



Ealing Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy and Action Plan 2022 – 2031 Working draft copy*



CONTINUUM
SPORT & LEISURE LTD

LB Ealing – Indoor and
Outdoor Facility Strategy 2022

Part 1 – Playing Pitch Strategy

WORKING DRAFT COPY*



*Please note:

This working draft copy of the Ealing Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy and Action Plan 2022 - 31 is not the final version of this document and should not be used as such; the final version will be formally published on the Ealing Council website once the full Sport England approved process has been completed. This authorisation and validation process involves sign off by the strategy steering group as well as Sport England; without this process being completed the strategy will not be recognised by National Governing Bodies of Sport or Sport England.

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Introduction

1. Introduction – Brief, Scope, Vision and Aims

1.1 Background

The new Ealing Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy 2022 – 31 produced in line with Sport England’s latest guidance is the follow-on document to the Ealing Sports Facility Strategy 2012-21 adopted by Cabinet in February 2013 and the Playing Pitch Strategy 2017-31, adopted by Cabinet in March 2017.

Continuum Sport and Leisure Limited were commissioned by the Council to lead on the production of the new strategy, following the Sport England process which has been agreed by all the main national governing bodies of sport. Each authority in the country is encouraged to produce this type of document to inform future decisions regarding the demand and supply of existing and new indoor and outdoor sports facilities in a given area. The strategy document informs an action plan which details potential facility developments based on the demand and supply analysis. This action plan will be reviewed and adjusted where necessary on an annual basis.

The supply side information contained in the strategy is generated through standard facility audits used for all levels of facility from park to elite sport, with findings then corroborated by the relevant national governing body of that sport. The demand side information is generated from surveys of current and potential users including local sports clubs as well as club and team data provided by the relevant governing bodies of sport and facility booking records where available. The Council's Leisure Service has provided context and a local perspective on the overarching vision and principles driving the strategy and the outcome objectives.

The resulting action plan is a guide to how enhanced and new facilities might be developed, pending funding confirmation and planning permission where necessary, where they might be developed and the lead organisation to meet identified demand, exploit opportunities that may arise and provide sustainable management and operational models. Often projects are delivered through the Council or the sport's governing body engaging with voluntary, education or commercial partners. Each potential project identified in the action plan will be reviewed and re-evaluated considering the situation at the time. The strategy and action plan provide a 'snapshot' of the position at the time of writing. Factors on both the demand and supply side may have changed as well as the cost and viability of the project at the point when an individual project is being considered.

When applying for funding to develop new facilities, Sport England, National Governing Bodies of Sport and most other funding organisations, require evidence of the current demand and supply of facilities in an area to justify the proposed project. This strategy - developed and agreed in partnership with these same organisations - is the document that provides this information and is vital to the success of any funding bid.

Through the implementation of this strategy, the Council has a major role to play in providing access to sporting opportunities at a cost that is acceptable to the wider community. The council has a role to play as a direct provider of entry level facilities such as free to use casual football pitches and park tennis courts as well as pay and play summer and winter sports pitches with changing and toilet facilities to allow clubs to play competitively.

The Council also plays an enabling role in developing better quality facilities by engaging and enabling community organisations through the asset

transfer process to independently manage and operate existing and new facilities. At the very top level, professional sports clubs based in the borough provide facilities catering for elite sport.

The strategy document comprises two parts - Indoor and Built Sports Facilities (part 1) and Playing Pitches (part 2) - with an overarching action and implementation plan. This Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) is Part 2 and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Indoor & Built Sports Facilities Strategy (Part 1).

1.2 Why the Strategy Has Been Developed

The purpose of the strategy is to support the Council's overarching principles shaping the future of Ealing and most importantly contribute to the achievement of outcomes relating to improved health and increased physical activity levels of Ealing residents, establishing how to best meet their current and future health and wellbeing needs and encourage and support the continued independence of Ealing residents, contributing to the priority of making Ealing a better place to live and work.

Ealing Council's main reasons for producing this follow on facility strategy and associated action plan are detailed below:

- To assess and measure the impact of the Ealing Sports Facility Strategy 2012 – 21 and the London 2012 Games legacy programme
- To develop an accurate and robust evidence base to provide the leisure and sport content for the Local Plan refresh and to help inform Planning policy decisions regarding the protection, enhancement and provision of existing and future indoor and outdoor sports facilities providing an understanding of the best location(s) for any new facilities

- To use the evidence base to help calculate and secure developer contributions as part of the planning process where sport and leisure is a consultee on all future housing developments to ensure the impact on the sport and leisure infrastructure is considered and to provide funding to enable the development of sports facilities to benefit residents
- To create an agreed list of priority projects which will help to meet any existing deficiencies, meet future demand and feed into wider infrastructure planning as well as helping to secure internal capital and revenue investment as well as grants from external agencies
- To identify and help meet the growing need of Ealing's strong network of voluntary sports clubs, for better quality sport appropriate facilities, including improvements to existing or the building of new facilities.

1.3 Playing Pitch Improvement Projects Achieved

With regard to assessment of the impact of the current strategy, a substantial number of playing pitch facility enhancements and new projects have been implemented over the last ten years informed by priority needs identified in the Ealing Sports Facilities Strategy 2012 - 2021 and updated in the Playing Pitch Strategy in 2017.

Most notably with regard to new playing pitch provision, £18.5 million funding has been invested by a range of partners in two new football hubs at Rectory Park, Northolt (in the north west of the borough) and Gunnersbury Park (closest to Acton and Ealing in the east). Both sites now have 2 floodlit artificial grass pitches and the latter also includes an oversize sports hall to cater for Handball and Futsal, floodlit tennis courts, a gym, studios and grass pitches. The Rectory Park Football Hub was funded by Ealing Council, the Football Foundation and London Marathon Charitable

Trust; Middlesex FA's new Headquarters is co located in the same building, allowing the MFA to operate the Football Hub as well as administer county football matters on site. The new indoor and outdoor sports facilities at Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub, were funded by both Ealing and Hounslow Council's, the Football Foundation, London Marathon Charitable Trust, Sport England, the Lawn Tennis Association and England Cricket Board, as well as the University of West London, Brentford Football Club and Community Trust and the International School of London.

To create a sustainable legacy from the London 2012 Games, after carrying out a strategic assessment of its indoor and outdoor sporting assets, the Council identified a number of outdoor sports grounds to make available to the voluntary sector through an asset transfer process. This process involved transferring the management and/or ownership of land or buildings from the Council to a community organisation at 'less than best consideration' – that is at less than its full market value to achieve a public benefit. To date, the process has been highly successful and supported the further development of Ealing's existing strong and vibrant community sports sector. Ealing Council's work in this area has been recognised by Sport England and the Football Association and used as a case study in their respective asset transfer toolkits.

To realise this aim, the Council worked with community and voluntary sector organisations to develop small scale sports facilities; working with each partner to raise the necessary funding for the project and to build out the facility. The Council with its voluntary sector partners raised and invested £8.5 million into new and improved outdoor sports facilities. By leasing the new/improved facilities to the community-based partners, long term sustainability was secured - i.e. facilities managed by the community for the community.

Leading examples of this asset transfer approach include:

- **Spikes Bridge Park, Southall** - A new pavilion, floodlit 3G artificial grass pitch, cricket and grass football facilities in Southall installed in 2015 and currently leased to London Tigers.
- **Boddington Gardens, Acton** - A new pavilion, floodlit sand based artificial grass pitch, cricket pitch and grass football pitches came back into use in 2015, leased to Actonians Sports Club.
- **Perivale Park** - A new pavilion opened in 2016 provides users of the pay and play cricket and football pitches in this park with changing rooms and toilets.
- **Popesfield Playing Fields, Ealing** - A new pavilion and cricket and grass football pitches opened summer 2017 and leased to Ealing Cricket Club.
- **Lord Halsbury Memorial Sports Ground, Northolt** - A new pavilion including boxing gym and a floodlit 3G artificial training pitch opened in 2014 and leased to Larkspur Rovers Football Club
- **Scotch Common, West Ealing** - A new pavilion was built and leased to Pitshanger Football Club.

The Council has also worked closely with local schools to promote out of hours community use of new facilities on school sites that can be used for community sport and recreation. Through the planning process, Community Use Agreements have been secured ensuring that school facilities are available to local sports groups at an affordable price out of school hours. This type of agreement is in place at William Perkin High School, which opened its sports facilities including a floodlit full size 3G artificial grass pitch and sports hall for club-based community use in 2015.

These are just some of the successful larger scale playing pitch projects Ealing has delivered during the life of the original sports facility strategy 2012 – 21. A number of free to use entry level facilities for playing pitch

sports including MUGAs for football and cage cricket have also been provided by the Council in public parks and in residential areas.

Commercial and voluntary sector organisations have also funded sports facility improvement projects in Ealing, most prominently Trailfinders Sports Club Ground has transformed in recent years to a top-class rugby venue with excellent facilities (including an indoor training complex opened in January 2022) for the professional rugby team, large amateur rugby club, cricket and football clubs that operate on the site. Club des Sport has invested heavily in a range of sports facilities in Acton, including floodlit artificial grass pitches for football and cricket nets, for use by resident sports clubs including Acton Cricket Club. Wasps FC has invested in a floodlit rugby compliant artificial grass pitch facility and private schools in the borough have also invested in their sports facilities (for example floodlights added to the hockey artificial pitch at St Benedict's in Perivale), which facilitates community hockey club use after school hours.

1.4 Vision and Key Objectives

The vision for the Ealing Playing Pitch Strategy is to facilitate the creation of a sporting infrastructure across Ealing that provides residents of all ages, abilities and backgrounds with the opportunity to be active and play outdoor playing pitch sport.

The key objectives of the Ealing Sports Facility Strategy 2022 – 31 are to:

1. Provide the Council and its partners with a robust document with an evidence base that can be reliably used to support spatial planning decisions and inform capital investment plans and external funding bids for new and/or enhanced indoor and outdoor sports facilities.

2. Improve public health by encouraging more people in Ealing to be more active by ensuring facilities for indoor and outdoor sports are of the appropriate quality are both available and accessible.
3. Ensure future sustainability of sport and leisure in Ealing through sports and physical activity networks, involving sports clubs and other delivery organisations.

Through the implementation of this strategy, the Council has a major role to play in providing access to sporting opportunities at a cost that is acceptable to the widest community. To this end, the Council will continue to be a direct provider, where appropriate, of entry level playing facilities such free to use casual grass football pitches as well as hard court ball courts and multi-use games areas in parks and on housing estates.

As detailed in the examples in 1.3 above, the Council also plays an enabling role in developing better quality facilities by engaging and enabling community organisations through the asset transfer process to independently manage and operate facilities funded through partnerships with Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport as well as other funding organisations. At the very top level, professional sports clubs based in the borough provide facilities catering for elite sport.

In order to achieve the vision and 3 key objectives of this new 10-year strategy, the council will explore opportunities to:

- Enable and promote a network of accessible sports facilities across the borough maintaining and enhancing the borough's built and green infrastructure
- Work with commercial and community partners and national governing bodies to enable and secure the development and long-term

- management as well as financial viability of indoor and outdoor sport facilities across the borough
- Seek to maximise opportunities which may arise to develop sports facilities as part of wider regeneration, education or place-based projects
- Identify and bid for external funding to support the development and delivery of new sports facilities across Ealing
- Help clubs and organisations to promote the benefits of sport to bring communities together to make them stronger reducing inequality and celebrating diversity
- Promote sport and active recreation as a key enabler to healthy and active lifestyles
- Be innovative and creative when investigating possible solutions to facility supply needs in light of the general reduction in funding available to improve and or build new sports facilities
- Identify opportunities for the possible co-location of facilities including film studios, libraries, health clinics, etc.
- Expand community use of existing education facilities not currently available for community use
- Investigate the viability of developing indoor facilities at existing outdoor sports venues to create sustainable and self-financing indoor and outdoor sports hubs managed and operated by voluntary sports clubs.

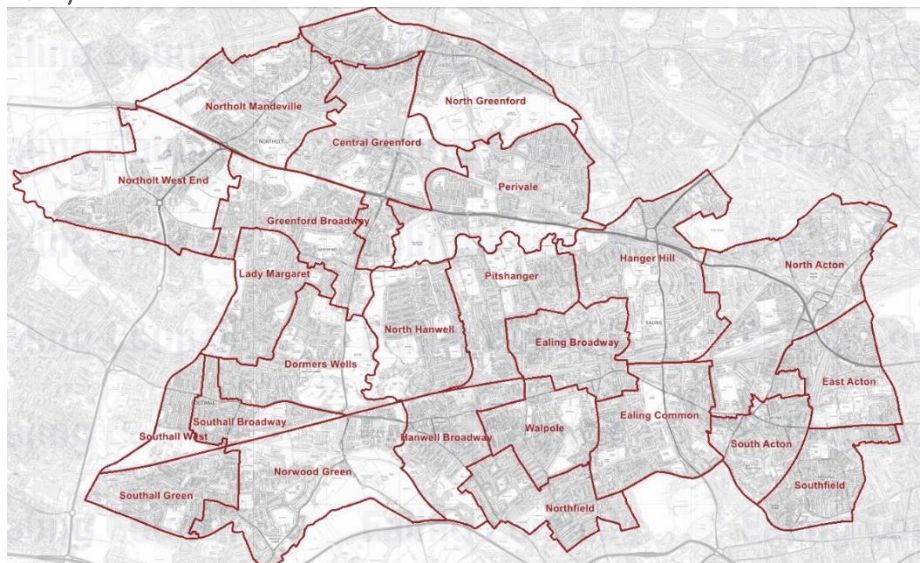
By acting on the recommendations in this strategy and delivering the facility developments included in the action plan the following outcomes will be realised for Ealing residents:

- More opportunities for people to be more active reducing the number of inactive people
- Greater participation in playing pitch sports and increased levels of physical activity
- Better, more accessible sports facilities of appropriate quality available across the borough
- Reduced public subsidy and better long-term sustainability of sports facilities across the borough
- More community organisations developing and operating facilities for the benefit of local residents
- More opportunities for people to volunteer in sport and active recreation for the benefit of others
- New regeneration or education projects will factor in future community use sports facilities enhancing local places and spaces for the enjoyment of residents
- Stronger and healthier communities, reducing health inequalities
- Planning policy which supports and encourages people to be more active.

1.5 The Extent of the Study Area

The extent of the study area is the Ealing local authority boundary (to correspond with all local planning documents), whilst taking into account the impact on meeting Ealing's needs of the supply of playing pitches in neighbouring boroughs - for example Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub on the border with Hounslow - as well as the impact of displaced demand to Ealing from the more densely populated boroughs to the east towards Central London, for example PHC Chiswick Hockey Club now based in Acton and several of the football clubs with their origins in other local authority areas playing their home matches at the London Marathon Playing Field in Greenford. Similarly, displaced demand of clubs with their origins in the borough - notably Southall FC - is also considered.

Figure 1.1 - London Local Authority Map (source LB Ealing ward boundaries 2022)



The Steering Group overseeing the development of this strategy agreed to work with a single study area to cover the whole of the borough. As in 2016 when the current PPS began to be developed, it was agreed there is still no clear rationale to analyse the supply and demand balance of playing pitches in the borough by geographical sub-areas.

However, it was agreed that the expression and communication of identified priorities in the action plan should recognise the existence of Ealing's seven 'town' community identities of Northolt, Southall, Greenford, Perivale, Hanwell, Acton and Ealing.

Figure 1.2 - Ealing's Seven 'Towns' (source LB Ealing)

UPDATED MAP TO BE INSERTED

1.6 The Approach to Developing the Strategy

The strategy aims to be robust, based on local needs (currently and to 2031) and deliverable. This objective is assured by adhering to the 'ten steps' advocated in the current Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013).

Figure 1.3 - Ten Stage Approach to a PPS



- Stage A - Step 1: Prepare and tailor the approach
- Stage B - Step 2: Gather supply information and views
- Step 3: Gather demand information and views
- Stage C - Step 4: Understand the situation at individual sites
- Step 5: Develop the current and future pictures of provision
- Step 6: Identify the key findings and issues
- Stage D - Step 7: Develop the recommendations and action plan
- Step 8: Write and adopt the strategy
- Stage E - Step 9: Apply and deliver the strategy
- Step 10: Keep the strategy robust and up to date.

National Policy Adherence

There is also a need to adhere to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Para 98 of the NPPF states: *“Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate”.*

Sport England’s guidance highlights the importance of undertaking detailed assessments of sports facility needs and the benefits of sports and physical activity within local authority areas (as well as considering the range of possible options and scenarios for meeting priority needs and achieving positive outcomes identified through this process), before making

recommendations for future action.

Specifically, the guidance recommends that local authorities:

1. *Recognise and give significant weight to the benefits of sport and physical activity.*
2. *Undertake, maintain and apply robust and up-to-date assessments of need and strategies for sport and physical activity provision, and base policies, decisions and guidance upon them.*
3. *Plan, design and maintain buildings, developments, facilities, land and environments that enable people to lead active lifestyles.*

The guidance published by Sport England also advocates that strategic recommendations and action planning consider the following hierarchy of needs:

1. **Protect** existing sports facilities where these are sustainable and continue to perform a valuable role in meeting community needs;
2. **Enhance** existing facilities that meet these criteria but need improvement to continue to be of value; and, lastly,
3. **Provide** new or extended facilities where there is found to be substantial unmet needs currently or predicted for the future.

1.7 Tailoring the Approach - What makes the study area different?

Transport and Accessibility

The borough has excellent transport infrastructure linking the seven towns and to other parts of London. Ealing has three tube lines (the Central, District and Piccadilly lines); an overground rail service linking Gunnersbury with Acton; and two major east/west trunk roads (the A40 Western Avenue across the north of the borough and the A4020 Uxbridge Road linking

Central Ealing to Southall to the south) and the North Circular Road (A205) running north/south from South Brent (Alperton, Stonebridge) through Park Royal to Gunnersbury.

The major rail transport infrastructure projects of Crossrail Elizabeth Line and HS2 are also likely to impact on accessibility of playing pitch sites in the vicinity of upgraded stations over the new Local Plan period with new services and shorter journey times. For example the Crossrail Elizabeth Line services will run via Ealing Broadway, Acton, Hanwell, Southall and West Ealing stations.

As in London as a whole, travel by bus in Ealing in the peak evening and weekend times for sports and recreation is a viable option for those without a car. An expanded network of cycle routes has also been delivered since the last PPS, including a number of routes created for daily exercise during the Covid pandemic promoted by the Ealing Cycling Campaign, a local group of London Cycling Campaign. Ealing also promotes walking for community purposes as well as walking and running for health and fitness, the distance marker routes in over 20 of Ealing's parks have proved to be popular with residents.

The strategy takes into account these accessibility issues and the extent of demand for playing pitches that is either 'imported' (i.e. teams based in neighbour boroughs playing home matches or training on pitches in Ealing) or 'exported' (i.e. teams based in the borough playing home fixtures or training out of the borough).

Growth

Further housing development will take place over the next Local Plan period - particularly in the three Local Plan Opportunity areas of Park Royal,

Southall, Northolt to Perivale. Forecasts, based on 2018 housing-led population statistics published by the GLA in 2020, are for approximately 38,000 more people living in Ealing by 2031.

The Local Plan refresh will set out the number of homes and jobs to meet the needs of new and existing residents, and what community and other infrastructure will be required to support this growth along with strategies for mitigating and adapting to climate change to help the borough become carbon neutral by 2030. Of direct relevance to this Playing Pitch Strategy, it will also focus on promoting a pattern of development that helps people lead healthier and more active lives.

Population Profile

The number of residents in the borough increased by nearly 21,000 between 2011 and 2021 from 339,245 to 360,003 (based on GLA 2018-based mid-year housing-led population projections, released February 2020).

The pace of growth of approximately 6% over the last 10 years is forecast to continue at a faster rate over the next 10 years covered by this strategy. The forecast is for a resident population of just over 398,300 by 2031, an increase of nearly 38,300 i.e. in excess of 10% or 1% per annum.

Due to falls in the birth rate and people living longer, the borough population profile is forecast to continue to age. In the core participant age bands for the four major playing pitch sports, the following pattern of resident population growth is forecast based on the GLA 2018 based midyear housing-led population projections (Feb 2020 release):

Figure 1.4 - Forecast population change in Ealing by pitch sport age group

Sport	Age group	2021	2031	Change
Football	Adult (16-45yrs)	155,397	168,908	13,511
	Youth 11v11 (12-15yrs)	18,896	18,766	-130
	Youth 9v9 (10-11yrs)	9,767	9,373	-394
	Mini-soccer 7v7 (8-9yrs)	9,602	9,348	-254
	Mini-soccer 5v5 (6-7yrs)	9,584	9,268	-316
Cricket	Adult (18-55yrs)	194,331	212,530	18,199
	Junior (7-17yrs)	51,936	51,739	-197
Rugby	Adult (19-45yrs)	142,427	154,614	12,187
	Youth (13-18yrs)	27,072	28,416	1,344
	Mini-rugby (7-12yrs)	29,001	28,007	-994
Hockey	Adult (16-55)	203,165	222,141	18,976
	Youth (11-15yrs)	23,753	23,437	-316

Clearly, this trend in the age profile has implications for future demand for playing pitches. The demand for playing pitches from children – the main growth area over the last 10 - 20 years - may level off in future. However, this should not be overstated as the governing bodies of the pitch sports where female participation is under-represented - i.e. football, cricket and rugby - are working hard to grow women and girls' participation in their sports supported by development initiatives at some of the larger community clubs in the borough.

The large growth in the adult age band is particularly marked at the top end of the age scale - i.e. 40-55yrs and greater among women than men. The implications for playing pitch facility planning are possible growth in recreational games, veterans teams and less intensive and walking forms of playing pitch sports outside the traditional club leagues model. This age trend is likely to place higher demand on artificial playing surfaces than on natural turf in future.

A further key demographic feature of relevance to protection of open playing field space for sport is population density. According to the latest estimates, Ealing is the third most densely populated Outer London borough after Brent and Waltham Forest with more than 61 residents per hectare.

The ethnic composition of the resident population is particularly diverse. At the time of the last published census Ealing was the 3rd most diverse borough in England & Wales. Compared to the rest of England & Wales, the ethnic composition of Ealing in 2011 included the:

- Largest Polish population (21,507)
- Highest number of Afghans (6,789)
- Highest number of Serbians (441)
- 2nd highest number of Japanese residents (2,798)
- 2nd highest number of Iranians (2,981)
- 3rd highest Somali population (2,835), with a further 535 Somalilanders
- 4th highest number of Arabs (10,076)

Between 2015 and 2045 the white population in Ealing is expected to grow by 10%. For all other ethnicities the projected rise in numbers is steeper over this time period: Asian/Asian British by 37%, Black/Black British by 16%,

residents of mixed ethnic heritage by 27%, Chinese by 40% and population of other ethnic origin by 43%¹.

In terms of socio-economic deprivation, the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) shows that, overall, Ealing ranks 88th out of the 317 local authorities in England - i.e. one of the most deprived in the second quartile. Deprivation is highly localised with just 2% of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the borough ranking within the 10% most deprived of all LSOAs nationally. This ranking is comparable to other London boroughs including Waltham Forest, Croydon, Westminster and Newham. The most deprived areas within the borough are concentrated largely in the west. Southall Green, Norwood Green, Dormers Wells, Northolt North West and areas in South and Central Acton are comparatively more deprived than other areas.

1.6 Tailoring the Approach - How does the population participate?

Figure 1.5, taken from Sport England's latest Active Lives Survey results for the period May 2020 to May 2021, show that approximately 1% more adult residents of the borough (aged 16+) are physically 'inactive' (28%) compared to the national and regional average (28%). Compared to the average for all Outer London boroughs however, levels of inactivity in Ealing are lower.

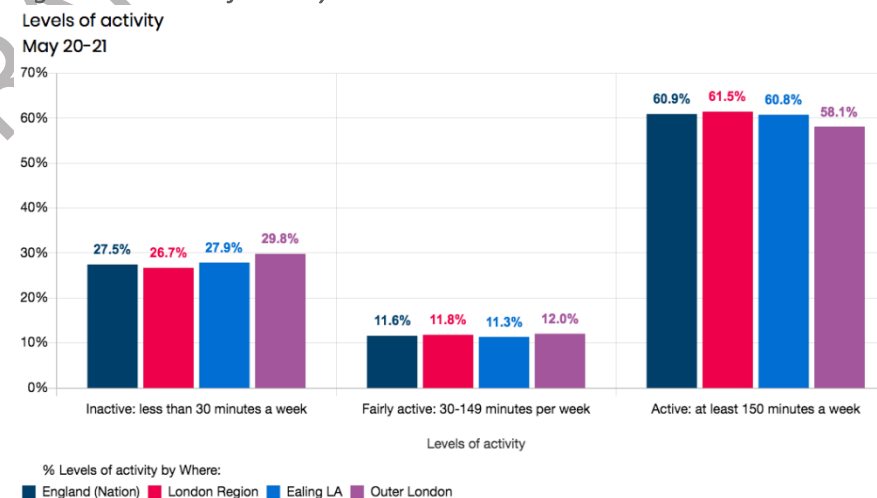
This equates to a little over 74,000 adults (aged 16+) in Ealing who, on average, are doing less than 30 minutes a week moderately intensive equivalent (MIE) physical activity.

30,200 (11.3%) of adults in Ealing are moderately active (i.e. doing between 30- and 150-minutes MIE physical activity a week) and 161,600 (60.8%) are classed as 'active' (i.e. doing more than 150 minutes a week).

Across London as a whole, 11.8% are 'fairly active' (0.5% higher proportion than in Ealing) and 61.5% are 'active' (compared to 60.8% in Ealing).

Across the Outer London boroughs only, 12% are fairly active (0.7% higher than in Ealing) and 58.1% are active (i.e. 2.7% lower than the 60.8% active adults in Ealing).

Figure 1.5 Levels of Activity



¹ Source: GLA Ethnic Group Projections Trend, 2015 (LTM)

Regular participation - defined in the survey as participation at least twice in the last 28 days - is similarly a little lower among adults in Ealing at 74% than across London (75%) and nationally (75.3%) but higher than in Outer London (72.1%) as shown in Figure 1.6.

Figure 1.6 Participation in the last 28 days

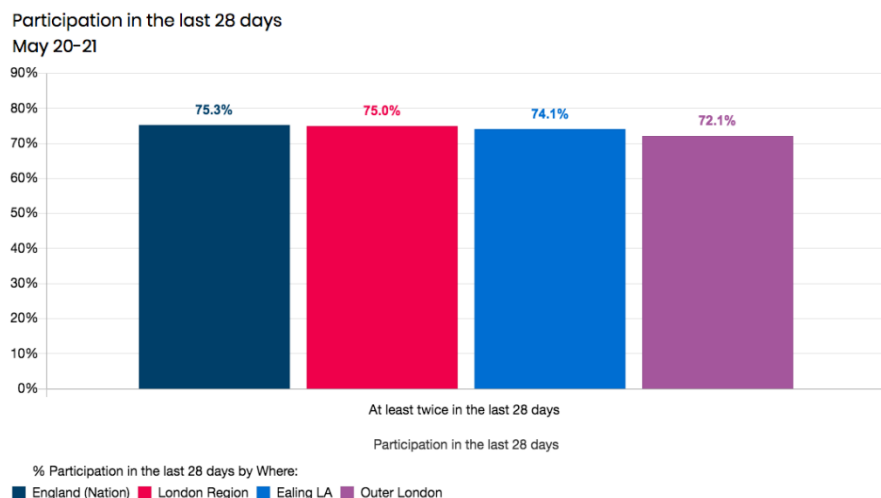
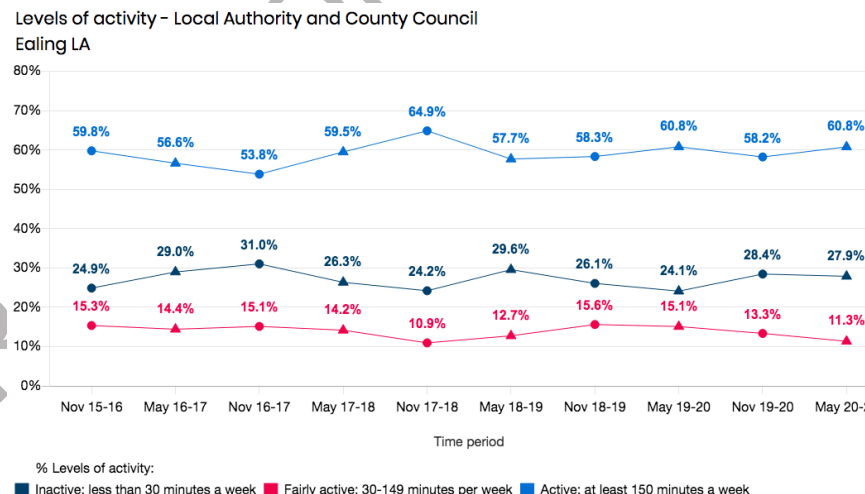


Figure 1.7 shows the borough trend for these measures over the 10 runs of the Active Lives Survey to date.

Since work began on the last PPS in 2015/16, the proportion of adults in the borough classed as 'active' (at least 150 minutes a week) has increased by one percentage point from 60% to 61%. Over the same period, the figure for 'inactive' (less than 30 minutes a week) has however increased by three

percentage points from 25% to 28%). Regular adult participation (at least twice in the last 28 days) has also fallen since 2015/16 from 76% to 74 %.

Figure 1.7 Participation Trends



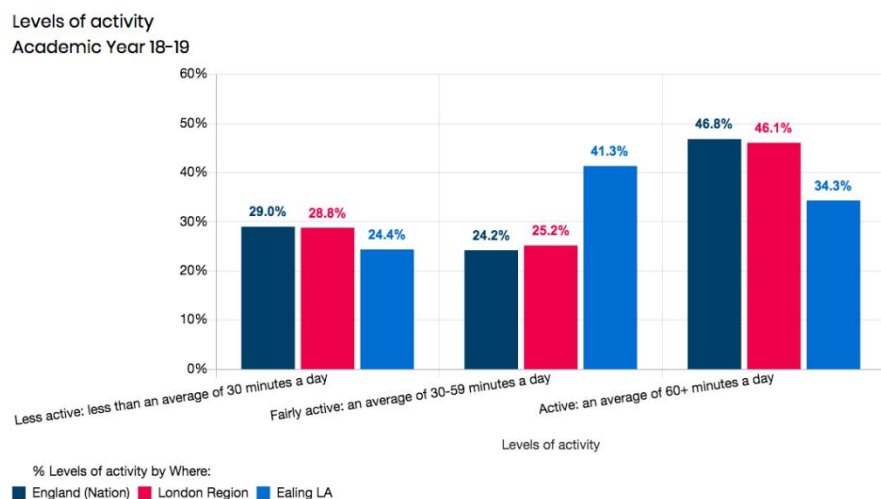
With more than a quarter of all over 16-year-olds in Ealing found to be inactive in the in the 2021 ALS, this evidences the importance of provision of accessible and affordable facilities for sport and active recreation.

The Active Lives Children & Young People Survey in 2020 (based on data collected in the academic year 2018/19) found that in Ealing just 34.3% of children (aged 5-16) met the recommended level of physical activity (i.e. Active for an average of 60mins or more daily either in or out of school). This is well below both the national figure (46.8%) and the regional average of 46.1% (see Figure 1.8).

In terms of the 'Less Active' measure (i.e. Active for an average of less than 30mins a day), the borough figure is 24.4% - i.e. more than 11,000 children in the borough aged 5-16 are insufficiently active for their health. However the picture is slightly worse nationally (29%) and across London as a whole (28.8%).

Again, as the adult findings, these findings for children evidence the case for provision of more accessible spaces and places for sport and physical activity.

Figure 1.8 Levels of children's physical activity



With regard to specific playing pitch sports, the Active Lives Survey does not provide data at local authority level. However, nationally, the ALS shows there is a general decline in self-reported regular participation (i.e. taken

part at least twice in the last 28 days) in the leading playing pitch sports in England by adults (aged 16+). Further Active Lives Survey data covering the period of movement restrictions imposed in response to the coronavirus pandemic indicate that this is likely to be the main cause of the decrease in regular adult participation in 2020/21.

- **Football** - down by 1.9% from 4.1% between May 2019 - May 2020 to 2.2% between May 2020 and May 2021. In the previous three years, adult football participation fell from 5.1% in 2016/17 to 4.6% in 2018/19.
- **Cricket** - down from 0.7% between May 2019 - May 2020 to 0.4% between May 2020 to May 2021. In the three previous years, adult cricket participation was consistent at 0.7%.
- **Rugby Union** - halved from 0.4% to 0.2% between May 2018 - May 2019 and May 2020 - May 2021. In the three previous years, adult participation was 0.5%.
- **Hockey** - decreased from 0.3% between May 2019 - May 2020 to 0.2% between May 2020 to May 2021. In the three previous years, adult participation vacillated between 0.2% and 0.3%.

While affiliated adult league football has declined in the borough in line with the national trend, organised non-affiliated football has grown since the last PPS encouraged by the Football Association's increased strategic focus on growing the recreational game. Regular indoor and outdoor walking football sessions for older adults have developed. A new *Play On Flexi-League* for recreational 11 a side football has also been developed by Middlesex FA on the AGPs provided at Rectory Park. The matches which are played

fortnightly are proving popular as they are more social and require less time commitment than weekly small sided leagues for example.

The number of cricket clubs and teams in the borough has grown substantially since the last PPS and progress in developing opportunities for women and girls' cricket have also expanded from a low base with three of the largest clubs - Actonians CC, Ealing CC and Brentham CC - now running women's and/or girl's teams.

Demand for men's and boys' youth rugby has also bucked the national trend with evidence of team growth since the last PPS. Most of the growth has taken place at the senior Ealing Trailfinders and Wasps FC clubs. The latter fields two league women's teams and Ealing Trailfinders provide age grade opportunities for girls beyond mixed mini rugby through its Ealing Emerald set up.

As far as hockey is concerned, participation within Ealing has grown substantially mainly as a consequence of the PHC Chiswick HC - with its origins in Hounslow and Hammersmith & Fulham - establishing its main home in Acton at the Boddington Sports Ground and formally affiliating to the Actonians Sports Association.

It is apparent that implementation of the priority projects in the 2017 PPS as set out in paragraph 1.3 above - notably the provision of several new floodlit 3G artificial turf pitches - has gone a long way to sustaining and growing participation in playing pitch sports in the borough by accommodating increased demand from population growth and club development over this period.

This update to the 2017 PPS will seek to identify the priority facility enhancements and new provision that are likely to be necessary to continue to accommodate demand changes over the next planning period driven by both participation trends (notably more demand among women and girls and for recreational game formats) and by population growth resulting from new housing development.

1.7 Tailoring the Approach - Which pitch sports to include?

The Steering Group agreed that the sports to be included in the Playing Pitch Strategy section are football, hockey, rugby union and cricket. Within these sports, the strategy seeks as far as is practicable, to include consideration of all forms of play, whether:

- Club and league based (formal) play and training (including reference to indoor nets for cricket),
- Less formal programmed forms of the respective sports (e.g. friendly and recreational game formats outside the sports governing bodies affiliated structures), and
- Un-programmed play by groups of residents, workers, students out of school.

1.8 Management and Delivery

The development of the strategy has been managed by the Ealing Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group, comprising of representatives from The England & Wales Cricket Board, The Football Foundation, Middlesex County Football Association, England Hockey, The Rugby Football Union, Sport England, Ealing's Leisure, Parks and Education teams, Ealing Planning Department and Continuum Sport & Leisure Ltd, the consultants appointed to co-ordinate the strategy development to the point of the recommendations and action plan (i.e. Steps 1 to 7 as detailed in paragraph 1.4 above).

1.9 Existing Playing Pitches

The sites with natural turf playing pitches with community access and identified current use in Ealing are listed in Figure 1.9 and their locations shown in the map at Figure 1.10.

Figure 1.9: Natural Turf Playing Pitch Sites – Football, Rugby & Cricket

Map Ref.	Site Name	Postcode	Pitch sport(s)
1	Acton Ealing Whistlers	W5 1HW	Football
2	Actonians Sports Ground	W5 4LL	Football, Cricket, Rugby
3	Actonians Boddington Gardens	W3 9AP	Football, Cricket
4	Alwyn Gardens Sports Ground	W3 0JH	Football
5	Brentham Sports Club Ground	W5 1NP	Football, Cricket
6	Brentfield Cricket Ground	UB1 3EB	Cricket
7	Brentside High School Playing Fields	W7 3DJ	Football
8	Club des Sports	W3 7HB	Cricket, Football
9	Dormers Wells Leisure Centre grass pitches	UB1 3HX	Football
10	Drayton Manor High School Playing Fields	W7 3DD	Football, Cricket
11	Ealing Central Sports Ground	UB6 8AP	Football, Cricket
12	Ealing Cricket Club Ground	W5 2HS	Cricket
13	Elthorne Waterside	W7 2AD	Football
14	Gunnensbury Park Sports Hub	W3 8LQ	Football, Cricket, Rugby
15	Hanwell Town FC	UB6 8TL	Football
16	Islip Manor Park	UB5 5RG	Cricket

Figure 1.9: Natural Turf Playing Pitch Sites – Football, Rugby & Cricket

Map Ref.	Site Name	Postcode	Pitch sport(s)
17	London Playing Fields Greenford	UB6 8LS	Cricket, Rugby, Football
18	Lord Halsbury Memorial Playing Fields	UB5 5TD	Football
19	North Acton Playing Fields	W3 0AX	Football, Cricket
20	North Greenford United, Berkeley Fields	UB6 0NX	Football
23	Northolt RFC, Cayton Green Park	UB6 8BJ	Rugby, Football
24	Osterley Cricket Club	UB2 4LW	Cricket, Football
25	Osterley Sports Ground	UB2 4LW	Football
26	Perivale Park Sports Ground	UB6 8HA	Football, Cricket
27	Pitshanger Park, Scotch Common	W128DL	Football
28	Popesfield Sports Ground	W5 4LP	Cricket, Football
29	Queens Drive Playing Field	W3 0BP	Football
30	Rectory Park	UB5 6GR	Football, Cricket
31	Shamrock Sports Club Ground	W3 0BP	Football
32	Shepherds Bush Cricket Club Ground	W3 7BP	Cricket, Football
33	SKLPC Sports Ground	UB5 6RE	Cricket
34	Southfield Recreation Ground	W3 7QH	Football
35	Spikes Bridge Sports Ground	UB1 2AS	Cricket, Football
36	St Benedicts School Playing Fields	UB6 8TL	Rugby, Cricket
37	Trailfinders Sports Club	W13 0DD	Rugby, Cricket, Football

Figure 1.9: Natural Turf Playing Pitch Sites – Football, Rugby & Cricket

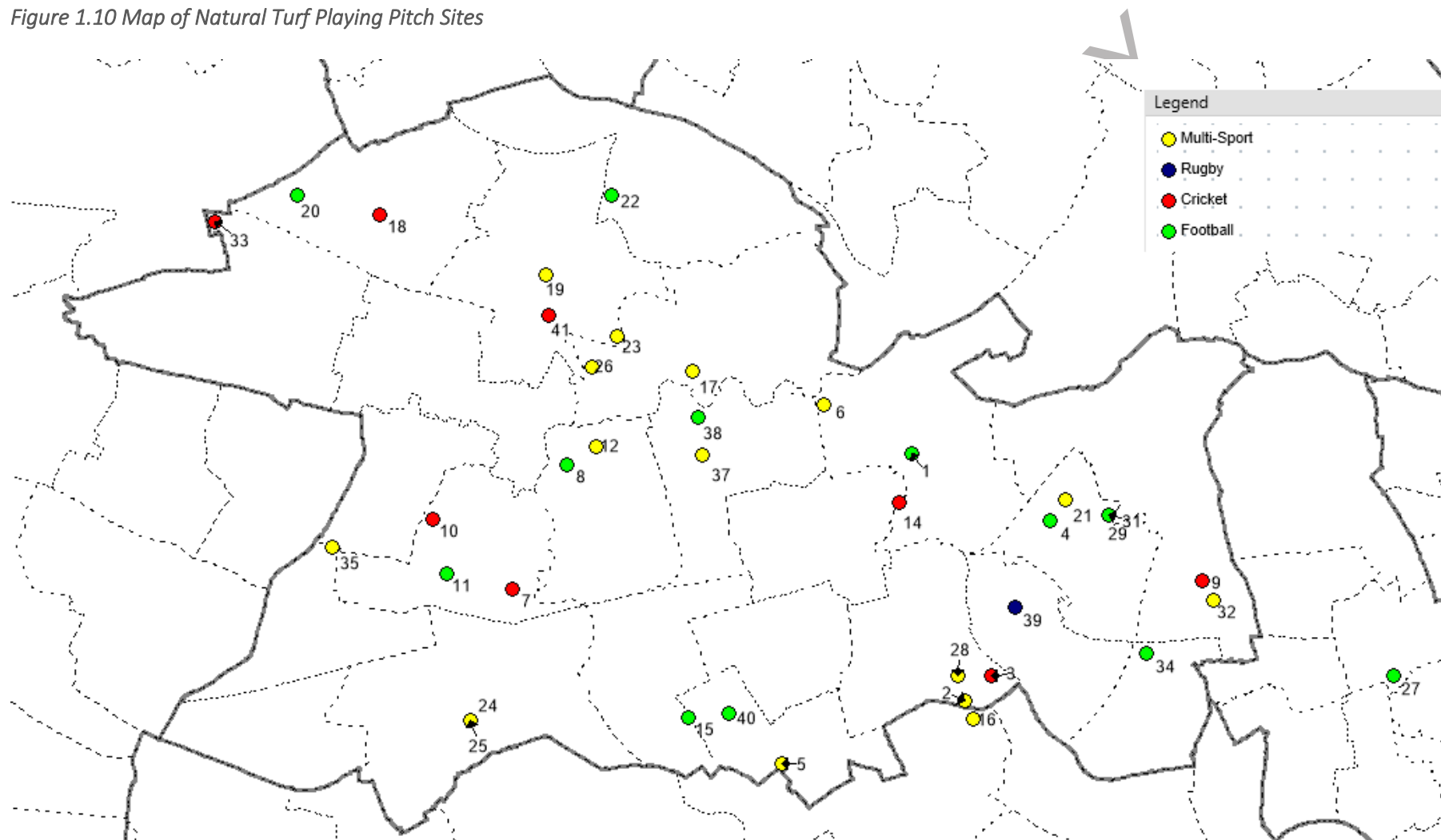
Map Ref.	Site Name	Postcode	Pitch sport(s)
38	Uni of West London Argyle Road Sports Pitches	W13 0AY	Football
39	Wasps FC Twyford Avenue Sports Ground	W3 9QA	Rugby, Football
40	West Ealing Bowls Club	W13 9UW	Football

Figure 1.9: Natural Turf Playing Pitch Sites – Football, Rugby & Cricket

Map Ref.	Site Name	Postcode	Pitch sport(s)
41	William Perkin High School	UB6 8QD	Cricket

WORKING DRAFT COPY

Figure 1.10 Map of Natural Turf Playing Pitch Sites



Sites with artificial grass playing pitches with community access and use (and the sports the sites provide for) are listed in Figure 1.11 and their locations shown in the map at Figure 1.12. For cricket, NTP means Non Turf Pitch which is an artificial strip located adjacent to a fine turf table or as a standalone wicket instead of a fine turf wicket table used; this type of facility is used mainly for junior and low level adult cricket.

Figure 1.11: Artificial Turf Playing Pitch Sites

Map Ref.	Site Name	Postcode	Type	Pitch sport(s)
1	Actonians Boddingtons Gardens	W3 9AP	Sand NTP	Hockey, Football, Cricket
2	Alec Reed Academy Sports Centre	UB5 5LQ	3G	Football
3	Blondin Park	W5 4UQ	NTP	Cricket
4	Brentham Club	W5 1NP	NTP	Cricket
5	Brentfield Cricket Ground	UB1 3EB	NTP	Cricket
6	Brentside High School	W7 1JJ	3G	Football
7	Cardinal Wiseman School	UB6 9AW	3G	Football
8	Club des Sports	W3 7HB	Rugby 3G Football 3G Small sided 3Gs	Football Football
9	Dormers Wells High School	UB1 3HZ	NTP	Cricket
10	Drayton Manor High School	W7 3DD	Small 3G NTP	Football, Cricket
11	Ealing Cricket Club Ground	W5 2HS	NTP	Cricket

Figure 1.11: Artificial Turf Playing Pitch Sites

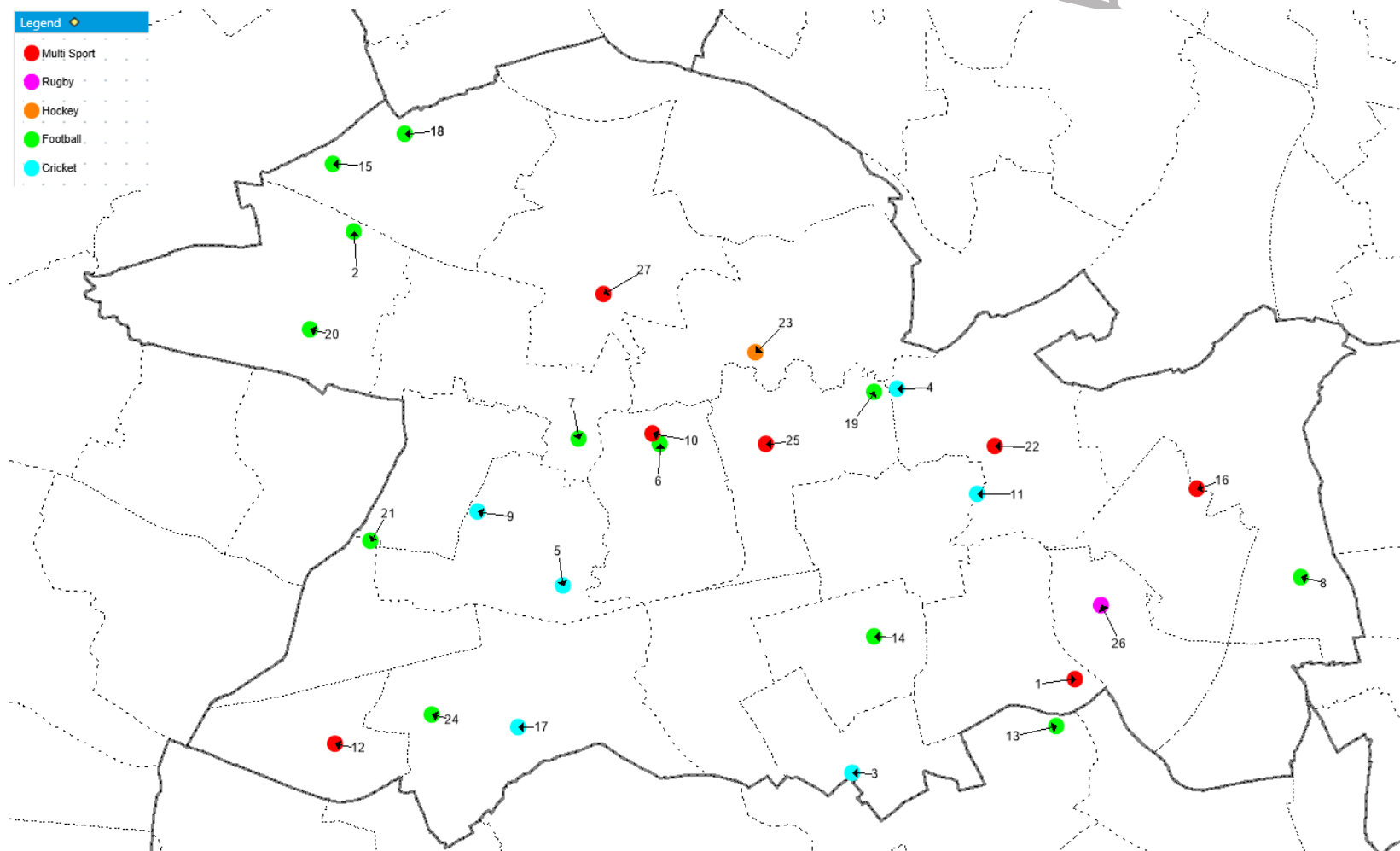
Map Ref.	Site Name	Postcode	Type	Pitch sport(s)
12	Featherstone High School Sports Centre	UB2 5HF	Short pile 3G	Hockey, Football
13	Gunnery Park Sports Hub	W3 8LQ	3G (2)	Football
14	Lammas Park	W13 9NJ	Small 3G	Football
15	Lord Halsbury Memorial Playing Fields	UB5 5TD	Small 3G	Football
16	North Acton Playing Fields	W3 0JE	Small 3G NTP (2)	Football, Cricket
17	Osterley Cricket Club Ground	UB2 4LW	NTP (2)	Cricket
18	Northolt High School Sports Centre	UB5 4HP	3G	Football
19	Pitshanger Park	W5 1NR	Small 3G	Football
20	Rectory Park	UB5 6GR	3G (2)	Football
21	Spikes Bridge Sports Ground	UB1 2AS	3G	Football
22	St Augustines Priory School	W5 2JL	Sand	Hockey, Football
23	St Benedicts School	UB6 8TL	Sand	Hockey
24	Swift Road Outdoor Sports Centre	UB2 4RP	Small 3G	Football
25	Trailfinders Sports Club	W13 0DD	Rugby 3G (2) Small sided 3Gs Indoor 3G	Rugby, Football
26	Wasps FC Twyford Avenue Sports Ground	W3 9QA	Rugby 3G	Rugby

Figure 1.11: Artificial Turf Playing Pitch Sites

Map Ref.	Site Name	Postcode	Type	Pitch sport(s)
27	William Perkin High School	UB6 8PR	3G NTP	Football, Cricket

WORKING DRAFT COPY

Figure 1.12 Map of Artificial Turf Playing Pitch Sites





Section 2 – Key Findings and Issues

2. Key Findings and Issues

The key findings of the detailed Assessment of Need studies for the four major playing pitch sports played in Ealing are summarised in this section. The detailed Assessment of Need reports of findings (covering Stages B & C of Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance) and supporting site-specific audit reports have been checked and challenged by representatives of the relevant sports governing bodies and are appended as follows:

- Appendix A: Cricket - Assessment of Need and Site Audit
- Appendix B: Football - Assessment of Need and Site Audit
- Appendix C: Hockey - Assessment of Need and Site Audit
- Appendix D: Rugby - Assessment of Need and Site Audit

2.1 Summary Findings by Sport

This section provides an overall summary by sport of supply, planned and proposed changes to supply, current and latent demand covering the following leading questions as part of the Playing Pitch Strategy methodology.

- What are the main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for provision?
- Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?
- Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?
- What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

- Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

2.2 Cricket

Cricket

What are the main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for provision?

- 23 fine turf pitches are identified as available for community cricket across Ealing in 2022, on 21 operational playing pitch sites. A further 6 fine turf pitches are currently in the process of improvement works (or are new squares bedding-in) and may not be available until the 2023 season. These pitches are at Durdans Park (available 2022) and Ealing Central Sports Ground. There are 15 non-turf pitches available for use across 13 sites. Whilst there has been little change in the number of fine turf pitches in the borough since the last PPS, aside from at Popesfield Playing Field and William Perkin High School, there has been a significant increase in the provision of non-turf pitches and in indoor cricket facilities (for example the new facilities at Trailfinders Sports Club).
- Between the 16 main Ealing-based clubs identified in the consultation, there are 49 adult men's sides entered to compete in affiliated Saturday cricket leagues cricket in 2022 plus three regular women's sides (Acton CC and Ealing CC). The larger traditional clubs - Acton, Brentham, Ealing, Shepherds Bush, SKLPC, Actonians, Osterley, Ealing Trailfinders, London Tigers, Perivale Phoenicians - all have junior sections. Most of these clubs report that their junior sections have developed substantially especially in the younger age groups.
- Where possible, the clubs use their outfield and NTPs to cater for this demand. While the number of Saturday league teams has grown slightly

Cricket

- since the last PPS, the number of teams playing Sunday cricket at the traditional clubs has reduced substantially.
- In addition, demand for junior and youth cricket in the borough and non-traditional club team cricket has been further promoted since the last review by the cricket development activities of Middlesex Cricket (including the introduction of a 'transition' team structure (with competitions for u19 and u21 sides and a youth cup for boys and girls) to bridge the link between colts cricket and adult club cricket, as well community cricket and youth development initiatives by the Council and partner community organisations, including London Tigers at Spikes Bridge Park. Currently, there are 18 transition teams (17 male, 1 female).
- Since the last review the number of new clubs and teams playing in London/West London South Asian leagues in the Southall and Harrow areas has also increased, placing additional demand on park pitches - particularly on Sundays. 10 such teams are identified (all male).
- In total it is estimated that, in the 2022 season, there are 76 men's teams (aged 18+), 4 women's teams, 65 boys' teams (aged 7-18) and 20 girls' teams (7-18yrs) playing cricket matches in the borough mainly at weekends. A large proportion of these teams also train on a midweek evening in season. Most of the senior teams will also train indoors pre-season in January/February.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

Cricket

- Although displaced demand identified in the last PPS has largely been eliminated through investment in new and improved provision, current secured supply does not meet all of the current demand for cricket in the borough.
- Whilst the majority of the cricket clubs in the borough have secured access to a home ground, two large multi-team clubs (Acton CC and Perivale Phoenicians CC) have no security of access at one of the grounds they use for home fixtures. This is a particularly pressing issue for the latter club as the host school has recently substantially increased its demand for annual ground rental. Northfields CC, a single team club, is similarly reliant on seasonal hire agreement with a school. Ealing Trailfinders CC is also currently playing on unsecured supply at St Benedict's School. However, this is only temporary while the re-laid pitch on the club's home sports ground gets re-established.
- In addition, several clubs, including the largest - Ealing CC - continue to maintain waiting lists for their junior sections indicating unmet demand.
- There is also high demand at several of those Ealing Council park sites with cricket pitches (e.g. North Acton and Rectory Park) from single team clubs playing short format cricket in West London or pan London leagues (including several focused on serving South Asian communities). When not in use for formal matches, artificial (non-turf) pitches in the public parks (and pitch outfields) also accommodate demand from family groups and groups of friends and work colleagues. The re-opening of the four re-laid pitches at Ealing Central Sports Ground and three new pitches in Gunnersbury Park will help to address cricket demand.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

Cricket

- Pitch inspection and assessments by Middlesex Cricket Pitch Support Network of specialist grounds advisers in 2021 indicate that the current maintenance schedules and budgets at a number of sites are insufficient to maintain the fine turf pitches to a good quality. Most of the sites assessed were in park or school settings.
- In the case of the pay and play park sites, LB Ealing is no different from other local authorities in finding it challenging to meet the pitch quality expectations of hiring clubs on open access park sites which are susceptible to damage from other park users within available budgets for parks grounds maintenance.
- It is clear from the site-specific analysis of use of the pitches that many are currently being over-played. Over half of the fine turf pitches are currently being used close to or above their playing capacity over a season. Without additional provision, the quality of these pitches will be adversely impacted over time exacerbating the capacity shortfall.

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

- Population growth across the borough - both overall and in the Asian/Asian British communities in the north and west of the borough in particular - will drive an increase in the number of adult and junior teams wanting to play short format cricket.
- In addition, several of the large traditional cricket clubs already experience unmet demand for juniors, are actively developing new youth/young adult 'transition' teams with support from Middlesex Cricket and have aspirations for growth - particularly women and girls' cricket.

Cricket

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

- There is not enough accessible and secured community use provision in the borough to meet future demand.
- Taking the pressures of demand identified above in the round, it is estimated that there will be a need for between four and five additional cricket pitches in the borough by 2031, to include both fine-turf and artificial (non-turf) wickets.

2.3 Football

Football

What are the main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for provision?

- There has been significant investment in facilities for football in Ealing since the last facility review in 2016, most notably the addition of two new football hubs each with two new 3G pitches, grass pitches and pavilions at Gunnersbury Park and Rectory Park, the development of a new 3G pitch with a community use agreement at William Perkin High School, new 3G pitches at Club des Sport and Wasps FC and the upgrade of an existing AGP to football 3G at Alec Reed Academy and Brentside High School.
- The Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub also provides a large new sports hall suitable for the development of futsal and the Trailfinders Sports Club has developed a 3G indoor training facility, primarily for rugby but also suitable for football training.

Football

- Several clubs have secured a regular home ground since 2016 including Cademy FC at Osterley Cricket Club Ground and Concorde Rangers FC at the adjacent Osterley Sports Ground.
- A new pavilion cafe with toilet facilities has been built in Blondin Park supporting intensive use of the unmarked playing field area for minisoccer by Northfields FC and Footy for Fun, a commercial coaching organisation. Changing facilities have been upgraded at Hanwell Town's Reynolds Field stadium and ground improvements made at North Greenford United's Berkeley Fields home ground and Acton Ealing Whistlers home ground.
- 101 grass pitches are identified as available for community football across Ealing, on 32 operational playing pitch sites. This compares to 96 over 32 sites in 2016. Just under a fifth of the available pitches are over-marked to accommodate smaller sided games (e.g. 9v9 on 11v11 or 5v5 on 7v7). A further site, Ealing Central Sports Ground, is temporarily closed for improvement works and will re-provide four senior pitches and pavilion refurbishment. From 2023/24, there will therefore be 106 pitches available to community teams across 33 playing pitch sites.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

- Whilst demand has still to fully recover from the Covid 19 pandemic and restrictions in season 2021/22, it appears that, for affiliated adult football, aside from the lack of a suitable stadium pitch in the borough to accommodate Southall FC, there is sufficient overall available supply of adult natural turf pitches to meet current demand.

Football

- However, for youth/minisoccer football and training, although the investments made in new and enhanced provision have reduced the deficiency identified in 2016 very substantially, some shortfalls remain. Pinch points continue to be experienced by several clubs, particularly on Sunday mornings for match play and midweek early evenings for squad training, which constrains the growth aspirations of these clubs and contributes to unmet demand, particularly for girl's football.
- Several clubs have teams that are displaced playing home fixtures and/or training on pitches outside the borough.
- To meet the shortfall in current supply will require completion of ongoing upgrade works at Ealing Central Sports Ground (potentially as a junior football centre as opposed to adult pitches) and, as identified in the Local Football Facilities Plan for Ealing in 2019, some further investment in providing a small number of additional small-sided 3G pitches at key sites (e.g. Spikes Bridge Park) suitable for both match play and training.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

- Most of the grass pitches are of standard or good quality, and most of the football AGPs are good quality, many with newly laid playing surfaces.
- However, poor natural drainage and compaction of the ground are issues at several of the grass football pitch sites in Ealing that are rated as either poor or standard, thereby limiting the playing capacity of these pitches. These are common issues in this part of London with heavy London Clay soil. To address this issue on a large scale would require significant additional investment for maintenance works at the frequencies required to effectively aerate and de-compact the playing surface.

Football

- Installation of formal pitches with a sports pitch maintenance schedule at Blondin Park as currently proposed together with delivery of the grass pitch improvements recommended by the Grounds Maintenance Association through the Football Foundation's Pitch Power pitch assessment reports would go a long way to improving the playing capacity at key sites. In most cases, this will necessitate increased revenue investment in enhanced pitch maintenance regimes supported by grant funding from the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Improvement Fund.
- New, upgraded or extended pavilions are required at a number of sites to accommodate existing demand and better cater for growth in women and girls' football. These include: Actonians Sports Ground, Elthorne Waterside, Shamrock Sports Club, Southfields Recreation Ground, Spikes Bridge Park and Hanwell Town's Reynolds Fields facility provided formal football pitches continue to be maintained at these sites and not relocated to reinstated playing field sites such as Warren Farm, King George V Playing Field/Durdans Park or Norwood Hall.

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

- Future demand for football facilities is likely to grow substantially to 2031 increasing pressure on the existing supply. By 2031, assuming current levels of participation per capita and the forecast population growth, application of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator tool indicates there will be a requirement to accommodate approximately 15 more match equivalent sessions a week in season plus around 33 additional weekly training slots.
- The growth plans of the borough-based football clubs will also place further pressure on pitch supply. At least 10 clubs responding to surveys in 2021

Football

indicated they have aspirations to increase the number of teams they run over the coming seasons provided the necessary volunteer time and pitches for matches and training can be secured.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

- Over the period of the strategy to 2031, to address forecast population growth, unmet demand identified by clubs including particularly for women and girls' football, and to deliver on the FA's strategy to transfer more affiliated competitive football to 3G surfaces, further secured provision of 3G AGP pitches is likely to be required.
- FA compliant football AGPs (full size or small sided) located at or near club sites with clear unmet demand and 3G MUGAs located in areas of high-density social housing with the greatest need should be the priorities for new 3G provision over the plan period.
- Additional natural turf pitches are also likely to be required for match play by 2031 in light of the scale of forecast population growth and the limits on the potential for increasing the capacity in the peak period of the existing secured supply by improvements to quality.

2.4 Hockey

Hockey

What are the main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for provision?

- There are currently three England Hockey compliant sand based artificial grass pitches (AGPs) in Ealing currently available and used for community hockey by two clubs - PHC Chiswick (a multi team adult club with a new and growing junior section previously based outside the borough); and Ealing HC (a multi team predominantly junior club with a growing adult section including social hockey programmes).
- Osterley HC (formerly called Ramgarhia and currently running a single men's team) plays occasional league matches on a non-compliant shortpile astroturf pitch at Featherstone High School Sports Centre in Southall.
- Since the last assessment for the 2016 PPS sand-based pitches at Alec Reed Academy in Northolt and Brentside High School in Greenford have been resurfaced as football 3Gs and the Ealing Lions Hockey club (a single men's team club) that played and trained on the Alec Reed School pitch has folded.
- Player affiliation data by age provided by England Hockey in recent seasons suggests demand for junior hockey has largely stabilised at around 360 affiliated players after a period of very rapid growth over the last six or seven years driven by Ealing Hockey Club coaching by Total Hockey CIC and girls' hockey PE in the independent girls' schools in the borough, St Augustine's and Notting Hill & Ealing High.
- Adult club hockey membership in the borough has grown by around 60 players over this period.

Hockey

Social hockey has been successfully introduced including Back2Hockey weekly sessions and summer hockey 6s at St Augustine's School delivered by Ealing Hockey Club.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

- Displaced demand has been substantially reduced following the provision of floodlights to the pitch used by Ealing HC at St Benedict's School.
- PHC Chiswick HC continues to use its former home pitch at the Linford Christie Stadium pitch in White City (LB Hammersmith & Fulham).
- In common with many hockey clubs nationally, two of the three clubs now based in Ealing - Ealing HC and Osterley HC - rely on access to school pitches for home matches and training (of which one is non-compliant). This access is secured season by season only.
- In contrast, PHC Chiswick has secure access to its home pitch at Boddington Gardens for the long term now that the club has relocated to Ealing and become a full affiliate sports section of Actonians Sports Association which has a long lease on the site from the Council.
- Current secured supply is therefore limited to a single compliant pitch that does not meet all of the current demand for hockey in the borough.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

Hockey

- The two main hockey clubs consider the three pitches in the borough they use to be of adequate or good condition and well maintained by Actonians and the independent schools respectively.
- Ealing HC lacks adequate ancillary changing or social facilities at its main home site at St Augustine's School.

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

- Future growth in demand is likely to continue to be driven primarily by the growth plans of Ealing Hockey Club (as youth age group squads graduate to senior play) and the junior section continues to expand. The club aspires to grow to 500 juniors and 6 adult teams plus an expanded social offer and indoor hockey offer.
- PHC Chiswick also has growth aspirations, primarily in its relatively newly formed junior section and to offer more opportunities for its senior players to compete in indoor hockey.
- Osterley HC wishes to reinstate its former Men's 2s which folded during the pandemic and to introduce a new u12 junior coaching squad to help secure the long-term future of the club. However, the club's first priority should be to find a compliant pitch for its league home matches and training.
- Forecast population growth to 2031 of over 38,000 compared to 2021 based on 2018 GLA housing-led projections, is estimated to generate new demand equivalent to around a quarter of a hockey pitch.
- Future supply will depend on the outcome of proposals by PHC Chiswick - at feasibility stage - to provide a second floodlit hockey compliant pitch

Hockey

alongside the existing Actonians Boddington pitch.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

- The current accessible and secured supply of hockey facilities in Ealing will not be enough to meet future demand.
- When the clubs' aspirations for growth (i.e. Ealing HC to 500 juniors and 6 adult teams; Osterley to start a junior squad and reinstate a second adult team, PHC Chiswick for continued growth of its junior section) and the impact of hockey development initiatives with regard to social pay and play (including walking hockey) are added to the pressure of new demand resulting from housing-led population growth, it is estimated that there will be a need to provide **one additional England Hockey compliant pitch with secured access by 2031**, in addition to maintaining access to the existing three compliant pitches.

2.5 Rugby

Rugby

What are the main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for provision?

- Since the last assessment of needs for rugby union in 2016, several commercial and voluntary sector organisations have funded facility improvement projects in Ealing. Most prominently Trailfinders Sports Club Ground in West Ealing has transformed in recent years to a top-class rugby venue with excellent facilities

Rugby

for Ealing Trailfinders Rugby Club, including a new indoor training facility opened in 2022.

- Ealing Trailfinders is the premier club in Middlesex with a professional first team - current champions of the second tier Rugby Championship - with a 50 strong squad plus an academy of 30 young players plus a large amateur club (Ealing Trailfinders 1871), with development teams at u21 and u23, three men's league teams, a veterans team, plus large youth and mini rugby sections for both girls and boys.
- Wasps FC, the amateur club remaining in the borough following the relocation of the English Premiership professional club to Coventry, also has a very large playing membership. The club has invested in a floodlit rugby compliant artificial grass pitch (AGP) and has planning permission for a second floodlit AGP at its Twyford Avenue Sports Ground in Acton.
- Between the eight Ealing based clubs and two expat clubs playing in the borough, there are a total of 19 regular adult men's Saturday league sides, a further three occasional men's teams and two women's teams (both at Wasps FC). Both the senior clubs – Wasps and Trailfinders – have development teams for transition between youth age grade rugby and senior rugby.
- Currently, just Wasps FC and Ealing Trailfinders have junior sections offering both youth boys age grade rugby and mini rugby for boys and girls. Between these two large community rugby clubs there are 19 boys age grade sides and 44 mixed mini rugby sides. At both clubs the junior sections have continued to grow over recent seasons despite the programme interruptions caused by the Covid pandemic.
- With regard to women and girls, the Ealing Trailfinders has developed a pathway for female players through the mixed mini age grades to girl's youth age grade

Rugby

rugby, Ealing Emeralds. In the past, this pathway has provided players to the England Elite Programme.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

- Security of access to rugby grounds in the borough is good, particularly for the key development clubs, and current demand is met by current supply. There is enough secured supply for league rugby (senior and youth) home fixtures (played mainly on Saturday afternoons) and with the provision of an AGP at Wasps, indoor training at Trailfinders and floodlights at Old Priorian's home ground since the last PPS, there is now sufficient capacity for midweek evening training. Both clubs with large age grade sections - Wasps and Trailfinders - report sufficient capacity on Sundays for junior matches and training.
- Actonians club has been unable until now to meet demand for age grade rugby from its members with children. However, there is an opportunity to address this using the restored pitch and new sports hub pavilion and sports hall facilities at Gunnersbury Park.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

- The pitches are considered to be maintained to a good standard and have at least adequate drainage. Improvements have been made since the last PPS particularly at St Benedicts.
- In terms of ancillary facilities, a priority is to improve the changing facilities at Actonians Sports Ground, particularly if mixed mini rugby is to be offered at the site in future, although this activity may be better located at the new facilities in Gunnersbury Park.

Rugby

- Similarly, refurbishing or replacing the pavilion at Wasps FC will be required to support the further development of women and girls’ rugby in particular.
- Northolt RFC in Cayton Green Park is also looking to improve aspects of its pavilion to encourage more diverse use and to support income generation.

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

- To meet rugby demand from 38,306 additional borough residents (as currently forecast²) and assuming current levels of rugby demand by age group for matches and training in the peak period, the equivalent capacity of +2.71 additional natural turf full size equivalent rugby pitches for matches will be needed in the borough with sufficient floodlit provision to accommodate an additional 3.3 hours a week of training use.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

- The provision of a second floodlit rugby compliant AGP at Wasps would provide the additional capacity needed to accommodate future demand from borough population growth. Whilst new housing and population is likely to be greatest on the west side of the borough, rugby activity and development is very largely focused on secured club sites as opposed to in public park and school playing fields. It will therefore probably be best to provide any future new capacity on existing secured club sites with good accessibility by public transport.

2.6 Summary

In summary, much has been achieved in the years since the current playing pitch strategy was prepared including the provision of major playing pitch hub sites each with two football AGPs and grass pitches in Gunnersbury and at Rectory Park, a new rugby AGP at Wasps FC, an indoor training centre for rugby, football and cricket at Ealing Trailfinders Sports Club, new pavilion and upgraded pitches for football and cricket at Popesfield Playing Fields, floodlighting to the hockey pitch at St Benedict's School and major improvements to the Ealing Central Sports Ground, nearing completion.

Although there has been disruption to the established patterns of participation in all four of the major playing pitch sports caused by Covid 19 mitigation measures, demand for places to play has recovered well. Within the borough, demand now appears to be exceeding pre-pandemic levels in all four main playing pitch sports, in the younger age groups most particularly.

The detailed assessments undertaken into supply and demand factors have shown that, notwithstanding the new facilities secured and following the re-opening of upgraded pitches at Ealing Central Sports Ground in 2023 and Gunnersbury Park in 2022, there will remain pinch points. These are mainly capacity for club cricket and for youth football Sunday league fixtures and midweek training. There is also a particular issue of lack of security of pitch access issues for the hockey clubs now based in Ealing and the longstanding

² GLA 2018-based housing-led population projections (Released February 2020)

issue of a lack of a suitable stadium pitch in the Southall area to bring Southall FC back within the borough.

With population growth of more than 38,000 forecast by 2031 - the end of the new Local Plan period - it is clear that, without plans to further increase the capacity of the supply and to secure access to more of the existing supply, these pinch points will come under increasing pressure particularly where these sites are likely to be accessible to those areas allocated for large scale new housing developments. Further playing pitch capacity is needed to maintain and improve opportunities for existing and future residents to take part in playing pitch sports for their health and wellbeing.

The summary conclusions of the assessment of current and future playing pitch needs are:

- There is insufficient secure capacity for club cricket and hockey in the borough.
- There is insufficient secure capacity for youth/ junior football on Sundays and for midweek training and a lack of a suitable stadium football pitch to bring Southall FC back to Southall.
- By 2031 there is likely to be a need for between four and five additional cricket pitches in the borough by 2031, to include both fine-turf and artificial (non-turf) wickets.
- To address forecast population growth, unmet demand identified by clubs (particularly for women and girls' football), and to deliver on the FA's strategy to transfer more affiliated competitive football to 3G

surfaces, further secured provision of 3G AGP pitches is likely to be required.

- Additional natural turf pitches may also be required for football match play by 2031 in light of the limits on potential for increasing the capacity in the peak period of the existing secured supply by improvements to quality. However, this potential need for future grass pitches could be offset by the provision of new floodlit 3G football pitches, as these pitches have much higher carrying capacities than grass pitches.
- For hockey, the over-riding priority for the clubs now based in Ealing is to secure the access they currently enjoy to the three hockey AGPs in the borough of which two are unsecured on school sites.
- By 2031, there is likely to be a need for one additional England Hockey compliant pitch with secured access, in addition to maintaining access to the existing three compliant pitches
- The provision of a second AGP at Wasps ground would provide the additional capacity needed to accommodate future demand

Section 3 considers a range of scenarios and options to increase the playing capacity to meet these identified needs.



Section 3 – Scenario Testing

3. Scenario Testing

3.1 Introduction

As part of the Strategy Development process a number of scenarios have been considered along with their potential implications on the future picture of provision for playing pitch sports in the borough. The scenarios have also been considered by the Playing Pitch Steering Group members in relation to setting the priorities for future enhancement and provision detailed in the action plan for playing pitches and the overall Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy action plan priorities.

Scenario	Potential impact
3. 2 Improved quality of sites	<p>Before considering provision of new playing fields, especially challenging in London boroughs, it is important to first consider the potential for increasing capacity of existing sites (particularly those grounds owned or leased by community clubs) as these have resources and structures in place (e.g. grounds maintenance, coaching) and an established sporting identity developed over many years.</p> <p>Improving the quality of ancillary facilities can also have an impact on attracting under-represented groups to cricket.</p> <p>Cricket Middlesex Cricket Pitch Support Network has been working with the Council's Leisure Service and a number of the borough's clubs and schools over the past year to identify the most effective changes to grounds maintenance regimes, equipment and training across 10 or more existing sites with fine turf cricket pitches.</p>

Scenario	Potential impact
	<p>Priority projects for quality improvements to fine turf and artificial turf pitches as well as to practice nets and to pavilions are identified in the Action Plan that follows.</p> <p>Football As identified in the 2019 Local Football Facility Plan and confirmed by Pitch Power analysis reports in 2022, improving the quality of key natural turf pitches on those key sites in greatest demand for Sunday morning adult football, youth football and mini-soccer would have significant impact on increasing overall playing capacity.</p> <p>If all 33 pitches on the 8 identified key sites for Pitch Power quality assessment were improved from 'standard' to 'good' quality, a further 46 match equivalent sessions could be programmed on these sites across adult and youth football and minisoccer. However, sustaining higher playing capacity will require ongoing commitment to enhanced pitch maintenance at these sites which is challenging in the context of local authority budgets particularly for the open access sites where informal use also takes place.</p> <p>With respect to artificial grass pitches for football, as a result of the delivery of priority projects in the current and previous Playing Pitch Strategies, there are currently 12 AGPs in the borough accredited as meeting the quality standard for affiliated league match use.</p> <p>Hockey To maintain the current levels of playing capacity in the borough the priority is to secure access to the two compliant pitches on private school sites (St Benedicts and St Augustines) which, whilst</p>

Scenario	Potential impact	Scenario	Potential impact
	<p>maintained to a good quality, do not provide the two large hockey clubs now based in the borough (Ealing HC and PHC Chiswick) with security of access.</p> <p>With security of access in place, provision of ancillary changing and social facilities at St Augustine's would support the further growth of Ealing Hockey Club.</p> <p>Rugby Improving the quality of the sports clubs' changing facilities at Actonians Sports Ground and Wasps FC are the infrastructure investments that would have the greatest impact facilitating a much-expanded offer of mixed mini rugby, age grade girls' rugby and women's rugby in future.</p>		<p>Lack of security of access for the Phoenicians CC to the pitch at Drayton Manor High School is a risk to the current supply. This risk to the supply is highlighted by Middlesex Cricket in view of the large increase in the pitch hire charge for the 2023 season.</p> <p>Football Expanding the playing capacity for community football on education sites - in particular youth football and mini-soccer and adult team training - on education 3G AGPs has been a notable success of the 2017 strategy (e.g. at Alec Reed Academy, Brentide High School, Northolt High School and William Perkin High School).</p> <p>Schools in the borough with 3G AGPs with no community access where the potential could be explored are Cardinal Wiseman High School (full size) and Drayton Manor High School (5v5).</p> <p>As well as offering potential for a new cricket facility, Marnham Fields playing field, currently not used for formal community sport is also identified by the Leisure Service Team as an opportunity site for future community provision for junior football.</p> <p>In addition, should football demand growth trends continue (particularly in the girls and women's game), it will be important to maximise the opportunities afforded for playing fields and AGPs at existing schools with playing fields not currently used by the community, as well as future new and expanded schools in the borough.</p>
<p>3.3 More community use at education sites</p>	<p>As in most London boroughs, community use of pitches on education sites in Ealing is critical to meeting demand for pitch sports. Ealing's school pitches are particularly important to community hockey and, to a lesser but still significant extent to both football and cricket. Rugby is the exception as the tradition for this sport is for community rugby to be played on club owned (or leased) playing field sites.</p> <p>Cricket Community cricket is secured on good quality facilities at William Perkin High School. One education site in the borough with potential capacity for more community use is Dormers Wells High School which has a non turf pitch. However, the boundary is currently undersize limiting the potential for affiliated match play at this site. Marnham Fields playing field, Greenford, has been identified as a possible non turf pitch site for junior cricket.</p>		

Scenario	Potential impact	Scenario	Potential impact
	<p>Hockey Two of the three hockey clubs based in the borough rely on school AGPs with no security of access beyond seasonal hire agreements. One of the three - Osterley HC - currently plays on a non-compliant school pitch (Featherstone School).</p> <p>More community hockey use of the St Augustines School pitch would depend on reallocation of current hires including football clubs for training (see scenario 3.4 below).</p> <p>Many independent schools are increasingly open to hosting local community sports clubs to help maintain charitable status. In this context, the potential for negotiating greater security of access to the hockey pitches at St Augustines and St Benedicts (possibly linked to partnership investment in pitch renewals or new/enhanced ancillary facilities) should be explored.</p> <p>Rugby There is little potential (or needs case) for further use of education sites in the borough for community rugby. The RFU favours grounds secured by clubs either freehold or on long leases.</p>		<p>is sufficient land, as junior pitches separate from the cricket table). A well-maintained NTP has a playing capacity of up to 60 adult match equivalent sessions or 80 junior sessions in a season compared to 5 adult/7junior for a fine turf strip.</p> <p>Provision of a second NTP for Ealing CC at Popesfield Playing Fields and the installation of an NTP at the end on the existing square at Club des Sports for Acton CC are identified as priorities in the cricket Assessment of Need (Appendix A) to increase capacity for development aligning with the respective cricket clubs' development plans.</p> <p>Football Further match play capacity in the peak (and midweek training capacity) could be secured if the Featherstone High School pitch were to be upgraded from short-pile sand filled to a compliant 3G playing surface.</p> <p>Change from natural turf to small sided 3G (ideally 9v9) at Alwyn Gardens and/or North Acton Playing Fields would also impact positively on FC Samurai, a large and growing development club. Similar change of pitch type at Spike's Bridge Park in Southall would facilitate expansion to the youth football offer by London Tigers.</p>
<p>3.4 Change of use from one sport or pitch type to another</p>	<p>Cricket In the case of cricket, the needs assessment supports retention of the supply of fine turf pitches to provide sufficient capacity to accommodate forecast growth from population change and investment in developing the women and girl's game. However, now that lower league adult cricket can be played on non-turf pitches (NTPs), there is a needs case for more NTPs at cricket grounds (either on existing fine turf cricket tables or, where there</p>		<p>Hockey Further hockey capacity could be achieved at St Augustines if the regular football bookings were to be relocated from this pitch to 3G football pitches, capacity for hockey would be increased substantially, particularly in the evenings.</p>

Scenario	Potential impact	Scenario	Potential impact
	<p>To continue to meet existing demand for community club hockey in Ealing, it is critically important that the existing hockey AGPs at Actonians and the two independent schools are not changed to football 3Gs in future. However, the Council and England Hockey can have little or no influence on schools in this regard.</p> <p>Similarly, a change of surface by LB Hammersmith and Fulham of the Linford Christie Stadium hockey pitch to football 3G would impact negatively on hockey in Ealing as this former home pitch of PHC Chiswick (now based in Ealing at Actonians) continues to serve the needs of the club for match capacity on Saturdays in the main winter season.</p> <p>Should PHC Chiswick Hockey Club's aspiration to develop a second floodlit sand AGP at Boddington Gardens Sports Ground go ahead, this would impact on both cricket and football capacity at this site effectively replacing an existing junior football pitch and an undersized cricket pitch.</p> <p>Rugby A change of playing surface of a second grass pitch at Wasps FC's Twyford Avenue Sports Ground from natural turf to World Rugby compliant 3G (providing this large and growing club with two compliant 3G pitches) would have a significant impact on the capacity and quality of the playing and training experience at this club. This additional 3G capacity (which has a current planning consent but not the required funding) would also support further development of the game, including for touch and the women and girl's age grade game.</p>	<p>Lose availability of a key site or sites</p>	<p>AGPs (at two independent schools and Actonians Boddington Gardens Sports Ground) would have a very significant adverse impact on the provision and opportunities for community hockey in Ealing.</p> <p>Similarly, community rugby in the borough - particularly mini rugby and age grade rugby - is heavily reliant on the privately owned Ealing Trailfinders and Wasps FC sports grounds. Loss of either of these key sites would have a major detrimental impact on the community game in the borough.</p> <p>Reliance on continued availability of a key privately owned ground is also an issue for Acton Cricket Club at Club des Sports. Also, as identified above, in the event that Phoenicians Cricket Club is not able to negotiate affordable hire fees to continue to use its home pitch at Drayton Manor High School, the loss of this key site will impact significantly on community cricket in the borough unless additional pitch provision is made at one of the opportunity sites for cricket in the borough (for example Dormers Wells, Perivale Park and Warren Farm).</p> <p>The Council has proposals to close the Islip Manor Park cricket pitch from the end of the current season and relocate the community club demand to the upgraded facilities at Ealing Central Sports Ground, as the Islip cricket pitch has no access to changing rooms or a pavilion just a single toilet.</p> <p>Community football in Ealing is far less reliant on sports grounds in private ownership, particularly since the investment by the Council and the Football Foundation in the sports hub sites at Gunnersbury</p>
3.5	As covered in the previous scenarios, the loss of availability to the community hockey clubs of any of the three compliant hockey		

Scenario	Potential impact	Scenario	Potential impact
	<p>Park, Rectory Park and at several club and school sites across the borough as priority actions from the last Playing Pitch Strategy.</p> <p>The Council has proposals to close three former playing field sites in the borough to accommodate other community projects with greater need. These are at Gurnell Leisure Centre (1 adult, 1 9v9), Northolt High School (2 adult pitches previously used only by the school but disused since transfer of the school's use to its refurbished AGP in 2014) and a small green space at Costons Lane Greenford with no ancillary facilities and no previous use for community sport. None of these playing fields are key sites for community football. In each case, the Council has enhanced the provision and capacity at other playing field sites close by to mitigate any potential impact. The Rectory Park Football Hub has grass pitches with unused capacity and is close to Northolt High School. The enhanced pitches at Ealing Central Sports Ground and at Perivale Park are both within 200m of the Gurnell Leisure Centre site (closed for redevelopment) and Costons is within a similarly short walk from Perivale Park and less than 500m from the full size floodlit 3G with secured community use at William Perkin High School.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dormers Wells wider area (as part of Council-led leisure centre redevelopment) ○ North end of former Barclays Bank Sports Ground (former company sports ground in private ownership) <p>Sites with potential for expansion of community pitch provision (subject to detailed feasibility) have also been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Perivale Park and/or Rectory Park - space for 3rd cricket squares ○ Lord Halsbury Playing Fields and/or Fox Reservoir (Ealing Whistlers) and other existing football sites - suitable for addition of non turf cricket pitches ○ Elthorne Waterside Pitches - pending funding and planning for the provision of a pavilion, there is space for additional natural turf pitches (for football and/or rugby and cricket). <p>Provision of new playing pitches at one or more of these identified opportunity sites would have a substantial impact on addressing the identified future needs for cricket and football pitches in the borough.</p> <p>Similarly, for hockey, the northern section of the former Barclays Bank Sports Ground has been identified as an opportunity site for a second secured hockey AGP in the borough. If feasible, the impact would be substantial particularly if combined with changing/social provision and an access link to the existing hockey pitch at St Augustine's School adjacent to the ground, effectively providing a 2-pitch site for the growing Ealing Hockey Club.</p> <p>Another possible alternative for a hockey AGP could be Perivale Park, pending further work to identify future sports use of existing</p>
<p>3.6 New pitches in borough or catchment area</p>	<p>In the course of developing the strategy, the following main opportunity sites for new playing pitches have been identified (subject to detailed feasibility assessment):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Warren Farm (Council owned sports ground with large capacity), plans to reopen a more compact outdoor sports facility alongside a new informal recreation area ○ Marnham Fields (Council owned with space for formal pitches) ○ Norwood Hall playing fields (jointly owned by Ealing Council and Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College) 		

Scenario	Potential impact
	sports areas.
3.7 Significant increase in demand in specific part of the borough	<p>The London Plan (March 2021) identifies two Opportunity Areas within Ealing borough, at Park Royal and Southall, expected to accommodate a significant number of new jobs and homes. For each Opportunity Area within London the Mayor, in partnership with the relevant borough(s), produces an Opportunity Area Planning Framework (OAPF). The Park Royal OAPF was adopted in January 2011, and the Southall OAPF was adopted in July 2014. The growth locations are primarily along the Uxbridge Road/Crossrail Elizabeth Line and the A40/Park Royal corridors. These two east-west corridors include Ealing’s main town centres, Park Royal Industrial Estate (the largest in Europe), and the borough’s five Crossrail stations which will provide a major impetus for growth and development.</p> <p>Assumed development in Ealing between 2022 and 2031 in the GLA’s February 2020 release of the 2018 based housing led population projections is for in excess of 25,000 more homes and more than 38,000 more residents.</p> <p>Without further provision of playing pitches, development of this scale will result in a shortfall of supply if not supported by new provision. Enhancement to existing pitches and increased use of existing education pitches alone will not provide sufficient additional capacity to accommodate the level of increased demand likely to be generated by the additional population.</p> <p>These proposals significantly strengthen the needs case for more playing pitch capacity within the Park Royal and Southall</p>

Scenario	Potential impact
	opportunity areas for development or easily accessible from these areas on foot, by cycle or by public transport.
3.8 Significant demand growth in a particular sport, gender or age group	<p>The governing bodies of football, cricket and rugby all have a clear strategic focus on delivering more opportunities for women and girls to play and compete. As identified in the detailed assessments of future need for each sport, it is demand growth in this gender that is likely to be the most significant over the next planning period.</p> <p>Ealing has community clubs in all four playing pitch sports of the necessary size and proven commitment to deliver in this key area. This is evidenced by the growth in women and girls’ teams since 2017 detailed in the assessment of need reports appended.</p> <p>In hockey, equal opportunities and participation by gender is already in place at PHC Chiswick, and Ealing Hockey Club. The area of greatest demand growth is likely to continue to be among juniors growing at around 5% annually in recent seasons despite the pandemic.</p>

3.9 Summary

In summary, the scenarios that present the greatest opportunities for the Council and its partners to address the playing pitch facility needs identified in Section 2 of this PPS are:

- *Increase in demand in specific area* - The housing growth areas present significant opportunity to secure development contributions to address

identified local infrastructure needs for community playing pitches. The priority should be to secure off site contributions to enhance the playing capacity at existing strategic hub and satellite playing pitch sites with existing ancillary provision and established site management and that are easily accessible from these areas without a car.

- *Quality improvements* - improving the quality of key natural turf pitches on those key sites in greatest demand for Saturday cricket, Sunday morning adult football, youth football and mini-soccer - and, crucially, sustaining the improved quality by means of enhanced ongoing maintenance regimes - would have significant impact on increasing overall capacity.
- *Change of Use* - Change of Use - Provision of more football 3G AGP capacity - for example small sided FA compliant 3G floodlit pitches for training and youth league match play (in place of grass if necessary) at Spikes Bridge Park, Alwyn Gardens, Hanwell Town FC - would have a positive impact not just on meeting future increases in demand for football but also by freeing up capacity for hockey training on the sand based AGPs at Boddington Gardens and the two independent schools. A change of sports use in Perivale Park, may present an opportunity to address the shortfall in secured provision of hockey AGPs in the borough (subject to securing the necessary funding and consents for lighting etc); this location is being considered as its close to existing floodlit hockey facilities at St Benedict's school and hockey clubs ideally need access to 2 pitches on the same site or close to each other. The provision of a second rugby compliant AGP at Wasps FC's Twyford Avenue Sports Ground, when taken together with the recent enhancements at Ealing Trailfinders and the new rugby pitch at

Gunnersbury Park, would future proof provision for rugby in the borough for the period of the strategy.

- *New pitches* – Bringing Warren Farm Sports Ground in Southall, back into use as an outdoor sports facility and informal recreation area, presents a key opportunity to address the identified need for additional capacity for cricket pitches in this part of the borough and sub region, and possibly for youth football too. Reinstating community sports use of Norwood Hall Playing Fields in Southall also presents an opportunity for new cricket and football pitches subject to consents and funding.
- *More community use at education sites* - Increasing the number of 3G pitches on education sites would impact very significantly on meeting future needs for community football. To maximise the community benefit, any new education facility should be developed alongside a voluntary football club partner as well as formal Community use Agreements to accompany any planning permission. Also, schools with grass sports pitches and AGPs not currently available for community use should be encouraged to allow use of facilities outside of school hours.

Section 4 - Policy Recommendations



4. Policy Recommendations

4.1 Introduction

This section of the Playing Pitch Strategy sets out a number of overarching policy recommendations that the Steering Group and Ealing Council are to apply over the duration of this strategy. These will ensure that this essential planning document continues to play a leading role in the on-going provision of high-quality facilities for outdoor sport and can meet the needs and demands highlighted throughout this strategy.

4.2 Planning Policy

National Policy Context - The relevant policy protecting existing sports facilities and land in the government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019 is paragraph 97:

'Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Regional and Local Policy Context - The policies contained within this strategy are in line with and provide support to both regional and local policy.

The London Plan legally forms part of Ealing's Development Plan, sitting alongside the Local Plan, and planning decisions must have regard to both. The London Plan (March 2021) recognizes in policy S5 (below) that sports and recreation facilities are important parts of social infrastructure, providing a range of social and health benefits for communities and neighbourhoods. Part C of the policy regarding protection of existing recreational land and facilities mirrors the national policy.

Policy S5 - Sports and Recreation Facilities

A To ensure there is sufficient supply of good quality sports and recreation facilities, boroughs should:

1. Prepare Development Plans informed by needs assessments for sports and recreation facilities. Needs should be assessed at local and sub-regional level. Needs assessments should include an audit of existing facilities
2. Secure sites for a range of sports and recreation facilities in Development Plans, as justified by the needs assessment
3. Maintain, promote and enhance networks for walking, cycling and other activities including the Walk London Network

B Development proposals for sports and recreation facilities should:

1. Increase or enhance provision of facilities in accessible locations, well-connected to public transport and link to networks for walking and cycling
2. Maximise the multiple use of facilities and encourage the co-location of services between sports providers, schools, colleges, universities and other community facilities
3. Support the provision of sports lighting within reasonable hours,

where there is an identified need for sports facilities and lighting is required to increase their potential usage, unless the lighting gives rise to demonstrable harm to the local community or biodiversity

C Existing sports and recreational land (including playing fields) and facilities for sports and recreation should be retained unless:

1. An assessment has been undertaken which clearly shows the sports and recreational land or facilities to be surplus to requirements (for the existing or alternative sports and recreational provision) at the local and sub-regional level. Where published, a borough's assessment of need for sports and recreational facilities should inform this assessment; or
2. The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
3. The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

D Where facilities are proposed on existing open space, boroughs should consider these in light of policies on protecting open space (Policy G2 London's Green Belt, Policy G3 Metropolitan Open Land and Policy G4 Open Space) and the borough's own assessment of needs and opportunities for sports facilities, and the potential impact that the development will have.

At the local level, work is now underway on preparing a new Local Plan, which commenced with a series of conversations, surveys and other consultations launched in November 2021 under the heading of 'Shaping

Ealing'. The Local Plan will set out a vision and framework for the future development of the area over the next 15 years. Following the establishment of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation in 2015 Ealing Council is no longer the local planning authority for the north east corner of the borough. The new Local Plan will therefore not set planning policy for that part of the borough.

It is intended that an initial draft (Regulation 18) of the new Local Plan will be published for consultation in Autumn 2022. As the preparation of the plan progresses towards adoption, the plan will accrue more weight as a material planning consideration. At the time of publication of this study (2022), and pending the adoption of a new Local Plan, the operational Local Plan within Ealing comprises a suite of existing development plan documents. Those of relevance to this study include:

- The Development (or Core) Strategy (April 2012) which sets out a vision for the future development of the borough covering a 15-year period from 2015 to 2026.
- The Development Sites DPD (adopted December 2013) which sets out planning requirements for 48 key sites with significant development potential.
- The Development Management DPD (also adopted in December 2013) which guides decisions on planning applications, and
- The Planning for Schools DPD which identifies sites for new schools and sites for extensions to existing schools (adopted in May 2016).

As part of the annual review of the Playing Pitch Strategy the most relevant policies and any subsequent changes will be applied to the Council's strategy and re-issued accordingly.

The Council's overarching policy for outdoor sports and active recreation (including playing pitches) is set out at policy 5.6 of the Development (Core) Strategy as follows:

Policy 5.6: Outdoor Sports and Active Recreation

The council will:

- *Protect and promote a network of sports grounds and other active recreation areas in the borough. Sites identified as being of strategic and local importance for outdoor sports will be protected and promoted primarily for this function.*
- *Seek to develop a sports hub as part of this network, with a range of sports provision in the Gurnell area, and the development of several strategic 'satellite sites' located strategically to serve communities across the borough.*
- *Seek to secure developer contributions to provide a key funding source for the delivery of various priority projects.*

At a borough wide level, the 2012 Development Strategy also identifies (at policy 5.6) a quantitative provision target standard for Active Recreation Outdoor Space. This standard was subsequently superseded by a revised standard of 7.3 sq. m. of space per person as established through the Development Management DPD (2013)

The establishment of this standard at the time was informed by the needs assessment in the Council's earlier Sports Facility Strategy 2012-2021 which is effectively being replaced by this strategy. Since the 2012 Sports Facility Strategy was adopted, the national guidance in use of per capita standards for sports facilities in general, and playing pitches in particular, has changed

as detailed in 4.3 below.

4.3 Provision Standards

Quantity Standards - With regard to playing pitches (as a typology of open space), Sport England's guidance³ strongly advises local planning authorities to move away from the use of standards in assessing and determining quantitative needs. The guidance advocates gathering detailed local supply and demand data and assessment of area, sport and site-specific needs in order to determine which existing pitches need to be protected and enhanced and priority areas/sites for new playing pitch supply based on this detailed assessment.

The guidance recognises that quantitative standards have become increasingly less useful and relevant as a planning tool for playing pitches with the variation in the playing capacity of natural turf pitches (depending on their quality) and the increase in provision and use of artificial grass playing surfaces which can provide much greater playing capacity than natural turf. Policy changes by the playing pitch sport governing bodies have also increased the use of artificial surfaces for competitive matches in addition to training.

A further shortcoming of quantity standards as a planning tool is that they tend to encourage the use of 'on-site' provision over off-site enhancements, irrespective of whether the latter is preferable in a given situation. For example securing lower graded on-site provision may be less preferable to securing contributions towards 'off site' enhancement of existing playing pitch sites to form more readily sustainable and effective hub sites.

³ Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance, October 2013 (Sport England)

Accordingly, the strategic recommendations for playing pitch provision to 2031 in Ealing in this section of the report is not to include a per capita quantity standard. Rather, in accordance with Sport England's published guidance, recommendations are made for a minimum quality standard for playing pitches and for the protection, enhancement and provision of new playing pitches on an area and site-specific basis.

It is therefore recommended that similar per capita standards for Outdoor Active Recreation Space are not carried forward into the new Local Plan.

Quality Standards - Pitch carrying capacity has a direct relationship with pitch quality. For example, raising the quality of an adult football pitch from 'Standard' to 'Good'⁴ would enable one additional game (or training session) per week to be accommodated. Investment in quality enhancements to pitches at existing playing pitch sites with secure community access is, usually, more cost effective than investment in new provision.

It is therefore recommended that the Council and its partner sports agencies seek to achieve and maintain 'good' performance quality standard (as determined by the latest NGB published guidance) for all playing pitches used for national governing body affiliated league standard of play. Whilst setting this target for **all** playing pitches, it should be recognised that in the case of Council pitches in open access public parks, investment decisions in Grounds Maintenance have to take into

⁴ Based on the FA guidance for visual pitch assessments set out in the appendices to the Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance, October 2013 (Sport England)

⁵ Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance Appendix 3, October 2013 (England & Wales Cricket Board)

⁶ Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance Appendix 2, March 2014 (Football Association)

consideration and be weighed against the risks to quality from unauthorised use and acts of vandalism. The current guidance is set out in Figure 4.1.

Figure 4.1 Recommended Pitch Quality Standards

Cricket: Good (i.e. an aggregate rating of 80% or more against ECB Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the outfield, grass wickets, pavilion, artificial wickets and non-turf cricket practice nets as applicable to the site)⁵

Football: Good as a minimum (i.e. an aggregate rating of 80% or more against FA Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the assessment criteria and aggregate rating scores for the playing surface and maintenance programme this also includes the PQS from the Pitchpower rating (good or excellent ranking))⁶

Rugby Union: Good (M2) rating (i.e. no action needed on maintenance) and D3 rating (i.e. no action needed on pitch drainage)⁷.

Hockey: Good (80% or more against Sport England Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the AGP playing surface age, condition, markings, fencing, security, goals and posts and ancillary facilities)⁸.

⁷ Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance Appendix 4, October 2013 (Rugby Football Union)

⁸ Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance Appendix 6, October 2013 (England Hockey Board)

To support clubs, sports associations and other community organisations with playing pitches used for affiliated games to achieve and maintain a 'good' quality standard, it is recommended that, the Council continues to liaise closely with the playing pitch sport governing bodies and their pitch maintenance advisors to identify and prioritise the specific maintenance improvement works required to enhance pitch quality and playing capacity.

4.4 Protect, Enhance and Provide

The national and local policies with respect to playing pitches are reflected within the following recommendations separated out under the headings of *Protect, Enhance and Provide*. The protection of existing sites remains similar to the 2017 study in that the same principles need to be applied and maintained. Given the evidence presented this furthers the importance to ensure no net loss of playing field capacity is a key policy driver for the Council.

Protect

1. Ealing has undertaken a Playing Pitch Strategy and assessed existing and future needs for pitch provision across the borough. The firm conclusion is that there is an identified need to retain the existing overall quantity of playing field land in the borough whilst recognising that the distribution of playing field land may change (for example through closure of playing pitches of poor quality or of limited value for community sport offset by new provision).
2. It is therefore recommended that the broad approach and principles established in existing policies in respect of the protection of existing

provision be carried forward into the new Local Plan. Specifically the new Local Plan should establish a policy framework to resist granting planning permission for any development which would lead to the loss, or would prejudice the use, of a playing field or land last used as a playing field unless:

- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
 - The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.
3. Should a playing pitch exist in Ealing that is not mentioned in this Playing Pitch Strategy and appendices, its omission is not an endorsement by the Council, Sport England or the relevant national governing body of that sport of its disposal.
 4. It is also recommended that the Council continue to work with strategic sports partners (Sport England and the National Governing Bodies of sport for playing pitch sports) to seek agreements to secure access for community sport at those sites in the borough where there is existing access, but long-term access is currently unsecured.
 5. Where playing field sites are in the Council's ownership, the policy of securing community access through asset transfer to community clubs and/or sports associations should continue to be applied, provided that:
 - i) The facilities are assessed as 'good' quality by the relevant governing bodies of sport prior to transfer, and
 - ii) The transferee is able to demonstrate it has the capacity and resources to maintain the facilities to good quality (and this

forms part of any service level agreement). It is recommended that the terms of future transfer agreements include incentives for the clubs to deliver sports development outcomes (e.g. grow numbers of teams, volunteering, and sporting opportunities for under-represented groups).

6. Ensure that any changes to levels of provision as recommended in the action plan of this strategy, reductions in the number of pitches marked, changes in pitch sizes (e.g. adult to junior pitches), provision of training grids, are reversible to accommodate future changes in needs.
7. Influence the design and specification of any new education sports facilities and extensions to existing facilities to ensure their suitability for both education and community use (i.e. provided to Sport England and/or the relevant sports national governing body design dimensions and standards as opposed to education dimensions and standards).
8. Secure affordable community access as a condition of planning consent (via formal Community Use Agreements) for applications from education providers of sports facilities relating to:
 - i) Extending hours of permitted use (e.g. for pitch floodlights)
 - ii) Extensions to existing sports facilities
 - iii) Provision of new sports facilities
9. It is recommended the Council maintain its existing budget for playing pitch maintenance and seek to increase the budget where necessary at key sites (in accordance with the recommendations of the playing pitch governing body grounds maintenance advisers) if and when possible in recognition of the contribution that outdoor sports make to meeting the Council's strategic aims and objectives for public health, education

and community cohesion.

Enhance and Provide

1. It is recommended the Council, clubs, schools and other providers of playing field sites continue to seek the advice of the pitch sports governing bodies and their respective pitch advisers to secure maximum value from their respective budget allocations for maintenance of playing pitches, particularly when new or revised pitch maintenance contract specifications are being prepared.
2. Similarly, it is recommended that the Local Planning Authorities continue to seek the advice of these sports bodies whenever pre-planning proposals or planning applications involving new playing pitches or ancillary facilities are brought forward or new S106 Agreements for playing pitches are drafted. This to ensure that the design, layout and management plans maximise the community value of the new facilities and that the pitch maintenance plans meet the relevant Performance Quality Standards.
3. It is recommended that pitch maintenance by Local Authority employed ground staff and community club volunteers should be supported through the provision and promotion of low-cost training courses in partnership with the sports governing bodies at least once a year.
4. Where feasible, it is recommended that the providers of football pitches in public parks and recreations grounds use moveable football goal post systems (procured from a supplier on the FA's approved list) to reduce wear from informal play (particularly in goalmouths), and, where feasible, realign the pitch layouts on multi-pitch sites each season.

5. For new or replacement artificial grass pitches (AGPs), it is recommended the Council ensure that they are tested, certified and maintained to the necessary standard for inclusion on the relevant NGB register i.e.
 - o Football AGPs - FA Football Turf pitch register
 - o Rugby AGPs - RFU World Rugby compliant pitch register
 - o Hockey AGPs - EH register of pitches approved for Category 3 play or above.
6. With regard to playing pitches as a type of outdoor sports facility, it is recommended that, from all developments involving the creation of one or more residential units, contributions be sought (under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or through the Community Infrastructure Levy mechanism) towards the delivery of 'off site' priority projects in the Ealing Playing Pitch Strategy in the locality of (or easily accessible without a car from) the proposed development. Appropriate contributions should also continue to be sought for ongoing maintenance of any new pitches. The priority playing pitch sites and projects are those set out in the Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan current at the time the planning application is submitted. The initial priority projects are set out in Section 5. The projects include playing pitch sites in private ownership and on school sites outside the control of the Council. Accordingly, the lead party responsible for progressing the actions is identified in the plan along with the key supporting agencies.
7. For strategic scale proposals comprising 500 or more dwellings, and where there are no existing playing fields with the required capacity to accommodate the additional demand for playing pitches either in the locality (or easily accessible from the development without a car), developer contributions should be sought (under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or through the Community Infrastructure Levy mechanism) towards the delivery and maintenance of 'on site' provision guided by the needs identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy.
8. The latest version of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator tool should be used to scope the appropriate scale and approximate costs of new playing pitch provision and to provide the starting point for project specific negotiations of S106 and/or CIL developer contributions. (For example, if 1,500 new dwellings are proposed at an average of say 2.4 persons per dwelling, the additional population total to enter into the Playing Pitch Calculator will be 3,600).
9. It is recommended that in the case of all planning applications with implications for playing fields, the latest version of Sport England's Model Planning Conditions should be used as appropriate. Current model conditions cover the following:
 1. Protection/New Provision of Sport & Recreation Facilities;
 2. Compensatory Provision, Continuity of Use & Phasing of Development;
 3. Built Design & Layout;
 4. Playing Field Provision;
 5. Operational Matters.
10. It is recommended that the Ealing Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group should review and update the Action Plan and priority projects periodically during the strategy period.

Section 5 - Action Plan



5. Action Plan

5.1 Introduction

Aligning with the strategic recommendations in Section 4 and following consideration by the Steering Group of a range of future scenarios and their impacts (Section 3), this final section of the Playing Pitch Strategy sets out an initial action plan for delivering the priority playing pitch facility projects for enhancements and new provision.

These projects have been prioritised as having the best potential to impact against the shared objective outcome of the organisations represented on the Ealing Playing Pitch Steering Group to improve health and wellbeing by ensuring all residents have access to good quality facilities for sport and physical activity.

Figure 5.1 presents the projects in alphabetical order with a reference to their potential to be progressed either in the short term (defined as within 2 years approximately) the medium term (defined as within 2-5 years) or longer to progress - for example projects dependent on acquisition of land, the outcome of wider area development planning or large-scale review of options, feasibility and viability. Figure 5.2 that follows highlights a number of sites which present opportunities for providing or extending community sports. These sites sit outside of the main action plan as further work is required to investigate relevant permission, access, suitability and funding.

In accordance with the published guidance for the preparation of playing pitch strategies, it is recommended the Council convene and chair periodic meetings of the Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group to review progress

and update the Action Plan and the priority ranking of projects to reflect material changes in the picture of supply and demand and changing scenarios.

The updates to the Action Plan should in turn inform periodic updates of the Council's priorities for investment through capital grant and loan programmes.

Where capital budget sums are shown for new provision, these are indicative estimates derived from Sport England Facility Cost Guidance Sheet (Second Quarter 2021) or cost estimates provided by the sports governing bodies. Actual costs will need to be determined as part of project specific feasibility studies.

The action plan is a guide to how facilities might be developed, pending funding confirmation and planning permission where necessary, where and whom they might be developed by to meet identified demand, exploit opportunities that may arise and provide sustainable management and operational models often through engaging with either voluntary or commercial partners. Each potential project must be evaluated considering the current situation, as the strategy and action plan only give a snapshot of the position at the time of writing; so, factors on both the demand and supply side may have changed as well as the cost and viability of the project at the point when an individual project is being considered.

This action plan from the PPS forms part of the wider Indoor and Outdoor Sports Strategy Action Plan for its full delivery covering indoor and outdoor community sports facilities in Ealing.

Figure 5.1 Actions

Site	Timescale	Sport(s)	Action(s)	Lead	Partners	Cost
Acton Ealing Whistlers FC	Short	Football	Clubhouse improvements to improve suitability for W&G (FA Wildcats centre)	Club	FA/FF LBE	tbc
Acton Ealing Whistlers FC	Short	Football	Delivery of pitch improvements (recent award of grant from FF Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund)	Club	FA/FF LBE	tbc
Acton Ealing Whistlers FC	Short	Cricket	Investigate the possibility of installing a cricket pitch – fine and/or non turf	LBE		
Actonians Sports Ground	Short	Cricket	Provide an electronic scoreboard	Cricket Section	Sports Association	tbc
Actonians Sports Ground	Medium	Rugby, football, cricket	Major improvements to pavilion/changing or replace, including options for reorientation of cricket pitch	Sports association	FA, RFU, ECB LBE	tbc
Actonians Boddington Gardens	Medium	Hockey	Commission feasibility study for provision of a second pitch alongside the existing hockey AGP	Sports association	ECB LBE	£15k
Alwyn Gardens	Medium	Football	Small sided (9v9) 3G (subject to agreement with private owner)	FC Samurai	FA/FF	£600k+
Blondin Park	Short	Football	Provision of grass pitches (currently coned areas only - Northfields United)	LBE		tbc
Brentham Club	Short	Cricket	Replace junior non turf practice net and review upgrade need for other NT nets	Brentham Club		
Brentham Club	Medium	Football	Pitch improvements	Sports Association	FA/FF	tbc
Brentfield Cricket Ground	Short	Cricket	Remove derelict NTP	Ealing Hanwellians CC		
Brentfield Cricket Ground	Long	Cricket	Replace pavilion	Ealing CC		500k+

Figure 5.1 Actions

Club des Sports	Short	Cricket	Acton CC seek to negotiate a lease with owners for land for a cricket pavilion and consent to install a NTP at end of existing square	Acton CC	Club des Sports	
Cuckoo Park	Short	Football	Investigate the possibility of formalising the use of the casual football pitch in connection with Hanwell CC	LBE		
Drayton Manor High School	Short	Cricket	Club to negotiate security of access/reduced hire fee from, 2023	Perivale Phoenixians CC	Middlesex Cricket	
Ealing Central Sports Ground	Short	Cricket Football	Installation of high ball strike netting to allow adult play on the northernmost square	LBE	ECB	
Ealing Central Sports Ground	Long	Football Cricket	Replacement pavilion	LBE	FA /FF ECB	£690k
Ealing CC Ground	Medium	Cricket	Improve toilets and extend pavilion	Ealing CC	ECB	tbc
Elthorne Waterside pitches	Medium	Cricket, Football Rugby	Investigate the possibility of development as a cricket and winter sports venue including changing rooms/pavilion	LBE		
Hanwell Town	Short	Football	Delivery of pitch improvements P2, P3 (recent award of grant from FF Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund)	Club	FA/FF	tbc
London Playing Fields Greenford		Football	Avenue Park improvements	LPFF	FA/FF	
Lord Halsbury Sports Ground	Short	Football	Delivery of pitch improvements (recent FF GPMF grant)	Larkspur Rovers	FA/FF	tbc
Lord Halsbury Sports Ground	Short	Football	Secure funding and consents to upgrade main pitch to Step 6 standards (surrounding rail, dug outs, lighting etc.)	Larkspur Rovers	Stadia Improvement Fund?	tbc
Lord Halsbury Sports Ground	Short	Cricket	Investigate the possibility of installing a cricket pitch – fine and/or non turf	LBE		

Figure 5.1 Actions

Marnham Fields	Short	TBC	Reinstate pitches and ancillary provision	LBE/Club partner		
New Stadium Pitch	Medium	Football	Feasibility Study for new stadium pitch as home for Southall Town FC	LBE		£25k approx
North Acton Playing Fields	Short	Cricket	Installation of irrigation system to cricket squares Enhanced maintenance	LBE	ECB	tbc
North Acton Playing Fields	Short	Football	Pavilion improvements	LBE	FA/FF	tbc
Northolt RFC	Short	Rugby Gaelic sports	Improvements to kitchen and toilets in clubhouse	Club	RFU LBE	tbc - club has applied for an RFU loan
Norwood Hall Playing Fields	Short	Cricket Football	Potential disposal as a sports ground with a reserve minimum plus conditions of future use for sport	LBE/WL College		
Osterley Cricket Ground	Short	Football	Delivery of pitch improvements (recent FF GPMF grant) to include work to 2nd square levels and enhanced maintenance.	Osterley CC/ Cademy YFC	FA/FF Middlesex PSN	tbc
Osterley Cricket Ground	Medium	Cricket	Club to implement plans for a small junior pavilion adjacent to the 2nd square	Osterley CC		£150k
Osterley Sports Ground	Short	Football	Concorde Rangers to negotiate improved security of access with Gurdwara Delivery of pitch improvements (recent FF GPMF application)	Concorde Rangers FC	Gurdwara FA/FF	
Osterley Sports Ground	Long	All sports	Potential for a wide range of sports on site, options to be encouraged and supported to meet the sporting needs of the local community	Owner		
Perivale Park	Short	Cricket	Enhanced maintenance and installation of irrigation point by squares	LBE		
Perivale Park	Short	Hockey	Complete review of current sports and recreation use to include consideration of a floodlit AGP for hockey.	LBE		

Figure 5.1 Actions

Perivale Park	Short	Cricket	Investigate the possibility of installing a cricket pitch – fine and/or non turf with pitch side shelter	LBE		
Popesfield Sports Ground	Medium	Cricket	Install a second Non turf pitch	LBE	Ealing CC ECB	£20k
Queens Drive Playing Field	Short	Football	Secure funding for pitch improvements	London Japanese FC	London Bunka Yochien School/ FA/FF	
Rectory Park (north side)	Short	Cricket	Investigate the possibility of installing a cricket pitch – fine and/or non turf with pitch side shelter	LBE		
St Augustine's Priory School	Short	Hockey	Club to continue to seek to secure a long-term access agreement with the school, potentially through partnership investment in the pitch (resurfacing) and provision of ancillary facilities for shared use and/or coaching support	Ealing HC	St Augustine's School	
St Augustines Priory School	Medium	Hockey	Upgrade of playing surface (potential for partnership agreement - see short term actions)	School	Ealing HC EH	£450k?
St Benedict's School	Short	Hockey	Club to seek to secure a long-term access agreement with the school, potentially through partnership investment in the pitch (resurfacing) and/or coaching support	Ealing HC	St Benedict's School	
SKLPCC Ground	Short	Cricket	Replace NT nets, carry out soil analysis	SKLPCC		
Southfield Recreation Ground	Medium	Football	Replacement pavilion	LBE	FA/FF	£690k
Spikes Bridge Park	Short	Cricket	Pitch improvement works, train more volunteers in GM	London Tigers CC	Middlesex PSN	
Spikes Bridge Park	Medium	Football Cricket	Changing room extension	London Tigers	FA/FF	tbc
Spikes Bridge Park	Long	Football	Small sided 3G (7v7)	London Tigers		£450k +

Figure 5.1 Actions

Sports Halls in borough	Short	Hockey	Continue to explore the available options to accommodate regular indoor hockey sessions in a suitable sports hall in the borough (NB Gunnersbury now confirmed as NOT suitable despite size)	LBE	PHC Chiswick	n/a
Trailfinders Sports Club	Short	Cricket	Complete relocation and reinstatement of pitch moved to accommodate new indoor training building	Trailfinders Sports Club		
Warren Farm Sports Ground	Short	Cricket Football	Complete options appraisal for sporting need recognising the council's response to the climate emergency and ecology strategy. Commission detailed feasibility with a view to securing funding and consents to build a new outdoor sports facility including a number of reinstated playing pitches in line with the level of demand identified in this strategy alongside a nature reserve	LBE		
Wasps FC Twyford Avenue Sports Ground	Short	Rugby	Match quality floodlights to a second grass pitch	Club	RFU	
Wasps FC Twyford Avenue Sports Ground	Medium	Rugby	Install second rugby compliant AGP	Wasps FC	RFU	£1.2m
Wasps FC, Twyford Avenue Sports Ground	Long	Rugby	Major refurbishment or replacement of pavilion to facilitate development of club and W&G rugby in particular	Wasps FC	RFU	tbc
West Ealing Bowls Club	Medium	Football	Upgrade pavilion	Ealing United FC	West Ealing BC FA/FF	tbc
William Perkin School	Short	Cricket	Remedial works to pitch and enhanced maintenance regime	Brentham CC	William Perkin School	

5.2 Further Opportunity Sites

Figure 5.2 Opportunities for providing or extending community sports opportunities to be investigated further at the following sites, all pending funding and relevant permissions; all potential opportunities listed are dependent on the support of the site owners/operators

Ada Lovelace HS		All sports ideally football	Provide sports facilities on site which meet the wider sports facility gap analysis for Ealing	School
Dormers Wells HS		All sports ideally football	Provide sports facilities on site which meet the wider sports facility gap analysis for Ealing	School
Education sites to open for community use		All sports	Encourage all schools to promote the use of school facilities to the wider community for out of school hours sports use	Schools
Ellen Wilkinson HS		All sports ideally hockey	Convert existing redgra pitch to sand-based hockey pitch	School
Formers Barclays Bank Sports Ground		All sports ideally hockey	Provide sports facilities on site which meet the wider sports facility gap analysis for Ealing	Owner
Former Eversheds Sports Ground		All sports	Provide sports facilities on site which meet the wider sports facility gap analysis for Ealing	Owner
Land adjacent to Wasps FC Sports Ground		All sports	Provide sports facilities on site which meet the wider sports facility gap analysis for Ealing	Owner
Pitshanger Bowls Green and pavilion		All sports	Provide sports facilities on site which meet the wider sports facility gap analysis for Ealing	LBE

Section 6 - Conclusion



6. Conclusion

This Playing Pitch Strategy replaces the strategy published in 2017 and forms part of the evidence base to inform the update of the Local Plan for Ealing to 2031.

Since the last Ealing Playing Pitch Strategy was published, the capacity of the secured playing pitches available to residents of the borough and its catchment area has increased substantially as the priority actions identified in the strategy have been delivered, for example the new multi sport hub at Gunnersbury Park and the new Football Hub at Rectory Park and new pavilion and pitches for football and cricket at Popesfield Playing Fields, Durdans Park and Perivale Park. Recommendations made for a pitch improvement project at Ealing Central Sports Ground for example are nearing completion.

The Council has also continued to work closely with local schools to promote out of hours community use of new facilities on school sites that can be used for community sport and recreation; through the planning process, Community Use Agreements have been secured ensuring that school facilities are available to local sports groups at an affordable price out of school hours. This type of agreement is now in place at William Perkin High School, while several independent schools have upgraded pitch drainage and sports lighting enhancing their community offer.

Commercial and voluntary sector organisations have also funded sports facility improvement projects in Ealing, most prominently Trailfinders Sports Club Ground has transformed in recent years to a top class venue for both professional and community rugby as well as other pitch sports, Club des Sport in Acton has invested heavily in a range of sports facilities including

floodlit artificial grass pitches, for use by resident sports clubs and Wasps FC has invested in floodlit rugby compliant artificial grass pitch facilities.

Demand for playing pitch sports has recovered well following the movement restrictions resulting from the pandemic. The review has found that, despite the increases in provision since 2017, shortfalls remain in secured playing pitch capacity for cricket, hockey and youth football and that the current shortfall will be increased as the Council's growth plans in the Southall and Park Royal Opportunity Areas in particular are delivered.

In common with all local authorities, Ealing Council has had to manage large scale cuts to its budget since the last playing pitch strategy was adopted alongside a series of unexpected challenges including the Covid pandemic.

Despite these challenges, the Council's vision remains ambitious to work with residents, partner organisations, businesses, the voluntary sector and staff to make Ealing an even better place to live, work and visit.

Ensuring all residents have access to good quality facilities for sport and recreation - including the four primary playing pitch sports - remains an important goal.

This updated Playing Pitch Strategy, and the overall Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy 2022 to 2031, has identified the likely impact of the population growth currently projected on future demand for pitches for team games and training for the leading pitch sports as well as the potential impact of trends in the key sports, particularly growth in participation by women and girls.

Over the new local plan period to 2031, population growth and participation trends in the sports together evidence a needs case for further playing pitch provision together with further enhancement to existing key sites. The Council has an excellent track record supporting sports projects since the last 2017 strategy, this new strategy is focused on retaining that momentum and an acknowledgement that this process needs to remain as an on-going focus to meet the growing demands from the needs of changing participation and growing population within Ealing.

Playing Pitches and outdoor sports provision play a critical role in the health and wellbeing of residents and just as the 2017 strategy identified, continued protection and strategic enhancement of the current stock and the identified priorities for new investment required should remain a key priority for the Council.

WORKING DRAFT COPY

LB Ealing – Indoor and Outdoor Facilities Strategy 2022

Part 2 – Built Facility Strategy

Working draft copy



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Section 1 Introduction



Section 1 Introduction

1.1 Context and Purpose

The Built Facilities Strategy is one of two parts of Ealing’s overall Indoor and Outdoor Facilities Strategy. This document (Part 2) sits alongside the Playing Pitch Strategy (Part 1) to provide a full assessment of sport and recreation facilities within the borough. The research for this strategy was completed over 2021 and 2022 and examines the current built sport facility provision and the future needs of Ealing up to 2031.

The key objectives of the Ealing Sports Facility Strategy 2022-31 are to:

1. Provide the Council and its partners with a robust document with an evidence base that can be reliably used to support spatial planning decisions and inform capital investment plans and external funding bids for new and/or enhanced indoor and outdoor sports facilities.
2. Improve public health by encouraging more people in Ealing to be more active by ensuring facilities for indoor and outdoor sports are of the appropriate quality are both available and accessible.
3. Ensure future sustainability of sport and leisure in Ealing through sports and physical activity networks, involving sports clubs and other delivery organisations

Through the implementation of this strategy, the Council has a major role to play in providing access to sporting opportunities at a cost that is acceptable to the wider community. The Council has a role to play as a direct provider of entry level playing facilities such as free to use casual football pitches and tennis courts in parks as well as pay as you go swimming and gym use.

The Council also plays an enabling role in developing better quality facilities

by engaging and enabling community organisations through the asset transfer process to independently manage and operate facilities funded through partnerships with Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport as well as other funding organisations. At the very top level, professional sports clubs based in the borough provide facilities catering for elite sport.

In order to achieve the vision and 3 key objectives of this new 10-year strategy, the council will explore opportunities to:

- Enable and promote a network of accessible sports facilities across the borough maintaining and enhancing the borough's built and green infrastructure
- Develop a hierarchy of appropriate quality facilities provided by a range of organisations
- Work with commercial and community partners and national governing bodies to enable and secure the development and long-term management as well as financial viability of indoor and outdoor sport facilities across the borough
- Seek to maximise opportunities which may arise to develop sports facilities as part of wider regeneration, education or place-based projects
- Provide a robust evidence base to inform Planning policy decisions regarding the protection, enhancement and provision of indoor and outdoor sports facilities
- Seek to secure developer contributions and enabling development to provide funding to enable the development of sports facilities to benefit residents
- Identify and bid for external funding to support the development and delivery of new sports facilities across Ealing
- Use the benefits of sport to bring communities together to make them stronger reducing inequality and celebrating diversity
- Promote outdoor sports as a key enabler to healthy and active lifestyles

By delivering facility developments in line with the overarching principles, the following outcomes will be realised for Ealing residents:

- More opportunities for people to be more active reducing the number of inactive people
- Greater participation in indoor and outdoor sports and increased levels of physical activity
- Better, more accessible sports facilities of appropriate quality available across the borough
- Reduced public subsidy and better long-term sustainability of indoor and outdoor sports facilities across the borough
- More community organisations developing and operating facilities for the benefit of local residents
- More opportunities for people to volunteer in sport and active recreation for the benefit of others
- New regeneration or education projects will factor in future community use sports facilities enhancing local places and spaces for the enjoyment of residents
- Stronger and healthier communities, reducing health inequalities
- Planning policy which supports and encourages people to be more active

National Policy Adherence

A strategic approach to sport and physical activity services and provision, which identifies and delivers local priorities, can make a lasting difference. A clear, strategic and sustainable approach to guide the Council when developing capital projects not only can play an important role in making sure investments into services and facilities are effective but also is essential to present to leading partners such as Sport England.

There is also a need to adhere to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Para 98 of the NPPF states: *“Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and*

recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate”.

Sport England’s guidance includes reference to an overarching view to be taken (ahead of the Protect, Enhance and Provide as detailed within the action planning of the strategy) with local Needs and Assessments needing to:

1. *Recognise and give significant weight to the benefits of sport and physical activity.*
2. *Undertake, maintain and apply robust and up-to-date assessments of need and strategies for sport and physical activity provision, and base policies, decisions and guidance upon them.*
3. *Plan, design and maintain buildings, developments, facilities, land and environments that enable people to lead active lifestyles.*

Health and Wellbeing

Strategies for sports facilities in the borough are needed to support the local and national strategic priorities to promote positive health behaviours, to improve public health and wellbeing and to reduce health inequalities. Physical inactivity is a key lifestyle risk factor with regard to health and wellbeing.

Effective place making by borough and district councils, which includes planning facilities for sport and physical activity, can encourage and support residents to make healthy lifestyle choices. Good quality, accessible sports facilities provide opportunities for people to take part in sports and informal recreation for their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Schools

Access to school sports facilities in the evenings and/or at weekends is critical to the successful operation of many of the community sports clubs based in Ealing as well as for individuals as the vast majority of community sports halls and artificial grass pitches are on education sites. With a growing population over the Local Plan period, the role of school sports facilities in providing for community sport is likely to grow in importance. Accordingly, exploring opportunities to both secure existing community use of school and college-based sports facilities and to widen community use - including ensuring planning policies for new schools include provision for community use of built sports facilities and playing pitches (via enforceable Community Use Agreements) are important drivers for the strategies.

Developer Contributions and External Grants

Lastly, there is a need to update the priority projects for new and enhanced sports facilities in the borough to inform updates of the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan and the future investment priorities for the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and site specific S106 Developer Contributions.

Priority projects will also inform applications for external grant support to sports agencies such as Sport England, the Football Foundation and the national governing bodies of sport.

1.2 Methodology

The method and approach used to develop the Built Facilities Strategy element of the Ealing Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy is in line with Sport England's Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (ANOG)¹.

The assessment includes indoor and outdoor sports facilities located in Ealing that are either of significant benefit to the whole community for example the major sports facilities such as swimming pools, sports halls and sport specific facilities for example a skate park, tennis courts or athletics track. The assessment will be carried out on a borough wide basis with no subdivisions, this is because the borough has good connectivity and transport links are extensive and easily accessed.

To meet the objectives of Ealing a wide range of sport and leisure facilities were included in the assessment, with the aim of identifying facility gaps to ensure future planning provides opportunities to fill the gaps. Facilities providing opportunities for the most popular sports in Ealing such as cricket, swimming, badminton, football, tennis and rugby as well as minority sports such as Boxing and Judo were included. Indoor and outdoor facilities located on primary school sites were only included in the assessment if they are available for community use and are suitable for sports use e.g. where there are dedicated sports facilities available such as a floodlit artificial grass pitch or school hall with sports markings or where the school has a publicised community use booking procedure. Also included are facilities located in community buildings where formal sport is played e.g. Hanwell Community Centre has two large spaces both used for formal sport and Perivale Community Centre has a large hall used for a range of indoor sports. Where possible, smaller flexible spaces have been mapped, such as spaces like church halls and library rooms which are important in the context of providing non-sporting settings for people to be active individually or as part of a class/group rather than to play formal team sport.

The Consultant Team gathered a wide range of supply and demand information through analysis of strategic documents, planning tools, and consultation.

¹ Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide (ANOG) for Indoor & Outdoor Sports Facilities, Sport England

(July 2014)

To help inform our supply and demand analysis, the Consultant Team undertook an in-depth consultation process by speaking to a wide range of key stakeholders. These included National Governing Bodies of sport (NGBs), facility providers, and clubs through surveys and interviews. This process was used to develop a robust understanding of the supply and demand of facilities within Ealing. The consultation findings for the surveys and interviews are summarised in the report.

Following consideration of the findings, facility needs are identified for each sports facility type according to the following three potential strategic courses of action:

- **PROTECT** sports facilities from loss as a result of development.
- **ENHANCE** existing facilities through improving their quality, accessibility and/or management.
- **PROVIDE** new or larger facilities that are fit for purpose to meet demands for participation now and in the future.

This process culminates in a clear set of priority projects for future investment in sports and recreation facilities in Ealing (other than playing pitch projects which are part of the Playing Pitch Strategy, Part 1), based on a robust assessment of both facility needs and opportunities for new or enhanced provision.

With regard to future opportunities for facility development, the assessment recognises the need to review the potential of facility projects to be deliverable in so far as securing both the necessary consents and funding and ongoing financial sustainability. Accordingly, in identifying projects, the strategy adopts a pragmatic approach that recognises the growing financial challenge facing all local authorities in continuing to deliver and support non-statutory sports and recreation services.

The recommendations also consider the strategic focus of the Government and Sport England towards sport and recreation as a way to address the

national public health crisis of obesity and other health conditions linked to physical inactivity. Increasingly, exchequer and sports lottery grant resources are prioritising those projects considered most effective at impacting sport and physical activity behaviour change among the inactive in local populations, as opposed to simply renewing outdated sports facilities used by those who are already active.

It is noted that the approach to identifying sports facility needs advocated to local planning authorities in Sport England’s Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guidance (ANOG) is a significant change to the ‘standards-based’ methodology in the former Planning Policy Guidance Note No. 17 (PPG17). Since the publication of ANOG in July 2014, Sport England has advised local planning authorities to move away from the use of per capita based standards in assessing and determining quantitative needs for sports and recreation facilities.

In place of setting quantitative standards for each facility type, ANOG advocates gathering detailed local supply and demand data and assessment of area, sport and site-specific needs and opportunities. This is to determine which existing specific sites and facilities should be protected and the priority areas/sites for enhanced, new or expanded facilities. Accordingly, this updated study of sports facility needs in Ealing is based on a detailed local assessment of the picture of supply and demand for each of the sports facility typologies in scope.

1.3 Project Scope – The Sports Included

The scope of the community sports facility types that included in the study (and minimum facility scale thresholds where applicable), are set out as follows:

- Swimming pools
- Sports halls
- Gyms

- Indoor and Outdoor Tennis
- Boxing facilities
- Squash courts
- Indoor Climbing walls
- Urban/Extreme sports including cycle and skate sports, parkour,.
- Facilities not currently located in Ealing including a dedicated Gymnastics/Trampolining facility and relevant specialist sports.

It is noted that natural turf playing pitches and Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) are covered within the Playing Pitch Strategy report (part 1). Community Activity Halls under 3 badminton courts in size are referenced in the sports halls section of this report, where identified as being suitable, available and used regularly by the local community for indoor sports (e.g. dance, keep fit, yoga, short mat bowls, martial arts).

Significant sports facilities not currently located in Ealing but in neighbouring authorities that provide easy access for Ealing residents have been taken into consideration in determining current and future facility needs in the borough including Indoor bowls, dedicated Gymnastics/Trampolining facility, indoor arena with show court with spectator seating and so forth.

In terms of demand, the impact of sites in neighbouring authorities close to the borough boundary and allocated for large scale new housing developments is taken into consideration. Also, the impact of 'displaced' demand is considered in relation to the sports and recreation facility needs in the borough. This includes both exported demand (i.e. from Ealing to access facilities in neighbouring local authorities) and imported demand (from neighbouring local authorities to access sports facilities in Ealing). The neighbouring local authority areas are:

- Harrow & Brent - to the north
- Hammersmith & Fulham – to the east

- Hounslow – to the south
- Hillingdon - to the west

1.4 The purpose of the new facility strategy and its subsequent outcomes for Ealing residents

The purpose of the strategy is to support the Council's overarching principles shaping the future of Ealing and most importantly contribute to the achievement of outcomes relating to improved health and increased physical activity levels of Ealing residents, establishing how to best meet their current and future health and wellbeing needs and encourage and support the continued independence of Ealing residents, contributing to the priority of making Ealing a better place to live and work.

Ealing council's main reasons for producing this follow-on facility strategy and associated action plan are detailed below:

- To assess and measure the impact of the Ealing Sports Facility Strategy 2012 – 21 and the London 2012 Games legacy programme
- To develop an accurate and robust evidence base to provide the leisure and sport content for the Local Plan refresh and to help inform Planning policy decisions regarding the protection, enhancement and provision of existing and future indoor and outdoor sports facilities providing an understanding of the best location(s) for any new facilities
- To use the evidence base to help calculate and secure developer contributions as part of the planning process where sport and leisure is a consultee on all future housing developments to ensure the impact on the sport and leisure infrastructure is considered and to provide funding to enable the development of sports facilities to benefit residents
- To create an agreed list of priority projects which will help to meet any existing deficiencies, meet future demand and feed into wider infrastructure planning as well as helping to secure internal capital and revenue investment

- To identify and help meet the growing need of Ealing’s strong network of voluntary sports clubs, for better quality sport appropriate facilities, including improvements to existing or the building of new facilities

1.5 Participation in Physical Activity

Before considering the specific sports and their facility needs, it is important to set the context of the extent to which the population of Ealing participates in physically activity currently, how this has changed since the last strategy in 2012 and how current levels of physical activity in the population benchmark against the regional and national averages.

Figure 1.1 Levels of Activity

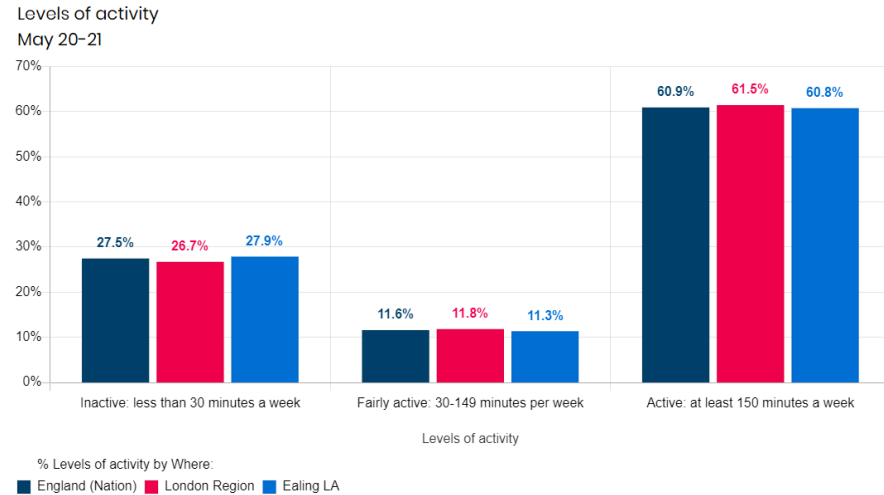
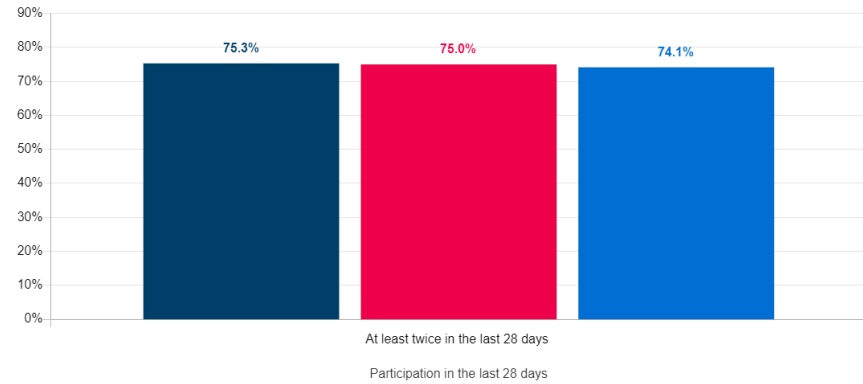


Figure 2.1, taken from Sport England’s latest Active Lives Survey results, show that more adult residents of the borough (aged 16+) are physical ‘inactive’ (27.9%) compared to the national average (27.5%) and the regional average (26.7%). Conversely, a lower percentage (60.8%) is classed as ‘active’ than regionally (61.5%) and nationally (60.9%).

Figure 1.2 Participation in the last 28 days

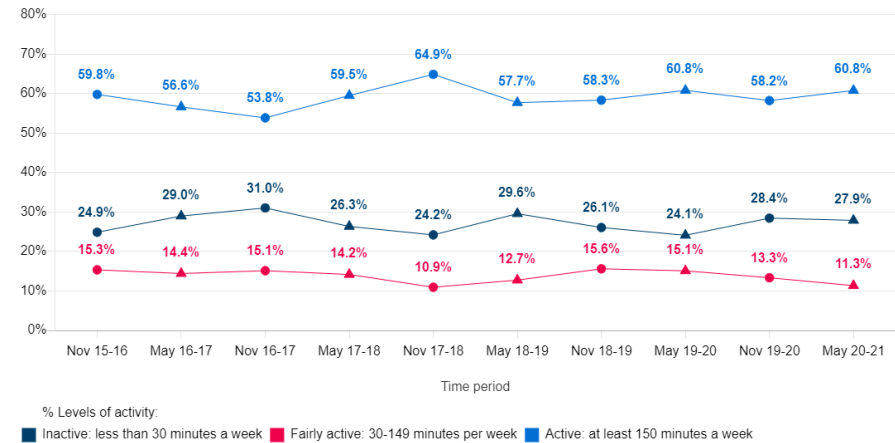
Participation in the last 28 days
May 20-21



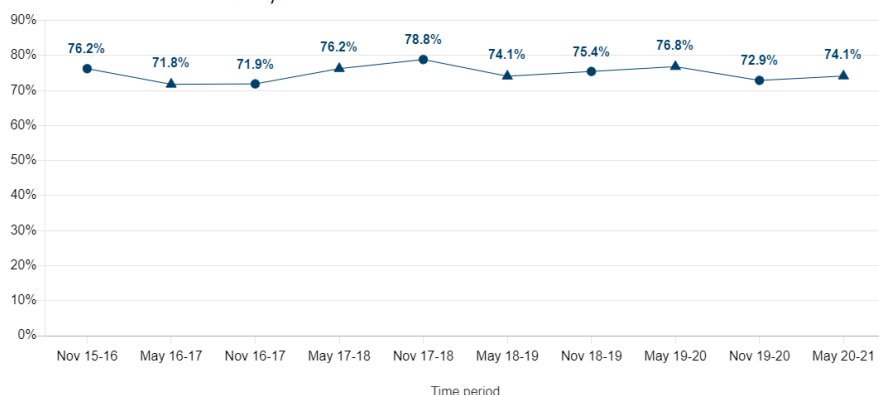
Regular participation – defined in the survey as participation at least twice in the last 28 days – is also lower among adults in Ealing than across London and nationally as shown in Figure 1.2

Figure 1.3 and 1.4 Participation Trends

Levels of activity - Local Authority and County Council
Ealing LA



Participation in the last 28 days – Local Authority and County Council
At least twice in the last 28 days



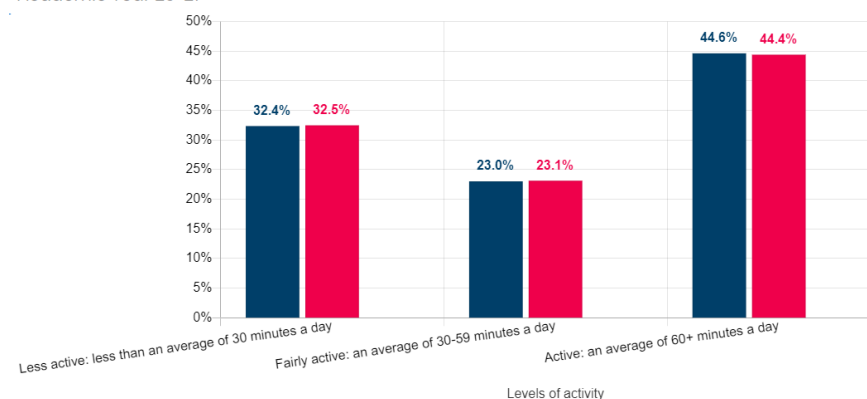
% Participation in the last 28 days by Local Authority and County Council:
■ Ealing LA

The proportion of adults in the borough classed as ‘Active’ (at least 150 minutes a week) has increased by 1% (from 59.8% to 60.8%) since Nov 15-16. Over the same period, the figure for ‘inactive’ (less than 30 minutes a week) has increased by 3% (from 24.9% to 27.9%). Regular adult participation (at least twice in the last 28 days) has decreased since Nov 15-16 from 76.2% to 74.1%, a decrease of 2.1%.

More than a fifth of adults in the borough (27.9%) were found to be ‘inactive’ in the 2021 ALS. This emphasises the importance of provision of accessible and affordable facilities for sport and active recreation in Ealing.

Figure 1.5 Levels of Children’s physical activity

Levels of activity
Academic Year 20-21



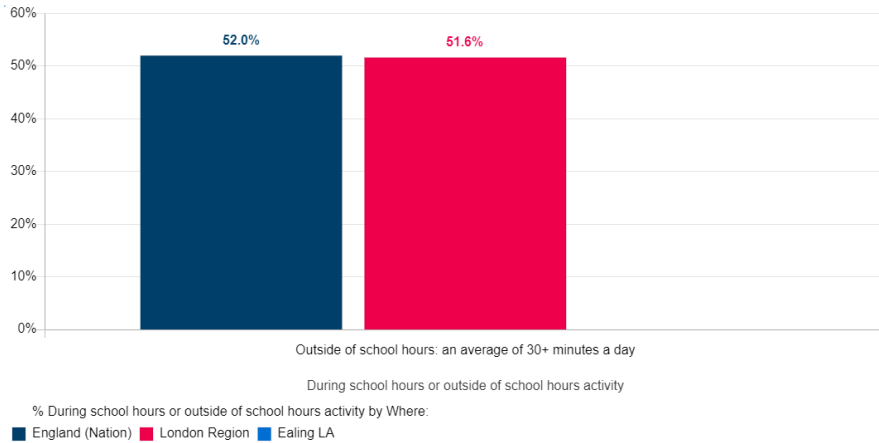
% Levels of activity by Where:
■ England (Nation) ■ London Region ■ Ealing LA

The Active Lives Children & Young People Survey stopped tracking the levels of children’s physical activity in Ealing in the academic year 18-19, therefore, there are no up to date figures. However, Regionally 44.4% of children (aged 5-16) met the recommended level of physical activity (i.e. Active for an average of 60 mins or more daily either in or out of school). This is slightly lower than the national average at 44.6%.

In terms of ‘Less Active’ measure (i.e. Active for an average of less than 30 mins a day), the London region is at 32.5% - i.e. approaching a third of children in the region is insufficient for their health. The picture is slightly better nationally (32.4%).

Figure 1.6 Children’s physical activity during school hours or outside school hours

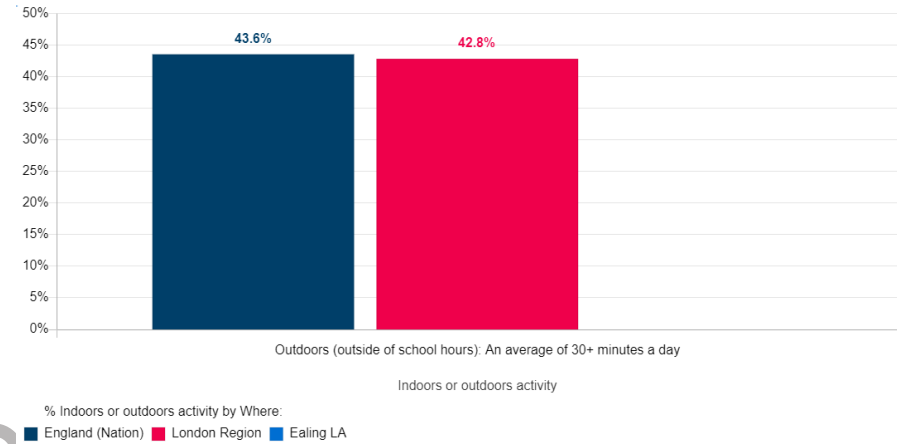
During school hours or outside of school hours activity
Academic Year 20-21



Just over half of children in the London region (51.6%) are physically active outside of school hours for average of 30+ minutes daily compared with 52% nationally.

Figure 1.7 Children’s physical activity outdoor out of school hours

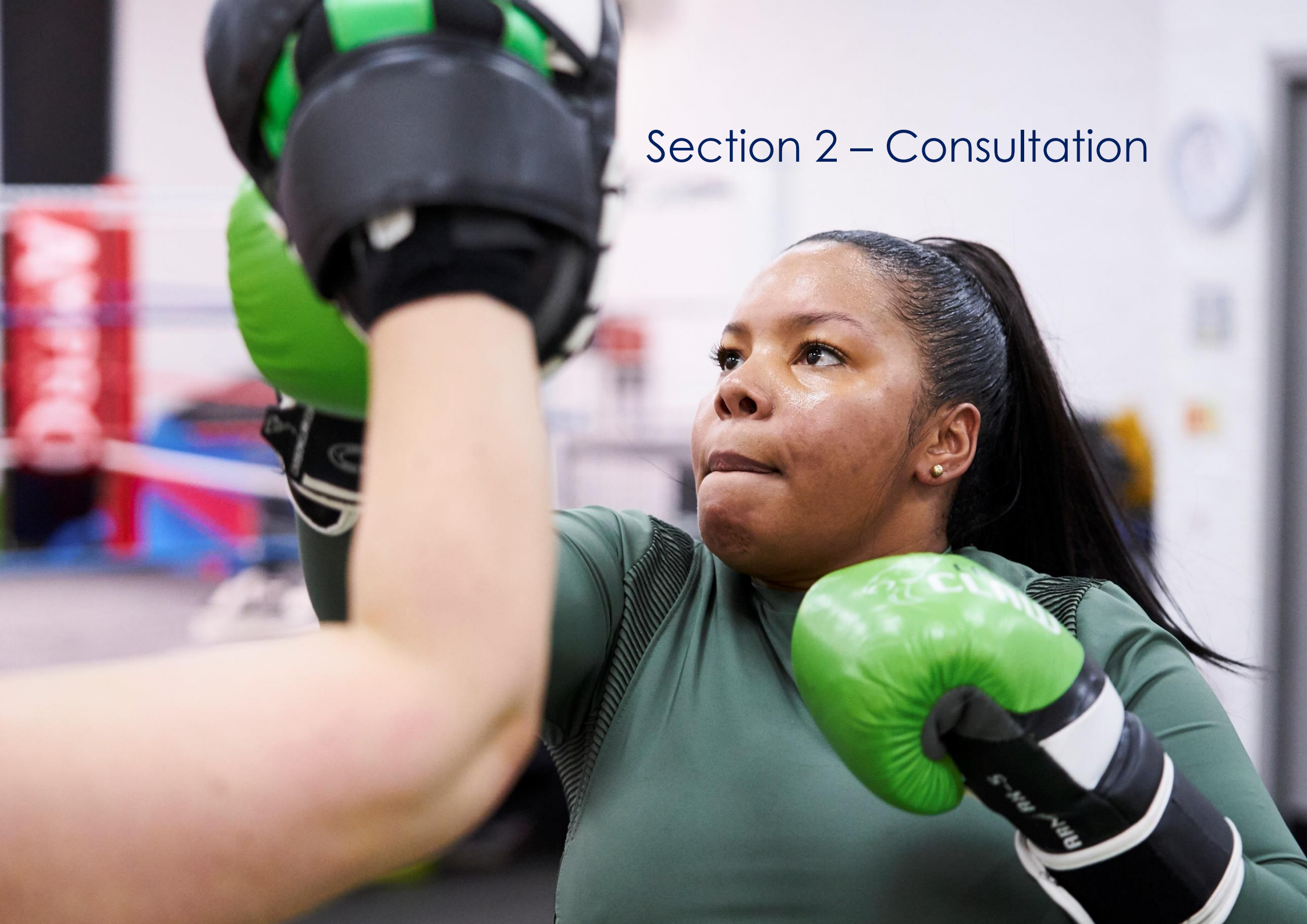
Indoors or outdoors activity
Academic Year 20-21



The final chart (Figure 2.7) shows that 42.8% of children in the London region take part outdoors outside of school hours. This outdoor measure is lower than the national average of 43.6%.

WORKING DRAFT

Section 2 – Consultation



Section 2 – Consultation

To further inform the update to the Indoor and Outdoor Strategy and identify leading issues for each sport in the scope of the assessment, key local stakeholder organisations, the national governing bodies of the sports (NGBs) and active sports clubs in the borough were consulted. Understanding the needs of the clubs, NGBs and leading partners is a key part of the Council being able to plan for any future invest that can have the most sustainable impact on levels of activity and the wellbeing of Ealing’s residents.

A range of responses were made to the consultation and the main findings are summarised within this section. Not all NGBs responded to requests for consultation.

2.1 National Governing Bodies – this section will be updated as comments are received

Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 8 bowls clubs in Ealing which Bowls England deem to be sufficient provision for Ealing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain the current provision and increase the quality of greens and ancillary facilities to support clubs to increase recruitment and participation.
Cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of the Ealing BMX club is a big blow for the borough and British Cycling would like to see club activity Despite the lack of club activity the governing body want to ensure the Council maintain the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure on-going provision of the BMX track Explore the potential for the revitalisation of the track as part of the Gurnell pool and open space redevelopment. With any new development work with the Council to

Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BMX pump track for on-going access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> create a new or rejuvenated club at the site. Let’s Go Southall cycling project also remains a key priority to get people cycling and moving across this part of the borough.
Judo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are two prominent judo clubs in the borough, both operating from community centres. Ealing Judo club have 129 members and Alpha Judo Club have 201, both are operating at full capacity based on the numbers they can accommodate at their venues. Both clubs have school outreach programmes. Ealing Judo Club have been working with the local authority to try and secure a permanent dojo, to allow them to operate a full-time provision, as well as expanding the club’s mat space and provide changing provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> British Judo have aspirations to develop community facilities but is heavily dependent on securing external investment from partners. There is a definite demand for additional provision in Ealing by expanding these existing clubs rather than starting new clubs. Securing a permanent dojo in the borough of Ealing is a priority.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are two clubs based in Ealing, Ealing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ealing is a priority area for England Athletics, there is a

Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs	Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs
	<p>Eagles running club (off track only) and Ealing, Southall & Middlesex AC (track & field and off track).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are enough facilities to service demand in the area and includes: ○ One outdoor synthetic 400m facility located at Perivale Athletics Track. ○ One outdoor macadam ActiveTrack located at Spikes Bridge Macadam Jogging Track. ○ One CompactTrack at West Twyford Primary School. (Private use only) ○ One MiniTrack at King Fahad Academy. (Available for hire) ● One MiniTrack at The Japanese School (Private use only) 	<p>need to protect and enhance facilities as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protect - The main outdoor synthetic track at Perivale is strategically well-located when using EAs recommended 20minute catchment and services an exclusive population of 318k and an EA membership catchment of 965. A priority would be for the track to achieve and maintain UKA TrackMark accreditation. ○ Enhance - The presence of developmental facilities across the borough provides an excellent network of athletics facilities conducive to the development of participation. EA would be supportive of improvements to the ActiveTrack at Spikes Bridge and the opening up of school sites at The Japanese School and West Twyford (this may require basic lighting to accommodate after school community sessions). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hanwell School of Boxing, in Hanwell, Patrick Wilson’s School of Boxing (Northolt ABC) based in Northolt, Powerday Hooks, an amateur boxing club based at Popes Lane, Treasure Boxing in Southall and West London Boxing Academy, a commercial gym and recently affiliated amateur boxing club based at Waterside Trading Estate. ○ In addition to these clubs there is unaffiliated provision including Hanwell school of boxing, plus other corporate gyms such as Gymbox and Virgin Active, all of whom deliver boxing related activity on a non-contact recreational level. 	<p>only moved to their current location in the last few years and have no further plans for expansion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hanwell School of Boxing have a membership of around 100 and lease a former youth club from the Council ○ Patrick Wilson’s School of Boxing (Northolt ABC) has around 100 members and is based at Lord Halsbury Playing Fields on a site leased to Larkspur Rovers FC ○ West London Boxing Academy also has a membership of around 200 but the majority are working adults, boxing for keep fit / recreational purposes. ○ England boxing have no specific priorities for Ealing but ask that the council provide support if and when either club wish to run community led projects.
Boxing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ealing has the following clubs affiliated to England Boxing: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Powerday Hooks have a membership of 200+ and are close to capacity but they 	Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is a total of 36 courts on 14 sites in Ealing. Five of these are indoor, with the remaining 31 outdoor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are sufficient courts to satisfy the current demand in Ealing, so priorities for England Netball would be to maintain the existing facilities.

Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs	Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60% (3) of the indoor courts and 42% (13) of the outdoor courts are on education sites. There are 2 clubs in Ealing, Elthorne & Twyford NC (based at Elthorne Sports Centre), and Academy NC (Notting Hill & Ealing High School). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elthorne & Twyford NC rated their facilities as poor and highlighted a need for the courts to be re-laid as well as improvements to the changing rooms and toilets. 		<p>to tennis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A number of very good interventions have taken place since the last strategy to improve sites such as Pitshanger, Southall, West Middlesex LTC and clay court investment as well as Gunnersbury major investment for the overall site. The LTA stated that there is a current balance between supply and demand, and that existing facilities should be retained with those projects highlighted for investment to be addressed in partnership with the Council. 	<p>Bounce Tennis – resurfacing and upgrading</p> <p>Ealing Lawn Tennis Club – Floodlighting and capacity</p>
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LTA has continued to work working in partnership with the Council and the club network for some time to develop and broaden the base of participation with a focus on parks tennis which accounts for approximately a third of all tennis players. LTA believe that Ealing has a good stock of tennis courts and clubs. One real strength of Ealing Tennis is the Ealing Tennis forum which is great to keep everyone abreast of issues and opportunities relating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LTA are looking at supporting a gated system at Elthorne Park. The main priorities for the LTA are to refurbish and implement the gated access system at Churchfield, Ravenor Park, Spikes Bridge, Wolf Fields. LTA would be keen to explore the potential opportunities for Padel in Ealing e.g., Lammas Park. LTA believes that ideal spaces would be old bowls greens as these facilities are flat and are about the right size. <p>Subject to further viability testing the leading clubs needs comprise of:</p>	Table Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are only 2 affiliated clubs in Ealing (noting that affiliation is optional for clubs) The Oaks Club (Premier Club) and Northfields TTC (Associate club) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The governing body is currently focused on growing and broadening the appeal of table tennis their priorities are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow U11 participation For table tennis to become increasingly representative of the population in England Create gender parity across the sport

Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Oaks Club has ambitions to grow the club but are limited by current space. They are exploring using other venues as well as their current home at Actonians to offer different sessions, e.g. youth, beginner adults, 50+ sessions, female only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure our sport is being offered in a safe, appropriate, and well governed environment Clubs, coaches, volunteers, and officials
Squash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a poor spread of facilities across the area (in relation to the size of the population), the geography of the area (urban surrounding areas) means that there needs to be a dense geographical spread of courts to meet the needs of the local population. There is currently only one squash facility in Ealing Old Actonians Association with 3 courts. David Lloyd club (Sudbury Hall) no longer provides squash courts. Ealing Squash & Fitness Club (2 courts) closed in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of courts in the locality does not meet the national requirement (1 court per 10,000 people). Immediate investment is required to increase the number of courts and also maintain the standard of current courts in the area England Squash have several programmes to get more participants engaged and create thriving squash communities: Squash 101, Squash Stars, Junior 101, Squash 57 and Squash Girls Can. Facilities that provide a positive experience and are well maintained are vital to the delivery of these

Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs
	2019 for redevelopment which is not yet complete.	programmes so that people return to play more squash.
Swimming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swim England are of the opinion that the current water provision is insufficient to meet the demand within Ealing. The re-provision of Gurnell 50m pool is critical to not only the Borough but for Greater London's provision. Dormers Wells is clearly coming toward the end of its economic life and its future reprovision needs to be planned and capacity enhanced to mee the water space requirements, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-provision of Gurnell Leisure Centre Future planning for the replacement of Dormers Wells Leisure centre with enhanced capacity.
Gymnastics & Trampolining	<p>All of Ealing's gymnastics activity for the three main clubs are at dual use sites – two schools and a community centre.</p> <p>West London and Ealing are the main gym clubs both with waiting lists. West London the larger club with approx. 150 members, Ealing with 60. Drayton has 19 members</p>	<p>BG are keen to expand discussions further as to whether there is demand for a dedicated gymnastics and trampolining centre to bring the clubs either together or at least in one venue potentially.</p> <p>BG are of the opinion that further work on a gymnastics and trampolining strategy may be beneficial to assess in more detail</p>

Sport	Views of Current Provision	Future facility needs
	<p>according to British Gymnastics.</p> <p>Gymnastics is suffering nationally from a lack of coaches due to the fallout from the pandemic with facilities closed for extended periods.</p> <p>London Trampoline Academy and London DMT is based at Reynolds Sports Centre and at Boulder Academy in Hounslow and is one of London’s biggest clubs with membership almost at capacity</p>	<p>the opportunities for this with Ealing.</p>

2.2 Club Survey Overview

To understand the current landscape of Clubs in the Ealing area, data was collected to form an amalgamation of two separate surveys which were distributed to the sports clubs in the borough. One from Ealing’s Annual Club survey and another from Continuum’s Community Club Survey. By analysing and cross-referencing the data, it is clear to understand the circumstances that clubs find themselves in and whether the current provision are meeting the demands of these sports organisations. A summary of the results of the club surveys is provided below.

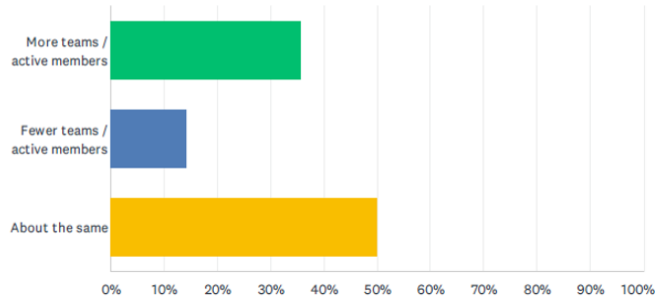
2.2.1 Club Responses – Spread of Responses

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Athletics	4.1%
Basketball	2.7%
Bowls	2.7%
Cricket	17.8%
exercise, movement, or dance	4.1%
Football	34.2%
Gymnastics	0%
Hockey	12.3%
Judo	4.1%
Netball	4.1%
Rugby	5.5%
Squash	4.1%
Swimming	1.4%
Table Tennis	8.2%
Karate	1.4%
Tennis	16.4%
Volleyball	6.8%
Boxing	6.8%
Other	28.8%

45 individual sports clubs responded to the invitation to complete the surveys, many of which are playing pitch sports clubs whose responses are considered in more detail in the Playing Pitch Strategy (part 1). The table above shows the spread of responses for each sport, it is important to consider that many clubs offer multiple sports.

2.2.2 Club Responses – Growth Trend last 3 years

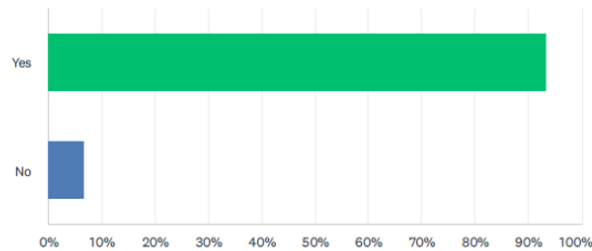
Q5 Does your Club/Association have more or fewer teams / active members than three seasons/years ago, or has the number of teams / active members stayed about the same?



Despite the major restrictions on movement and temporary closure of sports facilities over the past two years due to the Covid pandemic, the sports clubs in the borough have proved resilient with the majority reporting stable membership or growth currently compared to three years/seasons ago. Just over 35% of clubs have grown in the last three years, therefore, increasing the need for sporting provisions.

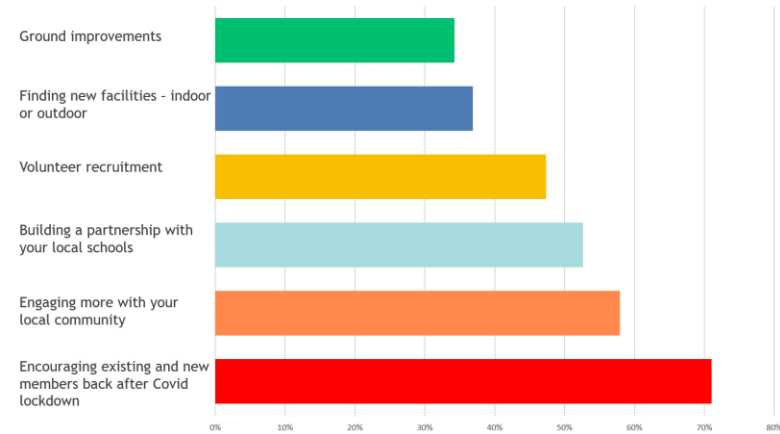
2.2.3 Future Growth

Q6 Does your Club/Association have plans to grow in the next three seasons/years?



Looking to the future, 93% of the clubs surveyed were positive regarding plans for growth over the next three years/seasons, emphasising further the strength of the club sector in the borough as well as likely rising demand.

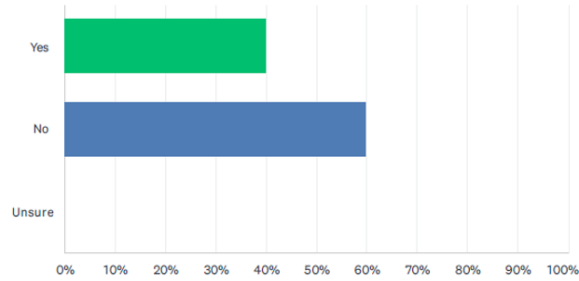
Please indicate which of the following themes you consider to be your Club's top priority in the next 12 months



The table above shows the top 6 out of 14 total themes that sport clubs in the borough are looking to prioritise in the next 12 months. In the top 6 there are 2 facility themes – ‘Ground improvements (34.2%)’ and ‘Finding new facilities – indoor or outdoor (36.8%)’. This data shows that sports clubs are interested in the improvement and accessibility of facilities. It is also important to consider that the development of sporting provision will also contribute to other priorities mentioned in this graph, i.e., ‘encouraging existing and new members back after covid lockdown’. Through the development of facilities, new and existing participants will be more interested in joining clubs once provisions are improved.

2.2.4 Club Needs – Meeting Demand

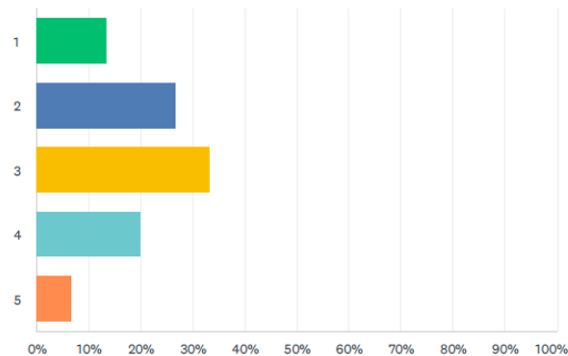
Q9 Is your current number of hours/pitches/evenings sufficient to meet the demand for your club's activities?



60% of the clubs responded that they do not have sufficient programming time available at the sporting venues they access to meet current demand from their memberships. This shows the supply of facilities and resources is not meeting the demands of the sports clubs, signaling for a need to increase accessibility of sport facilities.

2.2.5 Club Response – Ratings

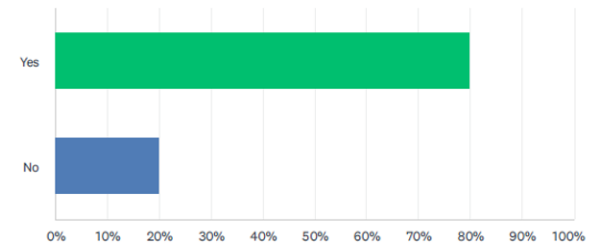
Q13 How do you rate the quality of your Club's/Association's main playing facilities, including playing surface? (1 being very poor and 5 being very good)



In terms of the quality of the stock of sports facilities available to the borough's sports clubs, exactly 40% of those surveyed rated the playing facilities they use as 'poor' or 'very poor' and a third (33.33%) as 'average'. Very few clubs (6.67%) consider their main playing facilities to be 'very good'. This finding reflects the need to upgrade facilities and the increase of investments made in maintaining and enhancing the facility stock by the Council, national sports bodies, and the clubs themselves through fund raising.

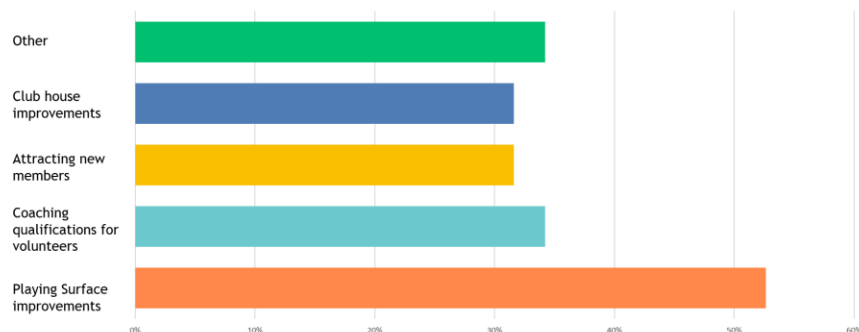
2.2.6 Main site – improvements

Q15 Is there a need to change your Club's/Association's main playing facilities (e.g. relocate to another site /change facility layouts/ sizes or invest in floodlights) or to improve the quality to sustain or grow your club?



Although 20% of clubs are satisfied with their current main playing facilities, the response to this question further supports to the previous data. 80% of sport clubs believe they are in need of change or improvements to their current main playing facilities to sustain or grow their club. This is further supported by the graph below which shows that well over 50% of sport clubs believe they require funding for 'playing surface improvements'. Leading outdoor sports requirements are covered further in the Playing Pitch Strategy (Part 1).

If you think your Club requires more funding in the next 12 months, please indicate for what specific purpose

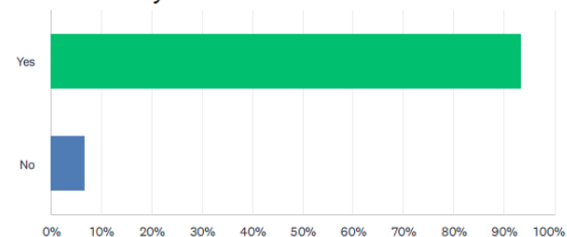


Examples of the individual survey responses about their demands and aspirations are listed in the table below:

Club/League	Aspiration
London Tigers (Cricket, Exercise, movement or dance, football)	Floodlights and pitch quality – Improvement of football pitches and to keep the tabletop for cricket in good condition throughout the year.
Elthorne & Twyford NC (Netball)	Re-lay courts and repair changing rooms & toilets.
Osterley Hockey Club (Hockey)	Develop teams for the club and attract diverse range of players. Need for hockey facilities all year round.
Larkspur Rovers Football Club (Football)	Add fencing and floodlights + further assistance in putting in the necessary items to grow to Step 6 (dugouts, turnstiles)
Northfields United FC (Football)	New surface, changing facilities, office space
Bounce Tennis (Tennis)	Add Floodlights and resurfacing on tennis courts. Need for cleaning and lines painted and to add toilet facilities.

2.2.7 Club Growth and Sustainability

Q16 Is there a need to improve/extend these facilities to sustain or grow your Club/Association?



Over 90% of the respondent clubs consider they need to improve their facilities to sustain the appeal of their club to existing members and to attract new members. This is particularly an issue for accommodating the growth of sports clubs as many sports clubs in the borough have grown in the past three years, this is identified in section 2.2.2. Therefore, whilst a high majority of clubs are keen to expand further, there appears a link to need to invest in the wider infrastructure for clubs such as ancillary / support facilities to support this.

Club survey summary

The club survey that was conducted has outlined the position of clubs in Ealing and their provisions. Many clubs are looking to expand over the next three years, and they require further development of facilities to do so. The data has shown that clubs are not currently in the position they would like to be and are not completely happy with the facilities that they have access to. Most clubs believe they are in need of funding to grow for a range of

Summary

Key stakeholder and community organisations been consulted in the course of preparing this update to the Built Facilities Strategy. The national

governing bodies of the sports included in the scope of the assessment were also consulted, although not all of the NGB responses were received.

Critically, more than 45 community sports clubs based in the borough have provided responses to the online survey and further consultation held with representatives of a number of the leading larger clubs within the borough.

The leading outcome from the consultation is that the sports facilities available to the borough's communities continue to be generally well regarded particularly with regard to the range of sports for which playing facilities are in place, the number of facilities and their accessibility.

As to be expected, the consultation highlights issues for the strategy to address moving forward notably the challenges presented by the age, energy inefficiencies and running costs of key facilities – swimming provision is key to future investment needs for Ealing in particular. In some venues the priority is to improve ancillary facilities to sustain existing activity notably a number of outdoor sites for sport. At other sites, there is a need to plan for expansion to meet growing demand both from the resident population and from forecast growth - for example whether there is an opportunity for a dedicated gymnastics facility within the borough,

The findings from these consultations summarised in this section of the report feed into the analysis of facility needs and priorities set out in Section 3 - The Sports Specific Analysis.



Section 3 - Sport Specific Analysis

Section 3 - Sport Specific Analysis

3.1 Swimming

What's changed since 2012

The new Everyone Active Acton Centre opened in April 2014 replacing Acton Swimming Baths; the new centre included an 8 lane 25 metre pool as well as a 12 x 8 metre teaching pool with a moveable floor. The David Lloyd Acton Park Club (formerly The Park Club) facility reopened in Summer 18. Gurnell Leisure Centre is currently closed and there are no immediate plans to reopen the facility, however, the council is developing a range of options for the redevelopment of the centre which includes an increase in flexible water space. The council is also planning to replace the existing Dormers Wells Leisure Centre, in Southall with a new facility which again will include more flexible water space.

The council's future plan to replace the two leisure centres formed the basis of the two scenarios which have been tested using the Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM), which assessed:

Run 1 - the current provision of swimming pools with Gurnell Leisure Centre closed and

Run 2 - the opening of the new Gurnell Leisure Centre with increased water space and the closure of the existing Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and the opening of a new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre with increased pool space on meeting the demand for swimming pools in 2031.

Sport England's Facility Planning Model

As part of the strategic review of the recent past and the planning process for the next 10 years Ealing council is reviewing its current provision of swimming pools and assessing the future demand and level of provision required to 2031. To successfully plan for the future, Ealing council again

used the Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM), which aims to assess how the demand, distribution and access to swimming pools is met by the supply of swimming pools in 2031.

The overall aims of the FPM assessments are to provide a forward assessment of need and an evidence base for swimming pools in the year 2031 based on the projected population change in the borough and across the study area. The FPM assessment identifies the impact of population change on demand for swimming pools and the distribution of demand, and models options for changes in the supply of swimming pools. In this way, the FPM analysis assesses the impact these options have in terms of scale and facility mix on the supply, demand and access to swimming pools to 2031.

As per the sports hall FPM assessment, it is most important to state that the FPM study is a quantitative, accessibility and spatial assessment of the supply, demand and access to swimming pools. The FPM study assesses how these factors change based on projected population growth and options to change the swimming pool supply. The assessments are based on catchment area, so include the swimming pools and population across the borough and the neighbouring local authorities.

In determining the position across the borough, it is important to take full account of the swimming pools and population in neighbouring local authority areas.

Also, the most attractive facility for some Ealing residents may be outside the borough (known as exported demand). For residents of neighbouring local authorities, their most attractive swimming pool may be in Ealing (known as imported demand). To take account of these factors, the study area places Ealing at its centre and includes the neighbouring local authorities and their swimming pool supply.

Headline strategic overview from the FPM analysis

The headline strategic finding is that a high level of Ealing’s demand for swimming pools in 2031 can be met by the supply which includes the two proposed new pool facilities. The FPM findings support the provision and scale of the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and new Gurnell Leisure Centre. However, even with these proposed new swimming pool facilities there will be unmet demand in 2031, most of which is demand located too far away from a facility.

If the new investment is developed, in 2031 Ealing will potentially have an extensive, modern, fit-for-purpose stock of public swimming pool sites including the two new pool site options modelled and the two other public leisure centres. This creates a ‘draw effect’, and the public pool sites are estimated to be full at peak times. In 2031, more than half of the used capacity of the Ealing pool sites, including the two new facilities is imported from neighbouring boroughs.

A consequence of these findings is that some demand cannot be met at the four leisure centres. There is also enough reachable unmet demand to consider further swimming pool provision.

Supply of swimming pools in Ealing

Supply is defined as the supply or capacity of the swimming pools available for community and club use in the weekly peak period. Supply is expressed in the number of visits that a pool can accommodate in the weekly peak period and in square metres of water. The total supply and available supply are different because of the hours available for community use in the weekly peak period.

The weekly peak period is when the majority of visits take place and when users have most flexibility to visit. The peak period for swimming pools is one hour on weekday mornings, one hour weekday lunchtimes, five and a half hours on weekday evenings, and seven and a half hours on weekend

days. This gives a total of 52.5 hours per week. The modelling and recommendations are based on the ability of the public to access pool facilities during this weekly peak period.

The swimming pool facilities that meet the criteria to be included in the FPM modelling are listed in Figure 3.1 below and the locations of the current swimming pools (green diamonds) and future provision (red diamonds) in Run 2 are shown in Figure 3.2.

Figure 3.1: Details of Swimming Pools in Ealing included in Runs

Site	Operation	Facility Type
David Lloyd Acton Park	Commercial	4-lane
David Lloyd Sudbury Hill	Commercial	5-lane Leisure
Dormers Wells Leisure Centre (open Run 1 only)	Public	5-lane
Eden Fitness	Commercial	4-lane
Everyone Active Acton Centre	Public	8-lane Learner
Golds Gym (Hanwell)	Commercial	3-lane
New Dormers Wells Leisure Centre (open Run 2 only)	Public	6-lane Learner
New Gurnell Leisure Centre (open Run 2 only)	Public	10-lane Learner
Northolt Leisure Centre	Public	8-lane Learner
W3 *	Commercial	6-lane Leisure

*The assessment assumed that W3 private members health and fitness club would reopen in 2022.

Figure 3.2 Location of Swimming Pool Sites in Ealing Run 2 (2031)

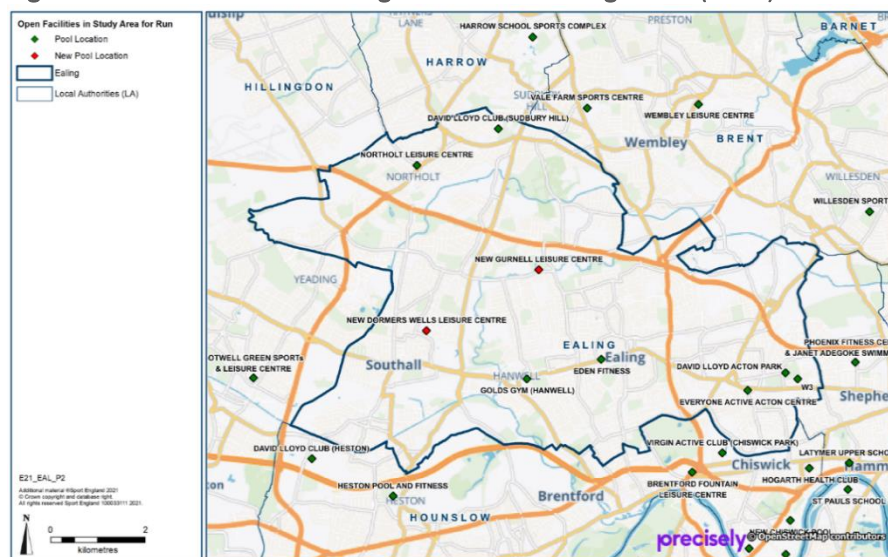


Figure 3.3: Supply of Swimming Pools in Ealing by Run

Total Supply	RUN 1	RUN 2
Ealing	2031	2031
Number of pools	12	15
Number of pool sites	8	9
Supply in sqm of water	2,611	4,330
Supply in sqm of water scaled with hours available in peak period	2,611	4,330
Supply in visits per week in peak period	22,846	37,888
Average year built of sites	2000	2009
Average age of sites	31	22

In Run 1, there are 12 individual swimming pools across eight sites, with 2,611 sqm of water space available for community use – which is also the total water space. In Run 2, supply increases to 15 individual swimming pools located at nine sites. In Run 2, the current Dormers Wells Leisure Centre is closed and replaced with a new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and a new Gurnell Leisure Centre is opened. Both new sites are modelled to open in 2025.

In Run 2, the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and proposed new Gurnell Leisure Centre increase the available water space in the borough by 1,719 square metres (sqm) from 2,611 sqm to 4,330 sqm an increase of 66% from Run 1 to Run 2. For context, the main pools at Everyone Active Acton Centre and Northolt Leisure Centre are both 25 metres (m) long and have 8 swimming lanes, which means that both pools measure 25m in length by 17m in width, giving a pool space of 425 sqm.

In Run 2, four of the nine Ealing swimming pool sites are public leisure centres. Combined they have a total water space of 3,097 sqm, which is 72% of the available water space in the borough in 2031. The four public swimming pool sites in Run 2 are Everyone Active Acton Centre, the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre, the proposed new Gurnell Leisure Centre and Northolt Leisure Centre; the scale of the swimming pools sites and their availability means they can provide an extensive programme of use for all residents covering a wide range of water-based activities.

The council’s long-term commitment to invest in large scale public swimming pool facilities is reflected in Run 2, where the swimming offer at the public leisure centres is very extensive. All the sites have two individual pools and provide swimming in pools dedicated for particular activities. They are modern, with Northolt Leisure Centre being the oldest, having opened in 2010.

In Run 2, the five commercial swimming pool sites provide 1,233 sqm of water, which is 28% of the available water space in the borough. These sites provide recreational swimming for the centre membership only and may also operate a learn to swim programme.

Demand for swimming pools

Total demand is calculated in the same way as for sports halls, by adding the participation by each five-year age band/gender of Ealing’s population with the frequency of participation in each age band/gender and is expressed in visits in the weekly peak period and square metres of water. The FPM parameters for the percentage and frequency of participation, for gender and age, are calculated from Sport England’s Active Lives survey up to November 2019.

Ealing’s population forecast for 2031 is 350,997. This is taken from the Greater London Authority 2020-based central upper variant demographic projection. The population for the other London boroughs uses the Greater London Authority 2018-based strategic housing land availability assessment variant demographic projection.

Ealing’s demand for swimming pools in 2031 equates to 3,805 sqm of water. This is greater than the total supply in Run 1, which is 2,611 sqm but less than the total supply in Run 2, which is 4,330 sqm. Note that in 2031, the supply of public pool space is 3,097 sqm.

Ealing has the second highest demand for swimming pools in the study area, after Brent, which has demand for 4,243 sqm of water (see Figure 3.4).

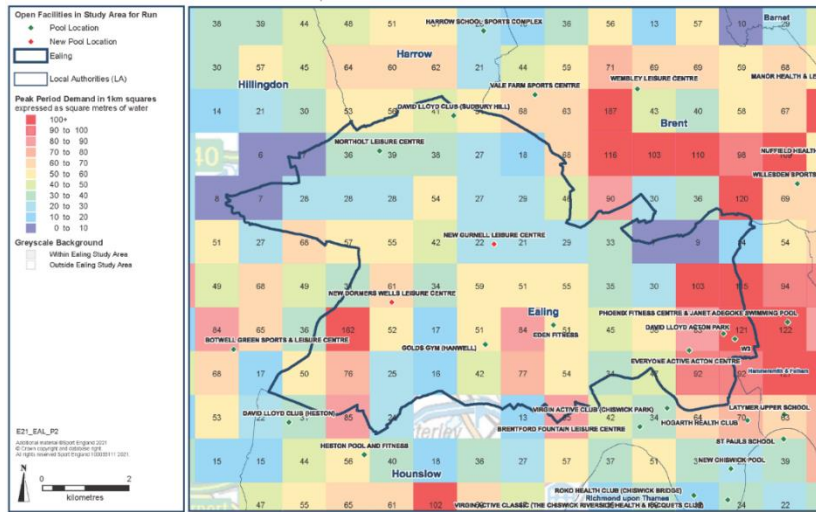
Figure 3.4: Demand for Swimming 2031 by Local Authority

Demand in sqm of water considering a ‘comfort’ factor*	RUNS 1 and 2
Local Authority	2031
Ealing	3,805
Brent	4,243
Hammersmith & Fulham	2,400
Harrow	2,922
Hillingdon	3,496
Hounslow	3,363

* The FPM is designed to include a ‘comfort factor,’ beyond which the venues are too full. The pool itself becomes too crowded to swim comfortably, and the changing and circulation areas also become too congested. In the model Sport England assumes that usage over 70% of capacity is busy and that the swimming pool is operating at an uncomfortable level above that percentage.

The highest concentration of demand in Ealing is in an area of Southall, where deprivation is high and there are no swimming pools; with demand measured as 162 sqm of water space in a one-kilometre square. Demand is next highest in Acton on the boundary with Hammersmith and Fulham, where there is a grouping of squares with values of 82 to 121 square metres of water space.

Figure 3.5 Demand for Swimming Pools in Ealing 2031 (Run 2)



Accessibility of Ealing’s swimming pools

For residents without access to a car, travel to sports halls by public transport or on foot is the choice of travel. The FPM uses a distance decay function where the further a user is from a facility, the less likely they will travel. On average, a 20-minute travel time accounts for approximately 90% of visits to a swimming pool. The travel time limits used are:

- Driving 30 minutes
- Public transport is 30 minutes (at half speed of car)
- Walking is 40 minutes (two miles)

The proportion of the resident population in Ealing who do not have access to a car is higher than the national average of 25% but lower than the London-wide average of 40%. For residents without access to a car, travel to swimming pools on foot or by public transport become the choice of travel mode. In Run 1, 35% of all visits are either on foot or by public transport, rising to 37% in Run 2.

Figure 3.6: Deprivation in Ealing 2019 (Run 2)

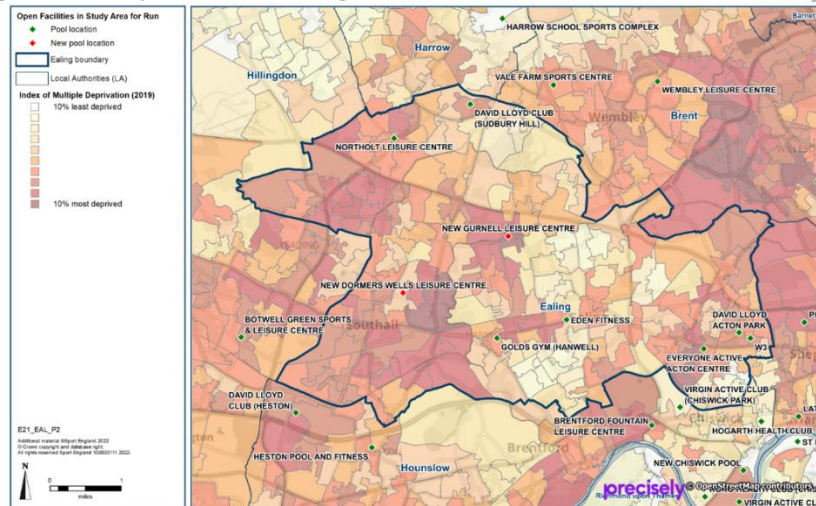


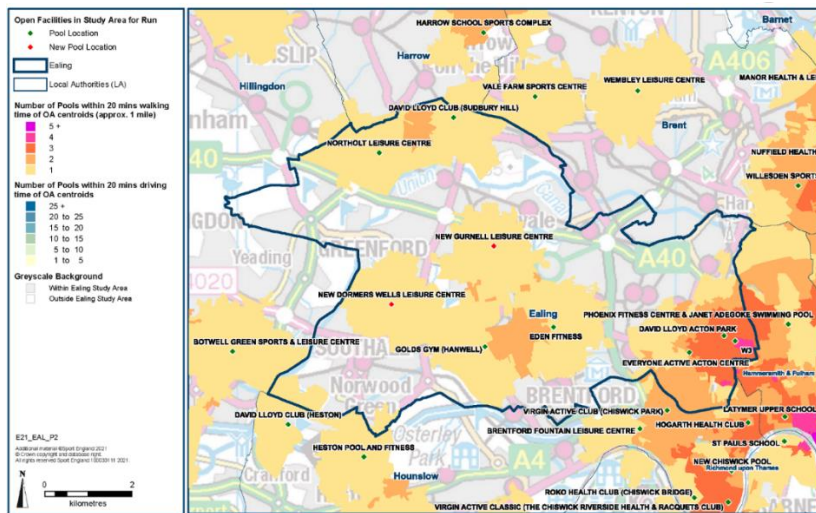
Figure 3.6: Travel Modal Split of Ealing Demand to Swimming Pools by Run

Accessibility	RUN 1	RUN 2
Ealing	2031	2031
% of population without access to a car	34.2	34.2
% of population within a 20-minute walk of a swimming pool	51.1	55.8
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	65.5	63.3
% of demand satisfied who travelled on foot	15.3	17.1
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	19.2	19.6

In Run 1, slightly more than half of Ealing’s residents are within a 20-minute walk of a swimming pool, but in Run 2, this increases to 56%. Walking to swimming pools accounts for 15% of visits in Run 1 and 17% in Run 2. In Run 2, 1 in 3 or 37% of users travel to swimming pools by public transport or on foot. More than a third of residents in Ealing do not have access to a car. An illustration of how many swimming pools can be accessed by Ealing residents, based on where they live and a 20-minute walk time (one mile) from the swimming pool locations, is set out in Map 4.1 for the provision in Run 1 and Map 4.2 for the provision in Run 2.

Residents in areas shaded yellow are within walking distance of one swimming pool site, and residents in the small pink areas are within walking distance of four sites. However, the FPM uses a distance decay function where the further a user is from a facility, the less likely they will travel. Therefore, not all residents in these areas will walk to a swimming pool and some will travel further.

Figure 3.7: Walking Access to Swimming Pools in Run 2



Travel by public transport to swimming pools is predicted to be the choice for 19% of all visits in both runs. Given the very extensive public transport network in London, there is excellent access to swimming pools by public transport. All the swimming pools are within a five-minute walk of a bus stop and all, except for Dormers Wells Leisure Centre, are within 15 minutes’ walk of a tube station.

In Run 1, 66% of all visits to swimming pools by Ealing residents are by car. This drops to 63% in Run 2. Residents who choose to travel by car have access to a very high number of swimming pools within that travel time.

Satisfied demand for swimming pools

Satisfied demand for swimming pools is 89% of total demand in Run 1, which is very high and increases to 91% of total demand in Run 2, with limited scope to increase it much higher. Satisfied demand represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at swimming pools located both within and outside the borough, from Ealing residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of those swimming pools. This is a key measurement as it is important for a borough to retain as much usage as possible, to be able to influence Ealing residents’ usage of swimming pools, otherwise Ealing residents would be reliant on surrounding boroughs to provide access to out of borough swimming pools.

Figure 3.8: Satisfied Demand for Swimming in Ealing by Run

Satisfied Demand	RUN 1	RUN 2
Ealing	2031	2031
Number of visits which are met per week in peak period	20,597	21,052
% of total demand satisfied	89.0	91.0
Number of visits retained per week in peak period	9,344	14,658
Demand retained as a % of satisfied demand	45.4	69.6
Number of visits exported per week in peak period	11,253	6,395
Demand exported as a % of satisfied demand	54.6	30.4

The level of satisfied demand is also very high in all the neighbouring boroughs: in Run 1, satisfied demand ranges from 86% in Brent to 94% in Harrow (see Table 5.2). This indicates that there is a high number of accessible swimming pools across the study area.

Figure 3.9: Percentage of Satisfied Demand for Swimming in Study Area by Run

% of Total Demand Satisfied	RUN 1	RUN 2
Local Authority	2031	2031
Ealing	89.0	91.0
Brent	85.6	86.8
Hammersmith & Fulham	93.2	93.6
Harrow	94.1	94.6
Hillingdon	90.6	91.3
Hounslow	92.3	92.7

Retained demand for swimming pools

Another key measurement is retained demand which is a subset of satisfied demand and shows how much of Ealing residents' demand for swimming is retained at pools within the borough. This assessment is based on the catchment area and appeal of the borough's pools and residents in the borough swimming at these pools. The council's proposed investment in new swimming pool facilities at Gurnell Leisure Centre and Dormers Wells Leisure Centre is reflected in the high-quality offer modelled in Run 2 which sees modern accessible swimming pool facilities leading to the Ealing retained demand in the borough increasing from 45% to 70%.

If residents in neighbouring boroughs swim at a site in Ealing, their usage becomes part of the used capacity of Ealing's swimming pools, this is known as imported demand, which contributes significantly to the high estimated used capacity of Ealing's swimming pools. In Run 1 imported demand is 48% and in Run 2 53%, this means that in 2031, 53% of Ealing swimming pool users are from outside the borough, drawn in by the two new swimming pool facilities. The reasons for this high imported demand are that Ealing's pools are accessible and attractive to residents in neighbouring boroughs, swimming pool stock in neighbouring boroughs is older, and Ealing's public swimming pool facilities are large in scale and, can therefore, accommodate more visits.

The residue of satisfied demand, after retained demand, is exported demand. This is based on borough residents who live within the travel time of a swimming pool outside the borough and use that swimming pool. In Run 1, the borough is a net exporter of 2,747 visits in the weekly peak period which means that Ealing residents have access to and chose to use a swimming pool located outside the borough. In Run 2 Ealing is a net importer of 10,200 visits, which means that more residents from other boroughs are choosing to use Ealing's swimming pools. This underlines the draw and impact of the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and Gurnell Leisure Centre in Run 2.

Figure 3.10 Import and exported demand in 2021

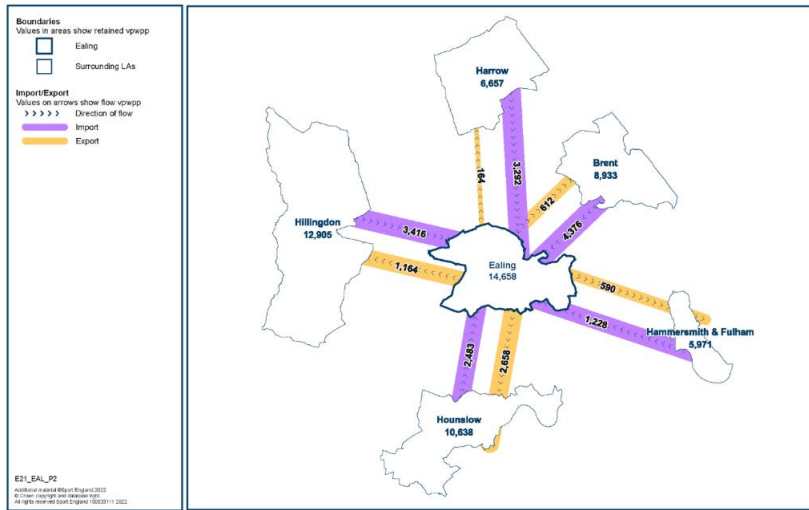


Figure 3.11: Unmet Demand for Swimming in Ealing by Run

Unmet Demand	RUN 1	RUN 2
Ealing	2031	2031
Number of visits unmet per week in peak period	2,545	2,089
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	11.0	9.0
Equivalent in sqm of water with comfort factor	419	344
% of unmet demand due to:		
Facility too far away:	72.7	74.3
Without access to a car	70.1	71.8
With access to a car	2.6	2.5
Lack of facility capacity:	27.3	25.7
Without access to a car	24.8	23.8
With access to a car	2.6	1.9

Unmet demand for swimming pools

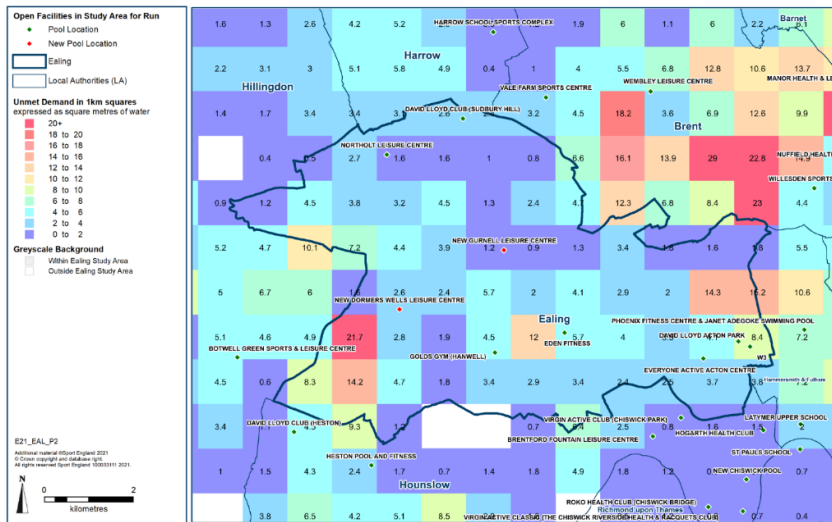
Unmet demand is important to note as it is demand for swimming pools which cannot be met because there is either too much demand for any particular swimming pool within its catchment area and there is a lack of capacity; or because demand is located too far away from any swimming pool. In Ealing, unmet demand amounts to 11% of total demand in Run 1, equivalent to 419 sqm of water and 9% of total demand in Run 2, equivalent to 344 sqm of water. This is an important measure because it shows that even with any proposed new facilities at Gurnell Leisure Centre and Dormers Wells Leisure Centre, there will still be unmet demand from Ealing residents equivalent to 344 sqm, which is approximately the size of a 25m 6 lane swimming pool.

However, it is important to note the two different types of unmet demand. Unmet demand located too far away from a facility decreases from 305 sqm of water in Run 1 to 256 sqm of water in Run 2. This type of demand will always exist because it is not possible to achieve complete spatial coverage whereby all areas of an authority are within walking distance of a swimming pool and not everyone will want, or be able, to drive to a facility. Unmet demand due to a lack of swimming pool capacity reduces from 114 sqm of water in Run 1 to 88 sqm of water in Run 2. The four public swimming pools in Run 2 reduce unmet demand by having more geographical coverage, capacity, and appeal to residents.

The difference between runs 1 and 2 is that in Run 1 Ealing residents are travelling outside the borough, whereas in Run 2 much more of the demand from Ealing residents is being met by facilities within the borough.

Unmet demand is highest in the Southall area at 22 sqm of water in both runs, next highest is in the Acton area at 16 sqm of water in Run 1 and 14 sqm of water in Run 2, followed by the Norwood Green area at 15 sqm of water in Run 1 and 14 sqm of water in Run 2 and then Central Ealing at 16 sqm in Run 1 and 12 sqm in Run 2. In all four locations, unmet demand is a low total for both runs. For context, the amount of Ealing demand being met equates to more than 3,000 sqm of water in both runs.

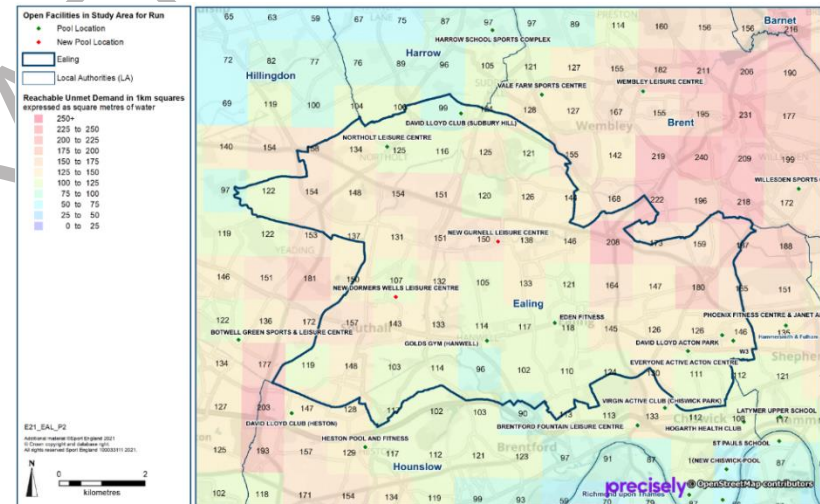
Figure 3.12: Unmet Demand for Swimming Pools in Ealing in Run 2



makes it more difficult for people to move around and get to a swimming pool location. It is really important to emphasise that reachable unmet demand isn't a reflection of need for a particular area.

The analysis shows that the area of highest reachable unmet demand is the Hanger Lane area, however, a large proportion of this reachable unmet demand is from areas in Brent on the borough boundary, next highest is North Acton, followed by areas in Central Ealing, Southall and Northolt.

Figure 3.13: Reachable Unmet Demand for Swimming Pools in Ealing in Run 2



An analysis of the spread of this identified unmet demand shows the level of unmet demand that would be met by a potential new facility in any given location, this is known as reachable unmet demand and is calculated for each one-kilometre grid square across the borough. Accessibility is a major factor in determining reachable unmet demand so a location with a good road network and good public transport links has a higher reachable unmet demand than a facility in a geographical area which has a poor layout which

Used capacity of swimming pools

The estimated used capacity of Ealing swimming pools in the weekly peak period, across the Borough is 78% in Run 1 and 82% in Run 2; total demand is based on the predicted population of Ealing in 2031, this is the same for Runs 1 and 2. The Ealing demand retained at Ealing pools increases from Run 1 to Run 2, because of the draw and attraction of a more modern supply of swimming pools in the Borough and Ealing residents able to access them,

hence the increase in estimated used capacity. Sport England define used capacity as a measure of usage at swimming pools that estimates how well used or how full facilities are; the assumption is that usage over 70% of capacity is busy and that the swimming pool is operating at an uncomfortable level above that percentage. So, in both runs all four of Ealing’s public leisure centre swimming pool sites are running at above the level Sport England considers “comfortable”.

Figure 3.14: Used Capacity of Swimming Pools by Run

Used Capacity	RUN 1	RUN 2
	2031	2031
Number of visits used of capacity in weekly peak period	17,850	31,252
% of overall capacity of pools used	78.1	82.5
Number of visits imported in weekly peak period	8,506	16,595
Visits imported as a % of used capacity	47.7	53.1
Difference of import visits versus export visits	-2,747	10,200

All the public swimming pool sites are estimated to have 100% of capacity used in the weekly peak period in Runs 1 and 2. It’s often a combination of factors that influence this usage and these vary from one facility to another; factors include but are not limited to the type of facility - public or commercial, the level of demand within the travel time limit from the site and reachable from other pools, hours available for community use, the age and size of the swimming pool and the demand imported from surrounding areas. In 2031, if the planned investment is delivered, all four of Ealing’s public leisure centres, will be modern with two individual swimming pools which means they can provide an extensive programme of use for all ages

and abilities. This increases their ‘draw effect’ and means that Ealing residents and out of borough residents will want to use these facilities.

In Run 2, there are four public leisure centres where demand cannot be met. This broadly means that the facilities are in the right location to meet demand but are running at capacity. Everyone Active Acton Centre and Northolt Leisure Centre have the greatest level of demand that cannot be met, although the new Gurnell Leisure Centre has more than twice the capacity of both centres therefore, it is evident that the actual usage represented by 100% used capacity at any new Gurnell Leisure Centre is much higher than the usage at Northolt Leisure Centre and Everyone Active Acton Centre.

Local share of swimming pools in Ealing in 2031

This measure helps show which areas have a better or worse share of facility provision and is useful for looking at ‘equity’ of provision in Ealing. It considers the size, availability and quality of facilities, as well as travel modes and decreases as facilities age. Local share is the available capacity at the locations that people want to visit in an area, divided by the demand for that capacity in the area, a value of 1 means that the level of supply just matches demand, a value of less than 1 indicates a shortage of supply and a value greater than 1 indicates a surplus.

Ealing has a local share of 0.58 in Run 1. This increases to 0.80 in Run 2 because of the increase in supply and attraction of facilities. However, in both runs, demand is greater than supply in terms of share, across the borough. Overall, local share identifies the areas of the authority where the share of swimming pools is better and worse. The intervention is to try and increase access for residents in the areas with the poorest access to swimming pools.

The distribution of local share varies across Ealing; in Run 2 local share is poorest in the east of the Borough on the border with Brent and Hammersmith & Fulham.

Comparative Measure of Provision

A comparative measure of swimming pool provision is water space per 1,000 population. Ealing is mid-table in comparison with the neighbouring boroughs, with three local authorities having a higher supply and two a lower supply (see Table 8.2), this does not set a standard of provision.

Figure 3.15 Water Space per 1,000 Population by Area and Run

Water space per 1,000 population	RUN 1	RUN 2
Local Authority	2031	2031
Ealing	7.4	12.3
Brent	5.0	5.0
Hammersmith & Fulham	12.6	12.6
Harrow	6.5	6.5
Hillingdon	12.7	12.7
Hounslow	13.3	13.3
LONDON TOTAL	9.7	9.9
ENGLAND TOTAL	11.3	11.3

What next based on the FPM analysis?

The strategic theme arising from the FPM study is the impact of Ealing’s modern stock of public leisure centre swimming pool sites, compared to the

older pool stock in neighbouring boroughs, making Ealing’s pools more attractive.

Ealing’s pools are also accessible to residents in neighbouring boroughs, leading to Ealing’s pools being full, with a high level of demand redistributed. It will be very important to review the FPM findings with the projected throughputs and programmes for the two new proposed centres and for each individual pool, to provide a rounded assessment.

In addition to delivering the proposed new swimming pool facilities at Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and Gurnell Leisure Centre, there is also sufficient reachable unmet demand in the Hanger Lane, North Acton, Central Ealing, Southall and Northolt areas of the borough, to consider further swimming pool provision in these areas.

However, factors to consider when deciding if additional swimming pool facilities are justifiable in terms of swimming provision and in business case terms include, the scale of the unmet demand in each area, the proximity of these locations to existing swimming pool facilities, the viability and affordability of any new facility in business case terms, the borough’s current policy of having large scale public pool sites with a main pool and learner pool and the desire and opportunity to locate a new facility in any of the identified areas.

Swimming Pool Sites and Consultation

The Consultation with Swim England detailed earlier in the report emphasised the need for the Council to ensure future planning can meet the increased demand. The needs for the NBG align closely with the evidence from the FPM analysis

The strategy assessment also includes the site audits of Ealing’s main municipal swimming pools sites for Acton, Northolt and Dormers Well. The main area of concern for the site analysis was the future longevity of

Dormers Wells Swimming pool given its age and the rising demand for swimming. Other minor issues for Acton and Northolt related to maintenance and investment needs (Acton pool side fixtures and water damage needs requiring address whilst at the time of the site visits Northolt had minor poolside tiling and water issues).

Swimming Clubs Consultation

To be added

Priorities and Actions - Swimming Pools

Swimming		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
Protection of the current levels of waterspace within the borough and ensure that Dormers Wells Leisure Centre can continue to operate during the next planning phases for its potential future replacement.	<p>Dependent on the time taken</p> <p>Acton and Northolt both have minor issues and maintenance and investment needs (Acton pool side fixtures and water damage needs Northolt water damage poolside and tiling).</p>	<p>Re-development of Gurnell 50m Swimming Pool.</p> <p>Future replacement of Dormers Wells Leisure Centre to provide additional capacity and additional water space.</p>

Prioritised Actions:

- Future Options and Affordability assessment for Gurnell Leisure Centre
- Options appraisal for the potential replacement of Dormers Wells Leisure Centre
- Programme for delivery and timetable agreed by Ealing Council for both projects

Future Delivery

- New Gurnell Leisure Centre to re-open
- New Dormers Wells Leisure Centre with increased pool capacity reopened

Sports Halls

What's changed since 2012

Ealing's current supply of sports halls is a relatively modern and accessible supply of both public and education-based sports facilities. Since 2012, Notting Hill and Ealing High School built a sports hall, which is open for limited community use by local sports clubs; in 2015, William Perkin High School opened a new sports hall for club based community use; in 2016, Cardinal Wiseman High School completed the building of a new sports hall, which is not currently readily available for community use and Ellen Wilkinson High School for Girls made its new sports hall available for limited community use as of summer 2016, this has now expanded to 7 day a week availability.

Ealing Fields and Ada Lovelace High Schools opened sports halls for community use in 2020 and Ark Soane Academy in Acton, is due to open its new sports hall late 2022. Lastly, the new oversize five court sports hall at Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub, jointly owned by Ealing and Hounslow Council's opened in April 2021.

Sport England's Facility Planning Model

To successfully plan for the future, Ealing council used the Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM), which aims to assess how the demand, distribution and access to sports halls is met by the supply of sports halls in 2031.

It is most important to state that the FPM study is a quantitative, accessibility and spatial assessment of the supply, demand and access to sports halls. The FPM study assesses how these factors change based on projected population growth and options to change the sports hall supply. The assessments are based on catchment area, so include the sports halls and population across the borough and the neighbouring local authorities. The FPM study provides a hard evidence base that can inform consultations,

to then provide a rounded evidence base. This can then be applied in the development of the Council’s strategic planning for the provision of sports halls.

The 2031 assessment includes a proposed replacement sports hall facility at Dormers Wells Leisure Centre, which would see a new 8 court sports hall replacing the existing 6 court sports hall in 2025.

As with swimming pools, the FPM assessment includes the sports halls and population in Ealing as well as its neighbouring local authorities, as with pools a customer’s choice of sports halls does not reflect local authority boundaries.

Headline strategic overview from the FPM analysis

The headline strategic overview is that the demand for sports halls exceeds the accessible supply of sports halls in 2031. This finding is consistent with London as a whole.

Meeting the projected demand for sports halls for community use involves both local authority leisure centres and educational sites. There is almost an equal split between the two, with the main difference being that there is far greater access and more extensive programmes of use at the public leisure centre sites.

Borough-wide, there is an extensive unavailable capacity of sports halls aggregated across the sites, predominantly the educational sites. If more access could be provided at these sites, there would be a better balance between supply and demand, but it is unlikely to eliminate unmet demand from lack of capacity. The sports hall offer is very good in terms of scale, with an extensive supply of four-court halls, which provide for most hall sports at the community level of participation. Any proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre if including eight courts, further improving the offer.

Satisfied demand is high. There is an almost an even balance between the Ealing demand exported and met outside the borough and the demand imported from neighbouring authorities that is part of the used capacity of the Ealing sports halls. This reflects the small land area of London boroughs and the close proximity of many sports hall sites. The majority of unmet demand is from lack of sports hall capacity rather than unmet demand located too far from a sports hall. The sports halls are estimated to be full in the weekly peak period. This reinforces the need to maintain access to educational sports hall sites for community use and, if possible, increase it.

Supply and location of sports halls

In the FPM modelling for sports halls, there are 23 individual sports hall facilities located at 19 sites in Ealing, the supply includes Ark Soane Academy modelled to open in 2022 and a proposed new eight court facility at Dormers Wells Leisure Centre, modelled to open in 2025 to replace the existing six court facility.

Figure 3.16: Supply of Sports Halls in Ealing, 2031

Total Supply	
Ealing	2031
Number of halls	23
Number of hall sites	19
Supply in badminton court equivalents	91.7
Supply in courts scaled with hours available in peak period	68.6
Supply in visits per week in peak period	25,228
Average year built of sites	2004
Average age of sites	27

In general, a four-court sports hall can provide for most indoor hall sports at the community level of participation. However, ten of the four court halls have dimensions which are less than the Sport England and National Governing Bodies’ recommended size of 34.5m x 20m. Dimensions less than this, limit the run-off area between and behind courts. Any potential future provision of an eight-court double sports hall as part of any new plans for Dormers Wells Leisure Centre will provide for multiple sports activities as well as a competition and events venue.

Supply is defined as the supply or capacity of the sports halls available for community and club use in the weekly peak period. The supply is expressed in the number of visits that a sports hall can accommodate in the weekly peak period and in the number of badminton courts. The total supply and available supply are different because of the hours available for community use in the weekly peak period.

The weekly peak period is when the majority of visits take place and when users have most flexibility to visit. The peak period for sports halls is one hour on weekday mornings, five hours on weekday evenings and eight hours on weekend days. This gives a total of 46 hours per week. The modelling and recommendations are based on the ability of the public to access facilities during this weekly peak period.

It is projected that in 2031, Ealing’s total supply of sports halls will equate to 92 badminton courts of which 69 courts are available for community use in the weekly peak period. Aggregated across the sites there are 23 unavailable courts (25% of the total supply).

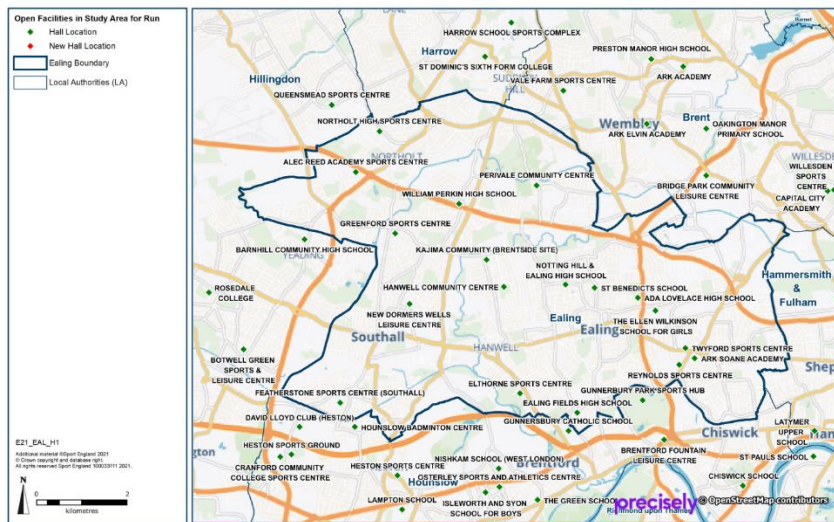
In 2031, if the proposed investment plans are delivered, the sports hall offer in Ealing would then be considered as extensive with a good geographical spread; 14 of the 19 sports hall sites have a four court hall, two have a five court hall and one has an eight court hall, this means that 89% of sports hall

sites in Ealing in 2031 will have a sports hall equivalent to the size of four badminton courts or more.

Figure 3.17: Details of Sports Halls in Ealing Included in the Run

Site	Operation	Facility Type	Dimensions (m)	Area (sqm)	Year Built	Year Refurb	Peak Hours	Total Hours	Capacity (visits in weekly peak period)
Ada Lovelace High School	Educational	4-court	33 x 18	594	2020		34	46	1,088
Alec Reed Academy Sports Centre	Educational	4-court	33 x 18	594	2005		34	38	1,726
		Activity	18 x 10	180				34	38
Ark Soane Academy	Educational	4-court	33 x 18	594	2022		34	46	1,088
Ealing Fields High School	Educational	3-court	28 x 18	502	2020		34	46	816
Elthorne Sports Centre	Public	4-court	35 x 20	690	1984	2005	34	48	1,088
Featherstone Sports Centre	Educational	5-court	41 x 21	867	1996	2020	40	90	1,600
		4-court	35 x 20	690	2008		34	40	1,688
Greenford Sports Centre	Public	Activity	18 x 10	180			32	40	
		4-court	35 x 20	690	2008		34	40	1,688
Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub	Public	5-court	44 x 22	968	2021		46	99	1,840
Hanwell Community Centre	Public	4-court	33 x 18	594	1938	2009	44	91	2,464
		3-court	41 x 18	743			44	91	
Kajima Community (Brentside Site)	Educational	4-court	33 x 18	609	2003		34	40	1,088
New Dormers Wells Leisure Centre	Public	8-court	40 x 35	1,380	2025		46	101	2,944
Northolt High Sports Centre	Educational	4-court	35 x 20	690	2006		34	44	1,088
Notting Hill & Ealing High School	Educational	4-court	33 x 18	594	2013		15	15	480
Perivale Community Centre	Public	3-court	25 x 17	425	1994		45	98	1,080
Reynolds Sports Centre	Public	4-court	33 x 18	594	2007		34	38	1,088
St Benedict’s School	Educational	4-court	31 x 18	558	1994	2009	29	39	928
		4-court	35 x 20	690	2009		15	15	958
The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls	Educational	Activity	18 x 17	306			15	15	
Twyford Sports Centre	Public	4-court	33 x 18	596	1989		34	38	1,088
William Perkin High School	Educational	4-court	33 x 20	667	2016		34	46	1,088

Figure 3.18: Location of Sports Hall Sites in Ealing, 2031



Demand for sports halls

Total demand is calculated by adding the participation by each five-year age band/gender of Ealing’s population with the frequency of participation in each age band/gender and is expressed in visits in the weekly peak period and number of badminton courts. The FPM parameters for the percentage and frequency of participation, for gender and age, are calculated from Sport England’s Active Lives survey up to November 2019.

Ealing’s population forecast for 2031 is 350,997. This is taken from the Greater London Authority 2020-based central upper variant demographic projection. The population for the other London boroughs uses the Greater London Authority 2018-based strategic housing land availability assessment variant demographic projection.

Ealing’s demand for sports halls equates to 101 badminton courts, compared to Ealing’s total supply of 92 courts and an available supply of 69

courts. Ealing has the second highest demand in the study area after Brent which has 114 courts (see Figure 3.19).

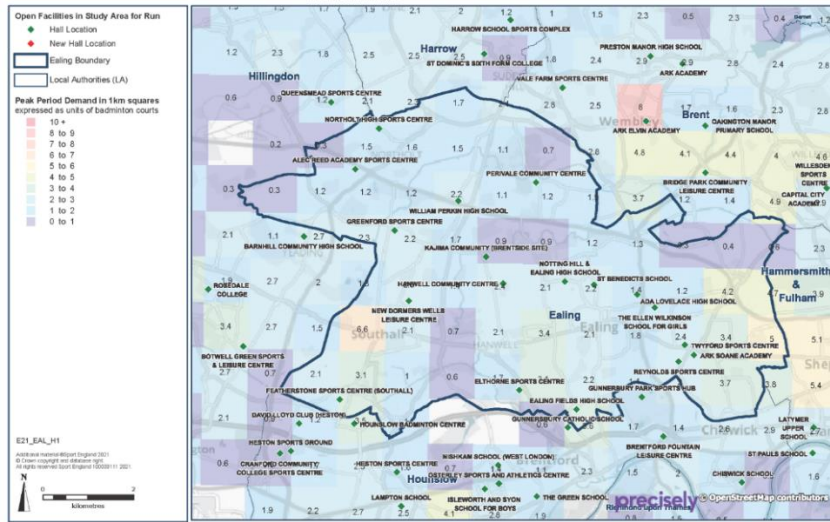
Figure 3.19 Demand for Sports Halls, 2031, by Local Authority

Demand in equivalent courts considering a ‘comfort’ factor *	
Local Authority	2031
Ealing	101.2
Brent	113.6
Hammersmith & Fulham	67.5
Harrow	76.4
Hillingdon	92.7
Hounslow	89.1

**The FPM is designed to include a ‘comfort factor’, beyond which the venues are too full. When the venues are too full, the time taken to change the sports hall programme and equipment starts to impinge on the activity time itself and the changing and circulation areas become congested. In the model, Sport England assumes that usage above 80% of capacity is busy and the sports hall is operating at an uncomfortable level.*

The highest concentration of demand in Ealing is in an area of Southall, where deprivation is high and there are no sports halls (see Map 3.18); with demand measured as 6.6 courts in a one-kilometre square, this highlights the impact on supply of the closure of Southall Sports Centre. Demand is next highest on the boundary with Hammersmith and Fulham, Acton has high demand with squares of 5.0 courts, 4.2 courts and 3.7 courts and the Hanwell and West Ealing area has a concentration of 3.4 courts worth of demand (see Map 3.1).

Figure 3.20: Demand for Sports Halls in Ealing, 2031



Accessibility of Ealing’s sports halls

For residents without access to a car, travel to sports halls by public transport or on foot is the choice of travel. The FPM uses a distance decay function where the further a user is from a facility, the less likely they will travel. On average, a 20-minute travel time accounts for approximately 90% of visits to a sports hall. The travel-time limits used are:

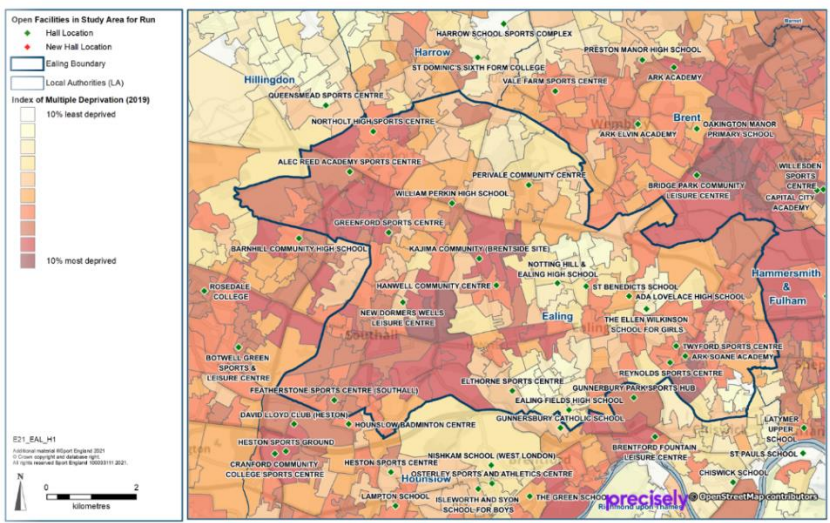
- Driving is 30 minutes
- Public transport is 30 minutes (at half speed of car)
- Walking is 40 minutes (two miles)

The FPM findings are that 72% of all visits to sports halls by Ealing residents are by car, 15% are on foot and 13% are by public transport. Therefore, more than one in four of all visits are either on foot or by public transport (see table 4.1)

Figure 3.22: Travel Mode of Ealing Demand to Sports Halls, 2031

Accessibility	
Ealing	2031
% of population without access to a car	34.2
% of population within a 20-minute walk of a sports hall	69.4
% of demand satisfied when travelled by car	71.7
% of demand satisfied when travelled on foot	15.0
% of demand satisfied when travelled by public transport	13.4

Figure 3.21: Deprivation in Ealing, 2019

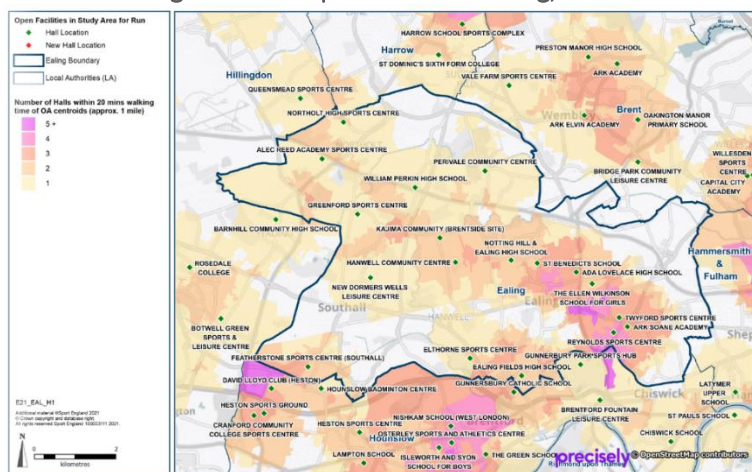


More than a third of Ealing residents do not have access to a car. An illustration of how many sports halls can be accessed by Ealing residents, based on where they live and a 20-minute walk time (one mile) from the sports hall locations in 2031, is set out in Figure 3.23. Residents in the area

shaded pale amber are within walking distance of one sports hall site, and residents in the pink area are within walking distance of five sites. However, not all residents in these areas will walk to a sports hall and some will travel further.

Almost 70% of the Borough’s residents live within a 20-minute walk of at least one sports hall site. The largest area outside a 20-minute walk is Southall, where deprivation is high. It is more likely that residents here will not have access to a car and will walk to a sports hall. The absence of a sports hall in this area may be a barrier to participation. Given the very extensive public transport network in London, there is very good access to sports halls by public transport. Three sports hall sites in the west of the borough are more than a 15-minute walk from a station. Due to the combination of the small land area of London boroughs, and the extensive number of sports hall sites, in 2031, the whole area of Ealing is within a 20-minute drive time of more than 25 sports halls.

Figure 3.23: Walking Access to Sports Halls in Ealing, 2031



Satisfied demand for sports halls

Satisfied demand represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at sports halls which are located both within and outside the borough, from Ealing residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of those sports halls. The FPM analysis shows that there is enough sports hall capacity within a suitable travel time to meet more than eight out of ten desired visits to a sports hall by an Ealing resident. There is quite a wide range of satisfied demand across the study area (see Figure 3.24). It is highest in Hillingdon at 91% and lowest in Hammersmith & Fulham at 68%.

Figure 3.24: Percentage of Satisfied Demand for Sports Halls in Study Area, 2031

% of Total Demand Satisfied	
Local Authority	2031
Ealing	83.2
Brent	79.1
Hammersmith & Fulham	67.7
Harrow	89.3
Hillingdon	90.6
Hounslow	86.8

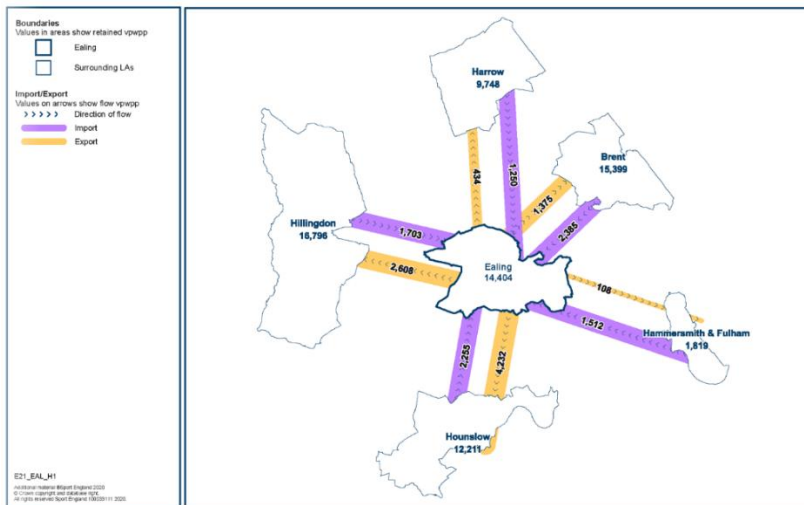
Retained demand for sports halls

Retained demand is a subset of satisfied demand and shows how much of Ealing residents’ demand for sports halls is retained at sports halls within Ealing. This assessment is based on the catchment area and appeal of Ealing’s sports halls and Ealing residents using these facilities. In 2031, 58% of satisfied demand is retained within the borough, this shows that the sports halls in Ealing are well located and have the capacity and appeal to

meet nearly six out of ten visits to a sports hall by an Ealing resident. The residue of satisfied demand, after retained demand, is exported demand. This is based on Ealing residents who live within the travel time of a sports hall outside the borough and use that sports hall. The demand exported and met outside the borough is 42% of satisfied demand.

If residents in neighbouring authorities participate at a sports hall in the borough, their usage becomes part of the used capacity of the borough’s sports halls, this is known as imported demand, in Ealing this accounts for 43% of the used capacity of sports halls in the borough. Ealing imports 10,823 visits per week in the weekly peak period and exports 10,385 visits in the weekly peak period in 2031, therefore Ealing is a net importer of 438 visits per week in the weekly peak period, so it could be said that the visits by Ealing residents met at sports halls outside of the Borough is about the same as the visits by residents of other boroughs which is part of the used capacity of Ealing’s sports halls.

Figure 3.25: Imported and exported demand in 2031



Unmet demand for sports halls

Unmet demand is important to note as it is demand for sports halls which cannot be met because there is either too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area and there is a lack of capacity; or because demand is located too far away from any sports hall. In Ealing, unmet demand is 17% of total demand, which equates to 17 badminton courts, see Table 6.1 for more details. Unmet demand is highest in the Acton area, with a total of four courts of unmet demand. Southall has a total of three courts and West Ealing has a total of two courts of unmet demand (see Figure 3.26).

Figure 3.26: Unmet Demand for Sports Halls in Ealing, 2031

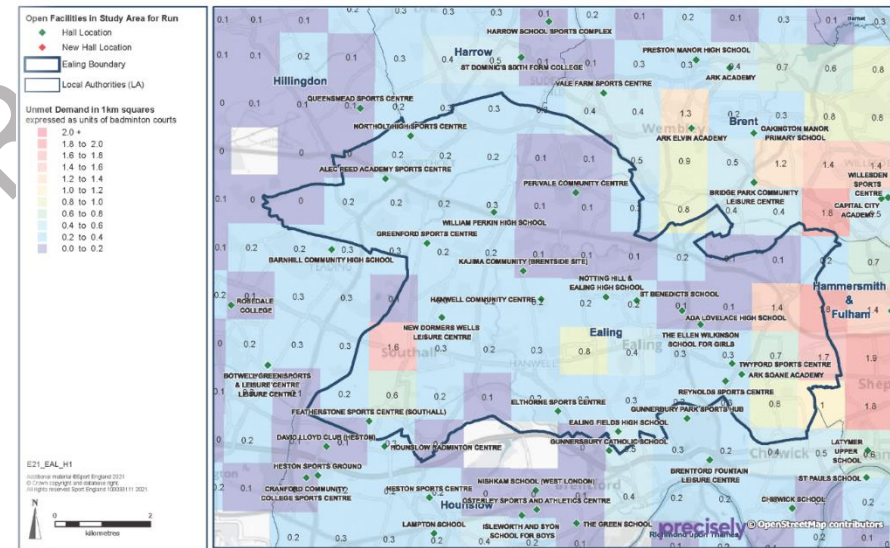


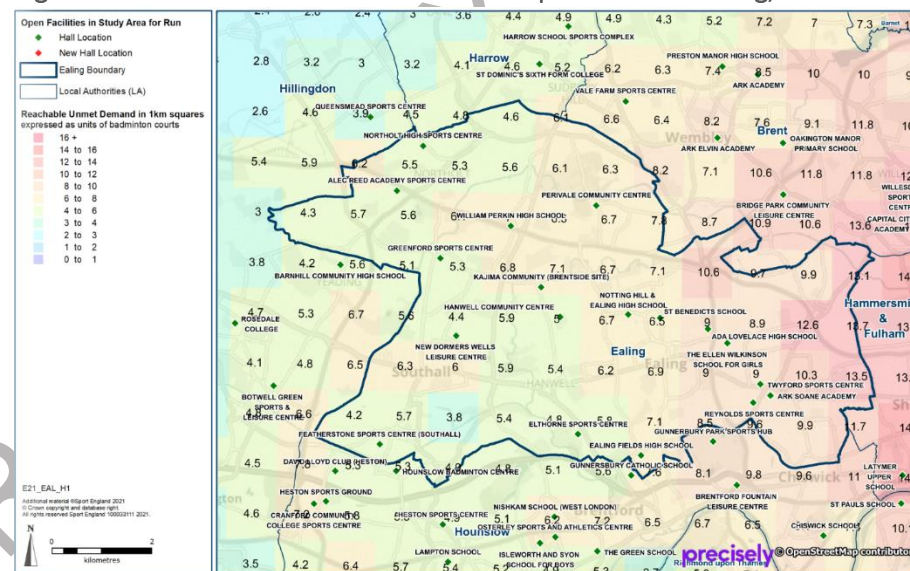
Figure 3.27: Unmet Demand for Sports Halls in Ealing, 2031

Unmet Demand	
Ealing	2031
Number of visits unmet per week in peak period	5,013
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	16.8
Equivalent in courts with comfort factor	17.0
% of unmet demand due to:	
Facility too far away:	40.9
○ Without access to a car	40.3
○ With access to a car	0.6
Lack of facility capacity:	59.1
○ Without access to a car	55.0
○ With access to a car	4.2

An analysis of the spread of this identified unmet demand shows the level of unmet demand that would be met by a potential new facility in any given location, this is known as reachable unmet demand and is calculated for each one-kilometre grid square across the borough. Accessibility is a major factor in determining reachable unmet demand so a location with a good road network and good public transport links has a higher reachable unmet demand than a facility in a geographical area which has a poor layout which makes it more difficult for people to move around and get to a sports hall location.

It is really important to emphasise that reachable unmet demand isn't a reflection of need for a particular area. Reachable unmet demand is highest across the Acton area, followed by areas in the Ealing, Perivale and North Greenford area and areas of Southall (see Figure 3.38)

Figure 3.28: Reachable Unmet Demand for Sports Halls in Ealing, 2031



Lack of sports hall capacity accounts for 59% of unmet demand (the equivalent of ten courts), this indicates that Ealing's sports halls are in the right geographical location, but just can't accommodate all the identified demand, this is due to the fact that the majority of sports halls are on school sites. 11 out of the 19 sites – 58% of the sites which has over half of the courts at 53% within these facilities. These sites are only available outside of curriculum times and the sites have different hours of access for community use.

The second part of unmet demand is demand located too far from a sports hall, which is 41% (seven courts), this type of demand will always exist because it is not possible to achieve complete spatial coverage whereby all areas of an authority are within walking distance of a sports hall and not everyone will want, or be able, to drive to a facility.

Used capacity of sports halls

There are several ways to account for the estimated used capacity for sports halls. Often it is difficult to identify which of these reasons apply because several could be interacting simultaneously, but it is generally caused by any of the following factors: the type of operator, the hours available, the level of demand within the travel-time limit from the site and reachable from other halls, the quality and range of the offer, the age of the hall and its 'attractiveness' weighting and imported demand.

Public leisure centres especially those open during the day have a 'draw effect' because they have the highest accessibility for both sports club and public use and because operators actively promote participation by offering a programme of use that reflects the activities customers wish to participate in.

Access to sports halls for community use at educational sites will be determined by the policy of each provider. Some schools and colleges actively promote community use. At some venues there is little differentiation between educational and wider community use, with community access based on a membership system (classed as commercial). Other educational venues let their sports halls to sports clubs or community groups on a termly basis, or for shorter periods.

The sports halls in the east and south of the borough are close together. The demand for these sites is shared between the venues, which contributes to the level of used capacity at each.

The quality and range of the offer at a sports hall are of increasing importance to customers and affect participation levels. All the sports halls in the model are weighted to reflect their age, condition and whether they have been modernised. This is to assess their comparative attractiveness to customers.

Like London as a whole, Ealing's sports halls are estimated to be 100% full in the weekly peak period in 2031, above the 80% capacity level Sport England considers "comfortable". The capacity of a four-court hall, that is open for the maximum 46 hours in the weekly peak period, is 1,472 visits; in 2031, only the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub are available for the full 46 hours in the weekly peak period.

When the FPM estimates that a sports hall is full, it attempts to re-allocate demand to other sports halls in the same travel time area. This is an iterative process and continues until there is no more capacity at the other sports halls to absorb demand. This is known as 'demand re-distributed after initial allocation', a negative figure indicates the number of visits that cannot be met at the site. A positive figure indicates the number of visits that have been re-allocated to the site.

At 12 of the 19 sports hall sites there is demand that cannot be met because the sports hall is estimated to be full. In terms of visits, the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre has the most demand that can't be accommodated at 2,176 visits, followed by Greenford Sports Centre at 1,531, Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub at 1,482 and Reynolds Sports Centre at 1,218 through to Featherstone Sports Centre at 8 visits.

However, the model's assessment indicated that there could be scope to increase community hours on some of the education sites, especially where there is capacity to increase community hours to include all weekday evenings and weekends. It is estimated that three educational sites have between 15 and 29 hours available for community use and it may be possible to increase the available community use hours on these sites. It is acknowledged that the council does not control these sites and the policy towards community use and access is determined by each educational

provider. Therefore, it will involve negotiation with individual educational owners to increase access for community use.

There are several findings relating to Southall, note the assessment took into account the closure of Southall Sports Centre at the end of March 2022. Demand for sports halls is high in Southall with unmet demand equating to three courts; Featherstone Sports Centre (5 court) and the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre (8 court) are in Southall, but there is a large area of Southall outside the walking catchment of a sports hall, where deprivation is high.

Featherstone Sports Centre has 40 hours available for community use in the weekly peak period. A possibility is to see if this could increase to provide more access to sports halls for Southall residents, however, due to the growing curriculum needs of a busy high school this is unlikely. Also, the proposed new Dormers Wells Leisure Centre has an eight-court hall and will be able to provide local residents with more supply and greater flexibility in programming.

Acton has four, four court sports hall facilities, all on school sites. Acton like Southall also shows areas of high demand for sports halls, equating to around 4 courts. It also has high levels of deprivation and large areas outside the walking catchment of a sports hall. Where Acton differs from Southall is that Acton has far higher levels of reachable unmet demand, due to better transport links in the Acton area as compared to Southall.

It is acknowledged that there may be other community facilities in both Southall and Acton, which are not sports halls, which provide physical activity opportunities for Southall residents.

Site Analysis and Audit

With the closure of Southall the Council has lost a key daytime community sports facility. Whilst peak usage and demand remains evening and weekends the impact will be felt across the borough.

With the majority of sports halls on educational sites as discussed, a key part of meeting future need is unlocking any capacity at these sites. Few sites as part of the strategy audit and consultation were putting themselves forward for additional community use given the audit was undertaken in between two periods of Covid restrictions and full use was yet to be re-established at many of the sports hall sites. Schools in particular were continuing to notably cautious at the time of our audit in re-establishing community access. Featherstone sports Centre were keen to expand on their fitness offer (see the next section on health and fitness) which would tie in with any enhanced indoor sports hall access at this site.

As with the swimming analysis the Dormers Wells the sports hall at this site is extremely dated and in need of modernisation to provide a more flexible and suitable space for multisport activity. Its use at present (which would need to be addressed as part of any future redevelopment) is restricted to school use and access during the daytime.

Sports Halls		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to protect the current community use at the school sites as a minimum and support this retention of community use where possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ealing Council to review educational site access and availability – work with Featherstone Sports Centre to look at opportunities to enhance provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement provision as part of any potential Dormers Wells Leisure Centre redevelopment. Future opportunities for re-provision of indoor sports space accessible to Southall

Sports Halls		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
		residents to be considered by the Council.

Prioritised Actions

Short Term (1-2 years)

- Options for Dormers Wells Leisure Centre developed as part of overall review.
- Support for Featherstone Sports Centre to look at opportunities to enhance community access.
- Options for addressing the shortfall in Southall and other areas lacking facilities in the borough to be considered.

Medium / Longer Term

- Additional capacity for indoor sports (coordinated with gymnastics and trampolining section) to be considered.
- Redevelopment of Gurnell Leisure Centre – opportunities to be considered
- Redevelopment of Dormers Wells Leisure Centre.

Health and Fitness

Health and fitness provision has played a key part of the Covid-19 pandemic recovery process for leisure centres and will continue to be vital in improving the health and wellbeing of local residents.

Health and Fitness Facilities in Ealing

Within Ealing there are currently 25 sites that offer health and fitness provision. The existing provision provides accessible opportunities across the range of access types (pay as you go, membership), budget and mid-range price points and types of provision (cardio, weights, functional fitness, circuits, exercise to music classes, studio cycling).

Figure 3.29: Health and Fitness Facilities in Ealing with 20+ stations

Facility Name	Postcode	Stations	Access Type	Ownership
Everyone Active Acton Centre	W3 6NE	100	Pay and Play	Local Authority
Anytime Fitness (London West Ealing)	W13 9BP	75	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Brent Valley Golf Course and Fitness Club	W7 3BE	40	Pay and Play	Local Authority
David Lloyd (Acton Park)	W3 7HB	96	Registered Membership use	Commercial
David Lloyd (Sudbury Hill)	UB6 0UX	195	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Dormers Wells Leisure Centre	UB1 3HX	68	Pay and Play	Local Authority
Eden Fitness	W5 2SP	88	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Featherstone Sports Centre	UB2 5HF	38	Pay and Play	Community school
Gold's Gym (Hanwell)	W7 3SU	103	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Greenford Sports Centre	UB1 2NP	40	Pay and Play	Foundation School
Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub	W3	100	Pay and Play	Local Authority
IGYM London	W3 6DT	80	Registered Membership use	Commercial

Facility Name	Postcode	Stations	Access Type	Ownership
Kiss Gyms (Acton)	W3 7QE	120	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Northolt Leisure Centre	UB5 4AB	150	Pay and Play	Local Authority
Nuffield Health (Ealing)	W5 5JY	118	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Pure Gym (Acton)	W3 9QU	220	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Pure Gym (Park Royal)	W3 0PA	220	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Pure Gym (Northolt)	UB5 6AG	220	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Revive Health Club (Ealing)	W5 1HG	25	Registered Membership use	Commercial
Reynolds Sports Centre	W3 8EY	30	Pay and Play	Community school
The Gym (Acton)	W3 6RE	120	Registered Membership use	Commercial
The Gym (Ealing)	W13 8RB	146	Registered Membership use	Commercial
The Gym (Southall)	UB2 4FE	145	Registered Membership use	Commercial

Facility Name	Postcode	Stations	Access Type	Ownership
University of West London	W5 5RF	70	Registered Membership use	Higher Education Institutions
		2,607		

At present, three of the major high street budget gym companies offering low cost 24/7 access are present in Ealing. Anytime Fitness, The Gym Group and Pure Gym are located within the borough. Pure Gym and The Gym Group both have three facilities located within Ealing.

The Gym Group operates three sites within Ealing, which are located in Ealing, Acton and Southall. All three sites offer a large 24/7 gym at affordable prices (from £16.99 a month). Pure Gym also operate three sites within the borough, which are Acton, Park Royal and Northolt. All three of these facilities offer a 220-station gym, which are the three largest health and fitness facilities in the borough. Pure Gym offers 24/7 gym at affordable prices (from 18.99 a month). In recent years the market has seen a significant increase in the number of low-cost 24-hour gyms that offer residents the flexibility to exercise when it is appropriate for them.

In light of the revenue contribution made by health and fitness to the financial sustainability of the borough’s main public leisure and sport centres, it will be important to ensure that the health and fitness offers at the two centres remain competitive in relation to availability (opening hours), access (affordable membership options) and attractiveness (the quality of the studios, equipment, training and instruction). Featherstone Sports Centre has already reduced its cost from £32.99 to 16.99 a month to ensure its pricing is competitive with the low budget gyms in Southall.

At all the Council owned facilities there is a good level of health and fitness provision, including a 40-station facility at Brent Valley Golf Course and

Fitness Club, 68 station facility at Dormers Wells Leisure Centre, and a 150-station facility at Northolt Leisure Centre. A number of the health and fitness facilities in Ealing are located on educational sites with dual use agreements in place to ensure community access. This includes the 38-station facility at Featherstone Sports Centre, the 30-station facility at Reynolds Sports Centre, the 50-station facility at Greenford Sports Centre, and the 90 station and 35 station (women only) facility at Southall Sports Centre.

Everyone Active currently operate all of the main sport and leisure centres within the borough, except Featherstone Sports Centre. Better operate Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub, a facility shared with the London Borough of Hounslow.

There was previously a large 103 station gym at Gurnell Leisure Centre (closed in 2020), which is located in the centre of the borough. It is expected that Gurnell Leisure Centre will be re-provided with a bigger gym offer as part of a new leisure development. Health and fitness provision is vital for the sustainability of a leisure centre due the revenue the facility brings in. Given the importance of Gurnell Leisure Centre and its central location in the borough, it is recommended that as a minimum a similar number of stations / size and capacity is provided alongside flexible studio space to accommodate group exercise activities.

The women only gym was very popular and a key part of the offer at Southall Sports Centre. To mitigate the loss of the facilities, the Council and Everyone Active have opened a new women only gym on the Dormers Wells Leisure Centre site and introduced more women only sessions to re-provide and enhance the women only offer in the Southall area.

In addition to the traditional health and fitness facilities, there are a number of smaller boutique gyms in Ealing, which include Gymbox Ealing. Gymbox is a high-end health and fitness facility that offers a range of classes and personal training.

Quality of Health and Fitness Facilities in Ealing

The majority of the facilities that were assessed by the Consultant Team were to a good or a very good standard, except Featherstone Sports Centre, which needs to be refurbished to bring it up to modern standards and equipment needs to be upgraded, especially with Gym Group being located in close proximity.

Health and Fitness Participation

In terms of health and fitness demand trends, the latest annual state of the industry report found that, in 2019, the penetration rate (i.e., the proportion of the adult population in the UK that were members of a gym in either the public or private sector) was at 15.6% up from 14.9% in 2018 and 2017. The penetration rate 5 years ago, in 2014, was 13.2% evidencing continuing growth in participation in health and fitness. This growth is in sharp contrast to the flat or slight downward participation trend in most recognised sports. Currently in the UK, 1 in every 7 people is a member of a gym. The 2019 report highlights that the industry, over the 12-month period to the end of March 2019, saw increases of 2.9% in the number of fitness facilities, 4.7% in the number of members and 4.2% in market value.

This evidence of the scale of UK health and fitness participation is supported by the findings of the Active Lives Survey for England. 9% of adults (16+) in England took part in a gym session at least twice in the previous 28 days in 2019/20 i.e., 4,082,900 people. This has decreased from 13.7%, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The number of people taking part in a fitness class was a little higher at 14% (6,807,100 people). Interestingly, these figures have seen little change across the last few Active Lives surveys, which were undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The leisure industry has seen some very positive recovery trends with the demand for health and fitness remaining strong on the return to activity for many people.

Consultation

- Everyone Active highlighted that Southall Sports Centre was an important facility for the local community, especially the women in the local area. It is hoped that residents will travel to other facilities e.g. Dormers Wells Leisure Centre and the new Women only gym on site.
- The women only gym and classes were very popular at Southall Sports Centre and this provision has been reprovided at Dormers Wells Leisure Centre.
- Featherstone Sports Centre would like to enhance and improve the facility but are concerned about the cost of doing this.

Health and Fitness Recommendations

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council to continue to protect the current quantity and availability of community health and fitness facilities through planning policy and to ensure its leisure management service provider maintains the facilities and equipment to a good quality standard and affordable pricing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On those sites which the Council owns or manages to accommodate new demand as a result of planned new housing, assess the feasibility of expanding hours of availability / increasing capacity at the most accessible fitness suite and studio facilities to support the population growth areas. ○ Assess the demand and feasibility of replacing or expanding the health and fitness provision as part of both Gurnell Leisure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regularly review health and fitness facility and equipment needs with the leisure management service provider in relation to changes in accessible supply (e.g. 24/7 budget gyms), fitness participation and industry trends and population growth.

Protect	Enhance	Provide
	Centre and Dormers Wells Leisure Centre to accommodate new demand from housing and population growth.	

Prioritised Actions

Short Term (1-2 years)

- Maintain a community focused presence within the market of health and fitness provision in the borough (post covid-19).
- Support Featherstone Sports Centre in assessing the feasibility to replace and refurbish the health and fitness facility.
- Assess the demand and feasibility of replacing or expanding the health and fitness provision as part of the Gurnell Leisure Centre and Dormers Wells Leisure Centre redevelopment projects.

Longer Term

- Re provide an improved gym offer as part of the new Gurnell Leisure Centre and Dormers Wells leisure Centre development projects

Squash Provision in Ealing

Introduction

The summary below provides the assessment of squash provision in Ealing alongside the leading outcomes from the consultation process which has informed this study. The priorities to be adopted for squash provision are then provided at the end of this assessment.

Squash Facilities in Ealing

Within Ealing there are currently 3 squash courts, which are all located at Actonians Sports Club in Acton.

Figure 3.30: Squash Facilities in Ealing

Site Name	Postcode	Number of courts	Type of Court	Ownership Type	Management Type
Actonians Sports Club	W5 4LL	3	Normal	Local Authority	Sport Club
TOTAL COURTS		3			

Actonians Sports Club is the only squash site in Ealing which offers community accessible squash courts. This is on a registered membership basis. Actonians offer different membership prices across the various age brackets, including 5-11 (£25.00), 12-17 (£40.00), 18-59 (£125.00) 60+ (£110.00), and Student (£60.00). The courts are bookable in 45-minute periods from 9:30am until 22:15 pm. The club runs a healthy number of internal box leagues with 70-80 participants, from beginners to county level, run on a rolling 6-week basis. The club also run four teams in the Middlesex League: 3 Men’s and one Women’s. For Juniors there is England squash qualified coach led group training every Saturday afternoon, which feeds into the Middlesex junior squad.

The level of squash provision in Ealing has reduced recently with the two courts located at David Lloyd – Sudbury Hill being closed and the closure of Ealing Squash Club, also 2 courts, for a housing development. However as part of the future housing development there will be two squash courts provided. This will help restore the supply of courts within the borough.

The level of overall supply does not meet the England Squash benchmark quantitative guidance standard of 1 court per 10,000 people. Based on a supply of 3 accessible courts, the level of provision Ealing falls below the England Squash benchmark at approximately 1 court per 48,928 (approx.) people, which would only increase with population changes.

Location of Squash Facilities in Ealing

There is a poor spread of facilities across the area (in relation to the size of the population), the geography of the area (urban surrounding areas) means that there needs to be a dense geographical spread of courts to meet the needs of the local population. As such it is imperative that the current site is maintained, and more sites added in the future. Once the squash courts are re-provided on the site of the former Ealing Squash Club there will be a better distribution of squash facilities in the borough. If future squash provision is to be provided in the borough, it should be located in the centre or northern areas of the borough to give a better distribution of facilities.

Quality of Squash Facilities in Ealing

During the development of this strategy, the Consultant Team undertook non-technical visual site visits at each of the squash facilities in the borough. Each squash facility was given a quality rating from very poor to very good. The ratings can be seen below in figure 3.21.

Figure 3.31: Quality of Squash Facilities in Ealing (Site visits – Consultant Team)

Squash Facilities	Quality Rating
Actonians Sports Club	Standard (3)

The Actonians Sports Club squash courts are in a standard condition. The club should look to replace or refurbish these courts in the medium to long term, as part of an overall ground development. This is a longer-term aspiration of the club and will be dependent on funding.

Squash Facilities in Neighbouring Local Authorities

There are a number of facilities located in neighbouring borough’s that are likely to attract residents of Ealing. These include the three courts at Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre (Hounslow), the two courts at Topnotch

Health Club (Hounslow), the three courts at David Lloyd – Heston (Hounslow), the five courts at Imperial Heston Sports Ground (Hounslow), and the two courts at Wembley and Sudbury Tennis Squash and Social Club (Brent). Although only Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre and Imperial Heston Sports Ground offer pay and play access.

Squash Participation

Overall, the most recent Active Lives Survey findings² indicate a slight downturn in adult demand for squash nationally over the last three years. 0.4% of adults (16+) in England played at least twice in the last 28 days in 2019/20 i.e. 163,400 people. This represents a significant decrease of -0.6% since the benchmark ALS in 2015/16.

England Squash have a number of programmes aimed to get more participants engaged in the sport and create thriving communities including Squash 101, Squash stars, Junior 101, Squash 57, Squash Girls Can. For these programmes to be delivered successfully facilities need to be well maintained and provide a positive experience.

Squash Recommendations

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to protect the current quantity and the availability of community squash facilities through this strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the sports club and the NGB the council should consider the refurbishment needs for the squash courts at both Actonians Sports Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure two squash courts are provided as part of the housing development on the Ealing Squash Club previous site. Consider options for providing the squash courts (glass back and potentially with a moveable side wall)

Protect	Enhance	Provide
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> within the feasibility assessments and future plans for the replacement of the Gurnell Leisure Centre and/or Dormers Wells Leisure Centre. Regularly review squash facility needs with England Squash and the leisure management service provider in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends and population growth.

Prioritised Actions
<p>Short Term (1-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the sports club and the NGB the council should consider the refurbishment needs for the squash courts at Actonians Sports Club Ensure two squash courts are provided as part of the housing development on the Ealing Squash Club site. <p>Longer Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep under review the need for to invest into the current facility stock to improve the quality of squash in Ealing. The council must support the providers of squash to ensure this level of provision which, is considered as suitable, is maintained. Consider options for providing the squash courts (glass back and potentially with a moveable side wall) within the feasibility assessments and future

² Active Lives Adult Survey Nov 19/20 Report, Sport England (October 2021)

Protect	Enhance	Provide
plans for the replacement of the Gurnell Leisure Centre and/or Dormers Wells Leisure Centre.		

Gymnastics and Trampoline Provision in Ealing

Introduction

The summary below provides the assessment of gymnastics provision within Ealing alongside the leading outcomes from the consultation process which has informed this study. The priorities to be adopted for gymnastics provision are then provided at the end of this assessment.

Gymnastics and Trampoline Facilities in Ealing

Withing Ealing there are five gymnastics/trampoline clubs, with the majority of the clubs being based at educational sites, rather than purpose-built gymnastics facility.

There are no dedicated gymnastics facilities within the borough. All of the five clubs currently hire facilities in and outside of the borough. Given the clubs and the demand, there is the potential opportunity to develop a purpose-built gymnastics/trampoline facility within Ealing to support the development of the sport.

Figure 3.32: Facilities in Ealing used by Gymnastics clubs

Site Name	Postcode	Facility Type
Ealing Gymnastics Club	W5 2HL	St Benedicts School
London DMT and Trampoline Academy	W3 8EY	Acton High School/Reynolds Sports Centre
Drayton gym Club	W7 1EU	Drayton Manor High School
West London Gymnastics	UB6 7NP	Perivale Community Centre
Auroa Gymnastics West London	W3 7HB	Club Des Sports

Ealing Gymnastic Club is a recreational gymnastics club aimed at providing sessions for children (5-12) all abilities. They currently hire the sports hall at St Benedicts School on a Sunday between 9am-12pm. Ealing Gymnastics Club currently has a waiting list of approximately 150 people, indicating unmet demand for gymnastics in Ealing. This is similar to the national picture as annual research undertaken by British Gymnastics shows a national waiting list of 1.5m and an annual growth of 10% year on year in participation levels.

London Trampoline Academy and London DMT has a key focus on trampolining. The club currently operates out of two venues, with one in Ealing (Reynolds Sports Centre), and the other in Hounslow (Bolder Academy). They currently run sessions for children, youth, and adults. They also run a disability inclusive lesson on Fridays at Bolder Academy. They currently run evening sessions at Reynolds Sports Centre on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, whilst running sessions on Friday and Sunday at Bolder Academy.

West London Gymnastics has a key focus on rhythmic gymnastics. The club currently operates from two facilities, including Perivale Community Centre and Northolt High School. The club offers a range of opportunities for people of all abilities, including beginner, pre squad, club squad and elite squad. They currently run sessions on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. The club charges annual membership (£26-32) and also monthly charges for classes (1 class per week £45, 2 classes per week £85, and 3 classes per week £120).

Auroa Gymnastics Club West London is currently based at Club Des Sports and offers rhythmic gymnastics classes for children. The club offers a range of opportunities for children of all abilities, including, beginner, intermediate, advance and squad. These sessions are currently run on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

Drayton Gymnastics Club currently provides gymnastics sessions for children at Drayton Manor High School. The club runs one session a week on Friday at 6:15pm to 7:30pm. The club also holds another gym session between 7.30 - 8.30pm, immediately after the early session. This is an invitation only class for those gymnasts that show ability. Gymnastics and trampolining sessions are also provided at sports centres in the borough. Elthorne Sports Centre where gymnastics is delivered by Futinity and trampolining sessions by the operator. Brentford FC CST also run under 8's gymnastics activity at Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub.

Quality of Gymnastics and Trampolining Facilities in Ealing

During the development of this strategy, the Consultant Team undertook non-technical visual site visits at each of the facilities in the borough currently used for gymnastics and trampolining. Each facility was given a quality rating from very poor to very good. The ratings can be seen below in figure 3.33

Figure 3.33: Quality of Gymnastic Facilities in Ealing

Gymnastic Facilities	Quality Rating
Ealing Gymnastics Club (St Benedicts)	o Good (4)
London DMT and Trampoline Academy (Reynolds Sports Centre)	o Very Good (5)
Drayton Gym Club (Drayton Manor High School)	o N/A – The school did not want any site visits undertaken.
West London Gymnastics (Perivale Community Centre)	o Very Poor to Poor (1-2)
Auroa Gymnastics West London (Club Des Sports)	o Good (4)

The majority of the facilities that the gymnastics clubs hire are considered to be in good or very good condition except for the facility at Perivale Community Association. The floor within the gymnastics studio was on very

poor condition and needs replacing in the short term to provide an appropriate facility for West London Gymnastics Club. Once replaced, the current maintenance regime should be improved to ensure the facility lasts longer.

Gymnastics and Trampolining Facilities in Neighbouring Authorities

There are currently a number of gymnastics facilities in the neighbouring boroughs, including Bridge Park Gymnastics Club (Brent), Champion Aerobic Gymnastics (Hounslow), Harrow Gymnastics (Harrow), Heathrow Gymnastics Club (Hillingdon) and Phoenix Flyers (Hammersmith and Fulham).

Gymnastics Participation

Overall, the most recent Active Lives Survey findings indicated no significant change in adult demand for gymnastics and trampolining nationally from November 2015/16 to November 2018/19. However, in the most recent Active Lives Survey there has been a slight decrease in the level of participation, which is due to the impact from the Covid-19 pandemic causing the sport and leisure facilities to close. In the most recent Active Lives Study 0.4% of adults (16+) in England participated in gymnastics or trampolining at least twice in the last 28 days in 2019/20 i.e., 175,100 people. However, it should be noted that adult data is of limited value in estimating overall demand for the sport of gymnastics as most participation is by children under 16 excluded from this data source.

Gymnastics and Trampolining Recommendations

Protect	Enhance	Provide
o The Council to continue to protect the current quantity and the availability of community	o Refurbish the Perivale Community centre studio used by West London Gymnastics.	o Regularly review gymnastics and trampolining facility needs with British Gymnastics, and the Ealing based clubs in relation to changes in accessible supply,

Protect	Enhance	Provide
facilities for gymnastics and trampolining through planning policy and this strategy.		participation trends and population growth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Subject to feasibility, funding and planning, support the development of a purpose-built gymnastics/trampoline facility in the borough. ○ Assess the opportunity to run community gymnastics sessions out of the borough’s schools or leisure centre (to complement the current offer).

Prioritised Actions

Short Term (1-2 years)

- Refurbish the Perivale community centre studio used by West London Gymnastics.
- Assess the opportunity to run community gymnastics sessions out of the borough’s schools or leisure centre (to complement the current offer).

Longer Term

- Subject to feasibility, funding and planning, support the development of a purpose-built gymnastics/trampoline facility in the borough.

Athletics Facilities in Ealing

Ealing has one outdoor synthetic track with field athletics facilities for training and competition, at Perivale Park Athletics Track. The facility is operated by Everyone Active and has a floodlit, eight-lane 400m athletics track, as well as throw zones for the hammer, shot putt, discus and javelin, alongside a 300-seater spectator stand.

Built in 1987 and refurbished in 2004, the facility provides a home venue for Ealing Southall and Middlesex Athletics Club with 207 registered members with England Athletics and provide training on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition, the athletics track is also accessible on a pay and play and registered membership basis through Everyone Active.

The club is very active and currently competes in a number of track and field leagues, including the Southern Athletics League for seniors, the Youth Development League for older teenagers (school years 10 and upwards), the Middlesex Young Athletes League for younger athletes, and the Southern Counties Veterans League for the over 35s.

There is an outdoor macadam jogging track located in Spikes Bridge Park and three further facilities on school sites; the compact Track at West Twyford Primary School and the Mini Track at The Japanese School are both for private use only, but the Mini Track at King Fahad Academy is available to hire.

There are no indoor athletics facilities located within Ealing, but the residents of Ealing are well served by indoor athletics training facilities at Willesden and Brunel both of which are within England Athletics recommended 60-minute drivetime.

Quality of Athletics Facilities in Ealing

During the development of this strategy, the Consultant Team undertook non-technical visual site visits to the athletics facilities in the borough. Perivale Park Athletics Track is an important facility as it provides a home to Ealing Southall and Middlesex Athletics Club, a venue for schools events throughout the summer as well as offering local residents the opportunity to use the track on a pay and play basis. The track is well used and has some signs of wear and tear. It is recommended that the track is refurbished in the medium to long term but is of a good standard at the time of this strategy.

Running Provision in Ealing

Ealing Eagles Running Club is a road running club based in Ealing with 843 members with a variety of abilities - from complete beginners to seasoned marathon runners. The club compete in a number of competitions including club championships, relays, summer leagues, cross country, Eagles 10k, Ealing half marathon, and marathons. They also organise and run training sessions on weekdays and weekends.

Parkruns

5k venues in Ealing include Northala Fields, Gunnersbury Park and Southall Park, every Saturday at 9am. The Northala average attendance across the 324 weekly runs is 256 finishers, at Gunnersbury Park, the average attendance across the 451 weekly runs is 344 finishers and at the relatively new Southall Park, the average is just over 100 runners. Ealing also has very popular Junior ParkRuns at Acton Park, Pitshanger Park and Northala Fields.

Participation in Athletics and Running

Overall, the most recent Active Lives Survey findings³ indicate a stable picture in adult demand for running, athletics or multi sports nationally over the last three years. 15.7% of adults (16+) in England went running or took part in track or field athletics at least twice in the last 28 days in 2018/19 (i.e. over 7 million people), similar to gym-based health and fitness membership.

Insert walking information

Athletics Recommendations

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to protect the existing athletics facility and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presence of developmental facilities across the borough provides an 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly review athletics and running facility needs with

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that the venue achieves and maintains UKAs TrackMark accreditation. In partnership with Greater London Authority, the facilities and equipment, along with the footpaths, lighting, waymarking and other signage in other parks used for jogging and walking for health, are maintained to a good standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> excellent network of athletics facilities conducive to the development of participation. Consider potential improvements to the Jogging Track at Spikes Bridge Park Promote the availability of the athletics facilities at King Fahad Academy, Acton Investigate the feasibility to open up facilities at West Twyford Primary School and The Japanese School (this may require basic lighting to accommodate after school community sessions). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> England Athletics, the club and the leisure management service provider in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends and population growth.

Prioritised Actions

Short Term (1-2 years)

- Investigate the feasibility to open up of school sites at The Japanese School and West Twyford Primary School (this may require basic lighting to accommodate after school community sessions).

³ Active Lives Adult Survey November 19/20 Report, Sport England (October 2021)

Protect	Enhance	Provide
Longer Term		
○ Refurbishment of the track at Perivale Park Athletics Track.		

Tennis

The summary below provides the assessment of tennis provision within Ealing alongside the leading outcomes from the consultation process which has informed this study. The priorities to be adopted for tennis provision are then provided at the end of this assessment.

In recent years, there has been significant investment made by Ealing Council and the Lawn Tennis Association to improve the provision of tennis courts within the borough. These investments have included the refurbishment of the two courts in Acton Park in 2020, and the installation of LTA gated access systems in 8 parks in 2020.

Tennis Facilities in Ealing

Within Ealing there is a total of 34 sites that offer accessible tennis courts in the borough. Across the 34 sites, there is a total supply of 167 tennis courts which include 7 indoor courts and 160 outdoor courts. There are 86 floodlit courts in the borough, with a good distribution between club, parks, educational, and community sport centre sites.

There are 2 indoor tennis venues in Ealing. There are three courts (airhall) located at Ealing Lawn Tennis Club, which are accessible by registered membership use only. The indoor airhall courts are coming to the end of their expected life and going to be refurbished in the short term. There are an additional four courts (airhall) located at David Lloyd (Acton Park), which are accessible on a private membership basis.

Will to Win operate under lease two of the Council’s park tennis facilities at Lammas Park and Pitshanger Park. Both sites are accessible on a pay and play basis. Will to Win have been operating at Lammas Park since 2000, the facility now has 12 tennis courts (7 floodlit, 3 of which are also marked for 5 v 5

football) and Pitshanger Park since 2013, where there are 8 tennis courts (4 floodlit) and a floodlit 5 v 5 pitch.

Five hard court tennis courts plus a 7 v 7 football pitch at North Acton Playing Fields are also operated under lease from the Council by FC Samurai and tennis partner Hiroko Craven.

Under an agreement with the Council, Bounce Tennis is currently running coaching activity at various sites across Ealing including Acton Park, Churchfields Recreation Ground, Perivale Park, Berkeley Fields, Southall Park, Spikes Bridge and Ravenor Park.

Tennis Clubs in Ealing

There are a total of 12 tennis clubs located within the borough which include Brentham Lawn Tennis Club, Club des Sports, David Lloyd Acton, David Lloyd Club Sudbury Hill, Ealing Lawn Tennis Club, Greenford Tennis Club, Old Actonians Association Tennis Club, St Columba’s Tennis Club, St Johns LTC Trailfinders Sports Ground and West Middlesex Lawn Tennis Club Ltd. These account for 78 (50 floodlit) of the total courts within the borough.

Figure 3.34 Club Tennis Sites in the Borough

Site	No. Courts	Floodlit	Indoor
Brentham Lawn Tennis Club	12	4	0
Club des Sports	2	1	0
David Lloyd Acton	8	8	4
David Lloyd Club Sudbury Hill	4	4	0
Ealing Lawn Tennis Club - check	14	3	3
Greenford Tennis Club	3	3	0
Old Actonians Association Tennis Club	3	2	0
St Columbas Tennis Club	4	2	0
St Johns LTC	2	0	0

Site	No. Courts	Floodlit	Indoor
Trailfinders Sports Ground	4	4	0
W3 Club	10	8	0
West Middlesex Lawn Tennis Club Ltd	9	9	0
Total	78	50	7

Source for the Number of courts: LTA Find a court

Brentham Club currently has 12 courts. The tennis court carpet was laid in 2015 but due to the high level of usage, the carpet will need to be replaced the next 3-4 years. The courts are well utilised with a full adult and junior tennis programme available as well as social play for the clubs’ members.

Ealing Lawn Tennis Club is the largest tennis club in the borough with 14 (check) courts available for usage, including 3 clay courts (floodlit), 3 adult tarmac courts, 2 youth tarmac courts, 6 grass courts and 3 indoor courts (airhall). Ealing Lawn Tennis Club are very proactive in developing and improving the facilities onsite and have made a series of investments, including a new clubhouse in 2015, replaced the airhall skin in 2019, and changed the floodlights to LEDs in 2021. The club have highlighted that the next facility improvement project will be to resurface the indoor courts within the next two years, as the indoor courts are a unique selling point for the club. The club currently has around 700 members with a waiting list of around 100 members, which indicates that there is unmet demand in the area.

The four floodlit courts at Ealing Trailfinders were refurbished in 2017 and have a high level of usage (approx. 50 hours per week) with limited capacity for additional usage. There are a number of local schools in the area that utilise the courts during the day. Trailfinders have recently installed the LTA gated access system so that the courts are accessible on a pay and play basis through Clubspark.

Greenford Lawn Tennis Club have three floodlit courts that were refurbished in October 2021. The club is constrained from developing due to the residential location of the club. The courts are supported by a small clubhouse with a small social area, changing rooms, and a small kitchen. The clubhouse could be improved and redeveloped in the long term. The club currently has approximately 75 adult members and 100 juniors that attend sessions on Saturdays. Due to the club only having 3 courts, there can be issues with managing the courts, especially at peak times.

West Middlesex Lawn Tennis Club has 9 floodlit tennis courts, including 3 clay and 6 hard courts. The club currently has around 200 adult members and 150 junior members. The club has a range of teams that compete in summer (8 men’s, 3 women’s, 1 veteran and 3 mixed) and winter (6 men, 2 mixed, 1 women and a veterans) leagues. The club are looking to replace 2 of the hard courts with clay as these are more popular amongst their members. The club have also identified that they need to replace the lights on 5 courts. One aspiration of the club is to get an indoor bubble over the two courts. However, they understand that this is very expensive to purchase and to run.

Park Tennis Sites

At public parks and recreation grounds there are 57 courts (19 floodlit) all of which are available for public hire on a pay and play basis or, in some cases, on an open access / free of charge basis. The most significant provision of public courts in Ealing is at Lammas Park and Pitshanger Park, which are both operated by Will To Win.

Figure 3.35: Park Tennis Sites

Site	No. Courts	Floodlit
Acton Park	2	0
Berkeley Fields	3	0
Churchfields Recreation Park	3	0

Site	No. Courts	Floodlit
Elthorne Park	3	0
Gunnersbury Park	8	8
Lammas Park	12	7
North Acton Playing Fields	5	0
Perivale Park	2	0
Pitshanger Park	8	4
Ravenor Park	2	0
Southall Park	2	0
Southfields Rec	3	0
Spikes Bridge Park	2	0
Wolf Fields Park	2	0
Total	57	16

The LTA ClubSpark booking system is in place for the majority of Ealing’s park tennis courts, which means people can access the courts through a coded gate access system, which also provides security for court users and protects the courts. The smart gate access system allows people to book a court for a specific time and helps prevent vandalism and unauthorized use.

The LTA and Council would like to refurbish the courts and where needed implement the gated system at the following park sites: 2 courts in Acton Park (already gated), 3 courts at Churchfield Recreation Ground, 2 courts at Ravenor Park, 2 courts at Spikes Bridge (only gated access), and 2 courts at Wolf Fields.

In addition to the tennis clubs and park tennis court sites in Ealing, there are also 20 tennis courts (a number of which are floodlit) on educational sites, as detailed in Figure 3.36 below. The majority of the school sites in Ealing

have limited community accessibility.

Figure 3.36: Educational Tennis Sites

Site	No. Courts	Floodlit
Ada Lovelace High School	3	0
Alec Reed Academy	4	0
Brentside High School	3	3
Drayton Manor High School	7	0
Ellen Wilkinson School	6	0
St Augustine’s School	2	2
St Benedict’s School	2	0
William Perkin High School	3	3
Total	30	8

There are also two tennis courts at St Benedict's School Sports Field, which have recently been resurfaced and are in good conditions. The school installed floodlights in September 2021. At present courts are only used by the school with no community use. The school have an aspiration to add a cover over the courts which will enable play throughout the year.

In addition, there is also community sports centres that provide accessible courts within Ealing. These tennis courts can be seen in Figure 3.37 below. All of these courts are available on a pay and play basis. The three sports centres account for 10 (8 floodlit) of the overall courts in the borough. Although the tennis courts at Featherstone Sports Centre are currently not being used for tennis.

Figure 3.37: Community Sport Centre Tennis Sites

Site	No. Courts	Floodlit
Acton High School (Reynolds Sports Centre)	4	4
Dormers Wells Leisure Centre	5	5
Elthorne Sports Centre	3	3
Featherstone School Sports Centre	3	3
Greenford Sports Centre (Everyone Active)	6	2
Twyford Sports Centre (Everyone Active)	3	3
Total	24	20

Quality of Tennis Courts in Ealing

During the development of this strategy, the Consultant Team undertook non-technical visual site visits at each of the tennis facilities in the borough. Each facility was given a quality rating from very poor to very good. The ratings can be seen below in figure 3.38.

Figure 3.38: Quality of Tennis Courts audit

Table needs to be alphabetical

Tennis Courts	Quality Rating
Brentham Lawn Tennis Club	o Standard to Good (4)
Club des Sports	o Good (4)
David Lloyd Acton	o N/A – no site visit undertaken
David Lloyd Club Sudbury Hill	o N/A – no site visit undertaken
Ealing Lawn Tennis Club	o Good (4) o Indoor courts – Standard (3)
Greenford Tennis Club	o Very Good (5)
Old Actonians Association Tennis Club	o Standard to Good (3-4)

Tennis Courts	Quality Rating
St Columbas Tennis Club	o TBC
St Johns LTC	o TBC
Trailfinders Sports Ground	o Good (4)
W3 Club	o Currently closed
West Middlesex Lawn Tennis Club Ltd	o Good (4)
Acton Park	o Very Good (5)
Berkeley Fields	o Standard to Good (3-4)
Churchfields Recreation Park	o Poor (2)
Elthorne Park	o TBC
Gunnersbury Park	o Very Good (5)
Lammas Park	o TBC
North Acton Playing Fields	o Standard (3)
Perivale Park	o Standard to Good (3-4)
Pitshanger Park	o Good (4)
Ravenor Park	o Poor (2)
Southall Park	o Good (4)
Southfields Recreation Ground	o TBC
Spikes Bridge Park	o Standard to Good (3-4)
Wolf Fields Park	o Poor (2)
Reynolds Sports Centre	o Poor, space used as playground by school
Drayton Manor High School	o N/A – no site visit undertaken
Ellen Wilkinson School	o Very Poor to Poor (1-2)
William Perkin High School	o TBC
St Augustine School	o Good (4)
Featherstone School Sports Centre	o Poor (2)
Greenford Sports Centre (Everyone	o Poor, space used as

Tennis Courts	Quality Rating
Active)	playground by school
Twyford Sports Centre (Everyone Active)	o Poor, space used as playground by school

The non-technical site assessments highlight that the tennis courts within the borough vary in quality, with the majority of the club courts being a good standard, whilst the tennis courts within the park sites are of lesser quality.

It is recommended that all of the tennis courts in the borough are brought up to good standard (4). There are a number of courts that need to be refurbished or replaced, including Wolf Fields, Ravenor Park, Churchfields Recreation Ground, Featherstone Sports Centre, Ellen Wilkinson School. The third court (non-floodlit) court at Actonians Sports Club also had some wear and tear issues with the carpet being pulled up. It is recommended that this is refurbished in the short term to provide 3 good quality tennis courts onsite.

Padel

The LTA also oversees the running of Padel, a new sport which is growing fast across the country that provides an exciting addition to the traditional game of tennis, enjoyed by both existing players and complete beginners. Already popular across Europe, Padel is growing across the country with new facilities being built and, in some cases, traditional tennis courts being converted to Padel courts. As a result of this identified demand for a new version of the sport, the council has received a significant number of enquiries from Padel operators to design, build and operate new facilities in Ealing. It is anticipated that there will be little or no requirement for any capital contribution for the Council and will yield a moderate revenue income. To capitalise on this wave of interest and the potential benefits to residents that might be available from commercial operators in this market, the Council is keen to explore what opportunities there might be to partner with a Padel operator to develop new

sports facilities and opportunities in Ealing which will potentially encourage non active people to try a new version of a traditional sport.

Tennis Participation

Overall, the most recent Active Lives Survey findings⁴ indicate there has been a slight downturn in adult demand for tennis nationally over the last three years. 1.7% of adults (16+) in England participated in tennis at least twice in the last 28 days in 2018/19 i.e. 754,900 people. This represents a significant decrease of -0.3% since the benchmark ALS in 2015/16. However, whilst there has been a post covid resurgence of demand for outdoor park tennis regular participation has seen a slight downturn.

Consultation

The Consultation findings for tennis have been summarised below:

- o LTA believe that Ealing has a good stock of tennis courts and clubs.
- o One real strength of Ealing Tennis is the Ealing Tennis forum which is great to keep everyone abreast of issues and opportunities relating to tennis.
- o LTA are looking at supporting a gated system at Elthorne Park.
- o The main priorities for the LTA are to refurbish and implement the gated access system at Churchfield, Ravenor Park, Spikes Bridge, Wolf Fields.
- o LTA would be keen to explore the potential opportunities for Padel in Ealing e.g., Lammas Park and believes that pretty much any flat hard standing area of at least one traditional tennis court size, has potential to accommodate Padel courts.

Clubs Consultation

The Brentham Club

The Brentham Club is a sports and social club with 1100+ members. Their

⁴ Active Lives Adult Survey November 19/20 Report, Sport England (October 2021)

club has their own main facility (including full size football and cricket pitches and 12 tennis court).

The tennis section has 420 members (132 are juniors). 5 men’s teams and 4 ladies’ teams in the summer + various teams (including mixed) in the winter. They have stayed about the same with regard to size as most sections are at capacity

Quality ratings – ratings for main facility and changing facilities is 3 (acceptable’)

Future facility needs – To satisfy the increasing demand at the Brentham Club, they require more floodlights on tennis courts to be able to play in the evenings and grants to improve the quality of their playing surfaces.

Bounce Tennis

The Bounce Tennis is a tennis provider working with the Council and have experienced a slight increase in members and aspire to grow in the future by having teams to represent each of their venues/facilities.

They have a total of 2 teams (one adult male and one adult female) and 12 players. Their main site is Acton Park and they operate at other sites including Berkeley Fields and Southall parks. Activities take place on weekdays (mornings and evenings), Saturdays (mornings and evenings) and Sunday (mornings and evenings).

Quality ratings – rating for main facility and changing facility is 1, (‘very poor’); note the courts in Acton Park are of good quality, but there are no ancillary facilities available to users.

Future facility needs – As a new club, Bounce Tennis feels they are in need of floodlights, resurfacing and cleaning of the courts as well as painting lines. They believe this will increase playing hours and participation by creating a

more attractive and inspiring playing facility.

Ealing Lawn Tennis Club

Ealing Lawn Tennis Club has a total of 700 players including 65 junior male players, 35 junior female players, 360 adult male players and 240 adult female players

The club has their own facility, which includes tennis courts and a clubhouse. The top priority for this club is to encourage existing and new members back after the covid lockdown as well as building partnerships with their local schools.

Future Facility needs - The challenges faced by the Ealing Lawn Tennis Club is the availability of courts to accommodate their growing membership and for the first time, they have a waiting list. The club has 6 grass courts which are seasonal and 3 tarmac courts which do not have floodlights, therefore, are unusable in the winter months after 4pm. They are in need to floodlights for these courts.

Tennis Recommendations

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council to continue to protect the current quantity and availability of community facilities for tennis through planning policy. ○ The Council to support courts, fencing and nets in parks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work with the LTA to support Ealing Lawn Tennis Club with the refurbishment of the indoor courts (airhall). ○ Work with the LTA to support West Middlesex Lawn Tennis Club with the resurfacing of two hard courts into artificial clay courts (club led). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regularly review tennis, including Padel facility needs with the Lawn Tennis Association, the tennis clubs based in Ealing and the leisure management service provider in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club sites to be maintained to a good quality standard (club led) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the LTA to support West Middlesex with the replacement of the floodlights on 5 of the courts (club led). Assess the feasibility of refurbishing the courts and implementing the LTA gated system where needed at: 2 courts in Acton Park (already gated), 3 courts at Churchfield Recreation Ground, 2 courts at Ravenor Park, 2 courts at Spikes Bridge (only gated access), and 2 courts at Wolf Fields. 	<p>and population growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the LTA and understanding current financial pressures to maintain tennis courts, consideration will be given to introducing a pay and play policy for park tennis courts LTA grant conditions successfully applied for might include the need for the council to generate sinking funds to maintain any new facilities built with LTA grant funding

Prioritised Actions

Short Term (1-2 years)

- Support Ealing Lawn Tennis Club with the refurbishment of the indoor courts (airhall).
- Support West Middlesex Lawn Tennis club with the developing two hard courts into artificial clay courts (club led).
- Support West Middlesex with the replacement of the floodlights on 5 of the courts (club led).
- Assess the feasibility of refurbishing and implement the LTA gated system

Protect	Enhance	Provide
		<p>where needed at the following park sites: 2 courts in Acton Park (already gated), 3 courts at Churchfield Recreation Ground, 2 courts at Ravenor Park, 2 courts at Spikes Bridge (only gated access), and 2 courts at Wolf Fields.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities to work in partnership with a tennis operator to develop new Padel facilities at various sites in Ealing Explore opportunities to partner with a Padel operator to provide new facilities and opportunities in Ealing The Council to consider introducing a pay and play policy for park tennis courts to fund maintenance and improvements in line with any LTA funding criteria <p>Longer Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the feasibility of providing an Airhall for two courts at West Middlesex Lawn Tennis Club. Explore the opportunity to provide Padel provision at Lammas Park and/or alternative sites e.g., Pitshanger Park Bowls facility.

Netball

Ealing has a total of 36 courts across 14 different facilities. There are 31 outdoor courts and 5 indoor courts within the borough. 60% (3) of indoor courts and 42% (13) of outdoor courts are on education sites. There is a total of 317 England Netball members across 3 clubs.

There are sufficient courts to satisfy the current demand in Ealing.

Clubs Consultation

Elthorne and Twyford Netball Club

Total of 8 teams and 80 players
 The netball club has stayed the same in regard to size and do not have any plan to grow over the next few years. The main site for the club is Elthorne Sport Centre and the club play there on Sundays (mornings and evenings)

and weekdays (evenings). The number of hours/courts/evenings accessible to the club meets the demand, however, the club requires an upgrade to current provisions.

Quality ratings – rating for main facility and changing facility is 2 ('poor')

Future facility needs -The club may look to leave the facility, despite their love for the location, because the court has not been resurfaced for 10 years and is heavily used as a playground space during term time. The changing rooms and toilets are also very run down. Elthorne and Twyford Netball Club ideally want courts 1 & 2 to be resurfaced. Court 3 has been recently resurfaced, however, they have old basketball hoops which means they cannot currently be used for netball. If all four courts could be resurfaced, the club would be able to host home fixtures and possibly start up a league.

Netball		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide netball posts for Elthorne Sports Centre to enable use of the newly refurbished Court 3 ○ Assess the feasibility of refurbishing the courts at Elthorne Sports Centre to improve the quality of the site for netball

Gaelic sports section to be added

Netball		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council to continue to protect the current quantity and the availability of community facilities for netball through planning policy. ○ The Council should ensure the courts, fencing and nets at all council venues are maintained to a good quality standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To assess the feasibility, costs and funding strategy to provide new netball posts and refurbish the courts at Elthorne Sports Centre. ○ Work with England Netball to improve the Netball workforce within the borough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regularly review netball facility needs with England Netball, netball clubs and the leisure management service provider in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends and population growth.

Prioritised Actions

Short Term

Cycling Provision in Ealing

Introduction

The summary below provides the assessment of cycling provision within Ealing alongside the leading outcomes from the consultation process which has informed this study. The proposed priorities to be considered for cycling provision are then provided at the end of this assessment.

Cycling Facilities in Ealing

There is one BMX facility in Ealing, which is located in Gurnell Playing Fields. At the time of this strategy Ealing BMX club which was set up in 2014 by Access Sport is no longer operational.

The council currently has plans to redevelop the Gurnell Leisure Centre and the adjacent area into a mixed leisure facility with indoor and outdoor sports facilities. The current redevelopment plans include an improved BMX track offer either on or near the site. As this is the only purpose-built track within Ealing, it is recommended that the track remains as part of the overall development for Gurnell and any redevelopment should be used as a catalyst to redevelop a club structure on the site.

Cycling Provision in Neighbouring Local Authorities

There are three BMX facilities within the neighbouring boroughs of Ealing. This includes BMX Lake Farm Country Park in Hillingdon, Hammersmith BMX track in Hammersmith and Fulham, and Chalkhill BMX track in Brent.

Road and Track Cycling

Ealing has four British Cycling affiliated road cycling clubs; Westerly Cycling Club formed in 1924, is a community club, which organises rides, races, training and trips for cyclist of all abilities, Cinnamon Cafe-Contour Cycles SDRT (17 members), Let's Go Southall Cycling Club (40 members), Sunday

Cycling Club (10 members). There is also Willesden Cycling Club, which is located on the borough boundary with Hillingdon. This club is one of the largest in the area and has 196 members.

The main needs for the further development of road cycling are to improve the quality of the roads and cycleways in the borough. Another further development opportunity is to develop participation for women and girls through more initiatives like the one currently being delivered by Let's Go Southall, which amongst other things provides residents with a bike and cycle maintenance training.

Track Cycling

The closest velodrome to residents of Ealing is the outdoor velodrome at Herne Hill. The facility has a dedicated pathway for riders over 8yrs old of all abilities, with dedicated Track Tasters, Track Skills and Training Sessions for Youths, Girls, Adults (14yrs+), Women and Over 40s. The nearest indoor velodrome to Ealing residents is at Lee Valley VeloPark at the Olympic Park in Stratford. The facility runs daily sessions for riders of all abilities. These range in price from £16-21.

Participation in Cycling

Overall, the most recent Active Lives Survey findings⁵ indicate a significant change in adult demand for cycling for leisure and sport nationally over the last year, which is likely due to the Covid-19 pandemic. 16% of adults (16+) in England participated in cycling at least twice in the last 28 days in 2019/20 i.e. 7,263,800 people. This makes cycling the third most popular sports and leisure activity after walking and running/athletic. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, there was little variation in the demand of cycling. It will be important to monitor the participation levels for cycling over the next few years to see if this increase in participation is sustained.

⁵ Active Lives Adult Survey Nov 19/20 Report, Sport England (October 2021)

Cycling for community and active travel purposes

Cycling forms part of the overall offer within Ealing for active travel be it walking to school, cycling to work or other everyday journeys, which can offer a convenient, accessible and affordable way to move more. Helping residents get moving through walking and cycling can make a powerful, lasting difference to their physical and mental health and well-being. Ealing Council through maintenance of parks, cycle routes and investment into a more active environment will continue to encourage people to chose more active modes of transport within the borough. Distance marker routes in over 20 of Ealing’s parks have proved very popular with walkers, joggers and runners alike, consideration will be given to developing more routes in Ealing.

Cycling Recommendations

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to protect the existing facilities for the various cycling disciplines through planning policy. The Council should ensure, in partnership with the Greater London Authority, that existing cycle paths, cycle routes, lighting, waymarking and other signage are maintained to a good standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to work with other partners to inform future investment in infrastructure needed to support cycling opportunities. This should include seeking to facilitate greater physical activity and support those with health conditions and / or disabilities. This should include input from British Cycling, Cycling UK, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly review cycling facility needs with British Cycling and local clubs in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends and population growth. If any new provision is to be planned within the Gurnell redevelopment as a minimum to replace the existing BMX track.

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a BMX facility at Gurnell Playing Fields continues to be provided 	Bikeability Cycle Training, Sustrans and London Sport.	

Prioritised Actions

Short Term (1-2 years)

- Ensure the Gurnell BMX track is re-provided as part of the overall leisure development of Gurnell.

Longer Term

- Encourage local clubs to train more volunteer cycle leaders (road and off-road)
- Improve way marking and encourage clubs to promote shorter/easier road routes attractive to novice riders.
- Working with transport and planning look at sustainable ways to improve route marking and promotion of more off-road routes.

Bowls

There are 8 bowls clubs in Ealing, which Bowls England deem to be sufficient for the borough. Improvements to the quality of greens and ancillary provision will allow for increased recruitment and participation for clubs.

The Council has 4 bowls greens in regular use at Wolf Fields, Southall, by Southall and Featherstone BC; at Islip Manor, Northolt, used regularly by a group of local bowlers; Horsenden Hill (Ballot Box side), used by North Greenford Bowls Club and West Ealing Bowls Club, which is run under lease by the bowls club from the Council. In recent years the Council has closed a number of bowls greens due to the resident club being unable to continue due to lack of members, the latest being in Pitshanger Park.

In addition to the Council bowls facilities, there are 3 bowls clubs in Ealing

playing at sites not owned by the Council; Brentham Bowls Club and Ealing Central United Bowls Club, both in Ealing and Springfield Bowls Club in Acton.

Clubs Consultation

The Brentham Club

The Brentham Club is a sports and social club with 1100+ members. The bowls section has its own facility, catering for 35 adult members, this membership has stayed relatively constant in recent years and there is no future facility needs identified at this time.

Quality ratings – ratings for main facility and changing facilities is 3 (acceptable)

Bowls		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to protect the current quantity and availability of community facilities for bowls if there continues to be demand, through planning policy In liaison with clubs, seek to ensure the existing facilities for bowls continue to be maintained to a good quality standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review key grounds where the council maintenance needs to be improved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly review bowls facility needs in the borough with the Bowls Development Alliance, England Bowls, England Indoor Bowls Association, and the established bowls clubs based in Ealing in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends and population growth.
Prioritised Actions		

Bowls		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
Short Term (1-2 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review key grounds where the council maintenance needs to be improved. 		
Longer Term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		

Croquet

There is one Croquet facility in Lammas Park, Central Ealing; it has 3 greens and an old pavilion, in need of redevelopment. The Club is one of the few in London and offers competitive play for members as well as come and try sessions for beginners. The Club has aspirations, subject to funding and planning permission, to secure a long-term lease from the Council and to redevelop the ancillary buildings on site to include a park café.

Croquet		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to work with Ealing Croquet Club to protect the availability of community facilities for croquet through planning policy and, in liaison with the clubs, seek to ensure the existing facilities continue to be maintained to a good quality standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council and the club to continue to work together to explore the best solution for a sustainable future Croquet provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly review croquet facility needs in the Borough with the Croquet Governing Body as well as the club in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends and population growth.
Prioritised Actions		
Short Term (1-2 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with the club to secure a lease for the pavilion and greens and support the club with its aspirations for a new pavilion 		

Croquet		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
Longer Term <input type="radio"/> None		

Climbing

There are 2 dual use sports centres in Ealing with climbing walls, both facilities are available to the public, one at Featherstone Sports Centre which opened in 2010 and the other at Alec Reed Academy Community Sports Centre built in 2008.

There are also climbing facilities in neighbouring boroughs, including the popular climbing centre at Westway Sports Centre, one of the best facilities in London. There are also climbing walls at Brunel University Sports Centre, Harrow Leisure Centre and Heathlands School in Hounslow.

There are no future plans to build new climbing walls in Ealing due to the supply within the borough and in neighbouring boroughs, but a new entry level climbing concept is becoming increasingly popular; Clip and Climb is suitable for everyone from 4 years upwards and is a fun introduction to the sport of climbing; almost all new sport and leisure centres are offering this type of facility as its popular with families and provides a different way of engaging inactive families to become more active. This type of facility will be considered as part of the redevelopment of Gurnell Leisure Centre.

Golf Facilities within Ealing and its Drive Time Catchment

Within Ealing, there are four 18-hole courses (Brent Valley, Ealing, Sudbury and West Middlesex), two 9-hole courses, (Perivale and West London Golf Centre), one pitch and putt course (at Horsenden Hill Activity Centre), three mini-golf courses (at the West London Golf Centre, Acton Park and a new course at Gunnersbury Park) and one twenty-six bay floodlit driving range

(at the West London Golf Centre). Most of these operational golf courses offer pay and play access. Community access to two facilities – the private members’ golf clubs at Ealing and Sudbury - are limited to club members and their guests.

The following sites in the borough were formerly used for golf but are not currently operational:

- Ealing Golf Driving Range, Rowdell Road, Northolt – 38 bay floodlit range and golf shop closed over 10 years ago and replaced with a health and fitness facility (Pure Gym).
- Northolt Golf Club, Huxley Close, Northolt - local authority owned former pay and play course (adjacent to Rectory Park and Northala Fields), not used for golf for 10+ years since failure of operator.
- Gunnersbury Park – 18-hole pitch and putt (on Hounslow borough boundary). A new mini golf course and café (replacing a former bowling green) and will be operated by Putt in the Park from summer 2022.

Figure 3.39: Golf Sites in Ealing

Site	Golf Facilities	Type and fees
Brent Valley Golf Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 18-hole golf course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pay and play /monthly/annual payment options ○ Green Fees - Adult weekday £19 and weekend £23: Concession £13.50 weekday and £17.50 weekends. ○ Membership DD/Annual options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 Day- DD £41.60/Annual £465.00 ○ 5 Day Concession- Annual £340.00 ○ 7 Day- DD £67.00/Annual £670.00 ○ Juniors are free with a full paying member or £8.00 PAYG without. ○ Independent golf club based at the course).

Site	Golf Facilities	Type and fees
Ealing Golf Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18-hole golf course Putting and chipping green Covered practice area (180 yards) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private members club Green Fees – Adult weekday from £30, Adult weekend £35 (members guests only), and Twilight £30. Adult full membership £2,020, weekday £1,450, and junior membership £250.
Perivale Golf Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9-hole golf course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay and Play /monthly/annual payment options. Green Fees – Adult weekday £11 and weekends £14.00: Concession £8.25. weekdays and £11.90 weekends Membership DD/Annual options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Day Adult - DD £31.00/Annual £340 5 Day concession - Annual £265. 7 Day Annual £540/DD £54.00 Juniors are free with full paying member or £5.00 PAYG without Independent golf club based at the course.
Sudbury Golf Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18-hole golf course Covered practice area Two times practice nets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Members Club Full adult membership is £1,800- and 5-day membership is from £1,400. Green fees from £30 weekday and from £60 weekend.
West London Golf Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9-hole golf course 26 floodlit driving range Putting green 18 hole Mini- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay and Play and Private Members Club 9-hole Green Fees Midweek £15 and Weekend £20 18-hole green fees (£15 super off peak -27.50 peak) Driving range (20 balls £3.50 and 100

Site	Golf Facilities	Type and fees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> golf course Soft Play facilities American Golf Store 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> balls £8.00) Mini-golf course (£8-£10 per person)
West Middlesex Golf Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18-hole golf course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Fees – Adult Weekday £20-£25, Adult Weekend £25-40, and Juniors £10. Membership - Adult 7-day Full membership £1520, Adult 5 Day Membership (Monday to Friday) £1050, Full 31-35 years - £1050, Full 26-30 Years - £780, Full 21-25 Years - £475, Full 19-20 Years - £210, Full 15-18 years - £50, 14 years and Under – Free Lifestyle Membership - £650 p.a
London Footgolf Centre (Formerly Hanger Hill Pitch and Putt)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9-hole Footgolf course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult 9 holes £8, Adult 18 holes £10, Child 9 holes £5 and Child 18 holes £6. Ball hire £1.
Horsenden Hill Activity Centre (Formerly Horsenden Hill Golf Course)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9-hole pitch and putt course 18-hole DiscGolf course 18-hole Footgolf course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FootGolf – Adults £8, Child £5, and Ball Hire £2 DiscGolf - Adults £8, Child £5 and Disc Hire £2. Pitch n Putt – Adults £4, Child £3, and Club Hire £2.
Putt in the Park – Acton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 hole Mini-golf course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult £10, Child £8, and family of 4 £30

Site	Golf Facilities	Type and fees
Park		
Putt in the Park - Gunnersbury Park	o 18-hole mini golf course and cafe	o Prices tbc. Opening Summer 2022

There is a good distribution of golf facilities that are accessible for Ealing residents either within the borough itself or within a short journey time, which can be seen in figures 2 and 3. There is less provision in the east of the borough (and no 9- or 18-hole courses), which is to be expected due to the lack of availability of land towards central London. However, from Summer 2022, the new minigolf course in Gunnersbury Park will be very accessible to Ealing residents in the south east of the borough augmenting the existing successful Putt in the Park facility in Acton Park. In addition, the 9-hole course, driving range and indoor golf facilities in Chiswick at Duke's Meadow are within 12 minutes' drive time of Gunnersbury Park.

To the north of the borough there are accessible golf facilities in Kenton Road, Harrow (Playgolf London with a 56-bay floodlit driving range and a 9-hole course) and at the Harrow School Sports Complex (9 holes). To the northwest there are facilities in reach at the Hillingdon Golf Club (9 holes). All three of these golf facilities in neighbouring boroughs are well within a 15-minute drive time of Ealing's Horsenden Hill and Sudbury golf sites (at the 2018 average speed between 0700hrs and 1900hrs in Outer London of 20mph).

To the south of the borough there are golf facilities available at Wyke Green Golf Club (18 holes) in Isleworth and in Chiswick at Dukes Meadow Golf & Tennis Centre (9-hole par 3, driving range and indoor centre). The Wyke Green course is just 8 minutes' drive time from the West Middlesex Golf Course in Ealing and the Council's Brent Valley golf course is only 11 minutes away.

The Airlinks Golf Centre in Southall Lane, Hounslow (temporarily closed until 2023) has an 18-hole course and a 20-bay floodlit range and is located within a 9-minute drive time of the West London Golf Centre in Ealing.

Conversely, the courses located towards the edge of the borough boundary (e.g. at Sudbury, the West London Golf Centre, Horsenden Hill Activity Centre) are likely to attract some 'imported' use by residents of neighbouring authorities (Brent, Hillingdon and Harrow).

Benchmarking Provision - Ealing and its Near Neighbours

Figure 4 shows how the number of venues offering traditional golf in Ealing (i.e. excluding footgolf, mini golf) compares with its neighbour local authorities.

Figure 3.40: Golf provision in Ealing and near neighbours

	Ealing	Brent	Hillingdon	Hounslow	Harrow
Driving Range	1	1	2	2	1
Par 3	0	0	0	1	1
9 or 18 hole	6	1	6	2	4
Total	7	2	8	5	6

With 6 operational standard 9-hole or 18-hole courses in Ealing offering community access, the population per course in the borough is approximately 57,000 per course. This compares very favourably with three of the four neighbouring authorities, far exceeding LB Brent (just one standard course serving a population of 328,000) and Hounslow (136,000 head of population per course). Provision for golf per capita in Ealing is also higher than in Harrow (63,000 per course) and just marginally lower than in Hillingdon which also has 6 operational standard courses (51,000 per course).

There is a good mix of entry-level short courses and more challenging

championship length courses in the supply of golf facilities in Ealing. Two of the premier clubs are reporting waiting lists. This includes Ealing Golf Club and Sudbury Golf Club. Golf was one of the first sports allowed to return following the Covid-19 pandemic, which has meant a significant increase in participation levels.

Price accessibility is good with pay and play course fees as low as £8.25 and most of the nine proprietary or member owned courses that are accessible to non-members priced for adults at between £25 and £60 for 18 holes at the weekend, less on a weekday. The majority of the clubs offer reduced rates for juniors and young adults/students, and some for elderly people.

There is only one formal practice facility in Ealing, which is the floodlit 26 bay driving range at West London Golf Centre located in Northolt. However there are additional practice facilities at a number of golf courses in the borough comprising practice putting and chipping greens and practice areas that can be used for small irons and wedges. West London Golf Centre has a range of affordable ball prices and packages for driving practice starting from just £3.50 for 20 balls.

Everyone Active operate two golf courses on behalf of Ealing Council, which include Brent Valley Golf Course and Perivale Park Golf Course. Both of these golf courses provide excellent accessibility to entry level golf for residents of Ealing and the surrounding area, as it is excellent value for money due to the extremely low green fee and membership costs, especially for London.

Brent Valley Golf Course and Perivale Golf Course have both seen significant increases in visitors since the pandemic. In June 2019, Brent Valley Golf course had 2,157 visitors whilst in June 2020 the golf course had 9,437 visitors, a 430% increase. However, the trend data in Figure 5 shows that this is atypical and almost certainly reflects the fact that golf was one of the first sports back following the first national Covid-19 lockdown. By June 2021, when restrictions remained in place for gyms and indoor sports, visitor numbers had fallen from the June 2020 peak to 4,591 visitors. There was a

similar picture for participation at Perivale Golf Course over the last two years. In June 2019, there were 1,928 visitors jumping to 9,911 in June 2020 and falling back to 5,236 in June 2021.

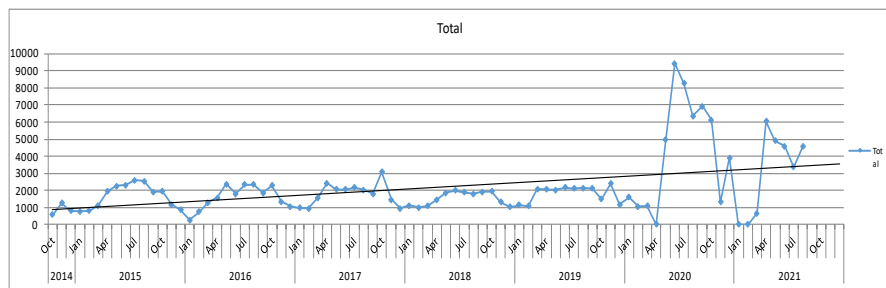
It will be important to continue to monitor participation levels to understand if the higher participation in golf stimulated by the lack of alternatives and greater available free time during the pandemic sustains in future years. The early indications suggest that participation at these two Council owed courses is likely to revert to pre-pandemic levels of approximately 2,000 visits a month to each course in the peak summer period.

A full comparison of the participation figures at Brent Valley and Perivale from 2015-2021 can be seen in figure 3.41.

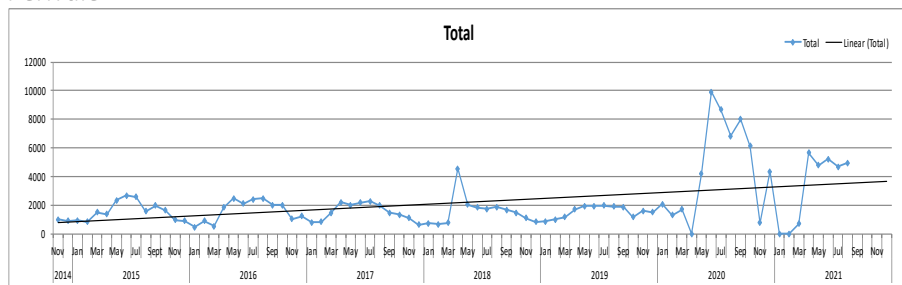
Figure 3.41: 2015-2021 golf participation figures (based on June 2015-2021)

Year	Brent Valley	Perivale
2015	2,320	2,676
2016	1,790	2,092
2017	2,047	2,168
2018	2,001	1,852
2019	2,157	1,928
2020	9,437	9,911
2021	4,591	5,236

Brent Valley



Perivale



There is also a good level of provision of informal and other formats of golf available in Ealing, including Pitch & Putt, FootGolf, and DiscGolf. Horsenden Hill Multi Sport Activity Centre is the biggest golf activity centre in Ealing offering 9 holes of Pitch & Putt, 18 holes of FootGolf, and 18 holes of DiscGolf at low cost. London Footgolf Centre at Hanger Hill Park also offer 9 holes of FootGolf. There are also two mini-golf venues in the borough, which include the 15-hole mini-golf course at Putt in the Park (Acton) and the 18-hole mini-golf course at Dinosaur Adventure Golf. In addition, a further 18-hole Putt in the Park facility is opening shortly in Gunnersbury Park on the Hounslow borough boundary. These less formal types of golf provision attract a much more diverse user base than traditional golf courses.

Quality of Golf Facilities in Ealing

During the development of this strategy, the Consultant Team undertook non-technical visual site visits at each of the golf facilities in the borough. Each golf facility was given a quality rating from very poor to very good. These ratings can be seen below in figure 3.42.

Figure 3.42 Quality of Golf Facilities in Ealing

Golf Facilities	Quality Rating	Comments or Issues
Brent Valley Golf Course	Standard to Good (3-4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The course offers 18 holes (par 67) with a range of par 4's and 3's. There are no par 5s onsite and many of the holes are straight with only offering challenges of hazards e.g., bunkers and trees. Everyone Active noted that there are few complaints regarding the quality of the course. The main issue members have is the fact that members of the public walk across the course (with dogs). There are currently some issues with anti-social behaviour. Everyone Active are in discussions with the Council concerning the installation of a gated system.
Ealing Golf Course	Very Good (5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One issue is that the course sits within a flood plain (River Brent). The course usually closes 5-8 times a year because of this. However, in 2021 (a wet year) the course closed more than 12 times, which is far more than normal. Ealing Golf Club currently has around 650 members, which includes 60 ladies and 40 juniors with approximately 25 people on the

Golf Facilities	Quality Rating	Comments or Issues
		waiting list.
Perivale Golf Course	Standard (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perivale Golf Course offers 9 holes at excellent value. The course is very flat and offers a very limited selection of hole types although it incorporates some hazards, including trees and bunkers.
Sudbury Golf Course	Very Good (5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sudbury Golf Course is a premier 18-hole course in the north of the borough, which offers an excellent golf course to members. No issues identified. Sudbury Golf Club currently has around 700 members with a very small junior and women's section. The club are looking to grow these numbers.
West London Golf Centre	Good (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West London Golf Centre offers the best practice facilities within the borough. The course is a 9-hole par 36 golf course in good condition. There are a number of different holes with various challenges, including obstacles e.g., bunkers, lakes, trees.
West Middlesex Golf Course	Good to Very Good (4-5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The West Middlesex Golf course used the landscape of the area well and the holes offer a variety of length, difficulty and types of hazard. West Middlesex GC has approximately 330 members. 60% of these members are 55+, 10 women and 39 juniors. These has been

Golf Facilities	Quality Rating	Comments or Issues
		gradually decreasing over time.
London Footgolf Centre (Formerly Hanger Hill Pitch and Putt)	Poor to Standard (2-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Footgolf Centre is a small 9-hole FootGolf course at the rear of Hanger Hill Park. The two buildings used by the centre are in poor condition and will need to be redeveloped or replaced to bring them up to modern standards.
Horsenden Hill Activity Centre (Formerly Horsenden Hill Golf Course)	Poor to Standard (2-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formerly a standard golf course, the site was re-modeled in 2017 as a multi-sport activity centre following the failure of the golf course operator. The golf facilities now provided are disc golf, footgolf (most popular) and pitch & putt. There is also an event space with inflatable play features (e.g. Dartboard, Archery, Obstacle Course and a small sided football pitch). The site attracts a more much more diverse mix of users than the former golf course. The main building is in very poor condition and will need to be redeveloped or replaced to bring it up to modern standards.
Putt in the Park – Acton Park	Standard to good (3-4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putt in the Park operates this well-presented mini golf facility as one of several similar park based fun entry-level golf facilities across London.

In terms of the quality of the supply, the 'Golfshake' website⁶ provides online customer reviews; the following figure shows quality ratings for formal golf courses in Ealing. The overall review scores are averaged from individual scores for factors including quality of course, facilities and services, course condition, pace of play, food and drink, practice facilities and value for money. The review ratings in Figure 7 show that, at all six standard golf venues in Ealing, over 95% of players that submitted reviews would play them again or recommend the venue to others.

Overall ratings from the player reviews submitted range from between 3.32/5 (Brent Valley) and 3.51/5 (Perivale) - pay and play courses - up to 4.49/5 and 4.41/5 at the members clubs (Sudbury and Ealing respectively) which, generally, are maintained to a higher quality and offer better changing and catering amenities. The quality of the members' courses in Ealing compares favourably to comparator venues in other boroughs as shown below.

Figure 3.43: Online Ratings of Ealing Golf Courses and Comparators

Club	Rating out of 5	% Would Play Again or Recommend	Sample of Reviews
Ealing Golf Facilities			
Brent Valley Golf Course	3.32	98%	304
Ealing Golf Course	4.41	96%	86
Perivale Golf Course	3.51	95%	73
Sudbury Golf Course	4.49	100%	87
West London Golf Centre	3.66	100%	59
West Middlesex Golf Course	4.08	98%	132
London Comparators			
Harrow Hill Golf Course	3.80	-	4
Metro Golf Centre	3.22	100%	19

⁶ www.Golfshake.com

Club	Rating out of 5	% Would Play Again or Recommend	Sample of Reviews
Hendon Golf Club	3.90	94%	94
Stanmore Golf Club	4.43	100%	204
Richmond Park Golf Course	3.53	95%	41
Wyke Green Golf Club	3.83	96%	92
Highgate Golf Club	4.31	100%	28

Source: www.Golfshake.com (October 2021)

Note: Golfshake course ratings not listed for Putt in the Park or Footgolf courses.

Online Google reviews for London Footgolf are very favourable (4.9/5 from sample of 95). Acton Putt in the Park also has positive Google reviews (4.5/5 from sample of 797).

Golf Participation

In terms of demand, the most recent Active Lives Survey findings⁷ (figure 8) indicate broadly stable levels of adult demand nationally (from a quite low base) between 2015 (the first year in which survey results are available) and 2019 (the last full year before the pandemic). This follows many years of slow decline in participation in the sport.

Figure 3.44: Adult Golf Participation Trend

Active Lives Survey Year	Adults (aged 16+) in England who have taken part in GOLF at least twice in the last 28 days (%)
May 2015 - May 2016	2.2%
May 2016 - May 2017	2.2%
May 2017 - May 2018	2.1%
May 2018 - May 2019	2.1%
May 2019 - May 2020	1.9%
May 2020 - May 2021	1.5%

Source: Sport England Active Lives Adult Survey

⁷ Active Lives Adult Survey May 20/21 Report, Sport England (October 2021)

The Active Lives Survey golf participation findings are supported by the main industry source of golf participation data, annual participation reports for golf in European countries produced by KPMG's Golf Advisory Practice. Similarly, KPMG's report finds that the golf market had largely stabilised over the four years to 2019 after many years of decline. KPMG's 2019 report found that the number of registered golfers in England fell by 1.63% between 2018 and 2019. This decrease broadly aligns with the Active Lives Survey participation findings.

However, it is clear that the sport experienced something of a resurgence in participation when the pandemic lockdown restrictions eased (for golf and tennis only initially). An analysis carried out by Shot Scope found a 40% increase in popularity since lockdown began in March 2020, with the public taking up the sport from home and out on courses when lockdown eased. This is reinforced locally in Ealing through the waiting lists at Ealing Golf Course and Sudbury Golf Courses, and the increased participation at Perivale Golf Course and Brent Valley Golf Course in 2020.

Another key source of golf market research is Sports Marketing Surveys Incorporated (SMS Inc.). This organisation monitors changes in the average monthly rounds per course at a large sample of golf courses across the United Kingdom on a quarterly basis. The SMS Inc. findings show that, subject to weather patterns, the average monthly rounds per course reach a peak of approximately 3,000 rounds/month in the peak months of July and August and fall to around 1,000 rounds/month in November to February (pre-pandemic data).

It is clear from the data collected by Everyone Active for the Perivale and Brent Valley courses that peak visitor numbers pre-pandemic was around 2,000 a month - i.e. about a third below the national average course visitor rates found by Sports Marketing Surveys.

England Golf Initiatives

In terms of golf development initiatives, England Golf are promoting a number of targeted programmes working with its affiliated membership clubs and other operators to address some of the key barriers to growing golf demand that were identified in market research commissioned to inform its current strategy, Growing the Game of Golf in England 2017-2021 and The Children and Young People's Plan for Golf 2017-2021.

The focus of this work is to identify the make-up of the golfing market around individual clubs (i.e., market profiling), and to provide support to operators to proactively target under-represented audiences (the young, women and girls, ethnic minorities) by offering, shorter and less formal forms of the game and making it easier to book with more flexible payment options.

Alongside these types of initiatives, England Golf and the Golf Foundation are also encouraging clubs to offer more low-cost opportunities for beginners to learn to play and to offer quicker, short 6-hole team competition formats (such as Golf Sixes), initiatives to attract more girls into golf (Girls Golf Rocks) as well as introducing complementary fun games to golf courses that have the potential to attract new and younger audiences (such as Footgolf). As a borough, Ealing has responded very positively to these initiatives with the opening of Putt in the Park facilities in Acton Park (and shortly in Gunnersbury Park), the development of multi-sport golf opportunities at Horsenden Hill Activity Centre and supporting the opening of the London Footgolf facility in Hanger Hill Park. Commercial entry level pay and play golf centres have also come on stream in recent years in the drive time catchment area to Ealing by operators such as Playgolf in Harrow with its new adventure golf courses opened in 2020.

Consultation

During the development of the Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy, the Consultant Team engaged with a number of Ealing based golf clubs. This

includes:

- Horsenden Hill Activity Centre would like to explore the opportunity to obtain a longer-term lease (currently on a rolling lease with the Council).
- Horsenden Hill Activity Centre would like to explore the opportunity to replace the existing building with a new facility (including a sports hall, party rooms and soft play) to build a year-round business.
- Sudbury Golf Club want to look at developing a roof terrace on the current clubhouse.
- Ealing Golf Club aspire to be a premier club, accessible to all in the community.
- Everyone Active noted that the main issue at Brent Valley is trespassers on the course and people using the car park out of hours.

In addition, the Consultant Team also engaged with The Golf Foundation and England Golf during the development of this strategy.

The regional development lead for The Golf Foundation responsible for Middlesex confirmed that The Golf Foundation is not currently engaged in any projects or working with any of the clubs in the borough. The Foundation focuses its available resources on a largely reactive basis providing advice and support to individual clubs with marketing and promotion initiatives and other facility management issues largely on a reactive basis in response to approaches made by course operators.

England Golf is the governing body most directly engaged in golf facility development and strategic planning. The Club Support Manager for Middlesex was consulted for this review. The key points were:

Golf Summary

In summary, the key findings of the review of golf facilities in Ealing that inform the conclusions reached as to current and future golf facility needs and the strategic facility recommendations are as follows:

- Golf participation nationally and the numbers of pay and play golf course users in the borough have declined over recent years albeit with a sharp demand spike in late summer 2020 and in 2021 following relaxation of restrictions on playing golf (but not most other sports activities) post the Covid 19 national lockdowns.
- The most recent Sport England Active Lives Survey shows that just 1.5% of adults (aged 16+) in England play golf regularly (down from 2.2% five years ago). In contrast, regular walking for leisure has increased in popularity by more than 10% over the same period (from 41.2% in 2016/17 to 52.5% in 2020/21) - i.e. over half the adult population. Cycling for leisure and sport has also grown in popularity over this period from 16.4% of 16+ year olds in England cycling regularly now compared to 14.5% five years ago.
- Declining demand for traditional golf course facilities is also shown by the number of courses which have over recent years changed to address growing demand for popular golf-related games such as footgolf, discgolf, adventure golf (e.g. Putt in the Park) and introduced event spaces and/or play facilities with a wider family appeal.
- At the same time as falling demand at the two traditional pay and play courses in the borough in Perivale Park and Brent Valley, there has been growing competition from new or upgraded venues on the London fringe accessible to residents with access to a car. These include Metro Golf at Barnet Copthall in Hendon and The Shire London Golf Club on the outskirts of Barnet and the revamped Playgolf London Centre in Watford Road, Harrow which added two nine hole 'Putt Crazy' adventure golf courses and other upgrades at a cost of £1.5m in 2020.
- In addition to commercial innovations impacting on the need for the traditional municipal courses at Perivale Park and Brent Valley, private

members' golf clubs are now accessible to non-members on a pay and play basis. This change has been forced upon members' clubs to shore up revenue in a shrinking market. This change has also reduced demand for park pay and play courses which, generally, are maintained to a lower standard and offer fewer features of interest.

- The growth in the range and availability of competing sport and recreational activities has also contributed to the decline in demand for playing 18 holes of golf. This and the changing nature of people's involvement in sport and exercise – notably the pressure on available free time - are such that many former golfers now participate in an activity that takes up less of their spare time such as cycling or walking for leisure or other health and fitness related activities either outdoors or indoors.
- The cost to upkeep courses and ancillary facilities to a high quality are constantly rising, especially those like Brent Valley and the West Middlesex that are crossed by public rights of way and therefore open (unfenced) and susceptible to wear and tear and to acts of vandalism.
- All these demand, supply and cost factors combine to make the sustainability of 'standalone' public pay and play golf courses increasingly challenging without ancillary revenue positive facilities, typically (in the commercial golf sector) health and fitness studios, event/conference facilities or hotel accommodation.

Golf Conclusions and Recommendations

In conclusion, the priority need in the short term is to protect those public pay and play golf facilities in the borough with the widest appeal and to improve their quality. Priority enhancements identified are the ancillary changing and clubhouses at both Horsenden Hill Activity Centre and The London Footgolf Centre at Hanger Hill. Installation of gated access to the car park at Brent Valley Golf Course should also be prioritised to reduce instances of vandalism out of hours.

In light of the reduced demand for golf and changes in the sports and leisure landscape, it will also be important for the Council and its partners to continue to plan to adapt the supply of publicly owned golf course land and facilities as necessary to ensure the long term financial sustainability of a core supply of golf operations whilst maximising the potential of these valuable community assets to achieve improved health and wellbeing outcomes for residents.

In light of these conclusions, the following recommendations are made along with prioritised actions:

Figure 3.45: Golf Facility Recommendations

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council to continue to protect through planning policies the availability of a core supply of golf facilities - both traditional courses and entry-level - where these address most community need and are financially sustainable. ○ To ensure that operational golf sites in the Council's ownership continue to be maintained to a good quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consider a proportionate, and cost-effective measures to reduce the number of trespassers at Brent Valley Golf Course and West Middlesex Golf Course. ○ Provide a locked gate at Brent Valley Golf Course to reduce the anti-social behaviour occurring in the current car park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consider with a commercial partner the provision of Pitch & Putt at Hanger Hill to broaden appeal, improve financial sustainability and justify investment in permanent club building. ○ Consider alternative outdoor sports and recreational facility options for the former, long disused golf course area and buildings

Protect	Enhance	Provide
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Replace the current buildings at the Horsenden Hill Activity Centre and the pre-fabs at Hanger Hill London FootGolf Centre. ○ Sudbury Golf Club to explore the opportunities to extend and develop a roof terrace within the clubhouse (Club led). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ in Northolt that complement the adjacent outdoor facilities at Rectory Park and Northala Fields. ○ Council to engage with local residents and users on a review of golf course facilities in the borough to achieve wider appeal and improve financial sustainability.

Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council to engage with local residents and users on a review of golf course facilities in the borough to achieve wider appeal and improve financial sustainability. 		<p>Longer Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sudbury Golf Club to explore the opportunities to extend and develop a roof terrace within the clubhouse (Club led). ○ Assess the feasibility and opportunity to redevelop Horsenden Hill Activity Centre main building to include a sports hall, party rooms and soft play to build a year-round business. ○ Consider provision of Pitch & Putt at Hanger Hill to broaden appeal, improve financial sustainability and justify investment in a permanent club building.

Prioritised Actions

Short Term (1-2 years)

- Provide a locked gate at Brent Valley Golf Course to reduce the anti-social behaviour occurring in the current car park.
- Consider any available, proportionate, and cost-effective measures to reduce the number of trespasses at Brent Valley Golf Course and West Middlesex Golf Course.
- Ealing Council to review and finalise the lease arrangements with the operator of the Horsenden Hill Activity Centre.
- Consider alternative outdoor sports and recreational facility options for the former Northolt golf course and buildings in Huxley Close that complement the adjacent outdoor sports and recreation facilities at Rectory Park and Northala Fields.

Judo

Within Ealing there are two prominent judo clubs, Ealing Judo Club (129 registered British Judo Members) and Alpha Judo Club (201 members), as well as a new club recently affiliated Mojo Dojo (21 members).

Both Ealing Judo club and Alpha Judo Club are operating at full capacity based upon the numbers they can accommodate in their current venues. There is a definite demand for additional provision by expanding these existing clubs rather than starting new clubs. Both clubs have school outreach programmes and would benefit from having purpose built permanent judo facilities.

Ealing Judo Club has been working with the local authority to try and secure a permanent dojo, to allow them to operate a full-time provision, as well as expanding the club’s mat space and provide changing provision. They have explored a number of different potential venues but have yet to find a suitable option.

Their current facility at West Acton Community Centre is very run down, has insufficient space and lacks any changing facilities or any facilities for spectators and limits the club’s ability to encourage new members.

associated timescale for potential development as the Council sets out their plan to address the priority needs for sport in Ealing.

Judo		
Protect	Enhance	Provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council to continue to protect the current quantity and availability of community facilities for judo through planning policy and, in liaison with the local clubs, seek to ensure the facilities are to be maintained to a good quality standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To assess the feasibility, costs and funding strategy to support the development of a permanent dojo in the borough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly review facility needs for judo and other martial arts in the borough with the leisure management service provider, and clubs based in the borough and British Judo in relation to changes in accessible supply, participation trends and population growth.
<p>Prioritised Actions</p> <p>Short Term (1-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to feasibility, funding and planning, support the development of a permanent dojo in the borough either as a standalone facility or as part of a multi sport facility. <p>Longer Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		

Summary

This section has highlighted a notable number of facility investment needs for the Council and partners bringing together the analysis, consultation and assessment work. The borough with a very strong history of supporting sport and leisure and commitment to improving levels of physical activity and health for its residents has some important and key decisions to make over the coming years. The priority projects arising out of this strategy and outline capital costs indications are presented in Section 4 with the



Section 4 – Action Plan

Section 4 – Action Plan

This section of the strategy provides an outline draft delivery plan related to the potential priority projects and facility needs for sport and recreation as set out in the previous section.

The likely investment needs and costs identified within this section should serve only as a guide at this stage. A number of project proposals within the strategy are subject to design and cost analysis and for some projects feasibility testing and options appraisals.

Where possible the Consultant Team has used Sport England cost guidelines from Sport England’s Design guidance.

Check and update

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4.1 Short Term Priorities and Actions

Project and Sport	Description	Cost and Funding Considerations
Sports Halls – Education Sites	Investigate options to increase the hours of community use for Sports Halls on education sites, particularly in the Acton area.	
Health & Fitness – Featherstone Sports Centre	Support Featherstone SC in assessing the feasibility to replace and refurbish the health and fitness facility.	
Health & Fitness – Additional provision	Assess the demand and feasibility of replacing or expanding the health and fitness provision as part of the Gurnell Leisure Centre and/or Dormers Well Leisure Centre to accommodate new demand from housing and population growth.	
Squash – Enhancing provision	Sports clubs and the NGB to consider the refurbishment needs for the squash courts at both the Actonians Sports Club and Osterley Health and Wellbeing Centre.	
Squash – Replacement provision	Ensure two squash courts are provided as part of the housing development on the Ealing Squash Club site, as per planning procedure.	Developer funded
Gymnastics – Perivale Community Centre	Refurbish the Perivale community centre studio used by West London Gymnastics.	
Gymnastics – Education Sites	Assess the opportunity to run more community gymnastics sessions out of the borough’s schools or leisure centres (to complement the current offer).	
Athletics – Education sites	Investigate the feasibility to open up facilities on school sites at The Japanese School and West Twyford Primary School.	
Tennis – Ealing LTC	Refurbishment of Ealing Lawn Tennis Club’s indoor courts (airhall).	
Tennis – West Middlesex LTC	West Middlesex Lawn Tennis club development of two hard courts into artificial clay courts and the replacement of the floodlights on 5 of the courts (club led).	
Tennis – Enhancing Park provision	Assess the feasibility of refurbishing and implement the LTA gated system at park sites (3 courts at Churchfield Recreation Ground, 2 courts at Ravenor Park, 2 courts at Spikes Bridge and the 2 courts at Wolf Fields.)	
Tennis – Elthorne Park	Support the implementation of the LTA gated system at Elthorne Park.	
Netball – Elthorne Sports Centre	If possible, provide netball posts for Elthorne Sports Centre to enable use of the newly refurbished Court 3.	Court reconstruction £35,000 per court estimate from LTA (similar surface)
Cycling – Gurnell Leisure Centre	Ensure the Gurnell BMX track is re-provided as part of the overall leisure development of Gurnell Leisure Centre.	
Bowls	Review key grounds where the council maintenance needs to be improved.	

4.2 Medium / Long Term Priorities and Actions

Project and Sport	Description	Cost and Funding Considerations
Swimming - New pool provision	Re-development of Gurnell Swimming pool	
Swimming - New pool provision	Replacement of Dormers Wells Leisure Centre	
Swimming - New pool provision	Identify location(s) for new swimming pool facilities in areas of unmet demand	
Sports hall – New provision	Identify location(s) for new sports hall facilities in areas of unmet demand	
Health & Fitness – Additional provision	Assess the demand and feasibility of replacing or expanding the health and fitness provision as part of the Gurnell Leisure Centre and/or Dormers Well Leisure Centre.	
Health & Fitness – Women only provision	Re-provide a women’s only gym at Dormers Wells Leisure Centre	
Squash – Additional provision	Consider options for providing more squash courts in Ealing	
Judo – Dedicated facility	Assess the feasibility of securing a new dojo for Ealing	
Gymnastics – Dedicated facility	Subject to feasibility, funding and planning, support the development of a purpose-built gymnastics/trampolining facility in the borough	
Athletics – Spikes Bridge	Investigate improvements needed to the Active Track at Spikes Bridge	
Athletics – Perivale Athletic Track	Refurbish track as per maintenance schedule	Retexture costs £90,000 Line marking £9,000 UKA estimates.
Tennis – West Middlesex LTC	Assess the feasibility of providing a Airhall for two courts at West Middlesex Lawn Tennis Club (Club led)	
Tennis – Padel provision	Explore the opportunity to provide Padel provision at Lammas Park and/or alternative sites e.g., Pitshanger Park Bowls facility.	
Netball – Elthorne Sports Centre	Assess the feasibility of refurbishing courts 1 and 2 at Elthorne Sports Centre to improve the quality of the site for netball.	
Cycling – Increasing participation	Train more volunteer cycle leaders (road and off-road) including female leaders and improve marking and promotion of more off-road routes.	



Section 5 - Summary

Section 5 - Summary

5.1 Summary

Ealing has made a significant investment in sport and leisure facilities over the last 10 years or so, creating a real legacy from the London 2012 Games for Ealing, whilst improving accessibility to key sports facilities and encouraging people to start and stay active.

The Council plays an enabling role in developing better quality facilities by engaging and enabling community organisations through the asset transfer process to independently manage and operate facilities funded through partnerships with Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport as well as other funding organisations.

The growing population and ageing facilities put pressures on the current facility stock and means a notable number of opportunities exist for continued investment in built sports facilities within the borough.

The primary needs are to protect the overall quantity, maintain the quality and secure availability to the wider community of the existing supply of sports facilities. The majority of the sports halls, which are located on school or college sites need to be utilised further for community sport.

The analysis from Sport England's Facilities Planning Model swimming pools report shows that a high level of Ealing's demand for pools in 2031 can be met by the supply which includes the two new proposed pool facilities, and therefore investment priorities, are the redevelopment of Gurnell Leisure Centre and the replacement of the current Dormers Wells Leisure Centre.

Football and Cricket remain popular team sports for Ealing residents and the borough continues to play a very important role in providing winter and summer grass sports pitches for local clubs to use. Ealing continues to

provide for its residents and sports clubs, vital facilities for recreational and competitive sport.

As the country and the public sector, as a key provider of these essential services for leisure and physical activity, begins to recover from the pandemic, the role physical activity has taken on becomes an even more integral part of the health of the nation. Investment into the health and wellbeing of the Council's residents will be impacted very positively by the investment priorities highlighted within this part of the Indoor and Outdoor Strategy. However, the council faces a number of challenges with the changing nature of the industry, the cost-of-living crisis and the need to ensure environmental sustainability, all of which need to be managed as part of the process of planning for future investment needs.

The Council has always recognised and must continue to do so, despite the on-going challenges, the importance of investing in accessible and sustainable community sports facilities which play a critical role in providing activities and opportunities for Ealing's residents.