

# South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies

## Summary report

A review of the feedback received to the South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies consultation.

October 2024



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has been produced by council officers to analyse the comments received to the South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and Leisure Facilities Assessment and Strategy (LFAS) consultation.

South Oxfordshire District Council invited comments on the strategies from Wednesday 6 March until 11:59pm on Wednesday 3 April 2024. These strategies show the need for new playing pitches and leisure facilities across South Oxfordshire, as well as identifying which of our existing pitches and facilities need protecting, upgrading, or expanding. They take account of new and planned housing developments in our districts and consider the need for new pitch and leisure provision between 2023 and 2041.

126 responses were received. 33% respondents were submitted on behalf of a user of a sports club and 21% as a member of the public but not a user of a sports club.

The two strategies provide an audit of the quality, quantity and accessibility of playing pitches and leisure facilities across South Oxfordshire, establish the current levels of demand (and therefore whether pitches/facilities are being over or under used) and projects forward demand likely to arise by the end of the strategy period so that the appropriate level of pitch provision can be planned for the future.

The Playing Pitch Strategy covers pitch sports including: football, rugby union, cricket, hockey and lesser played pitch sports (including lacrosse, gaelic football rounders, softball/ baseball, rugby league and American football).

The Leisure Facilities Assessment and Strategy covers: archery ranges, athletics 'track & field' facilities, basketball courts, badminton courts, bowling greens, boxing gyms, climbing walls, croquet lawns, cycling facilities, dance halls and studios, golf courses, gymnastics halls, health and fitness suites (gyms & fitness studios), martial arts facilities, multi use games areas (MUGAs), netball courts, parkour provision, polo pitches and horse-riding centres, skateparks, sports halls (including community and village halls with sports facilities), squash courts, swimming pools, table tennis provision, tennis courts, volleyball courts, water sports (rowing, sailing and canoeing).



The strategies include a list of proposed recommendations which are presented in three areas: protect, enhance and provide.

**Protect:** Avoid (where possible) the loss of sports facilities and protect the community use on educational sites.

**Enhance:** To improve community access through Community Use Agreements (CUA) and improve the quality of existing facilities.

**Provide:** Ensure new sports facilities lie in the heart of local communities, that new developments contribute where appropriate towards facilities and that new sports facilities provided as part of future educational provision are designed with community use.

## Key findings:

The main changes that have been identified from the results of the public consultation have been listed below.

### PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY:

#### All sports:

- Additional emphasis has been added into the recommendations that the needs of people with disabilities and safety issues (particularly regarding women and girls) are addressed through good design and improvements.
- Climate change – the strategy seeks to focus on provision for sport and acknowledges the need to consider fully the impact and mitigation.

#### Cricket:

- A clarifying statement has been included regarding hybrid pitches which are currently not endorsed by the English Cricket Board (ECB) ECB as in pilot phase. This likely to change in strategy lifetime.
- Indoor cricket was assessed and included in the LFAS.
- Pavilion projects have been included in recommendations for Marsh Baldon and Stoke Row.
- The ambition for an additional pitch at Watlington where demand is evidenced on the ground had been added.

#### Football:

- The reference for potential mini football pitches in outfield on Brookes Wheatley campus cricket ground site had been amended.
- Southern Road, Thame – recommendation amended to suggest site could be considered for additional pitches subject to demand.
- Watlington – recommendation added to support ambitions for additional pitches, supporting subject to demand.
- Chalgrove – quality has been amended to recognise club's assessment that pitches are poor quality, and the need to improve.
- Cholsey - quality of pitch updated to recognise club's assessment that pitches are poor quality, and desire to improve the changing facilities.

#### Hockey:

- Thame – emphasis on any replacement AGP surface (Lord Williams) being sand-based.

#### Strategic Sites

- The Edge of Oxford sites do not reflect spatial catchment as sub area based.
- Additional caveats included around strategic site contributions.

#### LEISURE FACILITY STRATEGY:

- Holton Playing Fields – clarity on former tennis courts and proposed skatepark.
- Recommendation added for a new skate park in Chinnor.
- Recommendation removed for skate park at Bull Croft Park.
- Sonning Common - new MUGA and short-mat bowls club has been added
- Accessible boat club facilities at Riverside Park in Wallingford have been updated
- Emphasis on new dedicated gymnastics provision in South and West sub areas has been added.

## BACKGROUND TO THE CONSULTATION

The Playing Pitch strategy follows the most up to date Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013) which outlines five different stages for the PPS to follow:

Stage A: 1. Prepare and tailor approach

Stage B: 2 & 3. Gather supply and demand information and views.

Stage C: 4. Understand situation at sites. 5. Develop current & future pitches of provision.  
6. Identify key findings and issues

Stage D: 7. Develop the recommendations and action plan. 8. Write and adopt the strategy.

Stage E: 9. Apply and deliver the strategy. 10. Keep the strategy robust and up-to-date.

The Leisure Facilities strategy is compliant with the Sport England Assessing needs and opportunities guide for indoor and outdoor sports facilities guidance (July 2014) which follows a 3 stage approach:

Stage A: Establish a clear understanding of the purpose, scope and scale of the assessment

Stage B: Establish a clear picture of the supply of facilities within your area. Establish clear understanding of what the current and future demand for facilities are.

Stage C: Using the data from Stage B to build a picture of the level of provision, looking at four key elements. Developing key findings and facility implications around the framework of protect, enhance and provide.

During the development of both assessment and strategies the consultant worked with steering groups made up of relevant council officers, Sport England and National Governing Bodies.

The council made the decision to take both the draft strategies through a public consultation to ensure that the information provided and produced in the assessment reports and strategies across both the PPS and LFAS were as accurate as possible (at the time of writing the reports) to ensure the documents make a robust evidence document.

## ENGAGEMENT METHODOLOGY

How we undertook the consultation:

South Oxfordshire District Council invited comments on the Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies from Wednesday 6 March until 11:59pm on Wednesday 3 April 2024. 129 completed responses were received.

The consultation was shared with 276 leisure groups located across South Oxfordshire (including Vale of White Horse), as well as 4,314 emails and 46 letters sent to consultees registered on the council's consultation database. Social media campaigns were also shared through the council's platforms to encourage further participation.

An online survey was created to gather feedback on the Playing Pitch Strategy and Leisure Facilities Strategy. These strategies show the need for new playing pitches and leisure facilities across South Oxfordshire, as well as identifying which of our existing pitches and facilities need protecting, upgrading, or expanding. This consultation was broken down by the following sub-areas; North, South, East, and West to allow respondents to view the content which is most relevant to them or their sports club.

Paper copies of the consultation documents were also made available to view at the district councils' offices at Abbey House and in the following Leisure Centres: Abbey Sports Centre, Didcot Wave, Didcot Leisure Centre, Henley Leisure Centre, Thame Leisure Centre and Park Sports Centre.

### Reporting methodology

- The consultation was extended by a week to provide some additional time for residents, sports clubs, club owners and sports enthusiasts to respond due to the Easter Holidays.
- Two late submissions were received from Wallingford Sports Trust and Natural England which have been accepted and considered.
- Two extensions to the consultation deadline were granted to Culham Parish Council and Oxfordshire County Council.
- A summary of the comments to the consultation is included in this report. Any personal information supplied to us within the comments that could identify anyone has been redacted and will not be shared or published in the report. Further information on data protection is available in our [general consultation's privacy statement](#) available on the councils webpage.
- Some spelling, grammatical and punctual errors in the original comments raised were corrected in the main body of this report.



## QUALITATIVE DATA

The consultation was broken down into sub-areas to allow respondents to view the content which is most relevant to them and their sports clubs.

### North Sub-Area

The North Sub-Area includes the following parishes:

Woodeaton, Elsfeld, Beckley and Stowood, Stanton St John, Forest Hill with Shotover, Holton, Horspath, Waterperry with Thomley, Wheatley, Great Milton, Little Milton, Great Haseley, Garsington, Tiddington with Albury and Waterstock.

The main key recommendations identified for the North Sub-Area formed part of the consultation for the PPS and all recommendations were provided for the LFAS, allowing respondent to comment on each of the recommendations if they wished.

The responses or summary of comments received are detailed below next to an officer response and/or the consultant response.

### PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY (NORTH SUB-AREA)

<b>Response ID</b>	<b>Response / Summary</b>	<b>Officer and Consultant Response</b>
ANON-21AH-441C-8	Horspath - there are enough pitches for cricket, football, rugby and there are ample leisure facilities in the area and no more wanted.	Requirements for both new and improved pitches and leisure facilities are based on population data, demand and growth of teams and activities.
ANON-21AH-4412-Q ANON-21AH-4498-5	Little Milton - MUGA needs looking at and grant received to resurface the MUGA for football and tennis.  The 11v11 football pitch needs improving.	The consultant have informed the council pitch that Little Milton is not recorded in their database and is not a team's home ground. Aerial photos suggest it is a playing field but no formal pitch is marked out. It is not the same pitch as Great Milton or The Heights (Milton Utd). If it has not been a formal pitch in the past and / or has been unused as a pitch for many years, this could explain its non-inclusion on any database. Without a survey response from the Parish Council or a club stating they are based at the site there was no way to have identified it.  The studies have now referenced this pitch as closed / unused pitch in data tables appendix to assessment report and in the list of such sites in assessment report for football.



ANON-21AH-44HV-J	The strategy makes no comment about the lack of, or inappropriateness of existing facilities such as changing rooms, toilets and disabled access. Pitches need support facilities.	The PPS sport tables reviews the quality rating of the ancillary facilities. There are recommendations throughout the strategy to support and improve ancillary facilities.
ANON-21AH-447D-F	Please see attachment 1 available in the appendix.	<p>The PPS work utilises the last season's data which is provided to the consultant from the NGB with regards to team and club members. This position will always be subject to change.</p> <p>The PPS follows a tried and tested approach to understanding demand, utilising the Sport England Playing Pitch calculator.</p> <p>Figures provided in the assessments or strategies for allocations are a starting point along with the contents of the PPS and LFAS.</p>
ANON-21AH-44T3-U	<p>Wheatley Playing Field Trust, as provider for organised outdoor sport in Wheatley and Holton take issue with the misinterpretation of the base data supplied to Stuart Todd Associates and further draw attention to the omission of data through no provision of question: There has never been, and never will be enough space 4no 9v9 football pitches at Wheatley Playing Field in Holton. The current layout is of 1No full size rugby pitch used predominantly by Wheatley Rugby Club; 1No 11v11 full size football pitch used by adults, U17, U14 and U13 teams; 1No 7v7 pitch used by U9 and U10 teams; 1No 5v5 pitch used by U7 and U8 teams all under the organisation of Wheatley FC; a multi-use training pitch and grids used by all of the above plus Wheatley Oaks FC's women's over 30 team. Local clubs also participate in after school football sessions with a view to developing membership. At the start of the winter sports season, it was possible to mark an additional 2No 7v7 pitches within the 9v9 and training pitches. Due to inclement weather, excessive wear through weekly training and several matches each week, the pitches within pitches have been lost. The season 2022-23 saw more demand for 5v5 pitches and less 9v9 and 11v11, but still</p>	<p>The consultant informs us there is no misinterpretation of the data supplied in the survey by both the PF Trust and the Parish Council. The slight difference between the two sets of data provided by these two respondents is only where the PC suggested 2 x 7v7 pitches and the PF Trust suggested 1 x 7v7 and 1 x 5v5. The 7v7 was used instead of a 5v5 in the data as this better illustrates likely scale of demand that the site can host, although 5v5 teams registered with the site as a home will have had their demand recorded correctly as playing on a 5v5 pitch.</p> <p>The respondent suggests that the PPS requires 4 x 9v9 pitches to be provided at Wheatley PF. This has been misunderstood and recommendation F73 suggests that, assuming that support improvements to the PF site can be delivered, capacity for additional grass pitches amounting to around 1 x 11v11 and 4 x 9v9 should be considered in one or more of the</p>

	<p>involved marking pitches within pitches. We attach our current layout from Pitch Power to prove our point. Wheatley FC state they have never suggested more pitches than we have provided. All of the football pitches are generally marked poor by the end of the season despite considerable renovation work over the summer months. The demand for pitches varies from year to year and indeed from start of season when aspirations are high to the end when reality is indicated by unfulfilled fixtures. We have noticed a transition upwards of age groups within junior football without corresponding replacement teams at lower ages. This may be consistent with parents migrating upwards with coaching their own children. Since covid, our regular use of a grass area behind Wheatley Park Sports centre has ceased due a change in school policy and severe damage by rabbits. This area once offered an additional rugby pitch overmarked for football but is now dangerous underfoot.</p> <p>Please see attachment 2 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>following locations: Holton, Wheatley, edge of Oxford. This does not mean all of those additional pitches must be provided at the Wheatley Playing Field site.</p> <p>The PPS is overall, very supportive of the Wheatley PF site, in terms of its key role and likely continuing important role moving forward.</p>
ANON-21AH-44T3-U (response continued)	<p>The implication that the proposed cricket outfield at the former Oxford Brookes Wheatley campus would be used for 2No 5v5 and 2No 7v7 was never discussed with SODC or Sport England as part of mitigation for the loss of grass pitches to housing. There is no proposed storage for goals or equipment such as respect barriers, corner posts or balls on site, the proposed pavilion is geared towards junior cricket and bowls and the developer has no knowledge of this intended use. Our experience is that there is more local grass damage caused by the U7-U9 age groups than to larger pitches by older users, partly due to the localised play within the pitch and parents trampling touchlines. 95% of parents use cars to arrive with the younger age groups, so 4 concurrent games, as at Wheatley playing field, to fit the constraints of FA guidelines on completion times, might see some 40 cars at any one time in use and being parked. Page 42 of the PPS suggests that Wheatley, Holton and Wheatley FC all contribute to the number of pitches, whereas only the Wheatley playing field</p>	<p>The comment of the new cricket ground providing some capacity for 5v5 and / or 7v7 in the outfield is a suggestion, where maintenance can be assured to avoid degradation of the cricket ground over the winter.</p> <p>This recommendation has been updated.</p>

	<p>has pitches, so the reality suggests double counting in the survey and proposals. Whilst the Strategy seems to point towards AGP's as the overarching solution, the reality is that without corresponding modern changing facilities, on site management and provision for replacement carpets within the 2024-41 period, the concept is financially unviable. The current issues with any plastic AGP carpets are migration of microplastics into the surrounding environment and water courses together with long standing health concerns about the side effects of rubber crumb infill. Surveys suggest that even with perimeter containment, an AGP will lose up to 500kg of fill each year. The EU, mirrored in this country by DEFRA, is proposing a ban in 6 years time on the use of rubber crumb infill and at present there is no viable alternative on the markets.</p>	
<p>ANON-21AH-44T3-U (response continued)</p>	<p>Apart from the initial cost of installation and perimeter containment, the specialist maintenance, sinking fund for carpet replacement of AGP and administration means that the cost per session to users is now double that of grass pitches, meaning the increased financial commitment needed by families and users has a detrimental effect on sport participation. The concept of reducing carbon emissions mentioned in the strategy is undermined by the state of existing facilities for which solar or air source heating is not viable. No mention is made needs for the additional changing rooms, administration offices, machinery storage and energy upgrades. The current situation at Wheatley playing field at Holton, as recognised by SODC since 2010, is that the existing end of life changing rooms are not conducive towards participation in community sports and without proper dedicated facilities and toilets, discriminate against any one with disability. Because of the layout it is not possible to cater for both sexes or youth and adults at the same time, meaning further opportunities to promote sport are lost. The provision of suitable ancillary buildings should be treated with the same priority as replacing grass with plastic pitches. During the summer WPFT has one softball and 3No</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>

	<p>rounders pitches marked, but little community interest. We also have one ECB first class artificial wicket suitable for junior cricket and practice. Although included in our survey return, this strip is not mentioned. Finally, it is disappointing that there is no mention of provision for mixed ability, disability or walking sport provision, thus marginalising that large part of society.</p>	
ANON-21AH-44H6-J	<p>Recommendation 1: I'm sorry to be picky but the Oxford Brookes campus development is entirely within Holton (it is NOT in Wheatley). I'm afraid this type of error can put people in the wrong frame of mind before they even start to consider the points being made, so I feel it is important to get these basic facts correct, to prevent any subsequent misunderstandings and ensure appropriate integration with the correct local community. Having said that, much of the detail will depend on the planning applications/modifications for this development and it will be necessary to scrutinise very carefully the intentions of the developer.</p> <p>Recommendations 2&amp;3: It is not clear whether these are new facilities or enhancements to existing. Will further land be needed to implement these, and if so where are the potential sites?</p>	<p>References to Oxford Brookes campus have been edited to reflect it is in Holton.</p> <p>Recommendations 2 and 3 are under the provide section so this recommendation is to provide a new facility.</p>

## LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY (NORTH SUB-AREA)

Response ID	Response / Summary	Officer and Consultant response
ANON-21AH-44ZV-4	No mention of basketball or table tennis in the reports. Outdoor courts should be standard in each village?	<p>Section 4.12 of the assessment report covers basketball.</p> <p>Section 4.15 of the assessment report covers table tennis.</p> <p>There are several recommendations in the LFAS strategy for new or upgraded open access MUGAs (which generally cater for basketball) across South Oxfordshire including Land North of Bayswater Brook and Little Milton Recreation Ground in the North sub area.</p>
ANON-21AH-449K-R	No athletics or cycling provision in the North sub area.	The LFAS assessment report highlights there is a 400m synthetics surfaced athletics track at Horspath Sports Ground along with an off-road circuit and mountain bike park in the Horspath and Shotover respectively.
ANON-21AH-44HD-Z	It states that they're are no outdoor bowling greens in the North area, but they're is one by the Manor Hospital, on Osler Road.	This club is outside of the study area (Oxford City).
BHLF-21AH-4475-Z	Very importantly, the proposed site is currently a much valued school playing field, which is in daily use for football, rugby (including the Rugby Club), tennis and various other sporting activities. It is a 'green' amenity space. To re-purpose part of it as a concrete skatepark, makes no sense. This 'sharing of use' would be at the expense of some of the other sports just mentioned. The open green space is also an important visual amenity for all.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	The strategy is based on incorrect information for the Wheatley area both as regards existing facilities and projected demand. There is repeated use of the term former when applied to the tennis courts at Wheatly Playing field, whereas the attached photo proved otherwise. It would appear that SODC and Sport England are advocating a policy whereby new housing in green belt can be justified by providing plastic pitches without any changing facilities or reference to ongoing cost to tax payers.	<p>The consultant was careful with the wording and chose "former courts" having consulted the LTA around the wording. This how now been amended in the reports.</p> <p>The PPS does not advocate provision of any pitch, artificial or grass, without appropriate and high quality changing and other ancillary facilities which would be needed for the pitch to operate.</p>

	<p>SODC has a climate emergency policy, yet the strategy suggests removing the carbon sinks of natural grass to lay artificial fossil fuel based plastic pitches filled with rubber crumbs.</p> <p>The annual maintenance cost of a 3G pitch including carpet replacement sinking fund is in the region of £40,000, as attached. This excludes the administration cost to run the facility.</p> <p>Local user charges for 3G pitches are more than double the cost of grass pitches and are not viable to local clubs without subsidy.</p> <p>Football is a seasonal game with demand greatest outside of work of school time, so although Sport England models a 3G pitch as sustaining a potential 80 hours per week whereas reality based on lifestyle fee hours is less than half. Community sport has to be affordable to all.</p> <p>Please see attachments 3 and 4 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>Costs and viability are an important factor when considering provision of any pitch. Stage E (delivery) will consider these issues carefully as plans come forward for additional grass and artificial pitches.</p>
ANON-21AH-44AJ-Y BHLF-21AH-4474-Y	<p>Park Sports Centre is a great community gym, a new sports hall floor sounds great and updated squash courts but the roof needs repairs.</p> <p>Why not add a hall set up for gymnastics so that the sports hall has availability Friday nights and all day on Saturdays. The gymnastics is very popular but needs a base.</p>	<p>The LFAS Strategy recommendation for Park Sports Centre (Wheatley) states under 'enhance' to continue to retain the attractiveness of facilities to residents.</p> <p>Additional roof repairs were completed during the summer. Imminent decarbonisation project will address complete roof fabric replacement in 2025/26. Leisure Team will review the programme on site to establish if this will be possible owing to the view that the sports hall is there to accommodate several sporting activities.</p>
ANON-21AH-44ZD-J	<p>To provide a greater range of activities at Park Sports Centre for deaf people, like stamina exercise classes.</p>	<p>Comments have been reviewed by the Leisure Facilities Team and the Active Communities Team.</p>
ANON-21AH-44XS-Y	<p>Why is it not possible to have a brand-new leisure facility to include a swimming pool? What about sport and facilities for older people?</p>	<p>Model runs have been completed to look at demand and population growth and the outcomes did not support the needs for a new swimming pool.</p>
ANON-21AH-44TK-K	<p>Between Waterstock and Waterperry should also include horse riding (stables at Watertock and bridle path to Waterperry) as well as the Oxfordshire way which is an important route for walkers/runners and, over some sections, also for cyclists and horse</p>	<p>Waterstock stables have already been included in the assessment.</p>



	riders. In addition, the Oxfordshire way and footpaths over the wilder parts of the golf club (CTA) are an important recreational area for enjoying wildlife.	
ANON-21AH-44HD-Z	Cost should also be considered, and the inclusion of the fact that only some gyms and leisure facilities allow those people recommended by their GP.	Costs of the leisure centres/ sports halls are considered in the Assessment Report and the accessibility recommendation states to 'work with the operators of all sports halls to reduce the hire costs'.
ANON-21AH-44XS-Y	There are over 500 new housing coming to Wheatley why don't some of Brooke's get kept and used they have some fantastic facilities already built?	New housing has been considered through the strategies, Brookes Sport Wheatley Campus has dis-used tennis courts and MUGAs.
ANON-21AH-44H6-J	<p>Recommendation 2: The possibility of a skatepark in Holton will doubtless be of major concern to local residents and I'm not that sure many were even aware that this was being considered! Has any prior local consultation been carried out? Is there genuinely a demand for this? It seems an unusual proposal for what is essentially a quiet village location. How has the need for this been determined? The majority of users would be visitors from other areas and the limited amount of parking at the playing fields is likely to prove problematic. There have been problems in the past with antisocial (and illegal) parking by users of the current facilities, and this would only get worse in these circumstances. Has any transport assessment been carried out?</p> <p>Recommendation 6: Same "pickyness" and comments about the Oxford Brookes campus development as Recommendation 1 in Playing Pitch Strategy! This facility is located in Holton. Would it make sense to reduce/repurpose the number of squash courts and redirect funds to the remaining courts. In another centre I use they have reduced squash courts from 4 to 2 and repurposed the others. Perhaps the game is not as popular as it once was?</p> <p>Recommendation 7: I believe the outline planning permission has been rejected by SODC.</p> <p>Recommendation 8: Same "pickyness" and comments about the Oxford Brookes campus development as Recommendation 1 in Playing Pitch Strategy! This development is located in Holton. Similar comments also about the</p>	<p>Unfortunately, the consultant was unable to gather data on participation on a local level due to a lack of data available and lack of resources for Skateboarding GB to input into the process. They are aware that a benefit of skateboarding is that there are no clubs, it has spontaneous and informal participation. Skateboarding GB did say that they would support any local group with ambitions for new provision but was not aware of any in the district.</p> <p>The recommendation for a skatepark at Holton Playing Fields has been removed.</p>



	fluidity of the planning side and the need to watch the developer carefully.	
ANON-21AH-447Y-4	<p>I spoke at length today with REDACTED expressing my views.</p> <p>I only found out about this proposal late yesterday evening, via a neighbour.</p> <p>As far as I am aware, few people in the vicinity have any knowledge of this 'consultation'.</p> <p>It seems disingenuous to ask for comments, when little attempt has been made to inform residents of the proposal.</p> <p>The site suggested for a skatepark is currently a school playing field, which is in daily use. Football, rugby and tennis amongst other sporting activities regularly take place on this sports field.</p> <p>What possible point can there be to 're-purpose' part of it as a concrete skate park ?</p> <p>This is a valued open green sports facility.</p> <p>Holton is a small rural village....a skatepark ?! Are you serious ?.....</p>	The recommendation for a skatepark at Holton Playing Fields has been removed.
BHLF-21AH-4475-Z	<p>Also, sorry to be pedantic, but what's in a name ? This is HOLTON, NOT WHEATLEY. Holton is a small, historical rural village. A skatepark at the edge of the village ?! Are you serious ?!</p> <p>I can see that there are a number of (more appropriately placed) skateparks around Oxford already, so fail to see that there is a 'need' for another. If there is CIL money in the 'pot' there are surely more urgent issues to address when talking about infrastructure, not least 'pot holes' ! Then, we also notice that the Brookes development fails to mention schools, doctors etc....but, that's another matter.....</p> <p>Parking ? Where would visitors to the proposed skatepark, park ? Try leaving Holton at the beginning and the end of the school day, that creates problems enough already.</p>	<p>It is likely that most users of skatepark would be pupils at the school / not be old enough to drive.</p> <p>The recommendation for a skatepark at Holton Playing Fields has been removed.</p>
ANON-21AH-44T3-U	<p>There is has long been a misconception within SODC that there are no tennis courts in the Wheatley area following the demise of OBU. The statement in paragraph 12.9: "..., and there are no outdoor tennis courts in the North sub area; only former courts at Oxford Brookes Wheatley Campus and Holton Playing Fields in Wheatley" is totally wrong and has no place in such a strategic document. Wheatley playing</p>	The consultant was careful with their wording and chose "former courts" having consulted the LTA. This has now been amended in the reports.

field at Holton has an overall layout and capacity for 9No tennis courts to be available, although the increase in netball demand, to meet the needs of an adult team playing in the Oxford league, but not detailed in the strategy, means we currently offer 6No macadam tennis courts and 2No netball courts. Obviously, the flexibility for the other 3No tennis courts remains by way of ground sockets. We thus take exception to the repeated use of “former tennis courts” and reiterate this is a fallacy only being used to justify the 106 agreement with OBU for 4No floodlit courts. There is no demand or space locally for an extra 4no courts. It would appear, however, that the netball courts with floodlighting, at Holton have not even been assessed. The mention that facilities should be accessible contradicts the lack of comment for new facilities or how to upgrade the existing infrastructure, thus marginalising a large part of society. The indictment by OCB demonstrates how, during the mitigation for loss of facilities at OBU process, the potential for a home for Oxfordshire cricket has degenerated to an expensive cricket pitch only suitable for youth cricket; the changing facilities and parking. EX10 states “Implementation will depend on steering group members co-ordinating and working closely with clubs, teams, league organisers, providers / operators, owners of current facilities and owners of facilities and potential sites for additional facilities”. Regrettably our experience over the past 4 years is one of a desire for micromanagement of potential resources without any acceptance of the need for financial injection to achieve those goals. This view is supported by the initial survey not properly realising what sports are offered by our facility. Regrettably our experience over the past 4 years is one of a desire for micromanagement of potential resources without any acceptance of the need for financial injection to achieve those goals. This view is supported by the initial survey not properly realising what sports are offered by our facility. We contend that the “Vision” will not be met without an adequate input of financial resources, which our experience over the past 16

	years from PPG17 in 2008 through PPS 2018 leads us to believe SODC has no intention of supplying. This “strategy”, without the proper financial strategy is a worthless box ticking exercise. All of the proposals suggest provision of sporting activity at an increasing participation cost to the user. At best it demonstrates that sporting participation will only be for the wealthy.	
BHLF-21AH-4475-Z	To reiterate the points made with you yesterday, my first gripe is that we (that is, I and other members of the Holton community) don't feel that we have been 'consulted'. Many were unaware of the proposal. Something more visible would have been appreciated, like a few posters around the village. You said a hard copy was displayed at the sports centre, but that is not necessarily frequented by residents from the village.	These comments have been noted.

## South Sub-Area

The South Sub-Area includes the following parishes:

Bix and Assendon, Highmoor, Rotherfield Peppard, Rotherfield Greys, Harpsden, Binfield Heath, Shiplake, Eye and Dunsden, Henley on Thames, Sonning Common, Kidmore End, Mapledurham, Stoke Row, Checkendon, Woodcote, Goring Heath, Whitchurch on Thames, Goring (Southern part of parish).

The main key recommendations identified for the South Sub-Area formed part of the consultation for the PPS and all recommendations were provided for the LFAS, allowing respondent to comment on each of the recommendations if they wished.

The responses or summary of comments received are detailed below next to an officer response and/or the consultant response.

### PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY (SOUTH SUB-AREA)

Response ID	Response / Summary	Officer and Consultant response
ANON-21AH-449B-F	Grove RFC is looking to develop the existing clubhouse and increase the number of changing rooms available to facilitate the increased teams at the club and future proof our facilities.	Grove RFC is covered in the Vale of White Horse reports.  The PPS currently states to protect the current pitches and recommends improvements including sports-lighting if feasible.  The consultants will expand on the 'enhance recommendation'.
ANON-21AH-4493-Z	I am disappointed that Stoke Row Pavilion that provides Sport [Cricket and Tennis facilities] Health and Well-being, Yoga, Community and Primary School activities is mentioned as needing refurbishment is not mentioned in Strategies. We need help but our facilities seem to be ignored.	Stoke Row clubhouse is mentioned in the leisure facilities strategy and highlights that 'Stoke Row Sports & Leisure Club need clubhouse refurbishments'.  The consultant has amended the documents to include Stoke Row pavilion as a recommendation/action.
ANON-21AH-441M-J	No mention of hockey, rugby, or football pitches, even if they are local council or privately owned. Their plans need support.  Henley Town Council are currently going through planning approval for a 3G football pitch. This needs support from SODC.	Hockey, rugby and football pitches are reviewed across the Playing Pitch Strategy, Playing Pitch Assessment Report and pitches tables along with cricket and lesser played pitch sports.  The Playing Pitch Strategy states to deliver proposed pitches 'in the pipeline to meet demand arising in those

		locations. This means the pitches at: Jubilee Park, Henley, where proposals for a new full-size sports-lit 3G should be supported'.
ANON-21AH-44TM-N	<p>3) Henley on Thames - Football Pitches Why on earth can you even consider building artificial football pitches? We have a climate emergency. This is against your own policy. Soil degradation Loss of sequestration Loss of biodiversity Global Warming</p> <p>3) Henley on Thames Tennis Flood lights circadian Light pollution in a sensitive semi rural wildlife area. Night light upsets the circadian rhythms, feeding and nesting for our threatened birds and nocturnal species. Bats, owls, moths swifts foxes Badgers etc.</p>	<p>The consultant comments that the PPS seeks to consider provision in balance and has recommendations which help to ask the right questions and seek the appropriate mitigations in relation to proposals having limited or no impact on climate issues.</p> <p>The PPS articulates openly the challenges ahead but also that no-one in sport is standing still on this. The planning system also has a duty to respond positively to the challenges posed by our changing climate and it seems likely that climate impact assessments may well be introduced in the coming years to help challenge proposals and ensure that appropriate mitigations are put in place if necessary. This is in addition to the recent Environment Act requirements (and those of the Local Plan) around net gains in biodiversity. Sport England has recently published its own sustainability strategy which it will seek to implement across sports and those organisations it works with. The health of communities is also a critical issue for all and is not unrelated to the potential impact of poorer mental and physical health on carbon emissions if people do not have access to year-round activity through sport and leisure.</p>
ANON-21AH-44Z1-Y	With plastic pollution, Climate Change and net zero declarations we should be conserving our grass pitches. Old artificial pitches should be returned to grass and no artificial pitches should be granted planning permission.	The strategy protects grass pitches but also is a strategy designed to support an increase in sport, subject to mitigations being put in place (please see above comment).
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	It would appear that SODC and Sport England are advocating a policy whereby new housing in green belt can be justified by providing plastic pitches without any	The PPS does not advocate provision of any pitch, artificial or grass, without appropriate and high quality changing and

	<p>changing facilities or reference to ongoing cost to tax payers.</p> <p>SODC has a climate emergency policy, yet the strategy suggests removing the carbon sinks of natural grass to lay artificial fossil fuel based plastic pitches filled with rubber crumbs.</p> <p>The annual maintenance cost of a 3G pitch including carpet replacement sinking fund is in the region of £40,000, as attached. This excludes the administration cost to run the facility.</p> <p>Local user charges for 3G pitches are more than double the cost of grass pitches and are not viable to local clubs without subsidy.</p> <p>Football is a seasonal game with demand greatest outside of work of school time, so although Sport England models a 3G pitch as sustaining a potential 80 hours per week whereas reality based on lifestyle free hours is less than half.</p> <p>Community sport has to be affordable to all.</p>	<p>other ancillary facilities which would be needed for the pitch to operate.</p> <p>Costs and viability are an important factor when considering provision of any pitch. Stage E (delivery) will consider these issues carefully as plans come forward for additional grass and artificial pitches.</p>
ANON-21AH-44HK-7 ANON-21AH-44AA-P	<p>Has Maiden Erleigh Chiltern Edge been included in these plans and will the school children benefit from the new facilities? Do we need more football at Memorial Field if Rotherfield FC is gaining a new pitch?</p>	<p>Maiden Erleigh Chiltern Edge School has been considered and included within the two reports.</p>
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	<p>The strategy makes no comment about the lack of, or inappropriateness of existing facilities such as changing rooms, toilets and disabled access. Pitches need support facilities</p>	<p>The PPS sport tables reviews the quality rating of the ancillary facilities. There are recommendations throughout the strategy to support and improve ancillary facilities.</p>
ANON-21AH-44XG-K	<p>Henley Town Council welcome the reports but are concerned regarding the implementation of the recommendations, as there seems to be a lack of resources and funding allocated to bring these forward.</p> <p>The Council believe the studies should take a more strategic approach by considering the capacity related to all facilities rather than focused on individual clubs. A wider assessment of the need for leisure facilities and playing pitches should be conducted that consider areas outside of Henley that benefit from the facilities in the Town.</p> <p>The Council would like to emphasize the importance of open communication with the Town Council and that collaboration</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p> <p>Town and Parish Councils were consulted as part of the consultation of the reports. A steering group comprised of relevant sporting bodies and officers were consulted and involved in the process of developing all studies.</p>

	between different bodies is crucial in successfully bringing forward the recommendations in these reports.	
ANON-21AH-441S-R	Gillots Leisure Centre - OK but changing facilities are not at all clean.	These comments have been revied by the Leisure Facilities Team.
ANON-21AH-44AA-P	<p>(2) Sonning Common</p> <p>Football (grass): Memorial Park, 1x 9v9 ("pipeline" / commitment) Football (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch (Rotherfield Utd / Bishopswood) if certainty of delivery is in place</p> <p>Support the possibility for the expanded use of Memorial Park as overflow area for Rotherfield United and provision of 9v9 pitch although should be supported with the expansion of facilities such as toilets and changing at Memorial Park and KEMH. I support the proposed recommendation of 3G pitch at Rotherfield United as long as it is located as far away from the ancient woodland and nearest the car park and is light is screened and in this sensitive area.</p>	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44T5-W	<p>Comments on Playing Pitch Strategy - recommendation 2: We support SODC's vision statement but would ask for sight of the Pitch Audit which was undertaken and the data on participation trends which has informed the strategy. For example, we consider reference to age groups is needed to inform facility need. There should be clear metrics by reference to population or sub-sets of population to indicate levels of need and there should then be adjustment to recognise existing provision so as to identify gaps in provision. There are references to EXISTING teams and needs; in some cases if suitable provision is missing then teams will be inhibited from forming or continuing? Hence the importance of metrics and transparent evaluation. We do not believe it is accurate to rely solely on the number of teams in an area to identify demand as we believe the teams may not exist because of the lack of facility, thereby reflecting a latent potential demand which is not suggested in the report.</p> <p>Weather is a big factor in the use of grass pitches especially for their maintenance and availability. The quality of existing</p>	<p>Delivery aspects will be part of Stage E process.</p> <p>Within the documents there are references to ensuring that Building Regulations are followed, as well as design standards adopted by NGBs and Sport England.</p> <p>However, edits have been made to 'Key Issues' sections of the strategy to place additional emphasis on lighting and design making sure that it addresses safety concerns in relation to those with disabilities.</p>



	<p>provision is also a relevant consideration – in addition to the pitches themselves this also relates to supporting facilities. Note: Catch 22 situation - Sonning Common has very few teams due to recreation area only opened in 2022, therefore disadvantaged. We are in support of the 9v9 pitch pipeline commitment at Memorial Park but we need information as to how this will be funded and maintained, together with the additional parking plus toilets, changing and storage which will be required if the pitch is to be used by local clubs and leagues. This pitch could also be used for other sports as well as 5-a-side football and to enable tennis on the MUGA in main summer outside the football season. We support the need for better provision for women and girls, note the references to this at page 34, but believe that future demand must be mapped by use of expected metric of potential demand. Note: Funding needed for 9x9 pitch. We support the principle of community use agreements but these need to be fully thought through and managed so there is genuine community access at reasonable and various times. There is no comment on safety for participants which is a major consideration in rural dark sky areas, requiring wayfaring lighting and safe parking/access. Girls and women are particularly vulnerable and this has led to the installation of LED lighting over the MUGA and solar powered wayfaring lights at Memorial Park. Carefully chosen due to the context of the AONB setting. Note: Focus on girls/women and to encourage park visiting.</p>	
BHLF-21AH-4471-V	Please see attachment 5 available in the appendix.	These comments have been noted.

## LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY (SOUTH SUB-AREA)

Response ID	Response / Summary	Officer and Consultant Response
ANON-21AH-44XG-K	<p>These reports are welcomed but are concerned regarding the implementation of the recommendations, as there seems to be a lack of resources and funding allocated to bring these forward.</p> <p>The Council believe the studies should take a more strategic approach by considering the capacity related to all facilities rather than focused on individual clubs. A wider assessment of the need for leisure facilities and playing pitches should be conducted that consider areas outside of Henley that benefit from the facilities in the Town.</p> <p>We would like to emphasis the importance of open communication with the Town Council and that collaboration between different bodies is crucial in successfully bringing forward the recommendations in these reports.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted. Town and Parish Councils were consulted as part of the consultation of the reports. A steering group comprised of relevant sporting bodies and officers were consulted and involved in the process of developing all studies.</p>
ANON-21AH-44HB-X ANON-21AH-44GG-2 ANON-21AH-44G4-F ANON-21AH-44G3-E ANON-21AH-44X9-5 ANON-21AH-44XE-H ANON-21AH-44XK-Q ANON-21AH-44H1-D ANON-21AH-44H5-H ANON-21AH-44GG-2 ANON-21AH-44HA-W ANON-21AH-44G4-F ANON-21AH-44G3-E ANON-21AH-44HE-1 ANON-21AH-44XF-J	<p>Summary of responses on Henley Leisure Centre Squash courts:</p> <p>Usage figures at peak periods for Henley Leisure Centre squash courts are inaccurately low.</p> <p>Two courts is only just sufficient but more required to allow club and opportunities to grow.</p> <p>Some areas of the court require repair although quality is generally good (current damage to front wall).</p> <p>The two courts should be retained.</p> <p>The opening times and prices at Henley Leisure Centre should be set to ensure the promotion of squash.</p> <p>Please see attachment 6 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>The Leisure Facilities Strategy and Action Plan recommends protecting and enhancing the facilities at Henley Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Henley Squash Club survey response shows decline in member numbers, which have not returned since Covid, so new teams is focus for the club, and not new courts (according to survey response). Court booking information came from GLL booking sheets. There is a total of 52 hours in the weekly peak-period (26 per court) at Henley LC. England Squash failed to engage with the strategies and Sport England Active Lives data shows decline in squash participation, so the consultant was unable to evidence very much future demand.</p> <p>Pricing has increased for all sports and affordability is a key issue raised in the study.</p>

		Comments have also been reviewed by the Leisure Facilities Team.
ANON-21AH-44Z1-Y ANON-21AH-44X4-Z ANON-21AH-441S-R	Need to keep and enhance Henley Leisure centre with all of its facilities. Their advertisement is poor and could be more active with engaging. There is no good provision of fitness classes, the pool is busy and the changing rooms are small/ not always clean.	The Leisure Facilities Strategy and Action Plan recommends protecting and enhancing the facilities at Henley Leisure Centre.  Comments have been reviewed by the Leisure Facilities Team.
ANON-21AH-44X4-Z	The maintenance in some of the play areas in small villages is appalling! It takes forever to repair equipment, there's not enough equipment for outdoor sports (football nets, basketball rings)  The Millenium play area in Sonning Common has been out of use since January 2024, the equipment conditions are poor in Binfield Heath, there's little to keep the kids busy in Tokers Green and basically nothing in Stoke Row or Checkendon.	Comments have been reviewed by the team working on the Green Infrastructure Strategy and Open Space Study.  A new MUGA (multi-use game area) opened at Memorial Park in 2022.
ANON-21AH-44Z8-6	It says there are no Short Mat bowling facilities in the South Area. I understand that Sonning Common hall hosts Indoor Short Mat Bowling between 7:45pm - 10pm, September - April	The LFAS has been updated to reflect the short mat bowls facilities in Sonning Common.
ANON-21AH-441M-J	Support, and expand where possible. Minimise loss of playing space or surfaces.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-449K-R	No athletics or cycling provision.	England Athletics has confirmed that a 40-minute drive time is realistic for 400m synthetic surfaced track with full field events provision. When considering neighbouring provision, there are no geographical gaps in athletics provision in South Oxfordshire.
ANON-21AH-44HU-H	I refer to the recommendation that the Oratory Prep School Swimming Pool should be developed for community use. The planning consent for this development specifically stated that the facility should only be used by the school and other school groups and not be open to use by the general public. The reason for this condition is still valid. P05/E0686	The strategies do not recommend that the Oratory Prep School pool be developed for community use. The recommendation is to enhance security of use for community clubs. Henley Swimming Club, Didcot BSC and Wallingford Triathlon Club have all reported use of the pool.
ANON-21AH-44AR-7	Although expanding kennyland gymnastic centre would benefit a few. there are many local people in Henley who would like more available leisure space.	There is an over-arching aim of British Gymnastics to move as many clubs as possible from shared space to a dedicated

	Springbox Gymnastics club have been in Henley for 34 years and are currently operating from the Henley college we have 200 children participating during the week and although run a preschool class on a Saturday morning would can't during the week as the college use the hall. we would dearly love to run class but can find nowhere with large enough storage space to keep our equipment.	space. The consultants were not aware that Springbox GC would like to do this (due to no survey response).  The strategy has been amended to recommend a new dedicated gymnastics provision in the South and West sub areas.
ANON-21AH-44HK-7	Why is the council supporting The Oratory private school with padel tennis courts, when these could be provided at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge? Sonning Common has limited indoor sports opportunities and improving these should be a priority, not supporting private schools who will make more money from the bookings.	The LFAS recommends that padel tennis courts are available for public use so they benefit the wider community as well as being available to the school.
ANON-21AH-44HK-7	Please support Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge students and Sonning Common families with improved indoor sports facilities.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44T5-W	The strategy provides no guidance or information on how facility construction will be funded, including manpower and maintenance to ensure sustainability. We welcome the concept of sustainable transport to facilities but point out that Sonning Common is identified as a transport hub for the local area, without the public transport connections to meet the needs of local residents to reach facilities which are not available in the village (eg Henley Leisure Centre, Jubilee Park etc). The leisure facilities at Oratory School from personal experience do not appear to be available to anywhere near the same extent as is implied. and such facilities cannot be reached by public transport from Sonning Common. It is well-known that individual residents from Sonning Common are NOT offered access to the Oratory facilities and any letters or e-mail requesting such are consistently ignored and not responded to; such access is essentially reserved for residents of Woodcote only. (Noting that some teams have historic access as reported). Note: Allowable distances only when bus service exists. We welcome the support for Community Use Agreements which give access to school facilities which are underused during after school hours, weekends and holidays. They are most effective where the partner is also offering a variety of use so together	Advice on booking and facility management systems is not covered in the scope of LFAS.

	<p>provide a Sports Hub. Note: CUA's should link schools and parks. The strategy says there are no MUGAs in the South sub area which is incorrect as there is a 60 x 40 MUGA at Memorial Park split into 3 sections, 2 of which are fenced and lined for tennis, football, netball and basketball and the remainder is one polymeric surface. Note: Sonning Common's MUGA not mentioned. Facility management needs to address cleaning and maintenance especially where facilities are made available for local people through community use agreements. There is no strategic advice on the co-ordination of booking and facility management systems Note: Advice on booking and facility management systems needed. The commitment to provide funding for buildings and other facilities is much needed at the Henley Leisure Centre as the main provider of pool activities which will be picked up in the buildings survey.</p>	
ANON-21AH-44T5-W	<p>Comments on Playing Pitch Strategy - recommendation 2: We support SODC's vision statement but would ask for sight of the Pitch Audit which was undertaken and the data on participation trends which has informed the strategy. For example, we consider reference to age groups is needed to inform facility need. There should be clear metrics by reference to population or sub-sets of population to indicate levels of need and there should then be adjustment to recognise existing provision so as to identify gaps in provision. There are references to EXISTING teams and needs; in some cases if suitable provision is missing then teams will be inhibited from forming or continuing? Hence the importance of metrics and transparent evaluation. We do not believe it is accurate to rely solely on the number of teams in an area to identify demand as we believe the teams may not exist because of the lack of facility, thereby reflecting a latent potential demand which is not suggested in the report.</p> <p>Weather is a big factor in the use of grass pitches especially for their maintenance and availability. The quality of existing provision is also a relevant consideration – in addition to the pitches themselves</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p> <p>Aspects around delivery will be part of the Stage E process (delivery).</p>

	<p>this also relates to supporting facilities.  Note: Catch 22 situation - Sonning Common has very few teams due to recreation area only opened in 2022, therefore disadvantaged. We are in support of the 9v9 pitch pipeline commitment at Memorial Park but we need information as to how this will be funded and maintained, together with the additional parking plus toilets, changing and storage which will be required if the pitch is to be used by local clubs and leagues. This pitch could also be used for other sports as well as 5-a-side football and to enable tennis on the MUGA in main summer outside the football season. We support the need for better provision for women and girls, note the references to this at page 34, but believe that future demand must be mapped by use of expected metric of potential demand.  Note: Funding needed for 9x9 pitch. We support the principle of community use agreements but these need to be fully thought through and managed so there is genuine community access at reasonable and various times. There is no comment on safety for participants which is a major consideration in rural dark sky areas, requiring wayfaring lighting and safe parking/access. Girls and women are particularly vulnerable and this has led to the installation of LED lighting over the MUGA and solar powered wayfaring lights at Memorial Park. Carefully chosen due to the context of the AONB setting.  Note: Focus on girls/women and to encourage park visiting.</p>	
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## East Sub-Area

The East Sub-Area includes the following parishes:

Thame, Towersey, Tetsworth, Aston Rowant, Sydenham, Chinnor, Crowell, Wheatfield, Lewknor, Shirburn, Stoke Talmage, Adwell, Pyrton, Cuxham with Easington Britwell Salome, Watlington, Pishill with Stonor, Swyncombe and Nettlebed.

The main key recommendations identified for the East Sub-Area formed part of the consultation for the PPS and all recommendations were provided for the LFAS, allowing respondent to comment on each of the recommendations if they wished.

The responses or summary of comments received are detailed below next to an officer response and/or the consultant response.

### PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY (EAST SUB-AREA)

Response ID	Response / Summary	Officer and Consultant Response
ANON-21AH-4411-P	The provision for Thame appears quite poor when compared with other areas. I suppose this is a consequence of building houses on every square metre of land, including areas set aside for this purpose.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-449C-G	There seems to be little for Pyrton - even just an off-road footpath or cycle path to the facilities in Watlington would help	<p>The strategy cannot provide new facility recommendations for every place, unfortunately. However, consideration has been made to pitches in Watlington regarding demand and needs.</p> <p>Issues such as a cycle path, need consideration outside of the PPS and is for other strategies to identify and seek to deliver. The PPS looks to support measures such as infrastructure which can support active travel as far as it can.</p>
ANON-21AH-44ZS-1 ANON-21AH-44ZC-H	1.Southern Rd Recreation ground currently has 1 full pitch and 2 junior pitches. These are apparently part of SODC and Sport England's protected grounds. This is not mentioned in the report. The facility has a set of changing rooms now derelict and require demolishing. These pitches have not been used for over 15 years to any degree. Therefore there can be no local need for these, especially since AGP pitches are in place at the football club. This facility should be removed from the listing of SODC and Sport England. As clearly there is no demand.	<p>Unused pitches should be protected on the basis they could be an important part of supply in the future, not just for football but potentially other sports.</p> <p>The recommendations will be amended to suggest that Southern Road should be considered as a possible location for additional pitches as demand demonstrates a need.</p>



	SODC should work with Thame Town Council to purchase the Thame Show ground to ensure its future as a green space for sports / leisure use.	
ANON-21AH-44ZC-H	<p>The strategy paper does not mention the full-size grass pitch at Southern Road in Thame, which is currently completely unused. It seems strange to recommend building 3 new full-size pitches while ignoring one that already exists.</p> <p>Otherwise, I fully support the recommendations in the paper.</p>	<p>As above, unused pitches should be protected on the basis they could be an important part of supply in the future, not just for football but potentially other sports.</p> <p>The recommendations will be amended to suggest that Southern Road should be considered as a possible location for additional pitches as demand demonstrates a need.</p>
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	The strategy makes no comment about the lack of, or inappropriateness of existing facilities such as changing rooms, toilets and disabled access. Pitches need support facilities	<p>The sports tables linked to the PPS highlight the quality of the ancillary facilities.</p> <p>The district wide PPS recommendations state to; enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where necessary to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced.</p>
ANON-21AH-44TU-W	Please see attachment 7 available in the appendix.	<p>The strategy has been updated to support ambitions for provision of additional pitches, providing demand is demonstrated on the ground.</p> <p>Information has been added to the report regarding the wheeled sports community making use of an old school skate bowl.</p> <p>A recommendation has been added for enhancing Watlington Bowls club clubhouse facilities.</p>
ANON-21AH-44TW-Y	Please see attachment 8 available in the appendix.	The strategy has been updated to support ambitions for provision of additional pitches, providing demand is demonstrated on the ground.
ANON-21AH-44TJ-J	Please see attachments 9 and 10 available in the appendix.	<p>Recommendation H18 already seeks for security of tenure at the clubs home ground (Lord Williams' Academy).</p> <p>H19 recommendation has been amended to support replacement surface to be a</p>

		<p>hockey surface when current surface is replaced.</p> <p>H2 recommendation has been amended to refer to all AGP surfaces used for hockey.</p>
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	<p>It would appear that SODC and Sport England are advocating a policy whereby new housing in green belt can be justified by providing plastic pitches without any changing facilities or reference to ongoing cost to tax payers.</p> <p>SODC has a climate emergency policy, yet the strategy suggests removing the carbon sinks of natural grass to lay artificial fossil fuel based plastic pitches filled with rubber crumbs.</p> <p>The annual maintenance cost of a 3G pitch including carpet replacement sinking fund is in the region of £40,000, as attached. This excludes the administration cost to run the facility. Local user charges for 3G pitches are more than double the cost of grass pitches and are not viable to local clubs without subsidy.</p> <p>Football is a seasonal game with demand greatest outside of work of school time, so although Sport England models a 3G pitch as sustaining a potential 80 hours per week whereas reality based on lifestyle fee hours is less than half. Community sport has to be affordable to all.</p>	<p>The PPS does not advocate provision of any pitch, artificial or grass, without appropriate and high quality changing and other ancillary facilities which would be needed for the pitch to operate.</p> <p>Costs and viability are an important factor when considering provision of any pitch. Stage E (delivery) will consider these issues carefully as plans come forward for additional grass and artificial pitches.</p>
ANON-21AH-441W-V	<p>1-7 (All). I live in the small dormitory town of Chinnor (population 7,275 in the 2021 census); we regularly traipse up to Thame (pop 12,951, 80% bigger) where the facilities are better in almost every respect. However, it has to be said that Chinnor is heavily over-provided with rentable indoor spaces (Pavilion, Reading Room, Village Hall, Village Centre, Library annex rooms that are largely used for storing furniture or Red Kite Centre equipment, Methodist Church Hall, etc). Many of its sports fields - Whytes Field, up by the Icknield Way, the pitch at Kiln Lakes, Mill Lane and St Andrews primary schools, the sports field at Kingston Blount - are also under-used. If we are prepared to go to Thame for almost everything, if Chinnor Rugby Club is based in, er, Thame, then why are Thame clubs not coming down to Chinnor to use the facilities we *do* have? And why is this option, on what I've read so far in the Strategy, not being considered as an alternative to the expense, bother and long</p>	<p>It would be a challenge to the hockey club to relocate without a sand based AGP which meets the club's needs.</p> <p>The PPS does what it can within its remit to focus on provision for pitch sports but cannot dictate or implement transport policy on responsible bodies such as the Highways Authority.</p> <p>All LAs were approached for comment, adjoining PPSs were reviewed where considered reasonably up-to-date and steering group members contributed to discussions about cross-boundary movement for sports.</p>

	<p>timescales of finding new provision? For example, one project is for Thame Hockey Club to use the Thame Cricket Club pavilion. What's wrong with coming to Chinnor? My second point is your definition of "access". This isn't being used in the sense of transport, but that is an abiding problem with all the local playing fields - the sheer difficulty in getting to them by bicycle. In Chinnor I feel like a prisoner, forced to use my car for everything, because the bicycle connectivity is so awful, so dangerous, especially if I want to involve my 8-year old daughter. I could not even consider taking her on a shared bike ride to Thame, for example, despite the flat terrain and half the route being available on the safe Phoenix Trail from Towersey. Taking the B4009 out of Chinnor is taking your life in your hands, and there are no viable bridleway routes to Towersey cross-country that are suitable for bikes. I would have liked to have seen these Playing Pitch and Leisure Facility Strategies linked to Highways Policy. Ditto, I can't see any mention that Thame, Chinnor and Henley are so close to the SODC boundary with Bucks. Given that Thame, Haddenham, Chinnor and Princes Risborough form a relatively close rectangle, SODC really should have a collaborative relationship with Buckinghamshire to share facilities between the four settlements!</p>	
<p>ANON-21AH-44XR-X</p>	<p>REDACTED, I can speak only for what we are aware of in the immediate vicinity of our club. The situation at Watlington is dire. There is a single field, which is also used by the public as a Recreation Ground, but which is trying to cater for multiple interests in far too small an area than this growing community needs. The field is shared with Watlington Cricket Club and is only large enough at a squeeze to accommodate (without overlap): 1 cricket pitch, 1 main men's pitch, 1 x 5v5 pitch, 1 x 7v7 pitch and 1 x 9v9 pitch. Football cannot be played when cricket is on, and visa versa, making management of the area very restrictive and a huge juggling act, which drains the time and energy of volunteers, not to mention increasing the costs of accommodating pitches by constantly having to move them when the seasons change. The football club has 15 registered league teams and 2 further training groups. There are around 250 members, and this</p>	<p>Recommendation F45 looks to enhance the quality of pitches at the sports grounds.</p> <p>The provide recommendations enable additional pitches to come forward between Watlington, Thame and Chinnor.</p> <p>Recommendations have been amended to support Watlington Parish Council's ambitions for provision of additional pitches, providing that on the ground demand is demonstrated.</p>

	<p>number is growing each year. By next season, it will have 4 men's teams and 2 youth teams which all require use of a full-size pitch. Veterans teams, which play on Wednesday nights, have to do 20-mile round trips to Thame to access the nearest floodlit pitch, despite there being huge interest in playing locally. But the facilities are lacking.</p>	
ANON-21AH-44XR-X (response continued)	<p>The complete lack of space for football was highlighted many years ago, and the site was noted on a Sport England report as being one of the most over-used in the county. This was the situation even before all the new housing earmarked for Watlington was built. New residents are arriving, but no new land has been made available for sport, not even from the adjacent development sites adjoining the field. The site is bursting to capacity and it would appear from all the development plans that we've seen, that NO NEW LAND FOR SPORT IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE ?! Given what the club stands for, which is to provide local people with an opportunity to engage in healthy outdoor activity, and to do its bit in combating the national obesity crisis by making football accessible to all, it is hard to comprehend that no support has been forthcoming in urgently addressing the lack of space available to be able to support its activities - a deficit that was highlighted previously but seems to need to be highlighted again. Training has also been an issue due to the lack of an accessible, designated astro-turf pitch for football. Grass training pitches cannot sustain anything close to the volume of sessions that 3G or 4G pitches can.</p>	As above.
ANON-21AH-44XR-X (response continued)	<p>The other big issue experienced is the lack of car parking for our activities, causing significant local issues every time a number of junior home games are fixtured at home on a given Saturday or Sunday morning. The existing car park is UNSURFACED and UNLINED, and has no more than 50 proper spaces, but a busy day can see up to 100 vehicles arrive. Existing provision is completely inadequate, and this also means that no other activities can take place at the site at the same time, and the various activities there (including use of the skate bowl, MUGA, or play park) have to be coordinated in advance at busy times. The</p>	As above.

	access to the car park is by a single track road with no passing places, creating traffic chaos and a risk of accidents at the B4009 junction on a regular basis. All the work in attempting to manage this is falling to volunteers who are there to run sport rather than try to manage a community car park each week. Please help to highlight the lack of provision with this infrastructure which is hindering local organisations' ability to operate and become sustainable.	
ANON-21AH-4491-X	In Thame we seem to have quite good private and public facilities, although I think some private clubs seem to be struggling financially.	These comments have been noted.

#### LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY (EAST SUB-AREA)

<b>Response ID</b>	<b>Response / Summary</b>	<b>Officer and Consultant Response</b>
ANON-21AH-449K-R	There is no Cycling or Running provision.  There should be some Cycling and Running provision.	England Athletics has confirmed that a 40-minute drive time is realistic for 400m synthetic surfaced track with full field events provision. When considering neighbouring provision, there are no geographical gaps in athletics provision in South Oxfordshire.
ANON-21AH-441U-T	8 There have been several failed attempts to find a course for a Parkrun in Thame. If this could be included in future plans for the town it could attract an estimated 150 runners every week.	Park Run was not assessed as part of the Leisure Facilities Assessment.
ANON-21AH-4411-P	This sounds like the well-meaning output from many meetings that will never amount to anything. When I moved to Thame in 1990 talk of the new swimming pool was already old news and took another 13 years before the facility opened. So, although this all sounds very fine, I would be more enthusiastic if you would get around to fixing the roads and pavements than filling my inbox with yet more hot air.	These comments have been noted.

ANON-21AH-441W-V	<p>All: Chinnor desperately needs a safe cycleway to Thame, via a spur off the Phoenix Trail.</p> <p>All: If Thame's tennis courts need improving, why do people not come to Chinnor? Perhaps the two clubs could have shared membership schemes? The two settlements are so close to each other, many people living in Thame could drive to Chinnor just as quickly as they do to the TLC or other facilities on the other side of the town.</p> <p>8: why a new dance studio for Thame, when Princes Risborough leisure centre is so under-used (surely SODC and Bucks can have a reciprocal arrangement, as we are so close to the border?), and there are so many suitable halls like the Village Hall and the Reading Room in Chinnor?</p> <p>4: if the swimming pool is so uncomfortably crowded at TLC, why are people not being encouraged to use the underused but lovely one at Princes Risborough? Thame and Chinnor are so close to the Bucks border and Haddenham and Princes Risborough, you ought to have a collaborative relationship with Buckinghamshire to pool facilities (forgive the pun), especially as Haddenham and Princes Risborough are planned to expand rapidly over the next 15-20 years and will have new facilities associated with that. If SODC and Bucks regarded this little patch of settlements as a "region", your mutual strategies could be quite different!</p> <p>Or ditto, there is a lovely children's pool at St Andrew's Primary School, terminally under-used because it can only be staffed by volunteers, although there are pay-for</p>	These comments have been noted.
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	<p>classes. Why not effectively expand capacity at Thame by having an extension programme at St Andrew's, so it is funded to be open more often?</p>	
ANON-21AH-44ZS-1	<p>The current situation with Thame Leisure Centre and Lord Williams School must be reviewed as it has been in existence for over 50 years. The fact that the school has priority use during the daytime Monday to Friday means that local use is subjected to cancellation at short notice. Additionally the costs of using this facility are too high for a Council owned facility. Comparison with other local council Leisure centres around the UK would demonstrate this. It restricts people's ability to access wellness and sports activities. The Council should take operation back into its own management</p>	<p>The Joint Use Agreements for all leisure sites are currently under review. However, as these are currently in place and covered by the means of the agreement it is difficult to obtain space for the areas which the school have already paid for. Whilst this can be frustrating the school also require the space as part of educational need as well a physical activity. The council continues to work with the school and OCC on the matters to address these points going forward.</p> <p>The Leisure Facilities Assessment suggest working with the operators of all sports halls to reduce the hire costs.</p>
ANON-21AH-44ZC-H	<p>The conclusions of the report on swimming do not seem correct. In Thame, the leisure centre pool is extremely full to the extent that the local swimming club has to use facilities in Aylesbury. Feedback from residents is that the pool is uncomfortably crowded and the number of public swimming sessions is extremely limited. I am therefore very surprised at the conclusion in the paper that capacity is adequate for the entire period until 2041. This should be revisited to understand current unmet demand along with the planned housing &amp; population growth to 2041.</p> <p>Running and cycling are also underserved by the report, as there are almost no safe routes around Thame where runners have created their own unofficial track around Thame, there is clearly a demand for a circular running route that keeps runners away from traffic.</p>	<p>The FPM for pools and halls is the most comprehensive modelling tool available, the consultant is confident that the results are correct.</p> <p>Thame Runners were consulted and reported that the club does not have a base – it meets in a car park in Thame and run around local footpaths, pavements and bridleways.</p> <p>Unfortunately, provision of cycle paths is not within the scope of the work.</p>



	Perhaps cycle paths are not in scope of a leisure strategy, but it's not really clear what kind of facilities are needed to support cycling sports, for example BMX in Thame near the skatepark, and a long-distance cycle training route segregated from traffic.	
ANON-21AH-44GQ-C	Pricing for TLC from GLL is disproportionately higher than other pools used making it difficult to sustain a grass roots swimming club.	Comments have been reviewed by the Leisure Facilities Team.
ANON-21AH-44GQ-C	<p>As stated in the report Thame Leisure Centre swimming pool is uncomfortably busy at peak times however there is no recommendation proposed to solve this issue.</p> <p>Thame Swimming Club are running a considerably reduced schedule due to the lack of available time at TLC and this is meaning that our swimmers are not pushed to their full potential and we are having to source other facilities out of the local area.</p> <p>We would like them to expand their opening hours at weekends.</p>	Comments have been reviewed by the Leisure Facilities Team.
ANON-21AH-44HM-9	<p>2. Mill Lane Badminton Club, Chinnor had a youth section of 30 secondary school children some progressed to National level. The youth Badminton section closed when the Thame School took the session for their own use. So wish you well in negotiations.</p> <p>The Badminton affiliated club is over 40 year old and has a waiting list and keeps a low profile because with only one Village Hall court cannot fulfill the demand at any age or ability.</p> <p>West Sub Area: The Europa School Sports Hall set up is for the best Badminton dedicated prospects. That is County level players. Does not support base</p>	<p>Comments noted regarding Mill Lane Badminton Club.</p> <p>Comments noted regarding Europa School.</p> <p>The consultants were unaware that Chinnor previously had a skatepark which has been amended in the strategy.</p> <p>The study focuses on indoor table tennis provision rather than outdoor table tennis due to the limited club use.</p>

	<p>level. South Oxfordshire lacks base level support and facilities in all areas for all ages and abilities.</p> <p>There is little reflection of how young people can access sports and leisure facilities unless driven long distances by vehicles.</p> <p>There is no incorporation of minimising climate change in the overall strategy.</p> <p>Leisure Facility Key Issues (Skateparks) - Main document: Contrary to the view that all large villages have a Skatepark, Chinnor, the largest village. It was removed over 4 year ago. Chinnor Parish Council promises a replacement but have not provided a date or new location.</p> <p>7. The present 2 no. outdoor table tennis tables, in Whites Field, are placed under large trees and there surrounding surface is grass. This the facility hazardous and not useable.</p>	
ANON-21AH-4491-X	In Thame we seem to have quite good private and public facilities, although I think some private clubs seem to be struggling financially.	These comments have been noted.

## West Sub-Area

The West Sub-Area includes the following parishes:

South Stoke, Moulsoford, Goring (Northern part of parish), Cholsey, Aston Tirrold, Aston Upthorpe, South Moreton, North Moreton, East Hagbourne, West Hagbourne, Didcot, Long Wittenham, Little Wittenham, Brightwell cum Sotwell, Wallingford, Crowmarsh Gifford, Ipsden, Nuffield, Benson, Ewelme Brightwell Baldwin, Berrick Salome, Newington, Chalgrove, Drayton St Leonard, Warborough, Dorchester, Sandford on Thames, Toot Baldon, Marsh Baldon, Berinsfield, Clifton Hampden, Culham and Nuneham Courtenay.

The main key recommendations identified for the West Sub-Area formed part of the consultation for the PPS and all recommendations were provided for the LFAS, allowing respondent to comment on each of the recommendations if they wished.

The responses or summary of comments received are detailed below next to an officer response and/or the consultant response.

### PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY (WEST SUB-AREA)

Response ID	Response / Summary	Officer and Consultant Response
ANON-21AH-441Q-P	Since it is highly likely that the Chalgrove Airfield development will not be going ahead (recent Consultation to remove it from the Local Plan), more effort is needed to enhance the facilities on Chalgrove Recreation Ground. None of the grass Pitches are adequate, they are either uneven or water-logged.	The PPS recommends that enhancements are made to pitches at Chalgrove Recreation Ground.
ANON-21AH-4412-Q	<p>Recommendation 15.1-15.4</p> <p>The strategy document is poor in relation to the existing and poor-quality pitch facilities at Chalgrove.</p> <p>There are 5 pitches in all. We have an FA Pitch Power Assessment report in relation to them (it is attached). All pitches are deemed basic and poor.</p> <p>They need levelling before maintenance can be properly undertaken. These pitches are already in regular use and it is odd they have been ignored. We have a grant of approx. £90k to improve surface covering but we need about £40k to fill in the undulations and holes to make them credible pitches. See email from Elite to confirm (see below).</p> <p>Chalgrove has already resurfaced its MUGA and tennis court. That too is ignored. Without these pitches being improved we struggle to retain players and coaches in our club.</p> <p>Bigger centres and better facilities undermines local grassroots clubs and the ability to grow and compete.</p>	<p>The PPS data was based on responses and information gathered at the time of writing the report and it is inevitable that data available will change over time.</p> <p>The PPS has adjusted recommendations to recognise the poor quality of some of the pitches, and therefore to improve the quality.</p> <p>The strategies have updated the information on Chalgrove MUGA to reflect the resurfacing in October 2023.</p>

	Please see attachment 11 available in the appendix.	
ANON-21AH-44A8-D	Many local rugby/football pitches have been unplayable for months due to flooding. Much of this is caused by new housing developments surrounding the pitches which are draining straight on the land. Examples at Wallingford RFU and Chinnor RFU (Thame). Developers must put in proper drainage and compensate clubs by also installing drainage on their pitches. Hundreds of children have been affected by this and not able to play.	The PPS recommends enhancing the capacity of rugby pitches by improving quality through improved drainage both at Chinnor and Wallingford.
ANON-21AH-441N-K ANON-21AH-4417-V ANON-21AH-44ZK-S ANON-21AH-447G-J	Cholsey football pitches are of poor quality in the wetter, winter months and we have suffered from extensive surface flooding across most of Cholsey recreation.  Please see attachment 12 available in the appendix.  Please give greater consideration to Cholsey Bluebirds recreation ground, which are in need of better lighting, drainage and levelling,	Cholsey recreation Ground, Cholsey United and Cholsey Bluebirds are all assessed in the football tables. The PPS recommends to enhance capacity by improving the quality and maintained of Cholsey Bluebirds FC (Cholsey Recreation Ground)  The Cholsey pitches were rated as "standard" when visited and audited using the PPS guidance non-technical audit form. Recommendations have been updated in relation to the club's desire to improve the changing facilities.
ANON-21AH-44GZ-N	Cholsey needs more playing fields. I don't know about other areas.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44ZG-N	We are Hagbourne United, we play at east Hagbourne recreation ground on great mead OX119BN. We have 1 11v11 pitch. This year it has been waterlogged since December so I have had to find an alternative ground to use. Drainage is very poor because there is no drainage ditches. We could easily allow other groups to use our facility if this was improved.	Hagbourne Recreation Ground is listed as standard quality and has secure community use.  The PPS district wide recommendations states to prioritise pitch quality improvements at secure community use grounds over unsecure community use grounds. Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus on improving secure use pitches rated as "poor" and "standard", where feasible.

ANON-21AH-44A8-D	The requirement for football pitches in the West is 160 which is a huge demand. Parish councils must be flexible and accommodating to offer up their pitches and also allow the mowing of grass more frequently to allow longer playing periods.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44HT-G	It is not clear to me what is being recommended e.g. for (1) Northfield what does "Football (grass): 1 x 11v11, 3 x 9v9, 1x 7v7, 1x 5v5" mean?  Also how do I know that the existence of a cricket pitch with clubhouse in my village, Ipsden, has been considered? I would have thought that an appendix to the Strategy listing all existing facilities would have been provided.	The Northfield recommendation from the SE calculator is to provide 1 adult (11v11) grass pitch and 5 junior grass pitches made up of 3 youth U11/U12 (9v9) pitches, 1 mini soccer U9/U10 (7v7) pitch and 1 mini soccer U7/U8 (5v5) pitch.  Ipsden Cricket Ground was included in the cricket assessments.
ANON-21AH-44X1-W	We support the provision of more 3G pitches in the Didcot area, preferably in centralised locations. Our single grass football pitch has been unplayable for much of the winter due to flooding from surrounding fields.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44ZB-G	What is a 3G pitch?	A 3G pitch is a third-generation artificial grass pitch usually dressed with rubber crumb. The surface is commonly used for football but can also be used for rugby where sufficiently sprung to reduce / absorb impact.
ANON-21AH-4415-T ANON-21AH-44ZY-7 ANON-21AH-44ZF-M ANON-21AH-44XW-3 ANON-21AH-44TX-Z	The hockey pitch at Wallingford needs upgrading, new pitches should be suitable for hockey.  The hockey is oversubscribed and an additional pitch astro is needed.  There is a need for a 3G pitch in or close to Wallingford	The council is aware that Wallingford Sports Trust are working towards improving the all-weather pitch for hockey at Wallingford Sports Park.  The PPS recommends to; protect the sand-based surface at Wallingford Sports Park for use by Wallingford HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.  The strategy also recommends providing a 3G pitch at Wallingford sports park. Which will help address football need and free up capacity on the hockey pitch.
ANON-21AH-44ZY-7	Wallingford hockey club is a well established and successful club in the town. It would	There is a list of options presented for the Sports Park

	seem to make sense to build in this legacy to continue to expand the club, rather than start afresh in an alternative location.	site with regard to supporting hockey.
ANON-21AH-44ZV-4	Unavailability of hockey playing pitched at state schools across South area is concerning and not addressed in the assessment.	Noted, aspiration or a desire is not the same as having demonstrable demand. If a school came forward with a proposal for a new hockey surface any such proposal it would be judged against the recommendations in the PPS and planning policies. The main question would be where the funding would come from to deliver AGPs on such sites and whether there would be sufficient demand to sustain an AGP in the long-term (without peak time hire, it is unlikely that the surface replacement could be paid for when the carpet reaches the end of its life and it is questionable whether), in many cases, the surface could be adequately maintained if not hired out regularly for community / club use.
ANON-21AH-44Z2-Z	5 - it would be great is an all weather (astro) pitch could be sited at Aureus School - increase sport offer at the school and provide potential income stream to hire out to local sports clubs.	See above comment.  The PPS has been through the process of identifying the quantity needed. Where there is demand, this has been identified.
ANON-21AH-44ZE-K	<p>Recommendation 10. I support the recommendations in the strategy to gain the secure use of the following unsecure community use football pitch site at Europa school and also enhance the existing provision there.</p> <p>Specific to recommendation 10. There is no reference to a need for an all weather hockey pitch which are needed at Europa school (a state school) in Culham. These types of facility could be paid for by the planned strategic housing development allocation next to the school serving both the existing secondary school and the new residents in the immediate facility Noting that hockey is seen more as a girls sport versus football and cricketk traditionally a boys sport, it is important to ensure girls' sports</p>	As stated above (response to ANON-21AH-44ZV-4).



	facilities are included in on site playing pitch provision for the Culham site from an equalities perspective.	
ANON-21AH-44Z9-7	Great to see provision made for new sports pitches locally: would particularly encourage astroturf pitches for football and hockey around Culham/ the Europa School, and for some public tennis courts. It can be hard for locals and clubs to secure playing space, particularly lit pitches during the Winter months (Europa Titans currently rent Tilsley Park astro during the Winter). More local facilities would really encourage more locals to continue playing throughout the year, and reduce traffic congestion associated with them needing to travel to do so.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44ZW-5	There is a lack of rugby pitches within Didcot. There are only 2 pitches to serve the entire town (one of which is technically in Vale of White Horse). Additional pitch space needs to be found	The PPS recommends enhancing pitches at Didcot RFC to improve capacity, along with enabling the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate both current overplay and future demand.
ANON-21AH-44TX-Z	West sub - area has two rugby clubs why is Didcot not counted? surely the location of the playing pitch is not the difference. Didcot RFC could easily move back to Edmonds Park despite it being a horrid playing pitch with awful changing rooms and disgusting health. Why is no provision for DRFC within SODC being considered within west area. Didcot is confusingly mentioned as an extra area. The town is vastly bigger than Wallingford in terms of population yet the rugby facilities are poor. Protection is not enough. Gorth of the town means facilities should grow. More pitches are needed, to capture children. there is an absolutely massive issue in rugby at present relating to safety. This report does not even mention it. The strategy should be doing everything it can to ensure player welfare and safety. this is a huge blind spot of the report. Rugby League is played in Vale of White Horse at the Oxford Rugby Club in North Hinksey. you appear misinformed.	Didcot is referenced in the two District strategies and therefore a summary for the town is provided for completeness in both the South and Vale PPS. There are clear recommendations for rugby in Didcot. It goes as far as it can do without identifying a site or sites for a solution, which is the key role for Stage E (delivery). The RFU has agreed with the recommendations for rugby in both PPSs for South and Vale. The district boundary goes right through Boundary Park. The club is referenced in the Vale Strategy, principally, and then again in the summarised Didcot Provide recommendations to ensure that there is coverage in the South PPS.
ANON-21AH-44H7-K	Item 12.9 Rugby Union. Priorities. First bullet point comment infers that overplay will be resolved by reducing the number of pitches. Replace 'reduce' with increase'	The consultant has confirmed that the wording is correct. Reducing overplay on a pitch by improving quality means that less play will need to be accommodated on new additional pitches, and therefore fewer new additional



		pitches should need to be provided.
ANON-21AH-4413-R	This is a very unfriendly consultation. I want to refer to the Cholsey Cricket Club facilities. The district council provides no waste collection to this sports facility, which is widely used by local people. The cricket club land is owned by Homes England, which is an absentee landlord and does nothing to support the club's development as part of the CCDT, which should have ownership transferred. The council should do more to advise the club on how to develop young cricketers.	The scope of PPS does not address all aspects of sport, ie advise on how to develop young cricketers. This is provided locally by the Oxfordshire Cricket Board and not directly in scope of this PPS. Support regarding land ownership can be sought from local organisations such as Oxfordshire Cricket Board but not directly addressed by the PPS other than ensuring sites have appropriate security of tenure.
ANON-21AH-449X-5	Enhancement of cricket facilities in Marsh Baldon	The assessment report identifies provision on site is poor and in need of improvement.  Marsh Baldon pavilion improvement recommendations have been added to the assessment report and the strategy documents.
ANON-21AH-44ZR-Z	There are a lot of existing pitches, it would be nice to mix things up a bit for non-rugby/football/cricket sports.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44AX-D	The proposed strategy is all excellent.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44TY-1	Please see attachment 13 available in the appendix.	The calculator projections are a starting point based on likely demand which would arise from the proposed development.  Stage E (delivery) it likely best to determine if there is any headroom capacity on existing pitches and to find out more answers working closely with sport England and the relevant NGBs.
ANON-21AH-44TA-9	Please see attachment 14 available in the appendix.	The main document summarises recommendations and refers readers to the appendices where the detailed recommendations are all set out.

		<p>The table included in the response suggest zero carrying capacity, however to follow the PPS guidance this cannot be the case as 1 is the lowest rating for a poor quality pitch.</p> <p>The recommendation has been amended to reflect the pitches being marked as poor and improvements required along with the club's desire to improve the changing facilities.</p>
ANON-21AH-44HN-A	<p>- Appleford Parish Council supports the provision of new sports pitches locally e.g. Playing pitch proposals in Culham (10), noting the importance of maintaining and improving those already in place, e.g. at Europa School, Culham Recreation Ground, and Appleford Recreation Ground (Vale)</p> <p>- APC supports more all-season, well-lit, multi-use football, hockey and astro-turf pitches in and around Culham to support local communities, and businesses. Accessibility on foot and public transport will be advantageous to existing communities, and future developments</p> <p>- APC would like to understand funding opportunities to enable floodlights at Appleford Recreation Ground to offer greater use of this facility, noting the wet-weather damage that may occur if over-used during the Winter months</p> <p>- APC villagers train with Europa Titans football teams train at the Europa School grass football pitches during the Spring, and Summer, but currently travel to Oxford and Abingdon during the Winter months to rent all-purpose astro-turf pitches. There is local demand for more all-weather, lit playing pitches.</p> <p>- Indeed, Appleford falls just outside the South Western boundary of the South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation, but hopes to support wider benefits for those in the village, local schools, employment sites and communities, perhaps through proposals being made hand-in-hand by the 'Vale Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation'.</p>	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44Z9-7	Playing pitches are in high demand, particularly those that are all-season (astro	The PPS recommends that new football pitches are

	for 5-aside, full size football and hockey), well-lit and accessible, e.g. close to Culham/ Appleford train stations, are on bus routes and have safe cycle paths. Tennis courts in Culham and/ or Appleford would also be great.	provided at Culham, the LFAS also recommends new tennis/ netball courts.
ANON-21AH-44TR-T	<p>- ESUK supports the provision of new sports pitches locally e.g. Playing pitch proposals in Culham (10)</p> <p>- ESUK would generally be supportive of more all-season, well-lit, multi-use football, hockey and astro-turf pitches in and around Culham. Ideally these would be easily accessible on foot to ESUK students, and existing communities, plus potential future new developments, including schools. ESUK note the importance of considering ongoing maintenance costs required to maintain existing and new pitches, particularly to optimise all-season use of such facilities.</p> <p>- Indeed, whilst Europa Titans football teams train on-site using ESUK grass football pitches during the Spring/ Summer (the drier, brighter months), the Europa Titans football teams currently rent all-weather, lit, astro pitches during the Winter months, in Oxford and Abingdon. This demonstrates local demand for more all-weather playing pitches in Culham.</p> <p>- It is noted that ESUK's position in Culham is at the South Western boundary of the South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation: there would likely be benefits for those at school, plus those living and working in the Culham area, if new local playing pitches within Culham (10) are proposed hand-in-hand with those being considered by the Vale Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation.</p>	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	<p>It would appear that SODC and Sport England are advocating a policy whereby new housing in green belt can be justified by providing plastic pitches without any changing facilities or reference to ongoing cost to tax payers.</p> <p>SODC has a climate emergency policy, yet the strategy suggests removing the carbon sinks of natural grass to lay artificial fossil fuel based plastic pitches filled with rubber crumbs.</p> <p>The annual maintenance cost of a 3G pitch including carpet replacement sinking fund is in the region of £40,000, as attached. This excludes the administration cost to run the facility. Local user charges for 3G pitches</p>	<p>The PPS does not advocate provision of any pitch, artificial or grass, without appropriate and high quality changing and other ancillary facilities which would be needed for the pitch to operate.</p> <p>Costs and viability are an important factor when considering provision of any pitch. Stage E (delivery) will consider these issues carefully as plans come forward for additional grass and artificial pitches.</p>

	<p>are more than double the cost of grass pitches and are not viable to local clubs without subsidy.</p> <p>Football is a seasonal game with demand greatest outside of work of school time, so although Sport England models a 3G pitch as sustaining a potential 80 hours per week whereas reality based on lifestyle fee hours is less than half. Community sport has to be affordable to all.</p>	
ANON-21AH-447Q-V	<p>Recommendation 5</p> <p>The following applies to Boundary Park sports facilities:</p> <p>Enhance RUGBY capacity at Boundary Park Sports Association from 2 x adult pitches to 3 x pitches by provision of FOOTBALL facilities in Valley Park</p> <p>Enhance existing access to CRICKET by inclusion of artificial practice wicket at edge of main square or elsewhere to allow informal matches to take place at the same time as the two existing pitches.</p> <p>Please see attachment 15 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>The recommendations for Didcot identify the pitches which are already commitments and cannot be changed. It then goes on to identify the likely projected quantum of pitches by sport and / or capacity required in the town. It is also clear to suggest that a consolidated plan for provision must be developed which benefits all sports.</p> <p>This is a clear priority now and in the future for Stage E, for the steering group to work closely with Didcot clubs and the Sports Association to find the best solutions for sport in the town moving forward.</p>
ANON-21AH-44Z6-4	<p>Didcot CC play at Boundary Park, a facility superbly managed by BPSA, on behalf of the District Councils. The two cricket squares hosted in excess of 150 cricket fixtures between May and September. Didcot having 5 senior league sides, 6 junior age groups (some keen to run two sides in an age group) and currently 4 women's and girls sides. Boundary Park is the leading ground for Oxfordshire representative sides, with 31 days of cricket scheduled there in 2025. In reference to cricket, the strategy suggests that clubs could make more use of school pitches. There are NO state school cricket pitches that we are aware of in Didcot/Wallingford area. The State schools have an open offer for free use of Boundary Park if they wish to stage fixtures. In recent years they have not taken us up on that and cricket has virtually disappeared from secondary school curriculum. Boundary Park has hosted, on behalf of Oxfordshire Cricket Board, festival days for younger players. Smaller village clubs are gradually declining,</p>	<p>The consultant has informed us that these comments were considered when developing the strategy, particularly via a 1-2-1 consultation with Didcot CC. The recommendations of the strategy reflect these discussions.</p> <p>Some of the points raised should form part of the Stage E process in delivery of the strategy, particularly regarding maximising usage of existing underutilised sites, as recommended in the draft documents.</p>

	<p>in large due to the lack of volunteers to maintain village cricket grounds. If the council could coordinate a 'pitch maintenance' organisation to care for cricket squares on village recreation grounds then they would become far more accessible for expanding clubs and help to re-establish thriving village cricket clubs. Didcot CC is very frustrated that the Harwell Campus site has an excellent cricket facility, that is woefully underutilised, but the Campus Management will not release it to the club for community use. This is despite claims in planning applications that they were keen to make their facilities available to the local community.</p>	
<p>ANON-21AH-44Z6-4 (response continued)</p>	<p>The report refers to either grass or artificial pitches and ignores the rapid development of hybrid cricket pitches (grass pitches with plastic meshing). Well maintained Hybrid pitches will dramatically reduce wear and allow usage of a strip to quadruple. These are very much the future for busy cricket facilities and IT IS IMPORTANT that the council acknowledges them in its strategy for coming decades. Hybrid pitches are far more feasible for clubs than artificial surfaces, which cannot be used in competitive adult cricket. Artificial pitches in public parks would be a great boost for ad hoc, casual, community use. The problem is finding a suitable place to accommodate them. BPSA has been trying to place one on Boundary Park, but cannot identify an area because football demands flexible pitch sizes and regularly changes the layout of pitches in the Park. Street cricket (casual, informal games) has growing demand on Great Western Park from our rapidly growing community with South Asian heritage. A final plea. If you are going to provide new cricket facilities in the district, please engage with local clubs about the design and layout. New grounds always ignore the need for machinery storage and the fact that pavilion usage is completely different for cricket compared to football or rugby (only one side on the pitch being the key difference).</p>	<p>As noted in other comments at the time of writing, the ECB do not formerly support the use of hybrid pitches. There are several pilots ongoing and this situation will change as more research is undertaken.</p> <p>The documents have been written with this in mind and that additional capacity can be delivered in many ways and so once hybrid pitches are endorsed by the ECB this can be a viable option. This can all be addressed and managed in Stage E.</p>
<p>ANON-21AH-44TX-Z</p>	<p>I don't believe all football pitches should be mothballed. there is a football pitch at North Stoke (Crowmarsh Gifford) that seems to have been given up. it is no real loss given how awkward a site to access it is. no objection to loss of such very poor or substandard pitches should be raised. There</p>	<p>The consultant confirms that there are no recommendations within the PPS that suggests all pitches should be mothballed.</p>

	<p>is at least one football pitch next to the park homes site at Sandford. No steps to make this a better pitch have been taken. it could offer excellent facilities. that would be a good one to maintain. i think you have massively underplayed the ability for training facilities- i.e. not necessarily full sized pitches- to assist in providing good facilities for both training and the use of children. in Wallingford (where space is plainly at a premium) even a half pitch would make a big difference to the quality of facilities and year-round useability, and thereby consistency leading to greater participation through predictability. You seem to fail to see the world beyond the boundary of the district. You mention the importance of the football 3G pitch at Horspath. On the other side of the road in Oxford City (metres away) lies a 3g facility run by OUFC. For north area/west area why are you not considering providing pitches for Littlemore RFC, who are space limited in Oxford City? The new houses south of Oxford are to meet Oxford's housing needs. Surely then the sports pitches should also meet those needs too. The policy is not joined up, as it should be, to planning policies. Co-operation should have bene involved in this. Instead a silo mentality seems to pervade. People don't stick to clubs within district boundaries. There is no account within this report for behaviour patterns.</p>	<p>The PPS covers the LA area. We have done what we can within the scope of the work to explore cross-boundary issues but a PPS for SODC cannot make recommendations for another district where the LA has no control. Should cross-boundary issues such as this need to be a focus for a strategy, a city-region or strategic work should be undertaken with Oxford city at its heart.</p>
ANON-21AH-441B-7	Please see comments on Grenoble Road	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44ZE-K ANON-21AH-44Z9-7	Support to improve and enhance local leisure facilities, including the Europa School Hall.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44Z6-4	<p>Indoor cricket is a growing sport and a good facility would allow cricket to be played all year round.</p> <p>Specialist sports facilities that allow indoor cricket matches to be played are slowly expanding in UK. If the council received an application for this type it would be a great boost for cricket participation.</p> <p>There is also a shortage of indoor practice facilities. Please can councils add cricket nets to the specifications for all sports hall (4 badminton court size).</p>	<p>The Oxfordshire Cricket Board Facility Strategy has assessed indoor cricket and the key data was shared for the LFAS.</p> <p>This identified enough cricket net provision but the biggest issues were access and quality. As they are located in sports halls, indoor cricket demand (which is seasonal in winter only) competes with other all year-round users. Therefore, the clubs don't secure the access they would like. Also, the quality of indoor provision is not ideal with</p>



		many centres with poor lighting and some with flooring issues, this summary is included in the LFAS.
ANON-21AH-44GC-X	There seems to be no mention of improving the Riverside Park, which is under consideration. Crowmarsh has a playground nearby that is widely used by people from a wider area. There is also a hard court used for tennis and netball and adult gym equipment.	Comments have been reviewed by the team working on the Green Infrastructure Strategy and Open Space Study.  The tennis courts at Crowmarsh have been assessed as part of the strategy.
ANON-21AH-44HT-G	In the recommendations do at least give actions for each site that has been considered.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-449K-R	Didcot should be considered as a whole, including the rest of it to the West currently in VoWH. A boundary review is urgently required to ensure sensible provision of facilities.	Didcot has been considered in both the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse strategies.
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	The strategy makes no comment about the lack of, or inappropriateness of existing facilities such as changing rooms, toilets and disabled access. Pitches need support facilities.	The sport tables linked to the PPS highlight the quality of the ancillary facilities.  The district wide PPS recommendations state to; enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where necessary to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced.
ANON-21AH-44X7-3	Thank you for this comprehensive report, I can see a lot of care and consideration has gone into it. Please understand that my comments are meant to support an even better proposed strategy for both current and future residents. Overall I'd like more consideration given to the emerging sports – some of which have Olympic status, and a recognition that some of the current big sports, such as football and rugby, may diminish significantly due to the increased understanding of the health downsides – eg concussion and long term brain diseases. And, similarly I'd like explicit consideration to informal spaces for play, and for making space for girls: <a href="http://www.makespaceforgirls.co.uk/our-work-3/councils">www.makespaceforgirls.co.uk/our-work-3/councils</a> Thinking about the 'golden thread' that needs to flow from our corporate plan, it is good to see the climate emergency mentioned, EX2's vision statement to talk about a "positive reaction to the impacts of	Emerging sports - the PPS has been developed to an agreed typology. Further sports outside of this typology can be assessed, but this is not within the scope agreed.  Climate change - The PPS goes as far as it can do in terms of recommendations without being an all-inclusive cross topic strategy beyond what PPS guidance requires.  Recommendations currently provide a policy framework to enable the council/ steering group to build on positive consideration of climate issues.

	<p>climate” and section 8 included as far as these all go. And, for this strategy to be fit for the period to 2041 I feel it needs to much more seriously consider the adaptation measures needed to take into account the impacts of climate change during this time. For EX2 to simply talk about a ‘positive reaction’ is a necessary start, but is insufficient given the gravity of the situation. Whilst I welcome the mention of LCWIP etc when it comes to travel, we need to go beyond sustainable transport solutions. We need to prevent investments becoming ‘stranded assets’ which may be both unusable and uninsurable during this period of time. How helpful would it be for both public and club investments to be made only for them to become white elephants due to overly optimistic views on the physical impact of global heating over the next 17 years?</p>	<p>There is reference to both the positive and negatives, from an environmental perspective, of AGPs. Planning is about balance and mitigating negative impacts. The recommendations refer to this when considering provision of AGPs going forward.</p>
BHLF-21AH-447U-Z	<p>Please see attachment 16 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>The Sports England Playing Pitch calculator is used as a starting point to quantify how many pitches are required to be provided on this development.</p> <p>Further discussion on delivery and requirements will be done during the Stage E element (delivery).</p>
BHLF-21AH-447F-H	<p>Please see attachment 17 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>The delivery of new pitches and leisure facilities are required for the STRAT9 allocation.</p>
BHLF-21AH-447W-2	<p>Please see attachment 18 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>Wallingford Sport Trust had a meeting with STA during the writing of the documents along with further conversations.</p> <p>Bullet 6 – the approach for hockey is to enable additional capacity on the existing pitch by providing a 3G for football initially, however ‘later in the strategy’ has been removed from the exec summary.</p> <p>Recommendations provide guidance on standard, however further discussions</p>

		<p>during Stage E will be able to go into finer details and requirements.</p> <p>There are already recommendations lighting of the rugby pitch(es) and improving drainage. There is already a recommendation supporting additional changing.</p> <p>Pitches are protected through recommendations already.</p> <p>D/M score definitions have been added to the document.</p> <p>There are recommendations for the Sports Park under each relevant sport.</p> <p>STA we were not made aware of any cricket pitches on the site. Site visits did not identify any. However, as it is for school usage it is probably softball cricket which can be played on any part of a playing field and so are not a formal pitch.</p>
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## LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY (WEST SUB-AREA)

Response ID	Response / Summary	Officer and Consultant Response
ANON-21AH-44GC-X	<p>1. Berinsfield pool should be improved especially as Berinsfield is designated for expansion in the local plan and there is a shortage of swimming facilities outside Didcot.</p> <p>2. Bull Croft play facilities need refresh/replacement. Wallingford TC has plans for a new playground, although its exact location is proving controversial. The facilities are not keeping pace with the expansion of Wallingford. Adult outdoor gym equipment should be considered too to complement costly indoor private gym facilities.</p> <p>18. Accessible boat club is getting facilities at Riverside Park later this year, flood waters permitting. Disappointing that Oxford University was not willing to share its large site with Wallingford Rowing Club.</p> <p>19. Community use of Wallingford School must be worked at.</p> <p>22. The old council offices site in Crowmarsh could be an ideal location for this - and to meet the shortfall in leisure uses in the Wallingford area in other ways as part of a mixed redevelopment. Surveys in Crowmarsh Parish have shown significant support for community leisure uses on this site.</p>	<p>The LFAS recommends that the quality of the pool at Abbey Sports Centre (Berinsfield) is improved to meet consumer expectations.</p> <p>Comments on play equipment have been reviewed by the team working on the Green Infrastructure Strategy and Open Space Study.</p> <p>Information about the boathouse has been added to the strategy.</p> <p>The LFAs recommends continuing to support user clubs and work with facility provider to secure Community Use Agreements for existing users.</p>
ANON-21AH-44T6-X	<p>(9) The Dorchester tennis courts are very nice -- I'm surprised to see them rated as below average. The only issue is an occasional problem with the nets because people take them down in order to use the first court for other sports. If the nets were permanent, this problem would go away.</p> <p>(?) Can't find the specific one but facilities for girls' cricket should be a priority. Its difficult to find a place to play for young girls without driving too far.</p>	<p>Information in the reports reflects comments and data received in the initial data gathering stage, when writing the documents.</p> <p>The PPS has a district wide recommendation to support projected growth in the women's and junior games by ensuring that the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities meets their needs (i.e. that they are fit for purpose) where junior and women's teams play and train.</p>
ANON-21AH-44XY-5	<p>The membership of Dorchester Tennis Club represents circa 10% of the village population.</p> <p>The club's age demographic is representative of the local area and the</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>

	<p>majority of players attend not only for exercise but also for their well-being and social engagement.</p> <p>The club manage the courts on behalf of the Parish Council. Membership fees and additional fundraising events cover the maintenance costs but the club will need significant financial help to resurface the courts in the next few years.</p>	
ANON-21AH-44Z9-7	<p>Playing pitches are in high demand, particularly those that are all-season (astro for 5-a-side, full size football and hockey), well-lit and accessible, e.g. close to Culham/ Appleford train stations, are on bus routes and have safe cycle paths. Tennis courts in Culham and/ or Appleford would also be great.</p>	<p>The PPS recommends that new football pitches are provided at Culham, the LFAS also recommends new tennis/ netball courts.</p>
ANON-21AH-44Z9-7	<p>A new swimming pool, and leisure facility close to the Europa School would hugely benefit over 1,000 students, and local population.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>
ANON-21AH-44AU-A	<p>We need more netball facilities that the public can use. Great news with the other sports but many netball clubs are struggling for places to train and relying on using school or sports halls who close for parts of the year!</p>	<p>The LFAS recommends a MUGA (suitable for netball use) at Grenoble Road, Northfield and Culham along with a new 4 court sports hall in Didcot North-East.</p> <p>It also encourages Community Use Agreements for schools so that clubs and the community can use the facilities.</p>
ANON-21AH-44HH-4 ANON-21AH-44AU-A ANON-21AH-44A3-8	<p>There is no mention of netball in the strategy. It is importer we have facilities in Wallingford so people don't have to travel.</p> <p>It is one of the biggest sports for female participation and there are no dedicated courts in Dicot.</p>	<p>Netball is assessed in the LFAS report. There are recommendations to provide both improved quality of MUGAS (for netball use) and provide new MUGAs in the west sub area.</p> <p>There are also recommendations to ensure future sports hall developments are large enough to accommodate netball matches and for netball courts in the West sub area to meet future demand (e.g., new courts at Culham Science Centre).</p>
ANON-21AH-44TD-C	<p>I am referring to recommendations 3.1 and 5.2.</p> <p>The strategy doesn't even consider Korfball.</p>	<p>Korfball was not a sport listed to be covered in the assessments and strategy.</p> <p>Didcot leisure centre has a quality rating of above average.</p>

	<p>Korfball is played both indoors and outdoors on a pitch 20m x 40m</p> <p>Korfball is played all over the country, there are five clubs in the south Oxfordshire area.</p> <p>Korfball is a mixed gender sport, played by both children and adults.</p> <p>All the local clubs are affiliated with the Oxfordshire Korfball Association which is in turn affiliated with the England Korfball Association.</p> <p>The availability of indoor playing facilities around Didcot is pitiful. The current training venue, Didcot Leisure Centre is in dire need of repair and maintenance.</p> <p>What would be ideal is to have a number of large halls with Korfball pitch markings that could be used to build a strong Didcot based Korfball team built on some decent training and playing facilities. This would allow the club to attract more players from the local area, gain more exposure and hold national tournaments for teams from around the country.</p>	
ANON-21AH-441Y-X	<p>Points 7, 8, 19, 20 and 22</p> <p>Points 7 and 19 refer to making additional space available at Wallingford School and Didcot Girls School for additional community use. At present, Wallingford Castle Archers uses those two facilities for 30 hours of peak time (weekday evenings and weekends) every week between October and March. If a suitable alternative venue was provided, then this would instantly free up a large amount of additional facility time at both venues (Wallingford 16.5h, Didcot 13.5h).</p> <p>The potential new facility at Didcot North East could provide both a full time outdoor archery range and an indoor facility on an integrated site, and the club would be likely willing to make the geographic move. This would reduce pressure on space at Wallingford Sports Park (Point 20), and increase capacity both for archery and for other sports at indoor facilities. It would also create more space in Wallingford School Sports Hall, which is a key pressure of space.</p> <p>It is worth reiterating that the design of any new sports hall can easily preclude archery from taking place depending on its layout - the hall at Willowbrook leisure</p>	<p>There is a recommendation within the strategy that states; new sports hall provision at Didcot North East Leisure Facility should be able to provide for all sports at the recreational level and for club development (including archery).</p>



	<p>centre for example cannot be used for club level archery due to an access corridor along the side of the hall.</p> <p>Alternatively, a new indoor space used for archery in Wallingford over the winter could also have utility during the summer season for other activities.</p> <p>We would love to discuss possible solutions with the council.</p>	
ANON-21AH-441B-7	<p>MUGA. Does the Grenoble recommendation include consideration for requiring the developers to include creating a safe maintained space for indoor activities?</p>	<p>The recommendation regarding a sports hall for Grenoble Road is to provide offsite contributions towards Park Sports Centre.</p>
ANON-21AH-449F-K	<p>1. Why invest money in the old Abbey Leisure Centre if you're going to build 2.500 extra houses and surely this could include a new leisure centre instead?</p> <p>The gym is very tired and although run by Better charity, would benefit from some local government funding. It is also often uncomfortably busy and could benefit from expansion or reciting in a new leisure centre.</p>	<p>The wording provided reflect discussions from a number of steering group meetings for the strategies.</p>
ANON-21AH-449E-J	<p>2. The Bullcroft is a Scheduled Monument &amp; totally unsuitable for a skate park.</p> <p>Please remove this from the consultation. It raises unrealistic expectations.</p> <p>You should be aware the District Councillor James Barlow is currently looking into possible locations for a wheeled sports park. He is aware of the unsuitability of the Bullcroft.</p> <p>You should also be aware of Wallingford Town Council's current planning application to provide a new pavilion and children's play area on the Bullcroft. The tennis courts are about to be upgraded in conjunction with the Lawn Tennis Association.</p>	<p>Following feedback from the consultation the recommendation for a skatepark at Bullcroft park has been removed.</p>
ANON-21AH-44AR-7	<p>We operate our gymnastic club out of Wallingford school sharing facilities with football and Badminton this isn't ideal there is no there hall facilities in the Wallingford area with large cupboards for storing equipment. we would love to offer preschool gymnastics during the week but are unable to as the school use the</p>	<p>British Gymnastics has an overarching aim to move clubs from shared spaces into dedicated spaces.</p> <p>The Leisure Facilities Assessment report highlights the need for a new dedicated gymnastics facilities in the West</p>

	<p>building and no other halls in the area have storage space for large equipment.</p> <p>we have a large waiting list and already operate Monday Thursday evenings and Saturdays. Wallingford is expanding rapidly and there is much need sports hall space.</p>	<p>sub area and this had been made clearer in the strategy.</p>
ANON-21AH-44A8-D	<p>Unless you have a car, villagers such as Cholsey would struggle to reach facilities in Didcot and Berinsfield for swimming and main sporting facilities. More provision needs to be given for access.</p>	<p>Sport England research shows access to pools and halls is predominantly by car. We are unable to address car ownership in the LFAS.</p>
ANON-21AH-44AX-D	<p>The proposed strategy is all excellent.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>
ANON-21AH-44ZY-7	<p>Would be great to expand Wallingford Rowing club facilities and therefore users, possibly by relocating. Would agree that Wallingford school facilities could be better used by the public. Current limitations on use appear to be limited by existing planning consents?</p>	<p>The strategy includes recommendations around the boat house for the rowing club.</p>
ANON-21AH-44Z2-Z	<p>I really hope we can add proposed / potential improvements to Wallingford RC to any leisure strategy. We have approached an architect to help with any pre-planning applications and are starting to look at potential grants which would match the criteria of plans to fund any such project. No realistic options of relocating to a new site have materialised over the past 20 years so making the most of the current site seems like a viable option. I have a support document to share but it is still being signed off by our committee! I will share once all is finalised.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>
	<p>You comment on p35 of the document about WRC being in listed cramped facilities and that it is at capacity. I fully agree and say that this is a big issue. I would like to know what is the strategy for addressing this. It is a thriving club but the facilities are in desperate need of upgrading and even longterm a new more modern facility should be considered. With over a 100 junior members this is a flourishing club creaking and limited by its current location. Given we have a nationally acclaimed excellent rowing stretch of river to row on it would be amazing to have a matching boathouse for the club.</p>	<p>Additional work (outside the study scope) is required to help assess options for the club. The LFAS is designed to facilitate this, so had amended the wording to "Explore the boathouse development options for Wallingford Rowing Club".</p>
ANON-21AH-44ZB-G	<p>Over use of the words "are old and outdated" and "The facilities are</p>	<p>These comments have been.</p>

	<p>unattractive to consumers and do not meet basic expectations."</p> <p>2. Wallingford had a Skate Park but it was noisy and unpopular with those living nearby so I guess it was removed?</p>	
ANON-21AH-44ZE-K ANON-21AH-44Z9-7	Support to improve and enhance local leisure facilities, including the Europa School Hall.	These comments have been.
ANON-21AH-44ZX-6	<p>I'm responding to this survey to promote consideration of mountain biking leisure facilities. I have been campaigning Didcot town council for 3 years for a dedicated bike park and have won REDACTED the Garden Town Committee and the Town Council. I'm campaigning for a dedicated bike park that will provide riders of all ages and abilities with a safe space to progress their skills on jumps and trails. My motivation is to get children and the community active, spend time outside and improve mental health. I also have the support of Active Futures charity, who share the same goals. Cycling leisure facilities are woefully unprovided in the entire county with there being no official bike parks or places to ride. You have to travel to different counties such as Hampshire or Gloucestershire for bike parks and this is just unacceptable. For younger riders that makes bike parks inaccessible as they require a car. Other sports such as tennis and football are well catered for with facilities in near enough every town in the County. Cycling is very popular in our area due to the Ridgeway but this only gives you bridleways that improve fitness, nothing to develop rider skills. We only have small pump tracks that are best suited to toddlers on balance bikes. I ask that you consider mountain biking in leisure strategies such as proper pump tracks, trails and jump parks. I am happy to be contacted and have a presentation I can share with further details.</p>	These comments have been.
ANON-21AH-44ZV-4	No discussion on availability of Basketball England compliant basketball facilities. An easily accessible sport that requires more dedicated outdoor facilities for everyone's use, and urgently more dedicated indoor facilities to allow development of competitive play	A site-specific needs assessment for basketball is required to determine level of demand for a dedicated facility. Multi-sport facilities are recommended in the strategy and supported by Sport England and NGBs.

ANON-21AH-4415-T	<p>A new 20m pool in Didcot is not enough to support the population growth in the area. We need a dedicated aquatic centre, which includes a 25m competition pool and diving facilities.</p> <p>Track and field athletics is woefully catered for. The waiting list to join athletics clubs is too long and there are not enough opportunities for people of all ages to participate in track and field sports. A new running track is needed in the area.</p>	<p>A Facilities Planning Model was completed as part of the work for the strategy and the outcomes showed that there was not demand for a new 25m pool.</p> <p>The LFAS highlights that England Athletics has confirmed that a 40-minute drive time is realistic for 400m synthetic surfaced track with full field events provision. When considering neighbouring provision, there are no geographical gaps in athletics provision in South Oxfordshire.</p>
ANON-21AH-44Z2-Z	<p>5 - Didcot Wave - anything to improve this facility would be a bonus. Changing rooms need major overhaul and refurb. Wouldn't it be great to have a 50m in the area? Wallingford perhaps?</p> <p>18 - Wallingford Rowing Club - WRC is exploring potential plans to improve the existing boathouse and make building more inclusive and accessible and also sustainable. Steady and increasing income from memberships (increasing junior division putting added pressure on facilities and equipment) Major hurdle would be limitations around planning and making improvements to the Grade 2 listed building. No feasible site to relocate to has come up.</p>	<p>A Facilities Planning Model was completed as part of the work for the strategy and the outcomes showed that there was not demand for a new pool in Wallingford.</p>
ANON-21AH-441E-A ANON-21AH-44XW-3 ANON-21AH-44GU-G ANON-21AH-44GJ-5 ANON-21AH-44HH-4 ANON-21AH-44GZ-N ANON-21AH-44HS-F	<p>There is a lack of pool facilities in Wallingford, the indoor pools available are too far and the outside pool is only open for a limited time.</p>	<p>A Facilities Planning Model was completed as part of the work for the strategy and the outcomes showed that there was not demand for a new pool in Wallingford.</p> <p>The facility at Riverside Outdoor Pool continues to operate for 100 days a season. The area is susceptible to high levels of flooding outside of the summer season and would come at a risk to continue extending the season outside of the later spring to summer where high river levels could affect operations and public safety. Operations of the site would also come at a significant cost with heating and managing the</p>

		pool when demand for the facility would drop where finances to support are not available to the council.
ANON-21AH-44G5-G	<p>Wallingford is woefully short of leisure facilities. It needs an indoor sports centre at least the size of Gillots in Henley or the Vale leisure centre in Abingdon. It needs an indoor pool (ideally two, one trainer pool and one bigger one), racket sports facilities and a sports hall. One seasonal outdoor pool is nice to have but falls far below the needs of Wallingford and the surrounding communities. The centre at Berinsfield, while useful, is far too small to service this West area. I live in REDACTED and visit Gillots sports centre in Henley and Tilsley park in Abingdon several times per week to fulfill my children's and my leisure/sport needs. Each at least a 30 minute drive away. Should a centre be built in Wallingford, I would use it frequently. Swimming lessons in all our local 'Better' swim schools were oversubscribed, meaning we attend lessons at the Oratory school weekly and have done for several years. If there was a leisure centre in Wallingford, my soon to be young teenage children could travel there by bus with friends. At present, all our facilities are too far away to enable this, which is such a shame. There are very little facilities for teens anywhere but these sports centres can provide so much to our youth, from exercise, skills, health and employment. I would really like to see a sports centre built to cater for the West sub area, which I am certain would reduce the strain on other local centres that are oversubscribed eg Gillots sports centre. Thank you for reading.</p>	A Facilities Planning Model was completed as part of the work for the strategy and the outcomes showed that there was not demand for a sports hall in Wallingford, however the LFAS recommends providing a new activity hall within Wallingford.
ANON-21AH-44G5-G	<p>I am not in favour of Gillots sports centre being increased in capacity. I am local to Wallingford yet use this centre out of need/desperation. I know I am not the only one. Should a centre be built in Wallingford I would use it a lot! I imagine you will find that many of the customers of the oversubscribed centres come from the West area.</p> <p>Wallingford and the surrounding area has seen a huge increase in housing developments, the money given to the community from these developers should</p>	These comments have been noted.

	be used for this exact purpose - NOT rejuvenating Benson parish Hall which was already well fit for purpose!	
ANON-21AH-44TE-D	Abbey Sports Centre in Berinsfield is not fit for purpose. Not only is the pool in need of updating and cleaning the management company (Better) don't seem to realise that people want to use it. Their opening hours for the pool and insistence that one books online means that a huge number of people simply cannot access the facility. Better are extremely difficult to communicate with and the contract for management should be awarded to a company that is willing to engage with those who wish to use the facility. It is now not even possible to contact Abbey by telephone - calls go to a call centre who have no idea about opening hours etc. Quite frankly, they are a disgrace and actively putting 'customers' off using these facilities.	The FPM runs supports a larger pool on this site (however this is not a commitment). The LFAS recommends improvements to Abbey Sports Centre.
ANON-21AH-44GC-X	There seems to be no mention of improving the Riverside Park, which is under consideration. Crowmarsh has a playground nearby that is widely used by people from a wider area. There is also a hard court used for tennis and netball and adult gym equipment.	Comments have been reviewed by the team working on the Green Infrastructure Strategy and Open Space Study.  The tennis courts at Crowmarsh have been assessed as part of the strategy.
ANON-21AH-44T8-Z	<p>The Leisure Strategy focuses on physical activities and in consequence other leisure uses are somewhat lumped into a vague village hall and community hall heading. But since the myriad uses of these halls are not specified, there is no way of checking that they serve public needs adequately. Specifically, there are large numbers of people involved in leisure time music, be it amateur choirs, orchestras, concert bands, brass bands or other groups. Research exists demonstrating that these activities have health benefits for the musicians and their audiences just as much as sports do.</p> <p>However, these music groups lack provision of sufficiently large, and suitably acoustically arranged spaces in which to rehearse and to perform their concerts. For instance it is almost impossible to find a suitable space large enough for local orchestral/choral societies to rehearse and perform in. Could this largely ignored sector of leisure activity please start to be included when considering adequacy of</p>	These comments have been noted.



	village and community hall provision, as well as receive a fair look-in in terms of the public money being spent.	
ANON-21AH-449E-J	<p>Please read the Neighbourhood Plan and be better informed before you start suggesting sites.</p> <p>Wallingford School Sports Hall was created with Lottery funding and is thus obliged to offer a percentage of its time to public use.</p> <p>There are currently two dance studios in Wallingford, one at Centre 70 and the other on the Hithercroft estate.</p>	The dance studio information has been added to the report.
ANON-21AH-44HN-A	<p>again, Appleford is at the boundary of the South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation, thus the Vale Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation recommendations should be considered in parallel?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appleford Parish Council would generally support improvements to local Leisure Facilities - Halls, MUGA, Leisure centres, and swimming pools, both in SODC and the Vale, so long as sufficient resources are allocated to ongoing upkeep and refurbishment</li> <li>- Improved local sports Facilities could enable local populations to continue Playing a wider range of sports throughout the year, and reduce the traffic congestion associated with current travel to access facilities.</li> <li>- Provision of new walking and cycling paths to and from new sports Facilities would improve local active travel, health, well-being and commutes to and from school, Abingdon, Didcot, and neighboring villages.</li> <li>- Train stations at Appleford, Culham, Radley and beyond, would enable people travelling from further afield to reach new Facilities</li> </ul>	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44TR-T	'- ESUK further supports improvements to local leisure facilities, including the Europa School Sports Hall [Leisure Facility Strategy, [11]], as hired out by the Oxfordshire National Badminton Team, amongst others. ESUK encourages public use and rental of their facilities, noting associated upkeep and refurbishment costs. Support to improve the Europa School Sports Hall to complement and	The Facility Planning Model report for pools does not support a new pool at Europa School.

	<p>support additional new facilities would be appreciated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indeed, ESUK would support the development - and ongoing provision - of the proposed new multi-use games area in Culham [(4) New MUGA]. In addition to the public use, ESUK would make use of a new netball and tennis facility if it were affordable, and within walking distance of the school.</li> <li>- Furthermore, a new leisure facility, including a swimming pool in Culham/ close to the Europa School UK would benefit over 1,000 students, their families and the wider local population, particularly given local development plans: something to consider that has not yet been included?</li> <li>- Improved local sports facilities could benefit local populations, enable them to continue playing a wider range of sports throughout the year, and reduce the traffic congestion associated with the current population needing to travel to access facilities at present.</li> <li>- Provision of new cycle paths to and from new sports facilities would improve local active travel and commutes to and from school, Abingdon, Didcot, and neighbouring villages.</li> <li>- Train station at Culham would enable people travelling from further afield to reach any new facilities.</li> <li>- Finally, it may be worth noting that ESUK, located within Culham, is at the boundary of the South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation, thus the Vale Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation recommendations may also be considered in tandem?</li> </ul>	
ANON-21AH-44H7-K	<p>EX7: Multiple references to drive times to facilities.</p> <p>Do the figures quoted take account of increasing number of 20m/h zones that are being introduced . Why are drive times being referred to, more consideration should be given to</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>

	walking distance/time and cycling times and availability of public transport.  EX7: 12.2 Swimming pools and page 54 Didcot North East Leisure Facility: There was supposed to have been a new leisure in Didcot North East with swimming pool and gym etc. Why have these plans not been included.	
ANON-21AH-449K-R ANON-21AH-44XT-Z	There is no athletics or cycling provision., there should be a recommendation for an athletics track.	The catchment area for athletics is a 40 minute drive time and therefore a track is not required in each sub area.
ANON-21AH-44HZ-P	I am writing to express strong support for an athletics track to be built in Didcot, which has not been identified as a need in the assessment. This facility would not only enhance our local sports infrastructure but also provide significant benefits to the community. I have outlined several key reasons why this proposal should be considered. 1. Support for local running clubs: Didcot is home to two active running clubs (Didcot Runners and Harwell Harriers). The nearest athletics tracks often cannot accommodate club training times and the necessity to travel significant distances to these facilities contributes to scheduling conflicts and discourages participation. A local track would alleviate these issues, providing a much-needed venue for regular practice and local competitions. Furthermore, running is a 'green sport', but its benefits are undermined when athletes must drive long distances to access suitable facilities. By providing a local track, we can maintain the eco-friendly nature of the sport, reducing carbon emissions and promoting local engagement without the environmental cost of travel. 2. Access for secondary schools: Didcot is home to multiple secondary schools, which lack athletics facilities within easy reach. An accessible local track would enable these schools to enhance their sports curricula, hold inter-school competitions, and encourage more students to participate in athletics, thereby promoting physical fitness from a young age. 3. Youth engagement: an athletics track would provide a valuable outlet for the energy of Didcot's young population. It would not only offer them a venue for sports activities but also keep them engaged in productive pursuits. 4. Enhancement of	Tilsley Park track is less than 20-minute drive-time from Didcot so 400m track not required. England Athletics support running track markers and lighting at Valley Park for use by running clubs.

	<p>Didcot's image: with the extent of development in Didcot and surrounding areas, it is important to provide facilities and activities to position Didcot as a desirable place to live. An athletics track would show that Didcot is a town that values health, sports, and community engagement. In conclusion, the establishment of an athletics track in Didcot would address multiple community needs — supporting local sports clubs and schools, enhancing the town's image, promoting environmental sustainability, and providing a constructive outlet for our youth. Thank you for considering this submission.</p>	
ANON-21AH-44ZE-K	<p>There is significant demand for a Velodrome in the area and given high levels of cycling rates in some parts of the county this could be a valuable addition to leisure facilities in the area for people of all ages.</p>	<p>British Cycling were consulted and signed off the recommendations. They did not suggest a velodrome.</p>
ANON-21AH-44AB-Q	<p>REDACTED The Henley college does work well and we have 2 large cupboard they have let us have to store our equipment. We run classes Monday and Wednesday evening and Saturday mornings running recreational and squad classes and preschool on a Saturday morning. We operate our Wallingford venue from Wallingford school Monday and Thursday evenings and Saturday morning with recreational squad preschool and Parkour. we have the use of a cupboard with agreement they can use some of our equipment. This hasn't proven to work so well as our new expensive equipment isn't being used how we would like it to be, we share the facility on some evenings with football with balls coming into our area. So not ideal. We have tried find other venues in Wallingford which unfortunately are too small or have no storage facility. Wallingford is expanding rapidly and could do with a large leisure/community building to help. In both our venues we have waiting list and would love to do preschool during the week but there is no venues with storage space in either towns. It would be really good to think in leisure facilities in view of maybe a community space shared by groups such as gymnastics dance schools, judo clubs fitness classes circus schools and theatre groups that could share the facilities at</p>	<p>The report now include wording for a dedicated gymnastics facility in the West and South sub areas.</p>

	<p>different times. There seems to be plenty of room for badminton and outside facilities but not large spaces indoor with storage. we have thought this for a long time and have tried in the past to get involved with, eg the community hall at Highlands park but nothing's happens. I note in reading that part of south sub area you mention Vision gymnastic club and need for them. They have been in henley nearly 5 years REDACTED. It would be nice if we were thought of too. I look forward to hearing of leisure improvements in either Henley or Wallingford.</p>	
BHLF-21AH-447W-2	<p>Please see attachment 18 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>Portcullis Tennis Club is already included in the assessment report.</p> <p>Petanque was not covered as part of the study.</p>

## Additional Comments (all Sub areas)

Response ID	Response / Summary	Officer and Consultant Response
ANON-21AH-441B-7	Has consideration been given to regulating provision of fast food outlets in the vicinity of any provision. Active lives thrive on best food choices	This is not an area that is covered as part of the strategies.
ANON-21AH-4413-R	This is a pointless public consultation because there is too much information and no clarity about actions. You should be ashamed of making it so complex. Surely you could have distilled some important issues where a layperson's views could be helpful in making decisions.	The PPS attempts to be a summary of an extensive amount of work carried-out in line with an in-depth technical process set out by PPS guidance.
ANON-21AH-441W-V	Please take note of my comments on the East Strategy about taking into account facilities in Haddenham and Princes Risborough as well as the Thame-Chinnor axis, to pool resources and provision and potentially memberships and costs, so someone with a Thame Leisure Centre membership could also be a member of Princes Risborough and their respective schedules would look to spread the load and even the costs so that there is an easier-to-manage balance of demand and supply.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-4412-Q	The consultation seems odd and quite inadequate See pitch recommendations earlier	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44ZS-1	To much emphasis on ball games, what about running, and general exercise in open spaces.	The PPS has been developed to an agreed typology, as has the LFAS. An open space or parks strategy is the appropriate document to deal with open space provision and activities. Difficult to provide evidence for informal sports in open spaces. Hopefully new methodology will improve this, but current ANOG focuses on formal / club sports.
ANON-21AH-44ZV-4	It appears to just review historical provisions. Lacks ambition to improve available sports facilities for growing local population.	The PPS recommends new pitches and facilities to be delivered at strategic sites along with improvements of existing provision to cater for growth in the sports/ activities.
ANON-21AH-44HD-Z	Numbers are key ... with all the new housing going up in SODC, there needs to be a commensurate supply of playing pitch facilities.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44TS-U	Good doing this! 🍷	These comments have been noted.



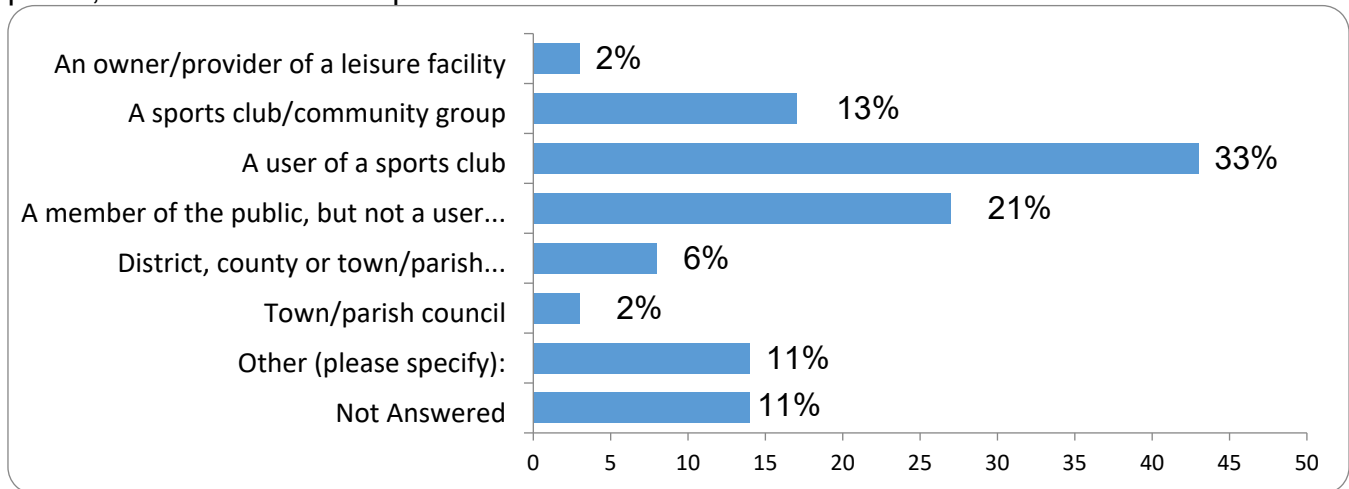
ANON-21AH-44T3-U	SODC has a long history of failing to deliver any sporting benefit to the northern area. This is another example of what will be an undeliverable exercise.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44HV-J	It would appear the strategy conclusion was pre-ordained by Sport England and SODC without any consideration to cost both capital and maintenance.  SODC have their own agenda outside of local knowledge or needs	The PPS does consider costs however, the Stage E (delivery) will deal more closely with costs and viability of pitch provision and maintenance.
BHLF-21AH-447R-W	I always support and agree with assessment or requirement on demand for now or the future, to protect facilities or upgrade as necessary.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-441B-7	Consider legacy provision of environmental maintenance. Funds need to be allocated for proper upkeep. Not often budgeted for. Great facilities well maintained will attract good uptake	The PPS references the importance of the costs of maintenance of pitches. Proper maintenance is important to ensure that players are attracted to sports and continue to participate. The PPS reflects this.
ANON-21AH-4413-R	I feel this consultation is a waste of time and money.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44AU-A	Facilities need to be inclusive and available to all - should also consider disability groups and sports to be played at these facilities.	A range of groups and activities / sports were consulted as part of the initial strategy process.
ANON-21AH-44ZS-1	Local facilities should be run by Council. Charges in the District for these are too high and should be reviewed. e.g. Glossop Council run a similar facility at 50 % less cost.	These comments have been noted.
ANON-21AH-44ZB-G	Cycling facilities – off-road circuits As we need more people to walk and cycle rather than using cars all the time it would make sense to have an off road training track where at certain times children (& adults) could learn to ride a bike and practise. (Several of my grandchildren have done this at the track in Preston Park, Brighton which is a well used facility albeit in a larger city.) The Thames Valley is good for cycling as a convenient form of transport as it is relatively flat so somewhere safe to train for that would be good. The Chilterns in South Oxfordshire are very popular with leisure cyclists but serious cyclists also benefit from training areas. Hithercroft , Wallingford or somewhere in the Benson/Crowmarsh area (edge of Benson airfield?) would be a sensible fairly central and accessible area for such a facility. But I seem to remember hearing	These comments have been noted.

	<p>about a group who wanted a cycling facility to the east of Oxford in the Shotover area. This or somewhere on one of the strategic sites around Oxford would also be worthy of consideration.</p> <p>Please see attachment 19 available in the appendix.</p>	
ANON-21AH-44T3-U	<p>This exercise suggests SODC provide the conclusion it would like for the strategy and then employed consultants to come up with the questions and careful avoidance of fact that best fit the strategy already decided</p>	<p>The PPS followed Sport England's PPS guidance and is also based on good practice. The LA did not start with a conclusion for the process to result in.</p>
BHLF-21AH-447R-W	<p>Please see attachment 20 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>
BHLF-21AH-447B-D	<p>Please see attachment 21 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>
BHLF-21AH-447J-N	<p>Please see attachment 22 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>The PPS has added reference to the need to consider "development plan" policies in the footnote regarding Maiden Erleigh.</p> <p>The feedback on the LFAS is around the design guidance and CUAs at academies.</p> <p>Further discussion can be had during the Stage E and planning process.</p>
BHLF-21AH-447N-S	<p>Please see attachment 23 available in the appendix.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted.</p>

## ABOUT THE RESPONDENTS

### Are you responding as:

33% responses were submitted on behalf of a user of a sports club and 21% member of the public, but not a user of a sports club.



### If you selected 'other' please specify below

- *Netball club*
- *Statutory Consultee*
- *Parent of a child at Europa School Culham*
- *Wallingford Rowing Club*
- *I am a District Councillor too.*
- *Parent of a sports club user*
- *Savills on behalf of SOSV Partners*
- *Henley squash club*
- *Europa School UK Governing Body Representative*
- *Planning Agent*
- *Stantec on behalf of L&Q Estates and Brasenose College in respect of Land at Northfield (policy STRAT12/AS4).*
- *Holton resident*
- *Savills on behalf of Maiden Erleigh Trust (MET)*
- *Carter Jonas on behalf of CEG*
- *Natural England*
- *Wallingford Sports Trust*
- *Garden Communities Team*

### If you are responding on behalf of a sports club, community group or town/parish council etc, what is its name?

33 sports clubs, community groups and town/parish councils provided their name to this question.

**So we can understand if we've reached everyone we need to, please tell us the first part of your postcode in the box below, e.g. OX10**

This question was included in the survey to allow us to assess the geographical spread of the responses.

103 postcodes were received. The most frequently mentioned are provided below. 66% of respondents were received from the following locations:

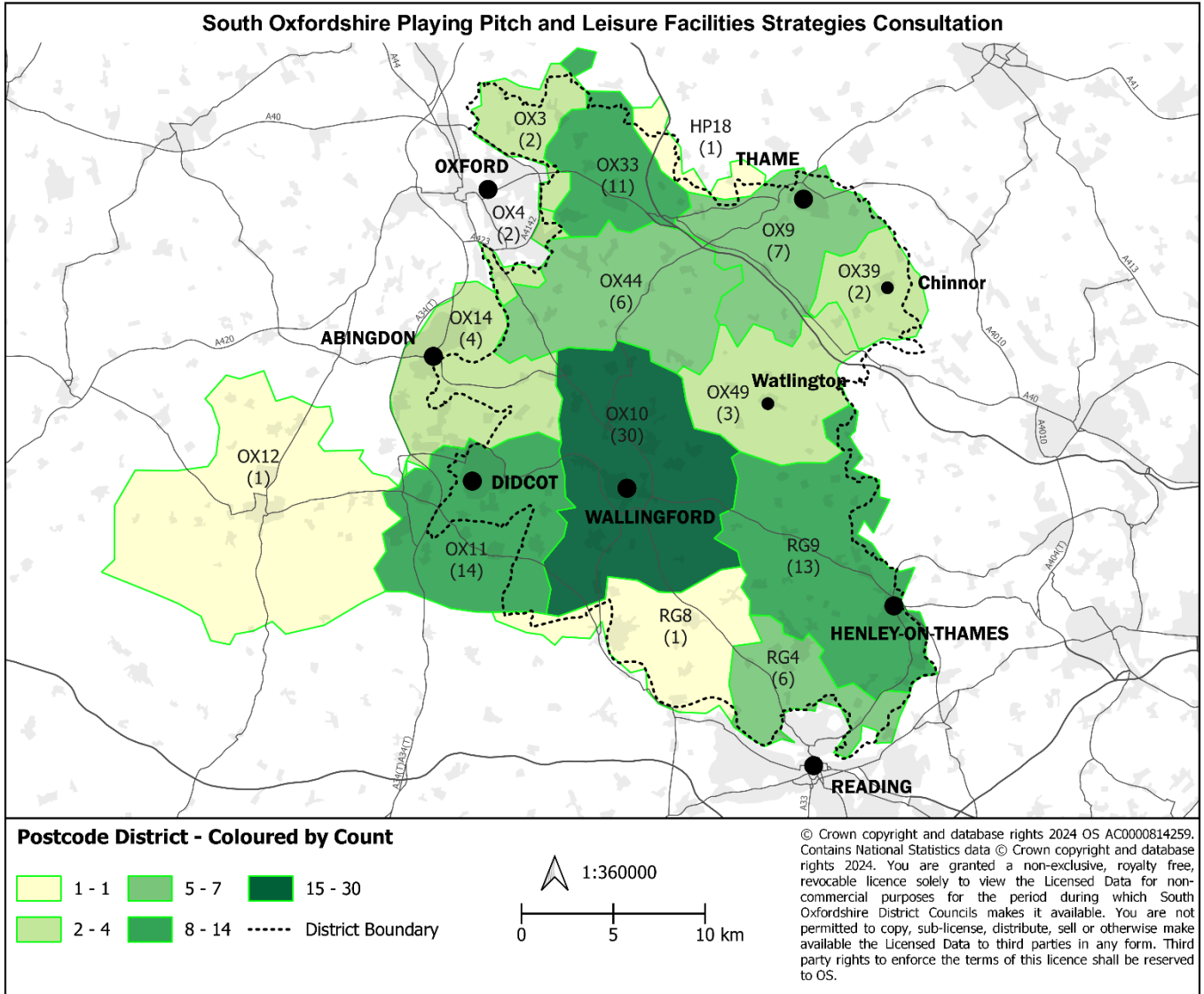
Wallingford (OX10) – 30 postcodes (29%)

Didcot (OX11) – 14 postcodes (13%)

Reading (RG9) – 13 postcodes (13%)

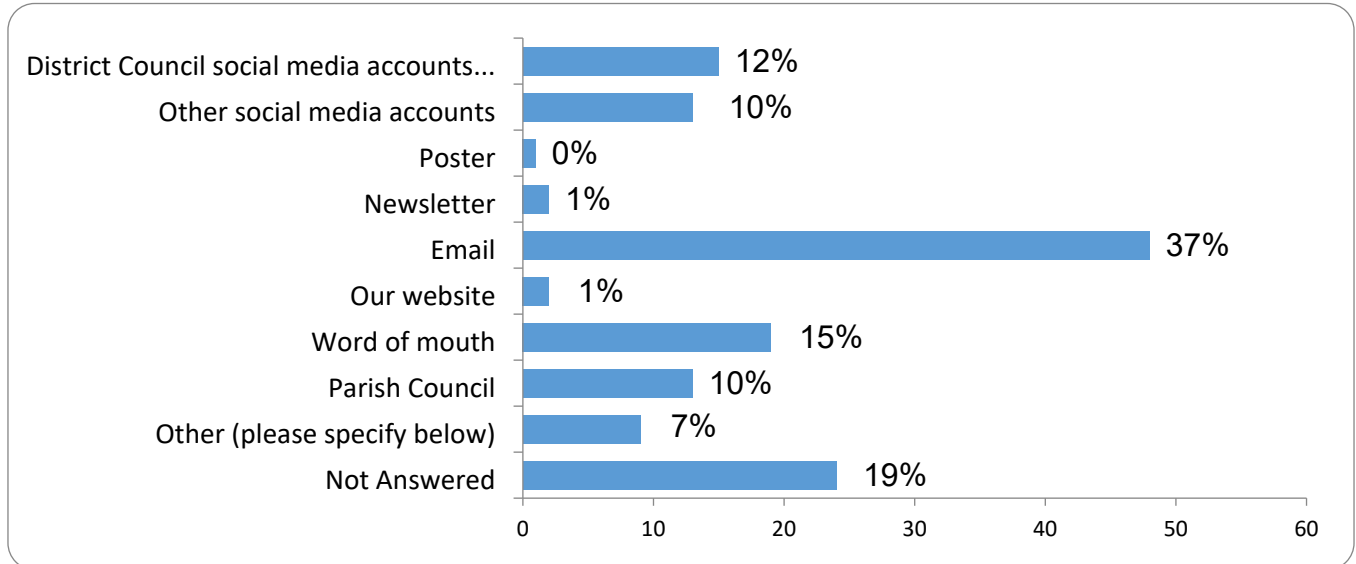
Wheatley (OX33) – 11 postcodes (11%)

The remaining 34% of postcodes can be viewed on the map below.



### How did you hear about the Playing Pitch and Leisure Facility Strategies Consultation? Tick all that apply.

37% heard about the consultation via email.



#### Other (please specify below)

- *Was consulted originally*
- *There is a mistake in your survey. I am responding for Chalgrove Cavaliers FC*
- *Herald newspaper article*
- *Henley Herald*
- *Consultation was sent to us.*
- *via Henley-on-Thames Bowling Club*
- *Councillor informed me*
- *Notice at local sports centre*
- *Club mailing*
- *South Oxfordshire District Council*
- *Window on Wallingford*
- *Henley Standard*
- *Hard copies of the PPS distributed in Thame Leisure Centre.*
- *Oxford Mail*

## HOW WE HAVE USED RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION

The council would like to thank all respondents of the public consultation for taking their time to provide their feedback.

Comments have been reviewed by relevant council teams and the consultants of the strategies Stuart Todd Associates Ltd. Any changes to either the Playing Pitch Strategy or Leisure Facilities Strategy because of public comments have been listed in the tables above. The Key changes are highlighted below.

### Key changes:

Although all comments from the consultation were reviewed, not all resulted in changes to the various documents. Below are the key changes that were made to both the PPS and LFAS documents.

#### PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY:

All sports:

- Additional emphasis has been added into the recommendations that the needs of people with disabilities and safety issues (particularly regarding women and girls) are addressed through good design and improvements.
- Climate change – the strategy seeks to focus on provision for sport and acknowledges the need to consider fully the impact and mitigation.

Cricket:

- A clarifying statement has been included about hybrid pitches which are currently not endorsed by ECB as in pilot phase. This likely to change in strategy lifetime.
- Indoor cricket was assessed and included in the LFAS.
- Pavilion projects have been included in recommendations for Marsh Baldon and Stoke Row.
- The ambition for an additional pitch at Watlington where demand is evidenced on the ground had been added.

Football:

- The reference for potential mini football pitches in outfield on Brookes Wheatley campus cricket ground site had been amended.
- Southern Road, Thame – recommendation amended to suggest site could be considered for additional pitches subject to demand.
- Watlington – recommendation added to support ambitions for additional pitches, supporting subject to demand.



- Chalgrove – quality has been amended to recognise club’s assessment that pitches are poor quality, and the need to improve.
- Cholsey - quality of pitch updated to recognise club’s assessment that pitches are poor quality, and desire to improve the changing facilities.

Hockey:

- Thame – emphasis on any replacement AGP surface (Lord Williams) being sand-based.

Strategic Sites

- The Edge of Oxford sites do not reflect spatial catchment as sub area based.
- Additional caveats included around strategic site contributions.

LEISURE FACILITY STRATEGY:

- Holton Playing Fields – clarity on former tennis courts and proposed skatepark.
- Recommendation added for a new skate park in Chinnor.
- Recommendation removed for skate park at Bull Croft Park.
- Sonning Common - new MUGA and short-mat bowls club has been added.
- Accessible boat club facilities at Riverside Park in Wallingford have been updated.
- Emphasis on new dedicated gymnastics provision in South and West sub areas has been added.

Amendments to the strategies were signed off by the PPS and LFAS steering groups and changes were also presented to council members before the final documents were taken to the council’s cabinet for approval.

Next steps:

Although the strategies are now completed, the council will continue to work closely with the steering group to progress with Stage E (delivery) and continue to work through and update the action plans.

All final documents have been published on the council website.

## SURVEY

A copy of the paper comment form is provided below.



## South Oxfordshire Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies Consultation

Before taking part in this consultation, please refer to the public notice available alongside this comment form. The Playing Pitch Strategy, Leisure Facilities Strategy and a glossary of terms is also available to view.

Please return this comment form by **11.59pm on Wednesday 17 April 2024** to:

**Freepost SOUTH AND VALE CONSULTATIONS**  
(no other address information or stamp is needed)

### Queries?

If you have any questions about the Playing Pitch and Leisure Facilities Strategies consultation or require the Strategies in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, email, Easy Read and alternative languages), please email [jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk) or call **01235 422425**.

### Personal details

We will not ask for your name or any contact details. You also do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to. Any personal information supplied to the council within your comments that could identify you will not be published in the consultation summary report. Further information on data protection is available in our privacy statement – [southoxon.gov.uk/jointheconversation](https://southoxon.gov.uk/jointheconversation)

## About you

### 1. Are you responding as:

- An owner/ provider of a leisure facility
- A sports club/community group
- A user of a sports club
- A member of the public, but not a user of a sports club

- District, county or town/parish councillor
- Town/parish council
- Other (please specify below):  
 .....

**2. If you are responding on behalf of a sports club, community group or town/parish council etc, what is its name?**

**3. So we can understand if we've reached everyone we need to, please tell us the first part of your postcode in the box below, e.g. OX10**

**4. How did you hear about this consultation? Tick all that apply.**

- District Council social media accounts (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Other social media accounts
- Poster
- Newsletter
- Email
- Letter
- Our website
- Another website
- Word of mouth
- Parish Council
- Other (please specify below):  
 .....

## Contents

This comment form has been broken down by sub-area, this will allow you to view the content which is most relevant to you and your sports club. However, you can view as many sub-areas and answer as many questions as you like.

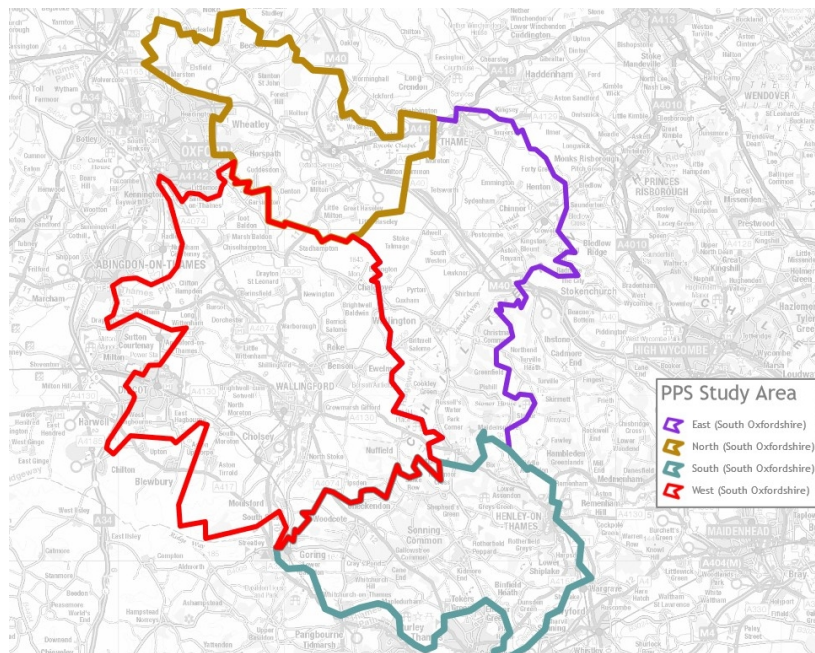
**North Sub-Area (page 4)** - Woodeaton, Elsfield, Beckley and Stowood, Stanton St John, Forest Hill with Shotover, Holton, Horspath, Waterperry with Thomley, Wheatley, Great Milton, Little Milton, Great Haseley, Garsington, Tiddington with Albury and Waterstock.

**South Sub-Area (page 9)** - Bix and Assendon, Highmoor, Rotherfield Peppard, Rotherfield Greys, Harpsden, Binfield Heath, Shiplake, Eye and Dunsden, Henley on Thames, Sonning Common, Kidmore End, Mapledurham, Stoke Row, Checkendon, Woodcote, Goring Heath, Whitchurch on Thames, Goring (Southern part of parish).

**East Sub-area (page 15)** - Thame, Towersey, Tetsworth, Aston Rowant, Sydenham, Chinnor, Crowell, Wheatfield, Lewknor, Shirburn, Stoke Talmage, Adwell, Pyrton, Cuxham with Easington, Britwell Salome, Watlington, Pishill with Stonor, Swyncombe and Nettlebed.

**West Sub-Area (page 20)** - South Stoke, Moulsoford, Goring (Northern part of parish), Cholsey, Aston Tirrold, Aston Upthorpe, South Moreton, North Moreton, East Hagbourne, West Hagbourne, Didcot, Long Wittenham, Little Wittenham, Brightwell cum Sotwell, Wallingford, Crowmarsh Gifford, Ipsden, Nuffield, Benson, Ewelme  
 Brightwell Baldwin, Berrick Salome, Newington, Chalgrove, Drayton St Leonard, Warborough,

Dorchester, Sandford on Thames, Toot Baldon, Marsh Baldon, Berinsfield, Clifton Hampden, Culham and Nuneham Courtenay.



## North Sub-Area Playing Pitch Strategy

The key recommendations identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy for the North Sub-Area have been provided below.

### (1) Wheatley (Oxford Brookes campus development)

- **Cricket:** New cricket ground ("pipeline" / commitment)
- **Football (grass):** Utilise new cricket outfield for 2 x 5v5 and 2 x 7v7 pitches, marked out to respond to demand

### (2) Wheatley / Holton / Edge of Oxford

- **Football (grass):** 1 x 11v11 (adult), 4 x 9v9, responding to where demand arises
- **Football (3G):** 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch (location to be determined, but Wheatley Playing Fields as an option).
- **Football (3G):** 0.5 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch, possibly provided in conjunction with Oxford Harlequins RFC demand at Horspath, exported demand from Oxford City could increase demand to provision of a 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G for football during period to 2041.

### (3) Wheatley

- **Rugby:** 1 x grass full-size pitch (to serve Wheatley RFC)

### (4) Tiddington

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Cricket Ground)

#### (5) Great Haseley

- **Cricket:** Provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Playing Field)

#### (6) Horspath Village

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Recreation Ground)

#### (7) Horspath (Oxford Harlequins RFC)

- **Rugby:** 6-7 grass full-size pitches with sports lighting, or WR22 compliant 3G if this satisfies demand

### 1. If you have any comments on the Playing Pitch Strategy North sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## Leisure Facility Strategy

The key recommendations identified in the Leisure Facility Strategy for the North Sub-Area have been provided below.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
1	Abingdon Gymnastics Club	Gymnastic facility	Abingdon GC has a short-term lease of its facility but is currently working towards a funding package for the purchase of the freehold.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to support Abingdon GC with securing the long-term use of its facility.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
2	<b>Holton Playing Fields (Wheatley)</b>	Tennis and netball courts New Skatepark	Netball courts are used by England Netball for 'Walking Netball' and 'Back to Netball' sessions. There are no skateparks in Holton or Wheatley.	<b>Protect / Provide</b> – Former tennis courts at this site should be mitigated through financial contributions secured towards four new macadam tennis courts (with fencing and sports-lighting) in the vicinity of the site.  <b>Provide</b> – New skatepark to meet unmet demand.
3	<b>Horspath Sports Ground</b>	Athletics track	No issues with the athletics facilities have been identified as part of this study.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maintain TrackMark accreditation and seek to improve the infield sports lighting to meet minimum NGB standards.
4	<b>Land North of Bayswater Brook</b>	New MUGA, tennis and netball courts, Activity Hall / Dance Studios	There are no community-accessible outdoor tennis courts in the North sub area. Local share of sports hall provision (considering deprivation) is poorest in this area.	<b>Provide</b> – Explore opportunity for new MUGA, tennis and netball courts, Activity Hall / Dance Studios. Further need assessment work is required in order to determine the exact size of the hall/ no. of studios.



Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
5	Little Milton Recreation Ground	MUGA	MUGA is worn and/or damaged, barely usable and does not meet basic expectations.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing MUGA.
6	Park Sports Centre (Wheatley)	Sports hall Gym Studios Squash courts	Sports hall, gym and studios are 'uncomfortably busy' (above 80% used capacity) during peak periods. Sports clubs report high demand at peak times. The squash courts have 43% used-capacity during peak periods from 'pay and play' sessions. The quality of the courts should be improved to meet consumer expectations.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Work with facility provider to provide more availability for clubs to use the sports hall at peak times.  <b>Enhance</b> – Continue to retain the attractiveness of facilities to residents. <b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Squash courts should be retained and the quality enhance to meet the demand for 'pay and play' squash in the North sub area.
7	Waterstock Golf Club	Golf course	The owners of Waterstock Golf Club have submitted outline planning permission for the development of new buildings on	<b>Protect</b> – This facility should be retained or enhanced as part of redevelopment unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			part of the golf course.	they are surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports their relocation.
8	<b>Wheatley (Oxford Brookes campus development)</b>	New outdoor bowling green	There is a need to meet current demand in the North sub area (currently no outdoor bowling greens in the sub-area).	<b>Provide</b> – Continue to support the development of a new outdoor bowling green and clubhouse, which is of suitable size to accommodate Short-Mat Bowls.

**2. If you have any comments on the Leisure Facility Strategy North sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.**

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## South Sub-Area

### Playing Pitch Strategy

The key recommendations identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy for the South Sub-Area have been provided below.

#### (1) Checkendon

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Playing Field)

#### (2) Sonning Common

- **Football** (grass): Memorial Park, 1x 9v9 ("pipeline" / commitment)
- **Football** (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch (Rotherfield Utd / Bishopswood) if certainty of delivery is in place

#### (3) Henley

- **Football** (grass): Land at Highlands Farm, 2 x 9v9 ("pipeline" / commitment)
- **Football** (3G): Jubilee Park, 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch ("pipeline" / commitment)
- **Hockey:** Jubilee Park, 1 x Gen2 / Sand small AGP to support additional training capacity subject to demand after football demands has migrated to a new 3G pitch

- **Rugby:** 1 x grass full-size pitch (to serve Henley RFC, if secure community use cannot be achieved at Rotherfield College site (or WR22 compliant 3G does not come forward in the town)

#### (4) Chalkhouse Green

- **Rugby:** 2-4 x grass full-size pitches (to serve Reading Abbey RFC) unless required additional capacity in whole or in part can be accessed as part of provision of 3G in Sonning Common. Also, additional changing facilities to support growth in girls' and women's game

#### (5) Peppard Common

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Peppard Common)

#### (6) Goring

- **Football** (grass): Sheepcot Recreation Ground, 1 x 7v7 sports-lit 3G pitch and ancillary facilities ("pipeline" / commitment)
- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Gardiner Recreation Ground)

#### (7) Gallowstree Common

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Recreation Ground)

### 3. If you have any comments on the Playing Pitch Strategy North sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## Leisure Facility Strategy

The key recommendations identified in the Leisure Facility Strategy for the South Sub-Area have been provided below.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
1	Goring Tennis Club	Tennis courts	The club's current lease with the Parish Council has less than one year left and negotiating an extension is proving difficult. The clubhouse is in need of	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Support Goring TC and Goring Parish Council with negotiating a new lease for the club.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			refurbishment and the club require a new lease for security of tenure.	Also provide support with refurbishing the tennis clubhouse.
2	<b>Henley Leisure Centre</b>	Swimming pool Sports hall Gym Studios Squash courts	Swimming pool, sports hall, gym and studios are 'uncomfortably busy' (above 70% used capacity) during peak periods. Henley Swimming Club are regular users and report poor availability of pool space at peak times.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Work with facility provider to provide more availability for clubs to use the facilities at peak times.  <b>Enhance</b> – Continue to retain the attractiveness of facilities to residents.
3	<b>Henley Tennis Club</b>	Outdoor tennis courts	Tennis clubs in the South sub-area are over-capacity, especially Sonning Common & District TC, Henley TC and Peppard Lawn TC. Adding sports lighting to three courts would alleviate capacity by approx. 60 members and indoor tennis significantly more.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Support Henley Tennis Club to install sports lighting on its three unlit courts and explore the possibility of indoor tennis (e.g. canopy) at the club.
4	<b>Rupert House School</b>	Outdoor netball courts	Henley Hawks Netball Club uses this site and reported that new sports-lighting of these courts would mean it can host competitive matches and improve player safety. It would also be able to reduce its current waiting list for new members.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to support user club and work with facility provider to secure CUAs for existing user (Henley Hawks Netball Club). <b>Enhance</b> – Investigate whether the school would increase the community usage of these facilities.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
				It may be difficult due to the nature of this site, but this increased community offer may help to meet unmet demand. <b>Enhance</b> – Work with the user club and facility provider to provide sports-lighting for the netball courts.
5	<b>The Oratory School Sports Centre</b>	Swimming pool Sports hall Gym Studios Squash courts Tennis courts New Padel tennis courts	Sports clubs using the swimming pool, sports hall and studios do not have a long-term agreement in place (i.e., no security of use). Improved access is required to meet demand, and to continue to develop the community use of sport facilities at the school.  The school has proposed development of new Padel tennis courts at this site.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to support user clubs and work with facility provider to secure CUAs for existing users. These clubs include, but are not limited to, Woodcote SC and Henley SC (pool), and Vision Gymnastics (sports hall). <b>Provide</b> – Support the development of new Padel tennis courts proposed by the school. These courts are to be for public use and managed via online booking and ability to pay as you play (e.g., through use of ClubSpark).
6	<b>The Oratory Prep. School</b>	Swimming pool	Sports clubs using the swimming pool do not have a long-term agreement in place (i.e., no security of use).  Improved access is required to meet demand, and to continue to	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to support user clubs and work with facility provider to secure CUAs for existing users (Woodcote SC, Didcot BSC and Henley SC and Wallingford Triathlon Club).

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			develop the community use of sport facilities at the school.	<b>Enhance</b> – Investigate whether the school would increase the community usage of these facilities. It may be difficult due to the nature of this site, but this increased community offer may help to meet unmet demand.
7	<b>Thames Valley Gym</b>	Community Centre	Kennylands Gymnastics are full to capacity and is unable to provide some of its gymnasts with the facilities required for higher skill levels.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Explore the opportunity for Kennylands Gymnastics to expand the size of Thames Valley Gym to cater for latent demand, and highly skilled gymnasts.
8	<b>Site(s) not yet identified</b>	New MUGA	There are no MUGAs in the South sub-area.	<b>Provide</b> – Explore the opportunity for a new MUGA in Henley that is publicly accessible.

#### 4. If you have any comments on the Leisure Facility Strategy South sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## East Sub-Area

### Playing Pitch Strategy

The key recommendations identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy for the East Sub-Area have been provided below.

#### (1) Thame / Chinnor / Watlington

- **Football** (grass): 3 x 11v11, 5 9v9, to respond to demand across one or more of these locations
- **Football** (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch in one of these locations, dependent on where demand arises in mid-latter part of strategy period (and subject to consideration of rugby need for 3G use in Thame for Chinnor RFC)

#### (2) Thame



- **Hockey / Cricket:** Explore access for Thame HC to use Cricket Club pavilion
- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Thame Town CC).
- **Rugby:** Support provision of 5-7 additional grass full-size pitches if long-term lease or hire of Thame Showground pitches cannot be secured for Chinnor RFC. If additional 3G capacity is delivered in Chinnor for football, consider provision of some training capacity for rugby if delivered to WR22 standard. Provide additional changing capacity at Chinnor RFC

### (3) Aston Rowant

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Aston Rowant CC)

### (4) Nettlebed

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Sports Ground)

## 5. If you have any comments on the Playing Pitch Strategy East sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## Leisure Facility Strategy

The key recommendations identified in the Leisure Facility Strategy for the East Sub-Area have been provided below.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
1	Chinnor Tennis Club	Outdoor tennis courts	The tennis club has two sports-lit courts and would like to install	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise use of existing assets by supporting

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			sports lighting on its third court.	Chinnor TC's plans to install sports lighting on its remaining unlit court.
2	<b>Lord William's School</b>	Sports hall	Lord William's School is nearby to Thame LC and less utilised, therefore, there is scope to manage demand across the two sites to achieve a more balanced level of community use in Thame.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Work with the school to increase the number of hours available for community use.
3	<b>Racquets Fitness Centre</b>	Squash courts	There are only private-member squash clubs in the East sub area (ie no 'pay and play' opportunities). There is a need to offer cheaper squash membership options in the East sub area as there is a reliance on expensive membership clubs.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Squash courts should be retained to meet the demand for squash in Thame. The Centre should be encouraged to offer 'pay and play' squash sessions to meet future demand for squash.
4	<b>Thame Leisure Centre</b>	Swimming pool Sports hall Gym Studios	Swimming pool, sports hall, gym and studios are 'uncomfortably busy' (above 80% used capacity) during peak periods. Thame Swimming Club are regular users of the pool.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Work with facility provider to provide more availability for clubs to use the facilities at peak times.  <b>Enhance</b> – Continue to retain the attractiveness of facilities to residents.
5	<b>Thame Tennis Club</b>	Outdoor tennis courts	The quality of the four clay-surface outdoor tennis courts at Thame	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			TC are in need of refurbishment, which is a priority project for the club.	the quality of the four clay courts at Thame TC.
6	<b>Watlington Tennis Club</b>	Outdoor tennis courts	The tennis club is 48 players over-capacity. The club has three courts, two of which are sports-lit. It would like to upgrade to LED sports-lighting courts and also install new sports-lighting on its third court.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by supporting Watlington TC's plans to install sports lighting on its remaining unlit court and upgrade to LED sports lighting on two of its courts
7	<b>Whites Field (Chinnor)</b>	MUGA	MUGA is 'Below Average' quality. It is usable but does not meet consumer expectations.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing MUGA.
8	<b>Site(s) not yet identified</b>	New MUGA New Activity Hall / Dance Studios	There is no MUGA in Thame. The local share of sports halls, which considers deprivation, is poorest in Thame.  Further need assessment work is required in order to determine the exact size of the hall; with a detailed business plan to test the viability, which his based upon local identified demand.	<b>Provide</b> – explore the opportunity for a new MUGA in Thame that is publicly accessible.  <b>Provide</b> – An activity hall (at least 1-court in size) / dance studio(s) should be provided in Thame.

**6. If you have any comments on the Leisure Facility Strategy East sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.**

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## **West Sub-Area**

### **Playing Pitch Strategy**

The key recommendations identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy for the West Sub-Area have been provided below.

#### **(1) Northfield**

- **Football** (grass): 1 x 11v11, 3 x 9v9, 1x 7v7, 1x 5v5

#### **(2) Berinsfield**

- **Football** (grass): 1 x 11v11, 2 x 9v9, 1x 7v7, 1x 5v5
- **Football** (3G): 0.5 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch

#### **(3) Edge of Oxford / Wallingford / Didcot**

- **Football** (3G): 1 additional x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch (in one of these locations subject to where demand arises, or 2 x 0.5 full-size in two locations, in latter part of strategy period)

#### **(4) Warborough**

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Village Green)

#### **(5) Didcot**

- **Football** (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch (delivered sequentially before or after Valley Park (Common Park) 3G (Vale))
- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Boundary Park)
- **Hockey:** Possible 1 x full-size sports-lit Gen2 / Sand sports-lit AGP if demand demonstrated towards latter part of the strategy period, to support an existing club and grow hockey in the town

- **Football** (grass): 3 x 11v11, 5 x 7v7, Didcot North-east ("pipeline" / commitment)

#### (6) Crowmarsh

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Recreation Ground)

#### (7) Wallingford

- **Football** (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch
- **Hockey:** 1 x Gen2 / Sand sports-lit AGP
- **Rugby:** 1 x grass full-size, unless demand can be accommodated on the 3G (if WR22 compliant). Additional changing facilities for the RFC.

#### (8) West of Wallingford

- **Football** (grass): 2 x 7v7 ("pipeline" / commitment)

#### (9) Cholsey

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Cholsey CC)

#### (10) Culham

- **Football** (grass): 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7, 2 x 5v5
- **Football** (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch
- **Cricket:** 1 x new ground

#### (11) Abingdon

- **Cricket:** Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity on existing site, where feasible (Hales and Hayes Meadow)

#### (12) Grenoble Road

- **Football** (grass): 2 x 11v11, 4x 9v9, 2x 7v7, 1x 5v5
- **Football** (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G pitch (utilising contribution from Northfield)
- **Cricket:** 1 x new ground

**7. If you have any comments on the Playing Pitch Strategy West sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.**

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## Leisure Facility Strategy

The key recommendations identified in the Leisure Facility Strategy for the West Sub-Area have been provided below.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
1	<b>Abbey Sports Centre (Berinsfield)</b>	Swimming pool Sports hall Gym	Swimming pool needs to be improved to meet the expectations of users. The facility is unattractive to customers and does not meet basic expectations.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing facilities, including the swimming pool.  <b>Protect / Provide</b> – Protect this site unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.
2	<b>Bull Croft Park (Wallingford)</b>	Outdoor tennis and netball courts MUGA New skatepark	Tennis courts, netball courts and MUGA are old and outdated. The facilities are unattractive to customers and do not meet	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing facilities. <b>Provide</b> – Explore the opportunity for a new skatepark to meet unmet demand.



Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			basic expectations. There is no skatepark in Wallingford.	
3	<b>Chalgrove Recreation Ground</b>	MUGA	MUGA is 'Below Average' quality. It is usable but does not meet consumer expectations.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing MUGA.
4	<b>Culham</b>	New MUGA	In order to meet future demand from new residents, a new MUGA should be considered at this Strategic Housing site.	<b>Provide</b> – Continue to support the development of a new multi-use games area that can be used for netball and tennis, and can be made available for extensive public use.
5	<b>Didcot Wave Leisure Pool</b>	Swimming pool Gym	Swimming pool and gym are 'uncomfortably busy' (above 80% used capacity) during peak periods. Didcot BSC are regular users, but must also use pool at Oratory Prep. School to meet demand.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to retain the attractiveness of facilities to residents. <b>Provide</b> – Explore the opportunity for a new 20m x 10m teaching pool annexed to the current Leisure Pool building, to provide additional water space on-site that can free up space in the Leisure Pool.
6	<b>Didcot Leisure Centre</b>	Sports hall Squash courts	The squash courts are 'Below Average' quality and need to be improved to meet the expectations of users.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Squash courts should be retained and the quality enhanced to meet the demand for 'pay and play' squash in the West sub area. Courts should be retained to

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
				meet future demand for squash.
7	<b>Didcot Girls' School</b>	Sports hall	Didcot Girls' School has scope to increase availability in the weekly peak period to reduce the proportion of capacity used to a comfortable level.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to support user clubs and work with facility provider to secure CUAs for existing users. <b>Enhance</b> – Work with the school to increase the number of hours available for community use.
8	<b>Didcot North-East Leisure Facility</b>	Sports hall	There is high future demand for sports-hall activities in the West sub-area.	<b>Provide</b> – Explore opportunity for a new 4-court (L:34.5m x W:20m x H:7.5m) sports hall at this site. New sports facilities should be able to provide for all sports at the recreational level and for club development, and have CUAs.
9	<b>Dorchester Tennis Club</b>	Tennis courts	The tennis courts are 'Below Average' quality and do not meet the expectations of users. The Club plan to refurbish the courts in the next few years.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing tennis courts.
10	<b>Edmonds Park (Didcot)</b>	Tennis courts Netball court MUGA	Tennis courts, netball courts and MUGA are old and outdated. The facilities are unattractive to	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing facilities.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			consumers and do not meet basic expectations.	
11	<b>Europa School</b>	Sports hall	Oxfordshire National Badminton are the main junior badminton providers in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse. The organisation runs weekly county-level sessions for 100 junior (5-18-year-olds) at Europa School.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to support user clubs and work with facility provider to secure CUAs for existing users.
12	<b>Grenoble Road</b>	New MUGA	In order to meet future demand from new residents, a new MUGA should be considered at this Strategic Housing site.	<b>Provide</b> – Explore opportunity for a new multi-use games area that can be used for netball and tennis, and can be made available for extensive public use.
13	<b>Great Western Drive Park (Didcot)</b>	MUGA	MUGA is 'Below Average' quality. old and outdated. The facility is usable but does not meet consumer expectations.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing MUGA.
14	<b>Ladygrove Park (Didcot)</b>	Tennis courts Netball court MUGA	Tennis courts, netball courts and MUGA are old and outdated. The facilities are unattractive to	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing facilities.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			consumers and do not meet basic expectations.	
15	Northfield	New MUGA	In order to meet future demand from new residents, a new MUGA should be considered at this Strategic Housing site.	<b>Provide</b> – Explore opportunity for a new multi-use games area that can be used for netball and tennis, and can be made available for extensive public use.
16	Shillingford Warborough Tennis Association	Tennis courts	The tennis courts are ‘Below Average’ quality and do not meet the expectations of users. The Club plan to refurbish the courts in the next few years.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by improving the quality of existing tennis courts.
17	Southern Community Centre	MUGA	Install sports-lights where appropriate (i.e., demand identified) to increase availability of MUGAs.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Maximise the use of existing assets by installing sports-lighting for all-year utilisation of MUGA.
18	Wallingford Rowing Club	Water sports	Wallingford Rowing Club boathouse (Grade II listed building) limits the club’s growth potential. The Club report a lack of finances to move into bigger premises.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Explore the boathouse relocation options for Wallingford Rowing Club.  Any new boathouse development should be accessible to people with disabilities.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			Wallingford Accessible Boat Club does not have a base but has advised that water sports facilities in the area should be more accessible to people with disabilities.	
19	<b>Wallingford School</b>	Sports hall	Wallingford School has the only large sports hall in Wallingford and, therefore, important in terms of accessibility. There is scope to increase availability in the weekly peak period.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Continue to support user clubs and work with facility provider to secure CUAs for existing users. <b>Enhance</b> –Work with the school to increase the number of hours available for community use.
20	<b>Wallingford Sports Park</b>	Archery range (outdoor) Squash courts	Wallingford Castle Archers shoots over grass rugby pitches at the back of Wallingford Sports Park. The club reported sufficient space for outdoor sessions, but a lack of available sports halls for indoor training sessions is prohibiting the club from growing. The	<b>Protect</b> – The squash courts and outdoor archery range should be retained on this site unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.

Recommendation number	Site Name	Facility Type	Issue / Opportunity	Key Action(s)
			club would like to have a single venue where everything can take place all year round.	
21	<b>Willowbrook Leisure Centre (Didcot)</b>	Sports hall Studios	Issues with staffing means the hall must be booked by clubs well in advance. At weekends, the sports hall is used solely for the 'Bounce Park'.	<b>Protect and Enhance</b> – Investigate whether the Centre would increase the opening hours of these facilities. It may be difficult due to the nature of this site, but this increased community offer may help to meet demand.
22	<b>Site not yet identified</b>	New Activity Hall / Dance Studios	The local share of sports halls, which considers deprivation, is poorest in and Wallingford.	<b>Provide</b> – An activity hall (at least 1-court in size) / dance studio(s) should be provided. Further need assessment work is required in order to determine the exact size of the hall/ no. of studios in Wallingford.

**8. If you have any comments on the Leisure Facility Strategy West sub-area recommendations, please provide them below.**

*Please make it clear in your comments which recommendation(s) number you're referring to.*

## Anything else?

**9. If you have any other comments on the Playing Pitch Strategy, please provide them below.**

**10. If you have any other comments on the Leisure Facility Strategy, please provide them below.**

## Thank you for your comments!

If you would like to attach any supporting documents to support your comments, please attach it to this comment form.



Your comments will be collated in a report to be considered at the end of the consultation period.

### **How to send this form back to us**

Please return this comment form to:

**Freepost SOUTH AND VALE CONSULTATIONS**  
*(no other address information or stamp is needed)*

## FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like more information about this consultation and the results presented in this report, or you require this report in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, email, Easy Read and alternative languages) please contact:

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