provide commentary on the impact below.
- 9.19 Map 9.2 below details the access findings for South Norfolk.

Map 9.2 – Access to Squash Courts in South Norfolk (20 Minutes)



- 9.20 Due to the geographical location of the sites, close to South Norfolk's boundaries, the areas without access are mainly the rural areas and parts of the centre of the district. It will always be unrealistic to provide access to the whole of the district in a large land area such as South Norfolk, however, this appears to be low accessibility with only 45% of the population. We would expect this to increase with the inclusion of the Loddon Squash Club facility.
- 9.21 There is a larger catchment reach for the South Norfolk population due to the number of available facilities outside of the district, including UEA Sportspark, Bob Carter Centre, East Anglia Tennis and Squash Club, Sir John Leman High School, Wensum Sports Centre and Watton Sports Centre all being accessible for the South Norfolk population.
- 9.22 East Anglia Tennis and Squash Club attracts the greatest number of people (20%). These facilities reach some of the South Norfolk population, but not all, which is why the catchment increases to 143,000 people. For South Norfolk, the Edge Health & Fitness Club reaches the lowest number of people within the catchments (3%), whereas the highest is Wymondham College (20%), although this is not available to the public.

Availability

- 9.23 The Harleston Community Leisure Facility courts are available on a pay and play basis, although a membership reduces the cost per court. Heywood Sports & Leisure Club courts are also available on a pay and play basis. As a result, 50% of the courts are available for public access but both of these courts are located in the South Analysis Area.
- 9.24 Courts at The Edge Health & Fitness Club at Barnham Broom Hotel and Loddon Squash Club are available for members, whilst the Wymondham College facility is not available for hire.
- 9.25 As a result, those living in the West Analysis Area are likely to require neighbouring local authorities to provide access squash courts.

Consultation

- 9.26 Consultation with the following stakeholders was carried out to support the development of the evidence base:
- National Governing Bodies;
 - Local Authority and Operators; and
 - Built Facility Sports Clubs.

National Governing Bodies

England Squash

- 9.27 England Squash provided a profile of squash supply and demand for South Norfolk and Greater Norwich.
- 9.28 There has been investment made into the local County Association and Regional Forum, who have in turn worked closely with local clubs, schools and leisure centres in the county.
- 9.29 In comparison to other counties, the need for investment makes Greater Norwich a key area for future delivery and squash participation. The specific demographic within the local area also lends itself to squash participation and target markets for the sport.
- 9.30 There is an average spread of facilities across the Greater Norwich area, the large population means that there needs to be a wide spread of courts to meet the needs of the local population. As such, it is imperative the existing sites are well-maintained. There are currently 55 sites within a 50-mile radius of Greater Norwich and 13 sites within a 20-mile radius of Greater Norwich.
- 9.31 England Squash identify that there is a need for 1 court per 10,000 people and the Squash England data states there are 10,630 people per court (based on their population data). They state that more investment is required into new and existing facilities to ensure this figure is maintained.
- 9.32 There are some facilities able to host performance sessions or large-scale competition facilities. Any 3-court facility can deliver festivals, team squash, junior coaching and 'Copper' events (local junior competitions that form the first level of the England Squash Talent pathway). The expansion of the number of courts in existing and new sites would play a significant role in hosting more large-scale events.

Local Authority and Operators

- 9.33 The Harleston Community Leisure Facility operator reported that the 2 courts that are not well used during the day but there is a squash club is based at the site.

Built Facility Sports Clubs

- 9.34 Loddon Squash Club has a facility that is 93 years old but has been refurbished and is well used by the community. The club has 92 members, although only a third of these are active, a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. There is a lot of spare court time that could be better utilised.

Demand for Squash Courts in 2022 and 2038

- 9.35 The Active Lives data for participation for squash at least twice every 28 days shows that participation has declined in the last 6 years.
- 9.36 National rates have fallen from 1.1% in 2015/16 down to 0.4% in the latest 2020/21 data. This has followed a similar downward trend in the East Region where participation was estimated at 1.0% in November 2015/16, down to 0.4% in November 2019/20.
- 9.37 England Squash state that there should be 1 court per 10,000 people. Table 9.4 below details the demand for squash provision in South Norfolk in both 2022 and 2038.

Table 9.4 – Demand for Squash Courts in 2022 and 2038

Demand	2022	2038
Population (15 years and above)	124,000	157,000
Squash Court per Population	10,000	10,000
Demand for Courts	12	16
Supply	10	10
Supply and Demand Balance	-2	-6

What does this mean for Squash Courts in South Norfolk?

- 9.38 The needs assessment has highlighted that there are currently 10 squash courts across 5 sites. The courts are located across the district, but they are located close to the boundaries with other authorities, and therefore access for some residents of South Norfolk is not possible within 20 minutes.
- 9.39 In total, 50% of courts (6 courts) are available on a pay and play basis. Despite this, one key issue is the age of the stock despite regular maintenance of the buildings.
- 9.40 The theoretical demand and supply analysis shows there is a deficit of courts both now and in the future, totalling 6 courts by 2038. However, considering the drop in participation of the sport, the drive to build new facilities has been limited in the last 20 years as the population has grown. The current sites have also indicated there is capacity available despite the theoretical demand calculations.

- 9.41 The biggest challenge is projecting the level of squash participation in the future. It has declined nationally for several years and appeals most to committed players who started participating in the squash boom and have continued playing. Participation by younger age groups is low, and squash does not appear to be a sport which appeals to them.
- 9.42 From a SNC perspective, given the declining rates of squash participation, provision would have to build up participation from a zero base. Considering there are no local authority facilities, then even with a minimum supply of 2 courts, it looks to be very challenging to achieve this purpose. As a result, SNC should be a facilitator of squash courts rather than a provider. However, there will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the buildings to keep the current provision available for use.

Recommendations for South Norfolk – Squash Courts

- The needs assessment has identified there is a deficit of provision to cater for demand both now and in the future. Therefore, given the findings on current supply, accessibility, current demand and the projected future demand, the recommendation is to protect and enhance the current provision where possible;
- The current level of participation means that unless significant local demand is identified, additional squash court provision would not be recommended. Instead, focus should be on increasing accessibility and usage of current courts;
- Of concern is the age of the buildings. It is suggested SNC, and the Greater Norwich authorities work with the current facilities to assist the clubs in capital grant applications; and
- If squash courts should close, then there may be a need to re-provide depending on the level of membership and usage at the centres, and the location of the centre which closes.

10. Other Built Facilities

Introduction

10.1 In this section, we will assess the need for the following facilities both in 2022 and 2038:

- Athletics (Table 10.1);
- Gymnastics (Table 10.2);
- Boxing (Table 10.4);
- Cycling (Table 10.5); and
- Village Halls and Community Centres (Map 10.1 and Table 10.5).

Table 10.1 – Athletics Needs Assessment

ANOG Area	Overview
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no synthetic athletics tracks in South Norfolk; • There is 1 compact athletics facility at Diss Sports Ground. The facility includes a 4-lane bend and straight, jumps area and throwing area; • The only other facility in the Greater Norwich area is the 8-lane track at the UEA Sportspark;
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The facility is used by the Diss and District Athletics Club for training purposes, but it is not available for events;
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The track is owned by Diss Town Council but is used by the Club. The track can be hired by the community and clubs but is not available on a pay and play basis. • The majority of the population of the district has access to either the compact facility in Diss located on the southern border, or the UEA Sportspark track located close to the border in the north east; • However, UEA Sportspark facility provides the only pay and play access, which means those in the south of the district are likely to need to join the club or an organisation to hire the facility at Diss Sports Ground; • As a result, there will be areas of inaccessibility in the centre and east of the district to both sites, especially in rural areas, but indication from England Athletics is that users will now travel further to 400m tracks where required (see consultation section);
Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The facility is available to hire when the club are not using the site (every Tuesday and Thursday, from 7pm to 8.30pm is the dedicated club slot), but this is on a hire basis only; • It is expected that there is availability at this site;
Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • England Athletics believe the facility in Diss should be recognised as an affiliated facility in the Greater Norwich area as it is the only other facility apart from UEA Sportspark. It offers running, javelin, high jump, shot put and has a throwing cage; • UEA is a key facility for Norfolk including for competitions. The track is in very good condition and has been inspected and accredited by England Athletics;

ANOG Area	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The closest other facility in the area is Great Yarmouth at Wellesley Recreation Ground which has undergone significant regeneration in recent years and includes an all-weather athletics track. There is a lack of indoor facilities in the East Region; • Overall, there are enough tracks to service demand levels, so focus is on keeping these and plugging any gaps with compact athletics facilities. Tracks are not always financially viable and in general, users will travel to 400m tracks so providing compact facilities will allow for community provision. This is in line with UK Athletics and England Athletics strategic position; • The compact athletics concept is intended fill any gaps in provision by providing training facilities in places where there is insufficient demand, funding or land to accommodate a full-size track. A compact athletics facility can take a number of forms, but often provides a strip of synthetic track plus some capacity for jumps and throws, enabling core athletic skills to be taught, enjoyed and developed; • England Athletics are also now exploring further considerations such as 200m mini tracks with throwing areas and running and cycling loops. Examples recently include a synthetic track loop with 100m straight, a 2km running and cycling loop and a mini 200m track with multi-use areas and throwing areas;
Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport England Active Lives data outlines that 0.2% of people in the East Region participate at least twice in the last 28 days. This is in line with the national average. No data is available on a county or district level; • In terms of children and young people, Active Lives data outlines that 1.5% of children participate at least once a week outside of school hours; • There are 124,000 people aged 15 years and above in 2022. Based on the participation rate, this equates to 250 people in South Norfolk participating in athletics on a regular basis. There are 25,000 people aged under 15 years in 2022. Based on the participation rate, this equates to 375 children in South Norfolk. Overall, this equates to an estimated demand of circa 625 residents participating in athletics in 2022; • In terms of the future population, there are 157,000 people aged 15 years and above, with 29,000 people under 15 years old. Applying the same participation rates, this equates to demand of 315 adults and 435 children and young people, totalling an estimated circa 750 people participating regularly by 2038. This is a 20% increase in the number of participants.

ANOG Area	Overview
Summary and Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no athletics tracks in South Norfolk, with 1 compact athletics facility in the south of the district at Diss Sports Ground. • The facility is accessible to the community, albeit it requires to be hired rather than being available on a pay and play basis. The closest pay and play facilities are at UEA, which is a key community and competition facility. • England Athletics understand that 400m tracks are not necessarily viable, and their strategic direction in the East is to protect the current sites, with community compact athletics facilities being required to fill any gaps in provision. • For South Norfolk, there is currently demand for 625 regular participants, and this will significantly increase by circa 20% to 750 regular participants. • Whilst the demand is expected to expand, we believe the current facilities are appropriate for the district, with access to the Diss Sports Ground or the UEA in Norwich. However, there is a clear need to protect and enhance these facilities between now and 2038, with the possible need to re-provide if either of these two facilities are lost, as they provide both community and competition provision for residents of South Norfolk. • Furthermore, focus should also be on providing traffic free provision. Informal running tracks (in combination with cycling) will allow for formal and informal participation in athletics and running. This could be as part of a school facility, park setting or a new housing development. This will also allow SNC to support its policies on health and wellbeing.

Table 10.2 – Gymnastics Needs Assessment

ANOG Area	Overview
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is 1 dedicated facility in South Norfolk at Deer Park House in Easton. The facility is home to Easton Gymnastics Club and now also Long Stratton Gymnastics Club who have recently moved to the site; • In addition, sports hall sites at Easton and Otley College, Long Stratton Leisure Centre, Mulbarton Village Hall and Framingham Earl Sports Centre are all used by gymnastics clubs;
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deer Park House is regarded as a good quality facility that was opened in 2016 with new equipment purchased when the site opened;
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Across South Norfolk, there are various gymnastics clubs or facilities located across the district. The dedicated facility in Easton is complemented with the sports halls being used as satellite or home sites for clubs. This means the majority of the population of the district has access to a club, either at a dedicated site or in a sports hall; • There are also various clubs and facilities located in Norwich (most notably UEA Sportspark and Spring Gymnastics at Hewett Academy) and Broadland (Norwich Gymnastics Club) that will also meet the needs of some exported demand;
Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gymnastics is a coached sport and therefore most sessions are run under the supervision of a coach. This means that sessions are often programmed, and casual usage of a site is limited. As a result, in general these facilities are not accessible to individuals other than club members or those in a gymnastic class, given the nature of the sport; • Therefore, users are required to join a club or facility or book to participate and pay a session fee or membership fee. Some clubs also have waiting lists which can impact availability to participate;
Consultation	<p>British Gymnastics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no geographic focus to the British Gymnastics Facility Strategy. Focus is based on need, suitability and partners' ability to support a project to successful completion;

ANOG Area	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a demand for more gymnastics opportunities and clubs report waiting lists in the UK. The total number of people estimated to be on waiting lists for gymnastics is 1 million (Freshminds Latent Demand Research, 2017). Furthermore, this research also shows that a further 1.9 million would like to participate but are not currently on a waiting list; • A key part of British Gymnastics' strategy to increase participation is to support clubs moving into their own dedicated facility, offering more time and space for classes. There is a definite trend for gymnastics clubs to move into their own dedicated facilities. Approximately 30 clubs moved into their own spaces last year and British Gymnastics expects this trend to continue and for an increased number of clubs to move their activities to dedicated spaces/facilities; • Participation in gymnastics is increasing rapidly. British Gymnastics membership reached 390,500 in 2017 having been increasing at about 12% per year over 2013-17. The emphasis for 2017–2021 will be using gymnastics as a foundation sport for 5- to 11-year-olds. • British Gymnastics have seen an increase in the East region of 12,400 to 20,100 in the years 2014 to 2020; • Key Clubs in Greater Norwich include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dragons Trampoline Club – Easton and Otley College / Long Stratton Leisure Centre (Non-dedicated colleges); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 40 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in South Norfolk; – Easton Gymnastics Club - Deer Park House (Dedicated facility); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 915 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in South Norfolk; – Long Stratton Gymnastics Club - Deer Park House (Dedicated facility); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 76 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in South Norfolk;

ANOG Area	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Norwich Gymnastics Club - Norwich Gymnastics Club (Dedicated facility); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 724 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in Norwich; – Mulbarton Gymnastics Club - Mulbarton Village Hall (Non-dedicated facility) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 239 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in South Norfolk; – Framtastics Gymnastics Club - Framingham Earl Sports Centre (Non-dedicated facility); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 97 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in South Norfolk; – Spring Gymnastic Community Club - Hewett Academy (Dedicated facility) / Long Stratton Leisure Centre (Non-dedicated facility); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 988 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in Norwich and South Norfolk; – Jolly Gymnastics - Avian Dance Studios (Non-dedicated facility); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 101 participants in 2020/21; ○ Located in Norwich; – UEA Sportspark Gymnastic Club - UEA Sportspark (Dedicated facility) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of participants in 2020/21 is not available to British Gymnastics; ○ Located in Norwich.

ANOG Area	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Gymnastics Community Club operate from a dedicated site on the Hewett Academy site (Norwich) and non-dedicated leisure centre in Long Stratton (South Norfolk). The club have previously shown an interest in developing an additional dedicated site and are registered on British Gymnastics facility project list. They have shown strong growth in recent years from 192 in 2014 to 1,266 in 2019 (although membership had reduced to c900 members in 2021 during the pandemic); • Dragon’s Trampoline Club are located at Easton and Otley College and Long Stratton Leisure Centre. They were previously on British Gymnastics’ facility project list, but it’s understood they are no longer looking to develop a facility project in the near future; • In neighbouring Breckland, The Norfolk Academy of Gymnastics have in the past shown an interest in increasing their space via an extension. They have their own purpose-built facility; • There are various clubs already at a dedicated facility in Greater Norwich which is positive for participation; <p>Spring Gymnastics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently located at The Hewett Academy every weekday evening and weekend, including a pre-school for children, with sessions run at the sports hall at Long Stratton Leisure Centre. The club started in Diss before outgrowing the Diss High School site; • The facility at The Hewett Academy is purpose built and they are 7 years into a 10-year lease. The facility is of good quality, and they have a full-size floor with equipment, although ancillary facilities such as toilets and changing are limited; • Ideally, they need a larger facility to amalgamate the sessions at Hewett Academy and Long Stratton Leisure Centre;
Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport England Active Lives data outlines that 0.2% of people in the East Region participate at least twice in the last 28 days. This is in line with the national average. No data is available on a county or district level; • In terms of children and young people, Active Lives data outlines that 17.0% of children participate in gymnastics, trampolining or cheerleading at least once a week outside of school hours in Norfolk. This is lower than the East Region (22.4%) and England (22.9%);

ANOG Area	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 124,000 people aged 15 years and above in 2022. Based on the participation rate, this equates to 250 people in South Norfolk participating in gymnastics on a regular basis. There are 25,000 people aged under 15 years in 2022. Based on the participation rate, this equates to 4,250 children in South Norfolk. Overall, this equates to an estimated demand of circa 4,500 residents participating in athletics in 2022; and • In terms of the future population, there are 157,000 people aged 15 years and above, with 29,000 people under 15 years old. Applying the same participation rates, this equates to demand of 310 adults and 4,900 children and young people, totalling an estimated circa 5,210 people participating regularly by 2038. This is a 16% increase in participation.
Summary and Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is 1 dedicated gymnastics facility in South Norfolk located in Easton, which is home to 2 key British Gymnastics' affiliated clubs, whilst the local authority's network of sports halls plays a strong role in provision of gymnastics. In addition, neighbouring local authorities are home to dedicated gymnastics facilities. • As a result, gymnastics is accessible to the majority of South Norfolk's population, albeit usage is normally through membership or signing up to a programme rather than casual participation. • Analysis has detailed that participation could increase from 4,500 residents in 2022 to 5,210 by 2038 as the population in the district grows. • British Gymnastics highlighted that the Greater Norwich area already has a good supply of dedicated facilities. As a result, we would recommend that support in South Norfolk is focused on ensuring the current facilities are protected and enhanced where required. • If any clubs continue to grow, most notably Spring Gymnastics, support in finding suitable facilities to meet their current and future growth should be a priority.

Table 10.3 – Boxing Needs Assessment

ANOG Area	Overview
Quantity, Quality and Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no England Boxing affiliated clubs in South Norfolk;
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result of no facilities in the district, there is a need for participants to travel to Norwich to participate; • There are 3 England Boxing affiliated clubs located in the neighbouring Norwich; Norwich Lads ABC, Norwich Broadside and Norwich City ABC;
Consultation	<p>England Boxing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Around 40% of all boxing clubs are located in deprived areas of the country; • There can be issues with moving clubs geographically to find new premises due to accessibility for members, but if there is a lack of options available, the need to move location may exceed the case to stay; • Clubs will understand their own areas, users etc on the ground and this is key for England Boxing to understand their demographic. Often, the club reputation or the people involved will be the draw to users rather than the facilities; • Traditionally, users will travel to use a gym. Boxers are used to travelling the UK for fights and this rolls into the training regimes; • Most boxing clubs will operate their own building due to programme requirements.
Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport England Active Lives data outlines that 0.5% of people in the East Region participate at least twice in the last 28 days. This is in line with the national average. No data is available on a county or district level; • In terms of children and young people, Active Lives data outlines that 3.6% of children participate boxing at least once a week outside of school hours in Norfolk. This is lower than the East Region (4.7%) and England (5.7%);

ANOG Area	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 124,000 people aged 15 years and above in 2022. Based on the participation rate, this equates to 620 people in South Norfolk participating in boxing on a regular basis. There are 25,000 people aged under 15 years in 2022. Based on the participation rate, this equates to 900 children in South Norfolk. Overall, this equates to an estimated demand of circa 1,520 residents participating in boxing in 2022; and • In terms of the future population, there are 157,000 people aged 15 years and above, with 29,000 people under 15 years old. Applying the same participation rates, this equates to demand of 785 adults and 1,040 children and young people, totalling an estimated circa 1,825 people participating regularly by 2038. This equates to a 20% increase in participation.
Summary and Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no clubs or facilities located in South Norfolk, so there is a dependency on the neighbouring local authorities, especially the 3 clubs located in Norwich. • Analysis has detailed that participation could increase from 1,520 residents in 2022 to 1,825 by 2038 as the population in the district grows. • As a result of the findings, we would not recommend providing any new provision of boxing facilities in South Norfolk unless there is specific demand formed from a new club, or there is a requirement to support expansion or relocation of one of the Norwich clubs.

Table 10.4 – Cycling Needs Assessment

ANOG Area	Overview
Introduction to Traffic Free Cycling Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to access to the roads and cycleways, cycling can be undertaken in dedicated traffic free facilities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Closed Road Circuits – purpose-built traffic free circuit, often at least 1 mile (1.6km) long that provides a road cycling experience for people of all ages and abilities; – Indoor Velodromes – An indoor arena for track cycling, featuring steeply banked oval tracks, consisting of two 180-degree circular bends connected by two straights; – Outdoor Velodromes – An outdoor track for track cycling, featuring steeply banked oval tracks, consisting of two 180-degree circular bends connected by two straights; – Cycle Speedway – Cycle speedway is a form of bicycle racing on short oval dirt tracks, usually outdoors, occasionally indoors, typically 70–90m long; – BMX Racetracks – A single lap track with up to 8 gates with various jumps and rollers. A BMX bike is required on the track; – Pump Tracks – A pump track is a circuit of rollers, banked turns and features designed to be ridden completely by riders "pumping", generating momentum by up and down body movements, instead of pedalling or pushing. It was originally designed for the mountain bike and BMX scene, but concrete constructions can also be used by skateboard, scooters and is also accessible to wheelchairs; – Mountain Bike Trails – Purpose built mountain bike trails that are waymarked and graded by skill level; – Learn to Ride Areas – tarmac spaces that are flexible and can be used for coaching of cycling activities, mainly aimed at young children;
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 2 facilities located in South Norfolk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Browick Recreation Ground, Wymondham – BMX Pump Track – 100m track; – Hethersett Memorial Playing Fields – Cycle Speedway Track – 80m track;

ANOG Area	Overview
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Browick Recreation Ground pump track was built in 2008 and has not been refurbished; • Hethersett Memorial Playing Fields cycle speedway track was built in 1970 but has been refurbished. The facility is fenced and not available for ad-hoc usage which will help with maintenance of the facility; • Hethersett Hawks are looking to raise funding at the site to provide a new kitchen and toilet facilities along with a first aid area and officials' room, as well as improvements to the track and surrounds which will include an electronic starting gate;
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are only two types of track in the district, and due to the geographical location of these facilities, the different types of cycling provision will not be accessible to all residents of South Norfolk; • The closest traffic free dedicated cycling hub facility is located in Colchester at the Colchester Sports Park. The facility is a 1-mile (1.6km) floodlit closed road circuit, the largest in the East of England, with a BMX pump track and Learn to Ride area;
Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Browick Recreation Ground is a free access pump track for residents; • Hethersett Memorial Playing Fields cycle speedway track is available to access to all but is required to be either on booked sessions or coached sessions with Hethersett Hawks, the resident club;
Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Cycling identified that there are various types of cycling available from road cycling to closed circuits to BMX tracks. This can be provided on a free and accessible basis e.g. road cycling, through to paid provision on traffic free sites e.g. closed road circuits. As a result, cycling does not always happen in confined environments or facilities; • Hethersett Memorial Playing Fields is one of the primary speedway cycle tracks, alongside Spixworth Village Hall Playing Fields (Broadland), Eaton Park and Harford Park (both Norwich). Fencing is around the sites which means they are self-contained. The two main speedway clubs are Hethersett Hawks and Norwich Cycle Speedway. Between these 4 tracks, there is coaching, and leagues being undertaken all summer; • There are various clubs in the area, but they are not all facility based e.g. road cycling clubs; • A closed road circuit track in Greater Norwich would be a desired facility for British Cycling and they have previously considered plans in the area, similar to Colchester;

ANOG Area	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often clubs are focused on adult provision, so in line with the British Cycling Strategy, there is need to increase access to children and young people, making the sport more diverse. Therefore, traffic free spaces are important for meeting this strategic need. Users will often travel to use a dedicated facility for up to 90 minutes;
Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport England Active Lives data outlines the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 23.1% of adults participate in all cycling activities in South Norfolk at least twice every 28 days. This is higher than Norfolk (22.1%), East Region (20.5%) and England (18.2%); – Of these, 21.2% participate in cycling at least twice every 28 days for leisure and sport which again is higher than Norfolk (20.1%), East Region (18.7%) and England (16.4%); – In terms of specific activities, 3.3% in Norfolk participate in road cycling or racing twice every 28 days (lower than the East Region of 3.5% but higher than the England average of 3.2%). In addition, nationally, 0.1% participate in BMX activities; – In terms of children and young people, Active Lives data outlines that 26.7% of children participate at least once a week outside of school hours in Norfolk. This is higher than the East region (25.6%) and England (24.1%). Of these, 21.4% participate for fun or fitness (higher than the East and England at 20.9%); • There are 124,000 people aged 15 years and above in 2022 and using the rate for participating in leisure and sport, this equates to circa 26,300 participating in South Norfolk on a regular basis. There are 25,000 people aged under 15 years in 2022. Based on the participation rate for children undertaking cycling at least once a week for fun or fitness, this equates to 5,400 children in South Norfolk. Overall, this equates to an estimated demand of circa 31,700 people participating in cycling; • In terms of the future population, there are 157,000 people aged 15 years and above, with 29,000 people under 15 years old. Applying the same participation rates, this equates to demand of 33,300 adults and 6,200 children and young people, totalling an estimated circa 39,500 people participating regularly by 2038. This is a 25% increase in participation.

ANOG Area	Overview
Summary and Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is 1 cycling speedway track and 1 BMX pump track in South Norfolk. The facilities are accessible to the community, but due to the geographical location, the different varieties of cycling provision will not be accessible to all residents of the district. • Cycling is a very popular sport in South Norfolk, with over 1 in 5 people participating in cycling for sport and leisure reasons. • There are no set demand models for cycling, and since it can be undertaken in informal locations e.g. roads, there is not always a requirement to provide dedicated facilities. • Having taken this into consideration, the British Cycling strategy has identified that there is a need to have somewhere local and traffic free to ride as being key for children and young people to get access to the sport, and for their families supporting their riding. This has been supported by the consultation with British Cycling and have indicated a traffic free facility would be desirable in the Greater Norwich area. As a result, focus should also be on providing traffic free provision in the district.

Community Halls

10.2 We have separated community halls into 3 categories:

- Community Centres - a building or group of buildings for a community's educational and recreational activities;
- Village Halls – a village hall is a building or group of buildings which is owned by a local government council e.g. Parish Council or independent trustees and is run for the benefit of the local community;
- Youth Centres – a building or group of buildings where young people can meet and participate in a variety of activities.

Quantity

10.3 In total there 70 community halls in South Norfolk (some are identified as multi-functional):

- Community Centre - 16;
- Community Centre - Youth Club – 1;
- Village Hall - 42;
- Village Hall / Community Centre – 8;
- Youth Centre – 3.

10.4 Table 10.5 and Map 10.1 below detail the list of community halls and the location across the district.

Map 10.1 – Location of Community Halls in South Norfolk

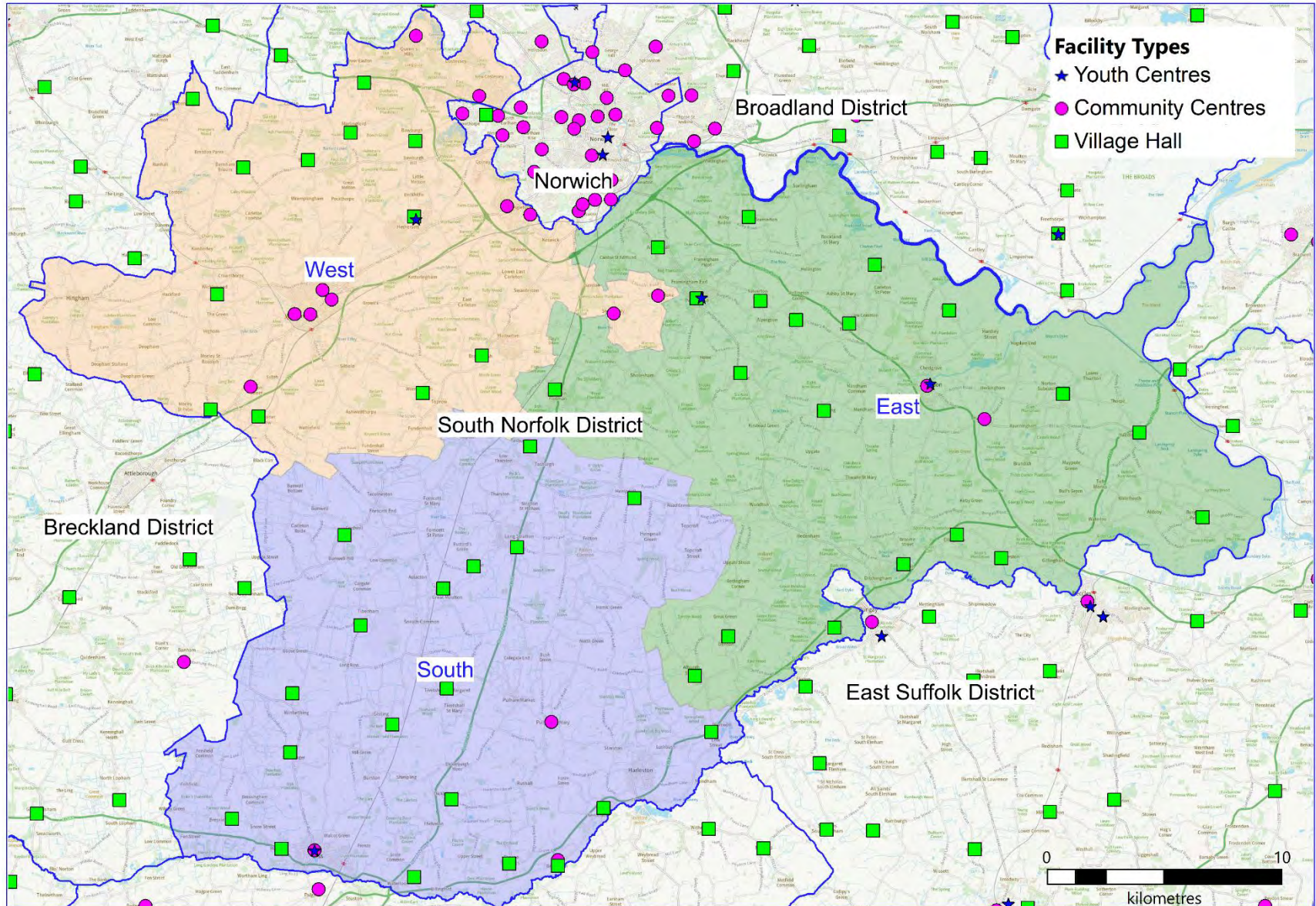


Table 10.5 – List of Community Halls in South Norfolk

Community Hall	Type	Community Hall	Type
West Costessey Hall	Community Centre	Bracon Ash and Hethel Village Hall	Village Hall
North Wymondham Community Centre	Community Centre	Brooke Village Hall	Village Hall
Breckland Hall	Community Centre	Wreningham Village Hall	Village Hall
The Willow Centre	Community Centre	Bunwell Village Hall	Village Hall
Cringleford Pavilion	Community Centre	Spooner Row Village Hall	Village Hall
Loddon and Chedgrave Jubilee Hall	Community Centre	Hempnall Village Hall	Village Hall
St Georges Hall	Community Centre	Seething and Mundham Village Hall	Village Hall
Ketts Park Community & Recreation Centre	Community Centre	Norton, Thurlton and Thorpe Village Hall	Village Hall
Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall	Community Centre	Haddiscoe Village Hall	Village Hall
Abbey Hall	Community Centre	Long Stratton Village Hall	Village Hall
Wymondham Scout and Guide Headquarters	Community Centre	Broome Village Hall	Village Hall
PCT Care Services	Community Centre	The Memorial Hall Kirby Cane Norfolk	Village Hall
Hales Village Hall	Community Centre	Burgh St. Peter Village Hall	Village Hall
The Tivetshalls	Community Centre	Coronation Hall	Village Hall

Community Hall	Type	Community Hall	Type
The Pennoyer Centre	Community Centre	Tivetshall Village Hall	Village Hall
Waveney Heritage Centre	Community Centre	Earsham Village Hall Earsham Norfolk	Village Hall
Diss Youth & Community Centre	Community Centre / Youth Club	Winfarthing Village Hall	Village Hall
Easton Village Hall	Village Hall	The Village Hall, Denton	Village Hall
Welborne Village Hall	Village Hall	Alburgh	Village Hall
Barnham Broom Village Hall	Village Hall	Roydon Village Hall	Village Hall
Hethersett Village Hall	Village Hall	Dickleburgh Village Centre	Village Hall
Barford & Wrampingham Village Hall	Village Hall	The Village Hall	Village Hall
Marlingford Village Hall	Village Hall	The Village Hall, Bressingham	Village Hall
Poringland Village Hall	Village Hall	Needham Village Hall	Village Hall
Claxton Village Hall	Village Hall	Bawburgh Village Hall	Village Hall / Community Centre
Bramerton Village Hall	Village Hall	Wacton Village Hall	Village Hall / Community Centre
Arminghall Village Hall	Village Hall	Tibenham Community Hall	Village Hall / Community Centre
Morley Village & Sports Hall (Not Swanton Morley)	Village Hall	Wortwell Community Centre	Village Hall / Community Centre

Community Hall	Type	Community Hall	Type
Wicklewood Village Hall	Village Hall	Geldeston Village Hall	Village Hall / Community Centre
Alpington Village Hall (and Cottontails Preschool)	Village Hall	Shelfanger Village Hall and Social Club	Village Hall / Community Centre
Langley with Hardley Village Hall	Village Hall	Gissing Community Building	Village Hall / Community Centre
Tasburgh Village Hall	Village Hall	Scole Village Hall	Village Hall / Community Centre
Bergh Apton Village Hall	Village Hall	Hethersett Youth Club	Youth Club
Village Hall and playing field	Village Hall	Kixx Norwich - Poringland Primary School and Nursery	Youth Club
Thurton Village Hall and Pre School	Village Hall	Youth & Children's Resource Centre	Youth Club

Quality

- 10.5 In total, 6 of the community hall operators or owners responded to the consultation survey. In general, most regarded their adequate to good, although there is need to improve certain elements such as lighting and flooring. In some cases, the respondent highlighted that the facility is not big enough and does not meet the needs of residents.

Accessibility

- 10.6 As detailed by Map 10.1 and Table 10.5, there is a significant provision of community halls across the district, and they are geographically spread across the district. As a general theme, most of the larger parishes in South Norfolk have a village hall, whilst there are also community centres located in the more urban towns such as Wymondham and Diss.
- 10.7 Overall, there appears to be good levels of access for South Norfolk residents.

Availability

- 10.8 All facilities are available to the community.
- 10.9 From the survey respondents, it appears the spaces are used for a variety of activities including health and fitness, classes, martial arts, yoga etc. These activities will be under the control of the owner or operator and will be determined by local need.

Summary and Recommendations

- 10.10 There are no demand models for community halls. They are important recreational facilities, especially in rural areas such as South Norfolk and where access to sports centres in more urban locations is restricted. They are used for various multi-functional activities including health and fitness, meetings, functions and events.
- 10.11 As highlighted in the sports hall section, there is a clear need for additional sports hall and multi-purpose space between 2022 and 2038 and therefore these facilities can play a key role in providing complementary provision for sport and physical activity. This is particularly true in rural locations where social isolation and a lack of transport can be key barriers to participation.
- 10.12 There is a clear need for these facilities within South Norfolk and they should continue to be protected and enhanced where possible. However, there is a need for the facilities to remain sustainable. Consideration for community hall provision should also be included in new housing developments where leisure and multi-purpose spaces have not already been provided.

11. Action Plans

Table 11.1 - Sports Halls Action Plan

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	<p>SH1</p> <p>Protect the existing supply of sports halls on local authority and educational sites. Review the community use hours and influence the access policy where possible.</p>	<p>The key element to be taken from this report is that the majority of South Norfolk’s demand can be met by the accessible supply of sports halls in 2022. Whilst the SNC Leisure Centre facilities are operating at full capacity, there is spare capacity available at education sites to fulfil the current demand. However, demand will increase in the future as a result of the housing growth and therefore all the current stock should be maintained as a minimum in South Norfolk.</p> <p>Reviewing community use hours at education sites will ensure that demand can be met before the construction of any new provision. The housing growth will be profiled and therefore there will be phased growth between now and 2038, which can be managed.</p> <p>SNC should work with all schools to ensure there is an up-to-date community use agreement in place to protect, and retain, the existing level of community use outside of school hours.</p>	Ongoing	SNC / Education	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
ENHANCE	SH2 Support improvements at existing sports hall sites where this would lead to increased capacity; improved quality of facilities and greater flexibility of use; and improved viability for community use.	<p>Most of the stock was built before 1990 and whilst it has been modernised, there will be continued need to improve the quality of the facilities.</p> <p>Except for Diss, the needs assessment has not identified any significant hotspots for unmet demand in 2022. The 2020 FPM evidence base findings are that the educational supply does not need to be increased to meet demand for community use because the available supply is meeting demand. However, there are two caveats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The educational supply for community use could change and reduce and SNC has no control over the type and hours of community use at the educational sites, which is 70% of the total supply; and 2. The public leisure centres are estimated to be operating at 100% of capacity in the weekly peak period because of their availability. <p>The schools are usually responsive to local needs and manage community use. However, with more schools becoming Academy's, there is a reduction in the security of community use.</p> <p>This assessment identifies that there is scope to make more effective use of the total school sports hall supply with coordinated management and access.</p>	By 2025	SNC	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<p>So the action is to make more effective use of what already exists by management change. This, alongside improvements to maintain and modernise the existing stock at the existing facilities so they are fit for purpose/improved and can accommodate increase demand from population increase.</p> <p>The priority locations based on the needs assessment are Hethersett Academy, Easton College and Framingham Earl Sports Centre.</p>			
PROVIDE	SH3 Provision of a new community 4 badminton court sports hall located in the Diss area.	<p>The needs assessment has identified that there is a need for at least 3-badminton courts in Diss in 2022, and this will only increase as a result of the additional housing growth in Diss and Long Stratton (where Long Stratton Leisure Centre is already at capacity). A 4-badminton court hall would provide greater flexibility operationally.</p> <p>The new facility could be located on the Diss High School site, either as part of the school, or a wider new leisure centre facility provided by SNC. Other appropriate sites could also be considered as part of any future feasibility work.</p> <p>SNC have previously identified the need for a new Diss Leisure Centre that included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 badminton court sports hall; • 75 station gym; 	By 2027	SNC	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 studios; • 25m x 6 lane pool; • Learner pool; and • 3G AGP. <p>A business case has previously been completed, and initial findings suggest the development could be operationally viable. This needs assessment has confirmed that there is still demand for a 4-badminton court hall. If provided on an education site, a Joint Use Agreement setting out the type of use and a full programme of community use should be put in place as an integral part of the project development and progressed through the planning process. Ideally this should be integrated with the proposed co-ordinated management of community use across all school sites.</p>			
PROVIDE	SH4 Provision of a new community 4-6 badminton court sports hall located in Wymondham / Hethersett / Cringleford.	Depending on the delivery profile of housing by 2038 and the ability to secure increased community access to the education sites at Easton and Otley College, Hethersett Academy and Hethersett Old Hall School, alongside the developments at Cringleford (small ancillary hall) and Trowse (redevelopment of hall, see below), there is possible scope to provide a 4-6 badminton court sports hall as part of an education site, with an agreed community service level agreement for community access on evenings and weekends.	By 2030	All	Low

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<p>The needs assessment has shown that despite the area containing a healthy supply of sports halls, the demand is expected to increase because of the planned housing growth. Some of the facilities, including Wymondham Leisure Centre and Wymondham College, are already at or near capacity, and whilst there is capacity at Easton and Otley College, Hethersett Academy and Hethersett Old Hall School, these facilities are ageing and unlikely to increase in attractiveness.</p> <p>Therefore, it is likely that there will be need for a new sports hall in the area. This should be in Wymondham, or further towards Norwich, due to the population density and should provide for various multi-sport activity. A detailed feasibility study would be required to confirm the demand, including undertaking bespoke FPM runs.</p> <p>If located on an educational site, a Joint Use Agreement setting out the type of use and a full programme of community use should be put in place, as an integral part of the project development and progressed through the planning process. Ideally this should be integrated with the proposed co-coordinated management of community use across all school sites.</p>			

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROVIDE	<p>SH5</p> <p>Consider re-provision of some existing facilities, based on age and condition, or consider the building of new sports halls to replace the existing stock.</p>	<p>It is difficult to assess the stage at which re-provision of existing sports halls is required based on age, condition and the costs/ benefits of modernisation and extension of the existing buildings, set alongside re-provision. This should be undertaken on a site-by-site basis but with focus on the need to retain the existing stock. If there are opportunities to fund re-provision and replace the sports hall in the current locations, this should be investigated by SNC, educational providers and key stakeholders.</p> <p>In addition, if deemed financially and commercially viable, the redevelopment of the sports hall at Trowse (excluded from the FPM assessments) should be considered. This would help to meet demand in the north of the district and may provide a short to medium term solution for the demand presenting from Wymondham to Norwich. This will allow for increased access for multi- sports, particularly cricket, badminton, and basketball.</p> <p>This should be subject to a feasibility study to find the most financially viable solution for the facility, as it is a standalone facility and not part of an education or wider leisure facility.</p>	Ongoing	All	Low

Table 11.2 - Swimming Pools Action Plan

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	SP1 Protect the existing supply of swimming pools on local authority and educational sites and influence access policy for community use, where possible.	<p>The key element to be taken from this report, is that the majority of South Norfolk’s demand can be met by the accessible supply of swimming pools in 2022. Whilst the SNC Leisure Centre facilities are operating at high capacity, there is spare capacity available at the educational sites to fulfil the current demand. However, demand will increase in the future as a result of the housing growth, and therefore, all the current stock should be maintained as a minimum.</p> <p>The district is exporting a significant amount of demand (c.45%) and this is due to the lack of access and availability at some sites, the pool locations and catchment areas, the age of the pools and sites in Norwich with a draw factor, notably UEA Sportspark (which is a modern and extensive swimming pool site with full community access). As a result, there is a need to continue to protect the current stock and retain the scale of pool water as a minimum.</p> <p>Reviewing community use hours at education sites will ensure that demand can be met before the construction of any new provision. There is a need to work with existing schools to understand the actual level and type of use for clubs at their sites.</p>	Ongoing	SNC / Education	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<p>If there is more scope for school pools to absorb more club use and release capacity at the public pools for other swimming activities, this should be investigated to understand the most viable option. The housing growth will happen in stages and therefore there will be staggered growth as the houses are built and this will increase the demand on the pools across South Norfolk.</p> <p>SNC has identified that several schools are key providers. These facilities are used for national curriculum learn to swim activities, not just in that school, but also for surrounding schools in their catchment. The pools are not always large enough to meet the FPM criteria but still provide a key service for local children. In South Norfolk, the key schools swimming pools include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archbishop Sandcroft High School; • Hobart High School; • Wymondham College; and • Hethersett Junior School. <p>These pools should continue to be protected where possible. Immediate priority should be discussions with Archbishop Sancroft High School to understand the potential viability of opening the facility to the community on a pay and swim basis. SNC should support the school in assessing the potential management options for the site.</p>			

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		SNC have also previously investigated the option to re-open Long Stratton High School pool, in connection with Long Stratton Leisure Centre. This has been deemed an unsustainable option and is currently not an opportunity for SNC.			
ENHANCE	SP2 Support improvements at existing swimming pool sites, where this would lead to increased capacity; improved quality of facilities and greater flexibility; and improved viability for community use.	<p>Most of the stock was built before 2000 and whilst it has been modernised, there will be continued need to improve the quality of the facilities. This is a priority at the 2 SNC pools as a minimum, although due to the age of Diss Leisure Centre, the bigger issue is then this tipping point of modernisation or whether it should be re-provided based on its current age, condition, and the need to increase the pool tank size to provide for a more extensive and effective programme of use. This is currently constrained by capital funding/ costs available to SNC.</p> <p>Up to date condition surveys are required, to understand the balance between modernisation and realistic scope for re-provision. The key point is that the current supply level should be maintained, with consideration made to increasing provision where possible.</p> <p>The schools are usually responsive to local needs and managed community use. However, with more schools becoming Academy's, there is a reduction in the security of community use.</p>	Ongoing	All	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		It will be important to work closely with schools, to understand their current and future plans for their swimming pools. Support and work with individual schools to understand their commitment to retention and enhancement of school-based swimming pool is required.			
PROVIDE	SP3 Provision of a new public swimming pool, located in Diss as re-provision of the Diss Swim and Fitness Centre.	<p>The Diss Swim and Fitness Centre opened in 1987 and is now nearly 35 years old. It is the second largest pool in the district with 313m² of water for the main tank. It does have a unique catchment and does not overlap the catchment area of other pools. It is estimated to import considerable demand from both neighbouring local authorities; Breckland and Mid Suffolk.</p> <p>Demand is also expected to increase by 2038, especially with the growth around the Long Stratton area, increasing demand by up to an additional 3 lanes. With established demand, the new facility should be in Diss, potentially on the Diss High School site or as part of a wider new leisure centre facility. The Diss location is very important for retention of a swimming pool to meet swimming demand up to 2038. 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 High School must be assessed as to which is most viable.</p>	By 2027	SNC	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<p>SNC have previously identified the need for a new Diss Leisure Centre that included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 badminton court sports hall; • 75 station gym; • 3 studios; • 25m x 6 lane pool; • Learner pool; and • 3G Artificial Grass Pitch. <p>A business case was undertaken, and it was deemed operationally viable, and this needs assessment has confirmed that there is still a requirement for the replacement swimming pool provision in the town. It creates critical mass and integrates school and community use on one site with shared costs of development and management. This business case should be updated as and when necessary to reflect current costs and market position.</p> <p>If provided on an education site, a joint use agreement 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. Ideally this should be integrated with the proposed co-ordinated management of community use across all school facilities.</p>			

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROVIDE	SP4 Consider provision of a new public swimming pool on the Norwich / South Norfolk border.	<p>Depending on the delivery of the planned housing by 2038 and the ability to secure increased community access to the educational sites, there is possible scope to provide a public swimming pool on the Norwich / South Norfolk border.</p> <p>The needs assessment has shown that despite the area containing a healthy supply of pools, the demand is expected to increase as a result of the growth. Wymondham Leisure Centre is already at the comfort line, and whilst there is capacity at the educational sites, these facilities are ageing and unlikely to increase in attractiveness. Therefore, it is likely that there will be need for a small community pool in the area. This should be located towards Norwich due to the population density of the growth around the City and the north of the district.</p> <p>Any new pool provision should be a community-based pool, catering for all swimming disciplines and activities, so a 25m x 4 lane pool and with a learner/teaching pool as a minimum.</p> <p>The priority location for a new pool is the City centre in Norwich, based on increasing accessibility, but could be located near the East Norwich housing development as the area is expanding into South Norfolk. A detailed feasibility study would be required to confirm the demand, including undertaking bespoke FPM runs.</p>	By 2038	All	Low

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<p>We would advise that this is provided as a small community hub e.g. fitness and swimming pool as part of a housing development and it should not be on an educational site. This will ensure the facility is always available and could potentially be integrated within the housing developments.</p> <p>This could be delivered as a SNC facility or through a commercial provider, with agreed community access.</p>			
PROVIDE	<p>SP5</p> <p>Due to their age and condition, consider re-provision of some existing facilities. Consider feasibility of providing new swimming pools to replace the existing stock.</p>	<p>It is difficult to assess the stage at which re-provision of existing swimming pools is required based on their age, condition and the costs/benefits of modernisation and extension of the existing buildings, set alongside re-provision. For example, Wymondham Leisure Centre is currently 23 years old and may require re-provision by 2038.</p> <p>The assessment has estimated that the existing pool stock is heavily used and nearly at capacity, and usage is expected to increase up to 2038. This will impact further on the condition of the pools. This could create a case for reprovision of an existing pool, if the cost benefit is that new provision is deemed a more effective solution than modernisation of the existing pool.</p> <p>Any proposals from existing providers to increase water space should be looked at favourably, provided community use agreements could be put in place.</p>	Ongoing	All	Low

Table 11.3 - Health and Fitness Facilities Action Plan

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	HF1 Protect the existing supply of local authority public leisure centre health and fitness facilities.	<p>SNC facilities located at Wymondham Leisure Centre, Long Stratton Leisure Centre and Diss Leisure Centre are important facilities and provide a significant proportion of the provision in the district, across 3 key geographical areas of the district.</p> <p>There are also links to swimming pool and other provision and this creates a different offer to various competitors in the district. There is a need to continue to protect the current stock and also retain the scale as a minimum.</p>	Ongoing	SNC	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
ENHANCE	HF2 Support improvements at existing local authority public leisure centre sites where this would lead to increased capacity; improve the quality of the facilities and greater flexibility of use; and improved viability for community use.	<p>Refurbishment and extensions have taken place at Wymondham Leisure Centre and Long Stratton Leisure Centre, but there is a need to continue to monitor the facilities and ensure they are up to date with current market trends, in both design and equipment.</p> <p>The key point is the current supply that is required both now, and in the future, and any slight increase in scale/supply and at these locations would be beneficial, subject to a demand study.</p> <p>SNC should continue to monitor performance of the sites e.g. memberships, to ensure the current facilities are appropriate for the residents of South Norfolk and meeting the current market trends. SNC should also continue to evaluate their facility portfolio to assess if a health and fitness facility can be included as part of the facility mix increase the sustainability of the site. This should include an independent feasibility study on a site-by-site basis to assess the viability. As an example, SNC are now the operators of Framingham Earl Sports Centre as part of their portfolio. SNC could investigate whether a health and fitness facility can be included as part of the facility mix to increase the sustainability of the site.</p>	By 2027	SNC	Medium

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROVIDE	HF3 Provision of new local authority provision located in Diss as re-provision of the Diss Swim and Fitness Centre.	<p>Given the findings on current supply, accessibility, current demand and projected future demand, the recommendation is that there is no need to develop another specific health and fitness facility unless a strong local catchment latent demand can be evidenced on a site-by-site basis.</p> <p>However, should SNC decide to re-furbish or replace any existing public leisure centre, with a swimming pool, and studio provision, then the need and scale of the gym provision should be assessed as part of the feasibility at that time. Current trends for exercise support the need to ensure that any future SNC developed leisure centres provide a health and fitness space of a minimum 75–100 stations in size in order to cross-subsidise the wet side offer.</p> <p>The Diss Swim and Fitness Centre opened in 1987 and is now nearly 35 years old. The pool is very important to the local catchment, and there is demand to replace the site with a 6-lane x 25m pool and learner pool. The Diss location is very important for retention of a swimming pool to meet swimming demand up to 2038. As a result, a local authority health and fitness facility should be provided alongside the development as part of a wider new leisure centre facility.</p> <p>SNC have previously identified the need for a new Diss Leisure Centre that included:</p>	By 2027	SNC	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 court sports hall; • 75 station gym; • 3 studios; • 25m x 6 lane pool; • Learner pool; and, • 3G AGP. <p>A business case was undertaken, and it was deemed viable. It creates critical mass and integrates school and community use on one site with shared costs of development and management. This business case should be updated as and when necessary to reflect current costs and market position.</p> <p>Ideally this should be integrated with the proposed co-coordinated provided on an education site, a joint use agreement setting out the type of use and a full programme of community use should be put in place as an integral part of the project development and progressed through the planning process. management of community use across all school sites.</p>			

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROVIDE	HF4 Provision of new local authority provision on the Norwich / South Norfolk border.	<p>Given the findings on current supply, accessibility, and the current and projected future demand, the recommendations are that there is no need to specifically develop more health and fitness centres in South Norfolk unless a strong local catchment latent demand can be evidenced on a site-by-site basis.</p> <p>Depending on the delivery of the planned housing by 2038 and the ability to secure increased community access to the education sites, there is possible scope to provide a small community pool on the Norwich / South Norfolk border. We would advise that this is provided as a small community hub e.g. fitness and swimming pool as part of a housing development and it should not be on an education site. This will ensure the facility is always available and could potentially be integrated within the housing developments.</p> <p>Should SNC decide to provide a public leisure centre, with a swimming pool, on the Norwich / South Norfolk border, then there is need to include health and fitness. The scale of the gym provision should be assessed as part of the feasibility at that time. Current trends for exercise support the need to ensure that any future SNC leisure centres provide a health and fitness space of a minimum 75–100 stations in size to cross-subsidise the wet side offer.</p>	By 2038	All	Low

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		This could be delivered as a SNC facility or through a commercial provider, with agreed community access.			
PROVIDE	HF5 Consider re-provision of some existing facilities based on age and condition or provide new health and fitness facilities to replace the existing stock.	<p>Between now and 2038, SNC should consider re-provision of their existing facilities if age or condition becomes a factor at any of their local authority owned sites.</p> <p>Should SNC decide to re-furbish or replace any existing public leisure centre, with a swimming pool, and studio provision then the need and scale of the gym provision should be assessed as part of the feasibility at that time. As an outline the benchmark provision could be a minimum 75 - 100 station facility.</p> <p>It is difficult to assess the stage at which re-provision of existing health and fitness is required based on age, condition and the costs/ benefits of modernisation and extension of the existing buildings, set alongside re-provision. This should be monitored on an individual basis and be formed from condition surveys undertaken.</p>	Ongoing	All	Low

Table 11.4 - Indoor Tennis Centres Action Plan

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	ITC1 Protect the Indoor Tennis Centres at Easton and Otley College.	<p>The needs assessment has highlighted that there is a significant deficit of indoor tennis courts in Greater Norwich both now in 2022 and by 2038.</p> <p>Easton and Otley College has 8 courts, and these are the only pay and play accessible courts the in Greater Norwich area. This facility is key for indoor tennis provision in the area, being available to residents of Broadland and Norwich as well as South Norfolk.</p> <p>There is an important need to protect the current facility at Easton and Otley College.</p>	Ongoing	Easton and Otley College	High
ENHANCE	ITC2 Support improvements at Easton and Otley College where this would lead to increased capacity; improve the quality of the facilities and greater flexibility of use.	<p>The needs assessment for indoor tennis centres shows Easton and Otley College is a key facility with pay and play access. There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the buildings especially the air hall.</p> <p>If this facility was lost, there would be no community access to indoor tennis provision in South Norfolk or the wider Greater Norwich area.</p> <p>It is also important to support the development and improvement of the existing facility. SNC should consider working in partnership with the College to secure the future of the facility.</p>	Over the next 2- 3 years	SNC / Easton and Otley College	Medium

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<p>This includes working with key stakeholders, clubs, the tennis network and funding partners to identify potential funding avenues to continue to ensure the facilities can be enhanced.</p> <p>Any proposals to increase the size of the centres or any new provision should be supported to meet the demand deficit identified.</p>			
PROVIDE	ITC3 Provision of new 4-6 court Community Indoor Tennis Centre (CITC) in Greater Norwich.	<p>Given the findings on current supply, accessibility, and the projected future demand, the recommendation is to develop a 4-6 court CITC facility with associated ancillary facilities.</p> <p>Based on the needs assessment, this should be located either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On land east of Norwich (Broadland), to support the Broadland Growth Triangle; 2. On land south of Norwich (South Norfolk); 3. The Hewett Academy land (Norwich), in connection with the outdoor courts; and 4. UEA Sportspark (Norwich). <p>If a new public leisure centre is located on the Norwich / Broadland border, the CITC could be included within the facility mix.</p> <p>A detailed feasibility study would be required to confirm the demand, working with key stakeholders including the LTA, NTA and the UEA.</p>	By 2030	SNC/NCC/ BDC / National Tennis Association / LTA	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROVIDE	ITC4 Support current clubs and facility owners to improve their existing sites.	<p>Given the findings on current supply, accessibility, and the current and projected future demand, there is a significant deficit of indoor tennis courts both now and in the future.</p> <p>Provision of up to 5 x 4 court halls is not commercially viable and therefore current clubs and facility owners should be supported in the development of improvement projects, especially development of air halls on current all-weather outdoor tennis courts.</p> <p>On the basis that indoor tennis is an important activity in Greater Norwich, there is a need to be supportive of the development and improvement of the existing stock from commercial operators, including increasing provision.</p>	By 2038	SNC / LTA / National Tennis Association	Low

Table 11.5 - Indoor Bowls Centres Action Plan

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	IBC1 Protect the existing supply of Indoor Bowls Centres.	<p>The needs assessment has highlighted that there is a surplus of indoor bowls rinks both now and by 2038. There is a total of 16 rinks across 4 sites (14 rinks on 3 affiliated sites).</p> <p>There are no local authority operated sites, and the 3 affiliated sites are all membership based. Despite this, they have an open access policy with a minimum of a social membership required.</p> <p>There is a need to protect the current provision of indoor bowls centres.</p>	Ongoing	All	High
ENHANCE	IBC2 Support improvements at Indoor Bowls Centres where this would lead to increased capacity; improve the quality of the facilities; and greater flexibility of use.	<p>There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the indoor bowls centres in South Norfolk. The facilities are all at least 50 years old and whilst are maintained to a good quality, they will likely need to be modernised between now and 2038.</p> <p>If any facilities were lost, there would be a theoretical deficit in courts by 2038, albeit this should be assessed on a site-by-site basis when considering the membership of the club.</p> <p>It is also important to support the development and improvement of the existing facilities. Any proposals to improve the centres, increase the size of the centres or any new provision should be supported to meet the demand deficit identified.</p>	By 2027	SNC / Key Clubs	Medium

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
		<p>SNC and the Greater Norwich authorities should work with the EIBA and clubs, to assist with capital grant applications.</p> <p>If a centre should close, the current supply is likely to be sufficient, however, there may be a need to re-provide indoor bowls centres if there are increases of the number of memberships in future years at other sites. The location of the centre which closes also needs to be considered in any evidence base to re-provide an indoor bowls centre.</p> <p>Any proposals to reduce the supply of facilities should be reviewed and the rationale for the reduction evidenced. This is because indoor bowls is an important facility type that is relevant for Broadland's demographic.</p> <p>Due to several factors, participation and membership of indoor bowls clubs fluctuates. Therefore, any potential consideration to close a centre because of declining membership should be considered longer-term.</p>			
PROVIDE	No Action.	There is no requirement to provide any additional indoor bowls centres, including under local authority ownership and management.	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 11.6 - Squash Courts Action Plan

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	SC1 Protect the existing supply of squash courts.	<p>The needs assessment has highlighted that there is a theoretical deficit of squash courts both now and by 2038. However, information and feedback indicates that there is capacity available at the current facilities.</p> <p>There are no SNC owned or operated facilities, although Harleston Community Sports Facility is Parish Council owned with pay and play access.</p> <p>There is a need to protect the current supply of squash courts, working in partnership with operators. Any proposals to reduce the supply of courts should be reviewed, along with the rationale for the reduction.</p>	Ongoing	All	High

	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
ENHANCE	SC2 Support improvements at sites with squash courts where this would lead to increased capacity; improve the quality of the facilities; and greater flexibility of use.	<p>There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise squash courts in South Norfolk. No new squash courts have been built since 2003 and the oldest site is now 93 years old. Whilst most facilities are maintained to a good quality, they will likely need to be modernised between now and 2038.</p> <p>It is also important to support the development and improvement of existing squash facilities. Any proposals to improve the courts, increase the number of courts or provide new provision should be supported to meet the demand deficit identified</p> <p>SNC and the Greater Norwich authorities should work with England Squash and clubs to assist with capital grant applications.</p> <p>If a facility should close, then there may be a need to re-provide, depending on the current membership numbers and the actual location of the centre which closes. Any proposals to reduce the supply of facilities should be reviewed, with the rationale for the reduction clearly evidenced.</p>	By 2027	SNC	Medium
PROVIDE	No Action.	There is no requirement to provide any squash courts, including under local authority ownership and management. This is despite the deficit of courts. This is because participation in the sport has significantly reduced in the last 20 years. Any new provision should be driven by the commercial sector, rather than the local authority.	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 11.7 - Other Built Facilities Action Plan

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	Athletics	A1 Protect the compact athletics facility at Diss Sports Ground.	<p>In partnership with Diss Town Council, there is a need to protect the current compact athletics facility at Diss Sports Ground. The facility is the only athletics provision in the district.</p> <p>There will be growing demand for athletics as a result of the housing growth, and the current facility at Diss Sports Ground and the UEA (in Norwich) meets both community and competitive need.</p> <p>Any proposals to remove the facility should be reviewed and the rationale for the reduction.</p>	Ongoing	SNC / Diss Town Council	Medium
PROTECT	Cycling	C1 Protect the current cycling facilities in South Norfolk.	<p>Key stakeholders including British Cycling, SNC and Hethersett Hawks should protect the current facilities at Browick Recreation Ground and Hethersett Memorial Playing Fields.</p> <p>Any proposals to remove the facility should be reviewed and the rationale for the reduction clearly evidence.</p>	Ongoing	All	Medium

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
PROTECT	Gymnastics	G1 SNC to continue to support gymnastic provision at SNC Leisure Centre sites.	<p>SNC's leisure facilities at Framingham Earl Sports Centre and Long Stratton Leisure Centre are key satellite facilities for gymnastic clubs in South Norfolk.</p> <p>SNC should continue to support users at their facilities through programming and provision of equipment and storage space where possible.</p> <p>SNC should look to work in partnership with clubs to continue to protect gymnastics in South Norfolk.</p>	Ongoing	SNC	High
PROTECT	Boxing	No Action.	There are no boxing clubs or facilities located in South Norfolk.	N/A	N/A	N/A
PROTECT	Community Halls	CH1 Work in partnership to protect the provision of community halls and promote greater usage.	Community halls provide important flexible and multi-functional spaces for communities, especially in the more rural villages of the district. In addition, community centres and youth centres support the more urban towns and settlements of South Norfolk.	Ongoing	All	Medium

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
			<p>The facilities play a key role in providing complementary provision for sport and physical activity. This is particularly true in rural locations where social isolation and a lack of transport can be key barriers to participation.</p> <p>SNC should look to increase awareness and promote usage of community halls within the local communities.</p> <p>There should be consideration to improving available information, such as directories and websites that provide information on the hire, capacity and contact details for community halls.</p> <p>The halls should be protected by key stakeholders, provided they are financially sustainable facilities and widely beneficial for the community.</p>			

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
ENHANCE	Athletics	A2 Support improvements for the compact athletics facility at Diss Sports Ground where this would lead to increased capacity; improve the quality and greater flexibility of use. Re-provision should be considered due to its age and condition, possibly at Diss High School.	<p>There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the facility at Diss Sports Ground. SNC, Diss Town Council and the Greater Norwich authorities should work with England Athletics and Diss and District Athletics Club to assist the clubs in capital grant applications.</p> <p>If Diss Sports Ground was to close or it was not fit for repair, there may be a need to re-provide depending on the changes in membership of Diss and District Athletics Club and usage of the site.</p> <p>This could potentially be provided on a school site so that it can be used in off peak hours. If a new leisure facility was provided at Diss High School, this would be an ideal location to cater for education and community demand.</p> <p>If provided on an education site, a joint use agreement 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>	By 2027	SNC / Diss Town Council / England Athletics	Medium

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
			Ideally this should be integrated with the proposed co-ordinated management of community use across all school sites.			
ENHANCE	Cycling	C2 Support improvements to the cycling facilities in South Norfolk. Re-provision should be considered if the facilities cannot be replaced due to age and condition.	<p>There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the cycling facilities at Browick Recreation Ground and Hethersett Memorial Playing Fields.</p> <p>SNC should work with key stakeholders, including clubs and funding partners, to identify potential funding streams to enable improvement works to be carried out.</p> <p>If the facilities are no longer fit for purpose, consideration should be given to re-provision.</p>	Ongoing	SNC	Medium

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
ENHANCE	Gymnastics	G2 Support improvements at existing sites where this would lead to increased capacity; improve the quality of the facilities and greater flexibility of use; and improve viability for community use.	<p>It is expected that participation of gymnastics will grow in South Norfolk between 2022 and 2038.</p> <p>SNC should look to support the two clubs located at Deer House Park (Easton Gymnastics Club and Long Stratton Gymnastics Club) to ensure this facility remains a high-quality provider of athletics in the district.</p> <p>SNC should work with key stakeholders, clubs and funding partners to identify potential funding avenues to continue to ensure the facilities can be enhanced.</p> <p>If the facilities are no longer fit for purpose, consideration in re-providing should be undertaken.</p>	Ongoing	SNC	Medium
ENHANCE	Boxing	No Action.	There are no clubs or facilities located in South Norfolk.	N/A	N/A	N/A
ENHANCE	Community Halls	CH2 Support improvements at existing community hall sites.	Key stakeholders including SNC, Parish Council's and operators should consider making improvements to existing community hall facilities, ensuring they continue to meet the needs of residents, both now and in the future.	Ongoing	SNC / Parish Council's	Medium

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
			<p>The programme and usage of facilities should continue to be monitored, alongside any appropriate community consultation, to ensure the facility is being used sustainably.</p> <p>SNC should work with key stakeholders, including clubs and funding partners, to identify potential funding streams, which will allow improvement works to be carried out.</p> <p>If the facilities are no longer fit for purpose, consideration should be given to re-provision.</p>			
PROVIDE	Athletics	A3 Consider providing traffic-free running and cycling tracks in South Norfolk.	<p>There is no requirement to provide any additional formal athletics tracks or compact athletics facilities, including under local authority ownership and management.</p> <p>However, focus should also be on providing traffic-free provision. Informal running tracks (in combination with cycling) allow for formal and informal athletics and running participation.</p>	By 2038	All	Medium

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
			This could be developed as part of a school facility, park setting or a new housing development. This would also contribute to SNC's aims around improving the health and wellbeing of residents. Previous examples can include a running straight as part of the track and can be used for links for events such as Parkrun.			
PROVIDE	Cycling	C3 Consider providing traffic-free running and cycling tracks in South Norfolk, including consideration for a regional closed road circuit in the Greater Norwich area.	<p>Linked to the requirements for informal athletics provision, consideration should be given to providing traffic-free provision. Informal running tracks (in combination with cycling) allow for formal and informal participation in athletics, running and cycling.</p> <p>There should also be consideration to inclusion of free-access facilities, such as pump tracks, as part of any open space proposals within new housing developments. In consultation with British Cycling and the local cycling network, SNC and key stakeholders should explore the opportunity to provide a regional traffic free closed road circuit.</p>	By 2038	SNC / NCC / BDC / British Cycling	Medium

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
			<p>This facility could also encompass other cycling activities, such as BMX tracks, mountain biking and learn to ride areas. There are no other facilities like this in the Greater Norwich or Norfolk area, with Colchester being the closest.</p> <p>Any facility should also be linked with developments of improving cycling networks around the Greater Norwich area. Access from dedicated cycling networks will increase the accessibility of the facility.</p>			
PROVIDE	Gymnastics	No Action.	There is no requirement to provide a dedicated gymnastics facility in South Norfolk.	N/A	N/A	N/A
PROVIDE	Boxing	B1 Support any relocation or expansion of existing Boxing Clubs from Norwich.	<p>There are no boxing clubs or facilities located in South Norfolk.</p> <p>There is not a recommendation to provide any new boxing facilities in South Norfolk, unless there is specific demand from a new club, or a need to support expansion or relocation of one of the Norwich clubs.</p>	Ongoing	All	Low

	Facility Type	Recommended Action	Rationale	Timescale	Lead organisation and partners	Importance
			Due to a lack of accessible and affordable facilities for boxing clubs, there may be a need for clubs to move out of their locations in order to continue to provide boxing provision.			
PROVIDE	Community Halls	CH 3 Consider including community hall provision within new housing development plans, where leisure and multi-purpose spaces have not already been allocated.	<p>Community Halls can play a key role in supporting communities, especially in rural areas. When housing developments are being delivered, if there is a lack of leisure or multi-functional space, there should be consideration for the provision of a new community centre.</p> <p>This should be subject to a full feasibility study on a site-by-site basis including designs, costs and business planning, to ensure the facility is usable and viable.</p>	By 2038	SNC / Parish Councils	Low