Breckland Council

Evidence Base for Indoor and Built Sports and Recreational Facilities

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1.1 In August 2016 Breckland Council commissioned naa to produce an evidence base for indoor sports and recreational facilities. The evidence base requirement is to set out the current and future requirements for indoor sports and recreational facilities across Breckland 2016 – 2031. The application of this evidence base will be used by the Council to inform its Infrastructure Delivery Plan which, in turn, will form part of the Council's new Local Plan. It will also provide a stand-alone document in its own right.

1.2 The evidence base has been developed for six facility types. These being, swimming pools, sports halls, indoor bowling centres, indoor tennis centres, health and fitness (gyms) and squash courts. The Council decided to apply the Sport England facility planning model (fpm) in the future assessment of need for swimming pools and sports halls. This is because of the significance of these facility types in providing for the majority of indoor sports and physical activity participation as evidence by part 1 of the study?.

1.3 The fpm assessment included options to change the supply of both swimming pools and sports halls up to 2031. This is based on findings identified in the stage 1 assessment. In effect it modeled options for both changing and increasing the supply of both facility types.

1.4 . This evidence base report does also provide an assessment of need for AGPs as at 2016, so there is a baseline assessment.

1.5 The reasons for not progressing the AGP assessment as part of this project are for several reasons. Full size artificial grass pitches are increasingly part of the sports provision for schools and colleges. AGPs are an adaptable facility type providing for one match use over the whole pitch, or, sub division of the pitch to allow for three smaller playing areas. They provide for intensive use of up to 20 games a week, so long as the pitch surface is maintained and replaced every 8 – 10 years, depending on levels of use.

1.6 All hockey competitions are now played on artificial grass. Most importantly the Football Association (FA) has developed a strategy to eventually transfer all affiliated football at the local level onto 3g artificial surface pitches. This will create a significant increase in the demand for 3g pitches. So understanding the needs in Breckland to accommodate this change in use and the implications for use of the other surface artificial grass pitches is very important**.**

1.7 Given all these inter related issues, Breckland Council decided not to examine the future provision for AGPs within this study. It is recommended that this work in undertaking via a Playing Pitch Strategy which will consider the needs of all pitch sports and all types of pitch provision and surfaces.

Further background and context to the development of the evidence base

1.8 For the development of the evidence base up to 2031, Breckland Council decided it wished to apply the Sport England Facilities Planning Model (fpm) in the future assessment of need or swimming pools and sports halls up to 2031. The reasons being;

- Swimming pools and sports halls, based on Sport England research, account for between 60% - 70% of the total indoor sports and physical activity participation at the community level. Consequently there is considerably more research and

data on trends and profile of participation for these two most important facility types.

- They represent the largest investment in indoor sports facilities by the Council through the PFI projects at Breckland Leisure Centre and Waterworld and Dereham Leisure Centre. Consequently understanding the future needs for these two important facilities and potential further need for swimming pools and sports halls across the authority is very important;

- The population of Breckland is projected to increase from 135,832 people in 2016 to 149,769 people by 2031. This population increase, the scale and location of the new residential settlements and are important factors in the needs assessment. Does the existing supply meet the future demand? Or, is there an increase in demand sufficient to consider additional provision either at the existing locations. or elsewhere?

- Swimming pools are genuinely the only cradle to grave sports facility type. The participation rate and frequency of participation is spread across all age bands and both genders. It is one of few indoor sports facilities where female participation is higher than for males. Also swimming pools do provide for more family based activity than other facility types. It is also a facility type that is about physical activity and swimming for a health and active lifestyle benefit, as well as swimming as a sports activity. Finally learning to swim is a national curriculum requirement for children (up to key stage 2), so as to develop a safety skill for life. For all these reasons assessing the future need for swimming pools based on the current provision and projected growth in Breckland is important

- Sports halls have a wide age range of participants with the main participation in the 16 – 44 age range. They provide for 12 or more individual court or racket sports as well as for martial arts and exercise and fitness classes. Participation is higher amongst males but use of sports halls for exercise and fitness classes' appeals more to women. The peak period is extending to include recreational sports and low impact exercise classes from an increasing elderly population who prefer day time activity and cannot access education venues during the day. For all these reasons it is again important to understand the future needs for sports halls

1.9 Village halls are not included in the evidence base but they do provide for a range of indoor community and physical activities that are not provided by formal indoor sports facilities. They are therefore an additional local community resource to the formal indoor sports facilities.

1.10 Village halls tend to be available to the community on a widely accessible basis, usually by booking through the hall owners/managers, often Parish Councils or village hall management committees. Studies in a number of authorities have identified different approaches to needs assessments for village halls.

1.11 South Somerset DC has adopted a standard of one small hall for every 250 people. Conversely, South Cambridgeshire DC in a study in 2010 adopted a guideline of 111m^2 per 1000 people. In Central Bedfordshire, a more recent study in 2013 adopted a standard of provision in accordance with current supply of 180m^2 per 1000 people. This is considerably higher than in other studies, but takes into account all types 'community' halls, such as uniformed organisations and church venues, not just those with the title village hall.

1.12 From a local community perspective most rural communities ideally require a convenient and safe access to a good standard building, for a variety of community, sporting and physical activities.

1.13 In terms of sporting and physical activity, village halls are most usually used for carpet bowls, table tennis and badminton. They are however extensively used for dance and exercise classes as well as for martial arts. Village halls make their biggest contribution in providing a very local and accessible venue for village residents of all ages to participate with other residents, in casual and informal recreation and physical activity. Village halls are a valuable local resource in developing and maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle for residents.

1.14 An often held view is that the size, age and quality of the building, in terms of lighting or floor surface can be a barrier for sport and physical activity use of village halls. Studies in the local areas mentioned have shown this not to be the case. Residents and the activities adapt to the qualities of the building. Barriers are more likely to be competing activities for use of the building at the same time. Also finding enough residents to commit to say a 6 week programme of keep fit classes, so as to enable an instructor to be booked.

1.15 Village halls should be considered as an additional local resource and facility for sporting and physical activity. In that way they are additional and complementary to the formal assessment of the need and provision for indoor sports halls #

Evidence base content, Appendices and sequence of reporting

1.16 This report is the overarching evidence base report. It sets out

- Section 2 – Planning context for Breckland – corporate and development planning. Population change, participation and non-participation in sport and physical activity
- Section 3 - Assessing Needs and Opportunities for each sports facility type – the methodology and its application
- Section 4 – Planning Framework and Delivery under the headings of protect, enhance and provide for each of the facility types.

1.17 There are three appendices and these are::

- Appendix 1 Audit and assessment for each of six facility type. This is the full audit and assessment report for each facility type.
- Appendix 2: Sport England facility planning model report for swimming pools
- Appendix 3: Sport England facility planning model report for sports halls

1.18 Appendix 1 - the audit and assessment - applies the Sport England methodology, Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (ANOG) for all the facility types. This Appendix can also be applied in the development of feasibility studies, in matching the needs assessment to a long-term core and viable business case with a procurement route for a particular project. Appendix 1 can also be used to inform the strategic and corporate planning work of Breckland Council, in the role indoor sports facilities play in contributing to an active and healthy lifestyle for Breckland residents.

1.19 Appendices 2 – 3 are free standing reports on the application of the Sport England facility planning model assessment of need for swimming pools and sports halls. The methodology applied in the fpm assessments are also consistent with Sport England's ANOG guidance, also the National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 73 – 74) on the development of local assessments of need for sporting and recreational facilities. The fpm findings have been integrated into both this report and Appendix 1.

2: Planning Context for Breckland

2.1 This section sets out:

- The Breckland strategic, corporate and development planning context for the study;
- The current and projected changes in population in Breckland 2015 – 2031 and the impact on the demand for indoor sports facilities; and
- Trends in participation and non-participation in sport and physical activity for Breckland, East Region and England wide.

2.2 These findings provide the overall planning context for the sports facilities assessment.

National and local development planning

2.3 The national planning context for the project is the National Planning Policy Framework (NPFF). The key paragraphs from the NPPF which apply to the project are:

- Section 8 which sets out national planning policy on 'Promoting healthy communities'. Within this section at paragraphs 73 and 74 the NPPF states that:
  - *Paragraph 73 - Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required"*
- Paragraph 74 - 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.

Planning framework and standards

2.4 For many years, certainly since before Planning Policy Guidance Note on Sport, Open Space and Recreation was first produced in 1991, the 'standards' approach has been a fundamental part of planning and delivering future facility provision, on the basis of a per head level of provision e.g. 6 acres of recreational open space per 1000 people and more recently x m2 of sports hall space per 1,000 population.

2.5 This enabled an easy-to-calculate method of delivery, but was inflexible, difficult to manage and implement and generally ineffective in securing funding for indoor sports and recreational facilities. More recent advice contained in the NPPF and from Sport England in the ANOG in 2014 is leading towards a new system based on a local needs assessment identifying future requirements allied to the population and sports participation in any particular area.

2.6 This new system is derived from evidence of need, thorough assessment and consultation with stakeholders.

Sport England: Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance

2.7 In July 2014 Sport England published the Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (ANOG). The guidance is intended to provide a recommended approach to developing an evidence base for indoor and built sports and recreational facilities at the community level.

2.8 It replaced the withdrawn PPG 17 "Assessing needs and opportunities: a companion guide to PPG17" (DCLG, 2001) and provides guidance on how to deliver the NPPF at the local level. ANOG, focuses on the practicalities of producing a clear and robust assessment to help develop and apply local planning policy. The approach has been developed so that it can be tailored to apply to a range of sports facilities. All of these are included in the Breckland project and the work adopts and applies the ANOG guidance.

Breckland Local Plan

2.9 Breckland is currently preparing a new Local Plan to cover the period 2011 – 2036. To date the council has completed an Issues and Options Consultation (November 2014), a Preferred Directions Consultation (January 2016) and a Preferred Site Options and Settlement Boundaries Consultation (September 2016). The Council is preparing a Pre Submission Consultation for publication in the spring of 2017

2.10 The responses to the Preferred Directions consultation in terms of the scope of the evidence base for indoor sports and recreational facilities project brief are summarized as (key issues highlighted, not necessarily each and every comment)

- *Greater Norwich Projects Team*: A greater focus on indoor sports provision would also be welcomed. The plan refers to an audit of all open space provision identifying deficiencies which are proposed to be addressed through the plan but we have not found mention of the provision of indoor sports facilities. We are aware of local concerns regarding the capacity of facilities in nearby Wymondham that may be worsened by increased growth not only in Wymondham itself, but also in Attleborough and some of the LSCs. It is therefore important that the need for and supply of indoor sports facilities is addressed in the Breckland Local Plan, and assessing the potential impact of cross boundary use of existing facilities.

- *Attleborough Town Council: Lack* of policy regarding sports and leisure/ informal open space. Planning policies should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the needs for open space, sport & recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.

- *What Watton Wants:* Watton is completely restricted with its sports facilities due to the PFI arrangement with its exclusion zone which prevents Breckland Council

from supporting any competing activity within 10 miles of their facilities for further 22 years. It would bring more people into Watton from the surrounding villages to use the facilities.

2.11 These responses to the Preferred Directions Consultation have been considered in the development and compilation of the evidence base for indoor sports and recreational facilities.

2.12 In 2008 Breckland Council commissioned Parkwood Leisure Services Consultancy to undertake a study and prepare a Leisure Facility Analysis report on the provision for outdoor and indoor sports and leisure facilities. The project scope included, playing pitches, artificial grass pitches, swimming pools and sports halls. It focused on a market assessment of current and future demand in each of the five main settlements.

2.13 This study and its findings has now been overtaken in terms of methodology for needs assessments, as set out in the NPPF, plus the scale of future residential development across the authority. Furthermore, the age of the study means it would not meet Sport England's guidance on the need for such strategies to be produced every three years for playing pitches

2.14 The Breckland Local Plan Part 1 Preferred Directions (December 20015) Preferred Policy ENV 4 is about open space sport and recreation. It describes the existing provision and responses to the issues and options consultation. It then describes the preferred policy direction (pages 96 – 98). The content is about open space and recreational open space for outdoor sports. The policy does not refer to policies for indoor sports and recreational facilities. The evidence base developed for this project provides the basis for development of planning polices for indoor sports and recreational provision.

2.15 This evidence base report covers the period 2016 – 2031. The reason being that projecting changes in the supply of sports facilities of closures, new commitments and modernisation of existing venues becomes much more challenging the longer the time period. Changes in supply not just openings and closures but also major modernisations can very much influence the spatial distribution of demand.

2.16 Also, the demand for facilities and rates of participation do change. Table 2.2 below sets out how the rate of adult participation, based on the Sport England and Active People benchmark measure of adult once a week participation has changed in Breckland over the 2015 – 2016 period, along with East Region and national comparisons. This table shows the scale of these changes over this period. This table illustrates the challenges of projecting changes in participation in the future and over too long a time period.

2.17 For these reasons of changes in supply and demand/participation Sport England consider it is prudent to develop an evidence base for no more than a ten to fifteen year period. Building into this assessment any known changes in supply and setting out the basis for demand/participation assessments. This evidence base is therefore based on the 2016 – 2031 period. It is recommended that the evidence base is reviewed in line with Local Plan review periods and is updated in five years' time to cover the period 2031 – 2036.

Breckland Strategic and Corporate Policy

2.18 The Council has set out its vision and priorities for the authority in the Council's Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019. The vision is that Breckland is a place of opportunity and ambition for all.

2.19 The priorities for delivery of the Council's vision are: supporting Breckland to develop and thrive; providing the right services at the right time and in the right way; developing the local economy to be vibrant with continued growth; and enabling stronger more independent communities.

2.20 Key content in the Council's Corporate Plan and which has implications for the evidence base for indoor sports facilities are set out next.

2.21 **Corporate Plan key content 1** - Breckland spans over 500 square miles. Half of the current residents live in one of the five market towns with the remainder living in rural village homes. This means that the authority has a low population density. (Summary of page 4).

2.22 The nature of the Breckland population in dispersed settlements with a low population density and considerable distances between main settlements, does pose a challenge for provision of indoor sports and recreational facilities.

2.23 The implications of the authority's main settlement pattern as described in the Council's corporate plan s can be summarised as

- Residents travel further to use the facilities – but Sport England research shows that to maintain and increase participation on a regular basis local accessibility is important. The time and cost of travel plus the competing demands on time to do other activities which fit into the lifestyle of individuals and families can discourage participation;

- Provide more facilities than may be needed in recognition of the settlement pattern of the authority and so create local accessibility. This however has a cost in providing and maintaining more facilities than may be needed. Moreover, there may not be a core business case to justify provision and provide a viable facility without extensive financial support. Provision is driven by the settlement patterns and lack of access, not the supply and demand and capacity of the existing facilities to meet the demand across Breckland. For example, the Sport England assessment of the annual throughout for a 4 lane x 25 metre swimming pool based on a for a 50 week year is 95,000 visits; and

- Make more use of what already exists, by increasing access to facilities that exist but which maybe not fully accessible to the public or for clubs to use. This applies especially to facilities on school sites. In effect, it extends the supply base and catchment area. By doing so it addresses the settlement pattern and is trying to increase access to venues across a wider area and to more residents.

2.24 The settlement pattern of Breckland and as set out in the Council's Corporate Plan is important context in development of the evidence base in assessing, supply, demand and accessibility. This has been taken into full account in compiling the evidence base.

2.25 **Corporate Plan key content 2 -** The Council's priority of "enabling stronger more independent communities" has an action to - *work with partners on supporting older people to remain active, participative and live independently within the community* (page 9).

2.26 Understanding the demographic profile of the authority and how this is changing over the Local Plan period is important, in identifying the sporting and physical activity population. As the resident population ages, the demand for particular indoor sports facilities changes, as does the reasons and levels of participation. So, it is about growth

in the total population but also the changes in the core resident population that makes up the demand profile.

Population change and the sporting population

2.27 In determining the current and future demand for sports facilities the changes in population are integral to that assessment. It is reasonable to assume that an absolute increase in population will led to an increase in the demand for sports facilities. However, it is important to consider the age structure of the population now and how this is projected to change up to 2031 and beyond across Breckland.

2.28 It could be that the age structure of the population means that whilst there is a projected increase in absolute population numbers, the age structure of the population means there is a lower total number of people in the main age bands for sports participation in 2031 than in 2016. The reverse could equally apply.

Current population

2.29 The data used for the population assessment in Breckland is the Council's population projections provided by the Council's Planning Department (ONS 2014 based sub-national population projections). The current (2016) population of Breckland is estimated at 135,832 people, of which 67,616 are male (49.7%) and 68,216 are female (50.3%). The overall population structure is as follows (comparisons with Breckland extrapolated from Sport England's Local Sport Profile and compared with the East Region and National averages):

- Very slightly fewer percentage of males to females than regional and national average;
- No difference in the percentage of people in the 16-19 age group than the regional or national average;
- Very slightly higher percentage of people in the 20-24 age group than the regional average (by 0.5%) and very slightly lower percentage than nationally (by 1%);
- Very slightly higher percentage of people in the 25-34 age group than regional or national averages of % - 2%);
- Lower percentage of people in the 35 – 49 age group (by 3.5%) than regional or national averages;
- Lower percentage of people in the 50-64 age group than regional or national averages; (by 1% - 2%); and
- Higher percentage of people in the 65+ age group (by 3%) than regional or national averages.

2.30 There are also the following:

- A much higher proportion of white or white British than regional average (by 6%) or national average (by 11%). Note no data for Breckland for 2015 and so the data is for 2012 for all areas; and
- A slightly larger proportion of disabled people than regional average (by 1%) and national averages (by 2%) possibly a reflection of a high population aged 65+.

Future population

2.31 The total population of Breckland is projected to rise from 135,832 people in 2016 to 149,769 people by 2031, a projected increase of 10.2%. The proportion of females to males is 49.7% male and 50.3% female in 2016. In 2031 it is projected to be 50.2% male and 49.8% female.

2.32 If the population changes are assessed in accordance with the different age groups that generally take part in different sports, the situation is expected to be as follows:

Table 2.1: Population change by age bands for Breckland 2016 - 2031

Age group	2016	2031	Change %
Total population	135,832	149,769	+ 10.2%
Active population for sport and physical activity (5-54)	76,510	78,023	+ 1.9%
Less active population (55 – 64)	17,149	19,424	+13.2%
Inactive population (0-4, 65 -74)	25,723	28,042	+9%
Adult indoor sports (20-44)	37,105	37,774	+ 1.8%

2.33 The findings are:

- The total population of Breckland is projected to increase from 135,832 people in 2016 to 149,769 people by 2031, a projected increase of 10.2%

- Meantime the population in the age band range 5 – 54 and which is the age range for the most active population for participation in sport and physical activity is projected to increase, by just 1.9% over the 2016 – 2031 period

  This is a key finding in that population change in the age bands where participation takes place most, there is a much smaller percentage increase in population. Therefore, with the same participation rates population change is only going to be a very small driver in increased demand for indoor sports facilities. The rates of participation for particular sports in Breckland over the 2006 – 2015 period of the Sport England Active People survey are set out following the population assessment

- There is also a category of less active population in the 55 – 64 age group and this is projected to increase by the highest percentage over the 2016 – 2031 period and by 13.2%

  This age band does participate, albeit it has a lower rate of participation than in the younger age bands of the active population, hence the term less active population. Indoor sports/activities which this age band participates in most are, swimming and social/recreational day time activity such as badminton and exercise/dance classes, as well as some low intensity fitness activity. Low impact exercise classes are a popular activity with women. Motivations for participation are a health benefit and as a social and recreational activity. Outdoor activities are more popular than indoor, especially walking and for men golf, fishing and cycling.

- The inactive population (0 – 5 and 65 - 74) meantime increases by 9% over the period. It is important to distinguish the active from the inactive population because the active and the less active population is the basis of the demand assessment

- The main age bands for participation in indoor hall sports and exercise classes which can take place in sports halls is 20 - 44 years of age. This population is projected to increase by 1.8%

- It is important to consider the population by each gender because their participation and use of sports facilities differs. Male participation is very much around indoor hall sports such as five a side football, basketball and badminton. Whilst female participation is more about is very much around swimming, gym exercise and dance classes, pilates and yoga, more than hall sports

- Both genders participate in health and fitness with this being higher with females. The total male population in the 20 - 44 age band is 18,253 people in 2016 and increases to 19,916 by 2031. The female total is 18,852 people in 2016 and is 17,858 in 2031. So the gender split in population totals is quite close but with a high proportion of males by 2031. So possibly a slightly higher demand for hall sports but not significant, assuming participation rates remain as in 2016

- Swimming participation is the only activity/facility type which is genuinely cradle to grave in terms of the age of participants. The Breckland population in the active population (5 – 54) as already set out is projected to increase by 1.9% between 2016 and 2031. So again population changes in this main age band for swimming participation is going to generate a small increase in demand for swimming

- Swimming is also a popular activity for the less active 55 – 64 population. The 55 – 64 age band increases by 13.2% between the two years but in numbers it is only an increase of 2, 275 people. So again, not a big increase in demand from this age band

- For people aged 65 - 74, swimming and low impact exercise classes are the main indoor activities that people participate in. Outdoor activities such as walking are more popular, The Breckland population aged 65 – 74 is projected to increase from 8,860 to 10.202 people by 2031, an increase of 15% but only 1,342 people. Again a small increase in swimming demand from overall projected growth in population

- Indoor bowling national participation data sets out that participation is highest in the 75 - 79 age band for both females (at 2.6% of this age band participating nationally) and males (4% participating nationally). The data identifies that between the ages 16 – 49 only 0.09% of the male population plays indoor bowls and only 0.06% of the female population plays bowls

- The Breckland population in the 75 – 79 age band for males is projected to increase between 2016 – 2031 by 32% but only 956 people. For females, the projected increase is 30.4% but only 973 people. Given the very low percentage of the population in this age band that play indoor bowls (despite it being the age band with the highest participation), then again population increase is not going to be a driver of increased demand for indoor bowling.

2.34 To summarise therefore, and based on the projected changes in the Breckland population over the 2015 – 2031 period, demand for indoor sports facilities from projected population change is not a big driver of increased demand for indoor sports facilities.

Trends in *participation and non-participation in sport and physical activity for Breckland, East Region and England wide*

2.35 As well as the impact of projected population change on demand for indoor sports facilities it is also important to consider the rates of indoor sports participation. Like population change participation change is challenging to forecast. However, it is possible to set out past trends in participation as an indicator.

2.36 The findings for adult participation in sport and physical activity for Breckland are presented using the Sport England Active People benchmark measure of once week participation of 1 x 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity. This is applied by Sport England in sports policy and its assessment of funding awards.

2.37 Any sport, activity or facility type included in the '1 x 30' sport indicator has to be undertaken for at least 30 minutes at least once a week and at moderate intensity. Moderate intensity is defined as where the participant should have a raised heart rate and be breathless but still able to hold a conversation.

2.38 The '1x30' sport indicator does not include recreational walking or recreational cycling (as the former NI8 indicator did). It does include more organised and intense/strenuous walking activities: Backpacking, Hill Trekking, Cliff Walking, Gorge Walking, Hill Walking, Rambling, Power Walking and sport 'walking'.

2.39 The '1x30' sport indicator does include light intensity activities for those aged 65 and over: (in recognition that for people of this age, they can be considered moderate intensity). It includes yoga, pilates, indoor and outdoor bowls.

2.40 The findings for East Region and England wide are included to provide context and comparison for the Breckland findings. This is for the period of the Active People surveys 2006 – 2016.

Table 2.2: Rate of at least once a week adult participation in sport and physical activity Breckland, East Region and England wide 2006 – 2016

Breckland participation measure for at least once a week participation of 30 minutes duration at moderate intensity by adults (16+)	2006 Participation Rate (%)APS 1	2016 Participation Rate (%)APS 10 2nd Quarter
Once a week rate of participation all adults		
Breckland	32.7%	29.8%
East Region	35.2%	36.1%
England	34.6%	36.1%
Once a week rate of participation by gender		
Breckland Male	36.2%	31.6%
Breckland Female	29.3%	28.0%
East Region Male	39.1%	39.5%
East Region Female	31.5%	32.8%
England wide Male	39.4%	40.7%
England wide Female	30.1%	31.7%
Swimming Pools and Sports Halls once a week participation		
Breckland	20.4%	14.6%

East Region	22.9%	20.9%
England wide	22.7%	21.9%
Swimming once a week participation		
Breckland	8.4%	6.6% (1)
East Region	8.1%	5.6%
England	8%	5.6%
NON participation in sport and physical activity		
Breckland	56.3%	57.4%
East Region	53%	53%
England	54.3%	53.2%

(Source: Sport England Active People Survey 2006 – 2016)

(1) Data for Breckland is for 2010 -11 no data beyond this year

2.41 The data shows that;

- The Breckland adult participation rate across all activities has decreased from 32.7% of all adults participating at least once a week in 2006 to 29.8% in 2016
- Breckland's rate of adult once a week participation is lower than for East Region and for England in 2006 and the gap has increased by 2016
- Breckland's female participation has been consistently lower than male participation over the period. It was 29.3% of adult females participating at least once a week in 2006 and 28% in 2016. Female participation is also lower than male participation in both East Region and England wide. It is however 5% above the Breckland rate for the Region and the England rate is nearly 4% above Breckland. This is a consistent finding of lower female participation than male in nearly all areas. it underlines the importance of providing facilities where female participation is higher, such as swimming pools
- The Breckland male once a week participation rate whilst higher than for females has declined, it being 36.2% of adult males participating at least once a week in 2006 and 31.6% in 2016
- The Breckland rate of adult male participation at 31.6% of males participating in 2016 is considerably lower than the rate for East Region (39.5%) and the England wide rate (40.7%)
- The adult rate of swimming participation in Breckland was 8.4% in 2006 and has declined to 6.6% in 2010 – 11, last year data is available. It has also declined at both East Region level from 8.1% in 2006 to 5.6% in 20165 and England wide from 8% in 2006 to 56% in 2016. There has been a decline in swimming participation in almost all areas of England and is the subject of research by Sport England and the Amateur Swimming Association
- Non-participation in Breckland (measured as adults who undertake no sport or physical activity) has increased from 56.3% of all adults in 2006, to 57.4% of all adults doing no activity in 2016
- The Breckland rate of non-participation at 57% is higher than in East Region (53%) and England wide (53.2%) in 2016.

2.42 Overall and in summary the key findings are;

- Breckland has a slightly declining rate of adult sports and physical activity participation over the period of the Active People surveys from 2006 to 2016. This is for all sports and includes both indoor and outdoor sports

- Adult male participation is higher than female participation in total in Breckland. However, for both genders participation is declining, very slightly for females by just over 1% but by 4.6% for males over the 2006 – 2016 period

- Swimming is the most popular activity in Breckland. The rate of swimming participation has declined by 1.8% in the five years between 2006 and 2011 to 6.6% of all adults swimming at least once a week. Swimming has declined by 2.6% across the Region and by 2.4% across England between 2006 and 2016

- The scale of the challenge to create a more active and healthy Breckland population is reflected in the finding that over 50% of the adult population in Breckland do no sport or physical activity at all in 2016. This has increased by 1.4% since 2006. It remains a significant challenge.

2.43 Finally, these findings should be considered alongside targets and development initiatives put in place by Breckland Council, Parkwood, Leisure, and local sports clubs, National Governing Bodies of Sport, Active Norfolk and community groups. Development work by all these organisations could impact on increasing demand for indoor sports facilities. This is the subject matter for developing a local sports and recreational strategy for the authority, including all these providers.

Residential Development Breckland

2.44 The projected residential development across Breckland is set out below in Table 2.3. This is from the Breckland Local Plan Part) This Interim Consultation (Summer 2016) .This distribution is consistent with the broad spatial strategy to direct the majority of development towards the larger, more sustainable, settlements. 50% is directed to the key settlements of Attleborough and Thetford; 30% to the Market Towns of Dereham, Swaffham and Watton; 15% to the Local Service Centres and the remaining 5% in rural areas (Figures based on estimated population growth).

Table 2.3: Residential Development Breckland 2011 - 2036

Settlement Hierarchy	Local Plan Allocations (2011-2036)	Completions @ (31/3/2016)	Commitments (11/07/2016)	Total	Estimated Population growth (2011-2036)
Thetford	0	295	3334	3629	7668
Attleborough	2650	309	938	3897	8252
Dereham	750	256	534	1540	2953
Swaffham	750	264	598	1612	3100
Watton	400	252	653	1305	2445
Local Service Centres	925	376	905	2206	4209
Rural Areas	150	281	308	739	1053
Total	**5625**	**2033**	**7270**	**12905**	**29682**

(

Source: Breckland Council Planning Department 2016)

3: Assessing Needs and Opportunities for each facility type

3.1 This section sets out the methodology that has been used in the development of the needs assessment and evidence base. The assessment has been produced applying the guidance from Sport England in ANOG for indoor and built sports facilities.

3.2 The ANOG methodology was published by Sport England in 2014 following extensive consultation and a review of the former PPG 17 Companion Guide to Assessing Needs for Indoor Sport and Recreation and Open Space. ANOG is now the accepted industry wide methodology for undertaking a needs assessment and developing an evidence base.

3.3 The ANOG methodology has four parts. These are: quantity, quality, accessibility and availability. The Sport England ANOG guidance advises to set out the findings from the needs assessment in terms of;

- Protect: an evidence base which can inform policy formulation and seek to protect exiting facilities where there is an identified current need and future need for use by the community;
- Enhance: an evidence base which can inform policy and seek to enhance the provision of existing facilities where there is an identified current and future need and the most effective way to meet this need is by improvement to what already exists. This could be by enhanced facility provision but it could also change access and availability of existing facilities to make the existing supply deliver more use for the community; and
- Provide: an evidence base which can inform policy and lead to provision of new facilities where there is an identified need now and in the future. Plus, the most cost and sports effective way to meet this need is by provision of new facilities.

Diagram 3.1: Sport England Approach to Assessing Needs

3: Assessing Needs and Opportunities for each facility type

3.4 The stages of the ANOG approach are set out below and this is followed by a description of how the ANOG has been applied in Breckland:

A *Undertaking an Assessment:*

Stage 1 – Prepare and tailor your assessment
Stage 2 – Gather information on supply and demand
Stage 3 – Assessment, bring the information together

B *Application of the Assessment*

Stage 1: Prepare and tailor the assessment.

3.5 At the scoping meeting held on 30th August 2016 the project brief and proposal were reviewed. The client requested that the 2016 assessment be completed by the end of November for all the facility types. This would establish the baseline evidence base. Towards the end of this stage it would be possible to determine if a bespoke facility planning model (fpm) assessment would be required to develop a detailed evidence base for swimming pools and sports halls based on the stage one findings, the impact of the projected, scale and location of new residential development. Plus views obtained through consultation from providers, operators, schools and clubs about changes in the current provision.

3.6 It was also decided to review the value and benefit of undertaking a bespoke fpm assessment for full size artificial grass pitches (AGPs) for football and hockey use. Again the stage one evidence base findings would provide the direction and the merit of doing this work as part on of the indoor sports and built recreational facilities evidence base, or, doing this work as part of a playing pitch strategy for Breckland.

3.7 The latter would consider the role of AGPs in meeting the future demand for football and hockey on all types of surfaces natural grass and artificial. It may therefore be more effectively progressed as part of a playing pitch strategy project.

3.8 The scoping meeting allowed naa to familiarize ourselves with the key Council documents and understand the relationship between the development of the evidence base and the wider Council objectives. Key contacts within Breckland Council were identified for consultations as well as external stakeholders, principally Sport England, Active Norfolk. Parkwood Leisure, Watton Sports Trust and the secondary schools with indoor sports facilities. The facilities for site visits were identified and the key consultees as part of the site visits.

3.9 The data on the existing supply of facilities in Breckland for each of the seven facility types in the project scope was produced for the meeting. This was taken from the Sport England Active Places Power database and the facility listing for 2016.This was subsequently reviewed by BDC for any errors, and omissions. Some very minor changes were needed and it formed the existing supply database for use in the 2016 evidence base work.

Stage 2: Gather Information on Supply and Demand

3.10 The hard evidence data and mapping for Breckland and the surrounding local authorities from Sport England's Active Places Power database is the source for developing the hard evidence base. The data is reviewed and a commentary

provided on the supply, demand, access and availability of each of the facility types. For the larger facility types of swimming pools, sports halls and indoor bowling centres (there are no indoor tennis centres in Breckland) there is more extensive data on participation rates, frequency of participation by age six bands and for both genders.

3.11 This data is interrogated and a commentary developed on demand for facilities. Also the data on the catchment area of facilities and how accessible they are by different travel modes is reviewed and a commentary provided. This is both a quantified and spatial assessment. It identifies if there is demand located outside the catchment area of facilities and if so at which locations and at what scale. So the gaps in access to facilities are identified and the scale of this unmet demand from lack of access.

3.12 Finally the data provides findings on the level of usage at facilities and how this is distributed across venues. So it is possible to identify if some facilities are fuller than others.

3.13 For swimming pools and sports halls, which account for between 60% - 70% of the total indoor sports facility participation at the community level, it is possible to do the same data analysis described for Breckland for all the neighboring authorities. So tables are produced setting out the findings for each local authority alongside Breckland. As the assessment is based on the catchment area of facilities in Breckland extending into these neighbouring authorities and vice versa, it is possible to identify how much Breckland demand is exported and how much is imported.

3.14 This data with an extensive review and compilation of the findings into a detailed report provides the hard evidence part of the ANOG assessment for the facility types in 2016. The findings from this work are then overlaid with findings from the population and participation review up to 2031, already described to provide the forward assessment up to 2031 for the four facility types of indoor bowling, indoor tennis, squash courts and health and fitness. As already set out, providing the assessment and evidence for swimming pools and sports halls and possibly artificial grass pitches will be undertaken as part of a facility planning model assessment. The results will then be incorporated into this evidence base report and appendix to provide a 2016 – 2031 evidence base for all facility types.

3.15 This extensive hard evidence database forms a large part of the content for the consultations and site visits. The site visits and consultations allowed for a cross check on what the hard evidence data was saying about the facility provision but more importantly: the community access to the venues; the objectives, hours and types of use; changes and challenges in operation of the venue for community use from the provider and the customer; and the barriers to increasing participation. Information where available was also collected on programing, membership details and details of casual and club user information. Discussion focused on the type of operation.

3.16 Site visits and or consultations were undertaken with all the main providers, Parkwood Leisure, schools, clubs and sports trusts. This included all type of operation, pay and play, organised club use and commercial membership providers. The site visit consultations were held with the business and or facility manager and the head of PE at schools. The only exceptions was Scared Heart Convent School who declined to respond.

3: Assessing Needs and Opportunities for each facility type

Stage 3 – Assessment Report

3.17 The final part is to bring all the findings together into the actual assessment of the current and future provision for each of the facility types. This is set out in full in Appendix 1. The sequence of reporting is the same for each facility type and it is structured to follow the Sport England's ANOG guidance.

3.18 For each facility type the findings under each of the ANOG headings are set out in a summary table. This is followed by more detailed findings. This is followed in turn, with a commentary on the site visits and consultations for each facility type.

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4: Planning Framework

4.1 This section sets out in tabular form the recommendations which arise from the audit and assessment. They are categorised under the headings of 'Protect', 'Enhance' and 'Provide', as recommended by Sport England in the ANOG guidance. These categories are not mutually exclusive and some recommendations will sit comfortably both within 'Enhance' and 'Provide' for example. The focus is more about:

- Protection of what already exists – because there is an identified need and demand (PROTECT);
- Enhancement and making more effective use of the existing sports facilities. This is by one or more of: modernisation of the facilities and/or management intervention and change to work with all providers in partnership. To do this, so as to ensure that opportunities to work collaboratively are taken and the opportunities for community use are maximised (ENHANCE); and
- New provision of facilities as identified by the assessment. As well as initial provision, this could involve RE- PROVISION of an existing facility. This is based on a continuing need for the facility but on grounds of buildings reaching the end of their life, it is more cost and sports effective to re-provide. (PROVIDE OR RE-PROVIDE).

Table 5.1: Evidence Base Recommendations

SWIMMING POOLS	
PROTECT	Protect and maintain the 2 swimming pool sites which provide for community use. These sites have a total of 5 individual pools. Breckland Leisure Centre and Waterworld has three pools: a main pool of 313 sq metres of water (a 25m x 6 lanes pool), a leisure pool of 275 sq metres of water and a teaching/learner pool of 75 sq metres of water. Dereham Leisure Centre has two pools, a main pool of 338 sq metres of water, (also a 25m x 6 lanes) and a teaching/learner pool of 135 sq metres of water. In 2016 and in 2031 some 70% of the total demand for swimming from Breckland residents is being met. All 100% of the unmet demand in 2016 is from location and demand located outside the catchment area of a pool. In 2031 some 98% of the unmet dmned is from this definition and 2% is from lack of swimming pool capacity Some 80% of the total 70% of the demand for swimming which is met/satisfied by a Breckland resident using a pool located in the authority, known as retained demand. This is a reasonably high level of retained demand and shows the pool locations and catchment areas are reasonably well placed in relation to where the Breckland demand for swimming is located. The finding is that 30% of the Breckland demand that is met is exported in both 2016 and 2031. This equates to around 1,190 visits and the demand retained in the authority is 4,680 visits in the weekly peak period. By 2031 the retained demand is 4,743 visits n the weekly peak period and the exported demand is 1,425 visits. Based on the mapping of pool locations and catchment areas of pools in neighbouring authorities, most demand is exported to South Norfolk. Attleborough is outside the drive to catchment area of the Breckland Leisure Centre pool and the nearest pool is at Wymondham Leisure Centre in South Norfolk. This pool has recently had a £3m modernisation, which along with it being the most accessible pool for the eastern side of Breckland will increase its attractiveness to Breckland residents.
ENHANCE	The quality of the swimming pool offer is very good. The two Breckland pool sites can provide for the full range of swimming activities of, learn to swim, public recreational swimming, lane and fitness swimming and swimming development through clubs. There is also scope for fun, confidence building and family based activities within the leisure pool at the Breckland Centre in Thetford. The pools were built in two eras. Breckland Leisure Centre opened in 1974 and was extensively modernised in 2007. Dereham Leisure Centre opened in 2007 and so is nine years old. Over the period to 2031 there will be the need to keep maintaining the quality of the swimming pools as well as modernise the venues.
PROVIDE	Unmet demand reflects the geographic size, the settlement pattern of the authority and the distances between the major settlements. Also the two pool sites are located in the north east and south/ west of the authority. The areas of highest unmet demand outside the catchment area of a pool is in and around Swaffham at 130 sq metres of water in 2016 and increasing to 145 sq metres of water in 2031. There is also

	unmet demand of around 100 sq metres of water in both years in Watton Both towns are on the edge of the drive time catchment area of the public swimming pools. Also Swaffham appears to be equidistant between the drive time catchment area of the Dereham pool and the pool in Downham Market. Swaffham is the area of highest unmet demand for swimming across Breckland. The facilities planning model assessment is that there is sufficient demand based on the projected population growth up to 2031 to consider provision of a 20m x 4 lane pool (160 sq metres of water) in Swaffham. This is the quantified and accessibly assessment and the outcome of the assessment is for a pool of this scale to meet the projected demand. This assessment does not support a larger pool size. The most usual community pool size is 25m x 4 lanes (of between 210 – 250 sq metres of water depending on lane width).
SPORTS HALLS	
PROTECT	Maintain and protect the existing quantity of sports halls. In 2016 Breckland has a total supply of 9 sports halls on 7 sites with a total of 32 badminton courts. Two of the sites are part of the multi sports public leisure centres at Dereham and Breckland Leisure Centre in Thetford. In addition, there is the sports hall at Attleborough Sports Hall and the dual use site at Swaffham Leisure Centre with Nicholas Hammond Academy. There are then sports halls on secondary school sites at Neatherd High School Dereham Wayland Academy Watton and Northgate High School, Dereham. In addition to these sites, there is also the Watton Sports Centre sports hall. The total supply of sports halls is 32 badminton courts but this reduces to 27 courts in the weekly peak period because of the variable availability of sports halls across the education venues. Total demand for sports halls by Breckland residents equates to 36 courts in 2016. By 2031 the projected demand for sports halls equates to 38 badminton courts. So demand is projected to be greater than supply in both years and hence the need to protect the quantity of supply (but see also findings under the provide headings) Some 82% of the Breckland total demand for sports halls is being met in both 2016 and 83% in 2031. Of this total, some 78% of the met demand is met in Breckland in 2016 and just under 84% in 2031. This is based on Breckland residents traveling to and using the nearest sports hall to where they live. So, the network of sports hall sites and their catchment area are providing a very good level of access for Breckland residents. In 2016 some 22% of the Breckland demand which is met is exported and met in neighbouring authorities and this decreases to 17% of the Breckland demand being exported in 2031. The largest exported demand is to South Norfolk and Forest Heath in both years.
ENHANCE	The sports hall stock is quite old, with an average age of 32 years. There has been one sports hall opened since 2000, this being the Dereham Leisure Centre in 2007. The oldest sports hall is at Wayland Academy opened in 1970. Four of the oldest venues have been modernised. The oldest unmodernised sports halls are Wayland Academy (1960). Swaffham Leisure Centre (1981) and Attleborough Sports Hall (1982).

	Over the period up to 2031 there will be a need to either modernise the existing sports hall venues or re-provide sports halls. A feature of the Swaffham sports halls is that the age and condition of the Centre is limiting its attractiveness for community use. Whilst the Attleborough Centre is not promoted for community use, again because of its age and condition. Given these findings, the fpm assessment modelled the supply and demand impact of re-provision of the Swaffham and Attleborough Centres by 2020. Plus the inclusion of a further community sports hall in Dereham by 2031, to reflect the authority wide 2016 findings on supply and demand findings for sports halls.
PROVIDE	The findings from the re-provision assessment is that there is sufficient demand to justify the provision of a new sports hall in Attleborough to replace the existing Centre. The scale of the new sports hall from the assessment is for a 6 badminton court size sports hall of 34m x 27m. The findings from the assessment also support there being sufficient demand to justify the provision of a replacement sports hall in Swaffham. The scale of this new sports hall based on the assessment is for a 4 badminton court sports hall of 34.5m x 20m. In effect the same number of courts as the existing venue but with a slightly larger scale based on the Sport England and Governing Bodies of Sport specification. Given the age of the Attleborough and Swaffham centres, the modelling assessment was based on closure of the existing centres and provision of the new centres by 2020. Finally, the assessment also identified the area of highest demand for sports halls in both 2016 and 2031 is in Dereham and to the north of Dereham. The findings from the fpm assessment do support the provision of a further sports hall of 4 badminton court size of 34.5m x 20m in Dereham. A suitable location being Northgate High School
ARTIFICAL GRASS PITCHES	
PROTECT	**2016 Findings** As already set out the future assessment of need for full size artificial grass pitches will be progressed through the development of a playing pitch strategy by Breckland Council. The findings set out here therefore relate to the 2016 assessment and do provide interim guidance under the project, enhance and provide headings. The 2016 findings support maintaining the existing supply of AGP's across Breckland. In 2016 Breckland has 5 AGPs pitches on four sites. There is a double pitch site at Dereham Hockey Club with two sand dressed pitches. There are two other sand dressed pitches at Breckland Leisure Centre and Watton Sports Centre. There is only one 3g pitch which is located at Dereham Neatherd High School. The 5 pitches have an effective supply of 4.8 pitch equivalents in the weekly peak period. The very slight reduction of 0.20 of a pitch is due to very slightly reduced hours of access for community use aggregated across the sites. The Breckland hard evidence demand for AGPs is for a minimum of 3.6 pitches for the combined use for football (2.8 pitches) and hockey (0.8 pitches). This hard evidence

	assessment does however most likely, under estimate demand for hockey. The Dereham Hockey Club is a very large club with 13 men's and women's senior teams and 9 boys and girls teams. So, the demand for this club and for hockey is for between 1.5 and 2 pitches, which is the club's supply of pitches. Pitches are accessible in Dereham (3 pitches), Thetford (1 pitch) and Watton (1 pitch). There are no pitches in Swaffham and Attleborough. The nearest pitches to Swaffham are the Dereham pitches and a pitch at RAF Marham in KL & WN. This is an old sand dressed floodlit pitch opened in 1974 Given the age, location and limited access to this pitch it could not be regarded as a pitch which is accessible to Swaffham. There is no pitch in Attleborough and the nearest pitch is located at Easton College in South Norfolk. This is however outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of Attleborough and is not an effective supply for Attleborough.
ENHANCE	The average age of the 5 pitches is 17 years and so quite an old stock. The pitches have been provided at a rate of one in each of the past four decades. The Dereham Hockey Club pitches are the oldest having opened in 1987 and were last resurfaced in 2007. The Watton Sport Centre pitch was opened in 1998, and has not been re-surfaced. The Centre is trying to secure funds to re-surface the pitch. Breckland Leisure Centre pitch opened in 2006 and according to the data has not been resurfaced. Finally, the most recent pitch is the 3g pitch at Neatherd High School opened in 2014. All five pitches are floodlit. There is a need to resurface the pitches. The average age for a pitch carpet is around 6 – 10 years, depending on the level of use.
PROVIDE	The key topics issue which emerge from the AGP assessment for inclusion in the playing pitch strategy work are: • The balance in the type of pitch surfaces. Four of the pitches are sand filled/dressed surfaces and only one is a 3g surface. The Football Association policy is to move all affiliated football at the local level onto 3g surfaces. However there is a deficit in supply of 3g pitches in Breckland to meet the FA objective. Scope to redress the pitch surface balance is limited because the 2 pitches at Dereham Hockey Club are sand based pitches for hockey use. So, the only pitches that could be converted are at Watton Sports Centre and Breckland Leisure Centre. • In meeting the FA objective it has implications for the number of natural grass pitches required (reduced) and the provision of 3g pitches (increased). Also, if there is increased provision of 3g pitches, this has implications for the level of football use of sand dressed pitches. Moving football onto 3g pitches and not replacing with hockey use at the sand based pitches could lead to an oversupply of sand dressed pitches.
INDOOR BOWLING	
PROTECT	Maintain but keep under review the need for the three indoor bowling centres over the period to 2031.

	Indoor bowling is the indoor sports facility type most used by residents in their 70's and 80's. Indoor bowling participation is highest in the 75 – 79 age band. There are three indoor bowling centres in Breckland. Breckland Leisure Centre Thetford (6 rinks and opened in 2006); Dereham Leisure Centre (4 rinks and opened in 2007); and Old Hall Indoor Bowls Club NW of Watton (4 rinks opened in 1974 and modernised in 2002). By applying the Sport England rates and frequency of participation to the Breckland population in 2016 and for 2031, it is possible to identify the potential demand for indoor bowling. In 2016 this equates to 908 bowlers in 2016 and increasing to 1, 081 bowlers in 2031. At a per rink capacity of 100 bowlers per rink, this equates to 9 rinks in 2016 and increasing by 2 rinks to 11 in 2031. So, on this assessment supply of rinks slightly exceeds demand over the period to 2031. This however is based on the existing rates of indoor bowling participation continuing to apply – this is questionable. The current membership of the two resident clubs at the public leisure centres is, Dereham Leisure Centre 200 members and at Thetford it is 100 members. The Old Hall indoor bowls club did not respond to requests for a meeting. An off chance site visit did not result in meeting anyone from the club. So, there is no data about membership of this club or the Centre operation. The playing membership of the two Breckland clubs in 2016 at a total of 300 members, plus the public pay and play usage at the centres is well within the capacity of the 10 rinks at the two centres. In 2014 the County Sports Partnership delivered a 2 year project funded by the Governing Body and working with the clubs and Parkwood Leisure. The aim being to grow participation of people aged 55+ in the sport of bowls across the four main formats of the game (including indoor). The project had a countywide remit and a large element of the project was to award grants to bowls clubs to fund open days and structured coaching sessions to support the recruitment of new players. The indoors bowls clubs in the Breckland area were engaged across the 2 years of the project; Dereham IBC were very successful in recruiting new players and ran a total of 4 recruitment events and recruited 44 players aged 55+. The Brecks (Thetford) club also ran 4 recruitment events but only recruited 8 players aged 55+. The project had its challenge in engaging clubs and take up of the project and support was slow. The Dereham club continues to be very proactive in increasing its membership. However, at Thetford the level of usage and membership has led to the rink being divided into two areas of three rinks. One for the bowlers and one for use by martial arts clubs. So overall the clubs need to continue to increase membership to support the provision of the indoor bowling centres.
EHNANCE	The quality of the centres is good and the main quality requirements over the period to 2031 will be replacement of the carpet every 8 – 10 years, depending on the amount of play. There will also be a need to maintain and improve lighting systems.
PROVIDE	There is no identified need to provide further indoor bowling centres in Breckland based on the current level of provision and projected participation levels to 2031.

INDOOR TENNIS	
PROTECT AND ENHANCE	There are no indoor tennis courts/centres located in Breckland. So, there are no recommendations under these headings.
PROVIDE	Based on the Sport England data of Breckland adults who do play and those who would like to play indoor tennis, the 2016 Breckland adult population (over 16) would generate 246 tennis players. Based on the same participation rate applied to the Breckland adult population in 2031, would generate 274 tennis players. The Lawn Tennis Association capacity figure for one indoor tennis court to be occupied for around 80% of the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days is 200 users. So, based on the projected participation rates, the Breckland population would generate demand for just over 1 indoor court in each of the two years. It is not a viable proposition to provide just one court and the usual provision is for at least two and usually three indoor courts, ideally situated alongside an established outdoor tennis court club, or, as part of a public or commercial indoor sports Centre. Breckland does not have any established outdoor tennis clubs and there are no major commercial indoor sports and leisure centres in Breckland. The Dereham and Breckland Leisure Centres are public sports and recreational facilities under commercial management. The development of outdoor tennis is the main focus of the Lawn Tennis Association. Should outdoor tennis participation increase, this could, in turn, lead to the establishment of an outdoor tennis club in Breckland. This in turn could generate further demand/critical mass for an indoor tennis centre. The recommendation is not to consider provision of an indoor tennis centre, until there is an increase in tennis participation and a viable club base that can create sufficient demand for at least 2 indoor courts. The potential provision of an indoor centre, could then be subject to a detailed feasibility study. (Note: The nearest centre to Breckland is the Easton College Centre which has 8 courts in two separate centres. This venue is within a 20 minute drive time of the eastern side of Breckland but the majority of the authority is outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of an indoor tennis centre. The other venues are in Broadland but further east from Breckland than the Easton College Centre).
SQUASH	
PROTECT	Maintain the existing courts and venues at Breckland Leisure Centre (4 courts), Watton Sports Centre (2 courts) and Swaffham Sports Centre (1 court). It is important to provide facilities to enable squash participation to continue at the pay and play level. There is no provision in Dereham or Attleborough. There are no squash or tennis clubs which own or provide squash courts. Participation in squash and racketball based on the benchmark measure of at least once a week participation is available at the East Region level for 2006 – 2015. Participation data is not available below this geographic level. The participation rate in squash at the East Region level has declined, from 0.74% of adults playing at least once a week in 2006 to 0. 48%of adults in 2016. The reasons for the reduction in squash participation is attributed by England Squash to (1) decreasing popularity of the sport after the very extensive rise in participation in

	the 1980's, estimated at over 2m players at its height, (2) increasing attractiveness of other activities, most noticeably health and fitness which appealed to the same demographic (16 – 44) as squash, (3) an ageing average age of squash participation, currently estimated to be between 52 – 55 years of age. Should participation not increase there may be competing demand for the space at the existing centres. Retention of courts at the Breckland Leisure Centre is very important, so that there is continued provision of (at least) one location in Breckland. It is the location with the highest number of courts and there is an active squash club focusing on recreational play.
ENHANCE	The average age of the squash court venues is 31 years and the most recent provision is at Watton Sports Centre, which opened in 1998. Continued maintenance of the courts and changing accommodation is required to maintain the quality of the venues and retain participation.
PROVIDE	There is no identified need to provide further squash courts in Breckland up to 2031. This assessment is based on the current level of provision and participation levels which can meet the levels of participation in Breckland and accommodate any increase. Further development of the sport is dependent on rates of participation stabilizing, then increasing and attracting a younger age group of players. Based on a 20 minute drive time catchment area of the three centres, all of Breckland is inside the catchment area of a squash venue. There are no courts in Dereham and Attleborough but they are (just) inside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of the courts at Watton Sports Centre.
HEALTH AND FITNESS	
PROTECT	Maintain the existing provision of health and fitness in terms of scale, location and accessibility. Maintain a watching brief on trends in health and fitness provision and participation. It will be important to monitor how these changes reflect the current supply and demand balance - quantitatively, spatially and across all providers (see provide comments).
ENHANCE	The average age of the venues is 18 years, with 6 venues of the total 11 venues having opened pre 1990 and 5 post 2000. The most recent venue is the Amazon Gym in Attleborough, which opened in 2010. The age of the venue is less important than the age of the equipment and according to the data, 6 of the venues have replaced or upgraded equipment in the past 5 years. The oldest equipment is in the education venues and it is understood there are no plans to upgrade or replace equipment. Should schools decide to include health and fitness in their community use offer, then there will be the need to upgrade and replace the equipment, this should be supported.
PROVIDE	Projecting the potential demand for health and fitness to 2031 is very challenging, given the dynamic nature and frequent changes in both provision and participation. Health and fitness provision, more than any other indoor facility type, is very much 'market' led and changes frequently. Recent trends (past 2-3 years) suggest smaller gyms but with more studios to deliver solely class based workouts, as opposed to use of traditional fitness equipment is the latest trend/mix of provision. Also the recent (last 5 years) increase in the low cost gyms without long term

	memberships and which provide the gym and quality equipment but little else have opened up the market and created a new appeal and market. Meantime, there is possibly less demand for the gyms which also provide for a range of other services, spas, saunas and treatments and which have a long term membership commitment. So, it is a very segregated market in terms of (1) different types of provision for different types of participants and based on (2) consumer demand; (3) levels of disposable income (4) membership and non-membership marketing and pricing and (5) consumers changing interest in different activities. Parkwood Leisure is considering expanding its health and fitness offer at both Dereham Leisure Centre and the Breckland Centre. Based on a sound business case this should be supported.

Summary and application of the evidence base

4.2 This project provides an evidence base which sets out the current and future requirements for indoor sports and recreational facilities across Breckland 2016 – 2031. The application of this evidence base will be used by the Council to inform its Infrastructure Development Plan which, in turn, will form part of the Council's new Local Plan. It will also provide a stand-alone document in its own right.

4.3 The evidence base has been developed for six facility types. These being, swimming pools, sports halls, indoor bowling centres, indoor tennis centres, health and fitness (gyms) and squash courts. The Council decided to apply the Sport England facility planning model (fpm) in the future assessment of need for swimming pools and sports halls. This is because of the significance of these facility types in providing for the majority of indoor sports and physical activity participation.

4.4 The fpm assessment included options to change the supply of both swimming pools and sports halls to address the findings identified in the 2016 assessment. In effect it modelled options for both changing and increasing the supply of both facility types.

Audit and Assessment for Indoor Sports and Recreational Facilities. Breckland Council

Appendix 1

March 2017

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1: Introduction

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1: Introduction

Introduction

1.1 This audit and assessment report provides a needs assessment for the provision for indoor sports recreational facilities in the Breckland Council area. The methodology applied in developing this evidence base adopts the Sport England Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (ANOG) methodology for indoor sports and recreational facility assessments.

1.2 The assessment includes the Breckland Council area and the neighbouring authorities to Breckland. It sets out;

- The extent to which the existing supply of indoor sports and recreational facilities meets current levels of demand generated by the resident population of Breckland in 2016; and
- The extent to which the supply and demand for indoor sports facilities changes up to 2031. This is based on the projected growth in population in Breckland over this period and the neighbouring authorities and the new residential development planned to be developed over this period within Breckland.

1.3 The audit and assessment will be applied by Breckland Council in the development of planning policy for the Breckland Local Plan. It will also be used by the Council and its partners to consider changes in the provision of indoor sports and recreational facilities and be guided by this assessment.

1.4 The facility types included in the audit and assessment are: swimming pools; sports halls; indoor bowling centres; indoor tennis centres, health and fitness; (gyms); and squash courts. The evidence base also includes an assessment for full size artificial grass pitches (AGPs) as at 2016.

1.5 The AGP assessment is not developed for the period 2016 – 2031 because it is recommended that this would be better evidenced when considered as part of a wider Playing Pitch Strategy. Full size artificial grass pitches are predominated in use by football and hockey, rugby union represents around 2% of use. They provide for participation across the 16 – 44 age group. This does extend to older groups with veteran leagues and more recent activities such as walking football. They are increasingly part of education sports provision. They are an adaptable facility type providing for one match use over the whole pitch or sub division of the pitch to allow for three smaller playing areas. They provide for intensive use of up to 20 games a week, so long as the pitch surface is maintained and replaced every 8 – 10 years, depending on levels of use.

1.6 All hockey competitions are now played on artificial grass. Most importantly the Football Association has developed a strategy to eventually transfer all affiliated football at the local level onto 3g artificial surface pitches. This will create a significant increase in the demand for 3g pitches. So understanding the needs in Breckland to accommodate this change in use and the implications for use of the other surface artificial grass pitches is very important.

1.7 The Football Association strategy does also have implications for the future need and scale of provision for natural grass pitches at both junior and adult levels. If all affiliated football moves onto artificial surfaces, it increases the need for 3g pitches and reduces the need for natural grass pitches. Also moving football onto 3g pitches and off of the

and dressed artificial surfaces may mean considerably less use of these pitch surfaces, unless hockey can absorb this demand.

1.8 In short, the future provision and need for AGPs is inextricably linked to the assessment of the future need for natural grass pitches and the impact of the FA strategy. It is recommended that it is more valid to undertake the future assessment of need for AGPs as part of a Playing Pitch Strategy for Breckland. This would include all pitch and court sports and all types of surfaces.

1.9 For the swimming pools and sports halls audit and assessment, Breckland Council decided it wished to apply the Sport England Facilities Planning Model (fpm) in the future assessment of need or swimming pools and sports halls up to 2031. The reasons being;

- Swimming pools and sports halls based on Sport England research account for between 60% - 70% of the total indoor sports and physical activity participation at the community level. Consequently there is considerably more research and data on trends and profile of participation for these two most important facility types

- They represent the largest investment in indoor sports facilities by the Council through the PFI projects at Breckland Leisure Centre and Waterworld and Dereham Leisure Centre. Consequently understanding the future needs for these two important facilities and potential further need for swimming pools and sports halls across the authority is very important

- The population of Breckland is projected to increase from 135,832 people in 2016 to 149,769 people by 2031. The size of this population increase, the scale and location of the new residential settlements and understanding the collective impact they will have on increasing the demand for swimming pools and sports halls is very important. Does existing supply meet the future demand? Or is there an increase in demand to consider additional provision at these locations? Or is there sufficient demand in other locations to justify new provision?

- Swimming pools are genuinely the only cradle to grave sports facility type. The participation rate and frequency of participation is spread across all age bands and both genders. It is one of few indoor sports facilities where female participation is higher than for males. Also swimming pools do provide for more family based activity than other facility types. It is also a facility type that is about physical activity and swimming for a health and active lifestyle benefit, as well as swimming as a sports activity. Finally learning to swim is both a national curriculum requirement for children up to key stage 2 and develops a safety skill for life. For all these reasons assessing the future need for swimming pools based on the current provision and projected growth in Breckland is important

- Sports halls have a wide age range of participants with the main participation in the 16 – 44 age range. They provide for 12 or more individual court or racket sports as well as for martial arts and exercise and fitness classes. Participation is higher amongst males but use of sports halls for exercise and fitness classes' appeals more to women. The peak period is extending to include recreational sports and low impact exercise classes from an increasing elderly population who prefer day time activity and cannot access education venues during the day. For

all these reasons it is again important to understand the future needs for sports halls.

1.10 Appendices 2 and 3 describe the facility planning model work and set out the full findings from the fpm assessments for swimming pools and sports halls. This Appendix includes the main findings for swimming pools and sports halls and in the same reporting format as for the other facility types.

Assessment report structure, sequence and content

1.11 Following this introduction, the assessment report sets out the findings for each facility type. There is a summary table of findings under each of the ANOG headings at the start for each facility type.

1.12 This is followed by reporting the detailed findings on the assessment. The focus is on supply, demand and accessibility. The spatial analysis does include the impact of the catchment area of facility supply in the neighbouring authorities, extending into Breckland and the export of Breckland demand to them. Also vice versa, the import of demand into the authority based on the nearest facility for residents in neighbouring authorities being in Breckland.

1.13 The hard evidence data findings is followed by a commentary on site visits to the facilities and consultations with the providers, so as to provide a rounded assessment.

1.14 The summary of key findings and recommendations is taken forward into the evidence base report itself and set out under the headings of protect, enhance and provide for each facility type.

1.15 The database for the facility types in the authority has been verified by Breckland Council officers.

2: Audit and Assessment for each of the facilty types

2.1 This section describes the findings from the audit and assessment for each of the sports and recreational facility types starting with swimming pools. This is set out as first a summary table of findings under each of the ANOG headings. This is followed by a detailed description of the findings that make up the assessment.

Table 2.1: Summary of findings for swimming pools under the Assessing Needs and Opportunities (ANOG) headings Breckland 2016 - 2031

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
Breckland has 2 swimming pool sites which provide for community use. These sites have a total of 5 individual pools. Breckland Leisure Centre and Waterworld, Thetford has three pools: a main pool of 313 sq metres of water, 25m x 6 lanes, a leisure pool of 275 sq metres of water and a teaching/learner pool of 75 sq metres of water. Dereham Leisure Centre has two pools, a main pool of 338 sq metres of water, which is 25m x 6 lanes and a teaching/learner pool of 135 sq metres of water. There are two further swimming pools in Breckland but these are excluded from the analysis because of their size and not providing for community use. Necton Primary School pool (1977) has a 14, 5 x 5m pool and Swanton Morley VC Primary School pool (1975) has a 15m x 7.5m pool. There is an outdoor lido at the Convent of the Sacred Heart School. In 2016 and 2031 the Breckland supply in water space is 8. sq metres of water per 1,000 population. In comparison to the seven neighbouring authorities, Breckland has the third lowest provision of water space per 1,000 population. The highest is North Norfolk 15 sq metres of water and South Norfolk, 10.4 sq metres of water. The lowest provision is	The quality of the swimming pool offer is very good. Both the Breckland pools have a 25m x 6 lane main pool and separate teaching/learner pool. There is also a very sizeable 135 sq m teaching/learner pool at Breckland Leisure Centre and a 75 sq m pool at Dereham Leisure Centre. There is also a very sizeable leisure pool of 275 sq m at the Breckland Centre. So, the two pool sites can provide for the full range of swimming activities of, learn to swim, public recreational swimming, lane and fitness swimming and swimming development through clubs. Also, fun, confidence building and family based activities with the leisure pool at Breckland. Furthermore, the dual pools allow for flexible programming and maximising usage at each pool. The pools were built in two	Based on the location, catchment area of pools both inside and outside Breckland, plus the location of the Breckland demand for swimming, some 70% of the total demand for swimming from Breckland residents is being met in 2016. By 2031 the figure is 71% and with the option of the Swaffham pool it increases to 80% of the total Breckland demand for swimming being met. Some 80% of the total 70% of the demand for swimming which is met/satisfied in 2031 and 80% with the Swaffham pool option, is by a Breckland resident using a pool located in the authority. This is known as retained demand and it is based on residents using the pool nearest to where they live. This is a reasonably high level of retained demand and shows the pool locations and catchment areas are well placed in relation to where the Breckland demand for swimming is located. To the extent that based on each option wither seven or eight out of ten visits to a pool by a Breckland resident that is met, is at a pool in the authority. In 2016 the estimate is that 20% of the Breckland demand that is met is exported. This increases to 23% by 20131 and drops back to 20% with the Swaffham pool option. This equates to around 1,190 visits in 2016, 1,425 in 2031 and 1,390 visits with the Swaffham pool option. Car travel is the dominate travel mode to pools in both years and with the Swaffham pool option. Car travel accounts for 88% of all visits, (catchment area 20 minutes of a pool location). Some 8% of visits are by walking (20 minutes/1 mile catchment area) and 4% are by public transport (15 minutes catchment area). The nearest pools to Breckland are in South Norfolk at	Used capacity – is a measure of usage at swimming pools and estimates how well used/how full pools are. The analysis is designed to include a 'comfort factor', defined by Sport England, beyond which the pools are too full. It assumes that usage over 70% of capacity is busy in the weekly peak period and the swimming pool is operating at an uncomfortable level above that percentage. The estimated average used capacity of the Breckland swimming pools is 65.5% of pool capacity used in the weekly peak period in 2016. It does vary at each pool site, with 56% of capacity estimated to be used at peak times at the Breckland Leisure Centre pool and 77% at Dereham Leisure Centre pool. The estimates for 2031 are a Council wide average of used capacity of 67% and 69.6% with the Swaffham pool option. The findings for each pool site for 2031 are 56% at the Breckland centre and 57% of capacity used with the Swaffham pool option. For the Dereham pool site, the figures are 78% and 74% of capacity used. The Swaffham pool option is projected to be at 100% of pool capacity used at peak times. Both existing pool sites pools have similar travel patterns by customers, with the

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
in Mid Suffolk, 6.1 sq metres of water. When comparing the Breckland demand for swimming pools with the Breckland supply there is in 2016 a demand for 1,382 sq metres of water. This compares to an available supply of 977 sq metres of water. So, a supply/demand balance of – 405 sq metres of water. By 2031 this changes to a total demand for 1,460 sq metres of water. This is an increase of only 78 sq metres of water, between the two years. In the facility planning model assessment it was decided to test the option of developing a community swimming pool located in Swaffham by 2031. This would mean the total supply increases to 1,134 sq metres of water and demand would remain at 1,460 sq metres of water. This assessment is however simply comparing the Breckland demand with the Brecklqnd supply. It is NOT based on the location and catchment area of pools and the import and export of swimming demand across the neighbouring authorities. This assessment is set out under access and availability and provides the rounded/catchment area assessment of supply and demand.	eras. Breckland Leisure Centre opened in 1974 and was extensively modernised in 2007. Dereham Leisure Centre opened in 2007 and so is nine years old. The average age of the Breckland pool sites in 2016 is 26 years and by 2031 it will be 41 years.	Wymondham Leisure Centre and Diss swimming pool. Plus in Kings Lynn and West Norfolk at Downham Market. Unmet demand has two parts to it - demand which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any swimming pool within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any pool and is then classified as unmet demand. In 2016 Breckland unmet demand is 2,450 visits in the weekly peak period. This equates to 30% of the total demand for swimming pools and 407 sq metres of water. In 2031 unmet demand is 436 sq metres of water and this decreases to 290 sq metres of water with the Swaffham pool option. Some 98% of the unmet dmned in both years and with the Swaffham pool option is down to the second definition - of demand located outside the catchment area of a pool. The unmet demand reflects the geographic size, the settlement pattern of the authority and the distances between the major settlements. Also, the existing pool sites are located in the north east and south/west of the authority. The area of highest unmet demand outside catchment is in and around Swaffham and Watton. Both are outside the drive time catchment area of the Dereham swimming pool. Swaffham appears to be equidistant between the Dereham pool and the pool in Downham Market. Watton is possibly closest to the Thetford pool but the 2 pool sites in Wymondham in South Norfolk maybe provide venues for Watton residents (the Wymondham centre has just had a £3,5m modernisation). For Watton however, all sites are on the edge/outside the 20	Dereham having a slightly higher travel pattern by car at 91% of all visits, compared with 86% at Thetford. The reasons for variations in used capacity is most likely created by the level of swimming demand in the catchment area of each pool site. There is not scope to re-distribute demand between pools to achieve a more balanced level of used capacity overall. This is because of the distances between each location and effectively each pool site has its own catchment area. On reviewing the data on pool capacity used with the operator at both sites, the view is that the findings on used capacity are higher at both sites. This is supported by the throughput data on the levels of pool usage for different activities of learn to swim, pubic recreational swimming, club use, swimming lessons and galas. A more reasoned assessment is that the Dereham pool is operating at over 85% of pool capacity at peak times and Thetford at over 70% at peak times. Imported demand is measured under the used capacity heading because it is demand located in neighbouring authorities but where the nearest pool to where these residents live is in Breckland. So, their usage becomes part of the used capacity of the Breckland pools. Total imported demand represents 15.6% of the used capacity of the two Breckland

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
		minute drive time catchment area of a pool. Swaffham is the area of highest unmet demand and it represents around 130 sq metres of water in 2016 and increasing to 145 sq metres of water in 2031. Hence the reason for including the option for a community pool in Swaffham, as part of the fpm assessment. Based on unmet demand of this scale from lack of access to a pool, there is a case for provision of a small 20m x 4 lane pool (160 sq metres of water). Watton has unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a pool of around 100 sq metres of water in both years. The town is however on the edge of the drive time catchment area of the Dereham and Thetford centres.	pool sites.in 2016. In 2031 imported demand is 16.4% of the used capacity of the Breckland pools and increasing to 17.3% with the Swaffham pool option. The highest imported demand is from Forest Heath at 457 visits in the weekly peak period. This is followed by 183 visits imported from St Edmondsbury, and 89 visits imported from Broadland,

Summary of key findings for swimming pools

The summary of key findings under each of the ANOG headings are also set out by a question and answer approach.

What is the swimming pool supply and the swimming offer?

Breckland has two major swimming pool sites and both have a 25m x 6 lane main pool with an extensive separate teaching/learner pool. In addition, the Thetford Centre has an extensive free form leisure pool. So both pool sites can accommodate the full range of swimming activities of learn to swim, public recreational swimming, lane and fitness swimming and swimming development through clubs. In addition, the Thetford site can provide for fun, water confidence and family based activities in the leisure pool. In short, the existing swimming pool provision makes it a very very extensive swimming offer.

Supply and demand for swimming across Breckland 2016 and 2031

When looking at a closed assessment of simply comparing the supply of swimming pools in Breckland with the demand for swimming across Breckland and NOT based on the catchment area of pools across local authority boundaries, then these is a deficit of demand over supply of 406 sq metres of water in 2016, then 482 sq metres of water in 2031 and which reduces to 325 sq metres of water with the Swaffham pool option..

However this is the closed assessment and is simply looking at the Breckland supply compared with the Breckland demand. The findings for the interaction of supply, demand and

access to pools inside and outside Breckland and based on pool catchments across boundaries needs to be set out. This will establish how much of the Breckland demand for swimming can be met, how much unmet demand there is and where it is located.

How much of the Breckland demand for swimming can be met?

This is based on the catchment area of pools across boundaries. In 2016 some 70% of the total demand for swimming from Breckland residents is located inside the catchment area of a pool and there is enough capacity to meet this level of demand.

In 2031 satisfied demand is virtually unchanged at 70.1% of total demand. In large part this is because total demand only increases by 76 sq metres of water and the pools can absorb virtually of this increase and so satisfied demand only decreases by 0.4% between the two years

The Swaffham pool option, increase supply with demand unchanged and so the level of satisfied demand increases to 80% of total demand for swimming. In effect the Swaffham swimming pool option increases satisfied or met demand by 10% to 80% of the total demand for swimming in 2031.

How much of the Breckland demand for swimming is retained at pools in Breckland?

This is based on the Breckland residents traveling to the pool sites in Breckland. The range of findings are that, 79% of the Breckland met demand for pools is met at the Breckland pools in 2016 and 77% in 2031. The impact of the Swaffham pool option is to increase retained demand a little but only by another 3% to 80% of the total Breckland demand for swimming which is met at pools in Breckland. In effect in run 3 the nearest pool for eight out of ten visits to a pool by a Breckland resident is a pool in the authority.

How much unmet demand for swimming is there and how much access to swimming pools?

Unmet demand has two definitions: demand which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular swimming pool within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any pool and is then classified as unmet demand.

A key finding is that unmet demand located outside catchment is 99% of the total unmet demand in both 2016 and 2031 and is 98% even with the new pool at Swaffham option. Unmet demand located outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage. This is especially true in an area such as Breckland with such a large land area and dispersed small scale settlements.

The amount of unmet demand outside catchment equates to 407 sq metres of water in 2016. It increases to 436 sq metres of water in run 2 but reduces to 290 in run 3, with the Swaffham pool option. So the impact of the Swaffham pool option is to increase the amount of water space inside catchment by 146 sq metres of water.

In terms of the land area of the authority outside catchment, map 6.3 in Appendix 2 shows that in 2031 around 50% of the land area of the authority is outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of any swimming pool. The two pool sites in the NE and SW of the authority do have extensive drive time catchment areas. However, such is the size of the authority that this still leaves around 50% of the land area outside catchment.

In the areas inside catchment (map 6.3 in Appendix 2) residents have access to between 1 – 5 swimming pools and this includes pools in neighbouring authorities, where their catchment area extends into Breckland, and based on the 20 minute drive time catchment area of the pool locations.

The impact of the Swaffham swimming pool option is to reduce the land area of Breckland outside the drive time catchment area of any pool to between 15% - 20% of the land area

of the authority (map 6.4 in Appendix 2).

So there is increased access to pools for Breckland residents with the Swaffham pool option. However unmet demand outside catchment in the remaining areas of Breckland is still a stubborn 290 sq metres of water. To reiterate, unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get complete geographic coverage.

How full are the swimming pools?

The facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor' and the Sport England benchmark is that a pool is comfortably full when it reaches 70% of capacity used at peak times. Above this level the pool itself becomes too full and the changing and circulation area are also crowded.

In both 2016 and 2031 the used capacity of the pools is close to but below the 70% pools full comfort level. In 2016 the authority wide average used capacity is 65.5% and this increases to 67% by 2031. With the Swaffham pool option, the average used capacity of the pools is 69.6% of pool capacity used at peak times.

These are the authority wide findings and the estimated used capacity of each of the individual swimming pool sites does vary. The used capacity of the Breckland Centre in Thetford ranges from 56% to 57% across the 2016 and 2031 findings.. Whilst the Dereham centre is estimated to have a used capacity at 77%, in 2016, then 78% in 2031 and 74% of pool capacity used, with the Swaffham pool option.

Consultations with the facility operator suggests the fpm findings are under estimating the used capacity of the two pool sites and they are closer to 85% of pool capacity used at Dereham and 70% at Thetford.

The impact of the Swaffham pool option with a modern pool, in an area where there is no provision, plus the area of Breckland with the highest demand for swimming outside the catchment area of a pool, creates an estimated used capacity of the Swaffham pool option of 100% capacity used at peak times.

There are several reasons why the percentage of used capacity can vary and it is important to set these out and not just view the percentage figures. The reasons are:

The amount of demand located in the catchment area of a pool, this will vary and impact on how well used any particular pool becomes

The age and condition of the pool, older pools have less appeal and if customers are more accustomed to modern pools which provide better changing accommodation and other features then this does impact on lower usage of older pools. Also the quality and the range of facilities on a site can influence usage of pools. Quality of the swimming offer is an increasing influence on distances residents are prepared to travel to access pools.

The key finding is that all pool sites are estimated to have high levels of usage both now and in 2031. This finding reflects the high demand for swimming across Breckland.

How much demand for swimming is there in the Swaffham area and is there justification for a swimming pool?

This is separating out the key findings which relate to Swaffham but are included in the strategic findings already summarised.

In summary, the unmet demand for swimming in the Swaffham area is estimated to be 130 sq. metres of water in 2016 and increases to 145 sq metres of water by 2031. The size of the pool modelled for the Swaffham pool option is a 25m x 4 lane community size pool of 25m x 4 lanes and each lane 2.1 sq metres of water. This is the smallest size of 25m x 4 lane pool with the smallest lane width.

The fpm assessment is that there is insufficient unmet demand up to 2031 to justify a swimming pool in Swaffham of this scale. However a smaller pool of 20m x 4 lanes and which would be 160 sq metres of water does meet the supply, demand and access findings for Swaffham. It is prudent however to also consider the draw effect of a new swimming pool and possible increases in swimming participation. IF this can be sustained then there could be justification for a 25m x 4 lane pool. In short the precise scale of the pool would need to be established through detailed project feasibility and the core business case.

Finally, the Swaffham area is an area of the authority right on the periphery of the drive time catchment area of existing pools. In total 50% of the land area of the authority is outside catchment based on the current pool provision. This does reduce to 15% - 20% of the authority land area with a pool located in Swaffham. So on criteria of increasing access to swimming pools and providing opportunities for swimming for Swaffham residents, which are currently limited because of the time and cost of travelling to a pool, then on accessibly grounds, there is a case for a pool in Swaffham.

3: Audit and Assessment for Sports Halls

3.1 This section describes the findings from the audit and assessment for sports halls Set out first is a table of findings under each of the ANOG headings. This is followed with a summary of key findings.

Table 3.1: Summary of findings for sports halls under the Assessing Needs and Opportunities (ANOG) headings Breckland 2016 - 2031

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
In 2016 Breckland has 7 sports halls on 6 sites which provide for community use. The total supply of the sports halls in badminton courts is just fewer than 26 and this reduces to 22 courts (rounded) based on the number of badminton courts available for community use in the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days). So, there is the equivalent of 4 courts (rounded) across the 3 education venues (not including Attleborough and Swaffham) which are not available for community use. A reduction of 13% in the total supply of badminton courts. Based on a measure of badminton courts per 10,000 population, Breckland has a supply of 2.3 courts. This is the joint lowest provision with Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and North Norfolk. The highest provision is in St Edmondsbury at 8. 8 badminton courts per 10,000 population, followed by South Norfolk with 4.2 courts. In 2016 the Breckland demand for sports halls is just fewer than 36 badminton courts. This compares to a current available supply of 22 courts,, with a further supply of just below 5 courts not available. This assessment is however simply comparing the Breckland demand with the Brecklqnd supply. It is NOT based on the location and catchment area of sports halls and the import and export of	The sports hall quality offer is good. There are 5 venues which are a four badminton court size sports hall. This size of hall can provide for the full range of indoor hall sports at the community level of activity. However, this size does preclude the playing of more than one sport at any one time for most of the ball playing sports, basketball and volleyball. There are further 3 venues which are 3 badminton court size sports halls. The average age of the sports halls is 34 years and so quite an old stock. There has only been one sports hall opened since 2000, this being the Dereham Leisure Centre in 2007. The oldest sports hall is at Wayland Academy opened in 1960. Four of the oldest venues have been modernised. The oldest unmodernised sports halls are Wayland Academy (1960) Swaffham Leisure Centre (1981) and Attleborough	In 2016 some 82% of the total demand for sports halls from Breckland residents is being met. With the replacement sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham this increases to 83% and stays at this level with the option to provide the new sports hall in Dereham by 2031. Of this total meet demand, in 2016, some 78% of the demand for sports halls which is met/satisfied is a Breckland resident using a sports hall located in the authority in 2016. This increases to nearly 84% with the replacement sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham. This illustrates the impact of improving the quality of the sports halls and which are more attractive to customers and leads to 6% more of the Breckland demand being retained in the authority. The impact of the option for the Dereham new sports hall at Northgate High School is to increase the Breckland demand for sports halls retained within the authority to over 86% of the total Breckland demand for sports halls which is met. Overall these are very high levels of retained demand and shows the number of sports hall sites, their locations and catchment areas are very well placed in relation to where the Breckland demand for sports halls is located. In 2016 some 22% of the Breckland demand that is met is exported, so just over one in five visits. This equates to around 1,400 visits and the demand retained in the authority is 5,070 visits in the weekly peak period. With the replacement sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham exported demand decreases to 16.3% of the Breckland met demand. It decreases further to just under 14% of the Breckland demand being exported in 2031 with	The estimated average used capacity of the Breckland sports hall in 2016 is 88% of capacity used in the weekly peak period. The authority wide average varies by venue, both the Breckland and Dereham venues are estimated to be at 100% of capacity used. Whilst the Wayland Academy centre is estimated to have 55% of sports hall capacity used at peak times. The impact of the options to re-provide the Attleborough and Swaffham sports halls leads to an estimated 95% used capacity of the Attleborough Centre and 100% of capacity used in the weekly peak period at the Swaffham Centre. The impact of the option to provide the new sports hall in Dereham by 2031 is for this centre to have an estimated used capacity of 100% in the weekly peak period. There is much lower estimated used capacity at the Dereham Neatherd High School at 25% and Wayland Academy at 21% of sports hall capacity used at peak times by 2031. Reasons for variations in used capacity are: (1) The amount of demand within the catchment area of any one sports hall does vary and so some will be fuller than others; (2) If there are sports halls in the same

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
sports halls demand across the neighbouring authorities. This assessment is set out under access and availability and provides the rounded/catchment area assessment of supply and demand. There is a negative supply and demand balance in five of the seven neighbouring authorities. It is highest in Kings Lynn and West Norfolk at just fewer than 12 badminton courts ad lowest in Mid Suffolk at just fewer than 3 courts. There is a positive balance of 3 courts in South Norfolk and 12 courts in St Edmondsbury, both rounded. The facility planning model assessment included 3 options for changing the ports hall supply across the District. These being; • The option to close the existing sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham and open new sports halls on the same sites by 2020. The rationale being that the evidence base work for 2016 had identified a need for sports halls at these locations. The existing sports halls opened in 1981 at Swaffham and 1982 at Attleborough. The age, size and condition of the sports halls are limiting their use and attractiveness to participants. Given these findings, it was considered more beneficial to model the need for replacement sports halls at the current time with a projected replacement by 2020, rather than assume these centres could continue operating until 2031 and base the assessment of need on that date.	Sports Hall (1982). The site visits identified an issue of sports hall quality at most of the older school sports hall venues. The sport hall flooring and lighting are of reasonable quality, However the replacement of floors with a sprung timber floor and replacement/upgrading of lighting would make a very noticeable improvement in sports hall quality. By contrast, the resurfacing of the school gymnasium and the two badminton court sports hall at Northgate High School in Dereham and the re-carpeting of the 60m x 40m artificial grass pitch at the school, all illustrate the impact of quality improvements to facilities. This is in terms improving the facilities and providing very attractive venues for school and community participation,. Northgate High is a very good example.	the option of the Dereham new sports halls. In both years car travel is the dominate travel mode to sports halls, as it is with swimming pools, not a surprise given the rurality of Breckland. Some 91% of visits to Breckland sports halls are by car (20 minutes' drive time catchment). Some 6% of visits are by walking (20 minutes/1 mile catchment area) and 3% are by public transport (15 minutes catchment area). Unmet demand has two parts to it (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall and is then classified as unmet demand. In Breckland in 2016 unmet demand is 1,384 visits in the weekly peak period. This equates to 17.7% of the total demand for sports halls and which in turn equates to just over 6 badminton courts. With the replacement sports halls in Attleborough and Swaffham unmet demand is 6 badminton courts. The option to provide a new sports hall in Dereham by 2031 doers not reduce unmet demand further. The reason for little change in unmet demand, despite the increase in provision of sports halls is because some 70% of unmet demand is from the second definition of unmet demand, - which is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall. Only 30% is from lack of capacity at the sports hall to absorb all the demand in its catchment area. There is no one area which could be called a hot spot of unmet demand. Perhaps not surprising given total unmet demand across the authority averages 6 badminton courts.	catchment area and residents have a choice, then the quality of a venue can influence how full each venue will be. (3) The opening hours and programme of use for clubs and community use. A public leisure centre will have more extensive opening hours than a school venue. Also, it will provide for club and pay and play/recreational use. This combination will lead to more usage being accommodated at these venues when compared to schools, which have much more limited hours for community use and in essence provide for clubs use. This point most likely applies to the Neatherd School and Wayland Academy estimates. (4) The size of venue, Wayland Academy is a three badminton court size sports halls and so limited in being able to provide for the full range of indoor hall sports. This will influence how well used the venues are. The site visits and consultations largely confirmed the hard evidence data in terms of the total used capacity of sports halls. In particular, it being highest at the two public leisure centres. Imported demand is measured under availability because it is demand located in neighbouring authorities but where the nearest sports hall to where these residents live is in Breckland. So, if they use the nearest sports hall to where they live this becomes part of the used capacity of the Breckland

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
• Tthe supply and demand for sports halls in 2031 based on the projected population in 2031 in Breckland, plus the neighbouring authorities and the residential development in Breckland. this includes the replacement sports halls in Swaffham and Attleborough • An option to provide a new sports hall in Dereham of 4 badminton court size, located at Northgate High School and opening by 2031.The rationale being the 2016 evidence work identified there may be a need for further sports hall provision in Dereham but the impact of population change up to 2031 should be part of that assessment. With these options the Breckland demand for sports halls is 35 badminton in 2016 and just fewer than 38 badminton courts in 2031. The 2016 supply available for community use is 22 badminton courts. This increases to 25 badminton courts with the Attleborough and Swaffham replacement sports halls and 29 courts with the Dereham new sports hall. This assessment is however simply comparing the Breckland demand with the Brecklqnd supply. It is NOT based on the location and catchment area of sports halls and the import and export of swimming demand across the neighbouring authorities. This assessment is set out under access and availability and provides the rounded/catchment area assessment of supply and demand for sports halls.		Unmet demand is highest in the periphery of the authority to the south and west to the Forest Heath and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk boundaries at between 1 – 2 badminton courts. Then in some unmet demand in an area to the north of Dereham and which equates to around 1 badminton court. The 30% of unmet demand due to lack of sports hall capacity equates to fewer than 2 badminton courts. The capacity of one badminton court in the weekly peak period is 220 visits.	venues. Total imported demand represents 5.8% of the used capacity of the Breckland sports halls in 2016. This increases to 9.3% with the option to re-provide the Attleborough and Swaffham centres. The reason being the provision of modern centres has a draw effect and residents who did not previously use these centres are attracted to them.

Summary of Key Findings 2016

The summary of key findings under each of the ANOG headings are also set out by a question and answer approach.

What is the sports halls provision in Breckland?

In 2016 the supply of sports halls across Breckland is 7 sports halls on 6 sites. This equates to total supply of just fewer than 26 badminton courts. Some 22 courts are available for community use in the weekly peak period (weekday evening and weekend days). The difference being the two supply figures is because of the more limited hours for community use at some of the school sites.

The sports halls provision in Breckland is extensive in scale, with all but one of the existing sites being a 4 badminton court size sports hall. This size of sports hall can accommodate the full range of indoor hall sports at the community level of activity. The exception is the Wayland Academy sports hall which is a 3 badminton court size sports hall.

The average age of the Breckland sports hall sites in 2016 is 34 years, so quite an old stock of sports halls. Two of the oldest sports hall have been modernised, the Breckland Centre in Thetford (1974) and modernised in 2013 and Dereham Neatherd High School (1975) and modernised in 2009.The oldest venue is Wayland Academy (1960) and this is unmodernised. The sports hall at Swaffham opened in 1981 and the Attleborough centre opened in 1982.

What is the supply and demand for sports halls across Breckland in 2016 and 2031?

When looking at simply comparing the 2016 Breckland supply of sports halls with the Breckland demand for sports halls for community use, the total supply is just fewer than 26 badminton courts and the available supply for community use is 22 badminton courts in the weekly peak period. The demand for sports halls from Breckland residents in 2016 is for just fewer than 36 badminton courts in the weekly peak period. To repeat however this is simply comparing the Breckland supply with the Breckland demand, not based on the location and catchment area of sports halls across boundaries.

The total demand for sports halls by Breckland residents in 2016 is 7,813 visits in the weekly peak period and this increases to 8,291 visits in 2031. This is a 6.1% increase in demand between the two years.

The reason the demand increase is not higher is most likely because of the ageing of the resident population between 2016 and 2031. It could be there are fewer participants in the main age bands for hall sports participation in 2031 than in 2016. So the increase in demand from population growth is being offset by the ageing of the resident population.

What are the options for meeting the demand for sports halls?

The baseline finding is of demand for sports halls exceeding supply. Also the age of some of the existing sports halls, (the Swaffham sports halls opened in 1981 and the Attleborough centre in 1982), means their use and attractiveness to participants is limited. Given these findings it was decided to model changes in the sports hall provision, with replacement sports halls at both sites, and with an opening date of 2020.

Taking this approach, rather than assume these centres could continue operating until 2031 and base the assessment of need on that date. The scale of the replacement centre in Attleborough is increased from a 4 to a 6 badminton court size sports hall, again based on the 2016 evidence base work. The replacement centre in Swaffham is the same 4 courts but a larger

centre with more run off space between courts. (The current Swaffham centre is 32m x 17m and the new centre is modelled on a 34.5m x 20m hall).

Again, based on the 2016 findings on supply and demand, it was decided to also model an additional 4 badminton court size sports hall in Dereham, a possible location being Northgate High Schooll..

The options for Watton were considered but it was decided not to model provision options in the town. The town is on the edge of the drive time catchments area of the centres in Dereham, Swaffham and Thetford. This is not good accessibility for the residents of Watton as the sites are on the edge of the drive time catchments. There are however sports halls in Watton at the Watton Sports Centre and a smaller sports hall at Wayland Academy. Both these centres are in need of modernisation. The option for Watton could be to re-provide one of these centres with a four court sports hall of 34.5m x 20m and to ensure there is a committed programme of access for community and club use at the chosen venue.

How much of the Breckland demand for sports halls can be met?

This is based on the location and catchment area of sports halls and includes sports halls in neighbouring authorities where the catchment area extends into Breckland.

The findings are that in in 2016 some 82% of the Breckland total demand for sports halls can be met. This increases to 83% with the slightly larger sports hall option at Attleborough and the new sports hall in Swaffham options. In 2031 with increased demand from the 2031 population satisfied demand is the lowest at just below 82%. Finally the option of the new sports hall in Dereham leads to an estimate of 83% of total demand being met.

So across the options from 2016 to 2031 satisfied, or, met demand is quite high with over eight out of ten visits to a sports hall being accommodated. Car travel is the dominate travel mode (20 minutes' drive time catchment area) to sports halls with between 90% - 91% of all visits

The percentage of visits by walkers (20 minutes/1mile catchment area) averages 6%. The percentage of visits by public transport (15 minutes catchment area), averages 3% in both years.

How much of the Breckland demand for sports halls is retained in Breckland?

This is based on the catchment area of sports halls and residents using the nearest sports hall to where they live - known as retained demand.

Retained demand is very high and in 2016 total retained demand is 78% of the total Breckland demand which is met. Put another way, just under eight out of ten visits to a sports hall by a Breckland resident is to a sports hall in the authority.

Retained demand increases quite significantly with the option of the new and slightly larger sports hall at Attleborough and the option of a new sports hall at Swaffham. Retained demand is just under 84% of the total demand for sports halls by Breckland residents which is met. This represents an increase of over 6% over the 2016 percentage. The reason for the increase is because the sports halls are new and they have a draw effect of modern and accessible sports halls, when compared with the existing venues. Retained demand increases to 83% by 2031 and to 86% with the option of the new sports hall in Dereham.

Overall, the retained demand findings are showing that the location and catchment area of the sports halls in both 2016 and 2031 are very well placed to retain the vast majority of the Breckland demand for sports halls. Changes in the location of the sports halls is unlikely to increase the level of the Breckland demand for sports halls met inside the authority.

How much of the Breckland demand for sports halls is exported and where does it go?

The residual of satisfied demand, after retained demand is exported demand. The range of exported demand is 22% of the Breckland demand exported in 2016, reducing to 14% by the time of the option of the new sports hall in Dereham. With this option, exported demand equates to 4 badminton courts.

The destination and scale of the Breckland exported demand for this option shows that the highest export of demand is to South Norfolk at 40% of the total 14% of demand exported. Then 25% is exported to Forest Heath, with 19% exported to St Edmondsbury, 9% to Broadland. 5% to North Norfolk and the balance to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and Mid Suffolk.

So even with the option of a new and larger sports hall at Attleborough, there is still some Breckland demand for sports halls in 2031 which is located closer to the Wymondham sports halls sites than the Attleborough site, it is however small in scale at around 1 badminton court.

How much unmet demand for sports halls is there?

Unmet demand has two definitions, demand which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall and is then classified as unmet demand.

Unmet demand in 2016 equates to just over 6 badminton courts and is unchanged in 2031. In terms of the different types of unmet demand, the amount of demand outside catchment is by far the larger, it being between 70% - 71% of total unmet demand and just over 4 badminton courts.

Unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage whereby all areas of an authority are inside the catchment area of a sports hall. This is especially true in an area with such a large land area as Breckland. The 20 minute drive time catchment is 20 minutes, for public transport it is 15 minutes and for walking it is 20 minutes/1mile.

The key finding is not that unmet demand from this definition exists but the scale and if it is concentrated in any one area? Unmet demand is highest in the periphery of the authority to the south and west of Breckland and the Forest Heath and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk boundaries, it totals between 1 – 2 badminton courts. The reminder being dispersed across the authority. Unmet demand because of lack of sports hall capacity represents around 2 badminton courts.

How full are the sports halls?

In 2016 and in 2031 with the new sports hall provision options, the used capacity of the sports halls is above the 80% sports halls full comfort level which is a Sport England measure. The range is 88% of capacity used in 2016 to 83% with the new sports hall in Dereham option. These are the authority wide findings and the estimated used capacity for each of the individual sports hall sites does vary.

The Breckland centre in Thetford, the Dereham Centre and then the new sports halls at Swaffham and Dereham are all at 100% of capacity used at the peak times with the Attelborough Centre at 95% of capacity used. There are lower estimated used capacity at the education venues, with Dereham Neatherd High School at 27% and Wayland Academy at 22% of sports hall capacity used at peak times.

There are several reasons why the percentage of used capacity can vary and it is important to set these out and not just view the percentage figures. The reasons are:

- The amount of demand located in the catchment area of a sports hall, this will vary and impact on how well used any particular sports hall. This could be the explanation for the high used capacity at Thetford and at Attleborough .

- The age and condition of the sports hall. Older sports halls have less appeal and if participants can access more modern sports halls with a sprung timber floor, high quality lighting and modern changing accommodation, then older venues can become a disincentive to participate, resulting in lower usage. This could explain the reasons for the lower estimated used capacity at the two education venues. They are the oldest sites with the Neatherd High School sports hall having opened in 1975 but was modernised in 2009. The Wayland Academy venue opened in 1960 and according to the data has not been modernised. Also the Wayland Academy site is also a smaller 3 court sports hall.

- The type of sports hall programme and also a programme that does or does not fit into the times residents can use it, so there is less of a draw. The education venues are only programmed and available for club use not public use. So this will reduce the potential usage of the centres and is likely to be another reason for the lower used capacities at these venues.

Overall summary

The evidence base work preceding the facilities planning model work (fpm) had identified a need for a new and larger replacement sports hall in Attleborough and a replacement sports hall in Swaffham of the same 4 badminton court size, so as to meet community needs for indoor hall sports in both towns,

Based on the age of the current venues and the supply and demand findings, it was decided to model the impact of replacing these centres by 2020. The fpm findings do justify the provision of these new venues with a 6 badminton court sports hall in Attleborough and a 4 court sports hall in Swaffham.

The fpm work has also identified that the demand for sports halls by Breckland residents does exceed supply. This is based on the 2016 demand, the projected population growth, and the residential development up to 2031, all contributing to the increase in demand for sports halls. To meet this assessment the provision option of a new 4 badminton court size sports hall in Dereham, located on an education site was also modelled.. The fpm assessment is that this provision is supported.

Unmet demand for sports halls based on the catchment area of sports halls (and including sports halls in neighbouring authorities, where their catchment area extends into Breckland), means that unmet demand equates to around 6 badminton courts in both 2016 and in 2031. Of this total, 4 courts is created by demand located outside the catchment area of a sports halls and 2 courts from lack of sports hall capacity.

The unmet demand from lack of access is dispersed across the authority and is highest in the periphery of Breckland in the south and west of the authority but only between 1-2 badminton courts. The reminder is dispersed in low values across the authority. There is no one area of Breckland that has sufficient unmet demand from lack of access to consider further provision of sports hall sites to those that exist, or, have been modelled.

The sports halls are however estimated to be very full both in 2016 and in 2031. In large part because of the demand and supply balance but also because the modelling has included 2 replacement sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham and a new sports hall in Dereham. A modern supply of sports halls does have a “draw effect” and leads to more of the Breckland demand being retained inside the authority. This, along with the projected increase in demand from population growth is creating the projected very high usage level of the sports halls.

4: Audit and Assessment for Artificial Grass Pitches

Introduction

4.1 This section describes the findings from the audit and assessment for full size artificial grass pitches. (AGPs). As already reported, this is the audit and assessment for 2016. It is recommended that the assessment of AGP provision up to 2031 be undertaken as part of a Breckland Council Playing Pitch Strategy.

4.2 The environment for the provision of AGPs is changing in terms of the existing patterns of use between football and hockey using sand based pitches. Currently the pattern of use is for football at the local community level to use sand based surface pitches and 3g surface pitches for football. The surface for hockey use is sand based pitches or water based pitches for higher levels of hockey play.

4.3 The Football Association strategy and direction is to move all affiliated football use on to 3g surfaces, this will reduce football demand for sand based surfaces and increase demand for 3g surfaces. This could involve local football leagues moving to staging match play as well as training and development on 3g surfaces.

4.4 The assessment set out here includes AGP provision as at 2016 in Breckland and the local authorities which share a boundary with Breckland and make up the wider study area.

4.5 Set out first is a summary table of findings under each of the ANOG headings with a summary of key findings. This is followed by a detailed description of findings that make up the assessment.

Table 4.1: Summary of findings for Artificial Grass Pitches under the ANOG headings Breckland 2016

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
In 2016 Breckland has 5 AGPs pitches on four sites. There is a double pitch site at Dereham Hockey Club with two sand dressed pitches. There are two other sand dressed pitches at Breckland Leisure Centre and Watton Sports Centre. There is a 3g pitch surface at Dereham Neatherd High School. The five pitches have an effective supply of 4.8 pitch equivalents in the weekly peak period. The very slight reduction of 0.20 of a pitch is due to reduced hours of access for community use at Neatherd High School. Based on a measure of pitch supply per 10,000 population, Breckland has the second highest supply in comparison with the other authorities. North Norfolk has 0.39 pitches per 10,000 population and Breckland 0.37 pitches. The lowest provision is in Forest Heath at 0.15 pitches per 10,000 population. Based on a comparison of the Breckland demand for AGPs with the Breckland supply, demand is for a minimum of 3.6 pitches for the combined use for football (2.8 pitches) and hockey (0.8 pitches). This compares to a current available supply of 4.8 pitches. This gives a positive supply/demand balance of 1.1 pitches (rounded down). Based on the site visits and consultations the	The pitches have been provided at a rate of one in each of the past four decades. The Dereham Hockey Club pitches are the oldest having opened in 1987 and were last resurfaced in 2007. The Watton Sport Centre 3g pitch was opened in 1998, and has not been re-surfaced. The pitch quality is reducing the level of use at the centre, especially for hockey. The Breckland Leisure Centre pitch opened in 2006 and, according to the data, has not been resurfaced. Finally, the most recent pitch is the 3g pitch at Neatherd High School. All five pitches are floodlit. The average age of the 5 pitches is 17 years but this is skewed by the two oldest pitches at Dereham Hockey Club having opened in 1987. Pitch quality is an increasing issue with a need to resurface at least 3 pitch sites.	Pitches are accessible in Dereham (3 pitches), Thetford 1 pitch) and Watton (1 pitch). There are no AGP's in Swaffham and Attleborough. The nearest pitch to Swaffham are located in Dereham but the distance is restricting participation. The development of players for hockey at Nicholas Hammond is hampered by learning to play on natural grass and then for pupils with an interest in hockey the distance to join a club is a barrier to participation. Within a 20 minute drive time catchment of Swaffham is RAF Marham in KL & WN. The site has is an old sand dressed floodlit pitch opened in 1974 and, which according to the data, has 16 hours of community use per week. It is likely that use is restricted to clubs known to the base. Although it is within the 20 minute drive time of Swaffham (just) given the age, location and type of access to this pitch it could not be regarded as a pitch which is accessible to Swaffham. There is no pitch in Attleborough and the nearest pitch is located at Easton College in South Norfolk. This is however outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of Attleborough and is not an effective supply for Attleborough. In 2016 some 80% of the total demand for pitches from Breckland residents is being met. This is the third highest of all the authorities in the study area. The highest being in Mid Suffolk and St Edmondsbury at 85% of pitch demand being met.	The estimated average used capacity of the Breckland AGPs is 94% of pitch capacity used in the weekly peak period. This however was not confirmed by the site visits and consultations. The range is 90% at Dereham Hockey Club, which would appear low given the earlier comments on the number of teams at the club. The data sets out 92% of use at the Watton Sports Club which is very high and was not confirmed by the consultations. The pitch is effectively used for 50% of the peak times for AGPs but this is declining because of the quality of the carpet. There is 100% of capacity used at Dereham Neatherd High School, based on the hours available for community use. Use of the Breckland Leisure centre pitch is around 60% of peak time availability. There appears to be limited demand for recreational football use of AGPs in the Thetford area according to the centre management. There have been extensive programmes to promote use of the pitch. There is virtually no scope to re-distribute demand between venues to even out the used capacity at individual venues. This is because of the distances between the pitch locations is almost creating unique 20 minutes' drive time catchment area, excepting in Dereham. The level of used capacity in the neighbouring authorities is very high. With four authorities having all their pitches estimated to be at 100% of capacity used at peak times, these being: Broadland, Forest Heath, South Norfolk and St Edmondsbury with KL and WN at 97%. Only North Norfolk has a low level of pitch capacity used 57% in the weekly

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
demand for hockey looks to be understated. Dereham Hockey Club is a very extensive club with 13 men's and women's senior teams and 9 boys and girl's teams. There is very extensive use of the pitches for this range of clubs on both weekend days and for week day evenings for practice and club matches. So, the more likely demand estimate for this club and for hockey is for between 1.5 and 2 pitches, which is what the club has currently. This would mean the total hockey demand is for 2 pitches and 2.8 pitches for football, which is the same as the pitch supply for the combined use for both sports. In short the Breckland supply and demand is in balance.		Car travel is the dominate travel mode to pitches accounting for 93% of all visits to pitches. The Sport England drive time catchment area for an AGP is 20 minutes. However, this will vary dependent on local league structures and catchment areas and the extent of use of pitches for football match play. These factors can extend the catchment area of pitches, especially for hockey in rural areas where clubs can share a home site. In 2016, some 93% of the total 80% of the demand for AGPs which is met/satisfied is a Breckland resident using a pitch located in the authority. This is a high level of retained demand and shows despite there not being pitches located in Swaffham and Attleborough, the pitch locations and catchment areas are well placed in relation to where the Breckland demand for AGPs is located. In 2016 the estimate is that under 7% of the Breckland demand that is met is exported. This equates to 144 visits and the demand retained in the authority is 2,017 visits in the weekly peak period.	peak period. Imported demand is measured under availability because it is demand located in neighbouring authorities but where the nearest pitch to where these residents live is in Breckland. So, if they travel to the nearest pitch their usage becomes part of the used capacity of the Breckland AGPs. The level of imported demand into Breckland is high at 40% of the used capacity of the pitches. Again, this does not reflect what is happening on the ground. The Dereham Hockey Club undoubtedly has a pull factor given the size of the club and hockey league structures will extend its catchment area. However, the other venues in terms of the pitch quality offer and type of surface, (only one 3 g pitch means there is very limited appeal to the predominate use of football. The biggest challenge on all headings is the policy of the FA to re-locate football use to 3g pitches as Breckland only has one 3g pitch. This could lead to the provision of more 3g pitches than is needed. The 2 pitches at Dereham Hockey Club are sand based pitches for hockey use. So, the only pitches that could be converted are at Watton Sports Centre and Breckland Leisure Centre.

key issues from the AGP assessment

key issues from the AGP assessment

The key issues which emerge from the AGP assessment for a playing pitch strategy are:

- The balance in the type of pitch surfaces. Four of the pitches are sand filled/dressed surfaces and only one is a 3g surface, located at Neatherd School. The Football Association policy is to move all football use onto 3g surfaces, Scope to redress the pitch surface balance is limited because the 2 pitches at Dereham Hockey Club are sand based pitches for hockey use. So, the only pitches that could be converted are at Watton Sports Centre and Breckland Leisure Centre. If there is new provision this has implications for the sand dressed pitches. Moving football onto 3g pitches and not replacing with hockey use at the sand based pitches (challenging to achieve) would lead to an oversupply of sand dressed pitches.

- The location and catchment area of pitches with, in effect, Swaffham on the edge of the 20 minute drive time catchment area for existing pitches and Attleborough being outside the 20 minute drive time of any of the existing pitches. So, there is an existing lack of access to pitches for residents in these locations. Demand from the existing population and new population growth may create sufficient demand for pitches at either or both locations.

- The need to improve the quality of the pitches. Over the period up to 2031 this will apply to all venues. However, the is a need to replace the Watton Sports Centre pitch carpet now and the Dereham Hockey Club pitches were last re-surfaced in 2007.

Table 4.2: Supply of full size artificial grass pitches 2016

Total Supply	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury
Number of pitches	5	4	1	3	3	4	1	4
Number of pitch sites	4	3	1	3	2	3	1	4
Supply of total pitches in pitches	5	4	1	3	3	4	1	4
Supply of publicly available pitch space in pitches	4.80	3.71	0.27	1.51	2.43	3.08	1	3.80
Supply of total pitch space in visits	3,550	2,747	200	1,115	1,800	2,282	740	2,810
Pitches per 10,000	0.37	0.31	0.15	0.20	0.30	0.39	0.08	0.35

4.6 Total supply is defined as the AGPs which are available to the community for match play, recreational play, and practice/skill development. This is for hockey and football.

4.7 In 2016 Breckland has 5 pitches on four sites which provide for community use. There is a double pitch site at Dereham Hockey Club with two sand dressed pitches.

4.8 There are two other sand dressed pitch, one is located at Breckland Leisure Centre and the other at Watton Sports Centre. There is a one 3g pitch located at Dereham Neatherd High School. All five pitches are floodlit.

4.9 The pitches have been provided at a rate of one each on the past four decades. The Dereham Hockey Club pitches are the oldest having opened in 1987 and were last resurfaced in 2007. The Watton Sport Centre sand based pitch was opened in 1998, and has not been re-surfaced. The centre management is currently trying to provide finds for a re-surfacing of the carpet.

4.10 The Breckland Leisure Centre pitch opened in 2006 and according to the data has not been resurfaced. Finally, the most recent pitch is the 3g pitch at Neatherd High School, which opened in 2014.

4.11 The average age of the 5 pitches is 17 years but this is skewed by the two oldest pitches at Dereham Hockey Club, which opened in 1987.

4.12 The five pitches have an effective supply of 4.8 pitch equivalents in the weekly peak period (weekday evenings 5pm – 9pm and weekend days 9am – 5pm). The reason for the very slight reduction in total supply and the effective supply for community use of 0.20 of one pitch is most likely because of reduced hours of access for community use at Neatherd High School.

4.13 Based on a measure of pitch supply per 10,000 population, Breckland has the second highest supply in comparison with the other authorities. The highest is in North Norfolk with 0.39 pitches per 10,000 population, followed by Breckland at 0.37 pitches per

10,000 population. The lowest provision is in Forest Heath at 0.15 pitches per 10,000 population.

4.14 Details of the pitch supply is set out in Table 4.3 below.

Table 4.3: Supply of AGP's Breckland 2016

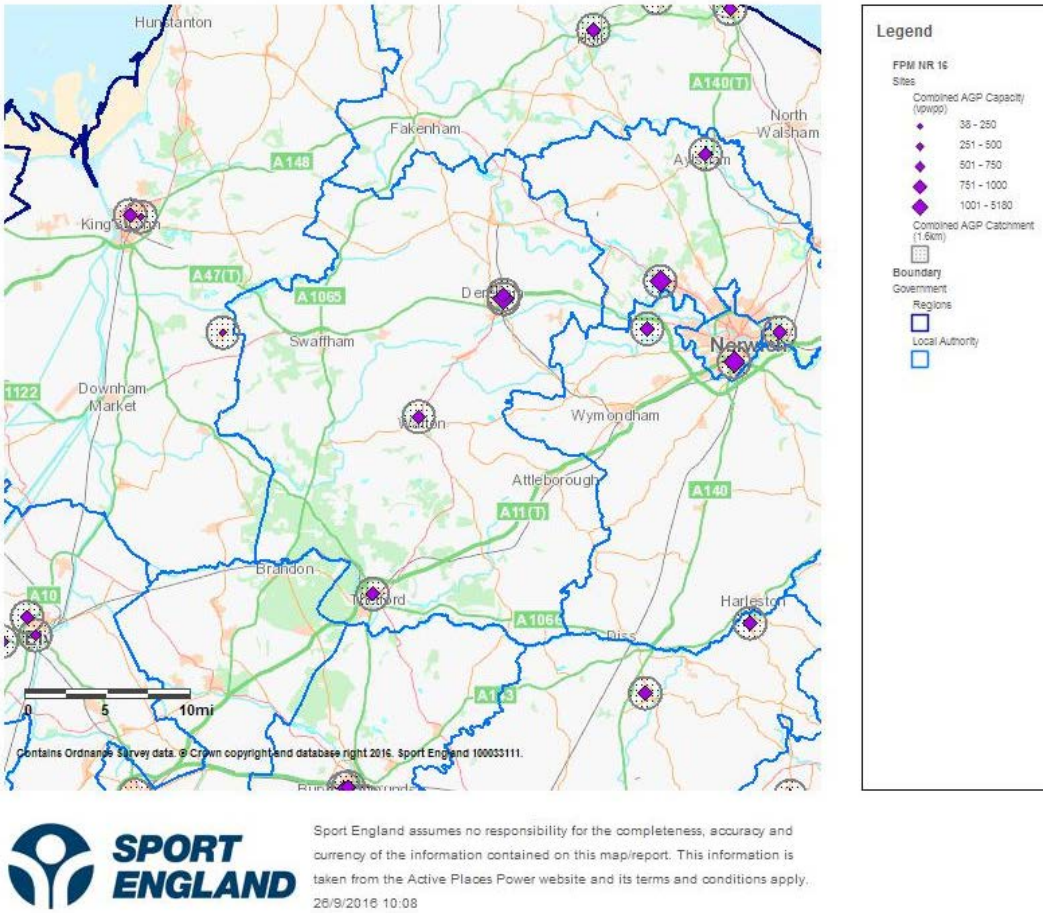
Name of facility	Type	Dimensions	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURB	Hours in peak period	% of Capacity used	% of capacity not used	Annual thro'put	Car % Demand	Public trans % demand	Walk % Demand
BRECKLAND									95%	1%	4%
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	DSANDFloodlit	100 x 63	2006		34	100%	0%	43,529	91%	1%	8%
DEREHAM HOCKEY CLUB	DSANDFloodlit	97 x 59	1987	2007	34	90%	10%	78,717	96%	1%	3%
DEREHAM HOCKEY CLUB	DSANDFloodlit	102 x 63			34						
DEREHAM NEATHERD HIGH SCHOOL	3GFloodlit	100 x 60	2014		29	100%	0%	34,706	97%	1%	2%
WATTON SPORTS CENTRE	DSANDFloodlit	100 x 60	1998		34	92%	8%	40,242	97%	1%	3%

4.15 The location of the AGP sites in Breckland and a notional one mile walking catchment area is shown in Map 4.1 overleaf. This also shows the location of the nearest pitches to Breckland in the neighbouring authorities.

4.16 Swaffham does not have a full size AGP. The nearest pitch to the town and within a 20 minute drive time of the town is located at RAF Marham in Kings Lynn and West Norfolk. This is an old sand dressed floodlit pitch opened in 1974 and which according to the data has 16 hours of community use per week. It is likely that use is restricted to clubs known to the base. Although it is within the 20 minute drive time of Swaffham (just) given the age, location and type of access to this pitch it could not be regarded as a pitch which serves Swaffham.

4.17 There is no pitch in Attleborough and the nearest pitch is located at Easton College in South Norfolk. This is however outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of Attleborough and is not an effective supply for Attleborough.

Map 4.1: Location of full size AGP's and 1 mile walking catchment area Breckland 2016



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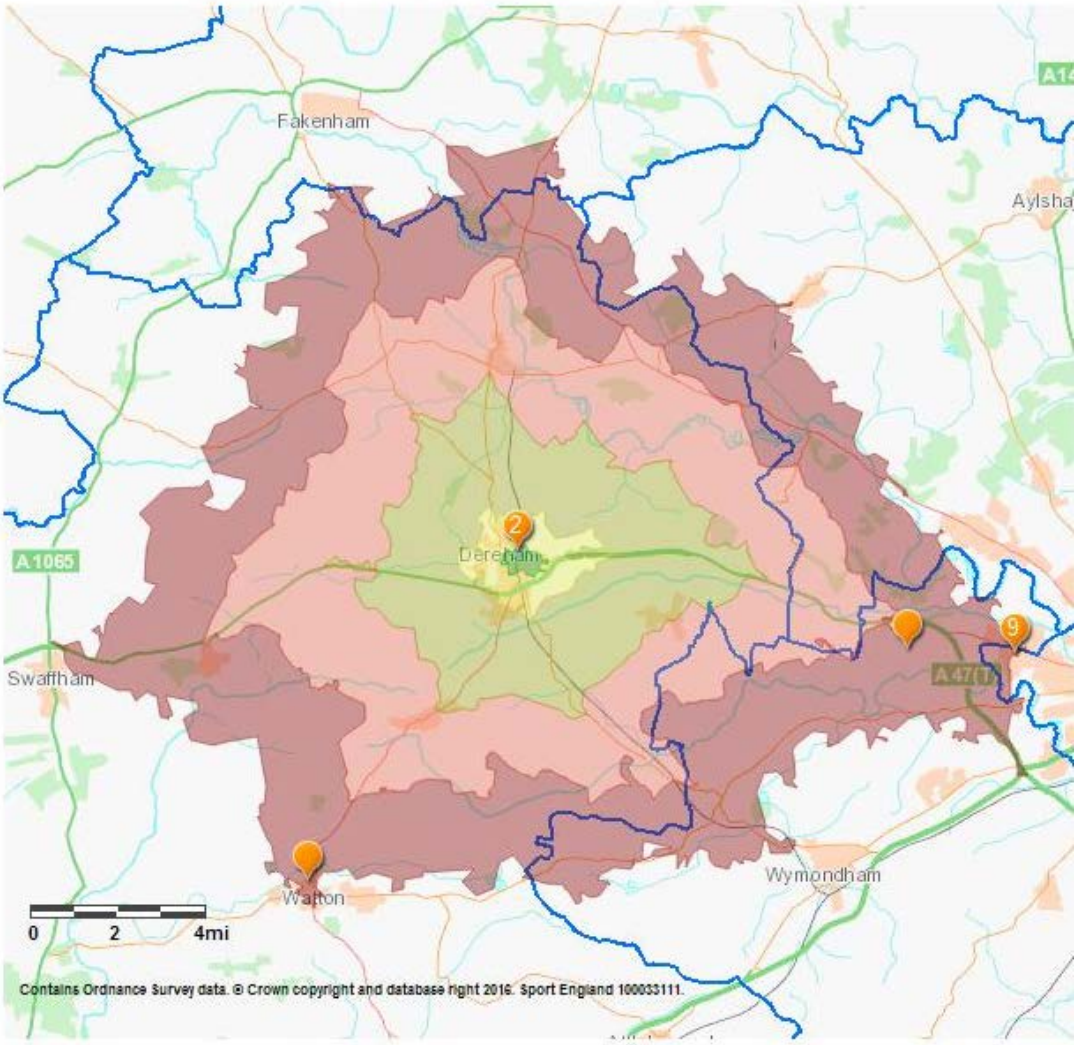
4.18 The 20 minute drive time catchment area for the Dereham Hockey Club pitch and the Watton Sports Centre pitch are set out in Maps 4.2 and 4.3 overleaf. The Breckland Leisure Centre pitch is not included because the 20 minute drive time catchment area of the centre is already shown in the pools report.

Map 4.2: 20 minute drive time catchment area for the Dereham Hockey club pitch



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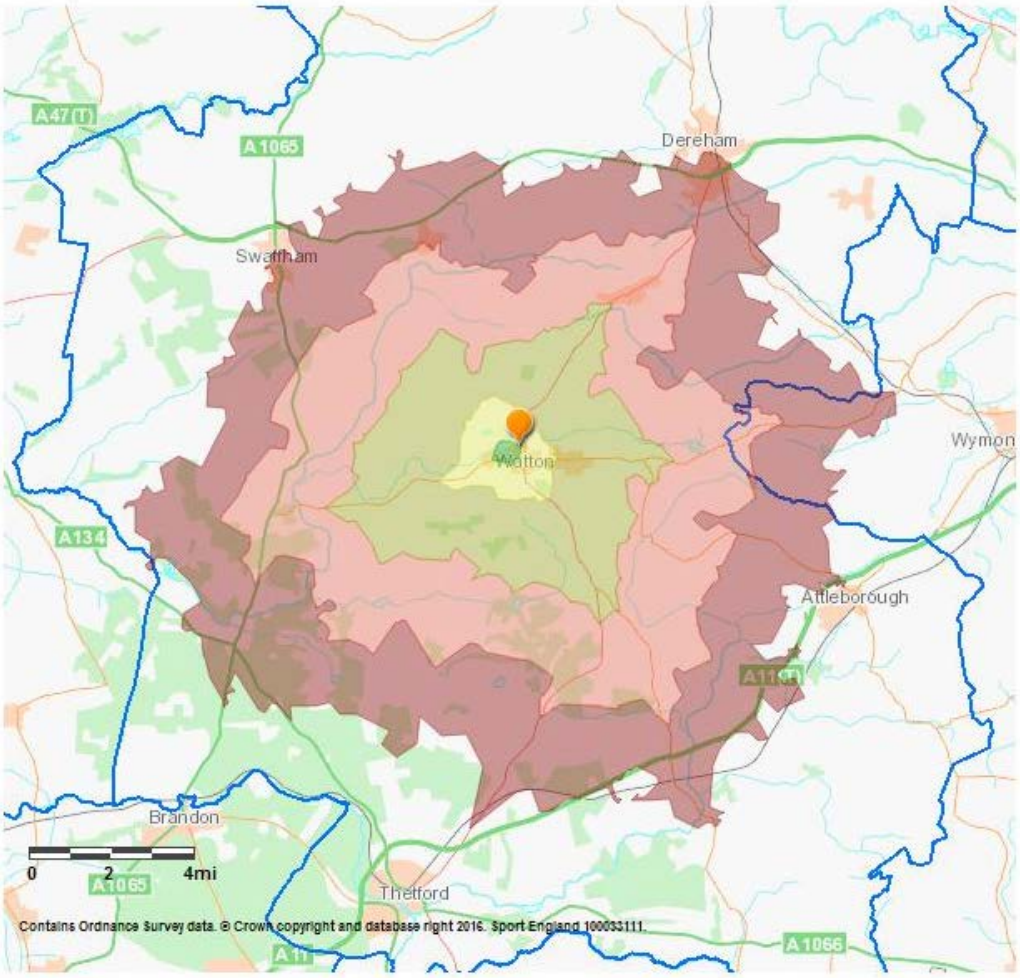
Map 4.3: 20 minute drive time catchment area for the Watton Sports Centre pitch



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Demand for AGPs

Table 4.4: Demand for AGPs 2016

Total Demand	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury
Population	135,334	127,209	64,636	151,841	99,680	103,502	132,199	113,394
Visits demanded –	2,689	2,351	1,595	2,989	1,915	1,669	2,545	2,373
Equivalent in pitches	3.63	3.18	2.16	4.04	2.59	2.25	3.44	3.21
% of population without access to a car	15	10.90	15.20	15.80	10.70	15.60	11	15.20

4.19 Population totals are the start point for then determining the percentage of the population who participate in football and hockey on AGPs. In 2016 the total population in Breckland is 135, 334 people.

4.20 Definition of total demand – it represents the total demand from both genders and across all ages for AGPs for football and hockey. There is an increasing amount of rugby union played on AGP's and development of surfaces more suited to rugby union. However there is not sufficient data on usage to be able to develop demand parameters for this sport.

4.21 The rate of participation in football and hockey use of AGPs by both genders and for 14 five year age bands, from 0 to 65+, is developed. This is in terms of the percentage of each age band/gender that participate, along with the frequency of participation in each age band/gender. Together this provides a total demand figure in the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days, which is expressed in visits. This data on participation is developed by Sport England and is applied to the population in each local authority.

4.22 The total demand for AGP'S from Breckland residents in 2016 is 2,689 visits per week in the weekly peak period. This equates to a demand for 3.6 pitches for the combined use for football and hockey.

4.23 The demand for football is for 2,113 visits which equates to a demand for 2.8 pitches. For hockey the demand is 576 visits and which equates to 0.8 of one pitch. The Sport England demand finding for hockey is considerably under estimated, as the Dereham Hockey Club is a very extensive club. It has 8 men's teams and 5 ladies teams. There are 5 boys' junior and mini hockey teams and 4 girls' junior and mini hockey teams. Based on this size of club the demand for hockey is most likely to equate to the 2 full size pitches at the club.

4.24 The percentage of the population without access to a car is set out under the demand heading and it is important information. If there is a high percentage of the population without access to a car then this can lead to a high level of the population not being able to access a pitch because of the time, distance and cost of travelling to a venue by public transport.

4.25 The population outside the catchment area of a pitch and without access to a car is one definition of unmet demand. The findings are set out under that heading.

4.26 Fortunately there is only 15% of the Breckland population who do not have access to a car and this is on a par with the neighbouring authorities. The rate for East Region and England wide are 17.7% and 25% respectively.

Supply & Demand Balance

Table 4.5: Supply and Demand Balance 2016

Supply/Demand Balance	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury
Supply - Pitch provision available for community use	4.80	3.71	0.27	1.51	2.43	3.08	1	3.80
Demand - Pitch provision (pitches)	3.63	3.18	2.16	4.04	2.59	2.25	3.44	3.21
Supply / Demand balance	1.17	0.53	-1.89	-2.53	-0.16	0.83	-2.44	0.59

4.27 Definition of supply and demand balance – supply and demand balance compares total demand generated within Breckland for AGPs with the total supply of pitches within Breckland. It therefore represents an assumption that ALL the demand for pitches in Breckland is met by ALL the supply of pitches in Breckland. (Note: it does exactly the same for the other local authorities in the study area).

4.28 In short, supply and demand balance is NOT based on where the venues are located and their catchment area extending into other authorities. Nor, the catchment areas of pitches in neighbouring authorities extending into Breckland.

4.29 Most importantly supply and demand balance does NOT take into account the propensity/reasons for residents using facilities outside their own authority. This is more likely to apply to AGPs because the structure of leagues and the absence of an extensive supply of pitches for hockey use, especially in rural areas, can mean that one pitch is the home site for more than one club and across local authorities.

4.30 The more detailed modelling based on the CATCHMENT AREAS of pools is set out under Satisfied Demand, Unmet Demand and Used Capacity.

4.31 The reason for presenting the supply and demand balance is because some local authorities like to see how THEIR total supply of pitches compares with THEIR total demand for pitches. Supply and demand balance presents this comparison.

4.32 When looking at this closed supply and demand balance assessment, the resident population of Breckland is estimated to generate a demand for a minimum of 3.6 pitches for the combined use for football (2.8 pitches) and hockey (0.8 pitches). This compares to a current available supply of 4.8 pitches. This gives a positive supply/demand balance of 1.1 pitches (rounded down).

4.33 However, and as set out under the demand findings, Dereham Hockey Club is a very extensive club with 13 men's and women's senior teams and 9 boys and girls teams. So the more realistic demand for this cub and for hockey is for 2 pitches, which is what the club has currently.

4.34 This would mean the total hockey demand is for 2 pitches and 2.8 pitches for football, which is the same as the pitch supply for the combined use for both sports. In short the

Breckland supply and demand are in balance. In terms of the other authorities there is a positive supply and demand balance of under one pitch in Broadland, North Norfolk and St Edmondsbury. There is a negative balance in Forest Heath (1.8 pitches), Kings Lynn and West Norfolk (2.5 pitches) and South Norfolk (2.4 pitches).

Satisfied Demand- demand from Breckland residents currently being met by supply

Table 4.6: Satisfied Demand

Satisfied Demand	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury
Total number of visits which are met	2,161	1,726	882	1,988	1,635	1,216	1,724	2,033
% of total demand satisfied	80.30	73.40	55.30	66.50	85.40	72.90	67.70	85.70
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	92.90	97.60	98.40	95.70	98.60	94.20	99.20	90.10
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	6.10	2.10	1.40	3.40	0.60	4.20	0.30	9
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	1	0.30	0.30	0.90	0.80	1.50	0.50	0.90
Demand Retained	2,017	1,201	117	1,050	352	1,139	154	1,907
Demand Retained - as a % of Satisfied Demand	93.30	69.60	13.30	52.80	21.50	93.60	8.90	93.80
Demand Exported	144	525	765	937	1,283	77	1,570	126
Demand Exported - as a % of Satisfied Demand	6.70	30.40	86.70	47.20	78.50	6.40	91.10	6.20

4.35 Definition of satisfied demand – it represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the pitches from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of an AGP.

4.36 In 2016 some 80% of the total demand for pitches from Breckland residents is being met. This is the third highest of all the authorities in the study area. The highest being in Mid Suffolk and St Edmondsbury at 85% of pitch demand being met.

4.37 Car travel is the dominate travel mode to pitches accounting for 93% of all visits to pitches. The Sport England drive time catchment area for an AGP is 20 minutes. However this will vary dependent on local league structures and catchment areas and

the extent of use of pitches for football match play. These factors can extend the catchment area of pitches, especially for hockey in rural areas where clubs can share a home site.

Retained demand

4.38 There is a sub set of the satisfied demand findings which are about how much of the Breckland demand is retained at Breckland pitches. This is based on the catchment area of the pitch locations and residents using the nearest pitch to where they live - this is classified as retained demand.

4.39 Based on this analysis, some 93% of the total 80% of the demand for AGPs which is met/satisfied, is by a Breckland resident using a pitch located in the authority. This is a high level of retained demand and shows despite there not being pitches located in Swaffham and Attleborough the pitch locations and catchment areas of the pitches and are well placed in relation to where the Breckland demand for AGPs is located. In short, for over nine out of ten visits to a pitch by a Breckland resident, it is to a pitch located in the authority.

4.40 Breckland along with North Norfolk is retaining the highest level of demand. It is lowest in Mid Suffolk, where only 21%, or, one in five visits to an AGP by a resident of the authority is to a pitch in Mid Suffolk.

Exported demand

4.41 The residual of satisfied demand after retained demand is exported demand. In 2016 the estimate is that only 6.7% of the Breckland demand that is met is exported and met outside the authority. This equates to just 144 visits and the demand retained in the authority s 2,017 visits in the weekly peak period. (Note; the data does not identify how much demand goes to which authority it provides the total only).

4.42 This also illustrates how accessible the Breckland pitches are to local residents, when the nearest pitch located outside the authority, represents under 7% of the total Breckland demand for AGPs.

Unmet Demand - demand from Breckland residents not currently being met

Table 4.7: Unmet demand

Unmet Demand	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met	529	625	713	1,001	280	453	821	340
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	19.70	26.60	44.70	33.50	14.60	27.10	32.30	14.30
Equivalent in pitches	0.71	0.84	0.96	1.35	0.38	0.61	1.11	0.46
% of Unmet Demand								

Unmet Demand	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury
due to ;								
Lack of Capacity -	62.40	81.10	60.90	45.20	40.20	32.40	77.30	79.50
Outside Catchment -	37.60	18.90	39.10	54.80	59.80	67.60	22.70	20.50
Outside Catchment;	37.60	18.90	39.10	54.80	59.80	67.60	22.70	20.50
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	17.80	11.50	15	14.90	29.70	21.90	12.20	11.80

4.43 The unmet demand definition has two parts to it - demand for pitches which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular pitch within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any pitch and is then classified as unmet demand.

4.44 In Breckland in 2016 unmet demand is 529 visits in the weekly peak period. This equates to 19% of the total demand for AGPs and, which in turn, equates to just 0.7 of one full size pitch. So whilst the percentage is quite high, the unmet demand in pitches is less than one pitch.

4.45 Some 62% of the unmet demand, equivalent to under half of one full size pitch is due to lack of pitch capacity and 38% (around a quarter of a full size pitch) is demand located outside the walk to catchment area of a pitch.

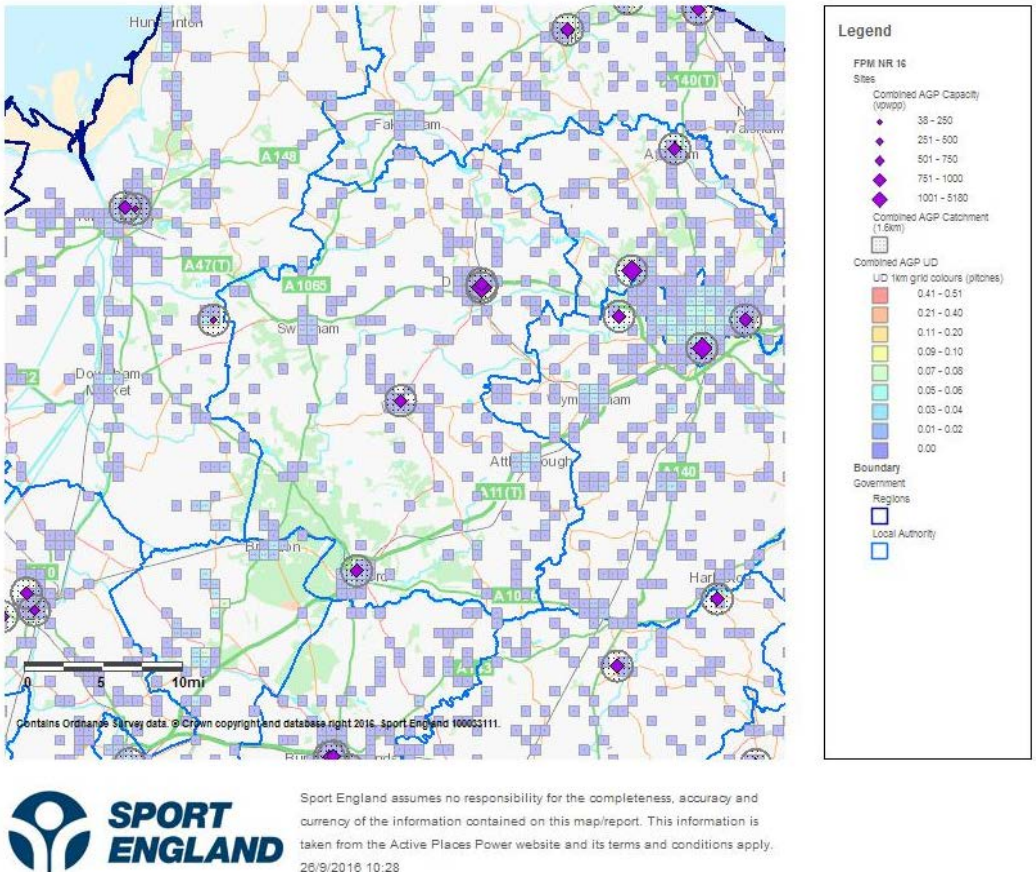
4.46 Map 4.4 overleaf illustrates the scale and location of unmet demand for AGPs from both sources and this is represented in units of a full size pitch in one kilometre grid squares. The scale is on the right side of the map. All the squares in Breckland are indigo blue and this is the lowest value at between 0.01 – 0.02 of a full size pitch. The exception is in Attleborough where there are two light blue squares with a value of between 0.03 – 0.04 of a pitch.

4.47 The unmet demand squares are distributed in small clusters in each of the main towns. Given the total unmet demand across the authority is only 0.7 of one pitch, it means the clusters of unmet demand in each town are low values. It is 0, 1 of a pitch in Dereham, 0.07 of a pitch in Swaffham. 0.16 of one pitch in Watton and 0.15 in Attleborough.

4.48 The remainder of unmet demand is distributed across the authority, mainly to the North of Dereham and east of Watton. In short there is no cluster/hot spot location of unmet demand for AGPs.

Map 4.4: Location and scale of unmet demand for AGPs Breckland 2016

Unmet Demand at output area level expressed as visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp). UD at 1km square grid level expressed as pitch equivalent (740 vpwpp = 1 pitch). Data outputs thematically (colours) at either output area level or aggregated at 1km square grid (figure labels).



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Used Capacity - How well used are the facilities?

Table 4.8: Used capacity of AGPs 2016

Used Capacity	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury
Total number of visits used of current capacity	3,352	2,747	200	1,081	1,343	1,307	740	2,810
% of overall capacity of pitches used	94.40	100	100	97	74.60	57.30	100	100
Visits Imported;								
Number of visits imported	1,335	1,546	83	31	991	169	586	903

As a % of used capacity	39.80	56.30	41.50	2.80	73.80	12.90	79.20	32.10

4.49 Definition of used capacity – is a measure of usage at pitches and estimates how well used/how full facilities are.

4.50 The estimated average used capacity of the Breckland AGPs is 94% of pitch capacity used in the weekly peak period. The range is 90% at Dereham Hockey Club which would appear a bit low given the earlier comments on the number of teams at the club. Then 92% of use at the Watton Sports Club. In consultation with the centre manager this is high. The centre recently lost its resident hockey club because of the quality of the pitch carpet. Also there is a lower level of football use weekday evenings. There is 100% of capacity used at Dereham Neatherd High School and Breckland Leisure Centre. Again in discussion with Parkwood Leisure the used capacity of the Breckland centre pitch is closer to 60% in the peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days. There is not extensive demand for football at the Breckland pitch and clubs have not shown interest in using the pitch for skill development and training.

4.51 In effect, there is high used capacity at each site but it could be higher if the carpet at the Watton Sports Centre is replaced and should demand increase for football at the Breckland centre.

4.52 As with the findings on other facility types there is not the scope to re-distribute demand between pitches so as to balance out the level of used capacity across all pitches. The reasons being al pitches are quite full but more importantly the distances between the towns/Breckland sites limits this scope anyway.

Table 4.9: Used capacity and travel patterns for the Breckland AGPs 2016

Name of facility	Type	Dimensions	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURB	% of Capacity used	% of capacity not used	Car % Demand	Public trans % demand	Walk % Demand
BRECKLAND									
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	DSANDFloodlit	100 x 63	2006		100%	0%	91%	1%	8%
DEREHAM HOCKEY CLUB	DSANDFloodlit	97 x 59	1987	2007	90%	10%	96%	1%	3%
DEREHAM HOCKEY CLUB	DSANDFloodlit	102 x 63							
DEREHAM NEATHERD HIGH SCHOOL	3GFloodlit	100 x 60	2014		100%	0%	97%	1%	2%
WATTON SPORTS CENTRE	DSANDFloodlit	100 x 60	1998		92%	8%	97%	1%	3%

4.53 The level of used capacity in the neighbouring authorities is very high. Four authorities have all their pitches estimated to be at 100% of capacity used at peak times, these being: Broadland, Forest Heath, South Norfolk and St Edmondsbury. Only North Norfolk has a low level of pitch capacity used at 57% in the weekly peak period.

4.54 Imported demand is measured under the used capacity heading because it is demand located in neighbouring authorities but where the nearest pitch to where

these residents live is in Breckland. So if they travel to the nearest pitch to where they live, their usage becomes part of the used capacity of the Breckland AGPs.

4.55 The level of imported demand into Breckland is high at 40% of the used capacity of the pitches. So not only are the pitch locations accessible for Breckland residents, they are also very accessible to residents in neighbouring authorities.

4.56 Looking at the level of unmet demand in the neighbouring authorities and those that high used capacity of their pitches, it would appear that the biggest sources of this imported demand is from Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and South Norfolk.

Summary of Key Findings

4.57 The summary of key findings is set out in the ANOG table at the start of the artificial grass pitches report.

5: Audit and Assessment for Indoor Bowling

5.1 This section describes the findings from the audit and assessment for indoor bowling. Set out first is a table of findings under each of the ANOG headings. This is followed with a summary of key findings. This is followed in turn by a detailed description of findings that make up the assessment.

Table 5.1: Summary of findings for indoor bowling under the ANOG headings Breckland 2016

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
There are 3 indoor bowling centres in Breckland. Breckland Leisure Centre Thetford (6 rinks and opened in 2006); Dereham Leisure Centre (4 rinks and opened in 2007); and Old Hall Indoor Bowls Club between Watton and Swaffham (4 rinks opened in 1974 and modernised in 2002). So, 14 rinks in total at three centres located in Thetford, Dereham and between Watton/Swaffham. Breckland has the highest provision of indoor bowling based on a measure of rinks per 10,000 population. Breckland has 1.65 rinks per 10,000 population. Comparative findings are: England 0.33 rinks per 10,000 population; East Region 0.54 rinks; Norfolk County 1.46 rinks. Of the neighbouring authorities provision is highest in Broadland 1.4 rinks and South Norfolk 1.2 rinks per 10,000 population (All data based on 2013). There are17 indoor bowling centres in the neighbouring authorities with a total of 83 rinks. The highest rates of indoor bowls participation for both genders is 65+. Participation is highest in the 75+ age group. Up until age 64 participation is below 1% of the adult population for females and is 1% for males. By applying the Sport England rates and frequency of participation to the Breckland population in 2016 and for 2031, it is possible to identify the demand and compare this to the current supply of centres. Findings are • The Breckland total indoor bowling population in 2016 is 908	The two public indoor bowling centres are quite modern, having opened in 2006 at the Breckland Centre and 2007 at the Dereham Centre. Old Hall is the oldest centre having opened in 1974 and was modernised in 2002. The quality of the two pubic centres is good and the main quality requirements are to maintain the rinks- the carpet quality, with replacement every 8 – 10 years, depending on the amount of play. Plus, maintain and improve lighting systems. The Breckland and Dereham centres are the most recent centres in comparison to all the centres in the neighbouring authorities. The number/average age of indoor bowling centres in the neighbouring authorities is: Broadland 4 centres/ 32 years of age; Kings Lynn and West Norfolk 3 centres/30 years of age; North Norfolk 3 centres/ 36 years of age; South Norfolk 3 centres/49 years of age; Forest Heath 2 centres)/35 years of age; and Mid Suffolk 2 centres/40 years of age. Furthermore, in the neighbouring authorities only one centre, located at Lakenheath Indoor Bowls Club has	There is very good access to the 3 indoor bowls centres in Breckland based on the 20 minute car drive time catchment area. There is no area of the authority that is outside this drive time catchment area of a centre either in Breckland or the neighbouring authorities. The catchment area of the Thetford centre includes all the southern half of the authority, excepting the east side to the South Norfolk boundary. There are however indoor bowling centres at Diss Indoor Bowls Centre (1966 and 4 rinks) and Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls club (1964 and 6 rinks). Both these rinks are accessible to residents in the area not covered by the two centres in Thetford. The Dereham centre extends across the northern half of the authority, excepting the north west to the Kings Lynn and West Norfolk boundary. However, residents in this area can access the Pentney Indoor Bowls Club (1983 and 6 rinks). The Old Hall Club is located 2 miles north of Watton in Ashill. It therefore straddles the catchment area of the other two centres. The catchment area of rinks is	In terms of ownership of the Breckland rinks, two centres at the public leisure centres are owned by Breckland Leisure Ltd and operated by Parkwood Leisure. These centres are unusual in that they are part of multi-purpose indoor leisure centres and the bowling clubs are hirers of the venue. They have responsibility for organisation of the club programme of use but responsibility for the operational business case for the centres is an integral part of the two public leisure centres. Continued availably of the indoor bowling centres is related to the clubs demonstrating a continued need and viable programme of use (along with public casual use) and potential competing demands for the indoor bowls hall space by other activities. Peak times for club use is weekdays 10am – 6pm in 2 hour sessions. Over this period rink occupancy is around 80%

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
bowlers in 2016 and increasing to 1, 081 bowlers in 2031 • At a per rink capacity of 100 bowlers per rink, this equates to 9 rinks in 2016 and increasing by 2 rinks to 11 in 2031 • In Breckland in 2016 there are 11 rinks at three centres. So, supply exceeds demand slightly in 2016 and is in balance in 2031, based on applying the national rates of indoor bowling participation to Breckland • This assumes the participation rates remain unchanged between the two years. This is a questionable assumption because the Active People survey shows, based on once a week adult participation for indoor bowling has declined nationally from 0.7% of the adult population participating at least once a week in Active People 5 for 2010 – 2011, to 0.53% participating in Active People 9 for 2015 – 16. The future trend of participation is unknown but given participation is highest in the 75+ age band and there are only 1% of the population aged below 49 who play indoor bowls regularly the indication is at best static or a continuing decline in participation.	opened since 2000. The quality of the indoor bowling offer in Breckland is quite good with the two public centres having 4 rinks (Dereham) and 6 rinks (Thetford) The Old Hall centre in Watton/Swaffham has 4 rinks.	however changing based on participant preferences. There is an increasing preference to bowl in the afternoons and not in the evening. So, a shift in the peak hours of occupancy and day time usage. This is impacting on the time/distance bowlers are prepared to travel and collectively this is changing and could reduce the catchment area for regular participation.	at Dereham and 40% at Thetford. More recently the centre management has divided the 6 rinks into a 3 rink centre for the indoor bowls, and the remaining 3 rinks are in use as a dojo for martial arts. This reflects the declining membership of the club. Currently around 100 members but has bene lower. The capacity of a 6 rink centre is 600 bowlers. The third centre is owned and operated by the Old Hall Indoor Bowls Club and is a members club.

Summary of Key Findings 2016 – 2031

Summary of Key Findings 2016 – 2031

There are 3 indoor bowling centres in Breckland. Breckland Leisure Centre Thetford (6 rinks and opened in 2006); Dereham Leisure Centre (4 rinks and opened in 2007); and Old Hall Indoor Bowls Club located in Ashill between Watton and Swaffham (4 rinks opened in 1974 and modernised in 2002).

The Breckland supply of 3 centres has a total of 14 rinks. The authority has the highest provision for indoor bowling. Based on a measure of rinks per 10,000 population. The authority has 1.6 rinks, England wide it is 0.3 rinks, East Region 0.3 rinks and Norfolk County 1.4. Of the neighbouring authorities, it is highest in Broadland at 1.4 rinks and then both South Norfolk and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk at 1.2 rinks per 10,000 population.

There are17 indoor bowling centres in the neighbouring authorities with a total of 83 rinks.

The highest rates of indoor bowls participation for both genders is 65+. Participation is highest in the 75+ age group. Up until age 64 participation is below 1% of the adult population for females and is 1% for males.

By applying the Sport England rates and frequency of participation to the Breckland population in 2016 and for 2031, it is possible to identify the POTENTIAL demand for indoor bowling. In 2016 this equates to 908 bowlers in 2016 and increasing to 1, 081 bowlers in 2031. At a per rink capacity of 100 bowlers per rink, this equates to 9 rinks in 2016 and increasing by 2 rinks to 11 in 2031. So, on this assessment supply of rinks and demand are in balance over the period to 2031. This however is based on the past rates of indoor bowling continuing to apply – this is very questionable.

However, the assessment should be considered alongside the trends in membership and participation at the Breckland centres. The current membership of the two resident clubs at the public leisure centres at Dereham Leisure Centre is 200 and at Thetford it is 100 members.

In 2014 the County Sports Partnership delivered a 2 year project funded by the Governing Body and working with the clubs and the management at the centres. The aim being to grow participation of people aged 55+ in the sport of bowls across the four main formats of the game (including indoor). The project had a countywide remit and a large element of the project was to award grants to bowls clubs to fund open days and structured coaching sessions to support the recruitment of new players.

The indoors bowls clubs in the Breckland area were engaged across the 2 years of the project; Dereham IBC who were very successful in recruiting new players and ran a total of 4 recruitment events and recruited 44 players aged 55+. The Brecks (Thetford) also ran 4 recruitment events but only recruited 8 players aged 55+. The project had its challenges to deliver, firstly engaging clubs was challenging because of slow take up by the Thetford club.

The Dereham club continues to be very proactive in increasing its membership. However, at Thetford the level of usage and membership has led to the rink being divided into two areas of three rinks. One for the bowlers and one for use by martial arts clubs. There is no data available from the Ashill Indoor Bowls club and they declined to meet. Overall however it is evident that both clubs are well below the full membership of 400 bowlers for a four-rink centre and 600 bowlers for a 6 rink centre.

Furthermore, the Breckland trends in indoor bowling participation and membership can be placed in the national context. The important trend finding based on the benchmark measure of once a week participation in indoor bowling is that it has declined. Nationally this is from 0.7% of the adult population participating at least once a week in 2010 – 2011, to 0.53% participating in 2015 – 16.

Summary of Key Findings 2016 – 2031

The future trend of participation is unknown but given participation is highest in the 75+ age band and there are only 1% of the population aged below 49 who play indoor bowls regularly, the indication is at best static, or, a continuing decline in participation. Acknowledging that Norfolk County most likely has the highest rate of indoor bowling participation in the country and possibly the highest provision.

So overall the supply of indoor bowling centres is more than sufficient to meet current demand and can accommodate a very large increase in membership to support the two centres at the public leisure centres. Overall there is more than sufficient provision of indoor bowling centres in Breckland to 2031.

There is very good access to the indoor bowls centres in Breckland based on the 20 minute car drive time catchment area. There is no area of the authority that is outside this drive time catchment area of a centre either in Breckland or the neighbouring authorities.

The catchment area of the Thetford and Watton centre includes all the southern half of the authority, excepting the east side to the South Norfolk boundary. There are however indoor bowling centres at Diss Indoor Bowls Centre (1966 and 4 rinks) and Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls club (1964 and 6 rinks). Both these rinks are accessible to residents in the area not covered by the two centres in Thetford.

The Dereham centre extends across the northern half of the authority, excepting the north west to the Kings Lynn and West Norfolk boundary. However, residents in this area can access the Pentney Indoor Bowls Club (1983 and 6 rinks).

The unusual finding is that two of the Breckland centres are integral parts of the public leisure centres owned by Breckland Leisure Ltd and operated by Parkwood Leisure. The indoor bowling clubs are hirers of the venue. They have responsibility for organisation of the club programme of use but responsibility for the operational business case for the centres is an integral part of the two public leisure centres.

As already set out continued availably of the indoor bowling centres is related to the clubs demonstrating a continuing need and viable programme of use (along with public casual use).

The third centre is owned and operated by the Old Hall Indoor Bowls Club and is a member's club. The club was unwilling to meet and there is no information on membership, the programme of use or the future of the centre.

QUANTITY (Supply)

5.2 There are three indoor bowling centres in Breckland. These are: Breckland Leisure Centre Thetford (3 rinks); Dereham Leisure Centre (4 rinks) and Old Hall Indoor Bowls Club Thetford (4 rinks). So 11 rinks in total at centres located in Thetford Dereham and NW of Watton.

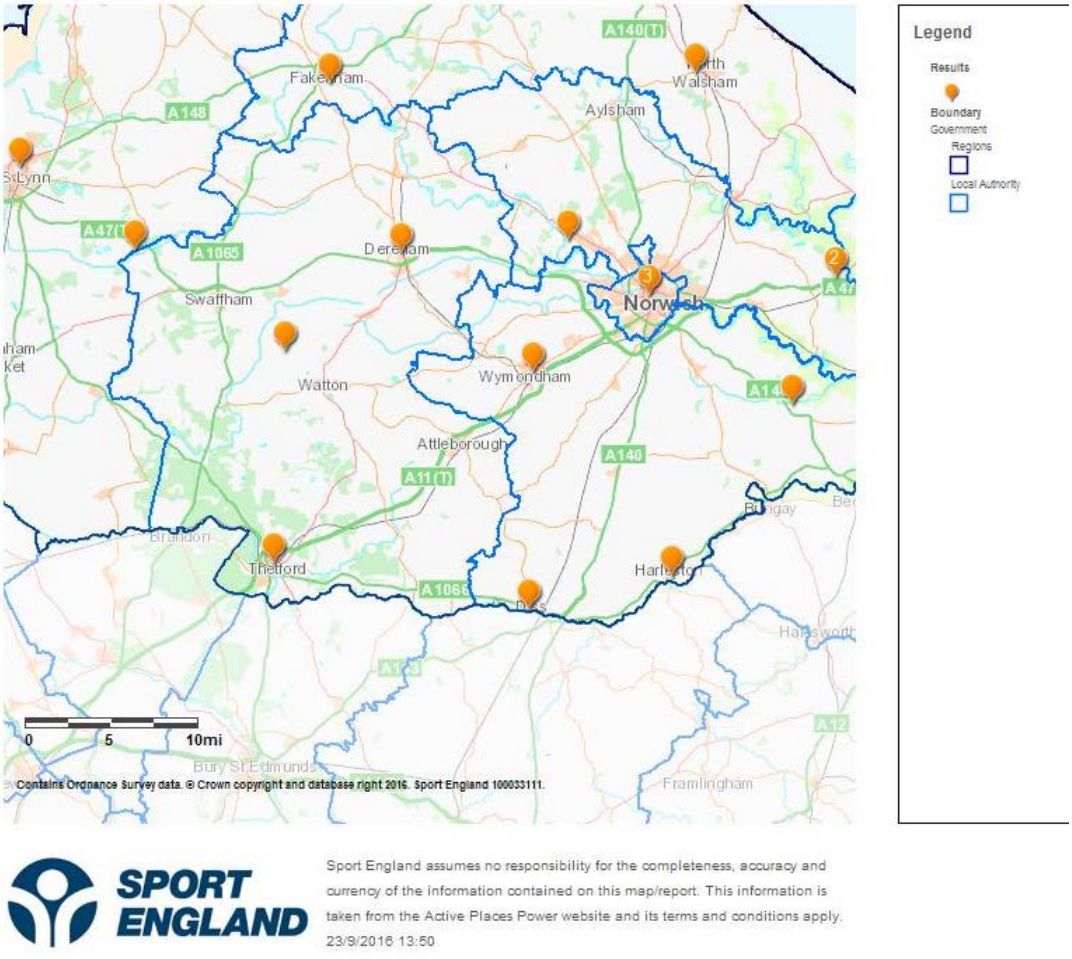
5.3 There are a further 14 indoor bowling centres and a total of 68 rinks in the local authorities in Norfolk County that share a boundary with Breckland.

5.4 In the local authorities in Suffolk County that share a boundary with Breckland there are a further 6 indoor bowling centres and a total of 24 rinks.

5.5 So within the neighbouring authorities to Breckland there is a total of 20 indoor bowling centres and a total of 92 rinks. It is a very extensive supply of indoor bowling centres and rinks. Possibly the highest level of provision in one area of the country.

5.6 The location of the indoor bowling centres In Breckland the centres closest to the Breckland boundary are shown in Map 5.1 below. There are 5 centres in neighbouring authorities all in Norfolk that are within 10 miles of the Breckland boundary.

Map 5.1: Location of the Breckland Indoor Bowling Centres and those in neighbouring authorities closest to Breckland 2016.



(Source: Active Places Power 2016)

5.7 In terms of ownership of the Breckland rinks, the 2 centres at the public leisure centres are owned by Breckland Leisure Ltd and operated by Parkwood Leisure. The third centre is owned and operated by the Old Hall Indoor Bowls Club and is a members club.

5.8 The two public centres operate with resident bowling clubs as the Dereham or Thetford Indoor Bowling Club. Clubs are facility hirers of the indoor bowls hall and are responsible for managing their programme of use with the centre management. The centre operators are responsible for all building operational costs, they collect the membership and rink fee income.

5.9 The Ashill Old Hall Indoor Bowling Club (located two miles NW of Watton) is a member's only club but does provide for public pay and play casual use as a way of encouraging membership. It is understood the club has around 100 members.

5.10 The two public centres are quite modern centres, having opened in 2006 at the Breckland Centre and 2007 at the Dereham Centre. The Old Hall is the oldest centre having opened in 1974 and was modernised in 2002.

5.11 The Breckland centres are by a long way the youngest and most modern centres in comparison to all the centres in the neighbouring authorities. The two leisure centre bowling centres opened in the past 10 years and whilst the Old Hall club is 42 years old it was modernised in 2002. The average age of the Breckland Centres is just over 20 years.

5.12 By comparison the average one of the centres in the neighbouring authorities is: Broadland (4 centres) 32 years of age; Kings Lynn and West Norfolk (3 centres) 30 years of age; North Norfolk (3 centres) 36 years of age; South Norfolk (3 centres) 49 years of age; Forest Heath (2 centres) 35 years of age; and Mid Suffolk (2 centres) 40 years of age.

5.13 Furthermore, only one centre, located at Lakenheath Indoor Bowls Club has opened since 2000. Only two of the neighbouring centres are owned by local authorities and operated on their behalf by Trusts. These are both located in Kings Lynn and West Norfolk, at Lynnsport Leisure Park in Kings Lynn and Oasis Leisure Centre in Hunstanton.

5.14 These combined findings, on the much older average age of the neighbouring centres with only two owned/operated by local authorities is placing a very high reliance on indoor bowling clubs to manage and maintaining an ageing stock of centres. By contrast Breckland has a comparatively young stock of centres, requiring less major modernisation and where the building operational costs are shared as part of a multi-purpose leisure centre, at two locations.

5.15 The age type of ownership and operation provides for much greater long term security for indoor bowling in Breckland than in comparison to centres in neighbouring authorities.

5.16 The details of all the centres in Breckland and the neighbouring authorities is set out in Table 5.2 overleaf.

Table 5.2: Supply of indoor bowling centres in Breckland and all the neighbouring local authorities

Site Name	Facility Type	Length	Rinks	Width	Facility Status	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Year Refurbished	Local Authority Name
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Indoor Bowls	30	3	30	Operational	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	2006	n/a	Breckland
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Indoor Bowls	35	4	18	Operational	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	2007	n/a	Breckland
OLD HALL (ASHILL) INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36	4	19.2	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Commercial	Other	1974	2002	Breckland
ACLE INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36	6	27.9	Operational	Pay and Play	Sports Club	Commercial Management	1993	2014	Broadland
ACLE WAR MEMORIAL RECREATION CENTRE	Indoor Bowls	35	1	5	Operational	Pay and Play	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	1993	n/a	Broadland
COUNTY ARTS INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	39.6	6	28.8	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	1962	2015	Broadland
ROUNDWOOD BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	35.1	6	28.8	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	1989	2006	Broadland
LYNNSPORT & LEISURE PARK	Indoor Bowls	36.6	5	33	Operational	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	2013	King's Lynn and West Norfolk
OASIS LEISURE CENTRE (HUNSTANTON)	Indoor Bowls	35.1	4	18	Operational	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1984	2007	King's Lynn and West Norfolk
PENTNEY INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36.9	6	27	Operational	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	1983	2009	King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Site Name	Facility Type	Length	Rinks	Width	Facility Status	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Year Refurbished	Local Authority Name
FAKENHAM SPORTS CENTRE ASSOCIATION	Indoor Bowls	37.8	4	20.2	Operational	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	1973	2007	North Norfolk
PINEWOOD LEISURE CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36	6	27	Operational	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	1987	n/a	North Norfolk
ROSSI'S LEISURE	Indoor Bowls	36	8	36.8	Operational	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	1978	2001	North Norfolk
DISS INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	35.7	4	16.8	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	1966	2007	South Norfolk
LODDON INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	23	2	7.5	Operational	Pay and Play	Sports Club	Sport Club	1968	2011	South Norfolk
SHOTFORD INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36	4	15.5	Operational	Pay and Play	Sports Club	Sport Club	1969	1997	South Norfolk
WYMONDHAM DELL INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36.4	6	26.7	Operational	Registered Membership use	Sports Club	Sport Club	1964	1998	South Norfolk

Table 5.3: Indoor Bowling Centres Suffolk County

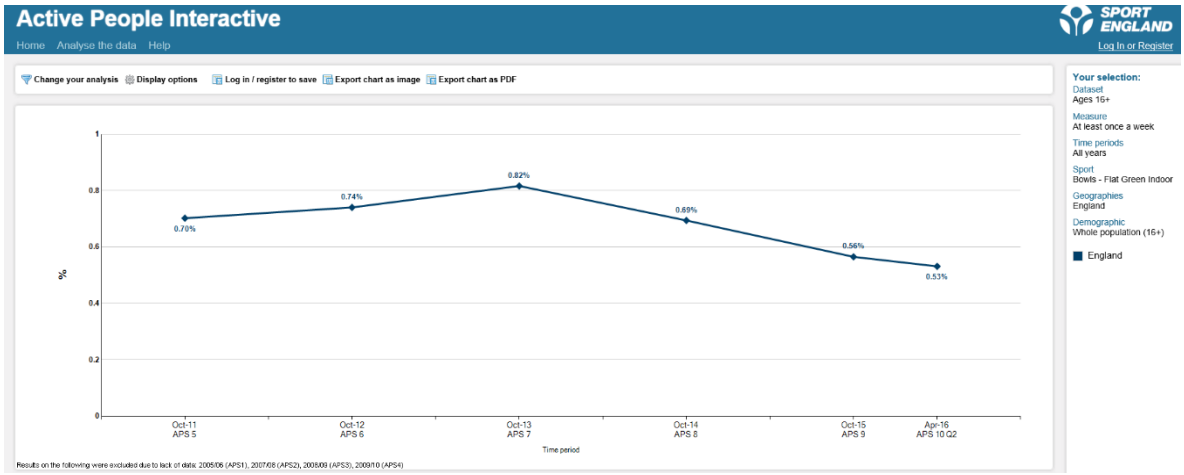
Site Name	Facility Type	Length	Rinks	Width	Facility Status	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Year Refurb	Local Authority Name
LAKENHEATH INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36.5	3	15	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	2000	n/a	Forest Heath
WEST ROW INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	34.2	3	14.4	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	1952	2015	Forest Heath

Site Name	Facility Type	Length	Rinks	Width	Facility Status	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Year Refurb	Local Authority Name
MID SUFFOLK LEISURE CENTRE	Indoor Bowls	36.5	7	33.2	Operational	Pay and Play	Community school	Commercial Management	1987	2002	Mid Suffolk
STOWMARKET MEADLANDS RECREATION CLUB LTD	Indoor Bowls	36	3	14.5	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	1965	2008	Mid Suffolk
HAVERHILL BOWLS AND SPORTS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36	4	18	Operational	Pay and Play	Sports Club	Sport Club	1973	2006	St Edmundsbury
RISBYGATE SPORTS CLUB	Indoor Bowls	36	4	18	Operational	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	1985	1995	St Edmundsbury

QUANTITY (Participation and Demand)

5.17 Active People data on indoor bowling participation for once a week is only available at the England wide level and for years 2011 – 2016. It shows that in 2011 participation was 0.70% of the adult population bowling at least once a week. This increased to 0.82% of the England adult population in 2013 but has decreased to 0.53% of the adult population in 2016. The findings are set out in Chart 5.1 below.

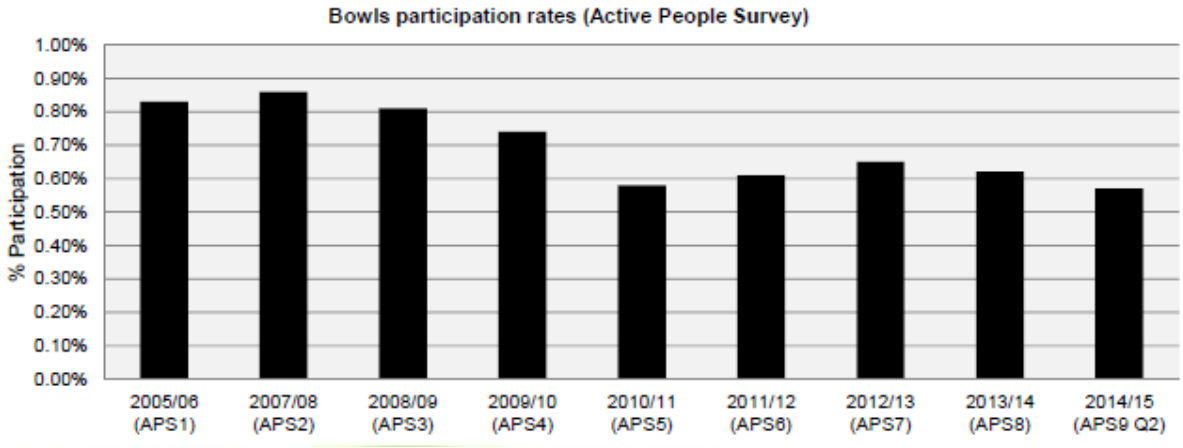
Chart 5.1: Indoor Bowling Participation for England 2011 – 2016



(Source Sport England Active People Survey 2006 – 2015/16)

5.18 In terms of participation in BOTH outdoor and indoor bowling participation this data is available for all the Active People survey years at the England side level. Again based on the once a week measure, this shows low levels of participation and in gradual decline. It being 0.80% of the adult population participating at least once a week in Active People 1 for 2005 - 06 and 0.57% of the adult population participating at least once a week in Active People 9 for 2014 – 15.

Chart 5.2: Indoor and Outdoor Bowling Participation for England 2006 - 2015



Source Sport England Active People Survey 2006 – 2015/16)

Sport England Indoor Bowling Study 2013

5.19 In 2013 Sport England undertook a national indoor bowling facility assessment and this study sets out participation rates for indoor bowling for a range of age bands and for both genders. This provides more detailed information on the profile of participation than the Active People survey.

5.20 The findings based on Sport England research is set out in Table 5.4 below. The highest rates of indoor bowls participation for both genders is in the 65+ age ranges. Perhaps surprising is that participation is highest in the 75+ age group. Up until age 64 participation is below 1% of the adult population for females and is 1% for males.

Table 5.4: Participation rates in indoor bowling by age and gender. Sport England study 2013

Age range	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)
Males	0.00	0.09	0.49	1.03	2.84	4.01
Females	0.00	0.06	0.27	0.93	2.11	2.61

5.21 By applying these rates of participation in both 2016 and for 2031it is possible to identify the POTENTIAL participation rates for indoor bowling for both genders from the Sport England study to the Breckland population. This is set out in Table's 5.5 and 5.6 below.

Table 5.5: Male population potential participation in indoor bowling by age bands for 2016 and 2031 for Breckland (1)

Age range	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)
Males participation rate	0.00	0.09	0.49	1.03	2.84	4.01
2016 Population participating in indoor bowls	0	23	127	43	255	`122
2031 Population participating in indoor bowls	0	27	134	54	293	161

(1) Population projections for Breckland provided by the Council) based on 2014 ONS projections updated from 2011 Census

Table 5.6: Female population potential participation in indoor bowling by age bands for 2016 and 2031 for Breckland

Age range	0 – 15 (%)	16-49 (%)	50-59(%)	60-64(%)	65-74(%)	75-79(%)
Female participation rate	0.00	0.06	0.27	0.93	2.11	2.61
2016 Population participating in indoor bowls	0	15	25	39	189	80
2031 Population participating in indoor bowls	0	12	28	49	218	105

Table 5.7: Total population potentially participating in indoor bowling by age bands in Breckland 2016 and 2031

Age range	0 – 15	16-49	50-59	60-64	65-74	75-79	TOTAL
2016 total population participating in indoor bowls	0	28	152	82	444	202	908
2031 total population participating in indoor bowls	0	39	162	103	511	266	1.081

(Source for all tables Sport England National Survey of indoor bowling 2013)

5.22 The advantage of this assessment is that it allows Sport England participation rates for indoor bowling to be applied to the Breckland population in 2016 and the projected population in 2031, for both males and females in the 5 age bands that participate. It provides a more informed view of the potential future demand for indoor bowling based on participation rates now.

5.23 The key findings from the tables are:

- the overall total population participating in indoor bowling is low at 908 people in 2016 and increasing by a small amount to 1,081 bowlers in 2031;
- at an assumed per rink capacity of 100 bowlers per rink, this equates to 9 rinks in 2016 and increasing by only 2 rinks to 11 in 2031;
- so, the increasing Breckland population between 2016 and 2031 only adds a requirement for an additional 2 rinks, assuming the participation rates remain unchanged between the two years. This is a questionable assumption because as the Active People survey shows, based on once a week adult participation for indoor bowling has declined nationally from 0.7% of the adult population participating at least once a week in Active People 5 for 2010 – 2011, to 0.53% participating in Active People 9 for 2015 – 16;
- the changes in the Breckland total population between 2016 and 2031 does not impact with big changes in the population who potentially could play indoor bowls, there is an increase of 173 bowlers between the two years;

- the age band with the highest participation is the 75- 79 age band for both females (at 2.6% of this age band participating nationally and males (4% participating nationally;

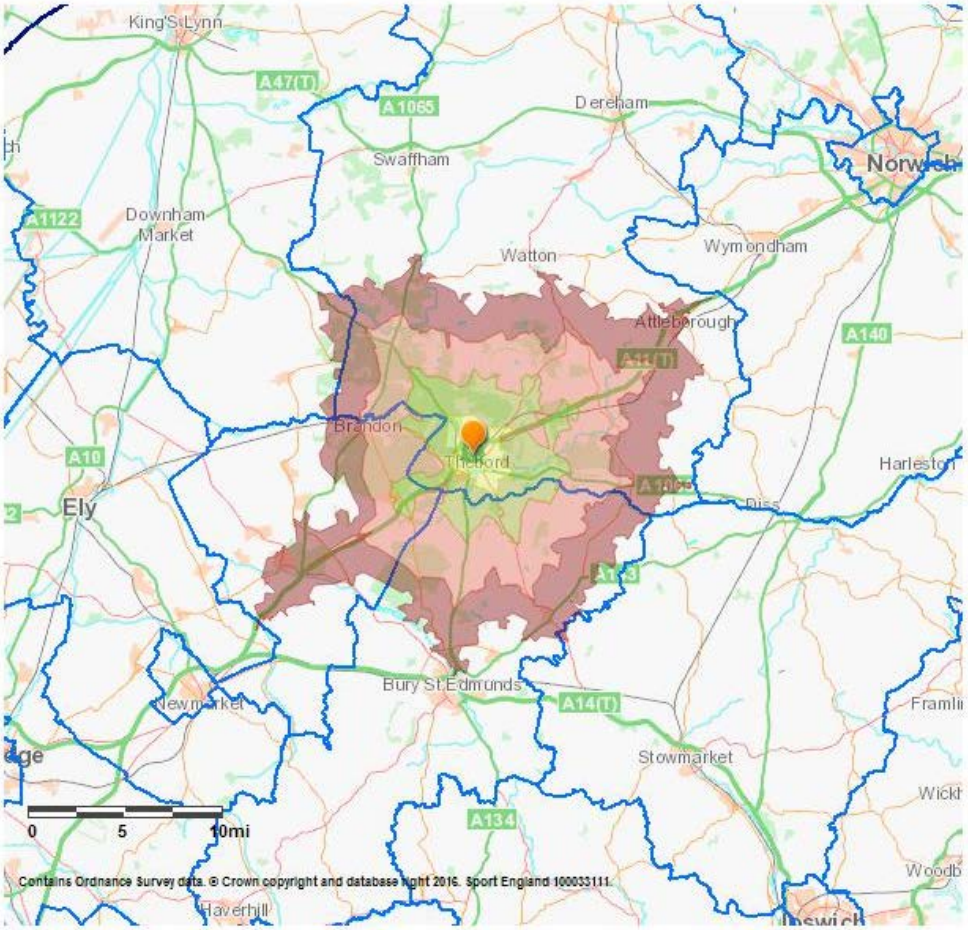
- between the ages 16 – 49 only 0.09% of the male population plays indoor bowls and only 0.06% of the female population plays bowls; and

- in Breckland in 2016 there are 11 rinks at three centres in 2016. So supply exceeds demand slightly in 2016 and is in balance in 2031, based on applying the national rates of indoor bowling to Breckland.

Accessibility

5.24 The 20 minute drive time catchment area for the Breckland Indoor Bowls Centre and the Dereham centre are set out as Maps 5.2 and 5.3 below. The drive tine catchment areas are in 5 minute travel bands. The Thetford centre includes all of the southern half of the authority excepting the east side of the authority to the South Norfolk boundary. There are however indoor bowling centres at Diss Indoor Bowls Centre (1966 and 4 rinks) and Wymondham Dell Indoor Bowls club (1964 and 6 rinks). Both these rinks are accessible to residents in the area not covered by the Thetford centre.

Map 5.2: 20 minute drive time catchment area of the Breckland Indoor Bowling Centre

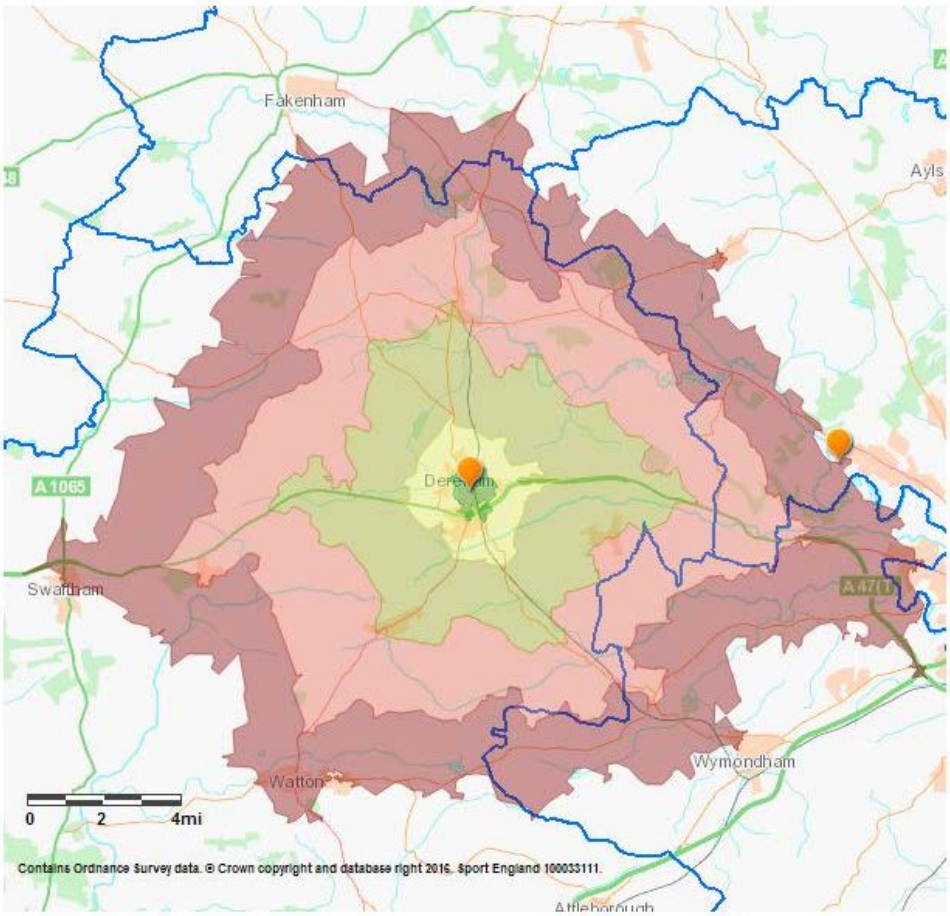


SPORT ENGLAND

Sport England assumes no responsibility for the completeness, accuracy and currency of the information contained on this map/report. This information is taken from the Active Places Power website and its terms and conditions apply.

5.25 The 20 minute drive time catchment area of the Dereham Leisure Centre indoor bowls centre extends across the northern half of the authority, excepting the north west of the authority to the Kings Lynn and West Norfolk boundary. However, residents in this area are inside the 20 minute drive time of the Pentney Indoor Bowls Club (1983 and 6 rinks) and so can access this centre.

Map 5.3: 20 minute drive time catchment area of the Dereham Leisure Centre Indoor Bowls



Site visits and consultations

5.26 Site visits were made to the indoor bowling centres at Dereham Leisure Centre and Breckland Leisure Centre and discussions held with the sports development manager for Parkwood Leisure.

5.27 Both centres have resident indoor bowls clubs who are responsible for organising and managing the bowling programme of use for the club. Parkwood Leisure receive all membership and rink fee income and the clubs are effectively venue hirers. The Dereham club has a current membership of 270 and is an active club. The bowling membership turnover is around 15% a year. Recruitment of new bowlers is focused on recent retirees and people with a past involvement in bowling both indoor and outdoor.

5.28 The club membership is split 60% male and 40% female. The club participates in national competitions and the Norfolk Men's & Ladies County leagues as well organising a programme of internal club leagues. The indoor bowling season is late September to mid-April. The club supports pay and play with dedicated time and as part of the centre management programme of the indoor bowling hall. The club see it as a way of recruiting new members.

5.29 The relationship with the centre management is positive. The club would like to retain a separate social bar/function area but this is not a productive use of space within the centre. The club does retain the ability to organise refreshments rink side.

5.30 Rink occupancy for club use is around 80% for the weekday peak period of day time and early evening, there are around 7 two hour sessions per day. Weekend use is low.

5.31 The club at the Breckland Centre is the Brecks indoor Bowling Club. The centre has a 6 rink indoor bowling centre. The current club membership is 100 but has been as low as 40 in recent times. The membership is 70% male and 30% female. The club has recently been recruiting new membership. Again the Breckland centre management retains all membership and rink fee income and the club is a venue hirer.

5.32 Recently the centre management has sub divided the 6 rink centre to create 3 rinks for indoor bowling and three are set out for martial arts. This reflects the demand for each sporting activity. The two areas are sub divided by a curtain and only one activity takes place at any one time. The club does compete in the Norfolk Men's & Ladies County leagues as well organising a programme of internal club leagues. However the low membership is restricting its ability to compete in competitions and increasingly the club is focusing on internal club leagues/roll ups.

5.33 From 2014 – 2016 Active Norfolk delivered a 2 year project funded by the bowling national governing body to grow participation of people aged 55+ in the sport of bowls across the four main formats of the game (including indoor). The project had a countywide remit and a large element of the project was to award grants to bowls clubs to fund open days and structured coaching sessions to support the recruitment of new players.

5.34 The two indoors bowls clubs at the two centres were engaged across the 2 years of the project; Dereham IBC who were very successful in recruiting new players and ran a total of 4 recruitment events and recruited 44 players aged 55+. The Brecks (Thetford) also ran 4 recruitment events but only recruited 8 players aged 55+. The project had its challenges to deliver, firstly engaging clubs was difficult because of perceived change and some reluctance on the part of existing members to support new members.

5.35 The third indoor bowling club in Breckland is the Old Hall Ashill Indoor Bowls Club which is a 4 rink centre, opened in 1974. It is located 2 miles NW of Watton on a farm and part of a leisure complex which includes a 6 rink outdoor bowls green. The club did not respond to e mails, phone calls and even an off chance site visit, so as to allow consultation. So there are no details about the club or its activities.

5.36 Of note is that the total membership of the two resident clubs at the leisure centres in 2016 is around 370 – 400. This does not include casual bowlers who play indoor bowls or the membership of the Old Hall club. However the total memberships appears to be well below the projected rate of indoor bowling participation, based on the Sport England rates of indoor bowling participation and applied to the Breckland population. This assessment identifies 908 bowlers in 2016.

5.37 Some of the reasons identified for decreasing levels of indoor bowling participation by studies undertaken by naa (notably in Central Bedfordshire) and which may apply in Breckland are:

- Membership levels at all centres are reducing and have been doing so for the past 5 – 10 years. The average annual turnover is between 15% - 20% of the membership, with the higher percentage lost and the lower percentage recruited as new members;

- Membership recruitment is targeted at people approaching retirement and have some past/current interest in bowling. Clubs have mentioned the recruitment of people with past interest in the sport are still novices. This can pose problems because of rink time to learn the skills required to be able to play scratch games and go onto be an active playing member of the club. This does seem to be a finding with the Active Norfolk project - of some resistance by existing club members to new players; and

- Clubs have not been that successful in trying to attract a younger age group to indoor bowling and consider past initiatives have been unsuccessful. Reasons given are – (1) image of the sport as an old persons' sport (2) time required to learn the skills (3) competing time pressures on people in their 30s - 40's (4) peak period for matches is moving increasingly to afternoons and early evenings and when people of working age are not available. The consequences of not recruiting a younger membership are evident for the long term future of the sport.

Summary of Key Findings

5.38 The summary of key findings is set out in the ANOG table at the start of the reporting for indoor bowling.

6: Audit and Assessment for Indoor Tennis

6.1 This section describes the findings from the audit and assessment for indoor tennis. Set out first is a table of findings under each of the ANOG headings. This is followed with a summary of key findings. This is followed in turn by a detailed description of findings that make up the assessment.

Table 6.1: Summary of findings for indoor tennis under the ANOG headings Breckland 2016

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
Supply There are no indoor tennis courts/centres located in Breckland. There are two venues for indoor tennis centres in neighboring authorities and where the 20 minute drive time catchment area extends into Breckland. In South Norfolk, there are two centres on one site located at Easton College. Each centre has 4 courts with an acrylic surface. In Broadland there are also 2 centres but on 2 sites, at Bannatynes Health Club with 2 acrylic indoor courts and Virgin Active with 4 textile surface courts. **Participation and demand** Participation in indoor tennis as measured by the Active People survey and the benchmark measure of at least once a week participation is only available at the England wide level and for years 2012 – 2016. The rate of adult once a week participation at the national level has declined from 0.27% of adults participating in 2012 to 0.22% in 2016. A demand/participation rate for indoor tennis in Breckland can be developed, based on applying the England wide rate of indoor tennis participation of 0.22% of adults playing indoor tennis at least once a week to the Breckland adult population in 2016 and 2031. It is recognised this is the participation rate for where there are indoor courts and it is an England wide figure. However, there is no participation data at a more local level and obviously, none for Breckland. It does provide a proxy measure of demand and potential participation. Based on 0.22% of the 2016 Breckland adult population (over 16) playing indoor tennis at least once a week this would generate 246 tennis players. Based on the same participation rate applied to the Breckland adult population in 2031	The centres in the neighboring authorities opened between 1999 – 2009 and so quite recently. The average age of the centres is between 9 – 10 years. The Bannaytnes centre in Norwich is the oldest, having opened in 1999 and was modernised with new court surfaces in 2011. In terms of considering an indoor tennis centre as part of an outdoor tennis club to provide the critical mass, the quality findings suggest there is limited scope. The average age of the outdoor courts in Breckland is 32 years, for the four venues where the date of opening is known. There are 5 venues of which 2 are education venues, 2 at local sports club/centres (but not tennis) and 1 playing field venue. There is a total of 15 courts, of which 6 are at Neatherd High School in Dereham (1975) and 3 courts are at Attleborough Academy (no date) and 3 courts at Watton Sports Centre (2005). 60% of the total supply of courts are on education sites. There are three outdoor tennis clubs in the authority, Dereham Lawn Tennis Club North Elnham Tennis Club	The nearest centre to Breckland is the Easton College Centre with its 8 courts in two separate centres. This venue is within a 20 minute drive time of the eastern side of Breckland but the majority of the authority is outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area for an indoor tennis centre. The centre is owned and operated by the Further Education College. This venue does have pay and play access. So, whilst the distance to travel to access it is a potential barrier for most the Breckland population, the type of access as pay and play does encourage participation for casual use. There is not the need to take out a membership, which added to the travel time and cost, could be a barrier to playing indoor tennis. The Bannaytnes and Virgin Active venues in Broadland are commercial centres, requiring membership to be able to access and	There are no indoor tennis courts in Breckland. Based on the supply and demand analysis there is the potential demand for one court. It is not a viable proposition to provide just one court and the usual provision is for three indoor courts, ideally situated alongside an established outdoor tennis court club, or as part of a public or commercial indoor sports centre. In all types of provision the objective is to provide enough critical mass at an all year round venue for either indoor or outdoor tennis at a tennis venue, or, a venue where there are several sports facilities.

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
this would generate 274 tennis players. There is very little data on the age profile of indoor tennis players. One source is from a study in 2011 by the Economic Policy Centre this study showed the 16 – 42 age band contains 87% of the total participation across all age bands. The Lawn Tennis Association capacity figure for one indoor tennis court to be occupied for around 80% of the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days over the Autumn – Winter period is 200 users. So, the proxy Breckland demand based on England wide participation rates is for just over 1 indoor court in each of the two years. In terms of outdoor tennis provision there are 8 venues of which 2 are education venues, 1 at a local sports club (but not tennis) 2 playing field venues and 3 outdoor tennis clubs.	Dereham and Thetford Tennis Club. Significantly, the all-weather court surfaces are at North Elnham Tennis Club and the acrylic courts at Dereham Neatherd High School. Of more significance is that only two sites at Dereham Tennis Club and North Elnham Tennis Club has floodlit courts. The survey of outdoor tennis courts in terms of the quality findings shows an old stock of courts, a lack of all-weather surfaces and lack of floodlighting. This does suggest that outdoor tennis participation is more at the recreational level.	play at the venues.	

Summary of Key Findings 2016 – 2031
There are no indoor tennis courts/centres located in Breckland. There are two venues for indoor tennis centres in neighboring authorities and where the 20 minute drive time catchment area extends into Breckland. The nearest centre to Breckland is the Easton College Centre which has 8 courts in two separate centres. This venue is within a 20 minute drive time of the eastern side of Breckland but the majority of the authority is outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area for an indoor tennis centre. The other venues are in Broadland but further east from Breckland than the Easton College centre. Projecting a potential demand rate for indoor tennis in Breckland is based on the benchmark once a week participation measure for indoor tennis at the England wide level, which is 0.22% of the adult population playing at least once a week. Data is not available at a more local geographic level. Based on this participation rate the 2016 Breckland adult population (over 16) would generate 246 tennis players. Based on the same participation rate applied to the Breckland adult population in 2031, would generate 274 tennis players. The Lawn Tennis Association capacity figure for one indoor tennis court to be occupied for around 80% of the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days over the

Autumn – Winter period is 200 users. So, based on the England wide participation rates, the Breckland population would generate demand for just over 1 indoor court in each of the two years.

It is not a viable proposition to provide just one court and the usual provision is for three indoor courts, ideally situated alongside a very well established outdoor tennis court club with extensive outdoor all weather floodlit courts, or, as part of a public or commercial indoor sports centre.

Recommendation – the assessment sets out that there is the potential latent demand for one indoor tennis court, based on the national rates of indoor tennis participation applied to the Breckland adult population in 2016 and 2031. Provision of one court is not a viable project and it is not recommended therefore to consider provision of an indoor tennis centre in the authority. The development of outdoor tennis and which is the focus of the Lawn Tennis Association focus is a way of developing tennis participation at one of the outdoor court venues.

Any proposals by the owners of the outdoor court venues to further develop or modernize these courts with upgrading of surfaces and floodlighting should be supported, especially if it can lead to the further development of outdoor tennis clubs. In time development of outdoor tennis may lead to sufficient sustained participation to create enough demand for an indoor venue, as part of a very well established tennis club or as part of a multi sports venue.

6.2 Indoor tennis centres are defined as traditional - permanent structure and usually take the form of steel or timber portal frame spanning running the full length of the court (including run backs) clad in a material to suit local conditions e.g. metal cladding, brickwork or timber boarding.

6.3 Non- traditional is a permanent or non-permanent structure and three types of structure fall into this category: air supported structures (air halls); framed fabric structures; tensile structures.

Findings under each ANOG heading for Indoor Tennis

6.4 There are no indoor tennis centres located in Breckland. There are 2 centres on 1 site located in South Norfolk These are at Easton College and there are two separate 4 court indoor centres, each with 4 acrylic surface courts.

6.5 There are also 2 centres on 2 sites in Broadland located at Bannatynes Health Club with 2 acrylic indoor courts and Virgin Active with 4 textile surface courts.

6.6 There is also a centre with 4 acrylic courts at Culford Sports and Tennis Centre in St Edmondsbury but this is outside the 20 minute drive time catchment of Breckland.

6.7 All these centres opened over 1999 – 2009 and so quite recently. The average age of the 5 centres is between 9 – 10 years. The Bannatynes centre in Norwich is the oldest, having opened in 1999 and was modernized with new court surfaces in 2009.

6.8 The nearest centre to Breckland is the Easton College Centre with its 8 courts in total, located in two separate buildings. This venue is within a 20 minute drive time of the eastern side of Breckland but the majority of the authority is outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area for an indoor tennis centre. The centre is owned and operated by the Further Education College.

6.9 The distance to travel to access this venue is a potential barrier for the majority of Breckland's population. However the type of access as pay and play does encourage participation for casual use. There is not the need to take out a membership, which added to the travel time and cost, could be a barrier to playing indoor tennis.

6.10 The Bannatynes and Virgin Active venues are commercial centres, requiring membership to be able to access and play at the venues.

6.11 Details of all the indoor tennis venues is set out in Table 6.2 overleaf.

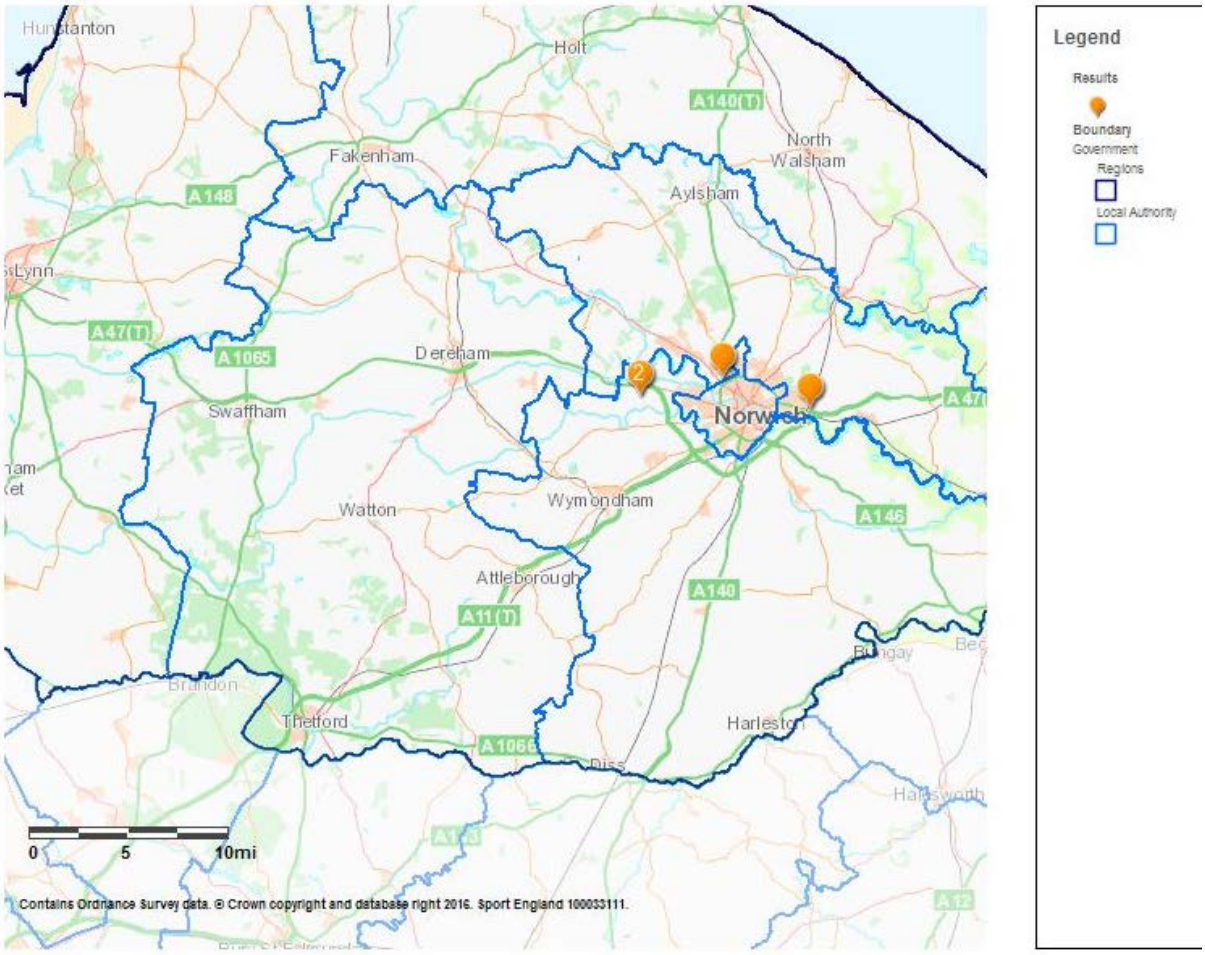
Table 6.2: Indoor Tennis Centres located in in Norfolk and Suffolk and in authorities which border Breckland 2016

Site Name	Facility Type	Type	Courts	Surface type	Access Type	Ownership Type	Man'ment Type	Year Built	Year Refurb	Local Authority Name
BANNATYNES HEALTH CLUB (NORWICH)	Indoor Tennis Centre	Traditional	2	Acrylic	Registered Membership use	Comm	Comm	1999	2011	Broadland
VIRGIN ACTIVE CLASSIC (NORFOLK HEALTH AND RACQUET CLUB)	Indoor Tennis Centre	Traditional	4	Textile	Registered Membership use	Comm	Comm	2006	n/a	Broadland
EASTON SPORTS & CONFERENCE CENTRE	Indoor Tennis Centre	Airhall	4	Acrylic	Pay and Play	Further Education	College (in house)	2008	n/a	South Norfolk
EASTON SPORTS & CONFERENCE CENTRE	Indoor Tennis Centre	Traditional	4	Acrylic	Pay and Play	Further Education	College (in house)	2009	n/a	South Norfolk
CULFORD SPORTS AND TENNIS CENTRE	Indoor Tennis Centre	Traditional	4	Acrylic	Members	Independent School	School/College (in house)	2009	n/a	St Ed'sbury

(Source: Active Places Power 2016)

6.12 The location of the indoor tennis centres nearest to Breckland are set out in Map 6.1 overleaf.

Map 6.1: Location of indoor tennis centres nearest to Breckland and located in Norfolk County 2016

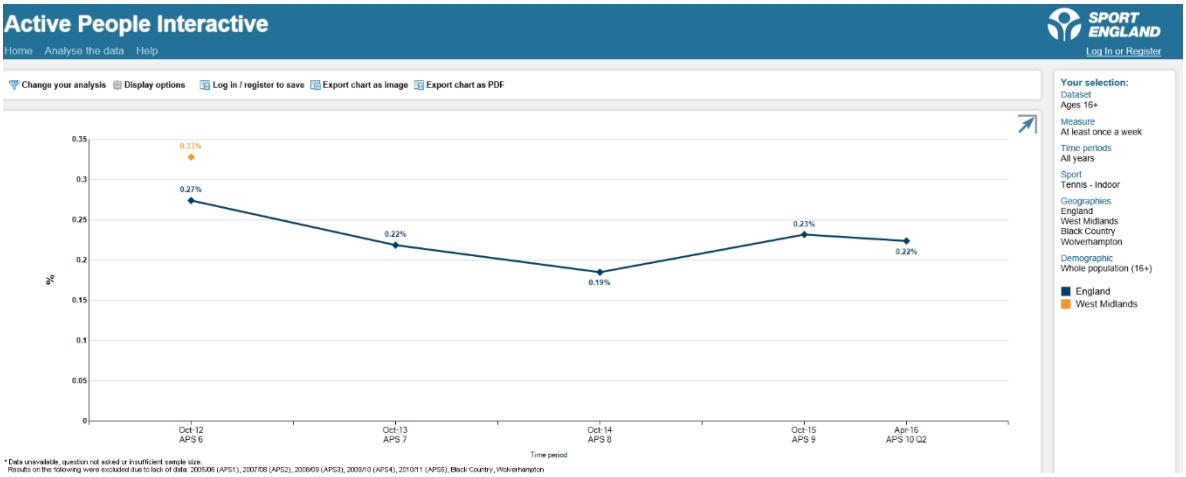


(Source: Active Places Power 2016)

Participation in indoor tennis

6.13 Participation in indoor tennis as measured by the Active People survey and the benchmark measure of at least once a week participation is only available at the England wide level and for years 2012 – 2016. The rate of adult once a week participation at the national level has declined from 0.27% in 2012 to 0.22% in 2016.

Chart 6.1: Once a week participation in indoor tennis England level 2012 - 2016

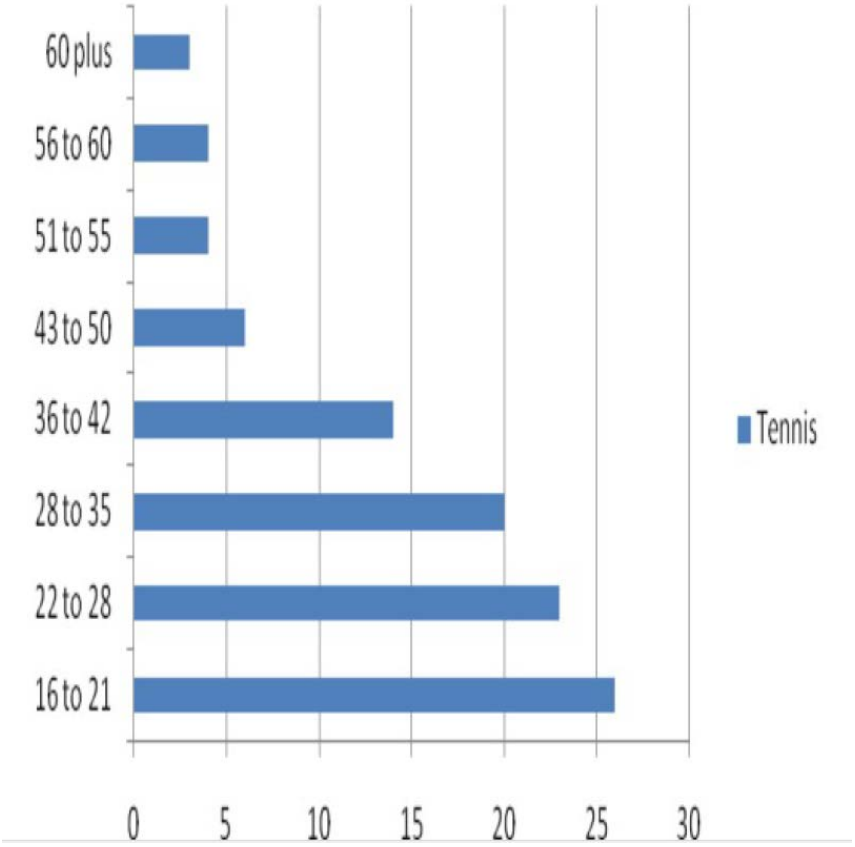


(Source Sport England Active People Survey 2006 – 2015/16)

6.14 There is very little data on the age profile of indoor tennis players. The only source is from a study in 2011 by the Economic Policy Centre and this is at the England wide level. The findings are set out in Chart 6.2 below and it shows how the percentage of players across 8 age bands.

6.15 The 16 – 42 age band contains 87% of the total participation across all age bands.

Chart 6.2: Age Profile for Indoor Tennis Participation England 2011



(Source: Rethinking Tennis for the Big Society Economic Policy Centre 2011)

6.16 A demand/participation rate for indoor tennis in Breckland can be developed based on applying the England wide rate of indoor tennis participation of 0.22% of adults playing indoor tennis at least once a week to the Breckland adult population in 2016 and 2031. It is recognised this is the participation rate for where there are indoor courts and it is an England wide figure. However there is no participation data at a more local level and obviously none for Breckland. It does provide a proxy measure of demand and potential participation.

6.17 Based on 0.22% of the 2016 Breckland adult population (over 16) of 112,135 playing indoor tennis at least once a week, this would generate 246 tennis players. Based on the same participation rate applied to the Breckland adult population in 2031 of 124, 877 people this would generate 274 tennis players.

6.18 The Lawn Tennis Association capacity figure for one indoor tennis court to be occupied for around 80% of the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days over the Autumn – Winter period is 200 players. So the proxy Breckland demand figure based on England wide participation rates is for just over 1 indoor court in each of the two years.

6.19 It is not a viable proposition to provide just one court and the usual provision is for three indoor courts. Ideally situated alongside an established outdoor tennis court club or as an integral part of an indoor sports and leisure complex, so as to provide critical mass and all year round use at one venue.

6.20 The provision of outdoor tennis courts and clubs in Breckland is set out in Table 6.3 below. There are in addition outdoor tennis clubs at Dereham Lawn Tennis Club, North Elnham Tennis Club Dereham and Thetford Tennis Club.

Table 6.3: Provision of outdoor tennis courts Breckland 2016

Site Name	Courts	Floodlit	Surface type	Access Type	Ownership Type	Man'ment Type	Year Built	Year Refurbished
ATTLEBOROUGH ACADEMY	3	No	Concrete	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/ University (in house)	n/a	n/a
DEREHAM NEATHERD HIGH SCHOOL	6	No	Acrylic	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1975	n/a
HARDINGHAM CRICKET CLUB	1	No	Concrete	Pay and Play	Commercial	Sport Club	1975	n/a
SCARNING PLAYING FIELD	2	No	Macadam	Free Public Access	Community	Community Organisation	1980	2008
WATTON SPORTS CENTRE	3	No	Macadam	Registered Membership use	Membership Club	Community Organisation	2005	n/a

(Source: Active Places Power 2016)

6.21 As the table shows, there are 5 venues of which 2 are education venues, 2 at local sports club/centres (but not tennis) and 1 playing field venue. There is a total of 15 courts, of which 6 are at Neatherd High School in Dereham (1975) and 3 courts are at

Attleborough Academy (no date) and 3 courts at Watton Sports Centre (2005). 60% of the total supply of courts are on education sites.

6.22 There are three outdoor tennis clubs in the authority, Dereham Lawn Tennis Club North Elnham Tennis Club Dereham and Thetford Tennis Club.

6.23 The sports club court is located at Hardingham Cricket Club with one court (1975) and there is Scarning Playing Field with 2 courts (1980).

6.24 Significantly, the all-weather court surfaces are at North Elnham Tennis Club and the 6 acrylic courts at Dereham Neatherd High School. Of more significance is that only two sites at Dereham Tennis Club and North Elnham Tennis Club has floodlit courts.

6.25 Outdoor tennis in the authority shows it to be low key in terms of: the venues are quite old, with an average of 32 years for the venues where the date of opening is known; there are three two outdoor tennis clubs; limited all weather courts and one venue at Dereham Lawn Tennis Club has floodlit courts.

6.26 In short, there is not a critical mass of outdoor tennis participation or one evident venue where there is an established tennis club with provision of all-weather outdoor floodlit courts and on which to build on and create an indoor tennis centre. The projected demand for indoor tennis in Breckland, based on applying the participation rate for England of just over one court now and in 2031 is most likely too high. This finding is based on the low key provision of outdoor tennis courts and no tennis clubs. The development of an indoor tennis centre does lead out of/from an established participation in outdoor tennis as a key driver for indoor provision and developing a viable centre.

Summary of Key Findings

6.27 The summary of key findings is set out in the ANOG table at the start of the reporting for indoor tennis centres.

7: Audit and Assessment for Squash

7.1 This section describes the findings from the audit and assessment for squash. Set out first is a table of findings under each of the ANOG headings. This is followed with a summary of key findings. This is followed in turn by a detailed description of findings that make up the assessment.

Table 7.1: Summary of findings for squash under the ANOG headings Breckland 2016

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
There are 7 squash courts at three venues in Breckland. All seven courts are traditional courts and there is no glass backed courts. Four courts are located at Breckland Leisure Centre, (1974) then 2 at Watton Sports Centre (1998) and 1 court at Swaffham Leisure Centre (1981). All 3 venues have pay and play access and there is a resident squash clubs at –Breckland Leisure Centre It however does not compete in local or county squash leagues. It organises internal club ladders and the club functions mainly for recreational play. Significantly there are no squash clubs which own and manage their own dedicated squash club venue. All provision for squash is dependent and part of a multi-purpose sports club (Watton) or as part of a public Leisure Centre (Breckland and Swaffham). Participation in squash and racketball based on the benchmark measure of at least once a week participation is available at the East Region level for 2006 – 2015. Participation data is not available below this geographic level. Identifying the actual and potential demand for squash for Breckland is very challenging. This is for the reasons of: • The participation rate in squash at the England wide and East Region level has shown considerable change and reduction in the past ten years. In East Region, it has fallen from 0.74% of adults playing at least once a week in 2006 to 0, 48% in 2016. There is no data below this geographic level. Projecting a participation rate for 2016 – 2031 in the light of changes in the past 10 years is very problematic • The average age for playing squash has increased to 52 – 54 and there been a big decline in the 16-25 age group. This has halved in the last 10 years from 66,000 to 33,500 players at the England wide level. This suggests	The average age of the squash court venues is 31 years and the most recent provision is at Swaffham leisure Centre and which opened in 1998. The two courts at Watton Sports Centre were flooded in August 2016. Reinstatement of the courts, involving relaying the floors is dependent on the outcome of an insurance claim. Overall the quality of all the courts are functional and suitable for recreational pay and play squash.	All three venues can be accessed for pay and play squash. The peak period is weekday evening in autumn and winter. The catchment area for the three centres is based on a 20 minute drive time and so courts can be accessed in Thetford, Swaffham and Watton but Dereham and Attleborough are outside the drive time catchment area of any squash court provision.	Breckland does not have an established squash club with its own courts. Increasingly squash and racket ball are club based sports with their own venues. Squash clubs develop participation, league and competition play. Squash in Breckland is played at either public leisure centre venues or a multi sports club. The focus is on pay and play participation. At the centres courts are available for evenings and day time use. There is virtually no day time use at any venue but his is consistent across most squash court venues. The Thetford centre organised a squash coaching and development programme in 2015 with the objective of encouraging the resident club membership to develop its skills to be able to enter a team in local and county squash leagues. The skill of the membership was increased to the point where it could have entered a team. However, the organisation and time commitment involved in competing was a barrier for members and the club has not entered a team in competitive play.

the boom in squash in the 1980's has retained a core age group of participants and they represent the bulk of the players, hence the increase in the average age. The sport is not attracting or retaining a younger age group of players • The older age group of players play for recreational benefit and not for competition, league or to improve performance. So, their reasons for participation are fewer and their frequency of participation will be less. The reasons for the reduction in squash participation is attributed by England Squash to: decreasing popularity of the sport after the very extensive rise in participation in the 1980's, estimated at over 2m players at its height; increasing attractiveness of other activities, most noticeably health and fitness which appealed to the same demographic (16 – 44) as squash; an ageing average age of squash participation, it is currently estimated to be between 52 – 55 years of age.			

Summary of Key Findings 2016 – 2031

There are 7 squash courts at three venues in Breckland. All seven courts are traditional courts and there are no glass backed courts.

Four courts are located at Breckland Leisure Centre, (1974) then 2 at Watton Sports Centre (1998) and 1 court at Swaffham Leisure Centre (1981).
All 3 venues have pay and play access and there is a resident squash club at Breckland Leisure Centre.

The catchment area for the three centres is based on a 20 minute drive time and so courts can be accessed in Thetford, Swaffham and Watton but Dereham and Attleborough are outside the drive time catchment area of any squash court provision.

The average age of the squash court venues is 31 years and the most recent provision is at Watton Sports Centre and which opened in 1998.

The two courts at Watton Sports Centre were flooded in August 2016. Reinstatement of the courts, involving relaying the floors is dependent on the outcome of an insurance claim.

Significantly within Breckland there are no squash clubs which own and manage their own dedicated squash club venue. There are also no outdoor or indoor tennis clubs in Breckland which is another source for squash court provision. So, development of squash in Breckland is hampered by the lack of a tennis/squash club set up. All provision for squash is dependent and part of a multi-purpose sports club (Watton) or as part of a public Leisure Centre (Breckland and Swaffham and where there is only one court).

Participation in squash and racketball based on the benchmark measure of at least once a week participation is available at the East Region level for 2006 – 2015. Participation data is not available below this geographic level. The participation rate in squash at the East Region level has shown considerable change and reduction in the past ten years. It has fallen from 0.74% of adults playing at least once a week in 2006 to 0, 48% in 2016. Projecting the provision for squash over the 2016 – 2031 period for Breckland is very challenging. This is for the reasons of:

- The participation rate in squash at the East Region level and England wide -level has shown this reduction in participation over the past ten years and there is no bedrock of club provision to develop participation across Breckland, or at one location

- The average age for playing squash has increased to 52 – 54 years of age and there been a big decline in participation in the 16-25 age group. This has halved in the last 10 years from 66,000 to 33,500 players at the England wide level. This suggests the boom in squash in the 1980's has retained a core age group of participants and they represent the bulk of the players, hence the increase in the average age. The sport is not attracting or retaining a younger age group of players. The older age group of players play for recreational benefit and not for competition, league or to improve performance. So, their reasons for participation are fewer and their frequency of participation will be less. This does not create demand for provision of courts

- The reasons for the reduction in squash participation is attributed by England Squash to: decreasing popularity of the sport after the very extensive rise in participation in the 1980's, estimated at over 2m players at its height; increasing attractiveness of other activities, most noticeably health and fitness which appealed to the same demographic (16 – 44) as squash; an ageing average age of squash participation as said it is currently estimated to be between 52 – 55 years of age

- Finally, as set out, Breckland does not have an established squash club with its own courts. Increasingly squash and racketball are club based sports with their own venues. Squash clubs develop participation, league and competition play. However, squash in Breckland is played at public leisure centre venues for pay and play.

7.2 There are 7 squash courts at three venues in Breckland. All seven courts are traditional courts and there are no glass backed courts.

7.3 Four courts are located at Breckland Leisure Centre, (1974) then 2 at Watton Sports Centre (1998) and 1 court at Swaffham Leisure Centre (1981). The average age of the squash court venues is 31 years and the most recent provision is at Swaffham, opened in 1998.

7.4 All 3 venues have pay and play access. Significantly there are no squash clubs which own and manage their own dedicated squash club venue. All provision for squash is dependent and part of a multi-purpose sports club (Watton) or as part of a public Leisure Centre (Breckland and Swaffham).

7.5 Details of the squash court provision in Breckland is set out in Table 7.2 below.

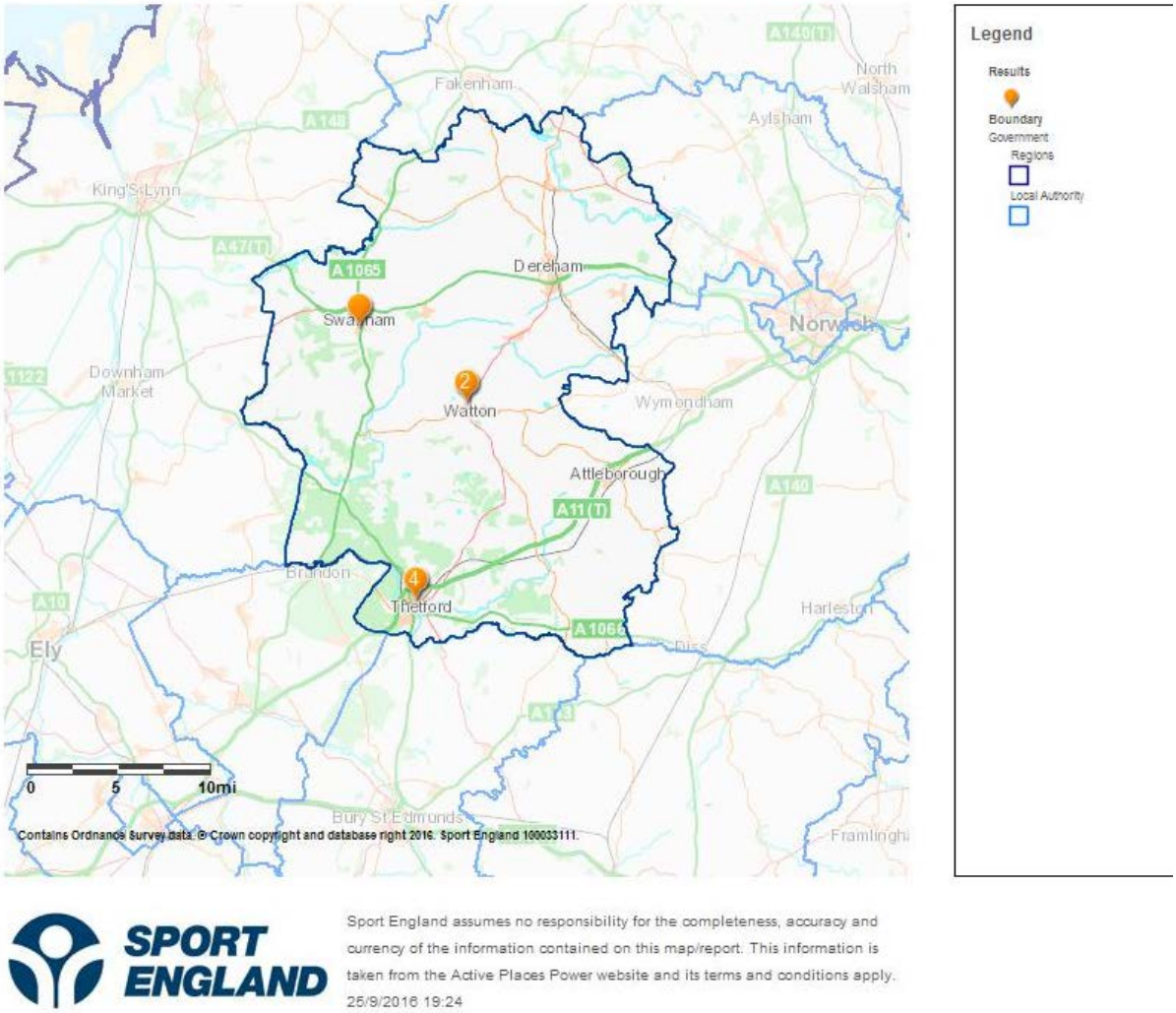
Table 7.2: Squash Court Provision Breckland 2016

Site Name	Facility Type	Courts	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Year Refurbished
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Squash Courts	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1974	2014
SWAFFHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Squash Courts	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1981	n/a
WATTON SPORTS CENTRE	Squash Courts	2	Pay and Play	Membership Club	Community Organisation	1998	2009

(Source: Active Places Power 2016)

7.6 The location of the squash venues and number of courts at each venue is set out in Map 7.1 overleaf.

Map 7.1: Location of squash courts Breckland 2016



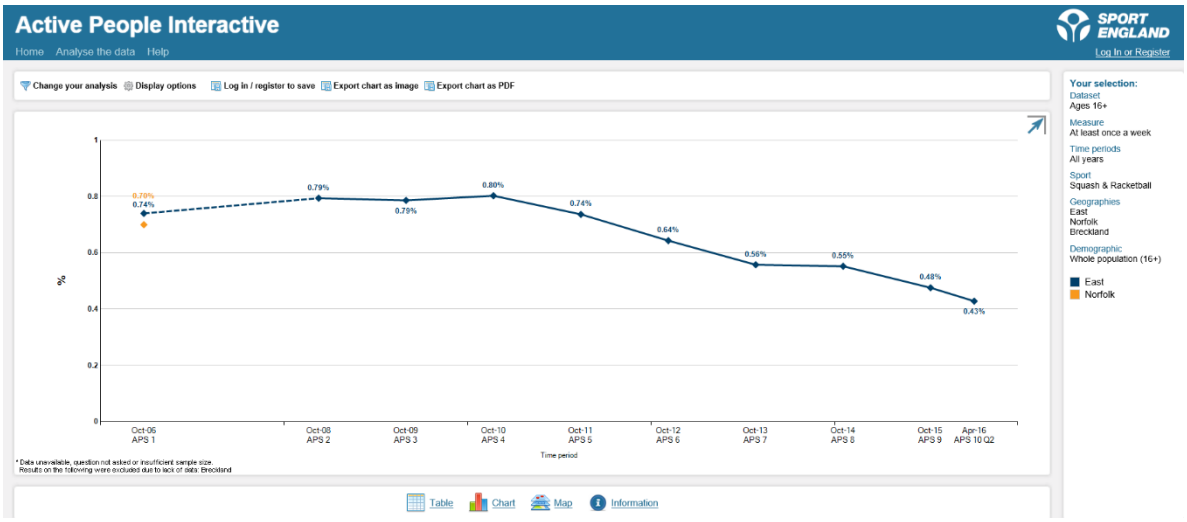
(Source: Active Places Power 2016)

Participation in squash

7.7 Participation in squash and racketball as measured by the Active People survey and the benchmark measure of at least once a week participation is available at the East Region level for 2006 – 2015. Participation data is not available below this geographic level. The rate of adult once a week participation at the East Region level was in 2006 was 0.74% of adults playing squash or racketball at least once a week. In 2010 the rate of participation was 0.8% and it has declined since and was 0.48% of adults playing at least once a week in 2015.

7.8 The participation data for squash at East Region for all years is set out in Chart 7.1 overleaf.

Chart 7.1: Once a week participation in squash and racketball East Region 2006 - 2015



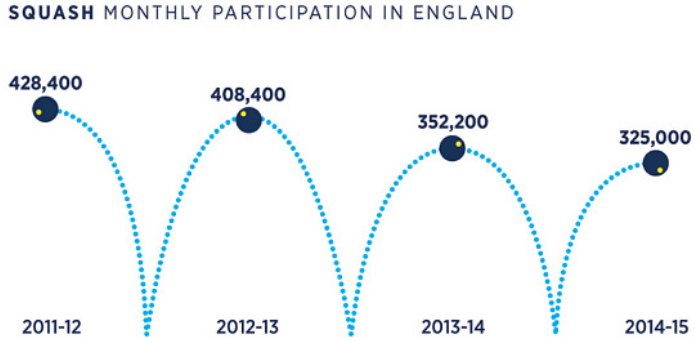
(Source Sport England Active People Survey 2006 – 2015/16)

7.9 More casual participation in squash and racketball based on once a month participation has also declined. In the first Active People survey in 2006/07, there were some 500,600 squash players. The current figure is 325,000. These figures are based on participation in the sport once a month.

7.10 However, the decline in the most recent years is more considerable. The figures also show that squash participation for the 16-25 age group has halved in the last 10 years from 66,000 to 33,500 players at the England wide level.

7.11 Data is available at the England wide levels and for years 2011/12 - 2014//15. It shows 428,400 people playing squash and racketball at least once a month in 2011/12 and 325,000 playing in 2014/15. A reduction in participation of 24% in this more casual participation over the 4 year period. This is set out in Chart 7.2 below.

Chart 7.2: Participation in squash and racketball at least once a month England wide 2011/12 – 2014/15



(Source: Sport England Active People data 2011/12 – 2014/15)

7.12 The reasons for the reduction in squash participation is attributed by England Squash to many factors; decreasing popularity of the sport after the very extensive rise in

participation in the 1980's. The sport could not retain the levels of participation, estimated at over 2m players at its height; increasing attractiveness of other activities, most noticeably health and fitness which appealed to the same demographic (16 – 44) as squash; an ageing average age of squash participation, it is currently estimated to be between 52 – 55 years of age. As people grew older they participated less frequently and more for recreational play. They were not replaced by younger participants being attracted into the sport.

7.13 As participation has decreased so the provision of courts especially in public leisure centres has fallen as centres look for alternative uses of the space. Daytime use of squash courts is very low and there is the alternative therefore to use squash courts for soft play areas, either as an alternative use or conversion of courts. Also conversion of courts for other activities such as climbing walls.

7.14 There is potential for changing this position however. England still has the highest number of squash courts of any country at 8,500 courts. So provision of actual courts still remains high and Breckland does have 7 courts at three venues. So the facility provision of courts in Breckland to increase participation does not appear to be a barrier. The issue is increasing participation to keep the number of courts provided and for squash to be a viable use of this space in the public leisure centres.

7.15 A demand/participation rate for squash and racketball in Breckland can be developed based on applying the East Region benchmark once a week participation rate of 0.48% of adults playing at least once a week. This is based on the main age bands for participation in squash and racket ball of 16 – 54 years of age.

7.16 Developing a participation rate and potential demand for squash for Breckland is very challenging. This is for the reasons of:

- The participation rate in squash at the England wide and East Region level has shown considerable change and reduction in the past ten years, falling from 0.74% of adults playing at least once a week in 2006 to 0, 48% in 2016 across East Region. There is no data below this geographic level. Projecting a participation rate for 2016 – 2031 in the light of changes in the past 10 years is very problematic;

- The average age for playing squash has increased to 52 – 54 and there been a big decline in the 16-25 age group. This has halved in the last 10 years from 66,000 to 33,500 players at the England wide level. This suggests the boom in squash in the 1980's has retained a core age group of participants and they represent the bulk of the players, hence the increase in the average age. The sport is not attracting or retaining a younger age group of players;

- The older age group of players play for recreational benefit and not for competition, league or to improve performance. So, their reasons for participation are fewer and their frequency of participation will be less; and

- Breckland does not have an established squash club with its own courts. Increasingly squash and racquetball are club based sports with their own venues. Squash clubs develop participation, league and competition play. Squash in Breckland is played at either public leisure centre venues, or a multi sports club. The focus is on pay and play participation.

Site visits and consultations

7.17 Site visits were made to the squash venues and as set out already the 2 courts at Watton Sports Centre were flooded in August in 2016. Reinstatement of the courts is

awaiting the outcome of the insurance claim and settlement. It is anticipated that the courts will be reinstated. In discussion with Julie Pike, sports development manager for Parkwood Leisure, she said and as also set out above, the Thetford centre management with the help of squash players organised a squash coaching and development programme in 2015. The objective being to encourage the resident club membership to develop its skills to be able to enter a team in local and county squash leagues. The skill of the membership was increased to the point where it could have entered a team. However, the organisation and time commitment involved in competing was a barrier for members and the club has not entered a team in competitive play.

7.18 Discussion at the Watton Sports centre with the centre manager Casey Jones confirmed that the courts are used for recreational play by the membership of the centre. There is only one court at Swaffham Sports Centre and again the play is for recreational pay and play use.

Summary of Key Findings

7.19 The summary of key findings is set out in the ANOG table at the start of the reporting for squash.

8: Audit and Assessment for Health and Fitness

8.1 This section describes the findings from the audit and assessment for health and fitness. Set out first is a table of findings under each of the ANOG headings. This is followed with a summary of key findings. This is followed in turn by a detailed description of findings that make up the assessment.

Table 8.1: Summary of findings for health and fitness under the ANOG headings Breckland 2016

Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability
There are 11 health and fitness venues in Breckland. These have a total of 423 exercise stations. The largest venue is Amazon Gym in Attleborough with 65 exercise stations. The 4 local authority centres have a total 160 stations, some 38% of the total supply in the authority. There are 55 stations at each of Breckland and Dereham Leisure Centres, then 40 stations at Swaffham Leisure Centre and 10 stations at Attleborough Sports Hall. The Watton Sports Centre has 25 stations. The Watton centre is a membership club and it is owned by a local sports trust. The three school sites have a total of 44 stations. The largest being at Neatherd High School at 32 stations. The Fitness Industry Association (FIA) methodology identifies a demand for 343 stations based on the Breckland 2016 population and applying the rate of gym participation for Norfolk County. There is no data on gym participation for Breckland beyond 2007 – 08. This compares with a current supply of 423 stations and so based on the FIA methodology supply exceeds demand by 80 stations. This seems a challenging finding because of the commercial operation of gyms and a very competitive and price sensitive market. If there were to be this over supply, then the level of provision would change. Furthermore, consultations with Parkwood Leisure confirmed there is a need to increase the number of stations for cardio vascular exercise at both the Dereham and Thetford sites based on sustained membership levels and waiting tines for machines at peak times.	The average age of the venues is 18 years, with 6 venues having opened pre 1990 and 5 post 2000. The most recent venue is the Amazon Gym in Attleborough which opened in 2010. The age of the venue is less important than the age of the equipment and according to the data 6 of the venues have replaced or upgraded equipment in the past 7years. The age of the equipment at the education venues would preclude it for community use. Also, the education venues do not provide for a wider range of health and fitness activities such as studios and spas, and so the range and quality of the offer does not make them attractive for community use.	All the venues, except the three school venues are listed as having pay and play access. So, 381 stations and which is 90% of the total provision are pay and play. All these venues will also have memberships and the main access is by members based on the ability and willingness to pay a membership. All areas of the authority are inside a 20 minute drive time of a health and fitness centre. Thetford has the most with 4 centres and 176 stations, some 41% of the total supply. Attleborough has 3 centres and a total of 115 stations, 27% of the total supply. Dereham also has 3 centres and 92 stations, some 21% of the total supply. Finally, Swaffham has one centre and 40 stations, 9% of the total supply.	In terms of availability, 7 of the 10 venues are under commercial management. Three school venues are managed by each school independently. Whilst there is pay and play access the availability of the commercial centres is based on the ability and willingness to pay a monthly membership. Price levels for memberships do vary and price is based on the complete offer. Parkwood Leisure has a membership which includes access to all facilities on its sites and so the gym when viewed against commercial gyms is more expensive. However, it is not like for like comparison as none of the commercial gyms also provide a pool, or indoor sports facilities.

Summary of Key Findings 2016 – 2031

There are 11 health and fitness venues in Breckland. These have a total of 423 exercise stations. The largest venue is Amazon Gym in Attleborough with 65 exercise stations.

The 4 public leisure centres have a total 160 stations, some 38% of the total supply in the authority. There are 55 stations at each of Breckland and Dereham Leisure Centres, then 40 stations at Swaffham Leisure Centre and 10 stations at Attleborough Sports Hall. The Watton Sports Centre has 25 stations. The Watton centre is a membership club and it is owned by a local sports trust.

The school sites have a total of 44 stations. The largest being at Neatherd High School at 32 stations. They do not provide for community use for health and fitness.

All areas of the Breckland are inside a 20 minute drive time of a health and fitness centre, as there is provision in all five main towns.

The average age of the venues is 18 years, with 6 venues having opened pre 1990 and 5 post 2000. The most recent venue is the Amazon Gym in Attleborough which opened in 2010. The age of the venue is less important than the age of the equipment and according to the data, 6 of the venues have replaced or upgraded equipment in the past 7years. The oldest equipment is in the education venues and it is understood there are no plans to upgrade or replace equipment.

The Fitness Industry Association (FIA) methodology identifies a demand for 343 stations based on the Breckland 2016 population and applying the rate of gym participation for Norfolk County. There is no Active People data on gym participation for Breckland beyond 2007 – 08. The FIA assessment compares with a current supply of 423 stations and so based on the FIA methodology supply exceeds demand by 80 stations. This seems a challenging finding because of the commercial operation of gyms and a very competitive and price sensitive market. If there were to be this over supply, then the level of provision would change. Furthermore, the two public leisure centres consider there is a need to increase its health and fitness provision to meet sustained levels of demand and memberships.

Projecting the potential demand for health and fitness to 2031 is very challenging, given the dynamic nature and frequent changes in both demand and participation. Health and fitness more than any other indoor facility type is very much 'market' led and changes frequently. For example, recent trends seem to be suggesting smaller gyms but with more studios to deliver solely class based workouts, as opposed to use of traditional fitness equipment is the latest mix of provision.

Also, the recent (last 5 years) increase in the low-cost gyms without long term memberships and which provide the gym and quality equipment but little else have opened the market and created a new appeal Meantime, there is possibly less demand for the gyms which also provide for a range of other services, spas, saunas and treatments and which have a long-term membership commitment.

So, it is a very segregated market in terms of different types of provision for different types of participants and based on: consumer demand; levels of disposable income; membership and non-membership marketing and pricing; and consumers changing interest in different activities.

Reflection on these changes in the past 10 years (and five of the 11 venues in Breckland have opened since 2000) indicates the challenges in projecting demand and provision to 2031.

That said one way is to apply the Sport England market segmentation data for those who "do gym" and those "who would like to do gym" in both 2016 and 2031. This identifies the participation levels and the latent demand or both years. These findings on participants can then be compared to the 2016 and 2031 number of stations and based on provision of 20 – 25 people per station. Thereby establishing the supply and demand based on this methodology.

Summary of Key Findings 2016 – 2031

The caveats to this methodology are it is based on assuming one type of gym provision, not the market differentiation in types of supply described.
Other caveats are that the Breckland population aged 16 – 54 (main age range for participants) is hardly changed between 2016 and 2031. So, assuming the rates of actual and would like to do gym in 2016 are the same as for 2031, then there is not going to much change between the two years.

Finally, based on the market segmentation data for Breckland, the percentage range of range of participation is between 10% and 20% of adults who do gym at least once a month. For the latent demand of would like to do gym it is between 5% - 10% of the adult population. So, a wide percentage range of participation. The market segmentation data sets out that spatially the rate of participation does not differ within Breckland.

Notwithstanding all those caveats (methodology and findings set out in the assessment report), the number of stations in 2016 and 2031 based on the lower rate of participation is between is between 362 – 453 and this compares with a current supply of423 stations. So, there is a close alignment between demand and supply. Based on the higher rates of participation (of 20% of adults doing gym at least once a month and 10% would like to) then the demand is for 725 – 906 stations, considerably higher than the current supply.

This methodology does provide an assessment based on the evidence of Sport England's market segmentation data, the projected Breckland population and applying lower rates of the range of market segmentation participation (10% of adults doing gym and 5% would like to do gym at least once month) that the current supply is matching demand and there is projected to be little change, based on this assessment.

However, to reiterate based on the dynamic changes in health and fitness provision and consumer choice assessing demand over such a long period can only be a guideline.

8.2 Table 8.2 below sets out the health and fitness provision in Breckland.

Table 8.2: Health and Fitness Centres Breckland 2016

Site Name	Post Town	No of Stations	Access Type	Ownership Type	Man'ment Type	Year Built	Year Refurb	Ward Name
AMAZON GYM	Attleborough	65	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	2010	n/a	Wayland
ATTLEBOROUGH SPORTS HALL	Attleborough	10	Pay and Play	Community school	Commercial Management	2007	n/a	Queen's
BODY CONCEPT	Thetford	61	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	1996	2006	Thetford-Abbey
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Thetford	55	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1974	2014	Thetford-Abbey
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Dereham	55	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	2007	n/a	Dereham-Central
DEREHAM NEATHERD HIGH SCHOOL	Dereham	32	Private Use	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1991	2009	Dereham-Neatherd
HMP WAYLAND	Thetford	33	Private Use	Government	Other	1984	n/a	Templar
NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL	Dereham	5	Private Use	Academies	School/College/ University (in house)	2005	n/a	Dereham-Neatherd
SWAFFHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Swaffham	40	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1981	2011	Swaffham
VINNIE'S GYM	Attleborough	35	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	1999	2011	Queen's
WATTON SPORTS CENTRE	Watton	25	Pay and Play	Trust	Community Organisation	1998	2006	Watton
WAYLAND ACADEMY	Watton	7	Private Use	Academy Convertors	School/College/ University (in house)	2007	n/a	Watton

8.3 There are 11 health and fitness venues in Breckland. These venues have a total of 423 exercise stations. The largest venue is Amazon Gym in Attleborough with 65 exercise stations. The two main local authority centres at Breckland and Dereham Leisure Centres have 55 stations each.

8.4 The average number of stations per venue is 42 and so quite small in terms of size of gyms. There are three venues with fewer than 20 stations, these being, Attleborough Sports Hall with 10 stations, Northgate High School 5 stations; and Wayland Academy with 5 stations.

8.5 In terms of type of ownership there are three commercial sites: Amazon Gym Attleborough 55 stations; Body Concept, Thetford, 61 stations and Vinnie's Gym Attleborough 35 stations. There are the four Parkwood Centres with a total of 160 stations, some 38% of the total supply and in addition to the two main centres, there are 40 stations at Swaffham Leisure Centre and 10 stations at Attleborough Sports Hall.

8.6 There are three school venues, Neatherd High School which 32 stations, then Wayland Academy 7 stations and Northgate High School with 5 stations. So the scale of the provision in the schools does not make then suitable for community use.

8.7 In terms of access, all the venues, excepting the three school venues are listed as having pay and play access. So some 381 stations at seven venues and which is 90% of the total provision are pay and play. This is however somewhat of a misleading description because all these venues will have membership systems and really the access is based on the ability and willingness to pay a membership.

8.8 In terms of management, seven of the 10 venues are under commercial management and it is the same three school venues which are managed differently and by each school independently.

8.9 The Watton Sports Centre has 25 stations. It is owned by a local sports trust, has pay and play access and access by membership.

8.10 The average age of the venues is 18 years, with 6 venues having opened pre 1990 and 5 post 2000. The most recent venue is the Amazon Gym in Attleborough which opened in 2010.

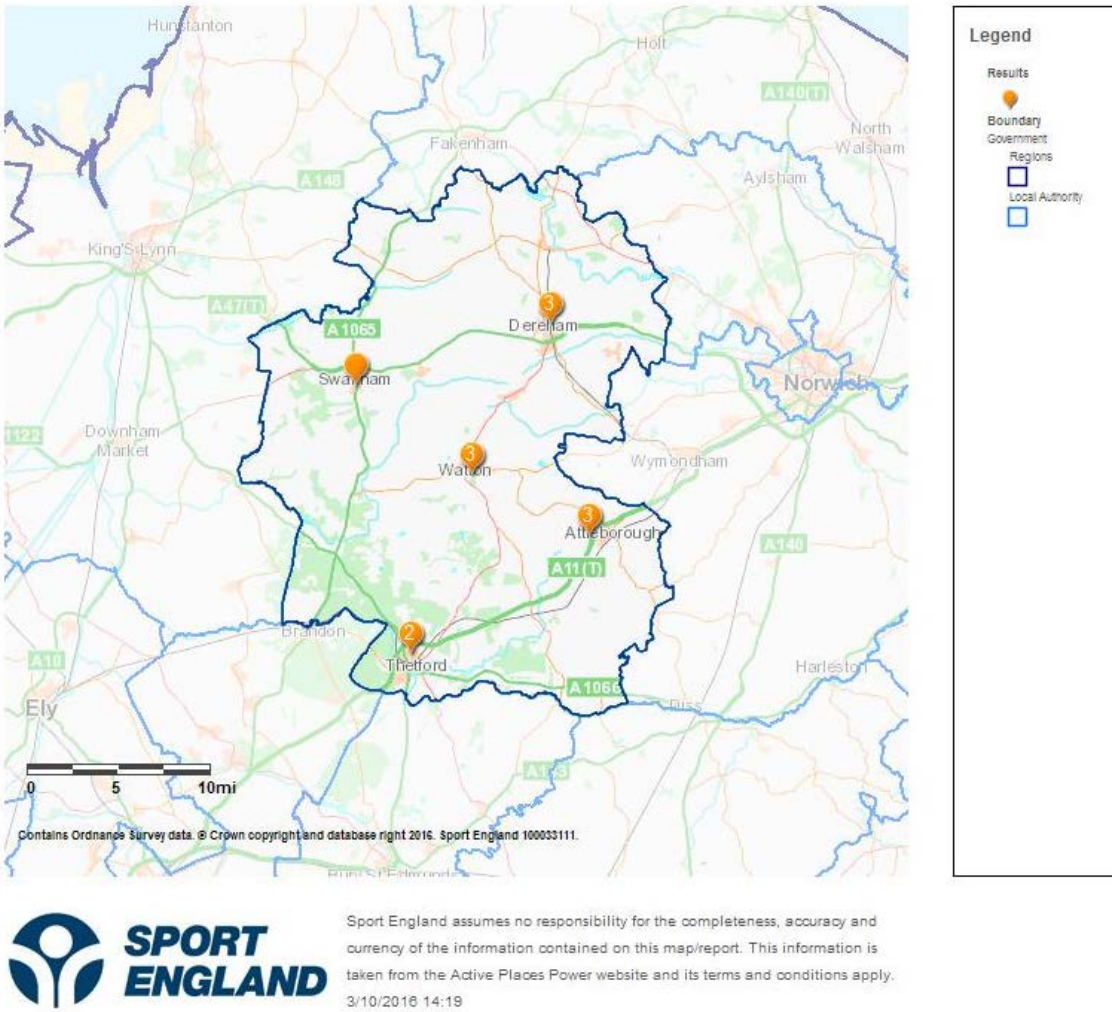
8.11 The age of the venue is less important than the age of the equipment and according to the data 6 of the venues have replaced or upgraded equipment in the past 7years. The oldest gym is the Breckland Leisure Centre.

Location and access to health and fitness venues.

8.12 The location of the health and fitness centres in Breckland is set out in Map 8.1 overleaf. There is a good geographical distribution of centres with all the main towns having a health and fitness centre.

8.13 All areas of the authority are inside a 20 minute drive time of a health and fitness centre and there is provision in all five main towns. Thetford has the most with 3 centres and with 149 stations, some 35.2% of the total supply. Attleborough has 3 centres and a total of 110 stations, 26% of the total supply. Dereham also has 3 centres and 92 stations, some 21.7% of the total supply. Swaffham has one centre and 40 stations, 9.4% of the total supply. Watton has two centres with 7.5% of the supply.

Map 8.1: Location of Health and Fitness Centres Breckland 2016



Demand and participation in health and fitness.

8.14 There are various methodologies for assessing the demand for indoor and health and fitness centres. Given the commercial and competitive nature of gym provision between different providers then the demand assessment is usually developed as part of the feasibility study for a new centre, or, reviewing provision against the existing supply overall.

8.15 There are various methodologies for assessing the demand for gyms but assessments are very sensitive to changes in:

- consumer demand;
- levels of disposable income; membership and non-membership marketing and pricing;
- the organisation of the gym providers with different types of provision for different markets;
- and consumers changing interest in different activities.

8.16 The Fitness Industry Association (FIA) has developed a methodology based on the population of an area, the percentage of the population who participate in health

and fitness, a visit rate and duration and peak times. The findings applying the FIA methodology for Wolverhampton is set out in Table 8.3 below.

8.17 The FIA methodology identifies a demand for 343 stations based on the Breckland 2016 population and applying the rate of gym participation for Norfolk County. There is no data on gym participation for Breckland beyond 2007 – 08. This compares with a current supply of 423 stations and so based on the FIA methodology supply exceeds demand by 80 stations.

Table 8.3: Fitness Industry Association Methodology for Number of Stations Calculation for Breckland 2016

Methodology	Value	Total
Breckland adult population (15 - 64 in 2016)		78,944
% of population participating in health and fitness in Norfolk (from Active People 2013 – 14 most recent data, data not available for Breckland)	7.8%	6,157
Average number of visits per week	2.4	14,776
No. of visits in peak time	65%	9,604
No. of visits in one hour of peak time	28	343
TOTAL NO. OF STATIONS REQUIRED (PEAK TIME)		343

8.18 Projecting the potential demand for health and fitness to 2031 is very challenging, given the dynamic nature and frequent changes in both demand and participation. Health and fitness more than any other indoor facility type is very much 'market' led and changes frequently. For example, recent trends seem to be suggesting smaller gyms but with more studios to deliver solely class based workouts, as opposed to use of traditional fitness equipment is the latest mix of provision.

8.19 Also, the recent (last 5 years) increase in the low cost no frills gyms without long term memberships and which provide the gym and quality equipment but little else have opened the market and appeal more. Meantime, there is possibly les demand for the gyms which also provide for a range of other services, spas, saunas and treatments but have a long term membership commitment.

8.20 So, it is a very segregated market in terms of different types of provision for different types of participants and as set out based on: consumer demand; levels of disposable income; membership and non-membership marketing and pricing; and consumers changing interest in different activities.

8.21 Reflection on these changes in the past 10 years (and five of the 11 venues in Breckland have opened since 2000) indicates the challenges in projecting demand and provision to 2031.

8.22 That said one way is to apply the Sport England market segmentation data for those who "do gym" and those "who would like to do gym" in both 2016 and 2031. This identifies the participation levels and the latent demand or both years. These findings on participants can then be compared to the 2016 and 2031 number of stations and based on provision of 20 – 25 people per station. Thereby establishing the supply and demand based on this methodology.

8.23 These findings are set out in Table 8.4 below. The caveats to this methodology are already set out and it is based on assuming one type of gym provision, not the market differentiation in supply described.

8.24 Other caveats are that the Breckland population aged 16 – 54 is hardly changed between 2016 and 2031. So assuming the rates of actual and would like to do gym in 2016 are the same as for 2031, then there is not going to much change between the two years. This in terms of number of stations because total population hardly changes and the rates of participation are unchanged.

8.25 Finally, based on the market segmentation data for Breckland, the percentage range of range of participation is between 10% and 20% of adults who do gym at least once a month. For the latent demand of would like to do gym it is between 5%- 10% of the adult population. So quite a percentage range of participation. The market segmentation data sets out that spatially the rate of participation does not differ within Breckland.

8.26 Notwithstanding all those caveats and as table shows, the number of stations in 2016 and 2031 based on the lower rate of participation is between is between 362 – 453 and this compares with a current supply of423 stations. So there is a close alignment between demand and supply. Based on the higher rates of participation (of 20% of adults doing gym at least once a month and 10% would like to) then the demand is for 725 – 906 stations, considerably higher than the current supply.

8.27 As set out it is very difficult to assess future demand for health and fitness over such a long period when the reasons for demand changes are so numerous and the supply base for different target markets changes.

8.28 The methodology set out here does provide some re -assurance based on the evidence of Sport England's market segmentation data, the projected Breckland population and applying lower rates of the range of market segmentation participation (10% of adults doing gym and 5% would like to do gym at least once month) that the current supply is matching demand and there is projected to be little change, based on this assessment.

Table 8.4: Supply and demand for health and fitness based on Sport England market segmentation 2016 and 2031

Year	Breckland population (16 – 54)	% of Breckland population who do gym (1)	total who do gym	% of Breckland population who would like to do gym (1)	total would like to do gym	total number of participants	No of stations to support participation (Based on 20 – 25 stations per person)
2016	60,413	10% 20%	6,040 12,082	5% 10%	3,020 6,040	9,060 18,122	362 – 453 724 - 906
2031	60,455	10% 20%	6,045 12,090	5% 10%	3,022 6,045	9,067 18,135	362 - 453 725 - 906

(1) assumed same rate in 2031 as 2016

Site visits and consultation

8.29 Site visits were undertaken to the health and fitness provision at Dereham Leisure Centre, Breckland's Leisure Centre, Swaffham Sports Centre, Watton Sports Centre and the school gyms at Wayland Academy and Northgate High School. Discussions were

held with the Head of PE at the school sites, Casey Jones Manager Watton Sports Centre and Julie Pike Head of Sports Development for Parkwood Leisure.

8.30 The range and quality of the gym equipment at the public centres is very high. At the education venues and at Watton Sports Centre the equipment is over 10 years old and older at the education venues. At these venues it will have less appeal for participants more used to equipment at more modern venues. The school gyms are not really of a standard suitable to provide for community use. There was no mention of replacing and upgrading the equipment.

8.31 The two public centres are considering the need to increase the provision of CV and strength and conditioning equipment based on established demand patterns. There is also a need to increase the area within the gyms for stretching exercises. The constraint is the actual size of the gyms to accommodate this increase.

Summary of Key Findings

8.32 The summary of key findings is set out in the ANOG table at the start of the reporting for health and fitness.

8.33 This ends the reporting of the evidence base for each of the facility types included in the study.

Strategic Assessment of Provision for Swimming Pools Breckland Council

Appendix 2: Sport England's Facilities Planning Model Report

March 2017

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A limited company, registered in
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1. Introduction

1.1 Breckland Council is developing an evidence base for indoor sports facilities to support the development of local planning policy for the Breckland Council Local Plan. The Council has decided to apply the Sport England facility planning model (fpm) to consider the supply, demand and access to swimming pools in 2016 and projected forward to 2031.

1.2 This assessment includes the projected growth in population and the location of new residential development within Breckland. The assessment also considers the option to consider changes in the provision of swimming pools within Breckland.

1.3 There are three assessments (known as runs) and these also include any committed changes in swimming pool provision in the neighbouring authorities notified to Breckland Council and which will impact on Breckland.

1.4 This report sets out the findings from this fpm assessment. The findings and options for future provision will be integrated into the full evidence base for all seven facility types in the Breckland study for indoor sports and recreational facilities.

1.5 The fpm analysis is based on three separate modelling runs that include:

- Run 1 – supply, demand and access to swimming pools based on the projected population in Breckland and the neighbouring authorities in 2016 and including known committed changes in the swimming pool supply in the neighbouring authorities
- Run 2 – supply, demand and access to swimming pools in 2031 based on the projected change in population between 2016 – 2031 in Breckland, plus the neighbouring authorities and the residential development in Breckland
- Run 3 – as run 2 but also including the option to consider the need for a swimming pool in Swaffham opening by 2031.

The study area

1.6 Customers of swimming pools do not reflect local authority boundaries and whilst there are management and pricing incentives for customers to use sports facilities located in the area in which they live, there are some big determinants as to which pools people will choose to use.

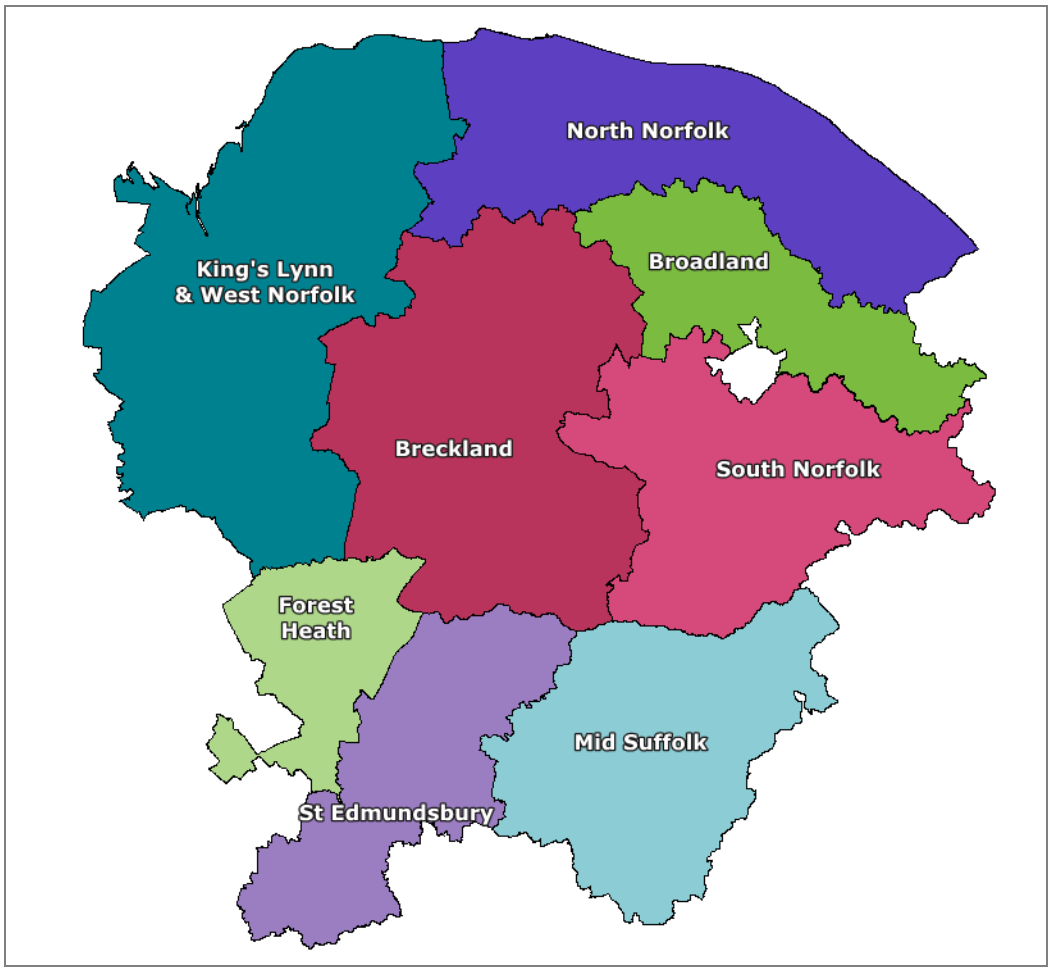
1.7 These are based on: how close the pool is to where people live; other facilities on the same site, such as a gym; the programing of the pool with swimming activities that appeal and are available at times which fit with the lifestyle of residents; and the age and condition of the facility and inherently its attractiveness.

1.8 Consequently, in determining the position for the Breckland Council area, it is very important to take full account of the swimming pools in the neighbouring local authorities to Breckland. In particular, to assess the impact of overlapping catchment areas of facilities located in Breckland and those located outside the authority. The nearest facility for some Breckland residents may be

outside the authority (known as exported demand) and for some residents of neighbouring authorities their nearest swimming pool is in Breckland (known as imported demand).

1.9 To take account of these impacts a study area is established which places Breckland at the centre of the study and includes all the neighbouring authorities to Breckland. The study assesses the impact of the catchment area of the swimming pools in this study area and how demand is distributed across the study area and across boundaries. A map of the study area is set out below.

Map 1.1: Study area map for the Breckland Council swimming pools study



Report structure, content and sequence

1.10 The findings for Breckland for runs 1, 2 and 3 are set out in a series of tables with the difference in findings between the runs set out The headings for each table are: total supply; total demand; supply and demand balance; satisfied demand; unmet demand; used capacity (how full the facilities are); and local share.

1.11 A definition of each heading is at the start of reporting the findings.

1.12 Maps and charts to support the findings are also included. The maps presented in the report are for mainly for runs 2 and 3. The reason being they are the runs which asses the future need and include the option for provision of a swimming pool in Swaffham.

1.13 A summary of key findings is set out at the end of the main report.

1.14 Appendix 1 sets out the swimming pools included in the assessment. Appendix 2 is a description of the facility planning model and its parameters.

2. Swimming Pool Supply

Total Supply

Table 2.1: Swimming Pools Supply Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Total Supply	2016	2031	2031
Number of pools	5	5	6
Number of pool sites	2	2	3
Supply of total water space in sq m	1,135	1,135	1,347
Supply of water space in sq m, scaled by hours available in the peak period	977	977	1,134
Supply of total water space in visits	8,471	8,471	9,832
Water space per 1, 000 population	8	8	9

2.1 Definition of supply – this is the supply or capacity of the swimming pools which are available for public and club use in the weekly peak period. The supply is expressed in number of visits that a pool can accommodate in the weekly peak period and in sq metres of water.

2.2 As Table 2.1 shows, in runs 1 and 2 there are 5 swimming pools on 2 sites in Breckland which are available for public and club use. In run 3 this increases to 6 swimming pools on 3 sites with the option to include the assessment of the need for a swimming pool in Swaffham.

2.3 In terms of water space there is a total supply of 1,135 sq metres of water in runs 1 and 2 and an effective supply of water space for community use of 977 sq metres of water. The reason for the difference between the two is because of the fewer opening hours for the leisure pool at the Breckland Leisure Centre and Waterworld in Thetford. The difference in the amount of water space reflects the fewer hours this pool is available in the weekly peak period.

2.4 In run 3 the total supply of water space increases to 1,347 sq metres of water and an effective supply of 1,134 sq metres of water for community use, with inclusion of the option to develop a new pool in Swaffham.. (Note for context a 25m x 4 lane pool is between 210 and 250 sq metres of water, depending on lane width).

2.5 The provision of swimming pools in Breckland is very extensive in scale, with both sites having a 25m x 6 lane main pool and a separate teaching/learner pool. Also the Thetford site has a separate 275 sq metre leisure pool with a flume, so it provides for fun and family activity.

2.6 Both pool sites can provide for the full range of swimming activities of learn to swim, recreational public swimming, lane and fitness swimming and swimming development through clubs. Plus the Thetford pool site can provide for fun and family based activity and developing confidence in water with the leisure pool. Overall it is an extensive swimming offer across Breckland.

2.7 The details of the swimming pool sites for run 3, with the Swaffham pools site included is set out in Table 2.2 below.

Table 2.2: Run 3 Swimming pools Breckland 2031

Name of Site	Type	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
BRECKLAND					**88%**	**3%**	**8%**
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Main/General	313	1974	2003	85%	4%	11%
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Leisure Pool	275					
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Learner/Teaching/Training	75					
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	338	2007		91%	3%	6%
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	135					
SWAFFHAM NEW SWIMMING POOL	Main/General	213	2031		90%	3%	7%

2.8 The average age of the Breckland pool sites in 2017 for run 1 is 26 years. However this is a bit misleading as the Thetford centre opened in 1974 and was extensively modernised in 2003. The Dereham Centre opened in 2007 and so is only 10 years old.

2.9 Facilities are only part of an explanation or influence on swimming participation. However, Sport England research does show provision of modern swimming pools with proactive swimming development programmes does increase participation.

2.10 Based on a measure of water space per 1,000 population, Breckland has 8 sq metres of water per 1,000 population in both runs 1 and 2. Breckland has the second lowest supply in run 1 in 2016 after Broadland (7 sq metres of water per 1,000 population).

2.11 The highest provision is in St Edmondsbury at 18 sq metres of water and the average for East Region is 12 sq metres of water per 1,000 population. The England wide figure is 12 sq metres of water per 1,000 population.

2.12 By 2031, the population growth across means that the Breckland provision is 7 sq metres of water and is still second lowest. Broadland still has the lowest provision at 6 sq metres of water per 1,000 population and the highest is in North Norfolk at 14 sq metres of water per 1,000 population. The provision in St Edmondsbury has decreased significantly to 8 sq metres presumably based on very extensive housing growth in that authority, plus a pool closure.

2.13 The East Region figure is 11 sq metres of water per 1,000 population and for England wide it is 11 sq metres of water per 1,000 population.

2.14 The findings for all authorities for is set out in Table 2.3 overleaf.

2.15 The required provision Breckland will be based on the supply and demand assessment. Table 2.3 is simply providing the comparative local authority findings based on this measure of water space per 1,000 population in both years.

Table 2.3: Water space per 1,000 population for all authorities in the study area 2016 and 2031.

Supply per 1,000 population	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	South Norfolk	St Edmundsbury	EAST TOTAL
Number of pools	5	5	3	7	5	8	7	10	340
Number of pool sites	2	4	2	5	3	6	5	6	240
2016 Waterspace per 1000 population	8	7	10	10	9	15	10	18	12
2031 Waterspace per 1000 population	7	6	8	9	8	14	9	8	11

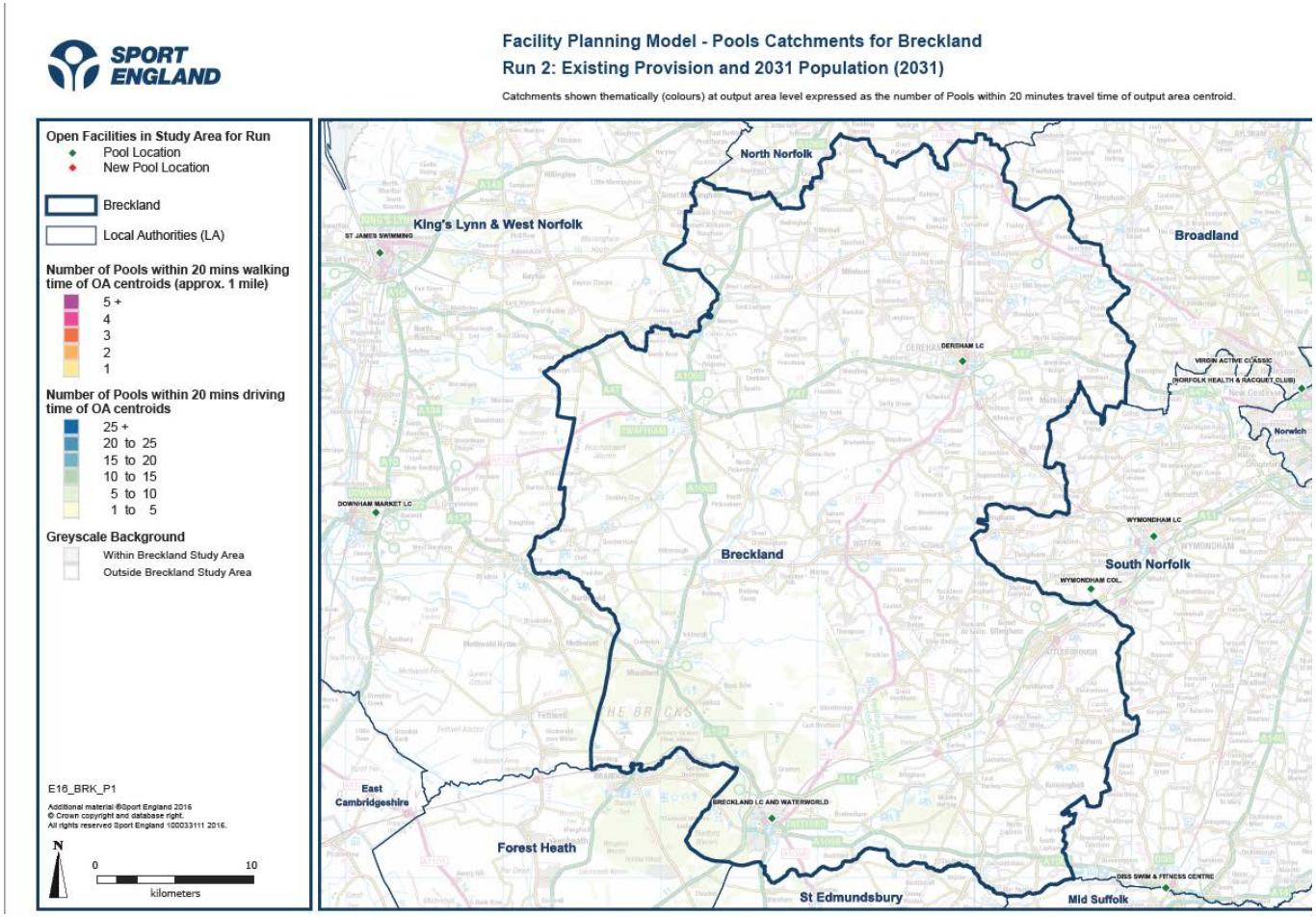
Pool Locations

2.16 Map 2.1 overleaf shows the location of swimming pools in Breckland in run 2. The pool locations and catchment areas are important in determining the amount of demand which is inside and outside the catchment area of each pool site. If there is significant unmet demand outside catchment it is important to identify the scale and location, hence the consideration of the Swaffham pool. This assessment can also help determine if there are more suitable locations for pools, so as to reduce unmet demand and increase access to pools. This will be assessed under the satisfied and unmet demand headings.

2.17 The key finding on locations is the pool locations are in the NE and SW of the authority. This does mean towns such as Swaffham, Watton and Attleborough are on the periphery of the 20 minute drive time catchment area of the pool locations. They are outside the public transport (15 minute catchment area) and obviously outside the walk to catchment area (20 minutes/1mile).

2.18 Residents of the three towns may however be able to access pools in neighbouring authorities, based on the location of pools and the extent of the 20 minute drive time catchment area. This will be assessed under the satisfied demand heading. (Note: it is recognised the maps do not present clearly in a report format and copes of the maps will be provided to the Council separately).

Map 2.1: Run 2 Location of swimming pools in Breckland



3. Demand for Swimming Pools

Table 3.1: Demand for Swimming Pools Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Total Demand	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Population	135,334.	149,215.	149,215.
Swims demanded – visits	8,328.	8,795.	8,795.
Equivalent in water space – with comfort factor included	1,382.	1,460.	1,460.
% of population without access to a car	15.	15.	15.

3.1 Definition of total demand – it represents the total demand for swimming by both genders and for 14 five-year age bands from 0 to 65+. This is calculated as the percentage of each age band/gender that participates. This is added to the frequency of participation in each age band/gender, so as to arrive at a total demand figure, which is expressed in visits in the weekly peak period. Total demand is also expressed in sq metres of water.

3.2 The population in Breckland in 2016 is 135,334 people and is projected to be 149,215 people in 2031, a 10.2% increase between the two years. The total demand for swimming by Breckland residents in 2016 is 8,328 visits in the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days. This demand equates to 1,382 sq metres of water.

3.3 The total demand for swimming is projected to increase to 1,460 visits in the weekly peak period by 2031. This is a 5.6% increase in demand for swimming between the two years. So the 10.2% increase in the population growth is generating a 5.6% increase in demand for swimming. The reason the demand increase is not higher is most likely because of the ageing of the resident population between 2016 and 2031. It could be there are fewer participants in the main age bands for swimming participation in 2016 than in 2031 (Appendix 2 sets out the details of the participation rates and frequencies of participation for both genders and for each age range).

3.4 The findings on the percentage of the population who do not have access to a car is set out under total demand and this is 15% of the Breckland population in both years. The East Region figure is 17.7% and for England it is 24.9% of the population who do not have access to a car.

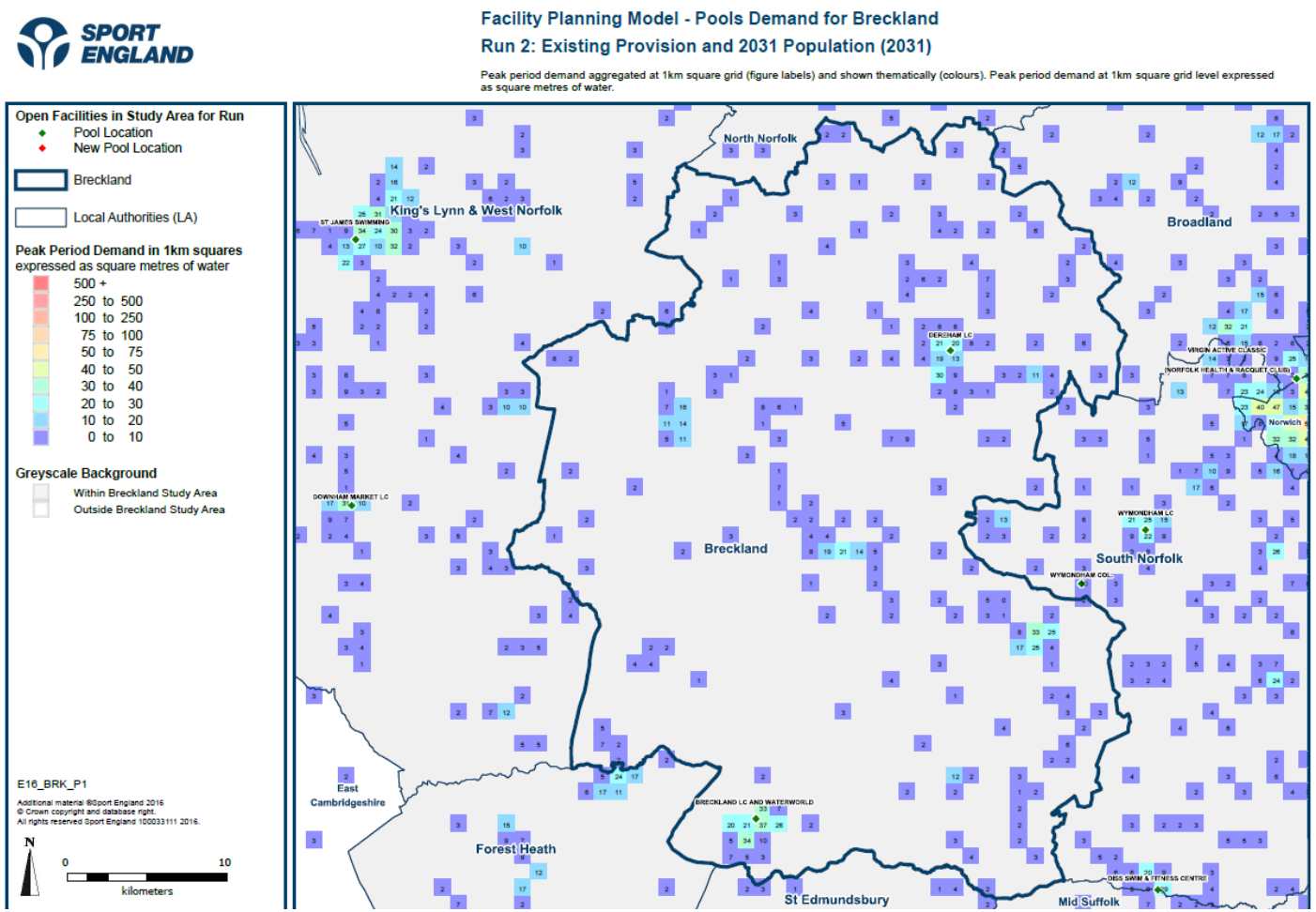
3.5 The Breckland finding illustrates that around a sixth of residents without access to a car will find it difficult to access a pool, if there is not a pool within a 20 minutes/1 mile walk travel time of where they live, or, they cannot access a pool by public transport. This underlines the importance of pool locations in terms of access for people without access to a car.

3.6 The data is identifying that in 2016 some 83% of all visits to pools are by car (20 minutes' drive time catchment) and 88% in 2031. That 10% of visits in 2016 are by walkers (20 minutes/1mile walk to catchment area) and 8% in 2031. Whilst 7% of visits to pools are by public transport in 2016 (15 minutes catchment area) and then 3% in 2031. These findings are set out within the satisfied demand heading.

3.7 The location and scale of demand for swimming in run 2 for 2031 is set out in Map 3.1 below. The amount of demand is set out in 1 kilometre grid squares and is colour coded. Purples squares have values of between 0 – 10 sq metres of water, mid blue is 10 – 20 sq metres of water, light blue is 20 – 30 sq metres of water and turquoise is 30 – 40 sq metres of water.

3.8 Most of the squares are purple and so the lowest vales. Most of the demand is located in the main towns of Dereham, Thetford and Watton.

Map 3.1: Run 2 location and scale of demand for swimming Breckland 2031



4. Supply and Demand Balance

Table 4.1: Supply and Demand Balance Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Supply/Demand Balance	2016	2031	2031
Supply - Swimming pool provision (sq m)based on hours available for community use	977	977	1,134
Demand - Swimming pool provision (sq m) taking into account a 'comfort' factor	1,382	1,460	1,460
Supply / Demand balance - Variation in sq m of provision available compared to the minimum required to meet demand.	-405	-483	-326

4.1 Definition of supply and demand balance – supply and demand balance compares total demand generated within Breckland for swimming with the total supply of swimming pools within Breckland. It therefore represents an assumption that ALL the demand for swimming in Breckland is met by ALL the supply of swimming pools in Breckland (Note: it does exactly the same for the other local authorities in the study area).

4.2 In short, supply and demand balance is NOT based on where the pools are located and their catchment area extending into other authorities. Nor, the catchment areas of pools in neighbouring authorities extending into Breckland. Most importantly supply and demand balance does NOT take into account the propensity/reasons for residents using facilities outside their own authority.

4.3 The more detailed modelling based on the CATCHMENT AREAS of pools across local authority boundaries is set out under the Satisfied Demand, Unmet Demand and Used Capacity headings.

4.4 The reason for presenting the supply and demand balance is because some local authorities like to see how THEIR total supply of pools compares with THEIR total demand for pools. Supply and demand balance presents this comparison.

4.5 When looking at this closed assessment, the supply of swimming pools in 2016 for community use is 977 sq metres of water, whilst total demand is for 1,382 sq metres of water. So there is a negative supply and demand balance of 405 sq metres of water.

4.6 In 2031 in run 2 supply is assumed to be unchanged at 977 sq metres of water, whilst demand from the population growth has increased to 1,460 sq metres of water. So there is a negative supply and demand balance of 483 sq metres of water.

4.7 Run 3 is for 2031 and includes the option of opening the new pool at Swaffham a 25m x 4 lane community pool. This increase the supply of water space across Breckland to, 1,134 sq metres of water. Demand is for 1,460 sq metres of water and so there is a negative balance of 326 sq metres of water.

4.8 The supply and demand balance findings across all three runs set out a negative balance and this suggests the need to increase provision. However this is the closed assessment and the findings for the interaction of supply, demand and access to pools inside and outside Breckland and based on their catchment areas needs to be set out. This will establish how much of the Breckland demand for swimming can be met, how much unmet demand there is and where it is located.

5. Satisfied Demand for Swimming

Table 5.1: Satisfied demand for swimming Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Satisfied Demand	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Total number of visits which are met	5,874.	6,168.	7,050.
% of total demand satisfied	70.5	70.1	80.2
Total Annual Throughput (visits per year)	398,686.9	407,486.3	491,428.4
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	88.6	88.7	88.3
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	7.9	7.6	7.9
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	3.5	3.7	3.8
Demand Retained (visits	4,682.	4,743.	5,657.
Demand Retained -as a % of Satisfied Demand	79.7	76.9	80.2
Demand Exported (visits)	1,192.	1,425.	1,392.
Demand Exported -as a % of Satisfied Demand	20.3	23.1	19.7

5.1 Definition of satisfied demand – it represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the swimming pools from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a pool.

5.2 The finding for 2016 is that 70% of the Breckland total demand for swimming can be met. In run 2 for 2031 this is virtually unchanged, reducing by just 0.45 to 70.1% of the Breckland total demand being met.

5.3 So the level of satisfied demand is quite high with seven out of ten visits to a pool being met. It is not higher because the Breckland demand for swimming exceeds supply in both years.

5.4 In run 3 with the option to include the pool at Swaffham supply is obviously increased. The impact is to increase the level of Breckland demand which is satisfied/met to 80% of the total Breckland demand for swimming in 2031.

5.5 So the impact of the Swaffham pool option is to meet 10% of the Breckland demand for swimming which would not otherwise be met.

5.6 Car travel is the dominate travel mode (20 minutes' drive time catchment area) with 88% of all visits in all three runs. The Swaffham pool option does not change the car travel pattern to pools.

5.7 The percentage of visits by walkers (20 minutes/1mile catchment area) is between 7.9% (runs 1 and 3) and 7.6% run 2. So around one in fourteen visits to pools by Breckland residents are by walking.

5.8 Similarly, little variation in the percentage of visits by public transport (15 minutes catchment area), with it being 3.5% of all visits in run1, then 3.7% in run 2 and 3.8% in run 3 with the Swaffham pool option.

5.9 So the Swaffham pool option also does little to change the travel patterns to pools by walkers, or, by public transport, not an unexpected finding.

Retained demand

5.10 There is a sub set of the satisfied demand findings which are about how much of the Breckland demand is retained at the Breckland pools. This is based on the catchment area of pools and residents using the nearest pool to where they live - known as retained demand.

5.11 Retained demand is very high and so this means the pool locations and their catchment areas are very well placed in relation to the location of the Breckland demand for swimming. This was illustrated by Map 3.1 showing the distribution of demand for swimming is concentrated in Dereham and Thetford.

5.12 In run 1 in 2016 the total retained demand at Breckland's pools is 4,682 visits out of the 5,874 visits by Breckland residents to swimming pools. This retained demand represents 79% of the total Breckland demand which is met in 2016. Put another way, just under eight out of ten visits to a swimming pool by a Breckland resident is to a pool in the authority.

5.13 Retained demand is slightly less in run 2 for 2031 at 76.9% of the total Breckland demand which is met. So the impact of the population growth and the location of the new residential areas and sites means the authority is retaining just under 3% less of the Breckland demand for swimming inside Breckland in 2031 when compared with 2016.

5.14 The impact of the option of the new pool at Swaffham is to increase retained demand from 76.9% in 2031 to 80.2% in run 3 with the new pool at Swaffham option, an increase of 3.3% in retained demand.

Exported demand

5.15 The residual of satisfied demand, after retained demand is exported demand. In run 1 the finding is that 20.3% of the Breckland demand is being exported, then 23.1% in run 2 for 2031 and is lowest in run 3 with the Swaffham pool option at 19.7% of the Breckland demand being exported.

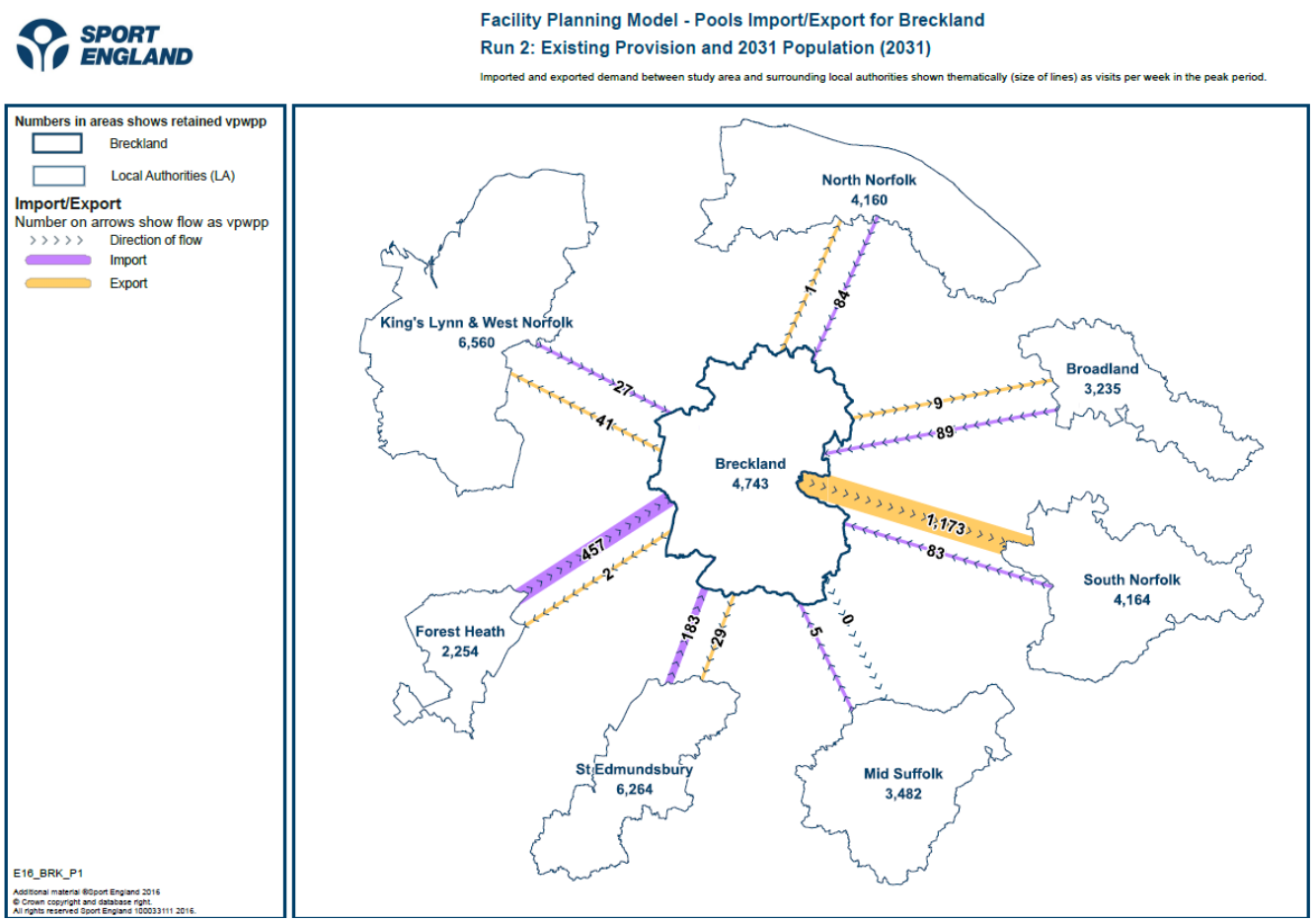
5.16 The destination and scale of the Breckland exported demand for run 2 (selected because it is for 2031 and includes the current supply of pools) is set out in Map 5.1 overleaf. The yellow chevron represents the number of visits which are exported and met in neighbouring authorities.

5.17 The findings are significant. In effect the export is only to South Norfolk at 1,173 visits per week in the weekly peak period. This represents 82% of the total 23% of the Breckland demand for swimming which is met outside the authority by 2031.

5.18 After South Norfolk, the biggest export of demand is to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk at 418 visits per week in the weekly peak period. Then it is 29 visits to St Edmondsbury, with 10 or less visits to in order to, Broadland (9 visits), Forest Heath (2 visits) and North Norfolk (1 visit).

5.19 In run 3 with the Swaffham pool option and for comparison, the impact of the option is to reduce the exported demand to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk from 41 visits per week in run 2 to 10 visits per week in the weekly peak period in run 3. The export of Breckland demand to the other authorities remains virtually unchanged and South Norfolk is still the main destination at 1,173 visits per weekly peak period.

Map 5.1: Run 2 Export of Breckland satisfied demand for swimming 2031



6. Unmet Demand for Swimming

Table 6.1: Unmet demand for swimming Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Unmet Demand	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met (visits)	2,454.	2,628.	1,746.
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	29.5	29.9	19.9
Equivalent in Water space m2 - with comfort factor	407.	436.	290.
% of Unmet Demand due to:			
Lack of Capacity -	0.5	0.7	1.8
Outside Catchment -	99.5	99.3	98.1

6.1 The unmet demand definition has two parts to it - demand for pools which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular swimming pool within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any pool and is then classified as unmet demand.

6.2 Unmet demand in run 1 for 2016 is 29.5% and which equates to 407 visits per week in the weekly peak period and which, in turn, equates to 407 sq metres of water. (Again for context a 25m x 4 lane pool is between 210 and 250 metres of water).

6.3 Unmet demand in run 2 for 2031 is hardly changed at 29.9% of total demand, which represents 436 sq metres of water. Whilst the percentage only increases by 0.4% the increase in water space of 29 sq metres of water is because it is the 2031 demand for swimming.

6.4 Unmet demand in run 3 with the Swaffham pool option is to reduce unmet demand to its lowest level. It is 19.9% of the 2031 total demand for swimming and which equates to 290 sq metres of water.

6.5 Of significance, is that the split between the two types of unmet demand, shows demand located outside catchment is 99% of the total unmet demand in both 2016 and 2031 and is 98% even with the new pool at Swaffham option.

6.6 Unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage, whereby all areas of an authority are inside catchment. The 20 minute drive time catchment is 20 minutes, for public transport it is 15 minutes and for walking it is 20 minutes/1mile.

6.7 An important consideration for the Swaffham pool option is how much unmet demand is there for swimming in the Swaffham area? This can be set out by what is termed aggregated unmet demand for swimming. This assessment identifies the total unmet demand in one kilometre grid squares across Breckland in sq metres of water. It aggregates the total unmet demand based on the catchment area of a pool for each of these one kilometre grid squares.

6.8 This process allows identification of how unmet demand varies across Breckland and the hot spots or clusters of unmet demand. These findings are set out in Maps 6.1 for 2031 and 6.2 for 2031 with the Swaffham pool option and summarised in Table 6.2 below. The location selected for the Swaffham pool option is the existing site of the Swaffham Leisure Centre.

Table 6.2: Aggregated unmet demand for swimming pools at the site of the Swaffham swimming pool option 2016 and 2031

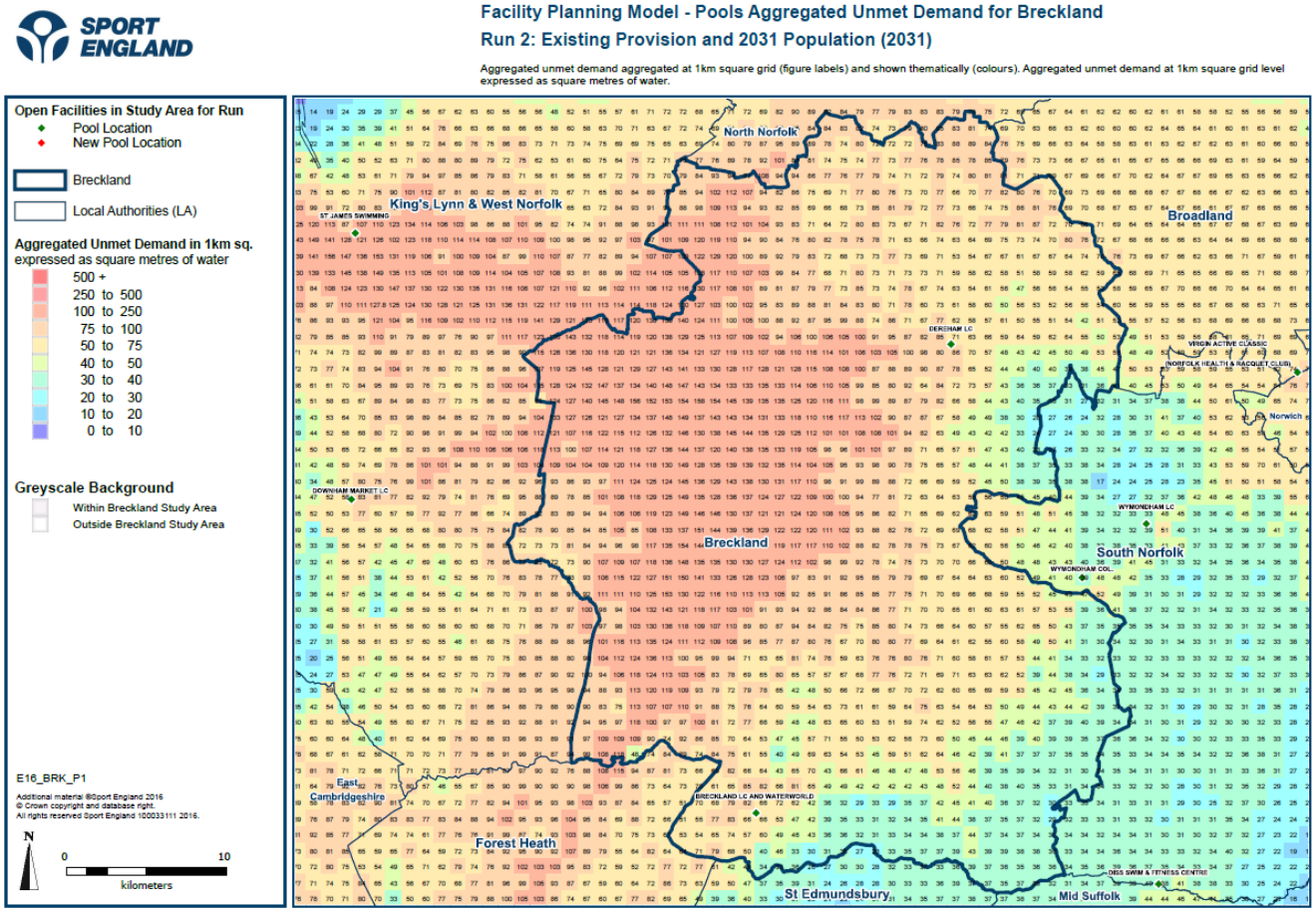
	Run 1 2016	Run 2 2031	Run 3 2031 plus the Swaffham swimming pool option
Aggregated unmet demand at the site of the Swaffham swimming pool (sq m of water)	137	148	49

6.9 Table 6.2 illustrates that aggregated unmet demand for swimming in Swaffham in 2016 is 137 sq metres of water. This increases to 148 sq metres of water in 2031 based on the increase in demand from population growth. The provision of a 25m x 4 lane pool in Swaffham still leaves 49 sq metres of water which is outside the catchment area of a pool at the Swaffham leisure centre site.

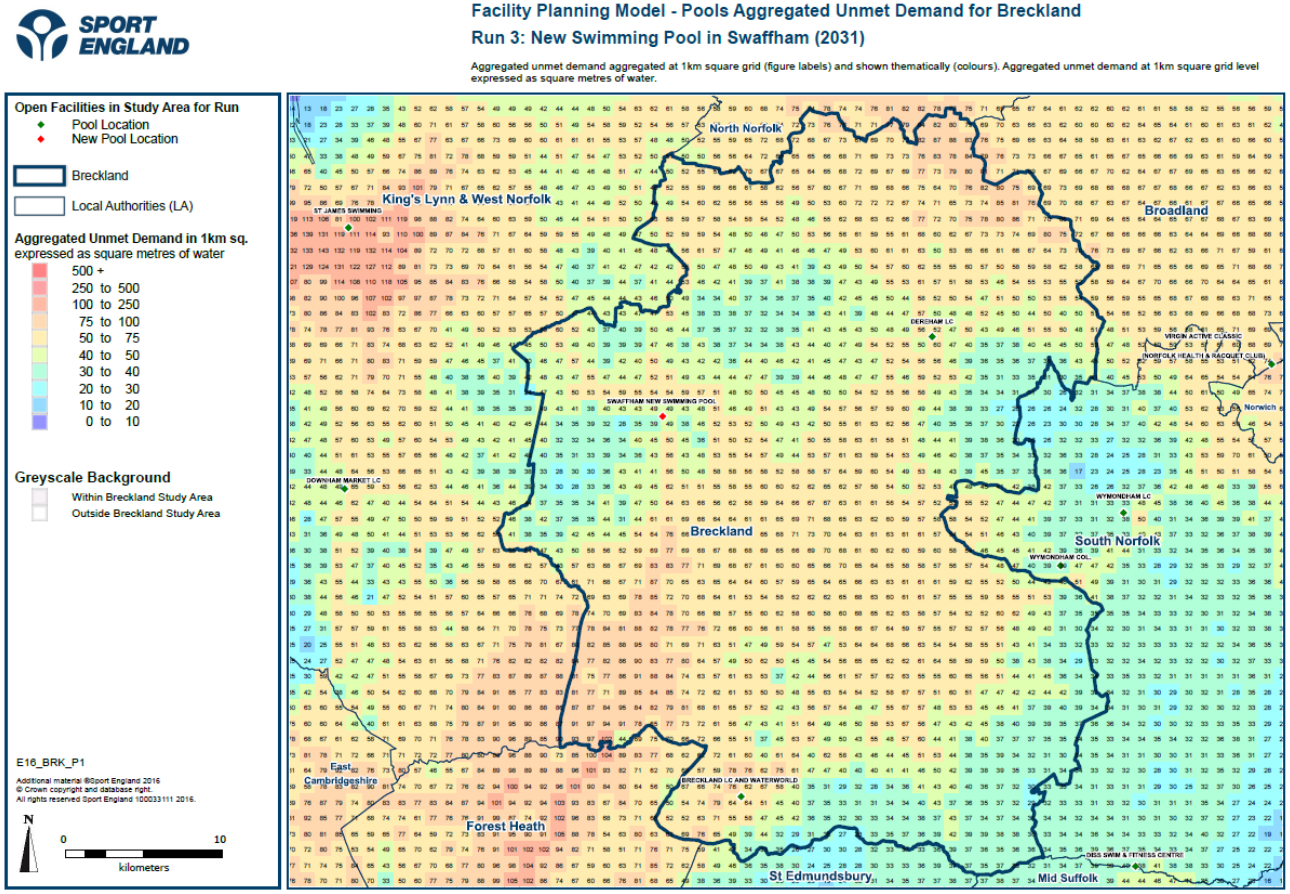
6.10 Maps 6.1 overleaf is the aggregated unmet demand map for swimming in 2031 and map 6.2 is the map for 2031 with the Swaffham pool option. The amount of aggregated unmet demand is colour coded. Dark pink squares have aggregated unmet demand of between 100 – 250 sq metres of water, light pink squares are 75 – 100 sq metres of water, beige squares are 50 – 75 sq metres of water, light green squares 40 – 50 sq metres of water and darker green squares 30 – 40 sq metres of water.

6.11 The changes in the pink squares (Map 6.1) to beige and green squares (Map 6.2) reflects the inclusion of the Swaffham pool and reductions in aggregated unmet demand.

Map 6.1 Aggregated unmet demand for swimming Breckland 2031.



Map 6.2 Aggregated unmet demand for swimming Breckland 2031.with the Swaffham pool option



6.12 Unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage where all demand is inside catchment. Especially in a rural area such as Breckland with many small and dispersed settlements.

6.13 To provide context for how accessible the Breckland pools are to residents, Map 6.3 overleaf shows the number of pools Breckland residents can access based on the 20 minutes' drive time catchment area of the pool locations (this is pools both inside and outside the authority). Whilst Map 6.4 is the same information based on the 20 minutes/ drive time catchment area with the Swaffham pool included. Both maps are for the 2031 population.

6.14 In Map 6.3 for the car drive catchment, around 50% of the authority is shaded grey and residents in these areas are outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of any swimming pool. This equates to the 407 sq metres of water from demand in these areas outside catchment.

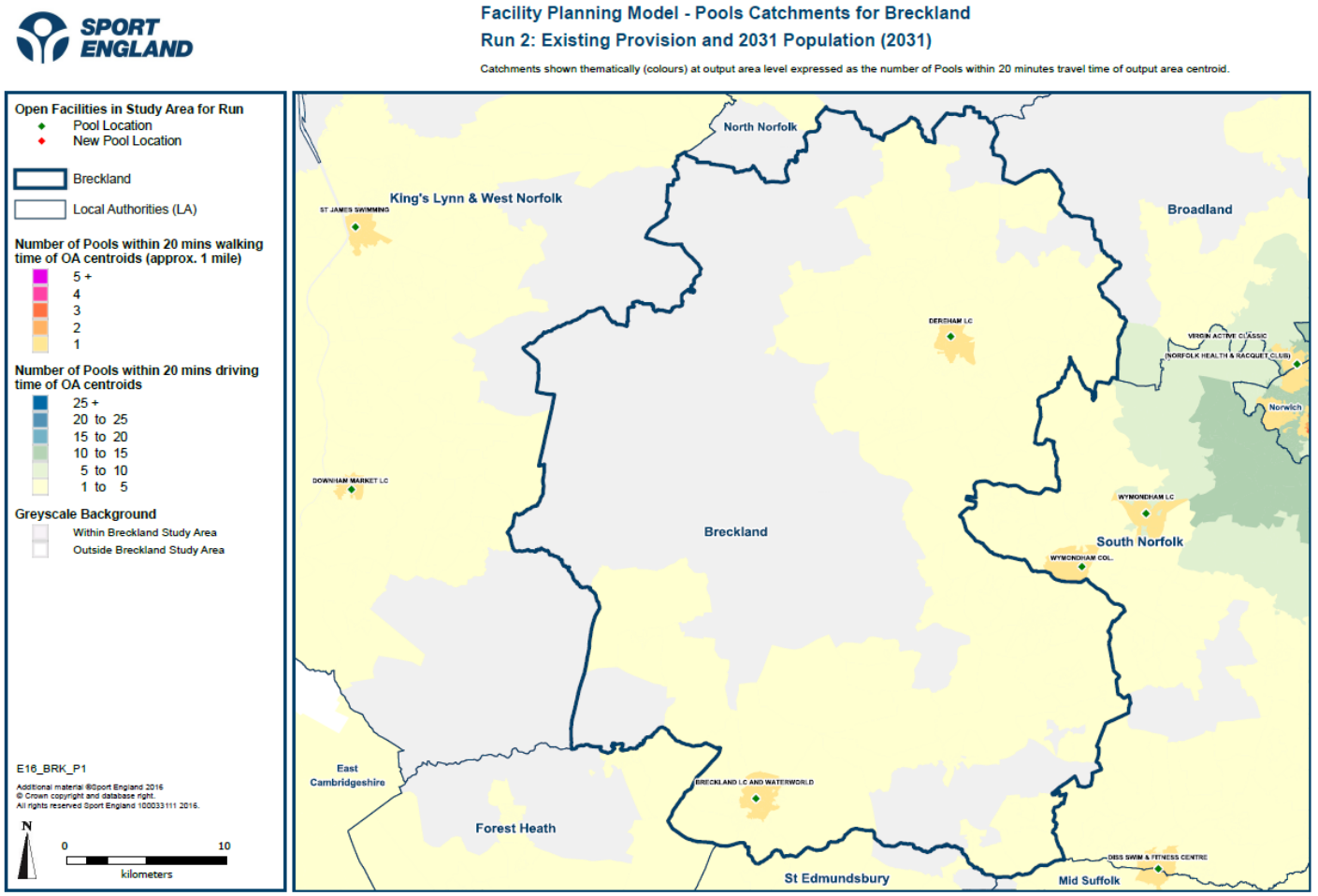
6.15 In the areas shaded cream, residents in these areas have access to between 1 – 5 swimming pools based on the 20 minute drive time catchment area of the pool locations.

6.16 In Map 6.4 it is possible to see the impact of the Swaffham swimming pool option in increasing access to pools, based on the 20 minute drive time catchment area. The land area of Breckland outside the drive time catchment area of any pool is now reduced to between 15% - 20% of the land area of the authority, from 50% of the land area without this pool option. The amount of demand now inside catchment is increased by 146 sq metres of water.

6.17 So much increased access to pools for Breckland residents, however the unmet demand still outside catchment in the in the remaining grey areas represents 290 sq metres of water.

6.18 In summary, the Swaffham pool option is reducing the land area of the authority outside the catchment area of a pool from 50% of the land area to between 15% - 20%. It is reducing unmet demand outside catchment but there still remains unmet demand of 49 sq metres of water outside the catchment area of the Swaffham pool option and 290 sq metres of water across Breckland.

Map 6.3: Run 2 access to swimming pools based on the car travel catchment area of pools Breckland 2031



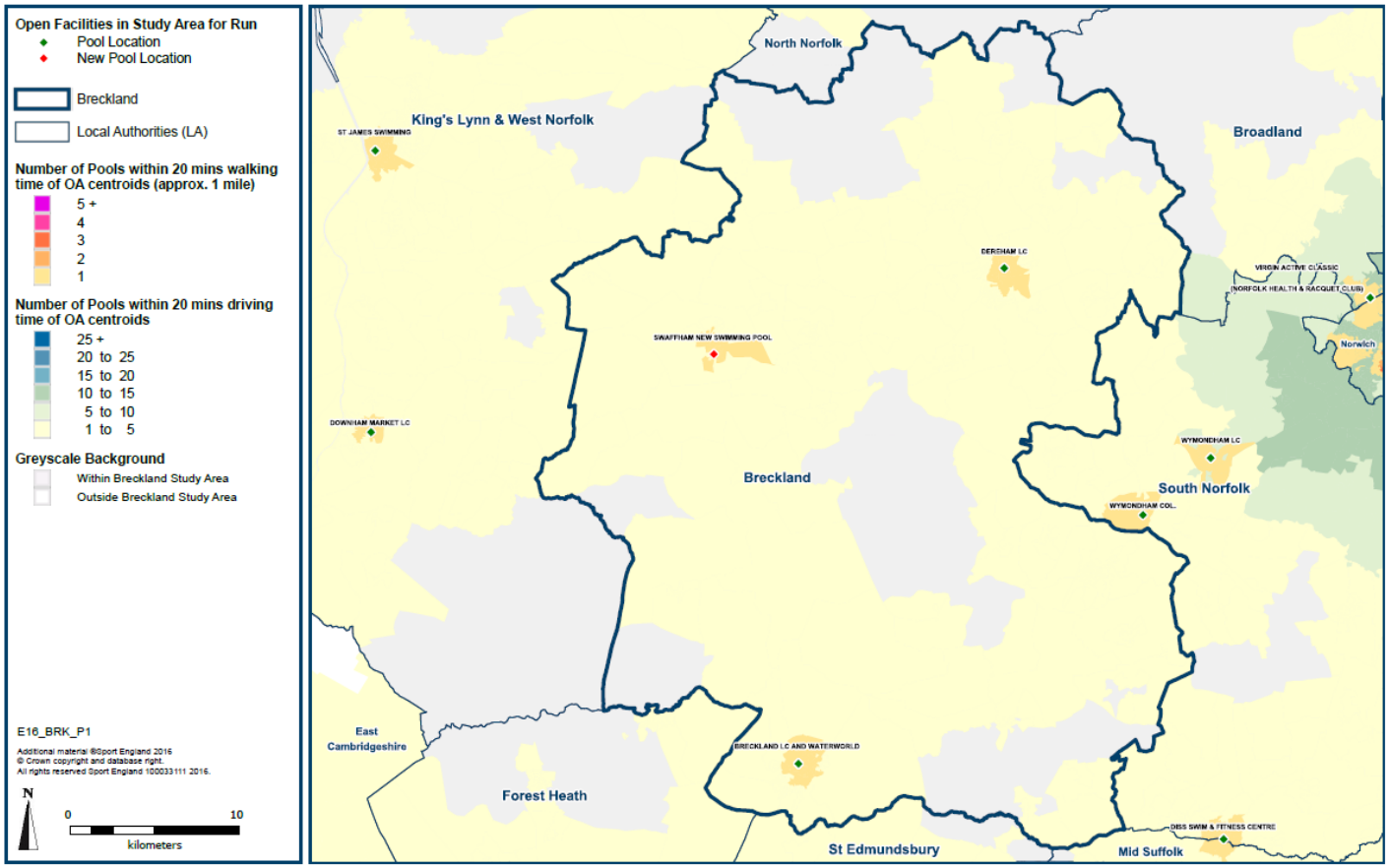
Map 6.4: Run 3 access to swimming pools based on the car travel catchment area of pools and including the Swaffham Swimming Pool option 2031

SPORT ENGLAND

Facility Planning Model - Pools Catchments for Breckland

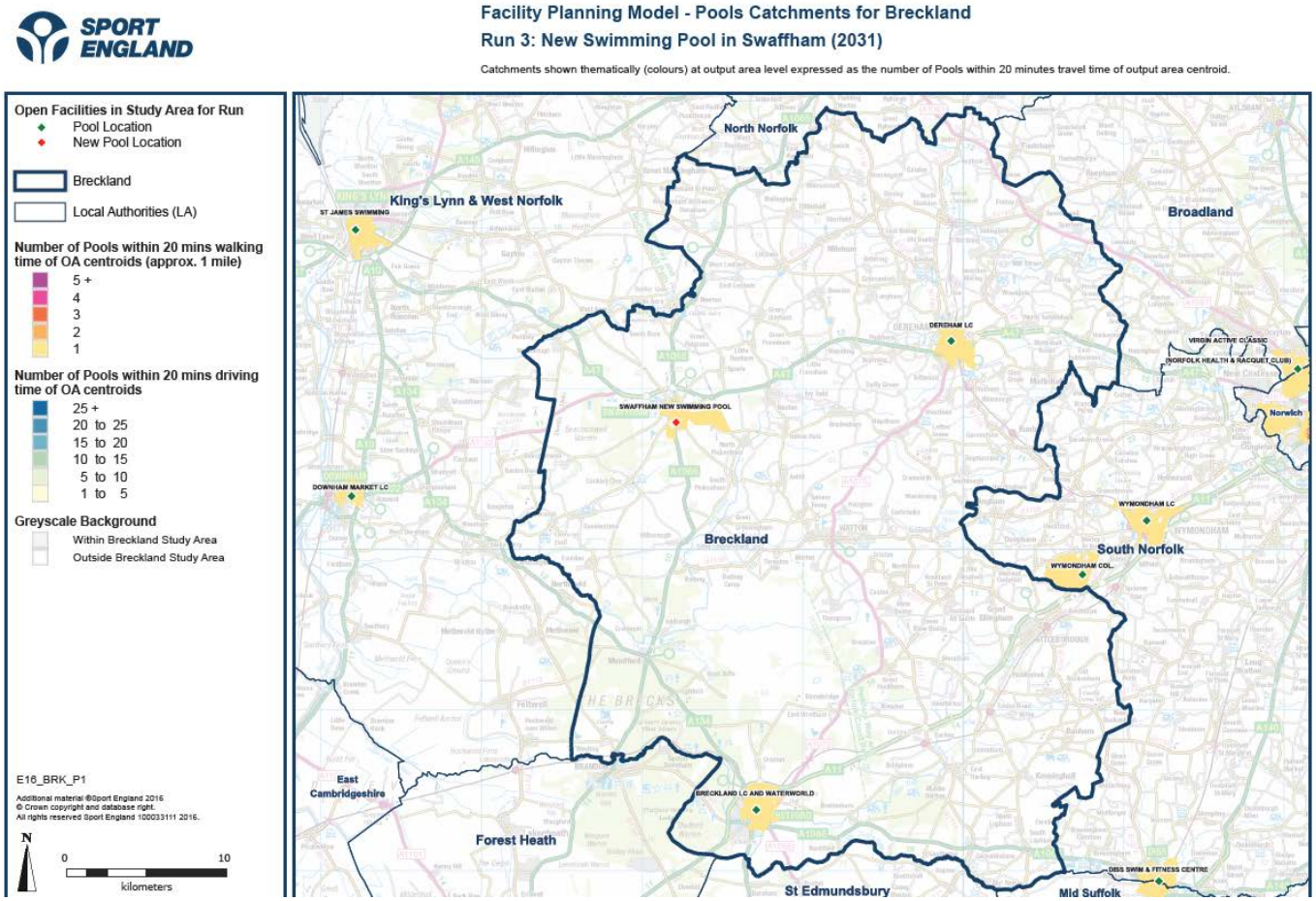
Run 3: New Swimming Pool in Swaffham (2031)

Catchments shown thematically (colours) at output area level expressed as the number of Pools within 20 minutes travel time of output area centroid.



6.19 Map 6.5 is the catchment area covered by the 20 minutes/1mile walking catchment area of pools located in Breckland in run 3, with the Swaffham pool option Run 3 is selected because the Swaffham pool option does not affect the walk to catchment area of the Dereham and Thetford pool sites. Residents in the beige areas are inside the walking catchment area of one pool.

Map 6.5: Run 3 access to swimming pools based on the walking catchment area of pools including the Swaffham swimming pool option Breckland 2031



7. Used Capacity (how full are the pools)

Used Capacity - How full and well used are the swimming facilities?

Table 7.1: Used capacity of swimming pools Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Used Capacity	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Total number of visits used of current capacity (visits)	5,549	5,674	6,845
% of overall capacity of pools used	65.5	67	69.6
% of visits made to pools by walkers	8.4	8.3	8.2
% of visits made to pools by road	91.6	91.7	91.8
Visits Imported;			
Number of visits imported (visits)	867	931	1,187
As a % of used capacity	15.6	16.4	17.3
Visits Retained:			
Number of Visits retained (visits)	4,682	4,743	5,657
As a % of used capacity	84.4	83.6	82.6

7.1 Definition of used capacity - is a measure of usage at swimming pools and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. The facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor', beyond which, in the case of pools, the venues are too full. The model assumes that usage over 70% of capacity is busy and the swimming pool is operating at an uncomfortable level above that percentage.

7.2 In all three runs the used capacity of the pools is close to but below the 70% pools full comfort level. The range is 65.5% in run 1, then 67% in run 2 and 69.6% in run 3. So by run 3 there is virtually no headroom before the pools full comfort level is reached.

7.3 The reasons for the sight increase are the population growth 2016 - 2031 and increase in demand in run 2. Then the impact of the Swaffham pool in run 3 and which is to retain more of the Breckland demand for swimming in the authority.

7.4 These are the authority wide findings and the estimated used capacity of each of the individual swimming pool sites does vary The findings for each individual pool site are set out in Table 7.2 overleaf.

Table 7.2: Used Capacity of the Breckland Pools Runs 1 - 3

BRECKLAND	PUBLIC / COMMERCIAL	PEAK PERIOD HOURS	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Individual Sites Utilised Capacity			**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
STUDY AREA TOTAL			**58**	**61**	**62**
Breckland			**66**	**67**	**70**
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	P	52	56	**58**	**57**
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	P	52	77	**78**	**74**
SWAFFHAM NEW SWIMMING POOL	P	38.5	0	0	**100**

7.5 As Table 7.2 shows the used capacity of the Breckland centre in Thetford ranges from 56% to 58% to 57% across the three runs. Whilst the Dereham centre is estimated to have a used capacity above the 70% pool full level in all three runs at 77%, 78% and then in run 3 there is 74% of pool capacity used at peak times.

7.6 The impact of the Swaffham pool option in run 3 is to have a draw effect in an areas where there was previously no provision and the estimated used capacity is 100% at peak times.

7.7 There are several reasons why the percentage of used capacity can vary and it is important to set these out and not just view the percentage figures. The reasons are:

- The amount of demand located in the catchment area of a pool, this will vary and impact on how well used any particular pool is;
- The age and condition of the pool, older pools have less appeal and customers maybe accustomed to more modern pools and modern changing accommodation and other features such as spas or saunas
- Most important is the size of the pool site. The Breckland centre at Thetford has three pools and a total water area of 663 sq metres of water. Whereas the Swaffham pool option has one pool and a total water area of 213 sq metres of water. So 57% of the used capacity of the Thetford centre in run 3 is higher than 100% of used capacity than the Swaffham pool site, in terms of number of visits to each site. The size of the pool(s) and total water area is very important when considering used capacities across pool sites
- The pool programme and a programme that does or does not fit into the times residents can swim so there could be less of a draw to a particular site. This contrasting with a pool site which does have a variable programme plus a site which has other facilities on the same site, such as health and fitness or a studio and which collectively can increase the draw of a particular site.

Imported demand

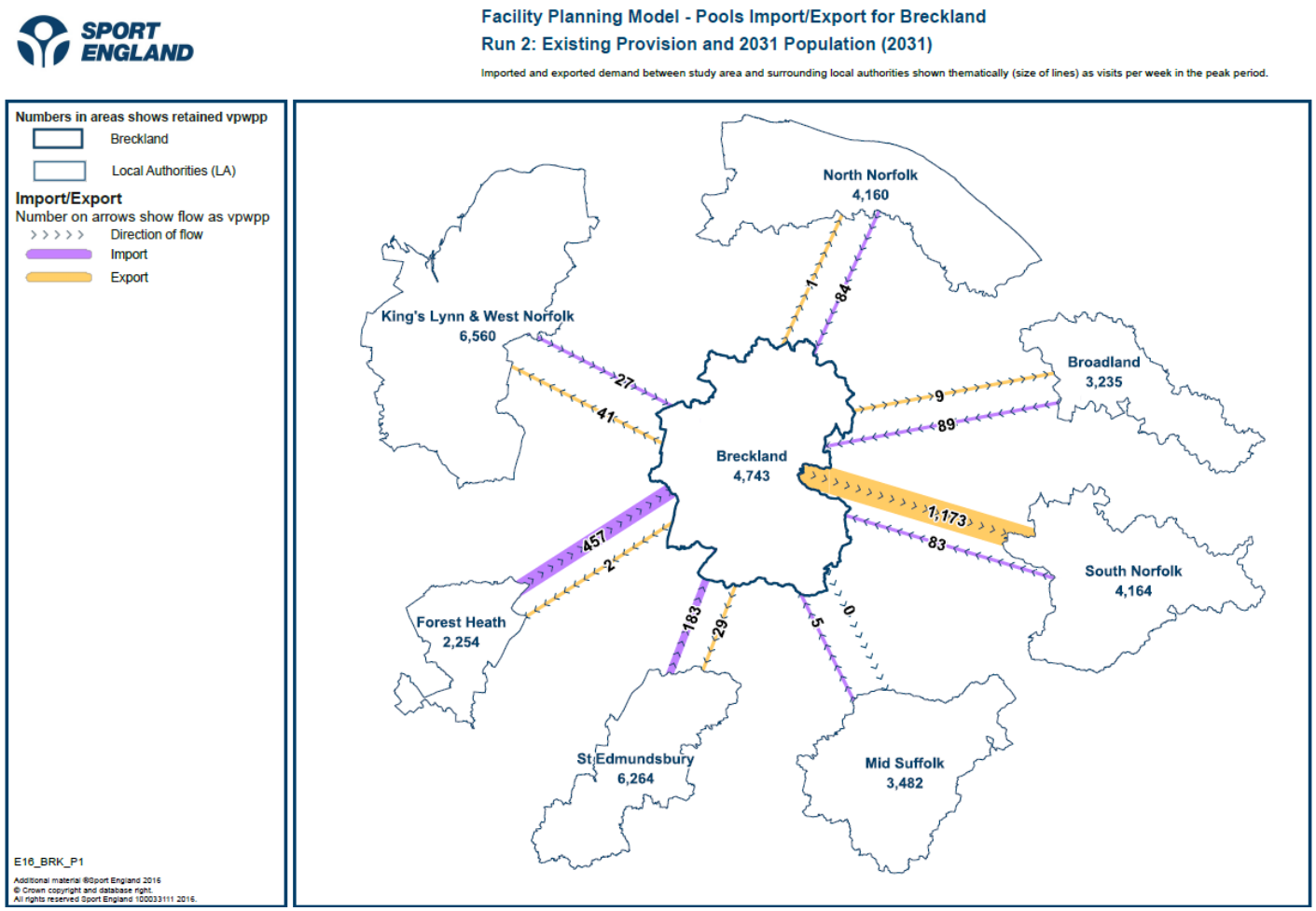
7.8 Imported demand is reported under used capacity because it measures the demand from residents who live outside Breckland but the nearest pool to where they live is inside the authority. So if they use the pool nearest to where they live this becomes part of the used capacity of the Breckland pools.

7.9 In run 1, the total imported demand into Breckland and which is part of the used capacity of the Breckland pools in the weekly peak period is 15.6% of the total used capacity of the Breckland pools. In run 2 in 2031, the imported demand increases to 16.4% of the used capacity of the Breckland pools and in run 3 with the Swaffham pool option imported demand increases to 17.3% of the used capacity of the Breckland pools. So the Swaffham pool option is to increase imported demand by just under 1%.

7.10 These are key findings and the imported demand maps for both runs 2 and 3 are set out to illustrate the impact of the Swaffham pool option on imported demand.

7.11 Map 7.1 is for run 2 with the 2031 demand for swimming. The purple chevron line is the amount of demand imported into Breckland from each neighbouring authority in 2031. The highest imported demand is from Forest Heath at 457 visits in the weekly peak period. This is followed by 183 visits imported from St Edmondsbury, then 89 visits imported from Broadland, 84 visits imported from North Norfolk, 83 visits form South Norfolk, 27 visits from Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and finally just 5 visits imported from Mid Suffolk in the weekly peak period

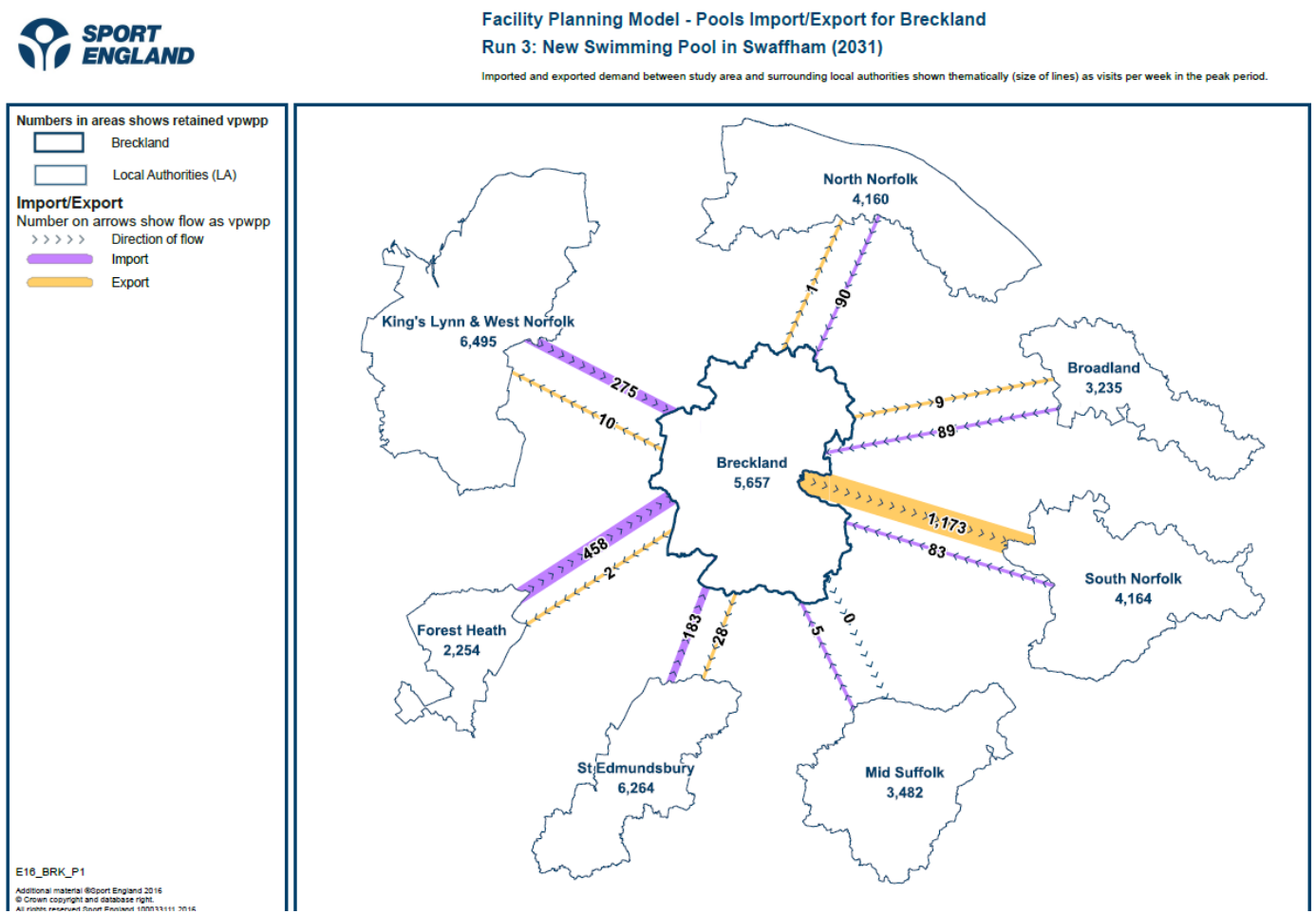
Map 7.1: Run 2 Import of demand for swimming Breckland 2031



7.12 Map 7.2 is the imported demand map with the Swaffham pool option. The key change is the level of imported demand from Kings Lynn and West Norfolk which increases from 27 visits to 275 visits per week in the weekly peak period with the Swaffham pool option. There is virtually no change in the levels of imported demand from the other authorities.

7.13 So the impact of the Swaffham pool is to draw this level of demand form Kings Lynn and West Norfolk but not impact on the other authorities. This finding demonstrates the distances between the locations and catchment areas of the Breckland pools. In effect, the Swaffham pool option does not change the levels of imported demand from the other authorities because the catchment area of the Dereham and Thetford pools are almost unique.

Map 7.2: Run 3 Import of demand for swimming Breckland 2031



8. Local Share of Facilities

Table 8.1: Local share of swimming pools Breckland 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3
Local Share	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Local Share: <1 capacity less than demand, 1> capacity greater than demand	0.8	0.5	0.6
Score - with 100 = FPM Total (England and also including adjoining LAs in Scotland and Wales)	73.9	79.7	98.4
+/- from FPM Total (England and also including adjoining LAs in Scotland and Wales)	-26.1	-20.3	-1.6

8.1 Local share has quite a complicated definition - it helps to show which areas have a better or worse share of facility provision. It takes into account the size and availability of facilities as well as travel modes. Local share is useful at looking at 'equity' of provision. Local Share is the available capacity that can be reached 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 while a value of less than 1 indicates a shortage of supply and a value greater than 1 indicates a surplus.

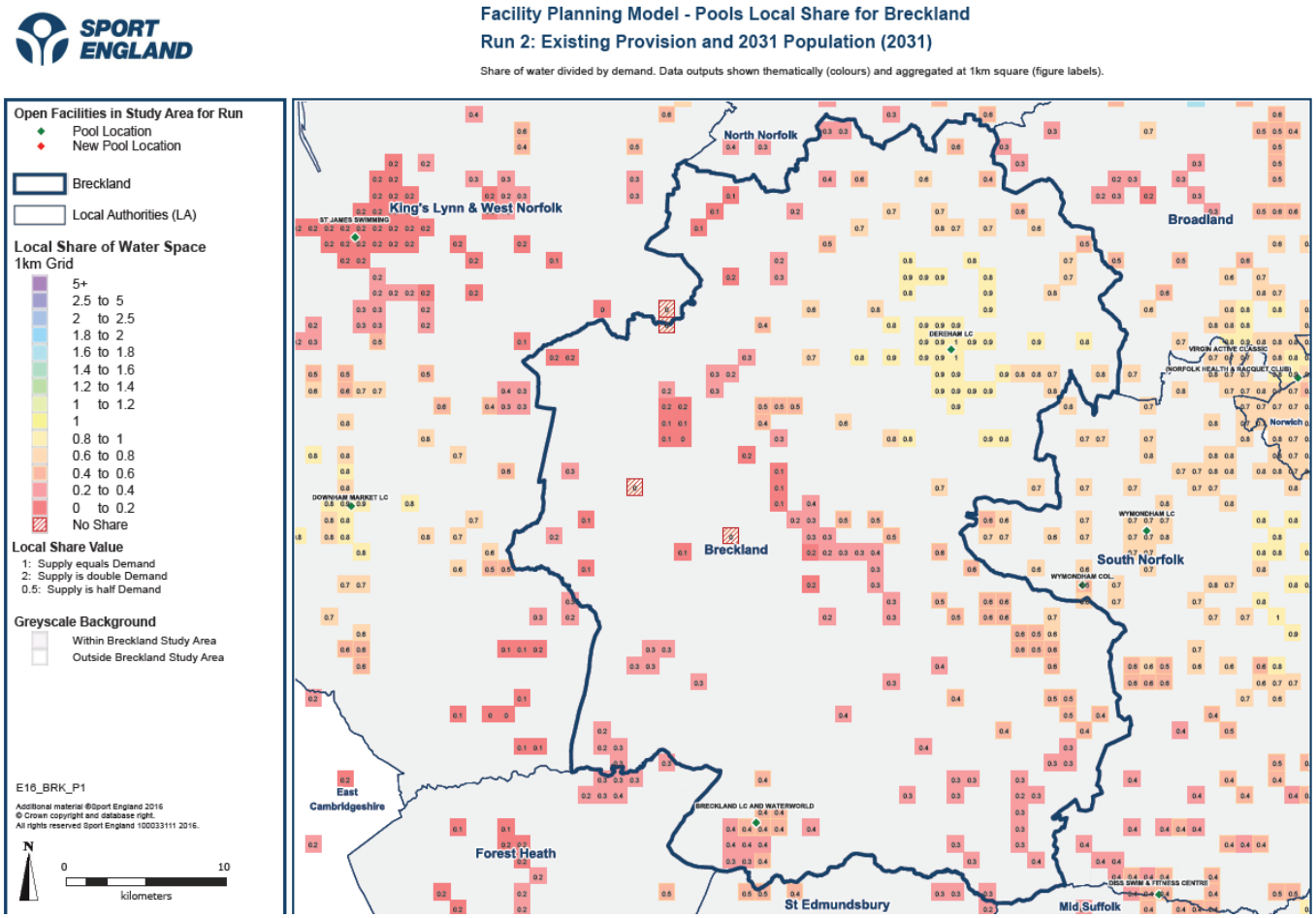
8.2 In run 1 Breckland has a local share of 73.9 in run 1 and this increases to 79.7 in run 2 and a much higher 98.4 in run 3. So demand is greater than supply in terms of the equity share of swimming pools across the authority in all three runs. However by run 3 with the Swaffham pool option demand is almost equal to supply in terms of local share of access to swimming pools.

8.3 The distribution of local share and how it varies across the authority 4 is set out in Map 8.1 overleaf. This is for run 2 with the 2031 population.

8.4 Local share is highest in the areas/squares shaded yellow (share is between 0.8 – 1.00), this is in the Dereham area and to the north of Dereham. For the rest of the authority there is a local share value of between 0.60 – 0.80 shaded beige, then light pink 0.60 – 0.40 and darker pink, 0.40 – 0.20.

8.5 Local share of access to swimming pools is least in the Watton area where most of the squares are shaded dark pink and have values of between 0.40 – 0.30. So in these areas residents only have between 30% - 40% of access to swimming pools when compared with the national average of access to pools. In no areas of Breckland is local share above the national average.

Map 8.1: Run 2 Local share of swimming pools Breckland 2031



9. Summary of key findings and conclusions

9.1 The fpm study sets out to assess the future supply, demand and access to swimming pools across Breckland and a wider study area which includes all the neighbouring authorities to Breckland The study is based on three runs with changes in swimming pool supply in in run 3.The runs are:

- Run 1 – supply, demand and access to swimming pools based on the population in Breckland and the neighbouring authorities in 2016.
- Run 2 – supply demand and access to swimming pools based on the projected changes in population and the residential development across Breckland to 2031.
- Run 3 as in run 2 but with the option to also include a new swimming pool in Swaffham by 2031. The pool to be a 25m x4 lane community swimming pool.

9.2 To try and condense the extensive findings into one table. Table 9.1 set outs the key data and headline findings for the most important topics. This is highlighted with a question and answer approach and with the typeface in red. This allows the key findings and difference between each run to be identified.

9.3 This is followed by a non-technical description of the main findings and recommendations.

Table 9.1 Runs 1 – 3 Summary of key findings for Breckland

Total Supply	**Breckland RUN 1 2016**	**Breckland RUN 2 2031**	**Breckland RUN 3 Swaffham pool option**
Number of pools	5	5	6
Number of pool sites	2	2	3
Supply of total water space in sq m	1,135	1,135	1,347
Supply of publicly available water space in sq m (scaled with hrs avail in peak period)	977	977	1,134
Supply of total water space in visits	8,471	8,471	9,832
How does the water space per 1,000 population differ?			
Waterspace (sq m of water) per 1000 population	8	7	9

Total Demand	**Breckland RUN 1 2016**	**Breckland RUN 2 2031**	**Breckland RUN 3 Swaffham pool option**
Population	135,334	149,215	149,215
Swims demanded –visits	8,328	8,795	8,795
Equivalent in waterspace – with comfort factor included	1,383	1,459	1,459
% of population without access to a car	15.0	15.0	15.0

Supply/Demand Balance	**Breckland RUN 1 2016**	**Breckland RUN 2 2031**	**Breckland RUN 3 Swaffham pool**

			option
Supply - Swimming pool provision (sq m) scaled to take account of hours available for community use	977	977	1,134
Demand - Swimming pool provision (sq m) taking into account a 'comfort' factor	1,383	1,459	1,459
How does supply and demand balance differ (ie positive balance where supply is greater than demand (= +) and a negative balance, demand greater than supply (= -)			
Supply / Demand balance - Variation in sq m of provision available compared to the minimum required to meet demand.	-406	-482	-325

Satisfied Demand	**Breckland RUN 1 2016**	**Breckland RUN 2 2031**	**Breckland RUN 3 Swaffham pool option**
Total number of visits which are met	5,874	6,168	7,050
What % of the Breckland total demand is satisfied demand?			
% of total demand satisfied	70.5	70.1	80.2
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	88.6	88.7	88.3
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	7.9	7.6	7.9
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	3.5	3.7	3.8
Demand Retained	4,682	4,743	5,657
What % of met demand is retained within Breckland?			
Demand Retained -as a % of Satisfied Demand	79.7	76.9	80.3
Demand Exported	1,192	1,425	1,392
What % of Breckland's satisfied demand is exported?			
Demand Exported -as a % of Satisfied Demand	20.3	23.1	19.7

Unmet Demand	**Breckland RUN 1 2016**	**Breckland RUN 2 2031**	**Breckland RUN 3 Swaffham pool option**
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met	2,454	2,628	1,746
How much unmet demand is there (as a % of total demand)?			
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	29.5	29.9	19.8
Equivalent in Water space m2 - with comfort factor	407	436	289
What is the source of unmet demand?			
Lack of Capacity -	0.5	0.7	1.8
Outside Catchment -	99.5	99.3	98.2

Used Capacity	**Breckland RUN 1 2016**	**Breckland RUN 2 2031**	**Breckland RUN 3 Swaffham pool option**

Total number of visits used of current capacity	5,549	5,674	6,845
How full are the Breckland pools at peak times? (%)			
% of overall capacity of pools used	65.5	67.0	69.6
% of visits made to pools by walkers	8.4	8.3	8.2
% of visits made to pools by road	91.6	91.7	91.8
How much of the Breckland demand for pools is imported (%) As a % of used capacity	15.6	16.4	17.3

Key findings

9.4 Virtually all of the findings from Table 9.1 indicate that that Run 3 with the Swaffham swimming pool option is the best option. This is because it increases supply over runs 1 and 2 and there is no change in the demand for swimming between runs 2 and 3.

9.5 However it is important to consider the findings in the round because the key strategic consideration is the changes in supply and demand for swimming based on 2016 (run 1) and then in 2031 with the projected population growth and residential development.(run 2). Is the supply of swimming pools and their locations sufficient to meet the demand for swimming from population increase or not? If not what impact could a further pool located in Swaffham have in meeting demand for swimming?

Scale of pools and quality of the swimming offer

9.6 Breckland has two major swimming pool sites and both have a 25m x 6 lane main pool with an extensive separate teaching/learner pool. In addition, the Thetford Centre has an extensive free form leisure pool. So both pool sites can accommodate the full range of swimming activities of learn to swim, public recreational swimming, lane and fitness swimming and swimming development through clubs. In addition, the Thetford site can provide for fun, water confidence and family based activities in the leisure pool. In short, the existing swimming pool provision makes it a very very extensive swimming offer.

Supply and demand for swimming across Breckland 2016 and 2031

9.7 When looking at a closed assessment of simply comparing the supply of swimming pools in Breckland with the demand for swimming across Breckland and NOT based on the catchment area of pools across local authority boundaries, then these is a deficit of demand over supply of 406 sq metres of water in run 1, then 482 sq metres of water in run 3 and 325 sq metres of water.

9.8 However this is the closed assessment and is simply looking at the Breckland supply compared with the Breckland demand. The findings for the interaction of supply, demand and access to pools inside and outside Breckland and based on pool catchments across boundaries needs to be set out. This will establish how much of the Breckland demand for swimming can be met, how much unmet demand there is and where it is located.

How much of the Breckland demand for swimming can be met?

9.9 This is based on the catchment area of pools across boundaries. In run 1 in 2016 some 70% of the total demand for swimming from Breckland residents is located inside the catchment area of a pool and there is enough capacity to meet this level of demand.

9.10 In 2031 satisfied demand is virtually unchanged at 70.1% of total demand. In large part this is because total demand only increases by 76 sq metres of water and the pools can absorb virtually of this increase and so satisfied demand only decreases by 0.4% between the two years

9.11 In run 3 with the Swaffham pool option, supply is increased and demand is unchanged from run 2 and so the level of satisfied demand increases to 80% of total demand for swimming. In effect the Swaffham swimming pool option increases satisfied or met demand by 10% to 80% of the total demand for swimming in 2031.

How much of the Breckland demand for swimming is retained at pools in Breckland?

9.12 This is based on the Breckland residents traveling to the pool sites in Breckland. The range of findings are that, 79% of the Breckland met demand for pools is met at the Breckland pools in 2016 and 77% in run 2. The impact of the Swaffham pool option is to increase retained demand a little but only by another 3% to 80% of the total Breckland demand mend for swimming which is met at pools in Breckland. In effect in run 3 the nearest pool for eight out of ten visits to a pool by a Breckland resident is a pool in the authority.

How much unmet demand for swimming is there and how much access to swimming pools?

9.13 Unmet demand has two definitions: demand which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular swimming pool within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any pool and is then classified as unmet demand.

9.14 A key finding is that unmet demand located outside catchment is 99% of the total unmet demand in both 2016 and 2031 and is 98% even with the new pool at Swaffham option. Unmet demand located outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage. This is especially true in an area such as Breckland with such a large land area and dispersed small scale settlements.

9.15 The amount of unmet demand outside catchment equates to 407 sq metres of water in 2016. It increases to 436 sq metres of water in run 2 but reduces to 290 in run 3, with the Swaffham pool option. So the impact of the Swaffham pool option is to increase the amount of water space inside catchment by 146 sq metres of water.

9.16 In terms of the land area of the authority outside catchment, map 6.3 in the main report shows that in run 2 around 50% of the authority is outside the 20 minute drive time catchment area of any swimming pool. Whilst the two pool sites in the NE and SW of the authority do have extensive drive time catchment areas, such is the size of the authority that this still leaves around 50% of the land area outside catchment.

9.17 In the areas inside catchment (map 6.3) residents have access to between 1 – 5 swimming pools and this includes pools in neighbouring authorities, where their catchment area extend into Breckland, and based on the 20 minute drive time catchment area of the pool locations.

9.18 The impact of the Swaffham swimming pool option is to reduce the land area of Breckland outside the drive time catchment area of any pool to between 15% - 20% of the land area of the authority (map 6.4).

9.19 So increased access to pools for Breckland residents with the Swaffham pool option, however the unmet demand still outside catchment in the remaining areas of Breckland is still a stubborn 289 sq metres of water. To reiterate, unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get complete geographic coverage whereby all areas are inside the catchment area of a pool.

How full are the swimming pools?

9.20 The facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor' and the Sport England benchmark is that a pool is comfortably full when it reaches 70% of capacity used at peak times. Above this level the pool itself becomes too full and the changing and circulation area are also crowded.

9.21 In all three runs the used capacity of the pools is close to but below the 70% pools full comfort level. In 2016 the authority wide average used capacity is 65.5% and this increases to 67% in run 2 by 2031. In run 3 with the Swaffham pool option the average used capacity of the pools is 69.6% of pool capacity used at peak times. So all three runs are close to or virtually on the Sport England pools full comfort level of 70% of pool capacity used at peak times.

9.22 These are the authority wide findings and the estimated used capacity of each of the individual swimming pool sites does vary. The used capacity of the Breckland Centre in Thetford ranges from 56% to 57% across the three runs. Whilst the Dereham centre is estimated to have a used capacity at 77%, in 2016, then 78% in 2031 and 74% of pool capacity used, with the Swaffham pool option.

9.23 The impact of the Swaffham pool option in run 3 is a modern pool in an area where there is no provision and the area of Breckland with the highest demand for swimming outside the catchment area of a pool. The estimated used capacity of the Swaffham pool option pool is 100% at peak times.

9.24 There are several reasons why the percentage of used capacity can vary and it is important to set these out and not just view the percentage figures. The reasons are:

- The amount of demand located in the catchment area of a pool, this will vary and impact on how well used any particular pool becomes
- The age and condition of the pool, older pools have less appeal and customers maybe accustomed to more modern pools which provide better changing accommodation and other features when compared with older pools. Quality and the range of facilities on a site can influence usage of pools. It is an increasing influence on distances residents are prepared to travel to access pools

- Most important is the size of the pool site. The Breckland centre at Thetford has three pools and a total water area of 663 sq metres of water. Whereas the Swaffham pool option has one pool and a total water area of 213 sq metres of water. So 57% of the used capacity of the Thetford centre in run 3 is higher than 100% of used capacity at the Swaffham pool site, in terms of number of visits. The size of the pool(s) and total water area are very important when considering used capacities across pool sites

- The pool programme with a programme that does not fit into resident's times they can swim, so there is less of a draw of a pool site. This contrasting with a pool site which does have a variable programme plus a site which has other facilities on the same site, such as health and fitness or a studio and which collectively increases the draw of a particular site.

9.25 The key finding is that all pool sites are estimated to have high levels of usage both now and in 2031. This finding reflects that demand for swimming pools across Breckland exceeds supply in both 2016 and 2031.

How much demand for swimming is there in the Swaffham area and is there justification for a swimming pool?

9.26 This is separating out the key findings which relate to Swaffham but are included in the strategic findings already summarised.

9.27 In summary, the unmet demand for swimming in the Swaffham area is estimated to be 130 sq. metres of water in 2016 and increases to 145sq metres of water by 2031. The size of the pool modelled for the Swaffham pool option is a 25m x 4 lane community size pool of 25m x 4 lanes and each lane 2.1 sq metres of water. This is the smallest size of 25m x 4 lane pool with the smallest lane width.

9.28 The fpm assessment is that there is insufficient unmet demand up to 2031 to justify a swimming pool in Swaffham of this scale. However a smaller pool of 20m x 4 lanes and which would be 160 sq metres of water does meet the supply, demand and access findings for Swaffham. It is prudent however to consider IF sustained increases in swimming participation, either across Breckland or in Swaffham, on the basis of a new pool stimulating an increase in participation, could justify a 25m x 4 lane pool. The precise facility scale should be determined by a feasibility study and the business case.

9.29 Finally, the Swaffham area is the part of the authority right on the periphery of the drive time catchment area of existing pools. In total 50% of the land area of the authority is outside catchment based on the current pool provision. This does reduce to 15% - 20% of the authority land area with a pool located in Swaffham. So on criteria of increasing access to swimming pools and providing opportunities for swimming for Swaffham residents, which are currently limited, because of the time and cost of travelling to a pool, it means that on accessibly grounds, there is a case for a pool in Swaffham.

Conclusions

9.30 The purpose of this fpm assessment has been to set out the supply, demand and access to swimming pools based on the provision in 2016. Then assess the impact of population growth to

2031, plus the ageing of the resident population to 2031 has on the supply, demand and access to swimming pools. Finally to consider the option of providing a community size swimming pool in Swaffham by 2031.

9.31 The findings are that the two existing swimming pool sites in Dereham and Thetford are extensive in scale and do provide for the full range of swimming activities of learn to swim, casual recreational swimming lane and fitness swimming and swimming development through clubs. In addition, the Thetford centre has an extensive leisure pool for fun activities and developing swimming confidence. Overall it is an extensive swimming offer provided by both sites.

9.32 The fpm finding is that both pool sites are estimated to be close to the Sport England pools full benchmark measure of 70% of capacity used in the weekly peak period. The finding is that they are meeting the demand for swimming in their catchment areas in 2016 and up to 2031. An increase in swimming participation can be accommodated but it will make the pools very full.

9.33 Such is the size of Breckland that the drive time catchment area of these two pool sites only includes 50% of the land area of the authority. The towns of Swaffham. Watton and Attleborough are on the periphery of the drive time catchment area of these pools. Residents in Attleborough can access pools in South Norfolk, based on the drive time catchment area of pools in Wymondham extending to Attleborough. Watton is on the drive time periphery of both the public pool sites in the authority.

9.34 Swaffham is the town which has the highest unmet demand for swimming in Breckland. The fpm assessment included an option to provide a community size swimming pool in Swaffham to address the lack of access issue BUT also to consider if there is enough demand for swimming by 2031 to consider provision of a swimming pool.

9.35 A pool in Swaffham would reduce the area of Breckland outside the drive time catchment area of a pool to between 15% – 20% of the land area of Breckland – again reinforcing how big Breckland is in land area. The fpm assessment for the option of a swimming pool in Swaffham is based on a community size pool of 25m x 4 lanes. The fpm finding does support the provision of a community size pool but possibly at a smaller 20m x 4 lane pool size. However a detailed feasibility study and business case should determine the scale of the pool

9.36 The other main finding is the need to continue the modernisation of the Thetford and Dereham pools, so as to retain the level of swimming demand for these pools up to 2031 and beyond.

9.37 Finally, swimming pools are genuinely the only indoor sports facility where participation is cradle to grave. Therefore they offer most scope to not only provide for swimming participation but also create an active population for all ages and both genders in Breckland.

Appendix 1: Swimming pools across the study area included in the assessment. Run 3

Name of Site	Type	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	Weight Factor	Public/ Commercial	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
BRECKLAND					**55%**		**88%**	**3%**	**8%**
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Main/General	313	1974	2003	24%	P	85%	4%	11%
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Leisure Pool	275							
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Learner/Teaching/Training	75							
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	338	2007		76%	P	91%	3%	6%
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	135							
SWAFFHAM NEW SWIMMING POOL	Main/General	213	2031		100%	P	90%	3%	7%
BROADLAND					**54%**		**89%**	**5%**	**6%**
BANNATYNES HEALTH CLUB (NORWICH)	Main/General	160	1999		58%	C	92%	3%	5%
MARRIOTT LEISURE & COUNTRY CLUB (SPROWSTON MANOR)	Leisure Pool	169	1991	2004	41%	C	91%	5%	4%
THORPE ST ANDREW SCHOOL	Main/General	200	1950		20%	P	70%	5%	25%
VIRGIN ACTIVE CLASSIC (NORFOLK HEALTH AND RACQUET CLUB)	Main/General	325	2006		74%	C	93%	5%	2%
VIRGIN ACTIVE CLASSIC (NORFOLK HEALTH AND RACQUET CLUB)	Leisure Pool	6							
FOREST HEATH					**45%**		**86%**	**3%**	**12%**
MILDENHALL SWIMMING POOL	Main/General	213	1972	2002	23%	P	91%	2%	6%
NEWMARKET LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	325	2009		80%	P	76%	4%	20%
NEWMARKET LEISURE CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	84							
KINGS LYNN & WEST NORFOLK					**34%**		**89%**	**4%**	**7%**
BIRCHAM NEWTON TRAINING CENTRE	Main/General	300	1966		22%	P	98%	1%	1%
DOWNHAM MARKET LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	263	2003		67%	P	92%	3%	5%
GLEBE HOUSE SCHOOL AND NURSERY	Main/General	250	0		25%	P	83%	5%	12%
OASIS LEISURE CENTRE (HUNSTANTON)	Main/General	250	1984		31%	P	85%	5%	10%
OASIS LEISURE CENTRE (HUNSTANTON)	Learner/Teaching/Training	17							
ST JAMES SWIMMING AND FITNESS CENTRE	Main/General	313	1974		24%	P	87%	5%	8%
ST JAMES SWIMMING AND FITNESS CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	94							
MID SUFFOLK					**42%**		**90%**	**3%**	**7%**
MID SUFFOLK LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	325	1986		34%	P	88%	4%	8%
MID SUFFOLK LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	96							
MID SUFFOLK LEISURE CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	36							
STRADBROKE SWIM AND FITNESS CENTRE	Main/General	160	1991	2002	41%	P	95%	2%	3%
WATTISHAM STATION	Main/General	300	2001		63%	P	93%	3%	4%
NORTH NORFOLK					**45%**		**88%**	**4%**	**8%**
CROMER ACADEMY	Main/General	160	1979	2001	27%	P	72%	6%	22%
FITNESS EXPRESS AT KELLING HEATH	Main/General	190	2000		60%	C	95%	5%	0%
GRESHAMS HIGH SCHOOL	Main/General	250	1970	1999	23%	P	91%	3%	6%

Name of Site	Type	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	Weight Factor	Public/ Commercial	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
PINEWOOD LEISURE CLUB	Main/General	250	1992	2007	43%	C	94%	6%	0%
PINEWOOD LEISURE CLUB	Learner/Teaching/Training	30							
SPLASH LEISURE AND FITNESS CENTRE	Main/General	350	1988	2004	37%	P	84%	7%	9%
SPLASH LEISURE AND FITNESS CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	6							
VICTORY SWIM & FITNESS CENTRE	Main/General	325	2003		67%	P	92%	3%	5%
SOUTH NORFOLK					**44%**		**91%**	**3%**	**6%**
ARCHBISHOP SANCROFT HIGH SCHOOL	Main/General	188	1980	2007	28%	P	86%	3%	12%
DISS SWIM & FITNESS CENTRE	Main/General	313	1987	2004	35%	P	91%	2%	7%
DISS SWIM & FITNESS CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	38							
DUNSTON HALL NORWICH	Main/General	225	1996	2003	51%	C	97%	3%	0%
WYMONDHAM COLLEGE	Main/General	198	1970		23%	P	91%	3%	6%
WYMONDHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	338	1999		58%	P	90%	3%	6%
WYMONDHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	81							
ST EDMONDSBURY					**36%**		**86%**	**4%**	**10%**
BURY ST EDMUNDS LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	313	1975	2006	25%	P	76%	5%	19%
BURY ST EDMUNDS LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	140							
BURY ST EDMUNDS LEISURE CENTRE	Leisure Pool	160							
BURY ST EDMUNDS LEISURE CENTRE	Leisure Pool	100							
CLARICE HOUSE (BURY ST EDMUNDS)	Main/General	160	2001		63%	C	88%	4%	8%
CULFORD SPORTS AND TENNIS CENTRE	Main/General	325	1992		43%	P	95%	4%	1%
HAVERHILL LEISURE CENTRE	Main/General	300	1971	2009	24%	P	86%	3%	11%
HAVERHILL LEISURE CENTRE	Learner/Teaching/Training	125							
RAF HONINGTON	Main/General	225	1965		22%	P	86%	2%	12%
SPORTS DIRECT FITNESS (BURY ST EDMUNDS)	Main/General	160	2001	2011	64%	C	91%	3%	5%

Appendix 2 – Model description, Inclusion Criteria and Model Parameters

Included within this appendix are the following:

- Model description
- Facility Inclusion Criteria
- Model Parameters

Model Description

1. Background

1.1 The Facilities Planning Model (FPM) is a computer-based supply/demand model, which has been developed by Edinburgh University in conjunction with sportscotland and Sport England since the 1980s.

1.2 The model is a tool to help to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities in an area. It is currently applicable for use in assessing the provision of sports halls, swimming pools, indoor bowls centres and artificial grass pitches.

2. Use of FPM

2.1 Sport England uses the FPM as one of its principal tools in helping to assess the strategic need for certain community sports facilities. The FPM has been developed as a means of:

- assessing requirements for different types of community sports facilities on a local, regional or national scale;
- helping local authorities to determine an adequate level of sports facility provision to meet their local needs;
- helping to identify strategic gaps in the provision of sports facilities; and
- comparing alternative options for planned provision, taking account of changes in demand and supply. This includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities, and the likely impact of population changes on the needs for sports facilities.

2.2 Its current use is limited to those sports facility types for which Sport England holds substantial demand data, i.e. swimming pools, sports halls, indoor bowls and artificial grass pitches.

2.3 The FPM has been used in the assessment of Lottery funding bids for community facilities, and as a principal planning tool to assist local authorities in planning for the provision of community sports facilities. For example, the FPM was used to help assess the impact of a 50m swimming pool development in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The Council invested £22 million in the sports and leisure complex around this pool and received funding of £2,025,000 from the London Development Agency and £1,500,000 from Sport England1.

[1] Award made in 2007/08 year.

3. How the model works

3.1 In its simplest form, the model seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport is capable of meeting local demand for that sport, taking into account how far people are prepared to travel to such a facility.

3.2 In order to do this, the model compares the number of facilities (supply) within an area, against the demand for that facility (demand) that the local population will produce, similar to other social gravity models.

3.3 To do this, the FPM works by converting both demand (in terms of people), and supply (facilities), into a single comparable unit. This unit is 'visits per week in the peak period' (VPWPP). Once converted, demand and supply can be compared.

3.4 The FPM uses a set of parameters to define how facilities are used and by whom. These parameters are primarily derived from a combination of data including actual user surveys from a range of sites across the country in areas of good supply, together with participation survey data. These surveys provide core information on the profile of users, such as, the age and gender of users, how often they visit, the distance travelled, duration of stay, and on the facilities themselves, such as, programming, peak times of use, and capacity of facilities.

3.5 This survey information is combined with other sources of data to provide a set of model parameters for each facility type. The original core user data for halls and pools comes from the National Halls and Pools survey undertaken in 1996. This data formed the basis for the National Benchmarking Service (NBS). For AGPs, the core data used comes from the user survey of AGPs carried out in 2005/6 jointly with Sportscotland.

3.6 User survey data from the NBS and other appropriate sources are used to update the models parameters on a regular basis. The parameters are set out at the end of the document, and the range of the main source data used by the model includes:

- National Halls & Pools survey data –Sport England
- Benchmarking Service User Survey data –Sport England
- UK 2000 Time Use Survey – ONS
- General Household Survey – ONS
- Scottish Omnibus Surveys – Sport Scotland
- Active People Survey - Sport England
- STP User Survey - Sport England & Sportscotland
- Football participation - The FA
- Young People & Sport in England – Sport England
- Hockey Fixture data - Fixtures Live
- Taking Part Survey - DCMS

4. Calculating Demand

4.1 This is calculated by applying the user information from the parameters, as referred to above, to the population2. This produces the number of visits for that facility that will be demanded by the population.

4.2 Depending on the age and gender make-up of the population, this will affect the number of visits an area will generate. In order to reflect the different population make-up of the country, the FPM calculates demand based on the smallest census groupings. These are Output Areas (OA)3.

4.3 The use of OAs in the calculation of demand ensures that the FPM is able to reflect and portray differences in demand in areas at the most sensitive level based on available census information. Each OA used is given a demand value in VPWPP by the FPM.

5. Calculating Supply Capacity

5.1 A facility's capacity varies depending on its size (i.e. size of pool, hall, pitch number), and how many hours the facility is available for use by the community.

5.2 The FPM calculates a facility's capacity by applying each of the capacity factors taken from the model parameters, such as the assumptions made as to how many 'visits' can be accommodated by the particular facility at any one time. Each facility is then given a capacity figure in VPWPP. (See parameters in Section C).

5.3 Based on travel time information4 taken from the user survey, the FPM then calculates how much demand would be met by the particular facility having regard to its capacity and how much demand is within the facility's catchment. The FPM includes an important feature of spatial interaction. This feature takes account of the location and capacity of all the facilities, having regard to their location and the size of demand and assesses whether the facilities are in the right place to meet the demand.

5.4 It is important to note that the FPM does not simply add up the total demand within an area, and compare that to the total supply within the same area. This approach would not take account of the spatial aspect of supply against demand in a particular area. For example, if an area had a total demand for 5 facilities, and there were currently 6 facilities within the area, it would be too simplistic to conclude that there was an oversupply of 1 facility, as this approach would not take account of whether the 5 facilities are in the correct location for local people to use them within that area. It might be that all the facilities were in one part of the borough, leaving other areas under provided. An assessment of this kind would not reflect the true picture of provision. The FPM is

[2] For example, it is estimated that 7.72% of 16-24 year old males will demand to use an AGP, 1.67 times a week. This calculation is done separately for the 12 age/gender groupings.

[3] Census Output Areas (OA) are the smallest grouping of census population data, and provides the population information on which the FPM's demand parameters are applied. A demand figure can then be calculated for each OA based on the population profile. There are over 171,300 OAs in England. An OA has a target value of 125 households per OA.

[4] To reflect the fact that as distance to a facility increases, fewer visits are made, the FPM uses a travel time distance decay curve, where the majority of users travel up to 20 minutes. The FPM also takes account of the road network when calculating travel times. Car ownership levels, taken from Census data, are also taken into account when calculating how people will travel to facilities.

able to assess supply and demand within an area based on the needs of the population within that area.

5.5 In making calculations as to supply and demand, visits made to sports facilities are not artificially restricted or calculated by reference to administrative boundaries, such as local authority areas. Users are generally expected to use their closest facility. The FPM reflects this through analysing the location of demand against the location of facilities, allowing for cross boundary movement of visits. For example, if a facility is on the boundary of a local authority, users will generally be expected to come from the population living close to the facility, but who may be in an adjoining authority.

6. Facility Attractiveness – for halls and pools only

6.1 Not all facilities are the same and users will find certain facilities more attractive to use than others. The model attempts to reflect this by introducing an attractiveness weighting factor, which effects the way visits are distributed between facilities. Attractiveness however, is very subjective. Currently weightings are only used for hall and pool modelling, with a similar approach for AGPs is being developed.

6.2 Attractiveness weightings are based on the following:

- Age/refurbishment weighting – pools & halls - the older a facility is, the less attractive it will be to users. It is recognised that this is a general assumption and that there may be examples where older facilities are more attractive than newly built ones due to excellent local management, programming and sports development. Additionally, the date of any significant refurbishment is also included within the weighting factor; however, the attractiveness is set lower than a new build of the same year. It is assumed that a refurbishment that is older than 20 years will have a minimal impact on the facilities attractiveness. The information on year built/refurbished is taken from Active Places. A graduated curve is used to allocate the attractiveness weighting by year. This curve levels off at around 1920 with a 20% weighting. The refurbishment weighting is slightly lower than the new built year equivalent.

- Management & ownership weighting – halls only - due to the large number of halls being provided by the education sector, an assumption is made that in general, these halls will not provide as balanced a program than halls run by LAs, trusts, etc, with school halls more likely to be used by teams and groups through block booking. A less balanced programme is assumed to be less attractive to a general, pay & play user, than a standard local authority leisure centre sports hall, with a wider range of activities on offer.

6.3 To reflect this, two weightings curves are used for education and non-education halls, a high weighted curve, and a lower weighted curve;

- High weighted curve - includes Non education management - better balanced programme, more attractive.

- Lower weighted curve - includes Educational owned & managed halls, less attractive.

6.4 Commercial facilities – halls and pools - whilst there are relatively few sports halls provided by the commercial sector, an additional weighing factor is incorporated within the model to reflect the cost element often associated with commercial facilities. For each population output area the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score is used to limit whether people will use commercial facilities. The assumption is that the higher the IMD score (less affluence) the less likely the population of the OA would choose to go to a commercial facility.

7. Comfort Factor – halls and pools

7.1 As part of the modelling process, each facility is given a maximum number of visits it can accommodate, based on its size, the number of hours it's available for community use and the 'at one time capacity' figure (pools =1 user /6m2 , halls = 6 users /court). This is gives each facility a "theoretical capacity".

7.2 If the facilities were full to their theoretical capacity then there would simply not be the space to undertake the activity comfortably. In addition, there is a need to take account of a range of activities taking place which have different numbers of users, for example, aqua aerobics will have significantly more participants, than lane swimming sessions. Additionally, there may be times and sessions that, whilst being within the peak period, are less busy and so will have fewer users.

7.3 To account of these factors the notion of a 'comfort factor' is applied within the model. For swimming pools 70%, and for sports halls 80%, of its theoretical capacity is considered as being the limit where the facility starts to become uncomfortably busy. (Currently, the comfort factor is NOT applied to AGPs due to the fact they are predominantly used by teams, which have a set number of players and so the notion of having 'less busy' pitch is not applicable.)

7.4 The comfort factor is used in two ways;

- Utilised Capacity - How well used is a facility? 'Utilised capacity' figures for facilities are often seen as being very low, 50-60%, however, this needs to be put into context with 70-80% comfort factor levels for pools and halls. The closer utilised capacity gets to the comfort factor level, the busier the facilities are becoming. You should not aim to have facilities operating at 100% of their theoretical capacity, as this would mean that every session throughout the peak period would be being used to its maximum capacity. This would be both unrealistic in operational terms and unattractive to users.

- Adequately meeting Unmet Demand – the comfort factor is also used to increase the amount of facilities that are needed to comfortably meet the unmet demand. If this comfort factor is not added, then any facilities provided will be operating at its maximum theoretical capacity, which is not desirable as a set out above.

8. Utilised Capacity (used capacity)

8.1 Following on from Comfort Factor section, here is more guidance on Utilised Capacity.

8.2 Utilised capacity refers to how much of facilities theoretical capacity is being used. This can, at first, appear to be unrealistically low, with area figures being in the 50-60% region. Without any further explanation, it would appear that facilities are half empty. The key point is not to see a

facilities theoretical maximum capacity (100%) as being an optimum position. This, in practise, would mean that a facility would need to be completely full every hour it was open in the peak period. This would be both unrealistic from an operational perspective and undesirable from a user's perspective, as the facility would completely full.

8.3 For example:

A 25m, 4 lane pool has Theoretical capacity of 2260 per week, during 52 hour peak period.

	4-5pm	5-6pm	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm	Total Visits for the evening
Theoretical max capacity	44	44	44	44	44	44	264
Actual Usage	8	30	35	50	15	5	143

8.4 Usage of a pool will vary throughout the evening, with some sessions being busier than others though programming, such as, an aqua-aerobics session between 7-8pm, lane swimming between 8-9pm. Other sessions will be quieter, such as between 9-10pm. This pattern of use would give a total of 143 swims taking place. However, the pool's maximum capacity is 264 visits throughout the evening. In this instance the pools utilised capacity for the evening would be 54%.

8.5 As a guide, 70% utilised capacity is used to indicate that pools are becoming busy, and 80% for sports halls. This should be seen only as a guide to help flag up when facilities are becoming busier, rather than a 'hard threshold'.

9. Travel times Catchments

9.1 The model uses travel times to define facility catchments in terms of driving and walking.

9.2 The Ordnance Survey (OS) Integrated Transport Network (ITN) for roads has been used to calculate the off-peak drive times between facilities and the population, observing one-way and turn restrictions which apply, and taking into account delays at junctions and car parking. Each street in the network is assigned a speed for car travel based on the attributes of the road, such as the width of the road, and geographical location of the road, for example the density of properties along the street. These travel times have been derived through national survey work, and so are based on actual travel patterns of users. The road speeds used for Inner & Outer London Boroughs have been further enhanced by data from the Department of Transport.

9.3 The walking catchment uses the OS Urban Path Network to calculate travel times along paths and roads, excluding motorways and trunk roads. A standard walking speed of 3 mph is used for all journeys

9.4 The model includes three different modes of travel, by car, public transport & walking. Car access is also taken into account, in areas of lower access to a car, the model reduces the number of visits made by car, and increases those made on foot.

9.5 Overall, surveys have shown that the majority of visits made to swimming pools, sports halls and AGPs are made by car, with a significant minority of visits to pools and sports halls being made on foot.

Facility	Car	Walking	Public transport
Swimming Pool	76%	15%	9%
Sports Hall	77%	15%	8%
AGP			
Combined	83%	14%	3%
Football	79%	17%	3%
Hockey	96%	2%	2%

9.6 The model includes a distance decay function; where the further a user is from a facility, the less likely they will travel. The set out below is the survey data with the % of visits made within each of the travel times, which shows that almost 90% of all visits, both car borne or walking, are made within 20 minutes. Hence, 20 minutes is often used as a rule of thumb for catchments for sports halls and pools.

	Sport halls		Swimming Pools	
Minutes	Car	Walk	Car	Walk
0-10	62%	61%	58%	57%
10-20	29%	26%	32%	31%
20 -40	8%	11%	9%	11%

Strategic Assessment for Provision of Sports Halls. Breckland Council

Appendix 3: Sport England's Facilities Planning Model Report

March 2017

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1. Introduction

1.1 Breckland Council is developing an evidence base for indoor sports facilities to support the development of local planning policy for the Breckland Council Local Plan. The Council has decided to apply the Sport England facility planning model (fpm) to consider the supply, demand and access to sports halls in 2016 and projected forward to 2031.

1.2 This fpm assessment includes the projected growth in population and the location of new residential development across Breckland. Plus the option to consider changes in the current supply of sports halls in Breckland.

1.3 There are four assessments (known as runs) and these also include any committed changes in sports halls provision in the neighbouring authorities which will impact on Breckland and have been notified to Breckland Council.

1.4 This report sets out the findings from this fpm assessment. The findings and options for future provision of sports halls will be integrated into the full evidence base for all seven facility types in the Breckland study for indoor sports and recreational facilities.

1.5 The fpm analysis is based on four separate modelling runs that include:

- Run 1 – supply, demand and access to sports halls based on the population in Breckland and the neighbouring authorities in 2016.This includes known committed changes in the sports hall supply in the neighbouring authorities.

- Run 2 – as run 1 but also including the option to close the existing sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham and open new sports halls on the same sites by 2020. The rationale being that the evidence base work to date identified a need for sports halls at these locations. The existing sports halls opened in 1981 at Swaffham and 1982 at Attleborough. The age, size and condition of the sports halls are limiting their use and attractiveness to participants. Given these findings, it was considered more beneficial to model the need for replacement sports halls at the current time with a projected replacement by 2020, rather than assume these centres could continue operating until 2031 and base the assessment of need on that date.

- Run 3 – as run 2 but based on the projected population in 2031 in Breckland, plus the neighbouring authorities and the residential development in Breckland

- Run 4 as run 3 but which also tests the option of a new sports hall in Dereham of 4 badminton court size, located at Northgate High School and opening by 2031.The rationale being the work to date has identified there may be a need for further sports hall provision in Dereham but the impact of population change up to 2031 should be part of that assessment.

The study area

1.6 Customers of sports halls, as with swimming pools, do not reflect local authority boundaries and whilst there are management and pricing incentives for customers to use sports facilities located in

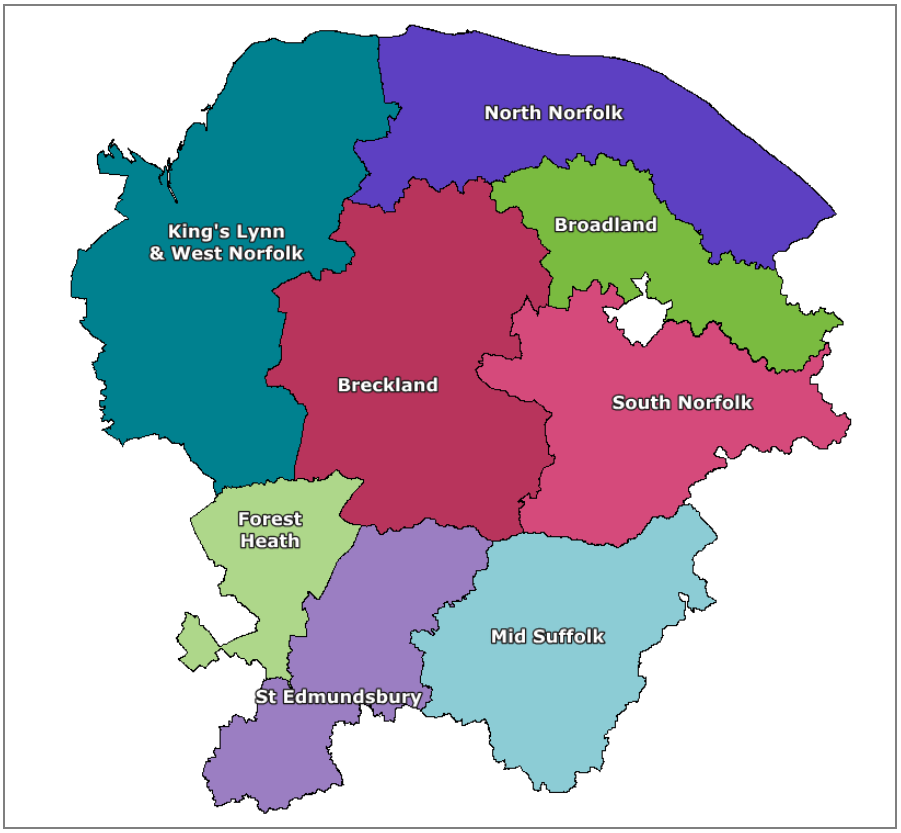
the area in which they live, there are some big determinants as to which sports halls people will choose to use.

1.7 These are based on: other facilities on the same site, such as a studio which means participants can also undertake exercise and dance classes as well as play hall sports; the programing of the sports halls and with activities that are available at times which fit with the lifestyle of residents; and most importantly the age and condition of the facility and inherently its attractiveness. If there are 2 or more sports halls in the same area residents may choose to use a more modern venue, even if means a longer journey, if that sports hall has modern changing accommodation a sprung timber floor and a good quality lighting system.

1.8 Consequently, in determining the supply, demand and access to sports halls for Breckland, it is very important to take full account of these factors, plus sports halls in the neighbouring local authorities to Breckland. In particular, to assess the impact of overlapping catchment areas of facilities located in Breckland and those located outside the authority. The nearest facility for some Breckland residents may be outside the authority (known as exported demand) and for some residents of neighbouring authorities their nearest sports hall could be in Breckland (known as imported demand).

1.9 To take account of these impacts a study area is established which places Breckland at the centre of the study and includes all the neighbouring authorities to Breckland. The study assesses the impact of the catchment area of the sports halls in this study area and how demand is distributed across the study area and across boundaries. A map of the study area is set out below.

Map 1.1: Study area map for the Breckland Council sports halls study



Report structure, content and sequence

1.10 The findings for Breckland for runs 1 - 4 are set out in a series of tables with the difference in findings between the runs set out The headings for each table are: total supply; total demand; supply and demand balance; satisfied demand; unmet demand; used capacity (how full the facilities are); and local share. A definition of each heading is set out at the start of the reporting.

1.11 Maps to support the findings are also included. The maps presented in the report are based on the findings for that section/heading and mainly based on the options for changing the provision of sports halls.

1.12 A summary of key findings and conclusions is set out at the end of the main report.

1.13 Appendix 1 sets out the sports halls included in the assessment. Appendix 2 is a description of the facility planning model and its parameters.

2. Sports Halls Supply

Total Supply

Table 2.1: Sports Hall Supply Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
Total Supply	**2016**	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Number of halls	7	7	7	8
Number of hall sites	6	6	6	7
Supply of total hall space expressed as main court equivalents	25.7	27.7	27.7	31.7
Supply of hall space in courts, scaled by hours available in the peak period	22.	25.1	25.1	28.6
Supply of total hall space in visits	6,005	6,839	6,839	7,811
Courts per 10,000 population	1.9	2.1	1.9	2.1

2.1 Definition of supply – this is the supply or capacity of the sports halls which are available for public and club use in the weekly peak period. The supply is expressed in number of visits that a sports hall can accommodate in the weekly peak period and in numbers of badminton courts.

2.2 As Table 2.1 shows, in runs 1 - 3 there are 7 sports halls on 6 sites but with replacement sports halls in Attleborough and Swaffham in runs 2 and 3. In run 4 there are 8 sports halls on 7 sites with the option to include a new sports hall in Dereham by 2031.

2.3 In terms of total numbers of badminton courts, there is a supply of just fewer than 26 badminton courts in run 1 for 2016. This increases by 2 courts in runs 2 and 3 because the Attleborough replacement sports hall is a larger 6 court hall than the current 4 court hall. In run 4 total supply increases by a further 4 courts to just fewer than 32 in total with the option to include a new sports hall in Dereham.

2.4 The difference between the total supply of badminton courts and the effective supply of courts for community use is around 3 badminton courts in each of the four runs. The reason for the difference is the variable and lower amount of hours for community use at Wayland Academy and Dereham Neatherd High School, reviewed under the used capacity heading.

2.5 The provision of sports halls in Breckland is extensive in scale, with all but one of the existing sites being a 4 badminton court size sports hall. This size of sports hall can accommodate the full range of indoor hall sports at the community level of activity. The exception is the Wayland Academy sports hall which is a 3 badminton court size sports hall.

2.6 The details of the sports hall sites in Breckland is set out in Table 2.2 overleaf. Run 4 is selected because it identifies the total potential future supply. This shows a 6 court hall at Attleborough because that is the size of the option for the replacement sports hall.

Table 2.2: Run 4 Sports hall supply Breckland 2031

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	Weight Factor	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
BRECKLAND							**64%**	**90%**	**3%**	**7%**
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Main	36 x 18	648	4	1974	2013	36%	88%	2%	10%
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main		594	4	2007		80%	87%	4%	9%
DEREHAM NEATHERD HIGH SCHOOL	Main		594	4	1975	2009	25%	89%	4%	8%
NEW ATTLEBOROUGH SPORTS HALL	Main	34 x 27	932	6	2020		95%	91%	3%	7%
NEW SPORTS HALL IN DEREHAM	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2031		100%	91%	3%	6%
NEW SWAFFHAM SPORTS HALL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2020		95%	93%	2%	5%
WAYLAND ACADEMY	Main	27 x 17	459	3	1960		21%	90%	4%	7%
WAYLAND ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180							

2.7 The average age of the Breckland sports hall sites in 2016 for run 1 is 34 years. Two of the oldest sports hall have been modernised, the Breckland Centre in Thetford (1974) and modernised in 2013 and Dereham Neatherd High School (1975) and modernised in 2009.The oldest venue is Wayland Academy (1960) and this is unmodernised.

2.8 Facilities are only part of an explanation or influence on hall sports participation. However, Sport England research shows as with swimming pools, provision of modern sports halls with proactive development programmes does increase participation. The Attleborough sports hall is not promoted for community use because of its age and condition

2.9 Based on a measure of badminton courts per 10,000 population, Breckland has 1.9 courts per 10,000 population in 2016. Breckland has the lowest supply of badminton courts based on this measure when compared with all the neighbouring authorities. The next lowest is in Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and North Norfolk at 2.3 courts per 10,000 population. The highest provision is in St Edmondsbury at 5.2 courts per 10,000 population.

2.10 By 2031 and based on the population growth and including the new sports hall option in Dereham, Breckland has 2.1 courts per 10,000 population. This is the joint lowest level of provision with Forest Heath and North Norfolk. The highest provision being still in St Edmondsbury at the same 5.2 courts per 10,000 population.

2.11 The findings for all authorities for both years is set out in Table 2.3 overleaf.

2.12 The required provision in Breckland will be based on the supply and demand assessment. Table 2.3 is simply providing the comparative local authority findings based on this measure of badminton courts per 10,000 population.

Table 2.3 Badminton courts per 10,000 population for all authorities in the study area 2016 and 2031

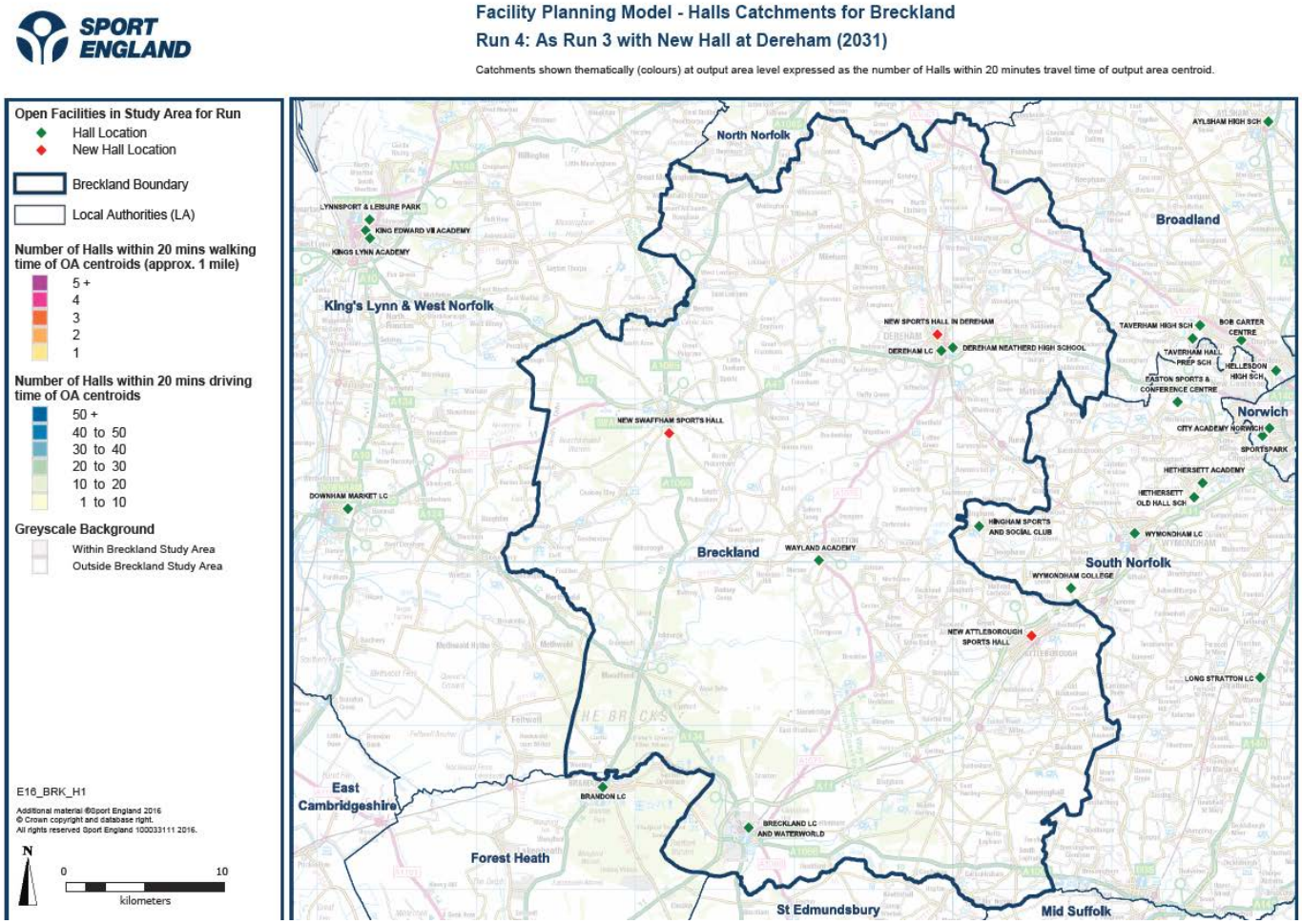
Supply in courts per 10,000 population	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	St Edmundsbury	South Norfolk	EAST TOTAL
Number of halls 2016	7	11	5	10	9	6	18	16	641
Number of hall sites 2016	6	7	3	6	8	5	10	11	428
2016 courts per 10,000 population	1.9	3.2	2.7	2.3	3.4	2.3	5.2	4.4	4.2
2031 courts per 10,000 population	2.1	2.9	2.3	2.1	3.1	2.1	5.2	3.8	3.8

Sports hall locations

2.13 Map 2.1 overleaf shows the location of the sports halls in Breckland in run 4 in 2031 with the option to include a new sports hall in Dereham. The sports hall locations and catchment areas are important in determining the amount of demand which is inside and outside the catchment area of each site. If there is significant unmet demand outside catchment, it is important to identify the scale and location. (Set out under the satirised and unmet demand headings).

2.14 The key finding with the location of the venues is the distances between the sites. This is a reflection of the size and location of the main settlements in the authority. It does mean that for nearly all venues apart from the option of 2 venues in Dereham, there are almost unique 20 minute drive time catchment areas. This is quite an unusual finding and the implications of this distribution and catchment area of sports halls will also be assessed under the satisfied demand and unmet demand headings.

Map 2.1: Run 4 Location of sports hall in Breckland 2031.



3. Demand for Sports Halls

Table 3.1: Demand for sports halls Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
Total Demand	**2016**	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Population	135,334.	135,334.	149,215.	149,215.
Visits demand – visits	7,813.	7,813.	8,291.	8,291.
Equivalent in courts – with comfort factor included	35.8	35.8	38.	38.
% of population without access to a car	15.	15.	15.	15.

3.1 Definition of total demand – it represents the total demand for sports halls by both genders and for 14 five-year age bands from 0 to 65+. This is calculated as the percentage of each age band/gender that participates. This is added to the frequency of participation in each age band/gender, so as to arrive at a total demand figure, which is expressed in visits in the weekly peak period. Total demand is also expressed in numbers of badminton courts.

3.2 The population in Breckland in 2016 is 135,334 people and is projected to be 149,215 people in 2031, a 10.2% increase between the two years. The total demand for sports halls by Breckland residents in 2016 is 7,813 visits in the weekly peak period of weekday evenings and weekend days. This demand equates to just fewer than 36 badminton courts.

3.3 The total demand for sports halls is projected to increase to 8,291 visits in the weekly peak period by 2031. This is a 6.1% increase in demand for sports halls between the two years. So the 10.2% increase in the population growth is generating a 6.1% increase in demand for sports halls. The reason the demand increase is not higher is most likely because of the ageing of the resident population between 2016 and 2031. It could be there are fewer participants in the main age bands for hall sports participation in 2016 than in 2031 (Appendix 2 sets out the details of the participation rates and frequencies of participation for both genders and for each age range).

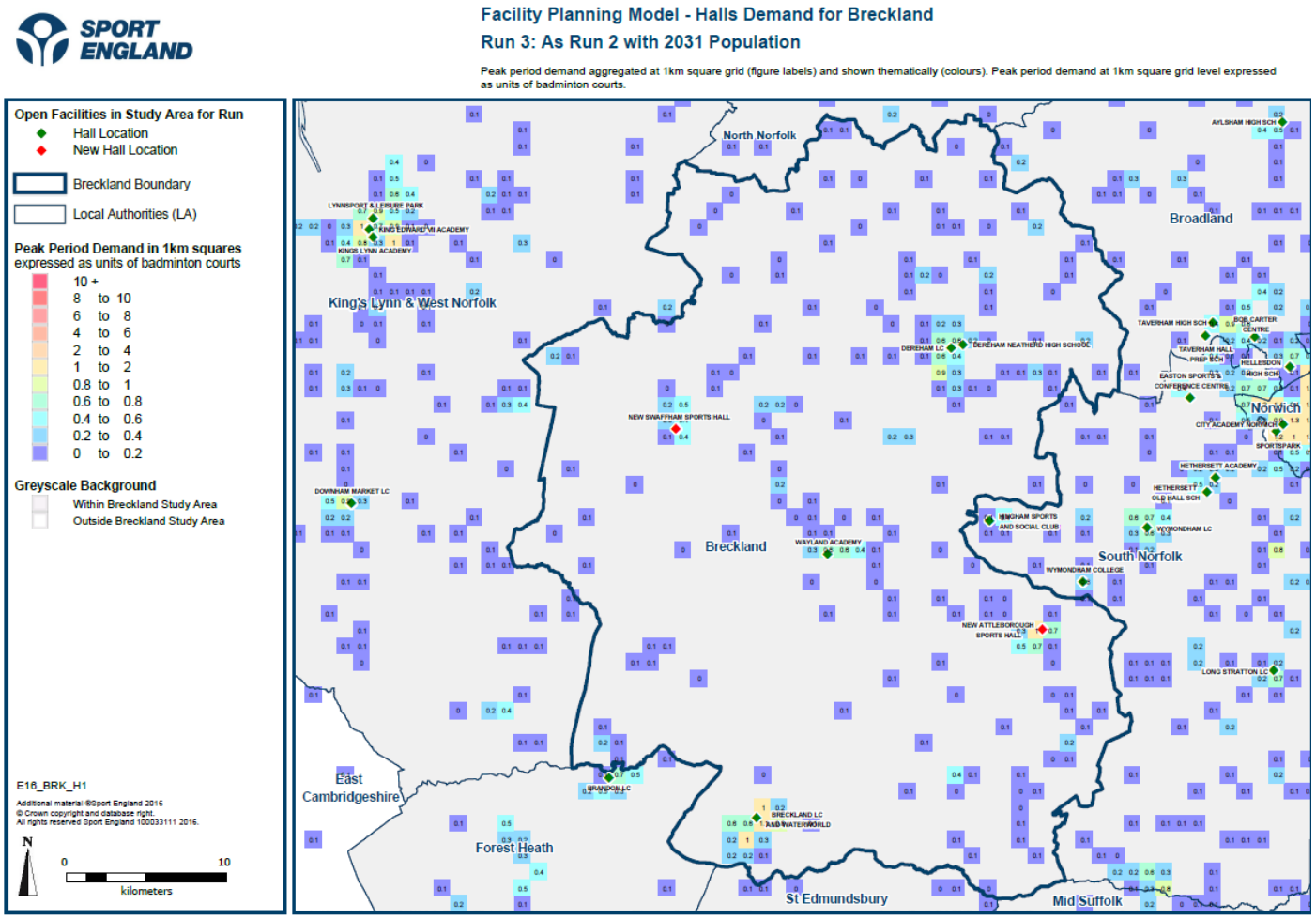
3.4 The findings on the percentage of the population who do not have access to a car is set out under total demand and this is 15% of the Breckland population in both years. The East Region figure is 17.7% and for England it is 24.9% of the population who do not have access to a car.

3.5 The Breckland finding illustrates that around a sixth of residents will find it difficult to access a sports hall, if there is not a venue within the 15 minute public transport catchment area of a sports hall, or, the even smaller 20 minutes/1 mile walk to catchment area of a sports hall.

3.6 The data is identifying that in both 2016 and 2031, some 91% of all visits to sports halls are by car (20 minutes' drive time catchment), 6% of visits in both years are by walkers (20 minutes/1mile walk to catchment area) and 3% of visits in both years are by public transport (15 minutes catchment area).

3.7 The location and scale of demand for sports halls in run 3 for 2031 is set out in Map 3.1 overleaf. The amount of demand is set out in 1 kilometre grid squares and is colour coded. Purples squares have values of between 0 – 0.2 of one badminton court, mid blue is 0.2 – 0.4 of one badminton court, light blue is 0.4 – 0.6 of one badminton court, turquoise is 0.6 – 0.8 of one badminton court, yellow is 0.8 - 1 badminton court and beige is 1 – 2 badminton courts. Most of the squares are purple and so the lowest values. Most of the demand not surprisingly is located in the five main towns.

Map 3.1: Run 3 location and scale of demand for sports halls Breckland 2031



4. Supply and Demand Balance for Sports Halls

Table 4.1: Supply and Demand Balance Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
Supply/Demand Balance	**2016**	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Supply - Hall provision (courts) scaled to take account of hours available for community use	22	25.1	25.1	28.6
Demand - Hall provision (courts) taking into account a 'comfort' factor	35.8	35.8	38	38
Supply / Demand balance	-13.8	-10.7	-12.9	-9.4

4.1 Definition of supply and demand balance – supply and demand balance compares total demand generated within Breckland for sports halls with the total supply of sports halls within Breckland. It therefore represents an assumption that ALL the demand for sports halls in Breckland is met by ALL the supply of sports halls in Breckland (Note: it does exactly the same for the other local authorities in the study area).

4.2 In short, supply and demand balance is NOT based on where the sports halls are located and their catchment area extending into other authorities. Nor, the catchment areas of sports halls in neighbouring authorities extending into Breckland. Most importantly supply and demand balance does NOT take into account the propensity/reasons for residents using facilities outside their own authority.

3.8 The more detailed modelling based on the CATCHMENT AREAS of sports halls across local authority boundaries is set out under the Satisfied Demand, Unmet Demand and Used Capacity headings.

4.3 The reason for presenting the supply and demand balance is because some local authorities like to see how THEIR total supply of sports halls compares with THEIR total demand for sports halls. Supply and demand balance presents this comparison.

4.4 When looking at this closed assessment, the supply of sports halls in 2016 for community use is 22 badminton courts, increasing to 25 courts in runs 2 and 3 with the larger sports hall in Attleborough and then just fewer than 29 courts in run 4 with the Dereham new sports hall option.

4.5 Demand for sports halls is just fewer than 36 courts in runs 1 and 2 and 38 courts in runs 3 and 4.

4.6 So there is negative supply and demand balance in all four runs. It being lowest in run 4 in 2031 with the new sports hall option in Dereham and highest in run 3 without this option and based on the 2031 population.

4.7 This is however the closed assessment and the findings for the interaction of supply, demand and access to sports halls inside and outside Breckland and based on their catchment areas

needs to be set out. This will establish how much of the Breckland demand for sports halls can be met, how much unmet demand there is and where it is located.

4.8 The supply and demand balance findings for the neighbouring authorities are set out in Tables 4.2 and 4.3 for the 2016 and 2031. There are negative balances in both years in the same five authorities in both years, with positive balances St Edmondsbury and South Norfolk.

Table 4.2 Run 1 Supply and demand balances for all authorities in the study area 2016

Supply/Demand Balance 2016	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	St Edmundsbury	South Norfolk	EAST TOTAL
Supply - Hall provision (courts) based on hours available for community use	22.0	30.3	10.9	28.6	25.8	19.2	37.8	39.7	1,916.7
Demand - Hall provision (courts) taking into account a 'comfort' factor	35.8	33.4	18.4	40.3	26.5	25.8	30.5	35.3	1,680.4
Supply / Demand balance - Variation in courts compared to the minimum required to meet demand	-13.8	-3.1	-7.5	-11.7	-0.7	-6.6	7.3	4.4	236.3

Table 4.3 Run 3 Supply and demand balances for all authorities in the study area 2031

Supply/Demand Balance 2031	Breckland	Broadland	Forest Heath	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Mid Suffolk	North Norfolk	St Edmundsbury	South Norfolk	EAST TOTAL
Supply - Hall provision (courts) based on hours available for community use	28.6	30.3	10.9	28.6	25.8	19.2	41.1	39.7	1,926.7
Demand - Hall provision (courts) taking into account a 'comfort' factor	38	34.1	21.0	41.8	26.8	26.3	30.8	38.9	1,810.4
Supply / Demand balance - Variation in courts compared to the minimum required to meet demand	-9.4	-3.8	-10.1	-13.2	-1.0	-7.1	10.3	0.8	116.3

5. Satisfied Demand for Sports Halls

Table 5.1: Satisfied demand for sports halls Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
Satisfied Demand	**2016**	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Total number of visits which are met (visits)	6,430	6,490	6,783	6,920
% of total demand satisfied	82.3	83.1	81.8	83.5
Total Annual Throughput (visits per year)	367,404	455,535	464,033	507,397
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	91.1	90.8	91.1	90.1
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.8
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.1
Demand Retained (visits	4,993	5,433	5,650	5,958
Demand Retained -as a % of Satisfied Demand	77.7	83.7	83.3	86.1
Demand Exported (visits	1,437	1,057	1,134	962
Demand Exported -as a % of Satisfied Demand	22.3	16.3	16.7	13.9

5.1 Definition of satisfied demand – it represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the sports halls from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a sports hall.

5.2 The finding for 2016 is that 82.3% of the Breckland total demand for sports halls can be met. This increases to 83.1% in run 2 with the slightly larger sports hall option at Attleborough. In run 3 with increased demand from the 2031 population satisfied demand is the lowest of the four runs at 81.8%. Finally in run 4 with the new sports hall in Dereham option, satisfied demand is 83.5% of total demand.

5.3 So across the four runs the level of satisfied demand is quite high with over eight out of ten visits to a sports hall being accommodated. It is not higher because the Breckland demand for sports halls across each of the four runs does exceed supply.

5.4 The impact of the new sports hall options in runs 2 and 4 is to increase satisfied demand by 0.8% in 2016 and 1.7% in 2031.

5.5 Car travel is the dominate travel mode (20 minutes' drive time catchment area) to sports halls with 91% of all visits in runs 1 - 3 and decreasing by 1% in run 4 with the Dereham sports hall option. The decrease is because of the increased access to the Northgate High School site location option for the walkers to sports halls.

5.6 The percentage of visits by walkers (20 minutes/1mile catchment area) is 6.1% in runs 1 and 3 and increases to 6.8% in run 4.

5.7 Similarly, there is little variation in the percentage of visits by public transport (15 minutes catchment area), with it being just below 3% in runs 1 – 3 and slightly higher in run 4 at 3.1% of all visits n the weekly peak period.

Retained demand

5.8 There is a sub set of the satisfied demand findings which are about how much of the Breckland demand is retained at the Breckland sports halls. This is based on the catchment area of sports halls and residents using the nearest sports hall to where they live - known as retained demand.

5.9 Retained demand is very high and so this means the sports hall locations and their catchment areas are very well placed in relation to the location of the Breckland demand for sports halls. This was illustrated by map 3.1 showing the distribution of demand for sports halls is concentrated in the five main towns in the authority.

5.10 In run 1, in 2016 the total retained demand at Breckland's sports halls is 4,993 visits out of the 6,430 visits by Breckland residents to sports halls. This retained demand represents 77.7% of the total Breckland demand which is met in 2016. Put another way, just under eight out of ten visits to a sports hall by a Breckland resident is to a sports hall in the authority.

5.11 Retained demand increases quite significant in run 2 with the option of the new and slightly larger sports hall at Attleborough and the option of a new sports hall at Swaffham. Retained demand in run 2 is 83.7% of the total Breckland demand for sports halls which is met. This represents an increase of 6% over the run 1 percentage. The reason for the increase is because the sports halls are new and they have a draw effect of modern and accessible sports hall, when compared with the existing sports halls.

5.12 The impact of the increase in demand from population growth in run 3 is that retained demand only decreases by 0.4% to 83.3% of the total Breckland demand for sports halls being met in the authority. The Dereham sports hall option creates the highest level of retained demand at 86.1% of the total Breckland satisfied demand being retained – a very high level of retained demand.

Exported demand

5.13 The residual of satisfied demand, after retained demand is exported demand. In run 1 the finding is that 22.3% of the Breckland demand is being exported, then in run 2 it decreases to 16.3% and increases to 16.7% in run 3. In run 4 which has the highest supply of sports halls exported demand is the lowest at 13.9% of the Breckland demand for sports halls which is met being outside the authority being exported.

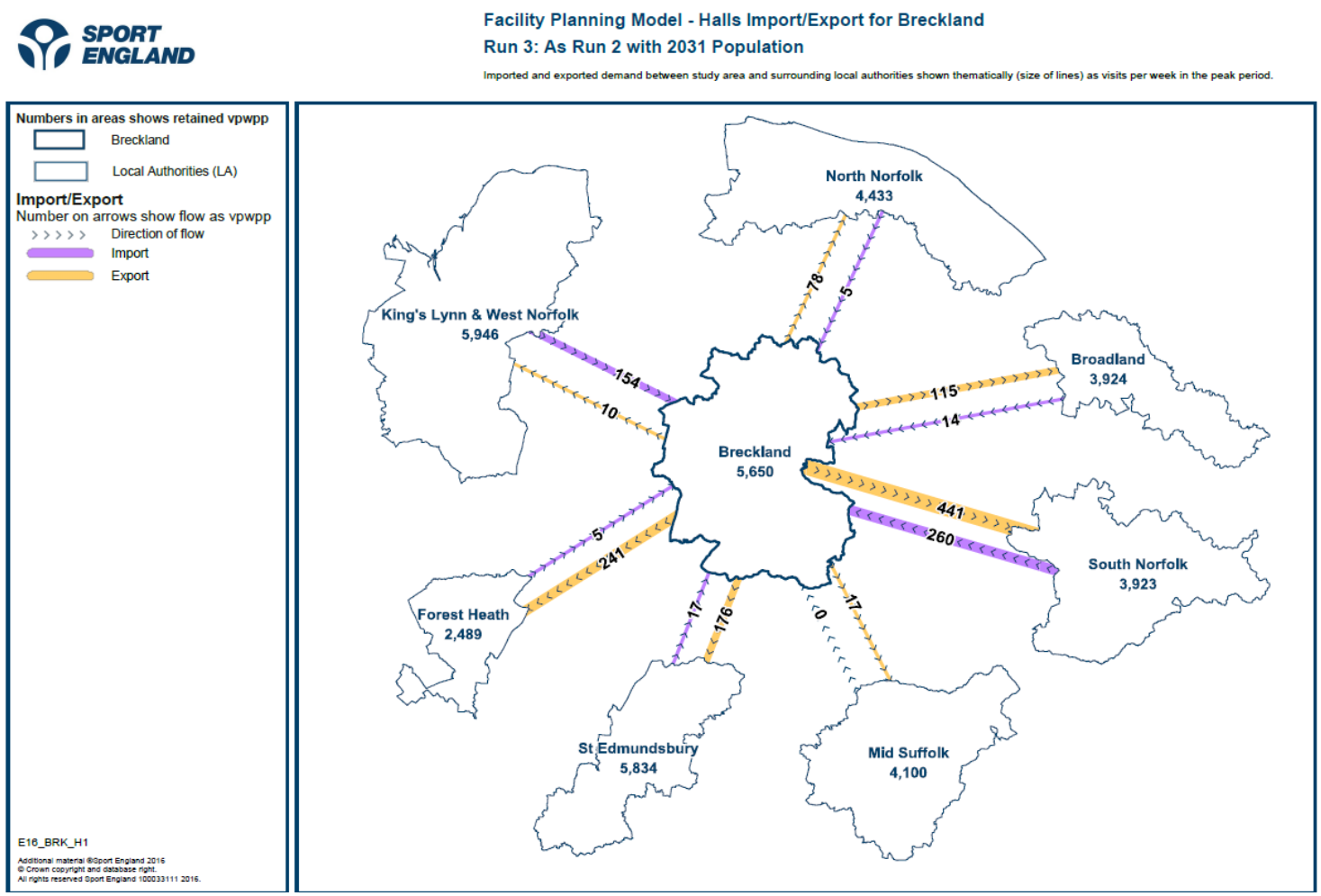
5.14 The destination and scale of the Breckland exported demand for run 3 is set out in Map 5.1 overleaf. The yellow chevron represents the number of visits which are exported and met in neighbouring authorities.

5.15 The findings are that the highest export of demand is to South Norfolk at 441 visits in the weekly peak period and which is 6% of the total 16.7% of demand exported by 2031 in run 3. So even with the option of a new and larger sports hall at Attleborough, there is still some 6% of the Breckland demand for sports halls in 2031 which is located closer to the Wymondham sports halls than the Attleborough site.

5.16 After South Norfolk, the biggest export of demand is to Forest Heath at 241 visits (4% of exported demand) in the weekly peak period Then 176 visits (3%) goes to St Edmondsbury,

then 115 visits (2%) to Broadland, with 78 visits (1%) to North Norfolk and very minor exports to Mid Suffolk of 17 visits and finally 10 visits are exported to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk in the weekly peak period.

Map 5.1: Run 3 Export of Breckland satisfied demand for sports halls 2031



6. Unmet Demand for Sports Halls

Table 6.1: Unmet demand for sports halls Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
Unmet Demand	**2016**	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met (visits)	1,384	1,323	1,507	1,370
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	17.7	16.9	18.2	16.5
Equivalent in Courts - with comfort factor	6.3	6.1	6.9	6.3
% of Unmet Demand due to:				
Lack of Capacity -	29.3	26.1	31.9	28.7
Outside Catchment -	70.6	73.9	68.1	71.3

6.1 The unmet demand definition has two parts to it - demand for sports halls which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any sports hall and is then classified as unmet demand.

6.2 Unmet demand in run 1 for 2016 is 17.7% of total demand and which equates to 1,384 visits per week in the weekly peak period and which, in turn, equates to just over 6 badminton courts.

6.3 Unmet demand in run 2 is only slightly lower at 16.9% of total demand, 1,323 visits and again just over 6 badminton courts.

6.4 In run 3 with the 2031 population, unmet demand increases only slightly to 18.2% of total demand, 1,507 visits and just fewer than 7 badminton courts. Finally in run 4 unmet demand is the lowest at 16.5% of total demand. 1,370 visits but still over 6 badminton courts.

6.5 In summary, unmet demand is virtually unchanged at 6 badminton courts in all four runs. The total supply of badminton courts for community use is 25 in run 1, then 27 in runs 2 and 3 and 31 courts in run 4.

6.6 In terms of the different types of unmet demand, the amount of demand outside catchment is by far the larger, it ranges from 68% of total unmet demand in run 3 to just below 74% in run 2. In terms of badminton courts, this is 4 badminton courts across the four runs.

6.7 Unmet demand because of lack of sports hall capacity represents between 26% of total unmet demand in run 2 to just below 32% in run 3. This represents around 2 badminton courts in each run. This type of unmet demand is reviewed under the used capacity of sports hall in the next section.

6.8 Unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage, whereby all areas of an authority are inside the catchment area of a sports hall. The 20 minute drive time catchment is 20 minutes, for public transport it is 15 minutes and for walking it is 20 minutes/1mile.

6.9 The findings can be set out by reference to what is termed aggregated unmet demand for sports halls. This assessment identifies the total unmet demand in one kilometre grid squares across Breckland in units of badminton courts. It aggregates the total unmet demand based on the catchment area of a sports hall for each one kilometre grid square.

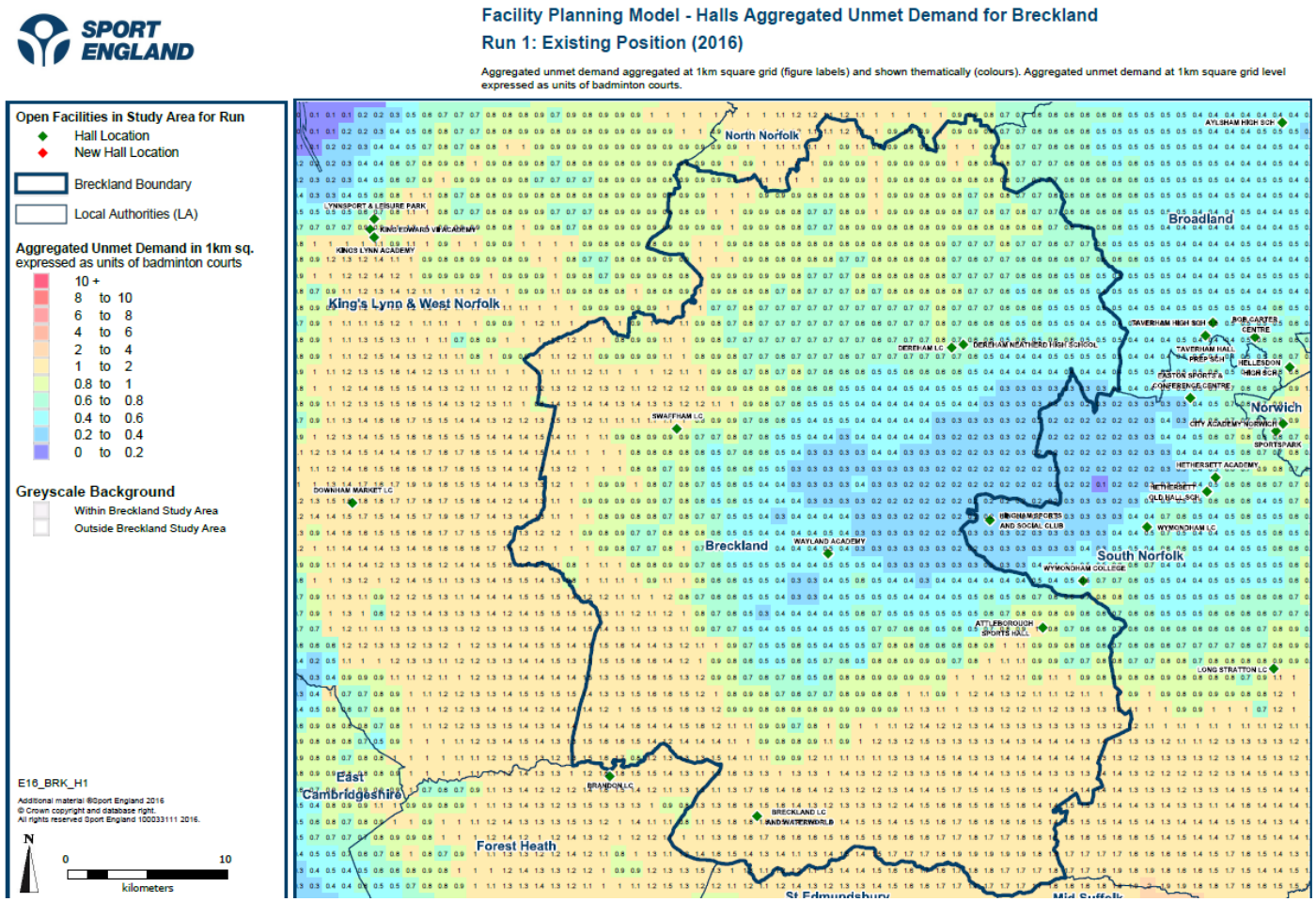
6.10 This process allows identification of how unmet demand varies across Breckland and the hot spots or clusters of unmet demand, this is set out in maps 6.1 for runs 1 and 4 as these represent the current situation and when unmet demand is lowest. It has to be remembered that across all of Breckland, unmet demand only totals 6 badminton courts and so the values in the squares are quite low.

6.11 Maps 6.1 overleaf is the aggregated unmet demand map for sports halls in 2016 in run 1 and Map 6.2 is the map for 2031 in run 4 with the Dereham sports hall option included. The amount of unmet demand is colour coded. Light blue squares have aggregated unmet demand of between 0.2 – 0.4 of one badminton court, turquoise squares have a value of between 0.4 – 0.6 of one court, dark green squares 0.6 – 0.8 one court, light green squares 0.8 – 1 badminton court and beige squares have a value of between 1 – 2 courts.

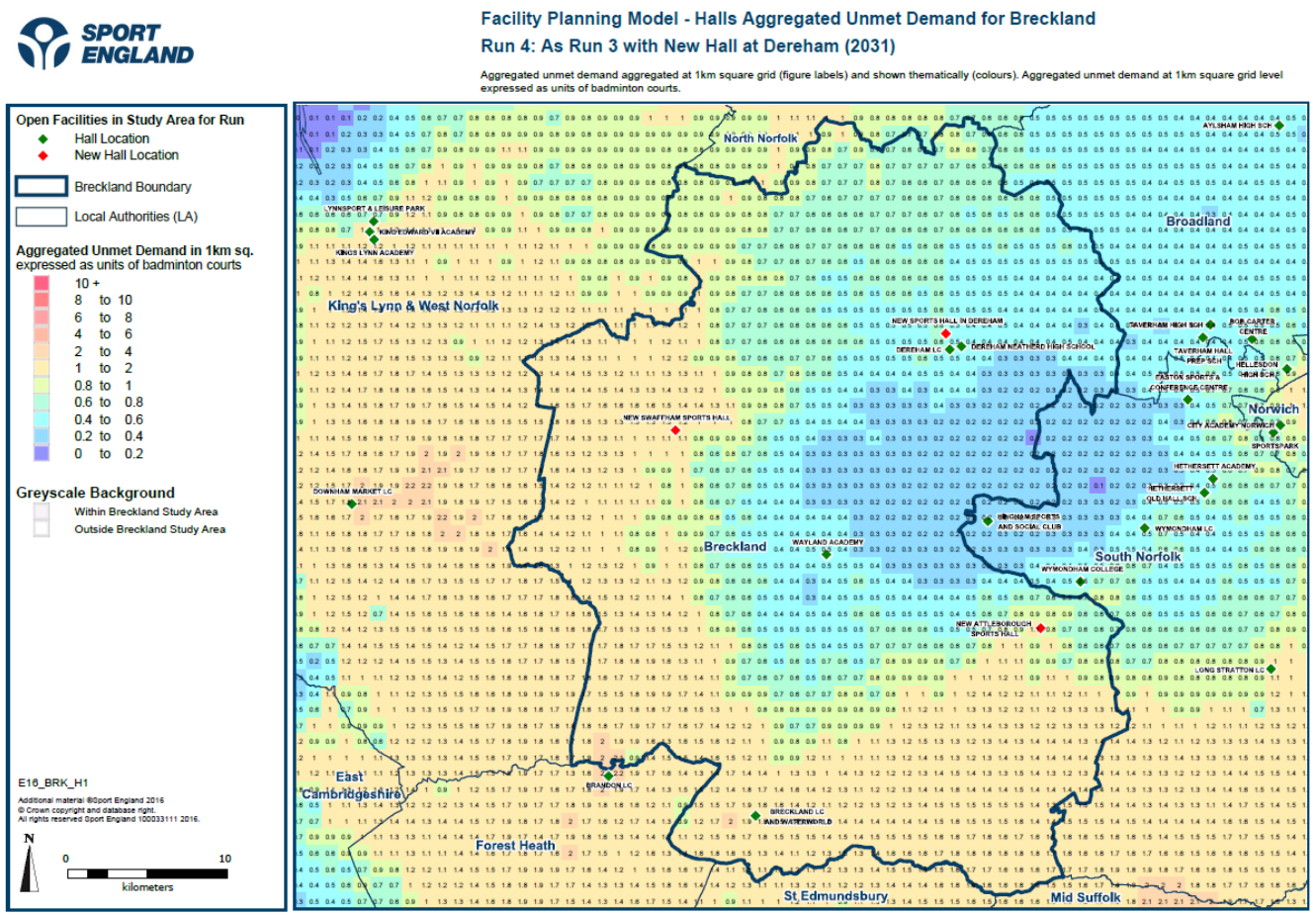
6.12 Unmet demand is highest in the periphery of the authority to the south and west with slightly more beige squares in run 1 when compared to run 4. After these areas, aggregated unmet demand is highest in the area north of Dereham in both runs, with more light green squares in run 1 and more blue squares in run 4.

6.13 It is not a surprise to find that there are no hot spots of aggregated unmet demand, given the total amount outside the catchment area of a sports hall across Breckland is only 4 badminton courts.

Map 6.1 Run 1 aggregated unmet demand for sports halls Breckland 2016



Map 6.2 Run 4 Aggregated unmet demand for sports halls Breckland 2031.



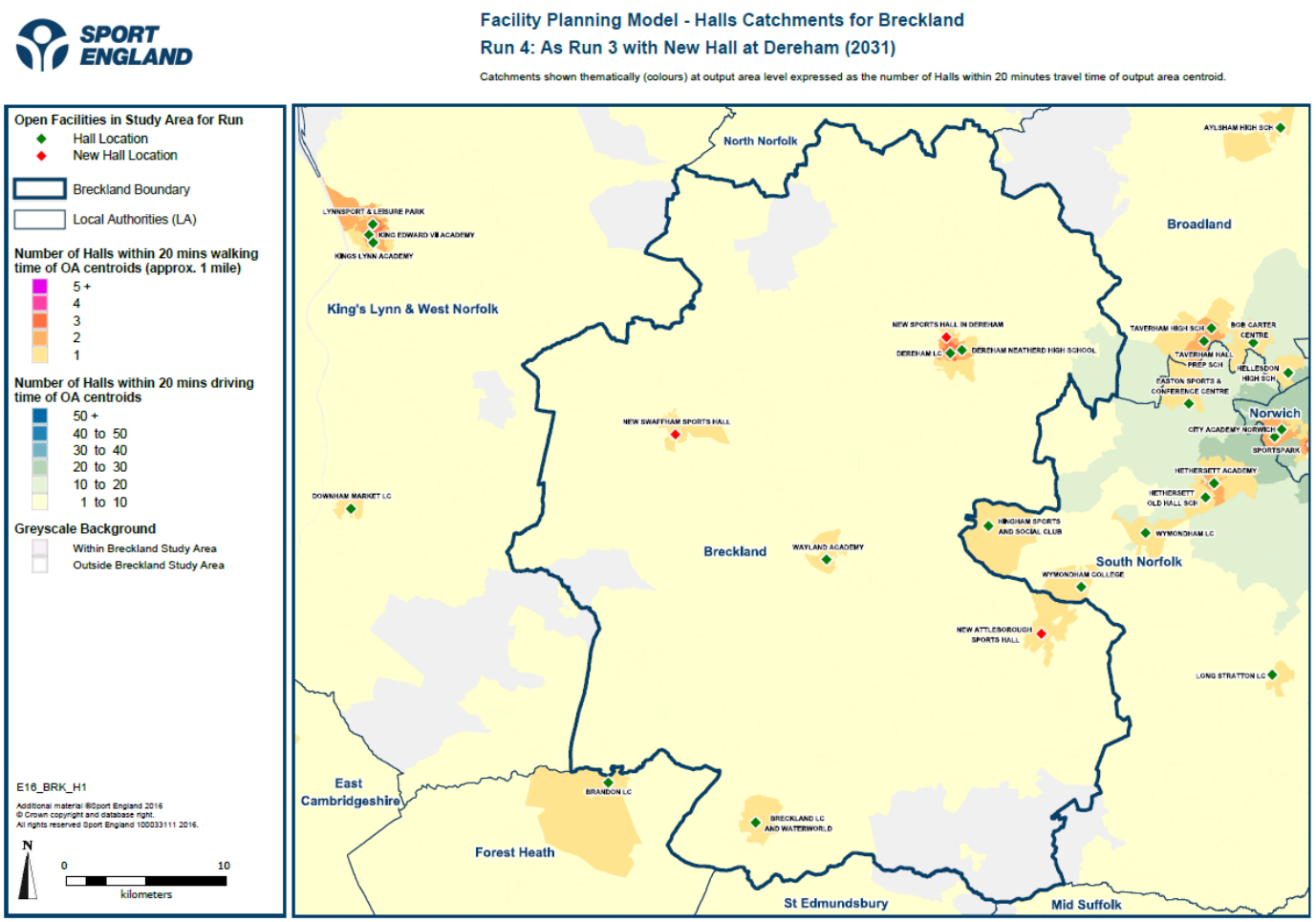
6.14 As mentioned unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage where all demand is inside catchment. Especially in a rural area such as Breckland with many small and dispersed settlements.

6.15 To provide context for how accessible the Breckland sports halls are to residents, Map 6.3 overleaf shows the number of sports halls Breckland residents can access based on the 20 minutes' drive time catchment area of the sports hall locations (this is sports halls located both inside and outside the authority). Run 4 is selected because it has the highest sports hall supply and is based on the 2031 population. There is however very little variation between the four runs.

6.16 In Map 6.3 for the car drive catchment, around 90% of the authority is shaded cream and residents in these areas have access to between 1 - 10 sports halls.

6.17 In the areas shaded grey residents in these areas are outside the drive time catchment area of any sports hall. It could also be there is very little population in these areas. The brown areas around each sports hall site is the extent of the 20 minute/1mile walk to catchment area of the sports halls.

Map 6.3: Run 4 access to sports halls based on the car travel catchment area of pools Breckland 2031



7. Used Capacity (how full are the sports halls?)

Used Capacity - How full and well used are the sports halls?

Table 7.1: Used capacity of sports halls Breckland 2016 - 2031

Breckland	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
Used Capacity	**2016**	**2016**	**2031**	**2031**
Total number of visits used of current capacity (visits)	5,303	5,994	6,109	6,502
% of overall capacity of halls used	88.3	87.6	89.3	83.2
% of visits made to halls by walkers	7.4	6.8	6.8	7.2
% of visits made to halls by road	92.6	93.2	93.2	92.8
Visits Imported;				
Number of visits imported (visits)	310	560	459	544
As a % of used capacity	5.8	9.3	7.5	8.4
Visits Retained:				
Number of Visits retained (visits)	4,993	5,433	5,650	5,958
As a % of used capacity	94.2	90.6	92.5	91.6

7.1 Definition of used capacity - is a measure of usage at sports halls and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. The facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor', beyond which, in the case of sports halls, the venues are too full. The model assumes that usage over 80% of capacity is busy and the sports hall is operating at an uncomfortable level above that percentage.

7.2 In all four runs the used capacity of the sports halls is above the 80% sports halls full comfort level. The range is 83.2% of capacity used in run 4 with the highest supply of sports halls to 89.3% in run 3 with the 2031 population.

7.3 In 2016 the authority wide average is 88.3% of sports hall capacity used at peak times.

7.4 These are the authority wide findings and the estimated used capacity for each of the individual sports hall sites are set out in Table 7.2 overleaf and this is for run 4.

Table 7.2: Run 4 used capacity of the Breckland sports halls 2031

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of courts	Year Built	Year Refurb	Weight Factor	% of Capacity Used	% of Capacity Not Used
BRECKLAND					**1998**		**64%**	**83%**	**17%**
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Main	36 x 18	648	4	1974	2013	36%	100%	0%
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main		594	4	2007		80%	100%	0%
DEREHAM NEATHERD HIGH SCHOOL	Main		594	4	1975	2009	25%	27%	73%
NEW ATTLEBOROUGH SPORTS HALL	Main	34 x 27	932	6	2020		95%	100%	0%
NEW SPORTS HALL IN DEREHAM	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2031		100%	100%	0%
NEW SWAFFHAM SPORTS HALL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2020		95%	100%	0%
WAYLAND ACADEMY	Main	27 x 17	459	3	1960		21%	22%	78%
WAYLAND ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						

7.5 As table 7. 2 shows the used capacity of the individual sports hall sites varies slightly. The Breckland centre in Thetford, the Dereham centre, and then the new sports halls at Attleborough, Swaffham and Dereham are all at 100% of capacity used at the peak times. Then there is quite a lower estimated used capacity at the education venues, with Dereham Neatherd High School at 25% and Wayland Academy at 21% of sports hall capacity used at peak times.

7.6 There are several reasons why the percentage of used capacity can vary and it is important to set these out and not just view the percentage figures. The reasons are:

- The amount of demand located in the catchment area of a sports hall, this will vary and impact on how well used any particular sports hall. This could be the explanation for the high used capacity at Thetford and at Attleborough. They are the areas of the authority with the highest demand for sports halls and there are no competing sports halls in Breckland the catchment area of these centres.

- The age and condition of the sports hall. Older sports halls have less appeal and customers maybe accustomed to more modern sports halls with a sprung timber floor, high quality lighting and modern changing accommodation. This could explain the reasons for the lower estimated used capacity at the two education venues. They are the oldest sites in run 4, with the Neatherd High School sports hall having opened in 1975 and was modernised in 2009. The Wayland Academy venue opened in 1960 and according to the data has not been modernised. Also the Wayland Academy site is also a smaller 3 court sports hall.

- Another factor is the size of a sports hall. A 6 badminton court size sports hall can have a lower percentage of used capacity but accommodate more visits than a 4 badminton court size sports hall which may have a higher percentage of used capacity. This however does not

appear to apply in Breckland as the largest sports hall at Attleborough also has the joint highest percentage of used capacity.

- The type of sports hall programme and also a programme that does or does not fit into the times residents can use it, so there is less of a draw. The education venues are only programmed and available for club not public use. So this will reduce the potential usage of the centres and is likely to be another reason for the lower used capacities at these venues.

Imported demand

7.7 Imported demand is reported under used capacity because it measures the demand from residents who live outside Breckland but the nearest sports hall to where they live is inside the authority. So if they use the venue nearest to where they live this becomes part of the used capacity of the Breckland sports halls.

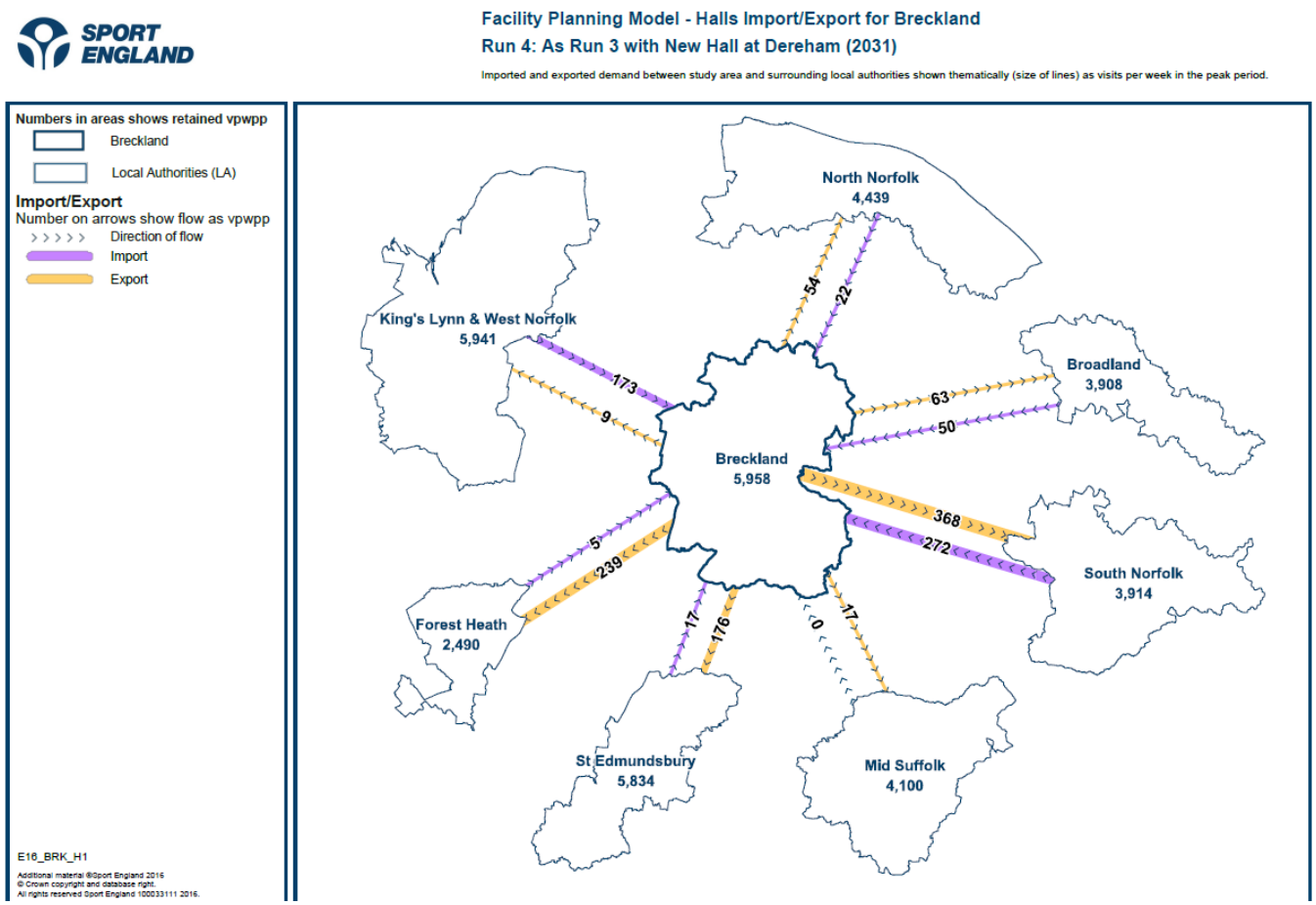
7.8 In all four runs imported demand is very low. In run 1 the total imported demand into Breckland and which is part of the used capacity of the Breckland sports halls in the weekly peak period is 5.8% of the total used capacity of the Breckland sports halls. In run 2 in the imported demand increases to 9.3% in part because of the draw of the new and bigger sports halls at Attleborough and the new sports hall at Swaffham.

7.9 In run 3 based on the 2031 population imported demand is 7.5% of the used capacity of the Breckland sports halls. Then finally in run 4 with the option for the new sports hall in Dereham, the imported demand is 8.4% of the used capacity of the Dereham sports halls. So across the four runs the range of imported demand is 5.8% in run 1 to 9.3% of the used capacity of the sports halls in in run 2.

7.10 Map 7.1 is for run 4 with the 2031 demand for sports halls and the option of the new sports hall in Dereham. The purple chevron line is the amount of demand imported into Breckland from each neighbouring authority in run 4. The highest imported demand is from South Norfolk at 272 visits of the total 544 visits which are imported into Breckland in run 4. Then 173 visits in the peak period are imported from Kings Lynn and West Norfolk. So over 80% of the total imported demand is from these two authorities. Most likely because of the draw effect of the Attleborough and Swaffham sports halls.

7.11 This is followed by 50 visits from Broadland, 22 visits from North Norfolk and 22 visits imported from St Edmondsbury in the weekly peak period.

Map 7.1: Run 4 Import of demand for sports halls Breckland 2031



8. Local Share of Facilities

Table 8.1: Local share of sports halls Breckland 2031

Local Share	2016	2016	2031	2031
Local Share: <1 capacity less than demand, 1> capacity greater than demand	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6

8.1 Local share has quite a complicated definition - it helps to show which areas have a better or worse share of facility provision. It takes into account the size and availability of facilities as well as travel modes. Local share is useful at looking at 'equity' of provision. Local Share is the available capacity that can be reached 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 while a value of less than 1 indicates a shortage of supply and a value greater than 1 indicates a surplus.

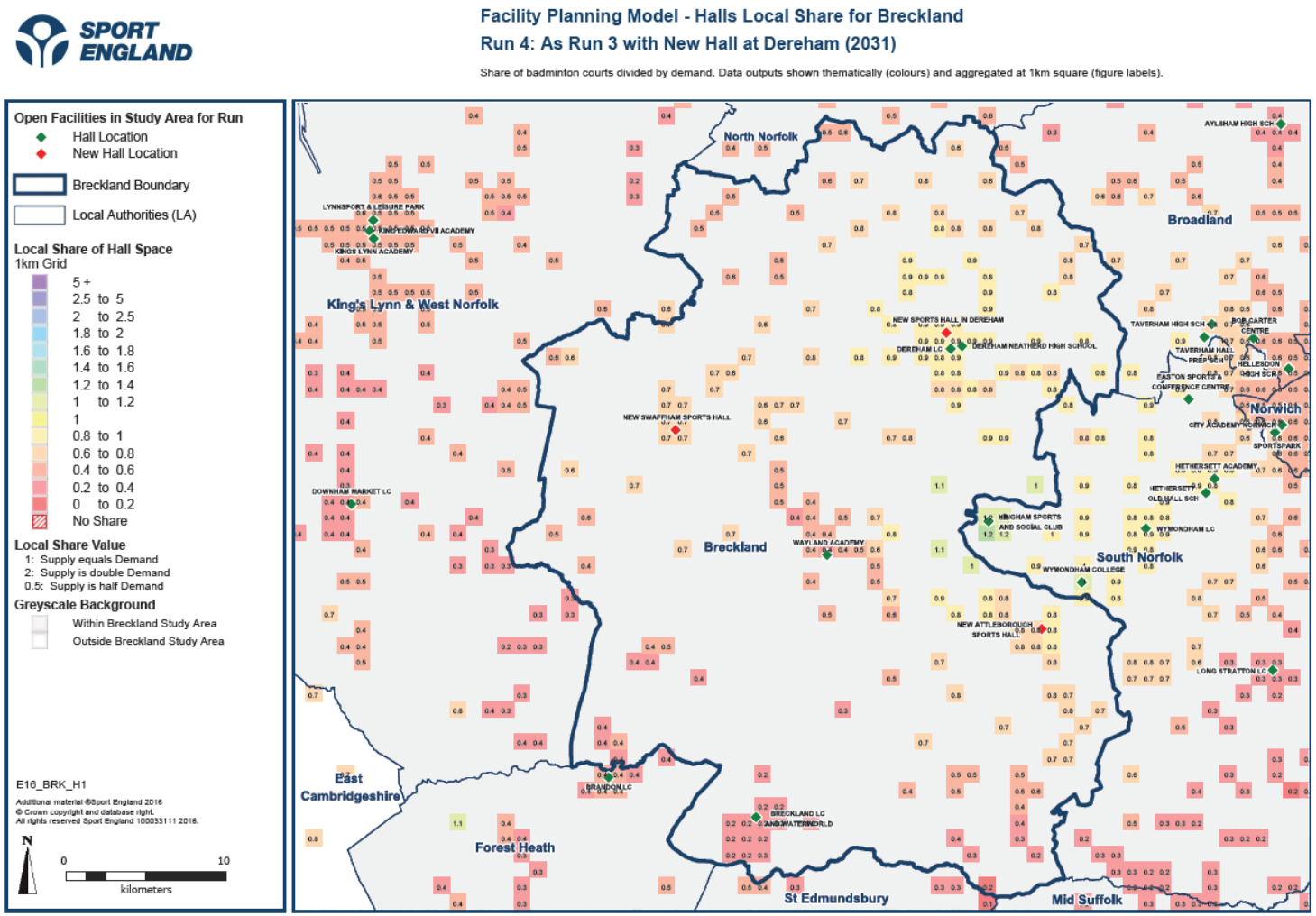
8.2 In run 1 Breckland has a local share of 0.6 and this increases to 0.7 in run 2 because both runs are based on the 2016 population but there is a larger sports hall in run 2 located at Attleborough. In run 3 local share is 0.5 and it decreases because of the impact of the increase in demand from population growth in 2031 and no change in sports hall supply. In run 4 for 2031 local share is .0.6 and increase over run 3 because of the option to provide a new sports hall in Dereham.

8.3 The distribution of local share and how it varies across the authority is set out in Map 8.1 overleaf. This is for run 4 with the 2031 population.

8.4 Local share is highest in the areas/squares shaded yellow (share is between 0.8 – 1.00), this is in the Dereham area and to the north of Dereham. For the rest of the authority there is a local share value of between 0.60 – 0.80 shaded beige, then light pink 0.60 – 0.40 and darker pink, 0.40 – 0.20. There is a small area to the east of the authority, close to the South Norfolk boundary where there is local share with squares shaded green and with values of 1. – 1.2.

8.5 Local share of access to sports halls is lowest in the Watton area and to the south east of the authority where there are areas shaded light and dark pink and have values of between 0.6 – 0.4 and 0.40 – 0.30. So in these areas residents only have between 60% - 30% of access to sports halls when compared with the national average of access to sports halls.

Map 8.1: Run 4 Local share of sports halls Breckland 2031



9. Summary of key findings and conclusions

9.1 The fpm study sets out to assess the future supply, demand and access to sports halls across Breckland and a wider study area which includes all the neighbouring authorities to Breckland The study is based on four different sets of analysis (runs) with changes in sports hall supply and based on the 2016 and 2031 population. The runs are:

- Run 1 – supply, demand and access to sports halls based on the population in Breckland and the neighbouring authorities in 2016.This includes known committed changes in the sports hall supply in the neighbouring authorities.

- Run 2 – as run 1 but also including the option to close the existing sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham and open new sports halls on the same sites by 2020. The rationale being the evidence base work to date identified a need for sports halls at these locations. The existing sports halls opened in 1981 at Swaffham and 1982 at Attleborough. The age, size and condition of the sports halls are limiting their use and attractiveness to participants. Given these findings, it was considered more beneficial to model the need for replacement sports halls at the current time with a projected replacement by 2020, rather than assume these centres could continue operating until 2031 and base the assessment of need on that date.

- Run 3 – as run 2 but based on the projected population in 2031 in Breckland, plus the neighbouring authorities and including the residential development in Breckland

- Run 4 - as run 3 but which also tests the option of a new sports hall in Dereham of 4 badminton court size, .located at Northgate High School and opening by 2031.The rationale being the work to date has identified there may be a need for further sports hall provision in Dereham but the impact of population change up to 2031 and increases in demand should be part of that assessment

9.2 To try and condense the extensive findings from these four runs into one table. Table 9.1 set outs the key data and headline findings for the most important topics. This is highlighted with a question and answer approach and with the typeface in red. This allows the key findings and the differences between each run to be identified.

9.3 This is followed by a non-technical description of the main findings and overall recommendations.

Table 9.1 Sports halls runs 1 – 4 summary of key findings

Total Supply	RUN 1 2016	RUN 2 2016	RUN 3 2031	RUN 4 2031
Number of halls	7.	7.	7.	8.
Number of hall sites	6.	6.	6.	7.
Supply of total hall space expressed as main court equivalents	25.7	27.7	27.7	31.7
Supply of hall space in courts, scaled by hours available in the pp	22.	25.1	25.1	28.6
Supply of total hall space in visits	6,005.	6,839.	6,839.	7,811.
How does the number of badminton courts per 10,000 population differ and which runs have the highest supply?				
Courts per 10,000 population	1.9	**2.1**	1.9	**2.1**

Total Demand	RUN 1 2016	RUN 2 2016	RUN 3 2031	RUN 4 2031
Population	135,334	135,334	149,215	149,215
Visits demand – visits	7,813	7,813	8,291	8,291
Equivalent in courts – with comfort factor included	35.8	35.8	38.	38
% of population without access to a car	15	15	15	15

Supply/Demand Balance	RUN 1 2016	RUN 2 2016	RUN 3 2031	RUN 4 2031
Supply - Hall provision (courts) scaled to take account of hours available for community use	22	25.1	25.1	28.6
Demand - Hall provision (courts) taking into account a 'comfort' factor	35.8	35.8	38	38
How does supply and demand balance differ (ie positive balance where supply is greater than demand (= +) and a negative balance, demand greater than supply (= -) **Which run provides the best balance between supply and demand?**				
Supply / Demand balance	-13.8	-10.7	-12.9	**-9.4**

Satisfied Demand	RUN 1 2016	RUN 2 2016	RUN 3 2031	RUN 4 2031
Total number of visits which are met (visits)	6,430.	6,490.	6,783.	6,920.
What % of the Breckland total demand is satisfied demand (and in which run is this highest?)				
% of total demand satisfied	82.3	83.1	81.8	**83.5**
Total Annual Throughput (visits per year)	367,404.5	455,535.4	464,033.7	507,397.9
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	91.1	90.8	91.1	90.1
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.8
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.1
Demand Retained (visits	4,993.	5,433.	5,650.	5,958.

What % of met demand is retained within Breckland and in which run is this highest?				
Demand Retained -as a % of Satisfied Demand	77.7	83.7	83.3	**86.1**
Demand Exported (visits)	1,437.	1,057.	1,134.	962.
What % of Breckland's satisfied demand is exported and in which run is this lowest?				
Demand Exported -as a % of Satisfied Demand	22.3	16.3	16.7	**13.9**

Unmet Demand	RUN 1 2016	RUN 2 2016	RUN 3 2031	RUN 4 2031
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met visits)	1,384.	1,323.	1,507.	1,370.
How much unmet demand is there as a % of total demand and in which run is this lowest?				
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	17.7	16.9	18.2	**16.5**
Equivalent in Courts - with comfort factor	6.3	6.1	6.9	6.3
What is the source of unmet demand?				
Lack of Capacity -	**29.3**	**26.1**	**31.9**	**28.7**
Outside Catchment -	**70.6**	**73.9**	**68.1**	**71.3**
Outside Catchment:	70.6	73.9	68.1	71.3
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	48.1	50.3	48.1	51.2
% of Unmet demand who have access to a car	22.5	23.6	20.	20.1
Lack of Capacity:	29.3	26.1	31.9	28.7
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	10.4	9.9	11.5	10.6
% of Unmet demand who have access to a car	18.9	16.2	20.5	18.1

Used Capacity	RUN 1 2016	RUN 2 2016	RUN 3 2031	RUN 4 2031
Total number of visits used of current capacity (visits)	5,303.	5,994.	6,109.	6,502.
How full are the Breckland sports halls (%?)?				
% of overall capacity of halls used	**88.3**	**87.6**	**89.3**	**83.2**
% of visits made to halls by walkers	7.4	6.8	6.8	7.2
% of visits made to halls by road	92.6	93.2	93.2	92.8
Visits Imported;				
How much of the usage of the Breckland sports halls is imported (%)				
Number of visits imported (visits)	310.	560.	459.	544.
As a % of used capacity	**5.8**	**9.3**	**7.5**	**8.4**
Visits Retained:				
Number of Visits retained (visits)	4,993.	5,433.	5,650.	5,958.
As a % of used capacity	94.2	90.6	92.5	91.6

Key findings

9.4 A lot of the findings from Table 9.1 indicate that Run 4 with the 2031 population and inclusion of the option to develop a new sports hall in Dereham by 2031 is the best option. This is because it is

the run which has the highest supply of sports halls and the start position is that the demand for sports halls by Breckland residents does slightly exceed supply.

9.5 It is important however to consider the findings in the round because the key strategic consideration is the supply and demand for sports halls across Breckland. For example could the supply of sports halls be increased to meet demand by increasing access to the existing venues, or, is there a need to increase provision over and above what already exists.

9.6 The next set of findings describe the key findings across all four runs to provide this rounded assessment.

What is the sports halls provision in Breckland?

9.7 In 2016 the supply of sports halls across Breckland is 7 sports halls on 6 sites. This equates to total supply of just fewer than 26 badminton courts. Some 22 courts are available for community use in the weekly peak period (weekday evening and weekend days). The difference being the two supply figures is because of the more limited hours for community use at some of the school sites.

9.8 The sports halls provision in Breckland is extensive in scale, with all but one of the existing sites being a 4 badminton court size sports hall. This size of sports hall can accommodate the full range of indoor hall sports at the community level of activity. The exception is the Wayland Academy sports hall which is a 3 badminton court size sports hall.

9.9 The average age of the Breckland sports hall sites in 2016 is 34 years, so quite an old stock of sports halls. Two of the oldest sports hall have been modernised, the Breckland Centre in Thetford (1974) and modernised in 2013 and Dereham Neatherd High School (1975) and modernised in 2009.The oldest venue is Wayland Academy (1960) and this is unmodernised. As mentioned in the introduction, the sports hall at Swaffham opened in 1981 and the Attleborough centre opened in 1982.

What is the supply and demand for sports halls across Breckland in 2016 and 2031?

9.10 When looking at simply comparing the 2016 Breckland supply of sports halls with the Breckland demand for sports halls for community use, the total supply is just fewer than 26 badminton courts and the available supply for community use is 22 badminton courts in the weekly peak period. The demand for sports halls from Breckland residents in 2016 is for just fewer than 36 badminton courts in the weekly peak period. To repeat however this is simply comparing the Breckland supply with the Breckland demand, not based on the location and catchment area of sports halls across boundaries.

9.11 The population in Breckland in 2016 is 135,334 people and is projected to be 149,215 people in 2031, a 10.2% increase between the two years. The total demand for sports halls by Breckland residents in 2016 is 7,813 visits in the weekly peak period. This is a 6.1% increase in demand between the two years.

9.12 The reason the demand increase is not higher is most likely because of the ageing of the resident population between 2016 and 2031. It could be there are fewer participants in the main age bands

for hall sports participation in 2016 than in 2031. So the increase in demand from population growth is being offset by the ageing of the resident population.

What are the options for meeting the demand for sports halls?

9.13 The baseline finding is of demand for sports halls exceeding supply. Also the age of some of the existing sports halls, (the Swaffham sports halls opened in 1981 and the Attleborough centre in 1982) plus their condition, means their use and attractiveness to participants is very limited. Given both of these findings it was decided to model changes in the sports hall provision, with replacement sports halls at both sites, and with an opening date of 2020.

9.14 Taking this approach, rather than assume these centres could continue operating until 2031 and base the assessment of need on that date. The scale of the replacement centre in Attleborough is increased from a 4 to a 6 badminton court size sports hall, again based on the 2016 evidence base work. The replacement centre in Swaffham is the same 4 courts but a larger centre with more run off space between courts. (The current Swaffham centre is 32m x 17m and the new centre is modelled on a 34.5m x 20m hall).

9.15 Again, based on the 2016 findings on supply and demand, it was decided to also model an additional 4 badminton court size sports hall in Dereham, a possible location being Northgate High School and to be opened by 2031.

9.16 The options for Watton were considered but it was decided not to model provision options in the town. The town is on the edge of the drive time catchments area of the centres in Dereham, Swaffham and Thetford. This is not good accessibility for the residents of Watton as the sites are on the edge of the drive time catchments. There are sports halls in Watton at the Watton Sports Centre and a smaller sports hall at Wayland Academy. Both these centres are in need of modernisation. The option for Watton would be to re-provide one of these centres with a four court sports hall of 34.5m x 20m and to ensure there is a committed programme of access for community and club use at the chosen venue.

9.17 **How much of the Breckland demand for sports halls can be met?**

9.18 This is based on the location and catchment area of sports halls and includes sports halls in neighbouring authorities where the catchment area extends into Breckland.

9.19 The findings are that in in 2016 some 82% of the Breckland total demand for sports halls can be met. This increases to 83% with the slightly larger sports hall option at Attleborough and the new sports hall in Swaffham options. In 2031 with increased demand from the 2031 population satisfied demand is the lowest at just below 82%. Finally the option of the new sports hall in Dereham leads to an estimate of 83% of total demand being met.

9.20 So across the options form 2016 to 2031 satisfied, or, met demand is quite high with over eight out of ten visits to a sports hall being accommodated. Car travel is the dominate travel mode (20 minutes' drive time catchment area) to sports halls with between 90% - 91% of all visits

9.21 The percentage of visits by walkers (20 minutes/1mile catchment area) averages 6%. The percentage of visits by public transport (15 minutes catchment area), averages 3% in both years.

How much of the Breckland demand for sports halls is retained in Breckland?

9.22 This is based on the catchment area of sports halls and residents using the nearest sports hall to where they live - known as retained demand.

9.23 Retained demand is very high and in 2016 total retained demand is 77% of the total Breckland demand which is met. Put another way, just under eight out of ten visits to a sports hall by a Breckland resident is to a sports hall in the authority.

9.24 Retained demand increases quite significantly with the option of the new and slightly larger sports hall at Attleborough and the option of a new sports hall at Swaffham. Retained demand is just under 84% of the total demand for sports halls by Breckland residents which is met. This represents an increase of over 6% over the 2016 percentage. The reason for the increase is because the sports halls are new and they have a draw effect of modern and accessible sports halls, when compared with the existing venues. Retained demand increases to 83% by 2031 and to 86% with the option of the new sports hall in Dereham.

9.25 Overall, the retained demand findings are showing that the location and catchment area of the sports halls in both 2016 and 2031 are very well placed to retain the vast majority of the Breckland demand for sports halls. Changes in the location of the sports halls is unlikely to increase the level of the Breckland demand for sports halls met inside the authority.

How much of the Breckland demand for sports halls is exported and where does it go?

9.26 The residual of satisfied demand, after retained demand is exported demand. The range of exported demand is 22% of the Breckland demand exported in 2016, reducing to 14% by the time of the option of the new sports hall in Dereham. With this option, exported demand equates to 4 badminton courts.

9.27 The destination and scale of the Breckland exported demand for this option shows that the highest export of demand is to South Norfolk at 40% of the total 14% of demand exported. Then 25% is exported to Forest Heath, with 19% exported to St Edmondsbury, 9% to Broadland. 5% to North Norfolk and the balance to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and Mid Suffolk.

9.28 So even with the option of a new and larger sports hall at Attleborough, there is still some Breckland demand for sports halls in 2031 which is located closer to the Wymondham sports halls sites than the Attleborough site, it is however small in scale at around 1 badminton court.

How much unmet demand for sports halls is there?

9.29 Unmet demand has two definitions, demand which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall and is then classified as unmet demand.

9.30 Unmet demand in 2016 equates to just over 6 badminton courts and is unchanged in 2031. In terms of the different types of unmet demand, the amount of demand outside catchment is by far the larger, it being between 70% - 71% of total unmet demand and just over 4 badminton courts.

9.31 Unmet demand outside catchment will always exist because it is not possible to get universal geographic coverage whereby all areas of an authority are inside the catchment area of a sports hall. This is especially true in an area with such a large land area as Breckland. The 20 minute drive time catchment is 20 minutes, for public transport it is 15 minutes and for walking it is 20 minutes/1mile.

9.32 The key finding is not that unmet demand from this definition exists but the scale and if it is concentrated in any one area? Unmet demand is highest in the periphery of the authority to the south and west of Breckland and the Forest Heath and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk boundaries, it totals between 1 – 2 badminton courts. Unmet demand because of lack of sports hall capacity represents around 2 badminton courts.

9.33 **How full are the sports halls?**

9.34 In 2016 and in 2031 with the new sports hall provision options, the used capacity of the sports halls is above the 80% sports halls full comfort level which is a Sport England measure. The range is 88% of capacity used in 2016 to 83% with the new sports hall in Dereham option. These are the authority wide findings and the estimated used capacity for each of the individual sports hall sites does vary.

9.35 The Breckland centre in Thetford, the Dereham Centre and then the new sports halls at Attleborough, Swaffham and Dereham are all at 100% of capacity used at the peak times. There are lower estimated used capacity at the education venues, with Dereham Neatherd High School at 27% and Wayland Academy at 22% of sports hall capacity used at peak times.

9.36 There are several reasons why the percentage of used capacity can vary and it is important to set these out and not just view the percentage figures. The reasons are:

- The amount of demand located in the catchment area of a sports hall, this will vary and impact on how well used any particular sports hall. This could be the explanation for the high used capacity at Thetford and at Attleborough. They are the areas of the authority with the highest demand for sports halls and there are no competing sports halls in the catchment area of these centres.

- The age and condition of the sports hall. Older sports halls have less appeal and if participants can access more modern sports halls with a sprung timber floor, high quality lighting and modern changing accommodation, then older venues can become a disincentive to participate, resulting in lower usage. This could explain the reasons for the lower estimated used capacity at the two education venues. They are the oldest sites with the Neatherd High School sports hall having opened in 1975 and was modernised in 2009. The Wayland Academy venue opened in 1960 and according to the data has not been modernised. Also the Wayland Academy site is also a smaller 3 court sports hall.

- The type of sports hall programme and also a programme that does or does not fit into the times residents can use it, so there is less of a draw. The education venues are only programmed and available for club use not public use. So this will reduce the potential usage of the centres and is likely to be another reason for the lower used capacities at these venues.

Overall summary

9.37 The evidence base work preceding the facilities planning model work (fpm) had identified a need for a replacement and larger sports hall in Attleborough, plus a replacement sports hall in Swaffham.

9.38 Based on the age of the current venues and the supply and demand findings, it was decided to model the impact of replacing these centres by 2020. The fpm findings do justify the provision of these new venues with a 6 badminton court sports hall in Attleborough and a 4 court sports hall in Swaffham.

9.39 The fpm work has also identified that the demand for sports halls by Breckland residents does exceed supply in 2016 and in 2031. This is based on the 2016 demand, the projected population growth, and the residential development up to 2031, all contributing to the increase in demand for sports halls. The provision option of a new 4 badminton court size sports hall in Dereham, located on an education site is supported by the fpm assessment.

9.40 Unmet demand for sports halls based on the catchment area of sports halls (and including sports halls in neighbouring authorities, where their catchment area extends into Breckland), means that unmet demand equates to around 6 badminton courts in both 2016 and in 2031. Of this total, 4 courts is created by demand located outside the catchment area of a sports halls and 2 courts from lack of sports hall capacity.

9.41 The unmet demand from lack of access is dispersed across the authority and is highest in the periphery of Breckland in the south and west of the authority but only between 1-2 badminton courts. The reminder is dispersed in low values across the authority. There is no one area of Breckland that has sufficient unmet demand from lack of access to consider further provision of sports hall sites to those that exist, or, have been modelled.

9.42 A modern supply of sports halls does have a “draw effect” and leads to more of the Breckland demand being retained inside the authority. This, along with the projected increase in demand from population growth is creating the projected high usage level of the sports halls.

Conclusions from the fpm assessment

9.43 Overall, the fpm assessment does support the need for the provision of replacement sports halls at Attleborough and Swaffham and with a larger sports hall at Attleborough by 2020. This is based on the demand now and the age of the existing venues which is limiting their potential to meet demand.

9.44 Furthermore, the fpm assessment does support the need for increased provision of a further community size four badminton court size sports hall in Dereham by 2031 and located on a school site. This is based on the projected increase in demand for sports halls up to 2031.

9.45 Modernisation of a sports hall in Watton will enhance the quality of the sports hall provision in the town. This could be either the Wayland Academy sports hall or the Watton Sports Centre sports hall. Finally, continued modernisation of the sports halls at Dereham Leisure Centre and the Breckland Leisure Centre in Thetford will be part of the Council's contract with the facility management company.

Appendix 1: Sports halls across the study area included in the assessment. Run 4 2031

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	% of Capacity Used	% of Capacity Not Used	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
BRECKLAND							**83%**	**17%**	**90%**	**3%**	**7%**
BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE AND WATERWORLD	Main	36 x 18	648	4	1974	2013	100%	0%	88%	2%	10%
DEREHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main		594	4	2007		100%	0%	87%	4%	9%
DEREHAM NEATHERD HIGH SCHOOL	Main		594	4	1975	2009	27%	73%	89%	4%	8%
NEW ATTLEBOROUGH SPORTS HALL	Main	34 x 27	932	6	2020		100%	0%	91%	3%	7%
NEW SPORTS HALL IN DEREHAM	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2031		100%	0%	91%	3%	6%
NEW SWAFFHAM SPORTS HALL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2020		100%	0%	93%	2%	5%
WAYLAND ACADEMY	Main	27 x 17	459	3	1960		55%	45%	90%	4%	7%
WAYLAND ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
BROADLAND							**73%**	**27%**	**86%**	**6%**	**8%**
AYLSHAM HIGH SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1960		54%	46%	92%	2%	6%
AYLSHAM HIGH SCHOOL	Main	27 x 18	486								
BOB CARTER CENTRE	Main		594	4	1979	2008	76%	24%	89%	5%	7%
HELLESDON HIGH SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2007		81%	19%	86%	9%	5%
HELLESDON HIGH SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
HELLESDON HIGH SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
LANGLEY PREPARATORY SCHOOL	Main		810	5	1980		69%	31%	79%	7%	14%
SPROWSTON SPORTS HALL & SWIMMING POOL	Main	33 x 17	561	4	1960		78%	22%	80%	6%	14%
SPROWSTON SPORTS HALL & SWIMMING POOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
TAVERHAM HALL PREPARATORY SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2009		42%	58%	95%	4%	2%
TAVERHAM HIGH SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2007		100%	0%	91%	3%	6%
KINGS LYNN & WEST NORFOLK							**77%**	**23%**	**87%**	**5%**	**8%**
DOWNHAM MARKET LEISURE CENTRE	Main	37 x 18	659	4	1994		100%	0%	94%	2%	4%
KING EDWARD VII ACADEMY	Main	33 x 17	561	4	1991		87%	13%	84%	6%	10%
KING EDWARD VII ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
KINGS LYNN ACADEMY	Main	33 x 17	561	4	1985	1995	56%	44%	84%	6%	10%
KINGS LYNN ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
LYNNSPORT & LEISURE PARK	Main	36 x 32	1152	8	1991	2002	82%	18%	85%	7%	9%
LYNNSPORT & LEISURE	Activity		37								

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	% of Capacity Used	% of Capacity Not Used	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
PARK	Hall										
SMITHDON HIGH SCHOOL	Main	27 x 17	459	3	1970	2006	60%	40%	91%	3%	6%
SMITHDON HIGH SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
ST CLEMENTS HIGH SCHOOL	Main	27 x 17	459	3	1980		100%	0%	87%	3%	11%
NORTH NORFOLK							**89%**	**11%**	**92%**	**3%**	**5%**
CROMER SPORTS CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1980	2005	91%	9%	88%	5%	7%
FAKENHAM SPORTS & FITNESS CENTRE	Main		594	4	2004		100%	0%	95%	2%	3%
GRESHAMS HIGH SCHOOL	Main	40 x 19	760	5	1960		78%	22%	94%	3%	3%
NORTH WALSHAM SPORTS CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1987	2008	91%	9%	90%	3%	7%
NORTH WALSHAM SPORTS CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
STALHAM SPORTS CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1980	2007	88%	12%	92%	2%	6%
SOUTH NORFOLK							48%	52%	89%	4%	7%
EASTON SPORTS & CONFERENCE CENTRE	Main	37 x 18	666	4	1998		31%	69%	91%	5%	4%
FRAMINGHAM EARL HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2005		69%	31%	93%	4%	3%
FRAMINGHAM EARL HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	Activity Hall		180								
FRAMINGHAM EARL HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	Activity Hall		180								
HETHERSETT ACADEMY	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1975	2006	27%	73%	85%	5%	10%
HETHERSETT ACADEMY	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153								
HETHERSETT OLD HALL SCHOOL	Main	33 x 17	561	4	1955		23%	77%	89%	4%	7%
HETHERSETT OLD HALL SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
HINGHAM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB	Main	27 x 18	486	3	1990	2004	46%	54%	90%	2%	7%
HOBART HIGH SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2006		94%	6%	86%	3%	12%
LANGLEY SCHOOL	Main	33 x 17	561	4	1946		25%	75%	96%	3%	1%
LONG STRATTON LEISURE CENTRE	Main	35 x 17	595	4	1983	2010	100%	0%	93%	1%	6%
WYMONDHAM COLLEGE	Main	33 x 17	561	4	1970	2001	26%	74%	89%	2%	9%
WYMONDHAM COLLEGE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
WYMONDHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 21	840	6	1992	2015	75%	25%	86%	4%	10%
YMCA (TROWSE)	Main		594	4	0		62%	38%	87%	8%	6%
FORSET HEATH							**100%**	**0%**	**91%**	**2%**	**7%**
BRANDON LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1991	2002	100%	0%	92%	2%	6%
DOME LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1984		100%	0%	95%	1%	3%
DOME LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall		180								

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	% of Capacity Used	% of Capacity Not Used	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
NEWMARKET LEISURE CENTRE	Main	32 x 18	576	4	2009		100%	0%	77%	3%	20%
NEWMARKET LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
MID SUFFOLK							**79%**	**21%**	**93%**	**2%**	**5%**
CLAYDON HIGH SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1960	2010	39%	61%	83%	4%	13%
DEBENHAM SPORTS AND LEISURE	Main	32 x 17	544	4	1988	2007	42%	58%	93%	2%	5%
FINBOROUGH SCHOOL	Main		594	4	2014		100%	0%	93%	3%	3%
HARTISMERE SPORTS CENTRE	Main		486	3	1981		94%	6%	98%	1%	1%
HARTISMERE SPORTS CENTRE	Activity Hall		324								
MID SUFFOLK LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1973	2001	100%	0%	86%	4%	10%
STOWUPLAND SPORTS CENTRE	Main		486	3	1975		90%	10%	91%	3%	5%
THURSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main		594	4	1974	2005	100%	0%	94%	2%	4%
WATTISHAM STATION	Main		486	3	2001		65%	35%	92%	2%	7%
St EDMONDSBURY							**66%**	**34%**	**86%**	**4%**	**10%**
BURY ST EDMUNDS COUNTY UPPER SCHOOL	Main	30 x 18	540	3	1960	2004	52%	48%	79%	5%	16%
BURY ST EDMUNDS COUNTY UPPER SCHOOL	Activity Hall		180								
CASTLE MANOR ACADEMY	Main	27 x 17	459	3	1975		44%	56%	79%	4%	18%
CASTLE MANOR ACADEMY	Activity Hall		180								
CASTLE MANOR ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
CULFORD SPORTS AND TENNIS CENTRE	Main	51 x 18	918	6	1992		41%	59%	95%	3%	2%
HAVERHILL LEISURE CENTRE	Main	45 x 18	810	5	1971	2015	81%	19%	84%	4%	12%
HAVERHILL LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153								
HAVERHILL LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153								
HOWARD MIDDLE SCHOOL	Main		486	3	1970	2012	51%	49%	74%	5%	21%
KING EDWARD VI CHURCH OF ENGLAND SPORTS COLLEGE	Main	33 x 17	561	4	1972	2005	66%	34%	85%	6%	10%
KING EDWARD VI CHURCH OF ENGLAND SPORTS COLLEGE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
KING EDWARD VI CHURCH OF ENGLAND SPORTS COLLEGE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
KING EDWARD VI CHURCH OF ENGLAND SPORTS COLLEGE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180								
MORETON HALL PREPARATORY SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1985		86%	14%	84%	4%	12%
RAF HONINGTON	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1995	2009	100%	0%	89%	1%	10%
SAMUEL WARD	Main		486	3	1978		42%	58%	88%	4%	9%

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	% of Capacity Used	% of Capacity Not Used	Car % Demand	Public Transport % Demand	Walk % Demand
ACADEMY											
SKYLINER SPORTS CENTRE	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2017		100%	0%	91%	3%	5%
STOUR VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL	Main	45 x 35	1575	3	1956	2011	94%	6%	91%	3%	6%

Appendix 2 – Model description, Inclusion Criteria and Model Parameters

Included within this appendix are the following:

- Model description
- Facility Inclusion Criteria
- Model Parameters

Model Description

1. Background

1.1 The Facilities Planning Model (FPM) is a computer-based supply/demand model, which has been developed by Edinburgh University in conjunction with sportscotland and Sport England since the 1980s.

1.2 The model is a tool to help to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities in an area. It is currently applicable for use in assessing the provision of sports halls, swimming pools, indoor bowls centres and artificial grass pitches.

2. Use of FPM

2.1 Sport England uses the FPM as one of its principal tools in helping to assess the strategic need for certain community sports facilities. The FPM has been developed as a means of:

- assessing requirements for different types of community sports facilities on a local, regional or national scale;
- helping local authorities to determine an adequate level of sports facility provision to meet their local needs;
- helping to identify strategic gaps in the provision of sports facilities; and
- comparing alternative options for planned provision, taking account of changes in demand and supply. This includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities, and the likely impact of population changes on the needs for sports facilities.

2.2 Its current use is limited to those sports facility types for which Sport England holds substantial demand data, i.e. swimming pools, sports halls, indoor bowls and artificial grass pitches.

2.3 The FPM has been used in the assessment of Lottery funding bids for community facilities, and as a principal planning tool to assist local authorities in planning for the provision of community sports facilities. For example, the FPM was used to help assess the impact of a 50m swimming pool development in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The Council invested £22 million in the sports and leisure complex around this pool and received funding of £2,025,000 from the London Development Agency and £1,500,000 from Sport England1.

[1] Award made in 2007/08 year.

3. How the model works

3.1 In its simplest form, the model seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport is capable of meeting local demand for that sport, taking into account how far people are prepared to travel to such a facility.

3.2 In order to do this, the model compares the number of facilities (supply) within an area, against the demand for that facility (demand) that the local population will produce, similar to other social gravity models.

3.3 To do this, the FPM works by converting both demand (in terms of people), and supply (facilities), into a single comparable unit. This unit is 'visits per week in the peak period' (VPWPP). Once converted, demand and supply can be compared.

3.4 The FPM uses a set of parameters to define how facilities are used and by whom. These parameters are primarily derived from a combination of data including actual user surveys from a range of sites across the country in areas of good supply, together with participation survey data. These surveys provide core information on the profile of users, such as, the age and gender of users, how often they visit, the distance travelled, duration of stay, and on the facilities themselves, such as, programming, peak times of use, and capacity of facilities.

3.5 This survey information is combined with other sources of data to provide a set of model parameters for each facility type. The original core user data for halls and pools comes from the National Halls and Pools survey undertaken in 1996. This data formed the basis for the National Benchmarking Service (NBS). For AGPs, the core data used comes from the user survey of AGPs carried out in 2005/6 jointly with Sportscotland.

3.6 User survey data from the NBS and other appropriate sources are used to update the models parameters on a regular basis. The parameters are set out at the end of the document, and the range of the main source data used by the model includes:

- National Halls & Pools survey data –Sport England
- Benchmarking Service User Survey data –Sport England
- UK 2000 Time Use Survey – ONS
- General Household Survey – ONS
- Scottish Omnibus Surveys – Sport Scotland
- Active People Survey - Sport England
- STP User Survey - Sport England & Sportscotland
- Football participation - The FA
- Young People & Sport in England – Sport England
- Hockey Fixture data - Fixtures Live
- Taking Part Survey – DCMS

4. Calculating Demand

4.1 This is calculated by applying the user information from the parameters, as referred to above, to the population2. This produces the number of visits for that facility that will be demanded by the population.

4.2 Depending on the age and gender make-up of the population, this will affect the number of visits an area will generate. In order to reflect the different population make-up of the country, the FPM calculates demand based on the smallest census groupings. These are Output Areas (OA)3.

4.3 The use of OAs in the calculation of demand ensures that the FPM is able to reflect and portray differences in demand in areas at the most sensitive level based on available census information. Each OA used is given a demand value in VPWPP by the FPM.

5. Calculating Supply Capacity

5.1 A facility's capacity varies depending on its size (i.e. size of pool, hall, pitch number), and how many hours the facility is available for use by the community.

5.2 The FPM calculates a facility's capacity by applying each of the capacity factors taken from the model parameters, such as the assumptions made as to how many 'visits' can be accommodated by the particular facility at any one time. Each facility is then given a capacity figure in VPWPP. (See parameters in Section C).

5.3 Based on travel time information4 taken from the user survey, the FPM then calculates how much demand would be met by the particular facility having regard to its capacity and how much demand is within the facility's catchment. The FPM includes an important feature of spatial interaction. This feature takes account of the location and capacity of all the facilities, having regard to their location and the size of demand and assesses whether the facilities are in the right place to meet the demand.

5.4 It is important to note that the FPM does not simply add up the total demand within an area, and compare that to the total supply within the same area. This approach would not take account of the spatial aspect of supply against demand in a particular area. For example, if an area had a total demand for 5 facilities, and there were currently 6 facilities within the area, it would be too simplistic to conclude that there was an oversupply of 1 facility, as this approach would not take account of whether the 5 facilities are in the correct location for local people to use them within that area. It might be that all the facilities were in one part of the borough, leaving other areas under provided. An assessment of this kind would not reflect the true picture of provision. The FPM is able to assess supply and demand within an area based on the needs of the population within that area.

5.5 In making calculations as to supply and demand, visits made to sports facilities are not artificially restricted or calculated by reference to administrative boundaries, such as local authority areas. Users are generally expected to use their closest facility. The FPM reflects this through analysing the location of demand against the location of facilities, allowing for cross boundary movement of

[2] For example, it is estimated that 7.72% of 16-24 year old males will demand to use an AGP, 1.67 times a week. This calculation is done separately for the 12 age/gender groupings.

[3] Census Output Areas (OA) are the smallest grouping of census population data, and provides the population information on which the FPM's demand parameters are applied. A demand figure can then be calculated for each OA based on the population profile. There are over 171,300 OAs in England. An OA has a target value of 125 households per OA.

[4] To reflect the fact that as distance to a facility increases, fewer visits are made, the FPM uses a travel time distance decay curve, where the majority of users travel up to 20 minutes. The FPM also takes account of the road network when calculating travel times. Car ownership levels, taken from Census data, are also taken into account when calculating how people will travel to facilities.

visits. For example, if a facility is on the boundary of a local authority, users will generally be expected to come from the population living close to the facility, but who may be in an adjoining authority.

6. Facility Attractiveness – for halls and pools only

6.1 Not all facilities are the same and users will find certain facilities more attractive to use than others. The model attempts to reflect this by introducing an attractiveness weighting factor, which effects the way visits are distributed between facilities. Attractiveness however, is very subjective. Currently weightings are only used for hall and pool modelling, with a similar approach for AGPs is being developed.

6.2 Attractiveness weightings are based on the following:

- Age/refurbishment weighting – pools & halls - the older a facility is, the less attractive it will be to users. It is recognised that this is a general assumption and that there may be examples where older facilities are more attractive than newly built ones due to excellent local management, programming and sports development. Additionally, the date of any significant refurbishment is also included within the weighting factor; however, the attractiveness is set lower than a new build of the same year. It is assumed that a refurbishment that is older than 20 years will have a minimal impact on the facilities attractiveness. The information on year built/refurbished is taken from Active Places. A graduated curve is used to allocate the attractiveness weighting by year. This curve levels off at around 1920 with a 20% weighting. The refurbishment weighting is slightly lower than the new built year equivalent.

- Management & ownership weighting – halls only - due to the large number of halls being provided by the education sector, an assumption is made that in general, these halls will not provide as balanced a program than halls run by LAs, trusts, etc, with school halls more likely to be used by teams and groups through block booking. A less balanced programme is assumed to be less attractive to a general, pay & play user, than a standard local authority leisure centre sports hall, with a wider range of activities on offer.

6.3 To reflect this, two weightings curves are used for education and non-education halls, a high weighted curve, and a lower weighted curve;

- High weighted curve - includes Non education management - better balanced programme, more attractive.

- Lower weighted curve - includes Educational owned & managed halls, less attractive.

6.4 Commercial facilities – halls and pools - whilst there are relatively few sports halls provided by the commercial sector, an additional weighing factor is incorporated within the model to reflect the cost element often associated with commercial facilities. For each population output area the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score is used to limit whether people will use commercial facilities. The assumption is that the higher the IMD score (less affluence) the less likely the population of the OA would choose to go to a commercial facility.

7. Comfort Factor – halls and pools

7.1 As part of the modelling process, each facility is given a maximum number of visits it can accommodate, based on its size, the number of hours it's available for community use and the 'at one time capacity' figure (pools =1 user /6m2 , halls = 6 users /court). This is gives each facility a "theoretical capacity".

7.2 If the facilities were full to their theoretical capacity then there would simply not be the space to undertake the activity comfortably. In addition, there is a need to take account of a range of activities taking place which have different numbers of users, for example, aqua aerobics will have significantly more participants, than lane swimming sessions. Additionally, there may be times and sessions that, whilst being within the peak period, are less busy and so will have fewer users.

7.3 To account of these factors the notion of a 'comfort factor' is applied within the model. For swimming pools 70%, and for sports halls 80%, of its theoretical capacity is considered as being the limit where the facility starts to become uncomfortably busy. (Currently, the comfort factor is NOT applied to AGPs due to the fact they are predominantly used by teams, which have a set number of players and so the notion of having 'less busy' pitch is not applicable.)

7.4 The comfort factor is used in two ways;

- Utilised Capacity - How well used is a facility? 'Utilised capacity' figures for facilities are often seen as being very low, 50-60%, however, this needs to be put into context with 70-80% comfort factor levels for pools and halls. The closer utilised capacity gets to the comfort factor level, the busier the facilities are becoming. You should not aim to have facilities operating at 100% of their theoretical capacity, as this would mean that every session throughout the peak period would be being used to its maximum capacity. This would be both unrealistic in operational terms and unattractive to users.

- Adequately meeting Unmet Demand – the comfort factor is also used to increase the amount of facilities that are needed to comfortably meet the unmet demand. If this comfort factor is not added, then any facilities provided will be operating at its maximum theoretical capacity, which is not desirable as a set out above.

8. Utilised Capacity (used capacity)

8.1 Following on from Comfort Factor section, here is more guidance on Utilised Capacity.

8.2 Utilised capacity refers to how much of facilities theoretical capacity is being used. This can, at first, appear to be unrealistically low, with area figures being in the 50-60% region. Without any further explanation, it would appear that facilities are half empty. The key point is not to see a facilities theoretical maximum capacity (100%) as being an optimum position. This, in practise, would mean that a facility would need to be completely full every hour it was open in the peak period. This would be both unrealistic from an operational perspective and undesirable from a user's perspective, as the facility would completely full.

8.3 For example:

A 25m, 4 lane pool has Theoretical capacity of 2260 per week, during 52 hour peak period.

	4-5pm	5-6pm	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm	Total Visits for the evening
Theoretical max capacity	44	44	44	44	44	44	264
Actual Usage	8	30	35	50	15	5	143

8.4 Usage of a pool will vary throughout the evening, with some sessions being busier than others though programming, such as, an aqua-aerobics session between 7-8pm, lane swimming between 8-9pm. Other sessions will be quieter, such as between 9-10pm. This pattern of use would give a total of 143 swims taking place. However, the pool's maximum capacity is 264 visits throughout the evening. In this instance the pools utilised capacity for the evening would be 54%.

8.5 As a guide, 70% utilised capacity is used to indicate that pools are becoming busy, and 80% for sports halls. This should be seen only as a guide to help flag up when facilities are becoming busier, rather than a 'hard threshold'.

9. Travel times Catchments

9.1 The model uses travel times to define facility catchments in terms of driving and walking.

9.2 The Ordnance Survey (OS) Integrated Transport Network (ITN) for roads has been used to calculate the off-peak drive times between facilities and the population, observing one-way and turn restrictions which apply, and taking into account delays at junctions and car parking. Each street in the network is assigned a speed for car travel based on the attributes of the road, such as the width of the road, and geographical location of the road, for example the density of properties along the street. These travel times have been derived through national survey work, and so are based on actual travel patterns of users. The road speeds used for Inner & Outer London Boroughs have been further enhanced by data from the Department of Transport.

9.3 The walking catchment uses the OS Urban Path Network to calculate travel times along paths and roads, excluding motorways and trunk roads. A standard walking speed of 3 mph is used for all journeys

9.4 The model includes three different modes of travel, by car, public transport & walking. Car access is also taken into account, in areas of lower access to a car, the model reduces the number of visits made by car, and increases those made on foot.

9.5 Overall, surveys have shown that the majority of visits made to swimming pools, sports halls and AGPs are made by car, with a significant minority of visits to pools and sports halls being made on foot.

Facility	Car	Walking	Public transport
Swimming Pool	76%	15%	9%
Sports Hall	77%	15%	8%
AGP			
Combined	83%	14%	3%
Football	79%	17%	3%
Hockey	96%	2%	2%

9.6 The model includes a distance decay function; where the further a user is from a facility, the less likely they will travel. The set out below is the survey data with the % of visits made within each of the travel times, which shows that almost 90% of all visits, both car borne or walking, are made within 20 minutes. Hence, 20 minutes is often used as a rule of thumb for catchments for sports halls and pools.

	Sport halls		Swimming Pools	
Minutes	Car	Walk	Car	Walk
0-10	62%	61%	58%	57%
10-20	29%	26%	32%	31%
20 -40	8%	11%	9%	11%