

**To: The Chairman and Members of the
Community and Environment Board
(Councillors May, L Dirveiks, Fox, Freer,
Gordon, Lewis, M Moss, Payne, Phillips,
Pickard, Sherratt, Smitten, Y Stanley, and
Wykes).**

For the information of other Members of the Council

For general enquiries please contact Jenny Price,
Democratic Services Officer, on 01827 719450 or
via e-mail jennyprice@northwarks.gov.uk.

For enquiries about specific reports please contact
the officer named in the reports.

The agenda and reports are available in large print
and electronic accessible formats if requested.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD AGENDA

4 October 2010

The Community and Environment Board will meet in The
Chamber, The Council House, South Street, Atherstone,
Warwickshire on Monday 4 October 2010, at 6.30pm.

AGENDA

- 1 Evacuation Procedure.**
- 2 Apologies for Absence / Members away on
official Council business.**
- 3 Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial
Interests** (Any personal interests arising from the
membership of Warwickshire County Council of
Councillors Fox and May and the various
Town/Parish Councils of Councillors Fox
(Shustoke), Freer (Atherstone), Lewis (Kingsbury),
M Moss (Kingsbury), Phillips (Kingsbury), Y
Stanley (Polesworth) Sherratt (Coleshill) and
Smitten (Polesworth) are deemed to be declared
at this meeting).

- 4 **Request for discussion of En Bloc items.**
- 5 **Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held on 21 June 2010** - copy herewith, to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

PART A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- 6 **Budgetary Control Report 2010/11 - Period Ended 31 August 2010 –**
Report of the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources)

Summary

The report covers revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April 2010 to 31 August 2010. The 2010/11 budget and the actual position for the period, compared with the estimate at that date, are given, together with an estimate of the out-turn position for services reporting to this Board.

The Contact Officer for this report is Nigel Lane (719371).

- 7 **Play Area Development Programme –** Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

This report sets out progress in respect of the implementation of the Play Area Development Programme, seeks authorisation for Officers to pursue potential alternative sources of funding for projects in Old Arley and Kingsbury and seeks approval to remove redundant play equipment in Polesworth.

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (719212).

- 8 **Draft North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy** - Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

Further to the resolution of the Board at its meeting held in June 2010 the draft North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy has been circulated to partners for further consultation and is now brought back to the Board for adoption.

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (719212).

- 9 **Allotments Development Programme** – Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

This report sets out progress in respect of the implementation of the Allotments Development Programme and seeks Members' approval to vary the support previously proposed for the development of allotments in Hurley.

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (01827 719212).

- 10 **Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge** – Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

The report informs Members of the opportunity for the Authority to take part in the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge.

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (01827 719212).

- 11 **Atherstone Leisure Complex – Redevelopment of Crèche Space** - Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

At its meeting held in June, the Board resolved to close the crèche at Atherstone Leisure Complex with effect from the end of December 2010. In so doing, Members also instructed officers to present costed proposals for viable alternative uses of the space released through closure of the crèche. This report details a specific development proposal for the consideration of the Board.

The Contact Officer for this report is Peter Wheaton (719257)

- 12 **Leisure Facilities - Bank Holiday Closures** - Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

This report seeks the Board's approval for the Bank Holiday closure of leisure facilities during 20011/12.

The Contact Officer for this report is Peter Wheaton (719257)

- 13 **Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April – June 2010** - Report of the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive

Summary

This report informs Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Community and Environment Board for April to June 2010.

The Contact Officer for this report is Robert Beggs (719238).

PART B – ITEMS FOR EN BLOC DECISIONS (YELLOW PAPERS)

- 14 **Council Response to the Griffin Report into the major outbreak of E. coli 0157 in 2009** – Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council

Summary

This report details the findings of the Griffin Report into the major outbreak of E. coli at a children's farm in Surrey in 2009 insofar as they relate to this Authority, the actions taken in response to this incident at the time of the outbreak and since the publication of the report. It also seeks the Board's approval to appoint the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council or in his absence the Environmental Health Manager, as the person responsible for managing the Authorities participation in outbreak control.

The Contact Officer for this report is Steve Whiles (719326).

- 15 **Leisure and Community Development Division – Divisional Service Plans** – Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

This report informs Members of the progress that has been made in respect of achieving the actions identified in the Leisure and Community Development Division's approved 2010/11 Service Plan.

The Contact Officer for this report is Simon Powell (719352).

- 16 **Sports Club Development Officer – Progress Report** - Report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)

Summary

The Sports Club Development Officer (SCDO) project is a three-year initiative funded by Sport England through its Community Investment Fund. The project will conclude in June 2012. This report highlights the progress made by the SCDO in the first year of the undertaking.

The Contact Officer for this report is Evan Ross (719270).

- 17 **Minutes of the Joint Environment and Well-being Portfolio Group meetings held 16 June and 1 September 2010** – copies herewith.

- 18 **Warwickshire Waste Seminar** – Report of the Assistant Director (Streetscape)

Summary

This report is to inform Members of the content of 'The Way Ahead for Warwickshire's Waste' meeting held on 6 September 2010 and also to confirm future attendance by officers and Members at subsequent meetings.

The Contact Officer for this report is Bernard Woodhall (715341 ext. 4376)

- 19 **National Review of Waste Policies** – Report of the Assistant Director (Streetscape)

Summary

This report seeks approval for the submission of a response from the Board to the 'Review of Waste Policies – Call for Evidence.

The Contact Officer for this report is Richard Dobbs (719440)

JERRY HUTCHINSON
Chief Executive

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD

21 June 2010

Present: Councillor May in the Chair

Councillors L Dirveiks, Fox, Freer, Lewis, Payne, Phillips, Pickard, Sherratt, Smitten and Wykes

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gordon, M Moss and Y Stanley.

1 Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests

Any personal interests arising from the membership of Warwickshire County Council of Councillors Fox and May and membership of the various Town/Parish Councils of Councillors Fox (Shustoke), Freer (Atherstone), Lewis and Phillips (Kingsbury), Sherratt (Coleshill), and Smitten (Polesworth) were deemed to be declared at the meeting.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2010, copies having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Budgetary Control Report 2010/11 Period Ended 31 May 2010

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on the expenditure and income from the period 1 April to 31 May 2010.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

4 Review of Cesspool Emptying Charges

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) sought approval to introduce an administration charge for cesspool emptying customers who had unscheduled emptying.

Resolved:

- a That a surcharge be introduced for customers who do not pay for the cesspool emptying service by direct debit; and**

- b That an update report be brought back to the Community and Environment Board in six months time.**

5 Funding Agreement with WRCC

The Director of Community and Environment sought approval for an interim Service Level Agreement to be negotiated with WRCC should the Board agree to award grant funding to this organisation in 2010/11.

Resolved:

- a That no grant funding be provided to WRCC in 2010/11 for work on Parish Planning, but that the relevant budget be retained to support this aspect of work, subject to determination of its use by the Board;**
- b That NWBC officers participate in a review being conducted by Warwickshire County Council during 2010 concerning commissioning Support Services for Rural Communities and Local Councils and a report be brought back to the Board on the implications for future services and funding support for WRCC.**

6 Play Area Development Programme – Evaluation of Phase One

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) reported on the background to Phase One of the Play Area Development Programme, the purpose of the evaluation requested by the Scrutiny Board, and detailed a summary of its findings and the lessons learnt.

Resolved:

That the draft Play Area Development Programme Phase One Evaluation Report be approved, circulated to partners and reported to the Scrutiny Board at its meeting to be held on 20 September 2010.

7 Draft North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) summarised the findings of an Outdoor Sports Assessment carried out by consultants and set out the objectives of the resultant draft Playing Pitch Strategy.

Resolved:

That the draft Playing Pitch Strategy be accepted, subject, where relevant, to the need to consider the provisions of the supporting Action and Funding Plan within the context provided by the Council's overall capital and revenue budget requirements, that the document be circulated to partners for further consultation and that it be brought back to the Board for adoption in October 2010.

8 Parks, Open Spaces and Horticultural Performance and Grounds Maintenance Service Review

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) updated the Board with regard to the annual benchmarking exercise for parks, open spaces and horticultural services and advised on the progress of the Grounds Maintenance Service Review.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2009 – March 2010

The Chief Executive and Director of Resources informed Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Board from April 2009 to March 2010.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Atherstone Leisure Complex – Replacement of Fitness Equipment

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) informed the Board of the action taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board, in respect of the procurement of replacement fitness equipment at Atherstone Leisure Complex.

Resolved:

That the action taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board, in respect of the procurement of replacement fitness equipment at Atherstone Leisure Complex, as identified in Section 4 of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be endorsed.

11 North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) provided an update on the revised role of the Environment Group following the restructure of the Community Partnership and how this new role would direct partnership working in order to help meet the aims and objectives of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy.

Resolved:

That the involvement of the Environment Theme Group in advancing the provisions of the Green Space Strategy be noted.

12 Free Swimming Programme

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) updated the Board on the first year of the Borough Council's involvement in the national two-year Free Swimming Programme, which commenced at Atherstone Swimming Pool on 1 April 2009, and reported on the Government's decision to withdraw grant support for the Programme with effect from 31 July 2010.

Resolved:

That, consequent upon the Government's decision to withdraw grant support for the Programme, charges be re-introduced with effect from 1 August 2010 for those people currently in receipt of free swimming through the national Free Swimming Programme, at the 2010/11 rates (£1.85 for those people aged 60 years and over, the same standard price (£1.85) for juniors (0 to 15 years) and £1.45 for junior @ctive card holders).

13 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

14 Recycling

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) set out a number of initiatives and schemes which had been introduced over the last twelve months as part of the Council's ongoing commitment to improve its recycling services. Approval was also sought for proposed changes to the Council's Kerbside Recycling Contract.

Resolved:

- a That the schemes and initiatives introduced over the last twelve months be noted; and**
- b That the changes to the current Kerbside Recycling Contract, as set out in Paragraph 3.2 of the report of the Assistant Director (Streetscape) be endorsed and adopted.**

15 **Atherstone Leisure Complex Crèche**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) detailed the additional promotional work that had been undertaken in order to encourage enhanced levels of awareness and use of the crèche at Atherstone Leisure Complex. The Board was asked to agree a suggested course of action.

Resolved:

- a That, given the continued declining use being made of the facility, the crèche at Atherstone Leisure Complex be closed at the end of December 2010, commensurate with the need to negotiate appropriate arrangements with the staff thus affected; and**
- b That officers present costed proposals for potential alternative uses of the space released through closure of the crèche to the next meeting of the Board.**

M MAY
Chairman

Agenda Item No 6

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the Assistant Director
(Finance and Human Resources)**

**Budgetary Control Report 2010/11
Period Ended 31 August 2010**

1 Summary

- 1.1 The report covers revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April 2010 to 31 August 2010. The 2010/11 budget and the actual position for the period, compared with the estimate at that date, are given, together with an estimate of the out-turn position for services reporting to this Board.

Recommendation to the Board

That the report be noted and that the Board requests any further information it feels would assist it in monitoring the budgets under the Board's control.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 Both Councillors' Bowden and Butcher have been consulted regarding this report. Any comments received will be reported verbally to the Board.

3 Report

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.2 Under the Best Value Accounting Code of Practice (BVACOP), services should be charged with the total cost of providing the service, which not only includes costs and income directly incurred, but also support costs relating to such areas as finance, office accommodation, telephone costs and IT services. The figures contained within this report are calculated on this basis.

4 Overall Position

- 4.1 The actual expenditure for budgets reporting to this Board as at 31 August 2010 is £2,157,576 compared with a profiled budgetary position of £2,205,155; an under spend of £47,579 for the period. Appendix A to this report provides details of the profiled and actual position for each service reporting to this Board, together with the variance for the period.

...

4.2 The position of the DSO budgets within the control of this Board (Refuse Collection, Amenity Cleaning, Rapid Response and Grounds Maintenance) is included in the client budgets, detailed in this report. However, Appendix B shows the DSO accounts in detail.

4.3 Where possible, the year-to-date budget figures have been calculated with some allowance for seasonal variations, in order to give a better comparison with actual figures. Reasons for the variations are given, where appropriate, in more detail below:

4.4 **Leisure Centres**

4.4.1 Employee related expenditure is currently £7,823 under profile, however the cover costs for the summer period have yet to be paid and this will have an impact in September's payroll.

4.4.2 Income at Coleshill Leisure centre is currently £16,308 under profile. A fall in the number of users attending the fitness suite has resulted in a shortfall of £9,241 compared to the budgeted profile. Adaptations to the suite is hoped to increase membership and retention. Work is also being undertaken to review the fitness classes offered by the centre.

4.4.3 DD memberships and pay and play visitor numbers have increased significantly at Polesworth Sports Centre and the recent refurbishment can be credited with the main reason for this. Currently income at the gym is £8,125 over what is profiled.

4.4.4 Adult swims and junior lessons continue to be popular at Atherstone Leisure Complex and the combined income is currently £6,468 over profile.

4.5 **Trade Refuse Collection**

4.5.1 Trade waste income is currently £ 8,558 under profiled budget. This is mainly due to the current economic downturn reducing the number of customers and a lower frequency of collections. The vast majority of income is received at the start of the year in advance of the service being provided so it is unlikely that this situation will change significantly between now and the end of the year. This is partially offset by a reduction of £1,266 in collection costs relating to the DSO.

4.6 **Cesspool Emptying**

4.6.1 Transport maintenance costs are currently £3,147 under budget due to lower than expected maintenance costs.

4.7 **Recycling**

4.7.1 The current overspend relates to employee costs of £12,700 and transport maintenance costs of £4,300 due to additional tonnages collected to date. Some compensation for additional costs is expected from Warwickshire

County Council. This is partially offset by reductions in the costs of the Kerbside Collection payments of £2,780.

4.8 Amenity Cleaning

- 4.8.1 The underspend within Amenity Cleaning is due solely to the recharge from the DSO, which is explained in 5.1.

4.9 Parks and Playing Fields and Open Spaces

- 4.9.1 The bulk of the variation in this cost centre relates to the grounds maintenance DSO. This is further explained in section 5.1.

4.10 Play Areas

- 4.10.1 Spend not currently required for maintenance of play areas has been earmarked for the Playbuilders Scheme but has been put on hold temporarily due to the recent government review on the scheme. Further details are contained in a separate report on this agenda.

4.11 Corporate Policy

- 4.11.1 There is a general under spend on grants paid out to various bodies currently on this budget. A recent payment to Warwickshire Domestic Violence Support Services of £3943 has been made in September which will bring the overall expenditure more in line with the profile.

4.12 Rural Regeneration

- 4.12.1 There is an under spend on this budget as grants to Warwickshire Rural Community Council and Warwickshire Investment Partnership have not been made to date.

5 Direct Service Organisation (DSO) budgets

- 5.1 Details of the Refuse Collection, Amenity Cleaning, Rapid Response and Grounds Maintenance budgets are attached at Appendix B.
- 5.2 The Refuse budget shows an over spend within employee costs due to additional collection costs. Some compensation for additional costs is expected from Warwickshire County Council. This has been offset by reductions in vehicle maintenance costs and clothing budgets.
- 5.3 The Amenity Cleaning budget shows an under spend within employee costs due to vacancies, which are partially covered by agency staff. This budget is subject to a certain amount of seasonality so this situation may change as the year progresses but will be closely monitored.
- 5.4 The Grounds Maintenance budget shows an under spend of £30,002 of which £11,472 is within employee costs due to vacancies, which are partially

covered by agency staff. There is also a reduction in transport maintenance and fuel costs to date, amounting to £ 6,904 whilst income to date is ahead of budget by £10,891.

6 Performance Indicators

6.1 In addition to the financial information provided to this Board, when the budgets were set in February, some performance indicators were included as a means of putting into context the financial position. These are shown at Appendix C.

6.2 The costs per visit at the Leisure centres appear on target apart from in the case of Coleshill and the Memorial Hall which are higher than the current profile. The reason for this is that visits to the sites overall are lower than that of the profile. However visits are up on previous years in relation to DD members for which there is no additional cash received other than the monthly subscription. This will continue to be closely monitored throughout the year.

6.3 The cost of maintenance per play area is lower than the profile (see paragraph 4.10). In addition to this, the service is still waiting on the assessments of three play areas which will determine whether they are DDA compliant, or whether they will require further maintenance.

7 Risks to the Budget

7.1 A number of key risks to the budgetary position of the Council from services under the control of this Board were identified when the budget was set in February. These are summarised below.

- Reduction or cessation of grants expected.
- Sustained economic downturn leading to reduced membership and usage at facilities
- Reduced demand for cesspool emptying and trade refuse services.
- Maintenance issues on unadopted roads for which there is minimal budget provision.
- Dealing with Contaminated Land issues.

8 Estimated Out-turn

8.1 Members have requested that Budgetary Control Reports provide details on the likely out-turn position for each of the services reporting to this Board. The anticipated out-turn for this Board for 2010/2011 is £5,603,460 as detailed in the table below:-

	£
Approved budget 2010/11	5,594,960
Potential reduction in trade refuse income	8,500
Expected Outturn 2010/11	5,603,460

- 8.2 The figures provided above are based on information available at this time of the year and are the best available estimates for this Board, and may change as the financial year progresses. Members will be updated in future reports of any changes to the forecast out turn.

9 Report Implications

9.1 Financial and Value for Money Implications

- 9.1.1 The Council's budgeted contribution to General Fund balances for the 2010/2011 financial year is £17,310. The current expected contribution to balances for 2010/11 is £77,190, an increase of £59,880 from expected reductions in Board expenditure elsewhere. Income and Expenditure will continue to be closely managed and any issues that arise will be reported to this Board for comment.

9.2 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 9.2.1 The Council has to ensure that it adopts and implements robust and comprehensive budgetary monitoring and control to ensure not only the availability of services within the current financial year, but in future years.

The Contact Officer for this report is Nigel Lane (719371).

**North Warwickshire Borough Council
Community & Environment Board
Budgetary Control Report 2010/11 as at 31 August 2010**

Description	Approved Budget 2010/11	Profiled Budget August 2010/11	Actual August 2010	Variance	Comments
Pitches and Pavilions	102,410	39,904	40,355	451	
Polesworth Sports Centre	176,270	64,117	67,039	2,922	see paragraph 4.4
Polesworth Hi Tech	(28,210)	(9,762)	(17,887)	(8,125)	see paragraph 4.4
Arley Sports Centre	215,200	91,468	91,090	(378)	
Coleshill Sports Centre	292,660	125,384	132,840	7,456	see paragraph 4.4
Coleshill Hi Tech	(77,970)	(33,669)	(29,335)	4,334	see paragraph 4.4
Atherstone Sports Centre	657,030	274,638	266,557	(8,081)	see paragraph 4.4
Atherstone Hi Tec	(144,710)	(59,356)	(60,245)	(889)	see paragraph 4.4
Memorial Hall	124,470	53,730	56,489	2,759	
Memorial Hall - Bar	1,020	355	854	499	
Public Health	455,040	175,107	173,688	(1,419)	
Domestic Refuse Collection	1,026,200	385,623	386,548	925	
Trade Refuse Collection	(15,250)	(45,997)	(38,988)	7,009	see paragraph 4.5
Cesspool Emptying	(4,510)	(17,053)	(20,200)	(3,147)	see paragraph 4.6
Recycling	434,870	182,611	197,695	15,084	see paragraph 4.7
Animal Control	83,170	34,018	31,445	(2,573)	
Abandoned Vehicles	10,260	4,158	4,050	(108)	
Amenity Cleaning	736,280	272,588	266,569	(6,019)	see paragraph 4.8
Unadopted Roads	13,850	4,431	3,754	(676)	
Drain Unblocking	57,560	21,266	21,203	(63)	
Street Furniture	14,840	5,861	5,923	62	
Atherstone Market	10,380	6,159	6,161	2	
Parks Playing Fields	446,080	222,562	192,127	(30,435)	see paragraph 4.9
Play Areas	206,940	79,019	65,173	(13,846)	see paragraph 4.10
Public Hlth Burials	2,930	1,192	1,192	0	
Sustainable Communities	2,790	0	63	63	
Consultation	46,150	12,212	12,372	159	
Corporate Policy	66,340	26,783	22,658	(4,125)	see paragraph 4.11
Rural Regeneration	58,370	22,090	18,711	(3,379)	see paragraph 4.12
Vital Villages	0	0	0	0	
Landscape	10,690	9,544	9,333	(211)	
Marketing & Mkt Research	16,470	6,733	6,679	(54)	
Support to Voluntary Organisations	155,730	46,822	45,203	(1,619)	
Young People and Intergeneration	77,150	30,136	31,201	1,065	
Environment	60,780	25,070	24,901	(169)	
Social Incl & Art	34,900	14,524	13,760	(764)	
Social Incl & Sport	68,410	35,179	34,723	(456)	
Health Improvement	55,040	25,127	26,083	956	
Safer Communities	90,910	37,857	36,350	(1,507)	
Activities 4 U	3,010	4,117	3,908	(208)	
Allotments Improvements	30,890	8,770	7,381	(1,389)	
Smoke Free Organisation Grant	50	21	21	0	
Community Award Scheme	5,000	2,083	1,010	(1,073)	
More Time 2 Play Lighting	950	396	381	(15)	
SuppClub DevOff Programme	6,050	12,635	12,040	(595)	
Street Name Plates	8,470	6,701	6,701	0	
Community and Environment Board TOTAL	5,594,960	2,205,155	2,157,576	(47,579)	

North Warwickshire Borough Council
Community & Environment Board - DSO Budgets
Budgetary Control Report 2010/11 as at 31 August 2010

	Orig Budget 2010/11	Profiled Budget August	Actual August	Variance
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Refuse DSO

Employees	455,630	183,570	188,861	5,291
Supplies & Services	14,910	3,226	1,722	(1,504)
Transport	288,830	112,234	108,576	(3,658)
Central Support	43,630	18,179	17,950	(229)
Miscellaneous	1,230	492	458	(34)
Capital	173,770	65,408	65,408	0
Income	(978,000)	(419,049)	(419,338)	(289)
Surplus (-) / Deficit	0	(35,940)	(36,363)	(423)

Amenity Cleaning DSO

Employees	283,560	114,029	107,491	(6,538)
Supplies & Services	58,520	24,681	24,596	(85)
Transport	45,170	17,050	17,657	607
Central Support	56,260	23,442	23,262	(180)
Capital	24,560	10,233	10,233	0
Income	(467,410)	(200,840)	(194,351)	6,489
Surplus (-) / Deficit	660	(11,405)	(11,112)	293

Grounds Maintenance General

Employees	303,020	117,477	106,005	(11,472)
Supplies & Services	23,230	12,671	12,051	(620)
Transport	68,800	35,555	28,651	(6,904)
Central Support	62,340	25,975	25,810	(165)
Miscellaneous	180	75	125	50
Capital	27,210	11,337	11,337	0
Income	(484,370)	(225,596)	(236,487)	(10,891)
Surplus (-) / Deficit	410	(22,506)	(52,508)	(30,002)

Rapid Response

Employees	55,520	21,436	20,581	(855)
Supplies & Services	1,100	452	330	(122)
Transport	9,410	3,796	2,953	(843)
Central Support	13,790	5,746	5,716	(30)
Capital	1,770	738	738	0
Income	(81,500)	(34,481)	(33,555)	926
Surplus (-) / Deficit	90	(2,314)	(3,237)	(924)

Key Performance Indicators for Budgets Reporting to the Community and Environment Board

Performance as at 31 August 2010

	Budgeted Performance	Profiled Budgeted Performance	Actual Performance to Date
Pitches and Pavilions			
Number of Pitches	20	20	20
Number of Teams	31	31	28
Number of Hirers	26	26	22
Income per team	£394.52	£359.03	£325.40
Costs per pitch	£5,120.50	£2,020.10	£2,017.76
Polesworth Sports Centre			
Cost Per Visit	£4.60	£4.37	£4.89
Income Per Visit	£2.50	£2.48	£2.96
Subsidy Per Visit	£2.10	£1.90	£1.93
Arley Sports Centre			
Cost Per Visit	£6.78	£6.85	£5.27
Income Per Visit	£2.02	£2.02	£1.49
Subsidy Per Visit	£4.76	£4.83	£3.78
Coleshill Leisure Centre			
Cost Per Visit	£4.27	£4.39	£5.66
Income Per Visit	£2.50	£2.49	£2.85
Subsidy Per Visit	£1.77	£1.90	£2.81
Atherstone Leisure Complex			
Budgeted Cost Per Visit	£4.78	£4.90	£5.24
Budgeted Income Per Visit	£2.31	£2.37	£2.64
Budgeted Subsidy Per Visit	£2.47	£2.53	£2.60
Memorial Hall			
Budgeted Cost Per Visit	£3.69	£3.95	£7.36
Budgeted Income Per Visit	£1.10	£1.16	£1.51
Budgeted Subsidy Per Visit	£2.59	£2.79	£5.85
Refuse Collection - Domestic			
Costs Per Household	£40.19	£16.51	£15.26
Max missed collections per 100,000 users	20	20	29
Expected customer satisfaction levels	94%	94%	94%
Missed collections rectified within 24 hours	95%	95%	88%
Refuse Collection - Trade			
Gross cost per bin collected	£322.27	£74.06	£74.80
Net cost per bin collected	-£24.72	-£215.23	-£190.19
Cespool Emptying			
Gross cost per emptying	£65.60	£65.60	**
Net surplus per emptying	-£1.61	-£1.61	**
Recycling			
Cost per household	£17.11	£7.13	£7.71
Tonnes of recycle material collected - green waste	6,500	2,708	2,922
tonnes of recycled material collected - red box	2,450	1,021	972
% of waste recycled	30% +	30% +	34%
Amenity Cleaning			
Litter	6%	6%	1%
Detritus	10%	10%	9%
Graffiti	1%	1%	0%
Fly Posting	0%	0%	0%
Drain Unblocking Service			
No. of drains unblocked	487	203	181
Cost per blockage	£118.01	£116.16	£135.03
Play Areas			
Cost of maintenance per play area	£4,177.10	£1,544.52	£899.60
No. of play areas meeting the safety, DDA and Play Value standard	23 / 31	23 / 31	20/30

**Information is not available as returns have yet to be completed

Agenda Item No 7

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Play Area Development
Programme**

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out progress in respect of the implementation of the Play Area Development Programme, seeks authorisation for officers to pursue potential alternative sources of funding for projects in Old Arley and Kingsbury and seeks approval to remove redundant play equipment in Polesworth.

Recommendation to the Board

- a That progress in respect of the Play Area Development Programme be noted and approved;**
- b That officers be authorised to pursue potential alternative sources of funding pending the outcome of the Government's review of the Playbuilder programme; and**
- c That the proposal to remove redundant play equipment at Sunset Close, Polesworth, following the circulation of information to local residents, be approved, subject to there being no adverse reaction from the immediate catchment community.**

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Safer Communities, Health, Well-being and Leisure, Environment, Community Life and Resources, together with all appropriate Ward Members, have had the opportunity to comment on the content of this report.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 A progress report on the Play Area Development Programme was presented to the Board at its meeting held in March 2010. The latest position in respect of the Development Programme is summarised in the Action Plan

... attached at Appendix A. The Action Plan provides for the development of play facilities in the Borough within the context of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy (2008/18) and the North Warwickshire Play Strategy (2007/12), which together provide the framework guiding work in this area of activity.

- 3.2 As previously reported, the first phase of the Play Area Development Programme has been completed. This report, therefore, provides a brief update with regard to delivery of the relevant priorities of the Green Space Strategy and then concentrates more fully on progress in respect of Phase 2 of the Programme.

4 Delivery of the Strategic Priorities of The North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy

- 4.1 Within the Green Space Strategy there are three strategic priorities in respect of Children and Young people. They are:

- SP013 – Develop a Play Area Business Plan to enable us to ensure that all of our built play facilities offer good play value, meet current safety standards, are accessible, are secured by design and support the objectives of the North Warwickshire Play Strategy
- SP014 – Support the development of a strategic network of play facilities across the Borough and assist other providers to deliver improvements through partnership working
- SP015 – Explore opportunities to include natural, wildplay areas when developing individual site management plans

- 4.2 In respect of SP013 the first step in the process to develop a Business Plan, an evaluation of the first phase of the Play Area Development Programme, has been completed and was reported to this Board in June 2010. The evaluation report is now subject to consultation with partners, following which it will be presented to Scrutiny Board in December 2010.

- 4.3 In respect of SP014 work with parish councils to provide improved facilities in Baddesley Ensor, Kingsbury and Fillongley is detailed in sections 5 and 6 below. Additionally, the Leisure and Community Development Division hosted a parish play event in March 2010 exploring new approaches to play provision and effective community engagement. The event was both well-attended and well-received by town and parish councils and it is hoped to hold a further occasion, focusing on risk in play, within the next few weeks.

- 4.4 In respect of SP015 the designs for the Phase 2 schemes, detailed in sections 5 and 6 below, have incorporated more elements of “natural play” than the schemes delivered in Phase 1. In accordance with this strategic priority, it is anticipated that the natural play theme will be further developed in the future through the broader management plans proposed for a number of recreation sites in the Borough.

5 Play Area Development Programme Phase 2 – Playbuilder Projects

- 5.1 As previously reported, the Authority had been allocated £203,125 through the previous Government's Playbuilder Programme, which it had elected should be divided equally to fund the redevelopment of play facilities at its sites in Ridge Lane, Old Arley and Sycamore Road, Kingsbury, and the parish council site in Speedwell Lane, Baddesley Ensor. The funding was to be made available over the two financial years 2009/10 and 2010/11.
- 5.2 Installation of the new play areas at Ridge Lane and Baddesley Ensor, to designs informed by consultation with the local communities, has now been completed with funding from the 2009/10 grant allocation. Whilst the Authority's intention was that half of its allocated funding should be directed to these two projects, Warwickshire County Council, which is administering the scheme locally, has split the funding unevenly over the two years. Consequently there is currently a shortfall on the external funding received against these schemes, as detailed in paragraph 7.1 below.
- 5.3 Consultation exercises have been completed with the communities in Old Arley and around Sycamore Road in Kingsbury and designs and specifications have been prepared for the proposed new play areas in these areas. It had been hoped that installation work would now be underway. As Members will be aware, however, the coalition Government has frozen the 2010/11 funding pending a review of the Playbuilder programme. The County Council had expected to be informed of the outcome of the review by the end of August 2010 but, as yet, no decision has been forthcoming.
- 5.4 This Authority is now placed in a difficult position, not of its own making, whereby expectations have been raised in local communities, especially with children, young people and their families, that much-needed and long-awaited improved play facilities will be installed. Should the Government's decision be to withdraw the offer of funding, officers would propose to seek other external sources of grant aid to enable the schemes to go ahead, albeit to a delayed timetable.
- 5.5 The most likely source of such funding will be from the Landfill Communities Fund, although opportunities to apply for this support will be dependent on securing "third party funding". It is also likely that any such application will be viewed more favourably if submitted with match funding towards actual project costs in place. The Authority is not in a position to allocate capital funding to these projects. As has been the practice when implementing previous play area projects, however, complementary works have been planned for these sites to be funded through existing revenue budgets. These works include such items as new roadside boundary fencing and hardsurfacing at the Kingsbury site and refurbishment of the skate area at Old Arley, together with new site furniture, such as seating and litterbins. It is proposed that these revenue costs be put forward as match funding in bids for grants of £50,000 for each site. There may still be a slight shortfall on funding, which could be met from the reserves in the existing Grounds Maintenance and Green Space

Fund. Details of costs are set out in more detail in paragraph 7.1 below.

- 5.6 In order to avoid further delay in progressing the proposed schemes, the Board is requested to authorise Officers to pursue alternative funding sources whilst awaiting the outcome of the Government's review of the Playbuilder programme.

6 Play Area Development Programme Phase 2 – Additional Projects

- 6.1 Community consultation will be undertaken shortly to determine whether or not there is support for the retention of the play area at Warwick Drive in Atherstone subsequent to the development of the new facility in Royal Meadow Drive

Recreation Ground. In pursuance of a resolution of this Board, once the outcome of the consultation is known discussions will be held with Atherstone Town Council regarding the future management of this site, together with that at Minions Close.

- 6.2 Preliminary discussions have been held with representatives of Ansley Parish Council regarding the use of the money held in reserve for a second phase of work at Bretts Hall in Ansley Common. Ongoing concern regarding community safety issues in the area of the recreation ground militate against providing junior / toddler facilities on this site. The Borough Council has no other land available in the village that would be a suitable location for such facilities. The Parish Council, therefore, is exploring whether any other appropriate opportunities may be available.
- 6.3 Kingsbury Parish Council has received a definite offer of £50,000 from the Landfill Communities Fund, through WREN, for the project to install new facilities at its Church Lane Recreation Ground. This Authority provided the necessary third party funding from its Green Space Strategy Fund to draw down the grant. As a consequence, implementation of the scheme is expected to commence by the end of October 2010.
- 6.4 Assistance has also been provided to Fillongley Parish Council, through the Green Space Strategy Fund, to appoint consultants to develop proposals for improved play facilities at its recreation ground. Consultation on outline proposals has been undertaken by the Parish Council and the results are being used to inform the further development of the plans for the site.
- 6.5 The Borough Council owns a small open space at Sunset Close in Polesworth upon which, at some point in time, a very limited amount of play equipment was installed, presumably as a condition of planning consent for the adjacent residential development. The site is shown in the photograph and plan attached at Appendix B. As can be seen, the equipment is unusable and of no play value. As identified in the adopted Play Strategy, this is not the type of provision that the Authority would seek to make available now, not least because the site is too small for any meaningful development and too secluded for the necessary level of informal supervision. Alternative, and

better, play facilities are available in the town at Abbey Green Park and the recreation ground at Station Road.

- 6.6 Officers recommend that the equipment at Sunset Close should be removed and the area reinstated as informal open space. The views of Ward Members, the Parish Council and Planning Officers have been sought. Ward Members would like to know local feeling on the matter and the Parish Council would like residents to be consulted but has offered no formal view of its own. The Head of Development Control and the Forward Planning Manager have no objection to the removal of the equipment. Members of the Environment and Health, Well-being and Leisure Portfolio Groups have also been consulted and support the proposed removal and would like to see the area retained as open space. In practice, it is difficult to consult on this matter, given that there is no purpose in retaining the existing equipment and that the site is not appropriate for any form of replacement provision. It is suggested, therefore, that the equipment is removed, but only after residents have been informed of the intention to do so. No action will be taken prior to further consideration by Ward Members and this Board in the event of an adverse reaction from the immediate catchment community.

7 Report Implications

7.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 7.1.1 The redevelopment of play facilities at Ridge Lane and Baddesley Ensor has cost £101,530, of which £95,489 has been reimbursed through the Playbuilder programme. It was expected that the shortfall would be made good from the 2010/11 allocation but this is now dependent on the outcome of the Government review. Officers will pursue the County Council for the shortfall in funding. Members should be aware, however, that it may be necessary to source the residual sum from its own resources.
- 7.1.2 The capital work to redevelop the play facilities at Old Arley and Sycamore Road, Kingsbury, is expected to cost £102,530 and has been planned on the assumption that it would be funded by the Playbuilder programme. Pending the outcome of the Government review, it is proposed that potential alternative sources of grant aid of £50,000 for each site, together with opportunities to secure any necessary third party funding, be identified. The shortfall of £2,530 could be found from earmarked reserves for green space improvements currently held in the Grounds Maintenance and Green Space Fund.
- 7.1.3 The removal of old equipment and the complementary improvement works to the sites at Old Arley and Sycamore Road, Kingsbury, are expected to cost £54,210 and can be funded from the existing revenue budget and earmarked reserves. Should it be necessary to seek alternative funding for the capital projects, it is proposed that these revenue costs be put forward as match funding.
- 7.1.4 £8,360 remains in hand in the capital programme for further works at Bretts

Hall in Ansley Common.

7.1.5 The Green Space Strategy Fund has provided £5,500 in third party funding for the project at the parish council site in Church Lane, Kingsbury, and a further £10,000 has been allocated for the development of a management plan, including improved play provision, at the recreation ground in Fillongley.

7.1.6 The costs of the proposed removal of the redundant equipment at Sunset Close, Polesworth, and the reinstatement of the site as informal open space can be met from the existing revenue budget.

7.2 Safer Communities Implications

7.2.1 Appropriately designed and located play facilities for children and young people provide constructive alternatives to anti-social and/or criminal behaviour. Improving the quality and accessibility of play areas also helps to reduce the likelihood of disorder within the community.

7.3 Legal and Human Rights Implications

7.3.1 Newly installed play areas comply with the requirements of all appropriate legislation and with recommended European safety standards.

7.4 Environment and Sustainability Implications

7.4.1 The provision of opportunities for constructive activity within communities enhances local cohesion, social inclusion and individual and collective quality of life. It has a positive impact on the creation of sustainable communities, within which people feel safe, healthy and valued.

7.5 Risk Management Implications

7.5.1 The risk management implications of the Play Area Development Programme have been addressed in previous reports to Board. However, older play areas are becoming of increasing concern as they fail to meet current standards of provision. The risk implications will be revisited during the process of preparing a Play Area Business Plan.

7.6 Equalities Implications

7.6.1 The equalities implications of the Play Area Development Programme have been addressed in previous reports to Board.

7.7 Links to Council's Priorities

7.7.1 The implementation of the Play Area Development Programme contributes directly to the corporate priorities to:

- Enhance community involvement and access to services
- Protect and improve our environment

- Tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens
- Work with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Make best use of our resources

7.7.2 The implementation of the Play Area Development Programme contributes directly to the priorities of the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy to:

- Raise aspirations, educational attainment and skills
- Develop healthier communities
- Improve access to services

7.7.3 The Play Area Development Programme also directly delivers against priorities set out in the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy and the North Warwickshire Play Strategy.

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (719212).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)	Report to Community and Environment Board (Play Area Development Programme)	March 2010
2	Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)	Report to Community and Environment Board (Play Area Development Programme – Evaluation of Phase 1)	June 2010

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
DELIVERY AGAINST THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF THE NORTH WARWICKSHIRE GREEN SPACE STRATEGY					
In accordance with key priority SP013 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy ensure all Borough Council play facilities offer good play value, meet current safety standards, are accessible, are secured by design and support the objectives of the North Warwickshire Play Strategy	Develop a Play Area Business Plan to determine the action to be taken at those Borough Council play areas still awaiting improvement	March 2011	Staff time	LM	To be informed by the post project evaluation (see below)
	Establish a play area replacement fund to replace equipment at Borough Council sites in the long-term	On-going	Revenue budget - £3000 per play area per annum	LM / AD(L&CD)	Fund established with annual payments from the revenue budget
	Ensure all Borough Council play areas are subject to routine inspection and maintenance and to annual independent inspections	On-going	Staff time, revenue budget	LM	Staff training undertaken Inspection and maintenance schedules in place Annual independent inspections completed May 2010 Risk assessment has identified a need for improved inspection system and more responsive maintenance

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
DELIVERY AGAINST THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF THE NORTH WARWICKSHIRE GREEN SPACE STRATEGY <i>continued.....</i>					
In accordance with key priority SP014 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy support the development of a strategic network of play facilities across the Borough and assist other providers to deliver improvements through partnership working	Where appropriate include other providers' sites in the Play Area Development Programme	Ongoing	Staff time External funding Revenue budget	LM	Parish Council sites at Baddesley Ensor, Kingsbury and Fillongley included in Phase 2 of the programme, details set out below
	Facilitate an event for other providers to raise awareness of current thinking on the provision of outdoor play opportunities	March 2010	Staff time Revenue funding	PDM	Event held in March 2010, second event planned for autumn 2010
PHASE 1 SCHEMES					
Piccadilly Recreation Ground Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities & new teen facilities Coleshill Cole End Park / Coleshill Memorial Park Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities / teen kickabout Austrey Hollybank Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities Polesworth Abbey Green Park Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities & new teen facilities Ansley Common Bretts Hall Phase 1 Provision of new teen facilities					All Complete

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
PHASE 1 SCHEMES <i>continued</i>					
Corley Church Lane Provision of extra equipment to increase play value for juniors / toddlers Hurley Brick Kiln Lane Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities & new teen facilities Wood End Johnson Street Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities & new teen facilities Water Orton George Road Provision of fencing and extension to hard surface Hartshill Snowhill Recreation Ground (Parish Council) Provision of junior / toddler & teen facilities Hartshill Grange Road Recreation Ground and Moorwood Estate Removal of existing equipment Mancetter Recreation Ground Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities & new teen facilities Dordon Kitwood Avenue Recreation Ground Provision of additional junior / toddler facilities Atherstone Royal Meadow Drive Provision of family play facility Atherstone St George's Road Removal of inappropriately sited play facility					All complete

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
PHASE 2 SCHEMES					
Atherstone Minions Close					
Transfer to Atherstone Town Council	Implement remedial groundworks and install replacement fencing				Complete
	Negotiate formal Agreement with ATC	April 2010	Staff time	LM / Legal	To be progressed
Atherstone Warwick Drive					
Transfer to Atherstone Town Council or removal of facility	Community-based consultation to determine retention or otherwise of the facility	Spring 2010	Staff time	LM / PDM	To be progressed
Ansley Common Bretts Hall Phase 2					
Provision of further play facilities in conjunction with improvements to the recreation ground and adjacent allotment site	Community-based consultation and feasibility study	Summer 2010	Staff time	LM / PDM	Community safety concerns militate against further development on this site. Discussions with Parish Council in progress to identify possible alternatives

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
Kingsbury Church Lane Recreation Ground (Parish Council)					
Support Kingsbury Parish Council to provide new play facilities at the recreation ground, in accordance with key priority AP020 of the Green Space Strategy	Scoping meetings with Parish Council	June and July 2008	Staff time	LM / PDM	Complete
	Preliminary site meeting with Hags Play Ltd to consider feasibility	August 2008	Staff time	LM	Complete
	Planning meetings with Parish Council	October and November 2008	Staff time	LM	Ongoing
	Community based consultation	January 2009	Staff & Volunteer time	PC	Complete
	Design and Specification	February 2009	Staff time	Hags Play / LM	Complete
	Fundraising	Commencing March 2009	Staff & Volunteer time	PC	£5,500 allocated from Green Space Strategy Fund In principle offer of £50,000 from WREN
	Installation	To be confirmed	£60,000 External funding	AW / KPC	Awaiting contract from WREN

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
Ridge Lane Recreation Ground					
Provide new play facilities at the recreation ground in accordance with key priority AP31 of the Green Space Strategy	Include in the submission to the Warwickshire Playbuilder Programme	July 2009	Staff time	LM	Complete
	Community based consultation	January 2010	Staff time	PDM / Wicksteed	Complete
	Preparation of design, specification and costings	January 2010	Staff time	Wicksteed / LM	Complete
	Removal of old equipment and installation of new facilities on site	March 2010	External funding - £50,780 Revenue budget - £5495	Wicksteed / LM	Complete
Baddesley Ensor Recreation Ground (Parish Council)					
Support the Parish Council to provide new / additional play facilities in accordance with key priority AP44 of the Green Space Strategy	Include in the submission to the Warwickshire Playbuilder Programme	July 2009	Staff time	LM	Complete
	Community based consultation	January 2010	Staff time	PDM / Wicksteed	Complete
	Preparation of design, specification and costings	January 2010	Staff time	Wicksteed / PDM	Complete
	Removal of old equipment and installation of new facilities on site	March 2010	External funding - £50,780	Wicksteed / PDM	Complete

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
Old Arley Recreation Ground					
Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities & new teen facilities	Include in the submission to the Warwickshire Playbuilder Programme	July 2009	Staff time	LM	Business plan submitted to WCC
	Community based consultation		Staff time	JD / Wicksteed	Complete
	Preparation of design, specification and costings		Staff time	Wicksteed / LM	Complete
	Removal of old equipment and installation of new facilities on site		External funding - £50,780 Revenue budget - £5000	Wicksteed / LM	On hold pending Government decision on funding
Kingsbury Sycamore Road Recreation Ground					
Provision of replacement junior / toddler facilities & new teen facilities in accordance with key priority AP19 of the Green Space Strategy	Include in the submission to the Warwickshire Playbuilder Programme	July 2009	Staff time	LM	Business plan submitted to WCC
	Community based consultation		Staff time	PDM / Wicksteed	Complete
	Preparation of design, specification and costings		Staff time	Wicksteed / LM	Complete
	Removal of old equipment and installation of new facilities on site		External funding - £50,780 Revenue budget - £5000	Wicksteed / LM	On hold pending Government decision on funding

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
Fillongley Church Lane Recreation Ground (Parish Council)					
Support Fillongley Parish Council to provide new play facilities at the recreation ground, in accordance with key priority AP047 of the Green Space Strategy	Recommend allocation of Green Space Strategy Funding to Fillongley Parish Council at Area Forum meeting	January 2010	£10,000 revenue budget	LM	Funding agreed at Area Forum
	Meet the Parish Council to determine a way forward	February 2010	Staff time	LM	Consultants engaged to develop proposals for new play provision
Polesworth Sunset Close					
Removal of redundant equipment and reinstatement of open space	Recommendation to Community and Environment Board	October 2010	Staff time	LM	Report to C. and E. Board October 2010
PROJECT MANAGEMENT					
Ensure effective delivery of and accountability for the Play Area Development Programme	Carry out post project evaluation of the delivery of Play Area Development Programme Phase 1 Schemes	April 2010	Staff time	AD (L&CD) / LM / PDM	Final evaluation report to be presented to Scrutiny Board in December 2010

Lead Officer: Simon Powell

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resource	Responsible Officer	Progress
PROJECT MANAGEMENT <i>continued</i> ...					
	Hold regular progress meetings	On-going	Staff time	LM / PDM	On-going
	Monitor revenue budget	On-going	Staff time	LM	Monthly finance reports in place
	Monitor capital budget	On-going	Staff time	LM	Monthly finance reports in place
	Report to Members	Ongoing	Staff time	AD(L&CD) / LM	Report to be presented to C. & E. Board in October 2010

AD (L&CD) – Assistant Director (Leisure & Community Development Division) LM – Landscape Manager PDM – Partnership & Development Manager



Sunset Close play area is located in the open space shown next to the flag.

The larger open space at the top of the map is Abbey Green Park



Redundant equipment at Sunset Close – note hedges and fences enclosing the area, restricting sightlines.

Agenda Item No 8

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Draft North Warwickshire
Playing Pitch Strategy**

1 Summary

- 1.1 Further to the resolution of the Board at its meeting held in June 2010 the draft North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy has been circulated to partners for further consultation and is now brought back to the Board for adoption.

Recommendation to the Board

That the North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy 2010 to 2020 be adopted subject, where relevant, to the need to consider the provisions of the supporting Action and Funding Plan within the context provided by the Council's overall capital and revenue budgetary requirements.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Safer Communities, Health, Well-being and Leisure, Environment, Community Life and Resources, have had the opportunity to comment on the content of this report.

3 Playing Pitch Strategy

- 3.1 At its meeting held in June 2010, the Board received a report detailing the preparation of an Outdoor Sports Assessment and draft Playing Pitch Strategy for North Warwickshire. At that meeting, it was resolved that the draft Playing Pitch Strategy be accepted and circulated to partners for further consultation and that it then be brought back to the Board for adoption, subject to consideration of any comments received through the consultation process.
- 3.2 The consultation has now been completed, in respect of which further comments have been received from:
- Sport England

- The Football Association
- The Rugby Football Union
- Austrey Parish Council
- Ansley Parish Council
- Polesworth Community Association

...

3.3 In response to the comments received, some amendments have been made to the draft Strategy, as highlighted in the document attached at Appendix A. In the main these amendments reflect changes in Government policy with regard to future schools development and changes to potential funding streams. There are otherwise no substantive changes to the draft document.

3.4 Members are now requested to approve the adoption of the North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy 2010 to 2020, subject, where relevant, to the need to consider the provisions of the supporting Action and Funding Plan within the context provided by the Council's overall capital and revenue budgetary requirements.

4 **Report Implications**

4.1 **Finance and Value for Money Implications**

4.1.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising out of this report.

4.1.2 Implementation of the Action and Funding Plan supporting the Playing Pitch Strategy will be subject to the need to consider its provisions within the context provided by the Council's overall capital and revenue budgetary requirements.

4.1.3 Opportunities will be sought to maximise external funding towards individual projects through grant funding, section 106 agreements and partnership working. It is worthy of note, however, that it is becoming increasingly difficult to access external financial support within the current economic climate, both as potential funding streams are removed and competition increases for the remaining resource opportunities.

4.1.4 Any new financial implications for the Authority arising from the implementation of proposed projects will be addressed through the normal budget setting process.

4.2 **Safer Communities Implications**

4.2.1 Appropriately designed and located outdoor sports facilities provide opportunities for positive activity and help to reduce the likelihood of disorder within the community.

4.3 **Legal and Human Rights Implications**

4.3.1 Any future projects implemented to advance the priorities of the Playing Pitch strategy will comply with all relevant legislation.

4.4 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 4.4.1 The provision of opportunities for constructive activities within communities enhances local cohesion, social inclusion and individual and collective quality of life. It also impacts positively upon the creation of sustainable communities, within which people feel safe, healthy and valued.
- 4.4.2 Well-managed outdoor sports facilities contribute positively to the quality of the local environment. The Playing Pitch Strategy offers the opportunity to address issues such as energy efficiency when providing improved ancillary facilities.

4.5 Risk Management Implications

- 4.5.1 The risk management implications of the Playing Pitch Strategy were addressed in the previous report to Board.

4.6 Equalities Implications

- 4.6.1 The equalities implications of the Playing Pitch Strategy were addressed in the report presented to Board in June 2010.

4.7 Links to Council's Priorities

- 4.7.1 The implementation of the Playing Pitch Strategy will contribute directly to the corporate priorities to:
- Enhance community involvement and access to services
 - Protect and improve our environment
 - Tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens
 - Work with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Make best use of our resources
- 4.7.2 The implementation of the Playing Pitch Strategy will also contribute directly to the priorities of the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy to:
- Raise aspirations, educational attainment and skills
 - Develop healthier communities
 - Improve access to services
- 4.7.3 Further, the implementation of the Playing Pitch Strategy will directly deliver priorities set out in the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (719212).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)	Report to Community and Environment Board (Draft North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy)	June 2010



Appendix A

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE DRAFT PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

MAY 2010

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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T 0161 764 7040 ◀ F 0161 764 7490 ◀ E mail@knp.co.uk ◀ www.knp.co.uk



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026

Quality assurance	Name	Date
Report origination	Claire Fallon	24.05.10
Quality control	Helen Jones	27.05.10
Final approval	Claire Fallon	14.06.10

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

CONTENTS

PART 1: INTRODUCTION	5
PART 2: SUMMARY OF ISSUES FROM ASSESSMENT REPORT	7
PART 3: A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS.....	10
PART 4: OBJECTIVES.....	12
PART 5: FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVEMENTS.....	14
PART 6: SPORT SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES.....	32
PART 7: ACTION AND FUNDING PLAN	35
PART 8: FUNDING PLAN	52
PART 9: SETTING PLAYING PITCH STANDARDS	56
PART 10: MONITORING AND REVIEW	65
PART 11: CONCLUSIONS.....	66
APPENDICES	67

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy commissioned by North Warwickshire Borough Council (NWBC). It provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitches, outdoor sports facilities and ancillary facilities between 2010 and 2021. This Strategy will be capable of:

- ✦ Providing a clear investment strategy for outdoor sports facility provision within the local authority area.
- ✦ Providing a clear framework for all outdoor sports facility providers, including the public, private and third sectors.
- ✦ Clearly addressing the needs of all identified sports within the local area, picking up particular local demand issues.
- ✦ Addressing issues of population growth, and or major growth/regeneration areas up to 2021.
- ✦ Addressing issues of cross boundary provision.
- ✦ Addressing issues of accessibility, quality and management with regard to facility provision.
- ✦ Standing up to scrutiny at a public inquiry as a robust study.
- ✦ Providing realistic aspirations which are implementable within the local authority's budgetary position and procurement regime.

The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch and outdoor sports facility provision and usage within the Borough and it provides:

- ✦ A strategic framework for improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch and outdoor sports facility stock in the Borough.
- ✦ A strategic vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities (including ancillary facilities) in North Warwickshire.
- ✦ Robust evidence to support work on the North Warwickshire Local Development Framework.

The Strategy recommends a number of priority projects for the Borough, which should be implemented from 2010 to 2021. It should be recognised that the Strategy is outlined to provide a framework and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, partners and possible sources of external funding have been identified. There is a need to build key partnerships with schools, community clubs, town and parish councils and private landowners to maintain and improve playing pitch and outdoor sports facility provision. In these instances the potential for the Council to take a strategic lead is more limited (except in terms of Section 106 Agreements). This document provides clarity about the way forward, and allows the Council to focus on key issues that it can directly influence and achieve.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

National context

The provision of an accessible range of community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

Sport England Strategy

Sport England has recently clarified its primary role; to grow, sustain and excel participation in community sport. Its ambition is to get more people playing and enjoying sport and to help those with talent get to the very top. It seeks to achieve this through working closely with national governing bodies of sport and building strong partnerships with local authorities.

The strategy commits Sport England to deliver on a series of demanding targets by 2012/13:

- ❖ One million people doing more sport.
- ❖ A 25% reduction in the number of 16-18 year olds who drop out of five key sports.
- ❖ Improved talent development systems in at least 25 sports.
- ❖ A measurable increase in people's satisfaction with their experience.
- ❖ A major contribution to the delivery of the five hour sports offer for children and young people.

Game Plan

Game Plan is the Government's strategy for sport and physical activity through to 2020. It was published in December 2002 and presents a vision for England to become the most active and successful sporting nation in the world. It sets an ambitious target of encouraging 70% of the UK's population to lead an active life by 2020 and for Sport England to increase participation 1% year on year.

A key premise of Game Plan is that participation levels need to be raised for the whole population, but that interventions should focus upon economically disadvantaged groups and within those, especially on young people, women and older people. For young people, a linked aim is to develop 'physical literacy' (i.e., ability across a range of skills). It also identifies the relevance and the importance of locally available facilities.

Playing to Win

'Playing to Win' is the Government's plan to get more people taking up sport simply for the love of sport; to expand the pool of talented English sportsmen and women; and to break records, win medals and win tournaments for this country.

The vision is to give more people of all ages the opportunity to participate in high quality competitive sport. To deliver this vision, there is a need to develop an integrated and sustainable sporting system which will nurture and develop sporting talent, underpinned by a high quality club and competition structure.

PART 2: SUMMARY OF ISSUES FROM ASSESSMENT REPORT

This section summarises the key issues identified in the Assessment Report. The Strategy has been developed in recognition of the consultation findings whilst drawing upon a core series of objectives which should be applied across the board and should not be attributed to any one particular type of facility.

Football

- There are 63 football pitches available for community use in North Warwickshire, accommodating 154 teams (including senior, junior and mini). In addition, there are c16 pitches not currently available for community use, the majority of which are on school sites.
- Consultation strongly suggests that there is a current shortfall of junior and mini pitches. This is further reflected in the supply and demand analysis, which highlights an oversupply of senior football pitches but a shortfall of junior and mini pitches. The overall deficit of junior and mini pitches is most pronounced in the Area Forum North area. This is likely to be due to the number of sites suffering from overplay, and the large number of junior teams in the area which use senior pitches in the area.
- In total, 12 sites are said to be overplayed (comprising 13 senior, one junior and three mini pitches), to an equivalent of 11 matches per week across the Borough.
- Specifically, Polesworth Station Road, North Warwickshire Sports & Social Club and Newton Regis Playing Fields have the greatest levels of overplay. Most overplay is attributed to junior teams being assigned to a particular site and that particular site not containing formal marked out pitches of that size.
- Consultation suggests that there is an increasing need for investment in ancillary facilities. The majority of users commented on poor quality changing facilities across the Borough. Clubs identify that a lack of good quality changing is a concern in terms of attracting junior players and retaining adult players.
- There is also a lack of changing facilities across the Borough, in particular regarding the lack of separate changing areas for males and females, which could in the future, inhibit the growth of junior/mini football.
- Six clubs express latent demand: this equates to an additional requirement of one and a half senior and six and a half junior pitches.
- There are no astro turf pitches available in the Borough and as such this presents an undersupply of training pitches for football, to some extent this may be resulting in some grass pitches being overplayed. Public tennis courts are currently used in the area for football training. *Addition*

Cricket

- There are 14 cricket pitches available for community use in North Warwickshire, accommodating 103 teams (including senior and junior). In addition, there are two school pitches which are not currently available for community use.
- It would appear that through analysis of play, a large number of pitches are currently operating beyond capacity due to the large number of junior and senior teams in the area.
- The audit of pitches identifies a total of 16 senior cricket pitches, of which 14 were found to be good quality. Queen Elizabeth School is assessed as poor quality.
- Users generally highlight cricket pitch quality in the Borough to be good. However, a small number of clubs suggest litter and evidence of dog fouling can be an issue.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ A number of clubs in the Borough have access to training nets at their homeground. Clubs tend to access indoor provision at the Midlands Cricket Centre, Nuneaton. Although this site is located outside of the assessment area, this is considered by WCB, to be within an acceptable distance to travel.
- ◀ Latent demand is expressed by three clubs; Water Orton, Coleshill and Atherstone Town which equates to the need for an additional 2.5 cricket pitches.
- ◀ The supply and demand analysis highlights a deficiency in cricket pitch provision at peak time (midweek) in all areas.
- ◀ The high levels of pitch deficiency expressed can be explained, in part, by the large number of junior teams allocated to cricket pitches in North Warwickshire. Future deficiency is still predicted, however, this could be slightly reduced by increasing access to education sites.
- ◀ There will still be a need to seek additional pitches to accommodate predicted future growth and the likely need for some clubs to have access to second pitches (some of which is expressed through the latent demand).

Rugby

- ◀ There are 11 pitches in North Warwickshire and four clubs are active in the area and play on pitches provided at privately owned sports clubs, and by lease/rental agreement, in the larger settlements within North Warwickshire
- ◀ There are no dedicated junior or mini rugby pitches provided in North Warwickshire. Juniors/minis tend to play either across senior pitches or on areas marked out with cones. This creates significant overlap, as in order to account for junior/mini teams, they are allocated to the site.
- ◀ The ownership and maintenance varies between the Clubs and there are some issues due to ground sharing and seasonal cross over with cricket
- ◀ In general, clubs in North Warwickshire report that membership levels have either increased, or stayed the same.
- ◀ Three sites are currently being played beyond their capacity: Royal Meadow Drive (KKP ref 23), Spartans RFC (KKP ref 35) and Old Saltleians RFC (KKP ref 38), which will be detrimentally affecting the quality of the site.
- ◀ There is anticipated to be a surplus of senior pitches in North Warwickshire, but a deficiency in both junior and mini pitches. The deficit of junior and mini pitches can be equated for in the surplus of senior pitches, as the majority of juniors will be playing on senior sized pitches.

Bowls

- ◀ There are 10 bowling greens, six flat lawn and four crown, accommodating a total of 55 teams.
- ◀ NWBC own one site; Abbey Green Park in Polesworth. The remaining greens are either privately owned or leased.
- ◀ Clubs generally do not believe that increasing the number of bowling greens in the area would increase club membership. However, users report demand for additional provision in Atherstone to accommodate latent demand.
- ◀ Site assessments scored sites as either good or excellent. No sites received a poor score. However, Baddesley Colliery, report its home green is of slightly poorer quality since last season.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- Analysis of club membership indicates that nearly half of clubs report senior membership has remained static over the last three years. Clubs that are seeking to increase membership suggest any increase can be accommodated on existing provision.

Tennis

- There are 30 tennis courts in North Warwickshire and five tennis clubs. The level of provision and size varies between each club and site.
- Coleshill TC specifies demand for an additional court. There is also some opportunity, if required, to floodlight courts to create additional capacity at Water Orton and Curdworth tennis clubs in the future.
- Although public provision is generally underused for casual use, it is recommended this type of provision forms an intrinsic feature to many public recreation grounds and provides opportunities for casual participation, which may otherwise not be captured.
- Public courts in the area are also used for football training, resulting in the quality of provision to be reduced and them seldom available for casual tennis.

Hockey

- There are no full size synthetic turf pitches (STPs) in North Warwickshire. There is one grass hockey pitch located at Queen Elizabeth School, Atherstone (QE).
- Atherstone Adders Hockey Club is the only hockey club in the Borough. It plays its matches at William Bradford Community College, Leicester and trains at Belgrave High School, Tamworth (both sites are located outside the local authority area).
- There is no schools hockey league at present in the Borough. It is likely that the provision of a STP will help to raise the profile of the Sport within local schools and enable a schools hockey league. The provision of a STP at Queen Elizabeth School will satisfy levels of current demand in the Borough.
- The provision of a STP at Queen Elizabeth School will satisfy levels of demand. It is anticipated that it will be primarily used by Atherstone Adders Hockey Club and the School.

Education

- There are 36 playing pitches (including all types), 24 tennis courts and 10 netball courts at schools in North Warwickshire.
- Community use varies according to individual school circumstance
- In the majority of instances, where pitches are available and in use, access to school changing accommodation is limited or non-existent.
- Quality of changing provision at secondary schools is generally of old stock and in need of modernisation.
- The quality and quantity of sports facilities (pitch and non pitch) at school sites varies across the Borough.

PART 3: A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Introduction

The following section provides a framework for NWBC and its partners to maintain and improve the playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities across the Borough. The overall vision in North Warwickshire is to achieve an increase in participation in sport and physical activity in line with regional and national targets and aspirations. In order to achieve this, it is vital that the Strategy, emerging from the Assessment Report, provides all stakeholders in the Borough with an opportunity to deal with the issues inside a clear, yet achievable, framework.

The Strategy will also respond to other drivers including the Sustainable Community Strategy, sports development objectives and as appropriate, City Academies programme (likely to replace Building Schools for the Future). *Amendment to reflect change in Government policy*

Vision

The proposed vision for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities (including ancillary facilities) in North Warwickshire is that:

'By 2021 North Warwickshire will have a range of high quality outdoor sports facilities across the Borough which offer increased opportunities for all to participate in both formal and informal sport, thereby enhancing the quality of life and health of its residents and communities.'

The vision takes account of and draws upon the Council's corporate priorities (09/10) with the aim "of the Council being recognised for providing high quality services to its communities, through listening, learning and leading with openness."

The Council states seven corporate priorities in working to achieve its aim:

- ✦ Enhancing community involvement and access to services.
- ✦ Improving housing in the Borough by delivering more affordable housing and achieving the Decent Homes Standard for our own stock.
- ✦ Protecting and improving our environment.
- ✦ Defending and improving our countryside and rural heritage.
- ✦ Tackling health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all our citizens.
- ✦ Working with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- ✦ Making best use of resources through achieving a balanced budget and developing our workforce.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The Sustainable Community Strategy is the over-arching framework for all key services in the Borough covering the period 2009 to 2026. The Strategy has been developed in close collaboration with the emerging Local Development Framework (Core Strategy) which will guide future land use and spatial planning in the area and other key strategies such as housing, community safety, health, economic and cultural strategies. Therefore, it is important that this Strategy also recognises the vision of the Sustainable Community Strategy which aims for North Warwickshire to be:

‘A place where people want to live, work and visit, now and in the future, which meets the diverse needs of existing and future residents, is sensitive to the local environment, and contributes to a high quality of life. A place which is safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run, and offers equality of opportunity and good services for all’

It also sets out three key priorities for improving the overall quality of life in North Warwickshire from 2009 to 2021. These are:

- ◀ Raising aspirations, educational attainment and skills.
- ◀ Developing healthier communities.
- ◀ Improving access to services.

PART 4: OBJECTIVES

The following objectives have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and evaluation. They reflect key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

The proposed vision is based upon a clear, achievable framework of strategic objectives (within boxed text which should be adopted as policy) which will be supported by a range of management objectives (set out below the strategic objective). The management objectives will need to be implemented to enable the strategic objectives to be delivered.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

To address quantitative deficiencies (current, future and latent) and plan for new provision (as and where required).

Management objectives

- a. Adopt minimum levels of provision for each area which are accessible and sustainable and are commensurate with supporting future demand.
- b. Rectify identified deficiencies in provision through improvements to the current pitch stock and ancillary facilities. For example, consider a programme of re-designating a proportion of the surplus adult pitches for other sports with an identified shortfall (e.g. junior football and mini-soccer), where another solution has not been identified (i.e. access to additional provision).
- c. Increase the capacity of sites through either redirecting play to sites with spare capacity or by increasing pitch quality.
- d. Use the findings of the Strategy to provide an evidence base for the Local Development Framework to secure new provision from new development in the Borough.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

To address qualitative deficiencies and enhance existing provision to support high levels of participation (within a prioritised provision hierarchy).

Management objectives

- e. Rectify identified qualitative inadequacies through prioritised improvements to the current pitch stock and ancillary facilities.
- f. Adopt a Borough wide quality standard.
- g. Adopt a tiered hierarchy of provision to prioritise the management and improvement of facilities within a phased approach and include ancillary facilities such as changing accommodation and car parking.
- h. Secure developer contributions wherever possible to improve the quality of existing outdoor playing fields in the Borough. Establish an approach to securing developer contributions which prioritises projects according to a range of core criteria (e.g. strategic need, sports development objectives, sustainability of provision and work with target groups).
- i. Regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity).

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

To maximise access to all outdoor facilities across the Borough.

Management objectives

- j. Work in partnership with local schools to maintain, improve and ensure effective community use of school facilities.
- k. Secure long term tenure and access to sites across the Borough for high quality, development minded clubs (i.e. Clubmark/Charter Standard Status), through lease arrangements.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

To support the development of local sports clubs to meet their needs within the Borough.

Management objectives

- l. Support high levels of participation at clubs which contribute to the achievement of sports development objectives.
- m. Work with local clubs which have achieved quality accreditation to, where relevant, identify and secure facility improvements, appropriate sites for new facility development and funding opportunities.

PART 5: FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVEMENTS

This section of the Strategy provides (where relevant) guidance and recommendations which will enable NWBC and its partners to implement the specific management objectives detailed above.

Management objective (a) *Adopt minimum levels of provision for each area which are accessible and sustainable and are commensurate to supporting future demand.*

In order to achieve the management objectives set out within the strategic objectives, it is vital that NWBC has a clear understanding of the surpluses and deficiencies on an area by area basis both now and in the future.

Deficiencies in the supply of playing pitches are expressed in a variety of circumstances, which include:

- ◀ An overall shortage of pitches.
- ◀ And/or when existing pitch(es) cannot accommodate existing demand, particularly at peak periods.
- ◀ As a result of poor quality facilities which do not offer sufficient capacity.

It is important that some surpluses (i.e. spare capacity) are built into the pitch provision, and indeed all outdoor sports facilities across the Borough, as an integral aspect of allowing rest and rotation of pitches and also ensuring that pitches are available for training purposes as well as to support informal play.

Recommendations identify the need for additional provision, by analysis area, as identified through the Playing Pitch Model for the future (2021). It is important that the recommendations for pitches are placed within the wider context of demand and housing development and consider facility development which may be feasible in the long-term, as well as where the latent demand/pressure for additional pitches both now and in the future has been identified. The identified deficiencies can be addressed through a range of actions including improvements to the current pitch stock and re-aligning a proportion of the existing pitch stock i.e. changing some senior pitches to junior pitches. Demand for junior provision should be updated in three years (i.e. 2013) to further quantify it in terms of provision required. It is important that the Strategy also recognises the long term need for senior pitches as juniors progress into senior football, cricket and rugby.

Identified surpluses and deficiencies must be considered within the context of other findings within the report including:

- ◀ Variable community use of school pitches which can contribute to the overall pitches stock.
- ◀ The number of sites which are currently not operating at capacity.
- ◀ Sites which have fallen out of use.
- ◀ The potential to re-align the pitch stock i.e. surplus adult pitches could be re-marked as junior pitches. However it is important to note that adult pitches should not be lost completely and levels should also be maintained to support future requirements (i.e. as junior teams progress to adult football) and to ensure capacity at peak usage time is retained.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

To ensure that there is an element of future-proofing in-built into the Strategy future scenarios have been modelled based on population increases up to 2021. Whilst making accurate predictions is very difficult and demand can change with lifestyle changes and demographic changes vary significantly over a period as short as 11 years, the scenarios for the future show, with some certainty that the pressure on junior football and mini-soccer pitches, junior rugby and mini-rugby will increase.

It is also important, particularly in planning future provision that surpluses and deficiencies are understood on an area by area basis especially given the very different issues which face the areas. For example, in the rural areas provision tends to remain constant as there are fewer changes to the overall population, however, growth areas such as Atherstone are likely to experience significant housing growth and hence the pressure for new facilities in these areas is likely to be greater. Although the Council is a lead partner in pitch provision, it should support the needs of all sporting clubs and bodies to work together to make the recommendations of this strategy a reality.

The following tables provide a summary of the surpluses and deficiencies (for playing pitches) identified at present and the future levels in 2021. The supporting commentary suggests how such issues can be tackled.

East Forum

Pitch type	Key issues	Proposed action
Senior football	Surplus of 3 senior football pitches by 2021. Current overplay of one match per week. It is likely that there will be further adult football pitch pressures in this area as future TGRs predict the creation of one additional senior team.	At least two adult football pitches in this area should be retained to accommodate overplay identified at Snowhill Recreation Ground and future increase in teams.
Junior football	Deficiency of 3 junior football pitches by 2021.	The undersupply of junior football pitches could be met by increasing the use of various sites in the area which have spare capacity e.g. Queen Elizabeth School.
Mini-soccer	Deficiency of 3 mini football pitches by 2021.	The undersupply of mini football pitches could be met through the re-designation of one senior football pitch.
Cricket	Deficiency of 2.5 pitches by 2021. The deficiency is brought about by the high number of teams playing within the analysis area.	It is vital that current sites are protected. The undersupply of pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including increasing community use of school sites.
Rugby	Slight surplus of adult pitches (0.9) can be accounted for in slight deficiency of junior pitches (0.5).	In the long-term it is likely that additional pitches will be needed to accommodate any increase in demand at Atherston RFC. There is room to accommodate additional pitches at Royal Meadow Drive and NWBC should support any development plans.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

North Forum

Pitch type	Key issues	Proposed action
Senior football	<p>Surplus of 6.5 senior football pitches by 2021.</p> <p>Senior football is strong in the area and a number of sites are overplayed.</p>	<p>Increasing pitch quality in the area will help to reduce overplay.</p> <p>NWBC should seek to maintain this level of provision to allow for a strategic reserve of pitches for rest and recovery and for the fulfilment of latent demand.</p> <p>Re-designating some adult football pitches to junior and mini pitches will help to meet deficiencies.</p>
Junior football	<p>Deficiency of 10.6 junior pitches by 2021.</p> <p>There are a very significant number of junior teams in this analysis area that are playing on/across adult pitches.</p>	<p>It is vital that all current sites are protected from development.</p> <p>The undersupply of junior pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conversion of senior pitches (not a holistic approach) into junior pitches. • Increased community use of school sites. • Long term consideration of establishing a new multi-pitch site to service the area.
Mini-soccer	<p>Deficiency of 6 mini pitches by 2021.</p> <p>There are a very significant number of mini teams in this analysis area that are playing on undesignated pitches.</p>	<p>It is vital that all current sites are protected from development.</p> <p>The undersupply of mini pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conversion of senior pitches (not a holistic approach) into mini pitches. • Increased community use of school sites. • Long term consideration of establishing a new multi-pitch site to service the area.
Cricket	<p>Deficiency of 2.5 pitches by 2021.</p> <p>The deficiency is brought about by the high number of teams playing within the analysis area.</p>	<p>It is vital that current sites are protected.</p> <p>The undersupply of pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including increasing community use of school sites.</p>
Rugby	<p>There is no rugby currently being played in the area.</p>	<p>No action required.</p>

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

South Forum

Pitch type	Key issues	Proposed action
Senior football	<p>Surplus of 4 senior football pitches by 2021.</p> <p>Current overplay of one match per week. However, there is spare capacity at a number of sites and play could be consolidated at local authority sites.</p> <p>Latent demand expressed for one senior pitch.</p>	<p>NWBC should seek to maintain some strategic reserve of pitches for rest and recovery and for the fulfilment of latent demand.</p> <p>Re-designating some adult pitches to juniors will help to meet deficiencies.</p> <p>It is important that there is management of use at over-played sites whereby play and training is distributed to under-played locations.</p>
Junior football	<p>Deficiency of 2.1 junior pitches by 2021.</p> <p>There are a number of junior teams in this analysis area that are playing on/across adult pitches.</p> <p>Latent demand expressed for one junior pitch further exacerbates deficiency.</p>	<p>It is vital that all current sites are protected from development.</p> <p>The undersupply of junior pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conversion of senior pitches (not a holistic approach) into junior pitches. • Increased community use of school sites. • Long term consideration of establishing new pitches.
Mini-soccer	<p>There is a slight surplus of mini pitches in the area (1) due to spare capacity at pitches at Arley Sports Centre. Poor quality pitches and changing rooms inhibit further use of the site.</p>	<p>Development opportunities exist at Arley Sports Centre which should be supported by NWBC.</p>
Cricket	<p>Deficiency of 6.2 pitches by 2021.</p> <p>The deficiency is brought about by the high number of teams playing within the analysis area.</p> <p>Latent demand is also expressed by Coleshill CC for one pitch.</p>	<p>It is vital that current sites are protected.</p> <p>The undersupply of pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased community use of school sites. • Long term consideration of establishing new pitches. <p>Support proposals made by Coleshill CC in relation to pitch developments at Memorial Park in partnership with the Town Council.</p>
Rugby	<p>Slight surplus of adult pitches (1.9) can be accounted for in slight deficiency of junior pitches (1.1). However, there is still likely to be a shortfall of designated mini pitches (2.4).</p>	<p>NWBC should be supportive of any pitch development plans and encourage designation of junior and mini pitches in the area.</p>

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

West Forum

Pitch type	Key issues	Proposed action
Senior football	Surplus of 5 senior pitches by 2021. Current overplay of 2.5 matches per week and a number of sites are played to capacity.	At least three adult football pitches in this area should be retained to accommodate overplay identified at Hurley Daw Mill and Hurley Primary School and future increase in teams.
Junior football	Deficiency of 3 junior pitches by 2021. There are a number of junior teams in this analysis area that are playing on/across adult pitches. Latent demand is expressed for two junior pitches.	It is vital that all current sites are protected from development. The slight undersupply of junior football pitches could be met by increasing the use of various sites in the area which have spare capacity e.g. Wood End Recreation Ground.
Mini-soccer	Deficiency of 3 mini pitches by 2021.	It is vital that all current sites are protected from development. The slight undersupply of mini football pitches could be met through the re-designation of one senior football pitch.
Cricket	Deficiency of 4 pitches by 2021. The deficiency is brought about by the high number of teams playing within the analysis area. Latent demand is also expressed by Water Orton CC for access to half a pitch.	It is vital that current sites are protected. The undersupply of pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased community use of school sites. Long term consideration of establishing new pitches.
Rugby	Slight surplus of adult pitches (1.8) to some extent can be accounted for the deficiency of junior pitches (4.8) and mini pitches (2.7). However, there is still likely to be a shortfall of designated junior/mini pitches (5.7).	NWBC should be supportive of any pitch development plans and encourage designated of junior and mini pitches in the area.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Management objective (b) *Rectify identified deficiencies in provision through improvements to the current pitch stock and ancillary facilities. For example, consider a programme of re-designating a proportion of the surplus adult pitches for other sports with an identified shortfall (e.g. junior football and mini soccer), where another solution has not been identified (i.e. access to additional provision).*

NWBC and partners should rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the Assessment Report through improvements to the current pitch stock and ancillary facilities. It is important that the levels of pitch provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision now and in the future.

Latent demand, national changes in sport participation and proposed housing growth should be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming an increase occurs, it will obviously impact on the future need for certain types of sports facilities. Sports development work also approximates latent demand which cannot currently be quantified (i.e. it is not being suppressed by a lack of facilities) but is likely to occur. The table overleaf highlights the main development trends in each sport and their likely impact on facilities. However, it is important to note that these may be subject to change.

There is a significant level of demand identified for junior/mini football and rugby pitches. The Sport England Playing Pitch Model (PPM) used in the Assessment Report highlights an anticipated future surplus of senior football pitches. Whilst these predictions should not be used in isolation, they are in line with issues highlighted. However, this type of surplus is important to overall levels of provision in the context of using adult pitches to accommodate junior and mini-soccer as multifunctional pitches. Furthermore, surplus pitches allow some to be rested to protect overall pitch quality in the long term.

Table 5.1: Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Football	There is significant cross boundary travel out of NW, particularly for training facilities due to a lack of provision in the area.	Work with clubs to identify facility development opportunities.
	There is a national decline in the traditional 11 aside game, which has prompted the FA to develop U18 and U21 football to ease the transition into the adult game.	This is likely to increase demand on existing facilities in the area (particularly senior pitches). Continually invest in the improvement of 'key Borough centres'.
Cricket	Clubs have strong and active senior and junior sections which access a range of facilities across the Borough.	Some clubs are likely to require access to second pitches to service growing junior and senior sections e.g. Coleshill CC.
Rugby	There are a number of clubs in the Borough (and in neighbouring areas) with facility development plans which aim to consolidate current provision.	Existing clubs are likely to field more teams in the future, and therefore have a demand for more pitches. It is important, therefore, to work with clubs to at least maintain the current pitch stock.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Hockey	Atherstone Adders Hockey Club is in current discussions regarding a move back into the Borough to use new provision at Queen Elizabeth School.	If the Club are able to play in North Warwickshire, this will increase hockey demand and participation in the area. The Club is also likely to develop juniors if based in the Borough.
Bowls	Membership remains constant.	Likely that any future increases will be accommodated on existing facilities.
Tennis	Whilst current demand is being met clubs note that junior membership levels are increasing.	Likely to be greater demand for facilities in the future. Increases in capacity could be achieved through floodlighting courts to provide additional hours.

Underutilised and indeed non-utilised pitches identified within this study could provide opportunities to add to the overall pitch stock in the Borough and accommodate both latent and potential future demand. The playing pitch databases include details of sites which appear to have fallen out of use but which have the capacity to contribute to the overall pitch stock in areas of high demand and include for example, Shustoke Playing Fields. Site inspections and any necessary remedial work should be carried out before allowing teams to use these sites.

Management objective (c) *Increase the capacity of sites through either redirecting play to sites with spare capacity or by increasing pitch quality.*

NWBC and partners should work to deliver improvements to pitch sites which are rated as average quality or below. This will assist in increasing the capacity of sites across the Borough. Those sites which require capacity improvements include those sites identified as poor quality in the Assessment Report.

Management objective (d) *To use the findings of the Strategy to provide an evidence base for the Local Development Framework to secure new provision from new housing development in the Borough.*

This is important as the assessment has provided the evidence base to justify protecting facilities to meet existing/future needs and therefore the development of appropriate policies through the LDF to secure protection, are required.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Management objective (e) *Adopt a Borough wide quality standard.*

To support achievement of this objective NWBC should adopt the following quality standard for provision, to be achieved by 2021:

'All outdoor sports facilities should achieve a quality score of 70% and/or be rated as good quality'

This standard, based on an achievable target using existing quality scoring to provide a baseline, should be used to identify deficiencies and hence investment should be prioritised to those sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard (using the site audit database, provided in electronic format). The policy approach to these outdoor recreation facilities achieving these standards should be to enhance quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

Good quality refers to facilities that have, for example, good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism, litter etc, have access for disabled people and are supported by good quality ancillary facilities including changing accommodation, toilets and car parking. Please refer to the Sport England quality assessment carried out in the Assessment Audit.

Management objective (f) *Rectify identified qualitative inadequacies through prioritised improvements to the current pitch stock and ancillary facilities.*

It is vital that local clubs and organisations have access to the best facilities possible, both to accommodate current levels of participation and to stimulate new activity. These facilities must meet the minimum specification requirements set out by governing bodies of sport, leagues/competitions as well as (as far as possible) meet the aspirations of sports clubs in the Borough.

Pitch improvements

In order to improve the overall quality of the playing pitch stock, it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity (Sport England suggests that a good pitch can accommodate two matches per week). This is determined by assessing pitch quality and allocating a weekly match limit to each. Sites played beyond capacity may require remedial action to help reduce this, for example at Polesworth Community Field and Hurley Daw Mill where pitches scored as average and are overplayed due to poor pitch quality. Whilst this works both ways in so much as poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being played overcapacity, potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular. Hence creating a continuous cycle of overplay. There is a need to balance pitch improvements alongside the transfer of play to alternative pitch sites.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Ancillary improvements

There are a number of rural sites in North Warwickshire which are not served by changing facilities. These sites, in effect, can be considered poor quality. Furthermore, there are also some key sites that have poor quality facilities. The lack of (or poor) quality facilities is not conducive to retaining existing players nor attracting new participants. Consultation suggests that it is one of the primary factors limiting participation.

Due to local authority budget constraints, it is clear that, across the life of this strategy, not all of those sites currently without changing facilities can be upgraded to have suitable changing facilities. Furthermore, in some locations the provision of changing accommodation is not economic or efficient. It is therefore important to prioritise those sites which, by upgrading the changing facilities, will have the greatest impact on the largest number (and variety) of teams. The following sites should therefore be considered short-term priorities for partners to upgrade the changing facilities:

Table 5.2: Short-term priority sites for changing facilities

Site	Current quality	Comments	Recommendation
Hartshill FC	-	Club requires access to higher quality, larger changing facilities with appropriate provision for referees.	Support development at Hartshill Snowhill Recreation Ground. This would enable the Club to continue progression through the league.
Mancetter Pavilion	Poor	Facility is currently without hot water and is not DDA compliant. Quality is also poor due to a lack of access for cleaning.	Discuss with users, such as White Lion FC, regarding higher level maintenance
Boot Hill Recreation Ground	Adequate	Facility is small and not DDA compliant, but is in reasonable condition.	Consider improving DDA access, where possible through installation of ramps etc.
Piccadilly Pavilion	Adequate	Split site with the community centre. The building suffers from vandalism and repairs have been costly. The running costs are also high.	Work with adjoining community centre to improve security, through lighting and fencing etc.
Polesworth Pavilion at Abbey Green	Poor	Facility is currently closed and there are no plans for NWBC to reopen the building. The building is c1960s and is likely to have asbestos and is not DDA compliant. The site also suffers from a high level of vandalism because of the isolated position.	Ensure that development of Abbey Green Park, through the proposed management plan, includes reinstatement or replacement of the pavilion as a community use venue to support Green Flag applications.
Fillongley Recreation	Adequate	Facility does not meet the requirements required for the Coventry Alliance League.	Support Fillongley FC in working to raise funds in order to improve changing accommodation.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site	Current quality	Comments	Recommendation
Royal Meadow Drive	-	There is no changing available. Teams have to use facilities at the nearby cricket club. This causes problems because provision is limited in size and segregation can be difficult at peak times. The cricket pavilion is also used by Atherstone RFC.	Support any future plans to improve/increase ancillary provision on site (none identified at present).
Kingsbury School	-	Kingsbury Rangers FC is a junior club affected by a lack of changing facilities available on site.	Work with the School to secure appropriate access to ancillary facilities for the Club.
Water Orton CC	Poor	If the Club had access to suitable changing provision in terms of size, quality and segregation it would provide additional teams.	Support any future plans to improve/increase ancillary provision on site (none identified at present).
Nether & Whitacre CC	Poor	If the Club had access to suitable changing provision in terms of size, quality and segregation it would provide additional teams.	Support any future plans to improve/increase ancillary provision on site (none identified at present).
Coleshill CC	Poor	If the Club had access to suitable changing provision in terms of size, quality and segregation it would provide additional teams.	Support any future plans to improve/increase ancillary provision on site (none identified at present).
General		A reporting system should be strictly adhered to in terms of quality of changing accommodation, in order to enforce clubs leaving facilities in a usable condition. Penalties could be introduced for repeat offenders.	

Management objective (g) *Adopt and apply a tiered hierarchy of provision to prioritise the management and improvement of facilities within a phased approach and include ancillary facilities such as changing accommodation and car parking.*

North Warwickshire has a number of 'key centres', which are sites that are considered to be the most popular (as they accommodate the greatest number of teams and are located in the areas of greatest need) and therefore need to be of a high standard in order that they can accommodate a sufficient number of matches per week.

This applies mainly to football pitch hire. However, NWBC should extend this provision model to recognise the supply and demand issues identified throughout the Assessment Report (i.e. current levels of overplay) and the investment necessary to improve all sites in the Borough based on current levels of usage. The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a Borough-wide context (i.e. they accommodate the majority of play). In addition to this, there are a number of sites which have been identified as accommodating both senior and junior matches, sometimes concurrently. Not only could such sites require a mixture of mini, junior and senior pitches, but they also require split-level ancillary facilities, in order to maximise their usage at all times.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

In the context of developing a tiered model approach to the management of sports facilities, North Warwickshire has a large number of multi-team junior clubs which place a great demand on the pitch stock across the Borough. Therefore, there are a number of sites which are still owned and maintained by the local authority or town/parish councils, but are actually booked by the clubs for the entire season. The sites are then recognised as the 'homeground' of the club. Such sites are fundamentally different from those which can be hired on a regular basis because they are, in effect, 'allocated' to a certain club and management responsibility, in terms of allocating teams to pitches, is transferred to the individual club.

Table 5.3: Proposed tiered site criteria

Tier A Key centres	Tier B Senior/junior sites	Tier C Club sites	Tier D Strategic reserve
Strategically placed in the Borough context.	Strategically placed in the local and Borough context.	Strategically placed in the local context.	Strategically placed in the local context.
Could accommodate more than five pitches/courts.	Could accommodate more than three pitches/courts.	Could accommodate more than one pitch/court.	Likely to be single-pitch/court sites with limited demand.
Can serve multiple sports.	Can be single sport provision.	Can be single sport provision.	Supports informal demand and/ or training etc.
Management control remains within the local authority.	Management control remains within the local authority.	Club either has a long-term lease on site, or hires the pitch for the entire season.	Held as strategic reserve.
Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms to serve the number of pitches.	Adequate changing to accommodate both senior and junior teams concurrently or which specifically serve one or the other.	Maintenance can be either by the club or remain with the local authority.	Maintenance should remain with the local authority or other management body i.e. parish council.

NWBC should work to apply the tiered model and ensure that there are at least two sites in each tier throughout the Borough.

Tier A sites are sites that have been identified as having Borough-wide significance. These are the identified 'key centres' and are often multi-pitch sites catering for more than one type of sport and on a weekly basis cater for a high level of play. They should be maintained to a high standard, although in some instances improvements in the quality of these pitches will relieve pressure on football pitches across the Borough and increase the capacity and adequacy of the pitch stock. The tier A sites in need of improvement are highlighted in the Assessment Report. However, it is recommended that tier A sites are continually improved in order to preserve their status as the key football sites in the Borough. As multi-pitch sites they should be able to accommodate all types of football concurrently, including male/female mixed mini-soccer, junior male/female 11-a-side football and senior male/female, as well as small-sided football if deemed appropriate (in the form of MUGAs etc.).

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

As a consequence, the following recommendations relate to all tier A sites:

- ◀ All sites should have segregated changing facilities (for juniors/seniors and women/mens) with suitable shower facilities.
- ◀ All sites should have dedicated changing facilities for junior, male and female teams that are of sufficient size and quality for the target user group. It is vital that the changing rooms should be totally secluded for a range of obvious reasons, including child protection issues.
- ◀ A mixture of senior, junior and mini-soccer pitches should be located on tier A sites to actively encourage a cross-section of teams to make use of the facilities. The types of pitches should be driven by local deficiencies in pitch types as highlighted in the Assessment Report.

It is therefore anticipated that a significant amount of the annual maintenance budget, and any available capital investment (Section 106 planning gain etc.) should be spent on such sites. Due to the recommendations highlighted above, any initial investment is considered to be at least a medium-term priority. Management control should remain with the local authority.

Tier B sites recognise the growing emphasis on dedicated football venues catering for both senior and junior (especially mini-soccer) matches. The conditions recommended for junior football are becoming more stringent as the issue of child protection becomes more prominent in society. This should be reflected in the provision of a unique tier of pitches for junior football solely that can ensure player safety, as well as being maintained more efficiently. At present, there are no dedicated junior and mini-soccer sites in the Borough. It is anticipated that both junior and mini-football matches will be played on these sites. Initial investment could be required in the short term.

Additionally, it is considered that some financial investment will be necessary to improve the ancillary facilities at tier A and B sites in order that they complement the pitches in terms of access, flexibility (i.e. single-sex changing if necessary) and quality and that they meet the rules and regulations of local competitions. They should be designated as medium priority for investment.

As previously referenced, tier C sites refer to those sites which are hired to clubs for a season, or are sites which have been leased on a long-term basis. The level of priority attached to them for Council-generated investment is relatively low and consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking a long-term lease on the site, in order that external funding can be sought. It is possible that sites could be included in this tier which are not currently hired or leased to a club, but have the potential to be leased to a suitable club. Such sites will require some level of investment, either to the pitches or ancillary facilities, and it is anticipated that one of the conditions of offering a hire / lease is that the club would be in a position to source external funding to improve the facilities.

Tier D sites are those which are to be made available as strategic reserve which could be used for summer 'friendly' matches, training purposes or informally. They could be single-pitch sites with limited usage, or have no recognised current usage.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Management objective (h) - *Secure developer contributions wherever possible to improve the quality of existing outdoor playing fields in the Borough. Establish an approach to securing developer contributions which prioritises projects according to a range of core criteria (e.g. strategic need, sports development objectives, sustainability of provision and work with target groups).*

It is important that this strategy informs policies and emerging supplementary planning documents by setting out the Council approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development. The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions for the provision of appropriate facilities and their long term maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes on the pitches. A number of management objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ◀ Ensure that where sites are lost, through development or closure, that facilities of the same or improved standard are provided to meet the continued needs of residents.
- ◀ Where pitches are lost due to redevelopment, re-provision or a contribution for investment should be sought for elsewhere as appropriate in an accessible location.
- ◀ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to a Section 106 Agreement. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106 Agreement must be completed specifying the amount and timing of sums to be paid.
- ◀ A 'central pot' for developer contributions across the Borough should be established to put towards playing pitch facility provision and maintenance, whilst recognising that contributions will need to be ring fenced for use within the area of the Borough that they originated.
- ◀ Where new pitches are provided, changing rooms should be located on site.

A full appraisal of the derivation of local standards and their application to Section 106 calculations are provided later in this report.

Table 5.4: Outdoor sport facility standards¹ on analysis area by area basis (ha per 1,000 population)

Analysis area	Local standard
North Forum	1.57
South Forum	1.94
East Forum	2.20
West Forum	2.38

¹ Including requirement to meet latent demand

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Management objective (i) *Regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity).*

It is important that NWBC maintains the data contained within the accompanying Playing Pitch Database. This will enable NWBC to refresh and update area by area plans on a regular basis. The accompanying databases are intended to be refreshed on a season by season basis and it is important that there is cross-departmental working to ensure that this is achieved and that results are used to inform subsequent annual facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners across the Borough via a consultative mechanism such as the Area Forums.

Management objective (j) *Work in partnership with local schools to maintain, improve and ensure effective community use of school facilities.*

Identified deficiencies in provision can often be rectified by working in partnership with schools to encourage greater community use of school playing fields.

Colleges, secondary schools, and indeed primary schools where the facilities exist, have an important role in a playing pitch strategy. It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established dual use sites, community access to outdoor sports facilities is limited.

The Assessment Report identified several issues relating to the use of school facilities:

- ✦ Community use is limited and often based on informal agreements between individual schools and clubs.
- ✦ There is no strategic guidance as to which clubs are allocated the use of playing pitch facilities (i.e. in accordance with a strategic need).
- ✦ School facilities are, in general, unattractive to community clubs (e.g., because of the lack of ancillary facilities).
- ✦ There are no identified standard community use agreements between clubs and schools for outdoor pitches.
- ✦ There are management issues inherent in developing, implementing and managing dual-use agreements. Advice and guidance can be obtained from Sport England's Planning Bulletin 16 – School Sites and Community Provision (2004).
(www.sportengland.org/planningkitbag)

Within the lifetime of the Strategy, the City Academies (likely to replace the Building Schools for the Future) programme could provide a new range of shared sports facilities in Warwickshire to help meet both the current and future needs of the area. *Amended to reflect change in government policy.*

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Where appropriate, it will be important for schools to negotiate and sign formal and long-term agreements that secure community use. The proposals in this document, therefore, need to be examined against these issues:

- ◀ An opportunity to deal with some of the issues outlined above. However, it is not the only solution and should only be seen as one part of the strategic approach to the future provision of outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ The analysis provides a clear indication of the future pitch requirements and provides a basis for partners to negotiate with developers delivering the programme.

It is recommended that a working group, led by a partner from the education sector (i.e. through the School Sports Partnership) but supported by a range of other sectors including sport and leisure, is established to implement the strategic direction in relation to the increased use of school facilities. This should incorporate the following representation:

- ◀ Sports development officers.
- ◀ Partnership development manager(s).
- ◀ PE/Education officers.
- ◀ Individual school representative.

Broadly speaking, its role should be to:

- ◀ To better understand current community use, practices and issues by 'auditing' schools.
- ◀ Identify and pilot one school/club formal community use agreement with a view to rolling out the model across the area.
- ◀ Ensure that funding to improve the quality of the facilities is identified and secured.
- ◀ As part of any agreement secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not rely on existing school staff structures.
- ◀ Ensure that pitch provision at schools meets the needs of the local community and contributes towards overcoming deficiencies in the area (as identified in the assessment above).

This work should be delivered without waiting for the arrival of the City Academies programme to secure formal community use agreements due to timescales and uncertainty about the future of the programme. *Amended to reflect change in government policy.*

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Management objective (k) *Secure long term tenure and access to sites across the Borough for high quality, development minded clubs (i.e. Clubmark/Charter Standard Status), through lease arrangements.*

As well as improving the quality of well-used, local authority and town/parish council owned and maintained sites, there are a number of sites which have poor quality (or no) ancillary facilities. These have not been included in the priority list as they are used by a single club on a season-by-season basis. Such sites are therefore considered the 'homeground' of the club, despite not always having a long-term lease. It is recommended that security of tenure should be granted to the clubs playing on these sites (minimum 25 years) so the clubs are in a position to apply for external funding to improve the ancillary facilities.

There is potential for a number of sites in the Borough to be leased to sports clubs and/or organisations:

- ◀ Abbey Green Park – with secured access, Polesworth Swifts could assist the Borough Council in pavilion improvements. The Club would transfer play from Station Road. There may also be options to work with Polesworth School to secure additional access to pitches for the Club.
- ◀ Hurley Daw Mill - Hurley Kings FC report they would be willing to take on a long term lease of the site. This would better enable the Club to source funding to improve the quality.
- ◀ Ridge Lane FC is willing to take on a long term lease of a site in order to be in a better position to secure funding and execute long term plans for development. This is not really a potential at their current site (Ridge Lane Recreation Ground) as this is the only recreation space in the village and also accommodates a new play area.
- ◀ Ansley Hall - Hartshill FC has expressed an aspiration to find better quality pitches in order to comply with league requirements. In the short term, the Club suggests relocating to Ansley Hall (from Snowhill Recreation Ground), and if necessary it could take over maintenance of the site as part of a short term lease agreement. This would mean that another club currently using the site could temporarily relocate to Snowhill Recreation Ground in order to ensure Ansley Hall is not overplayed. However, this is not a long term solution. Therefore, support should be given to Hartshill Parish Council and the Club to develop ancillary facilities on the parish pitch. Ansley Cricket Club is also interested in discussing management options and is well-established here.

Each club will be required to meet service and/or strategic objectives set out by the Borough Council. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the quality of the club, aligned to its long term development objectives and sustainability.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 5.5: Recommended criteria for lease of sport sites to clubs/organisations

Club	Site
<p>Clubs should have Clubmark/FA Charter Standard accreditation award.</p> <p>Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.</p> <p>Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers.</p> <p>Ideally, clubs should have already identified (and received an agreement in principle) any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.</p> <p>Clubs have processes in place to ensure capacity to maintain sites to the existing standards.</p>	<p>Sites should be those identified as tier C sites (i.e. not those with a Borough-wide significance) but which offer development potential.</p> <p>As a priority, sites should require capital investment to improve (which can be attributed to the presence of a Clubmark/Charter Standard club).</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site.</p> <p>An NGB/NWBC representative should sit on a management committee for each site leased to a club.</p>

NWBC will further recognise the value of Clubmark/Charter Standard by adopting a policy of prioritising the clubs that are to have access to these better quality facilities. This may be achieved by inviting clubs to apply for season long leases on a particular site as an initial trial.

Management objective (I) *Support participation at clubs which contribute to the achievement of sports development objectives.*

It is important that sports development objectives, to some extent, dictate and are embedded within the outcomes of the Strategy. To this end, the following objectives are suggested for use to monitor and evaluate the future sustainability, and relative success, of facility projects which are identified and supported:

- ◆ Growth and retention.
- ◆ Raising standards.
- ◆ Better players and coaches.
- ◆ Building the workforce.
- ◆ Improving facilities.

Management objective (m) *Work with local clubs which have achieved quality accreditation to, where relevant, identify and secure facility improvements, appropriate sites for new facility development and funding opportunities.*

NWBC should adopt a policy/charter which supports quality accredited clubs (<http://www.clubmark.org.uk/files/images/clubmark-charter-large.gif>). Clubmark and FA Charter Standard helps clubs to achieve their own aims and ambitions and to support the complementary objectives and targets of partners in local authorities, schools/school sport partnerships and other community agencies.

Support to quality accredited clubs may include offering discounted facility hire and priority bookings slots as well as assembling bespoke benefits packages incorporating free or reduced cost access to courses. The adoption of a charter as policy also benefits partners:

- ◀ **Grow:** Research suggests that Clubmark clubs are better equipped to drive and manage increased levels of participation; particularly, but not solely, for young people.
- ◀ **Meeting targets:** Having Clubmark clubs to work with will assist local authorities and SSPs to achieve targets for youth participation, the 5 hour offer and school-club links.
- ◀ **Parental confidence:** Being seen to actively address issues such as equity and child protection gives parents confidence when considering or choosing a club for their children - thus helping to boost introductory participation.
- ◀ **Sustaining participation levels:** Clubmark stimulates innovation and improvements to how clubs cater for junior (and all) members. The culture it promotes boosts the morale of players and ensures that volunteers are recognised for their contribution.
- ◀ **Continuous improvement:** Accreditation encourages clubs to adopt better, more organised systems and structures, helping them to run more effectively and efficiently.
- ◀ **Coaches and coaching:** Research suggests Clubmark clubs both deploy more, and work harder to develop the skills of, coaches. This leads to better quality provision and improved player performance.
- ◀ **School-club links:** Increasingly, schools are seeking guarantees of quality and the presence of child-friendly systems and procedures. Clubmark clubs are the first invited to work with local school sport partnerships and individual schools. Teachers and schools staff are actively encouraged to signpost pupils to them.

PART 6: SPORT SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Sports development objectives should also guide delivery of sports specific objectives and should be read within the context of the summary findings identified by the Assessment Report.

FOOTBALL OBJECTIVE

To meet identified deficiencies in junior/mini provision and increase the quality and standard of changing rooms.

Senior football

- ✦ Protect the current playing pitch stock.
- ✦ Work with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity and encourage play, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity.
- ✦ The anticipated surplus of senior pitches should be considered in contributing towards addressing the current and future deficit of junior and mini pitches.
- ✦ Where appropriate, develop lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded (i.e. Charter Standard) clubs to manage their own 'home' sites thus facilitating club development. This could include varying levels of shared management between the club and the parish council/local authority. Development and management criteria need to be established in order to maintain the viability and financial security of these sites.
- ✦ Continue to support clubs and parish/town councils in the management and identified improvements to their provision.
- ✦ Maximise community use of education sites.
- ✦ Work with clubs to secure potential sites to accommodate latent demand identified.
- ✦ Support clubs with facility development aspirations through the planning and application stages. This includes provision of third generation turf pitches which would alleviate undersupply for training pitches in the Borough and overuse of grass pitches for this purpose. *Addition*

Women's and girls' football

- ✦ Invest in central venue sites able to accommodate anticipated growth in girls' football.
- ✦ Increase the quality and standard of changing rooms to accommodate segregated changing (junior/seniors and women/men). *Addition*

Junior boys' football

- ✦ Work towards meeting likely future deficiencies in junior pitches by also utilising pitch provision at school sites.
- ✦ Improve the quality and capacity of existing pitch stock.
- ✦ Meet likely future deficiencies in junior pitches by utilising pitch provision at school sites.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Mini football

- ◀ Meet likely future deficiencies in mini pitches by utilising senior pitches in areas of over supply.
- ◀ Increase the quality and standard of changing rooms to accommodate segregated changing (junior/seniors and women/men). *Addition*
- ◀ Encourage greater usage of primary school sites to cater for mini-soccer demand and ensure site security and access to changing facilities is enhanced.

CRICKET OBJECTIVE

To maintain current provision levels and quality. However, further pitches may need to be sought in the future to ensure that key focus clubs have access to two pitches.

- ◀ Consider underused pitches in accommodating latent demand expressed by clubs.
- ◀ Support clubs to develop their ancillary facilities to further meet local needs.
- ◀ Ensure that any facilities developed facilitate opportunities for senior women's and junior girls' competitive cricket, particularly ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Work with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity and encourage play, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity.
- ◀ Increase the quality of cricket pitches where necessary.
- ◀ Work with schools to encourage sharing cricket pitches with clubs in North Warwickshire.
- ◀ Encourage and support development of junior girls' and women's cricket.
- ◀ Work with clubs to secure potential sites to accommodate latent demand identified.
- ◀ Support clubs to develop and improve cricket net facilities.

RUGBY OBJECTIVE

To work towards meeting identified deficiencies and increase quality as required.

- ◀ As a priority, support club development plans to increase the capacity of sites, particularly to accommodate junior and mini-rugby.
- ◀ Work to secure greater use of education sites for training purposes to reduce overplay on existing sites. In addition, ensure there is access to changing facilities.
- ◀ Encourage and support development of junior girls' and women's rugby.
- ◀ Support clubs to improve the standard of lighting on training pitches.
- ◀ Increase the quality and standard of changing rooms to accommodate segregated changing (junior/seniors and women/men).

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

HOCKEY OBJECTIVE

To ensure provision of at least one synthetic turf pitch in the Borough suitable for competitive hockey matches.

- ◆ Work with Atherstone Adders Hockey Club and Queen Elizabeth School to negotiate and establish priority club use of proposed STP (planned for 2011).
- ◆ Ensure access to appropriate ancillary facilities is also secured for any new STP provision.

BOWLS OBJECTIVE

To support and encourage junior bowls development in order to sustain future participation levels in the sport.

- ◆ Work with Atherstone Town Conservative and Atherstone Grove Miners clubs to make plans to accommodate reported latent demand for provision.
- ◆ Support clubs to improve green quality.
- ◆ Increase the quality and standard of changing rooms to accommodate segregated changing (junior/seniors and women/men). *Addition*
- ◆ Ensure bowling greens and pavilions are safe, secure facilities.
- ◆ Encourage clubs to increase membership levels.
- ◆ Support and encourage clubs to provide pay and play opportunities.

TENNIS OBJECTIVE

To work with clubs to make plans to accommodate future increases.

- ◆ Where demand exists, support tennis clubs to improve court quality and/or install floodlighting (in order to increase the capacity) of existing tennis court provision.
- ◆ Continue to support and encourage junior development at key tennis clubs in order to increase participation levels in the sport.
- ◆ Where necessary, improve the quality of education courts.
- ◆ Support village clubs to continue to provide quality coaching and competitive opportunities by providing access to good quality facilities.

EDUCATION OBJECTIVE

To work with schools to encourage greater community use, particularly for junior/mini-football at appropriate sites.

- ◆ Secure existing community use through implementation of formal community use agreements where they are not currently in existence in order to provide sustainable community access.
- ◆ Ensure appropriate access to changing provision on school sites to support community use.

PART 7: ACTION AND FUNDING PLAN

Introduction

The action plan does not include all sites and associated quality and value improvements to be made; details on how this is best achieved can be found in the accompanying study database. The following criteria have been used to identify priorities and justify the inclusion of sites within the action plan. Just one of the following may apply:

- ✦ The site suffers from access problems in terms of safety, poor signage and/or poor disability provision.
- ✦ A project is currently underway to enhance the existing site and/or funding has been secured.
- ✦ An evaluation of site use is required as it is of poor quality and is reportedly underused.
- ✦ The desired action is small scale, short term and will enhance the quality of current provision, whilst aiding community empowerment.
- ✦ The importance of the site is referenced in other strategies.

Management and development

The following issues should be considered when undertaking site development or enhancement:

- ✦ Financial viability.
- ✦ Security of tenure.
- ✦ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ✦ Gaining revenue funding from planning contributions in order to maintain existing sites.
- ✦ Gaining planning contributions to assist with the creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ✦ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ✦ The availability of opportunities to lease the site to external organisations.
- ✦ Options to assist community groups/parish councils to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ✦ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.

Timescales

The Action Plan has been created to be delivered over a five year timescale. This will allow the audit information to be revisited in three years. The information within the Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur. The Action Plan is presented by analysis area and uses the following timescales for delivery:

(S) - Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (2-4 years); (L) - Long (4-5 years)

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Please note that similar actions may vary between analysis areas/sites. This may be due to a number of reasons, including:

- Number and range of actions required in the area.
- Consultation identified significant need for action.
- Project is already underway.

There are a number of recommendations in the following action plan referring to continued support. Such recommendations and the related clubs have been highlighted because the club is particularly strong, or has significant plans for development which will help increase participation in the area. Support should be considered on an individual basis and may be in the form of assistance/advice regarding planning applications and/or funding applications.

The prioritisation of projects is based on a number of factors but typically takes into account the need to target the greatest number of participants (actual and potential future) and overall project deliverability. Wherever possible we have also tried to ensure a balanced distribution of actions for one given area, as it is recognised that all actions cannot be achieved at once. In particular it takes account of the vision to:

- 1) Support growth & retention.
- 2) Raise standards.
- 3) Develop better players and coaches.
- 4) Improve facilities.

Current capacity *Additional section*

This column summarises site capacity for grass pitches (football, cricket and rugby) as identified within the Assessment Report. Where a site has none of this provision, this column will be left blank (i.e. white).

Capacity is driven by pitch quality and is derived by taking into consideration Sport England guidelines as follows:

- If a pitch is rated as 'good' its capacity is specified as two matches per week.
- If a pitch is rated as 'acceptable' its capacity is specified as one match per week.
- If a pitch is rated as 'poor' its capacity is specified as one match every other week.

Once pitch quality is established and assessed together with the current level of play per week (0.5 for each match played at the site, assuming half of matches will be played 'away'), a rating is applied, which indicates if pitches are played under capacity (green), played at capacity (amber) or played over-capacity (red). This is then used in the action plan to inform site recommendations such as:

A site is underplayed and therefore has some spare capacity to increase play and accommodate play from overplayed sites.	
A site is played to capacity and in order to sustain quality usage should not be increased without investment in pitch quality or maintenance regimes.	
A site is overplayed and as such is likely to already be poor quality or without transferring play or investment in quality, will deteriorate further.	

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

East Forum

	Football			Cricket	Rugby union		
	Senior	Junior	Mini		Senior	Junior	Mini
Deficiencies	3.1	-2.7	-3.3	-2.5	0.9	-0.5	-2.7
Latent demand	-	-	-	1.5	1	-	-

Currently there is an under supply of junior and mini pitches in the East Forum area. NWBC should aspire to provide more formal mini and junior pitches to meet demand. The slight undersupply of junior football pitches could be met by increasing the use of various sites in the area which have spare capacity. The undersupply of pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including increasing community use of school sites. In the long-term it is likely that additional rugby pitches will be needed to accommodate any increase in demand.

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
5	Atherstone Town Cricket Ground	1 cricket		Good quality site. The Club express latent demand for a total of 2.5 cricket pitches.	Formalise community use agreement with Queen Elizabeth School for continued and increased use of its cricket pitch.	3	S
					In the long term, the Club may need to seek access to an additional pitch.	4	L
16	Mancetter Recreation Ground	2 senior football		Issue of dog fouling on pitches and poor quality changing facilities. Facility is currently without hot water and is not DDA compliant. Site has previously accommodated more pitches.	Deficiency in future mini pitch provision could be met by providing additional pitches on this site. Seek funding opportunities (in partnership with users) to improve changing facility.	1 and 2	M

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
21	Atherstone Queen Elizabeth School and Sports College	2 senior, 1 junior football, 1 cricket and 1 senior rugby		Large site which is underused for community use.	Support the provision of an STP in the area as the preferred location for this type of facility in North Warwickshire. Explore opportunity and scope to provide third generation turf if suitable for the hockey club (40mm pile carpet). This will also then service football training needs and be a good income generator. <i>Addition</i>	3 and 4	M
					Increase community use of the football pitches to accommodate future deficiency in junior pitches.	3	S
22	Ridge Lane	1 senior football		Changing facility is in very poor condition. Pitches suffer from mole damage and a reported general lack of maintenance. In the last season matches were cancelled due to the poor pitch quality resulting in it being unusable.	Consider options for securing tenure at the site for Ridge Lane FC. This would put the Club in a better position to secure funding and execute long term plans for development.	2 and 4	M
23	Atherstone Royal Meadow Drive	1 senior football		There is no changing available and teams use facilities at neighbouring Atherstone Town CC. Provision is limited in size and segregation can be difficult at	Work with Atherstone Town CC to develop a sports 'hub' at Royal Meadow Drive Recreation Ground to provide a focus for a range of good quality pitch sports provision	2 and 4	M
		1 senior rugby					

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
				peak times. The cricket pavilion is also used by Atherstone RFC. Football play is often transferred from unusable and poor quality sites often resulting in overplay.	with appropriate ancillary facilities. Investment in other sites will work to ensure this site is not overplayed.		
50	Atherstone Grove Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	2 tennis and 1 bowling green		Club reports latent demand for one bowling green.	Further investigate the extent of the latent demand as Atherstone Conservative Club also report latent demand for one green. It is likely that access to one green will meet the needs of both clubs.	4 and 1	L
53	Atherstone 3M Sports & Social Club	1 cricket		Atherstone Rangers JFC (although based at Atherstone CC) uses this site for junior matches due to conflict in pitch availability at Atherstone CC.	Ensure pitch quality is sustained to a high level in order to withstand additional wear and tear from football play.	2	S - L
60	Hartshill Snowhill Recreation Ground	1 senior football		The only football pitch in the area which is overplayed. No available changing facility but due to receive investment (Section 106 funding) for a new build changing facility. Hartshill FC has expressed an aspiration to find better quality pitches in order to comply with league	Support Hartshill Parish Council to develop a management plan for this site. The development of ancillary facilities is essential to Hartshill FC growth. Consider a joint lease arrangement between the Club and the Parish Council.	2 and 4	L

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
				requirements.			

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
65	Atherstone Conservative Club	1 bowling green		Club reports latent demand for one bowling green.	Further investigate the extent of the latent demand as Grove Miners also report latent demand for one green. It is likely that access to one green will meet the needs of both clubs.	4 and 1	L
86	Hartshill Michael Drayton Junior School	1 mini football, MUGA		Pitch quality is good, although it does have evidence of damage to the surface. It is available for community use and is used for a total of four hours a week by Haunchwood FC and Hartshill Boys FC. There are no sports specific changing rooms available.	Work with the School and clubs to encourage development of a formal community use agreement, which should include access to changing provision.	2	S

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

North Forum

	Football			Cricket	Rugby union		
	Senior	Junior	Mini		Senior	Junior	Mini
Deficiencies	6.5	-10.6	-5.7	-2.5	0	0	0
Latent demand	0.5	3.5	-	-	-	-	-

Currently there is a significant under supply of junior and mini pitches in the North Forum area, particularly junior. This is not uncommon, but NWBC should aspire to provide formal mini and junior pitches to meet demand. This shortfall could be reduced by remarking senior football pitches for junior football. There is also a minor undersupply of cricket fields. However, it is likely, given some improvement to pitch quality, that capacity can be increased to accommodate shortfalls on the current supply of pitches.

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
1	Polesworth Abbey Green Park	2 senior football, 4 tennis courts, 1 bowling green		Pitches are prone to flooding and can suffer from poor drainage. With secured access, Polesworth Swifts could assist the Borough Council in pavilion improvements. The Club would transfer play from Station Road.	Develop a management plan for the Park with a view to achieving Green Flag standard. This should be done in partnership with the sports users, who should all have representation on a Friends of Group for the site.	4	S
					Reinstate/replace the pavilion in order to provide a high quality community facility for use by both sports clubs and recreation groups (such as Scouts).	2	M
					Also consider options to work with Polesworth School to secure additional access to pitches for Polesworth Swifts.	3	S

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
8	Baddesley Recreation Ground	1 senior and 1 mini football		There is a pavilion on site in a poor condition that is currently undergoing renovation. Slightly overplayed but pitches are assessed as good quality.	Ensure maintenance of pitches remains high in order to sustain quality based on current amount of play.	2	S – L
9	Birch Coppice Sports and Social Club	1 senior, 4 mini football, 1 cricket and 1 bowling green		Birch Coppice Bullets FC has aspirations to improve both pitch and built provision alongside the existing sports and social club (which is not adequate for requirements). Plans include a new changing facility, with four segregated changing rooms and a referee's room. Changes to pitch provision will create one additional senior pitch. Vehicular access and parking will also be improved as part of the scheme.	Support the Club in seeking funding opportunities to achieve its aspirations regarding facility development.	2 and 4	L
10	Grendon Boot Hill Recreation Ground	1 senior football		Pitch is poorly drained. Users often have to use other NWBC venues. Changing facility is small and not DDA compliant, but is in reasonable condition.	In the short term, convert pitch to junior or mini pitches to reduce wear and tear. This will also help to meet identified deficiencies.	1 and 2	S
					Consider improving DDA access, where possible through installation of ramps etc.	3	M

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
15	Dordon Kitwood Avenue Recreation Ground	1 senior football		Poor quality pitch resulting in overplay.	Develop an improvement plan for Kitwood Avenue Recreation Ground in Dordon.	2	M
28	Warton Recreation Ground	1 senior football		The site is furrowed, which can pose health and safety issues, particularly for juniors.	Support the Parish Council to seek funding opportunities to invest in pitch quality.	2	M
34	North Warwickshire Sports & Social Club	1 senior football and 1 cricket		Has the highest level of overplay by 1.5 football matches per week. This is attributed to junior teams being assigned to the site but not having formal marked out pitches.	Overplay can be reduced by designating junior and/or mini pitches on the site. This will also help to meet deficiencies identified.	1 and 2	S
52	Newton Regis Playing Fields	1 senior football, 1 senior cricket, 2 tennis courts and 1 bowling green.		Has a significant level of overplay largely due to the number of juniors playing on the pitch. Thistle BC is seeking funding to re-board the bowling ditches and re-surface the carpet.	Convert senior football pitch to junior pitch to better accommodate existing use.	1	S
54	Birchmoor Recreation Ground	1 senior football		Adequate quality pitches with spare capacity.	Retain as strategic reserve. Consider relocation of teams to here to reduce overplay/wear and tear of other pitches in the area.	2	M

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
55	Polesworth Community Field	2 senior football		Site liable to flooding. Adequate quality pitches but is overplayed. Additional pitch not recently marked - some mole damage.	Pitches require remedial action to help reduce overplay.	2	S
					Convert one senior football to a junior pitch to better accommodate existing use.	1	L
56	Polesworth Station Road	1 mini football		Overplayed by 1.5 matches per week. No on site changing accommodation.	Consider the option to mark more pitches on this site to reduce overplay.	1	S
					If possible, consider options to provide porta cabin style changing facility.	2 and 4	M
62	Church Lane, Lee Maston (also known as Hams Hill)	1 senior football		Adequate quality pitch which is played to capacity.	Retain and ensure high level maintenance is sustained to ensure quality in the long term.	2	S – L
64	Shuttington	2 senior football		The site suffers from the occasional dog fouling. It has changing room facilities with parking for 10 cars. Adequate quality pitches with spare capacity.	Support the improvement of the facilities at the playing field.	2	L
67	The Nethersole School, Polesworth	1 junior football		Adequate quality pitch which is played to capacity.	Ensure continued community use of the site. Develop formal community use agreements.	3	L

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

South Forum

	Football			Cricket	Rugby union		
	Senior	Junior	Mini		Senior	Junior	Mini
Deficiencies	4.0	-2.1	0.9	-6.2	1.9	-1.1	-3.2
Latent demand	0.5	1	-	1.5	-	-	-

Re-designating some adult football pitches to juniors will help to meet deficiencies identified. The undersupply of cricket pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including increased community use of school sites and long term consideration of establishing new pitches. There is likely to be a need to find new rugby pitches to meet future demand.

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
2	Ansley Hall	1 senior football and 1 cricket		Hartshill FC has expressed an ability and desire to take over maintenance of Ansley Hall, in order to secure its access. However, there are issues associated with the crossover of the cricket and football seasons. Ansley Cricket Club is also interested in discussing management options for its homeground and pavilion at Ansley Hall (KKP Ref 2).	In the short term, accommodate Hartshill FC at the site and if necessary it could take over maintenance of the site as part of a short term lease agreement. Temporarily relocate another club to Snowhill Recreation Ground in order to ensure Ansley Hall is not overplayed. Work with Ansley Cricket Club about potential leasing options of the site.	4	S

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
3	Arley Sports Centre	1 senior and 3 mini football		Currently used by Haunchwood Sports JFC and Old Arley Residents Society hope to establish a management committee in order to apply for funding in conjunction with the club. This will include a campaign to replace the pavilion.	Develop a management plan for Arley Sports Centre to enable its development as a recreation 'hub'.	2 and 4	L
12	John E Radford Fields, Burrow Hill Lane, Corley	1 senior football		A multi sport site. It is primarily home to Keresley RFC which owns the land and clubhouse (football and netball are also played at the site). Reported issues with vandalism have been overcome.	Retain to current quality to ensure continued use of the site.	2 and 4	S – L
		3 senior rugby					
17	Coleshill Memorial Park	2 senior football and two tennis courts		Coleshill CC approached Coleshill Town Council to level the football pitches at the site in order to over mark a cricket pitch to accommodate the Club's second pitch. However, this proposal has been declined by Coleshill Town Council. Tennis courts in need of repair.	Support Coleshill Cricket Club to further peruse options to over mark cricket with the existing football pitches to accommodate and satisfy future cricket needs of the Club, whilst retaining wider recreation use of the site.	1	S
					Improve the quality of existing pitches in order to increase capacity and to sustain future pitch quality.	2	M
					Improve the surface quality of the tennis courts.	2	M

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
24	Shustoke Playing Field	-		Has previously accommodated one junior football but no current use.	Should be brought back into use (following investment to improve quality) to meet identified future deficiencies. Site inspections and any necessary remedial work should be carried out before allowing teams to use.	1 and 2	M
26	The Coleshill School Cricket	1 cricket and 1 football pitch		Poor quality pitch used by Coleshill Cricket Club.	Investigate greater school club links with Coleshill Cricket Club in order to retain community use.	3	S
41	Coleshill Town FC	1 senior football		Dosthill FC is currently based in Tamworth but is in the process of relocating to Coleshill Town FC.	Investigate the opportunity to add a new junior pitch on the site and to provide a soccer school for local residents.	1 and 4	M
44	Coleshill Cricket Club	1 cricket		Anecdotal evidence suggests site is played over capacity. The Club is seeking permanent access to a second home ground (it currently uses Coleshill School but this is poor quality). Latent demand is also expressed for one cricket pitch.	Further investigate opportunities for an additional cricket pitch following minor re-arrangement of football pitches at Coleshill Memorial Park (KKP Ref 17). Alternatively, lease arrangements at Coleshill School and joint investment in provision to satisfy future cricket needs. If unsustainable, support the Club in seeking land to develop as a second home pitch.	2 and 4	L

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
51	Coleshill Tennis and Sports Club	5 tennis courts		Coleshill TC has received a loan from the LTA to make improvements to its ancillary provision. Plans to increase membership and provide an additional court on the current site. However, layout of the current site inhibits further growth and development.	If required, public courts at Coleshill Memorial Park could provide strategic reserve for clubs which are operating at capacity, particularly for junior use.	1 and 4	L
57	Fillongley Recreation Ground	2 senior football		Fillongley FC is investigating the possibility of merging its current changing facilities with the adjoining scout hut. Fillongley Parish Council plans to install new play equipment and a multi use games area.	Support the Parish Council to develop a management plan for this site.	2 and 4	M
58	Ansley Village	1 senior football		There have been complaints regarding dog fouling and occasionally motorbike usage on the site. The Parish Council identifies a need to provide a BMX track but due to a lack of funds this seems unlikely in the short term.	Support Ansley Parish Council to develop a management plan for development of this site.	1 and 2	M
59	Hill Top, New Arley	2 senior football		Poor quality pitches resulting in the site being overplayed.	Support Arley Parish Council to develop a management plan for development of this site.	2	S

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

West Forum

	Football			Cricket	Rugby union		
	Senior	Junior	Mini		Senior	Junior	Mini
Deficiencies	5.1	-2.9	-3.3	-4.0	1.8	-4.8	-2.7
Latent demand	-	2.5	-	0.5	-	-	-

All football pitches should be protected from development. The undersupply of junior football pitches could be met by increasing the use of various sites in the area which have spare capacity. The undersupply of mini football pitches could be met through the re-designation of one senior football pitch. The undersupply of cricket pitches should be rectified through a range of methods including increased community use of school sites and long term consideration of establishing new pitches. There is likely to be a need to find new rugby pitches to meet future demand.

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
11	Hurley Daw Mill	2 senior and 1 mini football pitch		Hurley Kings FC reports that it would like to secure long tenure on Hurley Daw Mill. This would better enable it to source funding to improve pitch quality, in particular drainage.	Transfer some play to Wood End Recreation Ground to reduce overplay. Consult clubs and landowners with existing short term leases or annual rental agreements to investigate the feasibility of extending current contracts, thereby better enabling the clubs to access external funding and develop/improve facilities.	4	S
13	Kingsbury School	2 senior football		Poor pitch quality is a reported issue. Kingsbury Rangers FC plays at this site and is affected by a lack of changing facilities available on site.	Work with the School to secure access to changing room provision for community use.	3 and 4	S

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
19	Piccadilly Recreation Ground	2 senior football		A split site with the community centre and a popular site. Despite this, the building suffers from vandalism and repairs have been costly.	Work with the local police and install CCTV to ensure vandalism is kept to a minimum.	2	S
25	Kingsbury Sycamore Drive Recreation Ground	1 senior football		Adequate quality pitch but it is used to capacity.	Retain and ensure maintenance of pitches remains high in order to sustain quality based on current amount of play.	2	S - L
27	Water Orton Vicarage Lane Playing Fields	1 senior football, 2 tennis courts and 1 bowling green		Good quality site. The site has changing room facilities for the football pitch, whilst the bowling green has a pavilion (being updated in summer 2010).	If required by Water Orton Tennis Club, additional capacity could be sought by floodlighting courts (if planning permission can be granted).	1 and 4	L
30	Wood End Recreation Ground	1 senior and 1 mini football		Pitches are prone to flooding due to poor drainage.	With increases to pitch quality, this site could accommodate overplay expressed at Hurley Daw Mill.	1	M
35	Spartans RFC & Aston Unity CC, Coppice Lane, Middleton	2 senior rugby		Spartans RFC share a home ground with Aston Unity CC and is outgrowing current provision. Potential to purchase nearby agricultural land. However, it does not currently have the funds to progress this.	Support pitch development plans and encourage designation of junior and mini rugby pitches in the area. Club should work with the RFU to identify funding opportunities.	1, 2 and 4	M

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP ref	Site	Pitches on site	Current capacity (where relevant)	Issues	Recommended action	Strategic objective met	Time scale
37	Water Orton Cricket Club	1 cricket		The Club has plans to introduce a ladies cricket team but reports inadequate spare capacity. In order to accommodate all matches, it accesses sites located outside the Borough.	Support the Club to access a second home ground in North Warwickshire to further enable its future development.	1 and 4	L
38	Old Saltleians RFC, Watton Lane, Water Orton	3 senior rugby		The Club will require access to a new ground in 2013/14 in order to prepare any new pitches for playing in 2017, if the proposed high speed rail link cuts through its current home ground as planned.	As required and necessary, support the Club to access a new site to replace its current home ground.	4	M
46	Nether Whitacre Cricket Club	1 cricket		Its site regularly suffers from flooding. If it had access to suitable changing provision in terms of size, quality and segregation the Club would be able to run additional teams. It identifies the need for access to a second home ground.	Support the Club to access a second home ground to further enable its future development.	1 and 4	L
61	Curdworth Recreation Ground	1 senior football and 2 tennis courts		Ancillary facilities used for tennis are reportedly of poor quality and floodlighting would be of benefit to the Club in the long term to enable it to increase participation.	Support Curdworth Parish Council to develop a management plan for this site to ensure ongoing improvement of facilities.	2	S

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

PART 8: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities

In order to deliver much of the Action Plan it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought. Although seeking developer contributions will go some way towards meeting deficiencies, other potential sources of funding should be investigated. Below is a list of funding sources that are relevant for community improvement projects involving sports facilities.

Awarding body	Description
<i>Awards for All - deleted</i>	
The Coalfields Regeneration Trust http://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/maingrantsprogramme/default.asp	Grants provided by The Coalfields Regeneration Trust can be for capital or revenue projects for up to three years or until the end of the programme. Support is available to projects that fit into one or more of the following funding themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting communities - aimed at supporting communities to play an active part in regeneration Learning communities - to make sure that coalfield communities have the best possible learning facilities and resources Enterprising communities - to increase the range and diversity of the social economy by encouraging social enterprise and supporting organisations to generate income Supporting people into work - to build on government employment schemes by supporting new, forward-looking and locally designed approaches that get people into work
Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/	Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment
Sport England : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Facilities Fund Sportsmatch Small Grants Themed rounds http://www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx	Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful.
Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/	This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Awarding body	Description
Rugby Football Foundation - The Loans Scheme http://www.rfu.com/microsites/rff/index.cfm?fuseaction=loans.home	The Loans Scheme helps finance projects that contribute to the retention and recruitment of rugby players. Projects eligible for loans include: 1. Club House Facilities: General structural improvements, general refurbishment, storerooms and offices, kitchen facilities, training areas. 2. Grounds (other than pitches): Car parking facilities, ground access improvements, fencing, security measures.
Rugby Football Foundation - The Grant Match Scheme http://www.rfu.com/microsites/rff/index.cfm?fuseaction=groundmatch.home	The Grant Match Scheme provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers).
Biffaward http://www.biffaward.org/about	Biffaward is a multi-million pound fund which awards grants to community and environmental projects across the UK. The fund's money comes from landfill tax credits donated by Biffa Waste Services. Biffaward is managed by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT) on Biffa's behalf. Under the Main Grants Scheme, grants are awarded to projects that provide or improve community spaces, cultural facilities and places for outdoor recreation.
<i>Advantage West Midlands deleted</i>	
EU Life Fund http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU.

Funder's requirements

Below is a list of funding requirements that can typically be expected to be provided as part of a funding bid, some of which will fall directly out of the Playing Pitch Strategy:

- ◀ Identify need (i.e., why the Project is needed) and how the Project will address it.
- ◀ Articulate what difference the Project will make.
- ◀ Identify benefits, value for money and/or added value.
- ◀ Provide baseline information (i.e., the current situation).
- ◀ Articulate how the Project is consistent with local, regional and national policy.
- ◀ Financial need and project cost.
- ◀ Funding profile (i.e., Who's providing what? Unit and overall costs).
- ◀ Technical information and requirements (e.g., planning permission).
- ◀ Targets, outputs and/or outcomes (i.e., the situation after the Project/what the Project will achieve)
- ◀ Evidence of support from partners and stakeholders.
- ◀ Background/essential documentation (e.g., community use agreement).
- ◀ Assessment of risk.

Indicative costs

The indicative costs of implementing key elements of the Action Plan are based on the following information taken from the Sport England kitbag.

The costs below are for the development of community sports facilities and are based on providing good quality sports facility for the 1st Quarter 2010. These rounded costs are based on schemes most recently funded through the Lottery, updated to reflect current forecast price indices for 1st Quarter 2010 provided by the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS), prepared by Technical Team Lead of Sport England.

There continues to be a significant challenge for the construction industry due to the ongoing recession. General building costs have continued to rise during this period and have been further hampered by exchange rates, building regulations amendments and BS/EN enhancements. However, the actual volume of new work output during this period has reduced tender prices. Therefore, depending on type of facility below, the net effect may mean lower, similar or higher building costs.

Whilst general building costs are due to increase, tender prices are expected to continue to fall through 2010, albeit at a slowing rate, as a result of falling new work output in 2010. Prices are expected to rise again near the end of 2010, as new work output returns to growth in 2011.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Tender prices could also be affected as a result of a new Government and potential impact on public spending. General building costs are likely to be further affected by environmental and sustainability considerations:

Facility	Type	Indicative cost
Outdoor tennis court	2 court, macadam, fenced and floodlit	£130,000
Synthetic turf pitches	Sand based 100 x 64m fenced and floodlit	£585,000
	Water based 100 x 64m fenced and floodlit	£900,000
	Third generation turf pitch including run offs 106 x 71m	£500,000
Grass pitch	100 x 64m	£80,000
	Drainage works	£15,000
	Re-marking/new posts	£3,000
	Floodlighting	£30,000
Multi-use games areas	40 x 18m fenced and floodlit	£80,000
Athletics track	6 lane floodlit	£1,115,000
Cricket wicket	Artificial	£6,000
Bowls	Crown green	£50-65,000
Changing rooms	4 team changing pavilion	£550,000

Table revised

The costs above include allowances for external works (car parks, roads, paths, services connections etc) are included at an average rate of 15% addition to the cost of the works.

Maintenance of natural turf pitches

It is estimated to perform the requisite amount of maintenance on a natural turf pitch costs in the region of £5,000/annum.

Maintenance of artificial turf pitches

The maintenance of artificial turf pitches should only be undertaken by fully trained and competent persons. It has been estimated that the current maintenance cost for a floodlit community/school soccer size pitch is in the region of £10,000/annum.

Rejuvenation processes, which may be necessary in five years, can cost in the region of £30,000 plus VAT.

Current estimates for resurfacing a soccer size pitch at today's rates is in the region of £200,000. This does not allow for any other incidental costs such as repairs to fencing, floodlighting, etc, and assumes a life cycle of 10 years.

PART 9: SETTING PLAYING PITCH STANDARDS

Introduction

Within local plans/unitary development plans, many local authorities use the FIT (Fields in Trust - formerly NPFA) guidelines to set local standards for outdoor sports provision. This is usually based on a number of hectares per 1,000 population, which should be protected and maintained as formal outdoor sports provision and designated as such in the local plan/LDF. FIT outlines 1.21 hectares of formal outdoor sports pitches as an aspiration for provision. Local authorities can then use this figure as a benchmark.

However, taking this analysis a step further to identify within the pitch stock, adequate and inadequate provision and levels of latent demand in the area, makes the standard significantly more representative of the local situation. By factoring in this information a 'qualitative local standard' can be derived. That is to say a local standard that takes into account local qualitative information.

The qualitative local standard is calculated by adding the hectareage of pitch stock available for community use to the identified shortfall/surplus of pitches (latent and future demand) and applying it to potential future population growth.

It is important that this document informs policies and emerging supplementary planning documents by setting out the Council's approach to securing outdoor sport facilities through new housing development. The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions for the provision of appropriate facilities and their long term maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of the pitches. A number of management objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ◀ Continue to ensure that where sites are lost, through development or closure, that facilities of the same or improved standard are provided to meet the continued needs of residents.
- ◀ Consider ring-fencing capital receipts from disposals of playing pitch facilities specifically for investment into other playing pitch facilities. They should be invested in accordance with the aims of the Strategy.
- ◀ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to a Section 106 Agreement. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106 Agreement must be completed specifying the amount and timing of sums to be paid.
- ◀ A 'central pot' for developer contributions across North Warwickshire should be established to invest in playing pitch facility provision and maintenance.
- ◀ Where new pitches are provided, changing rooms should be located on site.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Playing pitch standards have been calculated in line with Sport England guidance set out in 'Towards A Level Playing Field'. Within this report local standards or 'local aspirations targets for provision' in hectares per 1,000 population are derived as follows:

Existing provision (within this a recognition of 'poor quality' provision)	+	Additional provision to meet current unmet demand (latent demand identified through consultation)	+	=	Local aspirational target for provision (per 1,000 population - taking into account population projections for 2021)
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NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The Assessment Report divides North Warwickshire into four analysis areas. These have been adopted to allow more localised assessment of provision, examination of open space/facility surplus and deficiencies and local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. The following example calculation is applied to calculate how much provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve North Warwickshire in the future.

Table 7.1: Local standards calculations

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current standard (ha per 1,000 population)	Provision to meet latent demand (ha)	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand	Future population (2021)	Total new provision for 2021 (ha)	Deficiency in provision (ha)
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
			$A/B \times 1,000$		$A+D$	$E/B \times 1,000$		$(F \times G)/1,000$	$H-A$

The current level of provision (column A, B, C)

The current level of provision is calculated using the information collected and is presented earlier within the Assessment Report and analysed using the playing pitch project database.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Deficiencies (column D)

Latent demand

Latent demand is defined as the number of teams that could be fielded were access to a sufficient number of pitches available. Consultation reveals that several clubs currently consider themselves to have latent demand, which they cannot meet due to lack of access to good quality facilities. The table below provides a summary of latent demand identified across North Warwickshire and feeds into the standards calculations.

Table 7.2: Summary of latent demand

Analysis area	Pitches							Total hectareage
	Football			Cricket	Rugby			
	Senior	Junior	Mini	All	Senior	Junior	Mini	
North Forum	0.5	3.5	-	-	-	-	-	2.40
South Forum	0.5	1	-	1.5	-	-	-	3.57
East Forum	-	-	-	1.5	1	-	-	3.92
West Forum	-	2.5	-	0.5	-	-	-	2.85

Total future provision (column E)

This is calculated by adding latent demand (converted into hectares) to the total hectareage of current provision.

Target standards (column F)

Current population is applied to total future provision required to provide target standards by analysis area.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Future population growth (column G)

The Office of National Statistics has recently produced long term population projections. They project forward the midyear estimates of population for 2004 and give an indication of future trends by age and gender for next 25 years. Current total Borough population is 62,338 ONS (2008 mid-year population estimates).

ONS population projections (2006 – 2031) show that by 2021 (to fit with the Core Strategy and the Regional Spatial Strategy) the Borough population is projected to be 66,700. This equates to a total increase of 4,362 or 6.997%, which has been applied to each analysis area to reflect the population projections at a local level:

	(2008) Current population	6.9% Increase	(2021) Future population
North Forum	17,431	1,220	18,651
East Forum	14,713	1,030	15,743
South Forum	15,582	1,090	16,672
West Forum	14,612	1,022	15,634
North Warwickshire	62,338	4,362	66,700

The projections are trend based projections and do not take into account future local, regional or national policy and strategies.

Total new provision (column H)

Target current standards are then applied to the future estimated population growth per area to tell us how much provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve North Warwickshire until 2021.

Total new provision (column I)

We then present deficiencies between the current provision and future proposed provision in hectares.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

North Warwickshire outdoor sports pitch standards

The following table summarises the recommended local provision standards for outdoor sports in North Warwickshire. Target standards provide a guideline about how much provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve the Borough until 2021.

Table 7.5: North Warwickshire outdoor sports² pitch standards

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current standard (ha per 1,000 population)	Provision to meet latent demand (ha)	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand (ha per 1,000 population)	Future population (2021)	Total new provision for 2021 (ha) ³	Deficiency in provision (ha)
North Forum	19.43	14,713	1.32	3.60	23.03	1.57	15,742	24.65	5.21
East Forum	30.31	17,431	1.74	3.57	33.88	1.94	18,651	36.25	5.94
South Forum	30.40	15,582	1.95	3.92	34.32	2.20	16,672	36.72	6.32
West Forum	31.92	14,612	2.18	2.85	34.77	2.38	15,634	37.20	5.28
North Warwickshire	112.07	62,338	1.80	13.94	126.01	2.02	66,700	134.82	22.76

² Includes *all* outdoor sports facilities (i.e. pitches, courts and greens are included).

³ Due to rounding of figures there is a slight difference between those presented in the table (database generated) and those which are worked manually.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

It is important that all levels of analysis are kept up to date approximately every three years. In line with Sport England recommendations in Towards A Level Playing Field and that NWBC has a current audit and assessment of provision in order to respond appropriately to the needs of the local community.

The recommended standard for planning is the standard based on current demand.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY AND OUTDOOR SPORTS AUDIT

Calculating Section 106 contributions

The requirement for outdoor sports provision should be based upon the number of persons generated from the net increase in dwellings in the proposed scheme, using the average household occupancy rate of 2.32 persons per dwelling as derived from the Census 2001. On this basis 1,000 persons at 2.32 persons per household represents 431 dwellings.

The first stage is to calculate the total number of persons in the development (dwellings in the development multiplied by 2.32 (persons per dwelling). For example, 500 dwellings at 2.32 persons per household represent 1,160 persons.

The next stage is to calculate the hectareage required for the development. This is calculated by multiplying total persons in the development by the target local standard for the analysis area where the development is taking place and dividing the total by 1,000. For example, 1,160 persons multiplied by 1.32 (North Forum analysis area) and divided by 1,000 equals 1.53 hectares required.

Based on the figure that a senior football pitch (including run off) is 1.4 hectares, this would equate to a need of one senior football for example. For full breakdown of playing pitch sizes used in this report, please refer to the Appendix.

In addition to the standards calculations, the deficiencies and surpluses in provision identified within the PPM should also be taken into account, in terms of identifying where (by analysis area) provision is required. Please refer to the relevant pages within the sport by sport sections at the beginning of this report.

Calculation:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Number} & & & & & & \text{Hectares} \\ \text{of} & & & & & & \text{required for} \\ \text{dwellings} & \times & \text{Local} & = & (\div 1000) & = & \text{the} \\ \text{x 2.31} & & \text{standard} & & & & \text{proposed} \\ & & & & & & \text{development} \end{array}$$

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY AND OUTDOOR SPORTS AUDIT

Changing rooms

In the Borough, poor quality pitches are unable to accommodate the maximum number of weekly matches. In certain cases, this is due to either lack of changing facilities or current changing provision being poor quality. All playing pitches should be served by suitable, good quality ancillary facilities; these should be located in close proximity to the playing area.

To achieve an increase in participation in sport and physical activity in the Borough, it is imperative that in addition to the need to secure developer contributions for pitch provision, contributions should also be sought for improving and providing changing room accommodation using the following guidelines:

- ◀ Figures based on the sports facility costs from Sport England for the 2nd quarter of this year
http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/planning_tools_and_guidance/planning_kitbag.aspx
- ◀ Therefore the calculations below would need to change each quarter.
- ◀ Changing provision requirements are reliant on the number of pitches not the size of pitches. Changing facilities are required for new pitches, whether they are on or off site.

Example 1: Calculation for off site contribution for playing pitches:

Hectares required (Based on North Warwickshire standard)	/	640sqm (or 0.064ha) (typical area of grass pitch identified by Sport Eng for calculation purposes)	x	£80,000 (cost of grass pitch per 640sqm as identified by Sport England for calculation purposes)	=	£ off-site contribution
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Example 2: Calculation for off site contribution for changing rooms:

No. of Pitches (Need 2 team changing room per pitch)	x	£555,000 (cost of 4 team changing room as identified by Sport England for calculation purposes)	/	2 (based on 2 teams per pitch)	=	£ off-site contribution
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NB – the total figures do not include land value contribution or commuted sum for future maintenance.

PART 10: MONITORING AND REVIEW

It is important that there is regular monitoring (i.e. quarterly) and review against the actions identified in the Strategy.

The Council can monitor on an annual basis changes in the supply and demand for facilities by updating the assessment database with changes to site and team information.

This is important as regular monitoring of changes in supply and demand can avoid the need for a complete review of the Strategy after three years.

A Playing Pitch Strategy should be subject to a full review every three years under Sport England recommendations. However, regular monitoring of key supply and demand data can extend the life of the Playing Pitch Strategy to five years.

PART 11: CONCLUSIONS

The Playing Pitch Strategy seeks to provide guidance for planning decisions made across the Borough in the eleven years up to 2021. By addressing the issues identified in the Assessment Report and using the strategic framework presented in this Strategy, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of North Warwickshire can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, is engaged with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed, to ensure that playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of North Warwickshire Borough Council's corporate priorities and the vision set out by the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The production of this Strategy should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependant upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach. The Strategy is intended to be flexible and regularly updated using the accompanying database tools provided.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY AND OUTDOOR SPORTS AUDIT

APPENDIX ONE: PITCH SIZES

The following dimensions are used to calculate the area of pitch and non-pitch provision within this study. The dimensions include areas for side and end margins and are taken from Towards a Level Playing Field.

Pitch sizes - maximum and minimum								
Sport	Type	Min size (Metres)		Max size (Metres)		Safety margins (Metres)		Hectares max with safety
		L	W	L	W	Side	End	
Football	Senior	90	46	120	90	9	6	1.4
Football	Youth	70	42	82	56	3	3	0.5
Football	Minis U9/10	46	27	55	37	3	3	0.3
Football	Minis U7/8	27	18	46	27	3	3	0.2
Cricket	Senior	46	46	-	-	-	-	1.6-2.0
Cricket	Junior	37	37	-	-	-	-	-
Rugby union	Senior	-	-	144	69	3	5	1.2
Rugby league	Senior	100	55	122	68	3	6	1.0
Hockey	Senior	-	-	91	55	5	3	0.6

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY AND OUTDOOR SPORTS AUDIT

APPENDIX TWO: FA RECOMMENDED PITCH SIZES *Appendix added*

Age grouping	Type	Recommended Pitch Size in Yards (Length x width)	Suggested		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
			Size of Goal posts (Height x width)		Length		Width		Length		Width	
					Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
Mini-Soccer U7-U8	7 v 7	50 yds x 30.yds	6 ft	12 ft	50 yds	30 yds	30 yds	20 yds	45.72m	27.43m	27.43m	18.30m
Mini-Soccer U9-U10	7 v 7	60 yds x 40 yds	6 ft	12 ft	60 yds	50 yds	40 yds	30 yds	54.86m	45.72m	36.58m	27.43m
Youth U11-U12 prior to 31st Dec	7 v 7	60yds x 40 yds	6 ft	12 ft	60yds	50yds	40yds	30yds	54.86m	45.72m	36.58m	27.43m
Youth U12 after 31st Dec	9v9	80yds x 50 yds	7 ft	16 ft	80yds	70yds	50yds	45yds	73.15m	64.00m	45.72m	41.15m
Youth U13-U14	9v9	80yds x 50 yds	7 ft	16 ft	80yds	70 yds	50yds	45yds	73.15m	64.00m	45.72m	41.15m
Under 14 after 31st Dec	11v11	90yds x 55 yds	8 ft	24 ft	90yds	80yds	55yds	50yds	82.30m	73.15m	50.29m	45.72m
Youth U15-U16	11v11	100yds x 60 yds	8 ft	24 ft	110yds	90yds	70yds	50yds	100.58m	82.30m	64m	45.72m
Youth U17-U18 & Senior ages	11v11	110yds x 70 yds	8 ft	24 ft	130yds	100yds	100 yds	50yds	120m	90m	90m	45.5m

Agenda Item No 9

**Community and Environment
Board**

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Allotments Development
Programme**

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out progress in respect of the implementation of the Allotments Development Programme and seeks Members' approval to vary the support previously proposed for the development of allotments in Hurley.

Recommendation to the Board

- a That progress in respect of the Allotments Development Programme, as set out in the report and detailed in Appendix A, be noted and approved;**
- b That expenditure of the budget of £10,000 in support of the development of allotments on County Council owned land off Knowle Hill, Hurley, be approved;**
- c That the Hurley Allotments Association be reimbursed for the first year's rent for the site off Knowle Hill from the approved budget;**
- d That the Borough Council, for the first three years following commencement of the lease, underwrites a bond, up to a maximum of £1700, for the future reinstatement of the site at Knowle Hill, Hurley; and**
- e That Members indicate their preferred course of action in respect of the future use of the Authority's land off Queensway, Hurley.**

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Countryside and Heritage, Safer Communities, Health, Well-being and Leisure, Environment, Community Life and Resources, together with all appropriate Ward Members, have had the opportunity to comment on the content of this report.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 A progress report on the Allotments Development Programme was presented to the Board at its meeting held in March 2010. The latest position in respect of the Development Programme is summarised in the Action Plan attached at Appendix A. The Action Plan provides for the development of allotments in the Borough within the context of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy (2008 to 2018) and the Council's Allotments Policy Statement, which together provide the framework guiding work in this area of activity.

4 North Warwickshire Allotment Federation

- 4.1 The Authority continues to support the North Warwickshire Allotment Federation, which is now in its third year of activity. In May and June the Federation organised two successful trips for allotment holders; one to Barnsdale Gardens near Rutland and on a tour of Birmingham allotment sites, which provided an opportunity for networking and the sharing of ideas. In July, the Federation held its second North Warwickshire Allotment Awards and received 47 entries. New categories included an award for the best children's plot, for the best newcomer and also for the most improved plot. A successful awards evening was held in September. By the end of October the Federation will have completed a mapping exercise gathering information on all known allotment sites in North Warwickshire including details on location, waiting lists and numbers of plots. This information will not only be of value to the Federation, but also to the Borough Council in pursuance of related priorities in the Green Space Strategy and the provisions of the Allotments Policy Statement. The Federation's third Annual General Meeting will take place on the 20 January 2011.

5 Hurley

- 5.1 As reported to the Board in March 2010 there is considerable local support for the formation of an Allotment Association in Hurley. A group has now been established that meets regularly with Officers and is working towards the adoption of a formal constitution.
- 5.2 In March, it was also reported to Members that the Resources Board would be asked to approve the transfer of land within the Authority's ownership off Queensway, previously acquired for housing development, to this Board for use as an allotment site. Resources Board approved the transfer at its

meeting held in April 2010. During the course of further consultation in the village, however, it became apparent that there was strong, if very localised, objection to the proposed development of allotments on this site.

- 5.3 Before progressing the project further officers and members of the Allotment Association undertook to investigate whether any other potential sites could be identified, notwithstanding that the Authority itself has no other land in the village available for such a purpose. Subsequent discussions with Warwickshire County Council have established that a suitable site on land off Knowle Hill could be made available from February 2011. The Allotment Association has elected to proceed with the project at this site.
- 5.4 The new site currently forms part of a larger agricultural holding. In order to develop it for use as allotments the Association will be required to install hardstanding, fencing and gates, to plant hedges and to set out and cultivate the plots. Rent of £250 per annum will be due in advance and a bond, currently proposed at £1700, will be required against restoration of the land should the project be terminated in the future.
- 5.5 Funding of £10,000 has previously been allocated from the existing revenue budget for the development of allotments in Hurley, on the assumption that this would be on a site within this Authority's ownership. Members' approval is now sought to expend this budget in support of the project on County Council owned land. It is likely that the available budget will fund only a proportion of the works and that the Allotments Association will, therefore, need to secure additional external grant support from other bodies.
- 5.6 When supporting the development of new allotments on its own land it has been the practice of this Council to waive the first year's rent, to allow time for the new Association to establish a bank account and build funds through letting plots. Members' approval is sought to support Hurley Allotments Association in a similar way by including reimbursement of the first year's rent from the identified budget provision.
- 5.7 Negotiations with the County Council concerning the terms of the lease are ongoing, including with regard to the requirement for a bond. If this latter requirement is confirmed at £1700 it will be a difficult sum for the newly formed Association to find. It is, therefore, proposed that this sum be underwritten by the Borough Council for a period of three years from the commencement of the lease, after which responsibility for the bond will revert to the Association. If necessary, the sum could be found from existing earmarked reserves for allotments development.
- 5.8 As the site now proposed for the provision of allotments in Hurley will not become available until February 2011 it is unlikely that all development work, and therefore all related expenditure, will be completed by the end of this financial year. If the Board is minded to approve the use of the allocated budget for the new project, Members' are asked also to consider the reservation of any underspend at the end of the year to support completion of the development.

- 5.9 If the development of an allotment site at Knowle Hill, Hurley, goes ahead there will be no requirement for the land off Queensway for this purpose. Members' views are sought with regard to their preferred course of action with respect to the future use of this site. A plan of the site is attached for information at Appendix B.
- ...

6 Ansley Common – Bretts Hall

- 6.1 At its meeting held in March 2010 the Board was informed of the proposal to install more secure boundary fencing to the allotment site at Bretts Hall in Ansley Common, in support of a multi-agency approach to dealing with a number of problems identified in the area. The order has now been placed for the fencing work, which is expected to be completed as a matter of urgency.
- 6.2 Officers will work with the Allotments Association to further develop the site once it has been secured.

7 Report Implications

7.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 7.1.1 Subject to the Board's approval, establishment of allotments on the County Council owned site at Knowle Hill, Hurley, can be funded from the approved 2010/11 Allotments and Biodiversity budget.
- 7.1.2 If necessary, the cost of the bond for reinstatement of the site could be met from the existing Allotments Improvement Fund.
- 7.1.3 The installation of fencing at Bretts Hall in Ansley Common will be funded from existing specifically earmarked reserves in the Grounds Maintenance and Green Space Fund.

7.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 7.2.1 Community engagement at allotment sites can contribute to a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour both directly by offering positive activities and indirectly by changing the perception of an area through good land management and increased presence. Well-managed allotment sites make a valuable contribution to the pride and well-being of local communities and help to ensure that these areas are less vulnerable to vandalism and flytipping.
- 7.2.2 Specific action, set out in paragraph 6 above, is being undertaken in respect of community safety issues at Bretts Hall Allotments in Ansley Common.

7.3 Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 7.3.1 Any improvements undertaken to new or existing allotment sites will be compliant with all relevant legislation.

7.4 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 7.4.1 Regeneration of allotment sites offers the opportunity for community engagement in sustainable food production, composting of green waste and wildlife-friendly land management. As such, related activity affords opportunities for constructive and healthy activity within communities, an improvement of the local environment, enhanced social inclusion and heightened individual and collective quality of life.

7.5 Risk Management Implications

- 7.5.1 The risk management implications of the Allotments Development Programme have been addressed in previous reports to Board.
- 7.5.2 The risk management implications of the project to establish allotments at Knowle Hill in Hurley are addressed in the assessment below.

7.6 Equalities Implications

- 7.6.1 The equalities implications of the Allotments Development Programme have been addressed in previous reports to Board.

7.7 Links to Council's Priorities

- 7.7.1 The implementation of the Allotments Development Programme contributes directly to the corporate priorities to:
- Enhance community involvement and access to services
 - Protect and improve our environment
 - Defend and improve our countryside and rural heritage
 - Tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens
 - Work with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Make best use of our resources
- 7.7.2 The implementation of the Allotments Development Programme contributes directly to the priorities of the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy to:
- Raise aspirations, educational attainment and skills
 - Develop healthier communities
 - Improve access to services

7.7.3 Further, the implementation of the Allotments Development Programme delivers against priorities set out in the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy and the Authority's Allotments Policy Statement.

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (719212).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)	Report to Community and Environment Board (Allotments Development Programme)	March 2010

Risk Management Form

**NORTH WARWICKSHIRE
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Leisure & Community Development Division

Landscape Management Section

Risk Ref	Risk: Title/Description	Consequence	Likelihood (5 = high, 1 = low)	Impact (5 = high, 1 = low)	Gross Risk Rating	Responsible Officer	Existing Control Procedures	Likelihood(5 = high, 1 = low)	Impact (5 = high, 1 = low)	Net Risk Rating
1	Failure to develop and manage the site effectively	Loss of reputation Financial loss	3	2	6	Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development)	<p>Site to be leased by Warwickshire County Council to the Hurley Allotments Association, which shall be formally constituted and shall manage the site through an agreed set of Rules.</p> <p>Funding agreement to be effected between the Borough Council and Hurley Allotments Association to ensure appropriate use of the budget.</p>	2	2	4
Risk Ref	Options for additional / replacement control procedure						Cost Resources	Likelihood (5 = high, 1 = low)	Impact (5 = high, 1 = low)	Net Risk Rating

Completed By: Alethea Wilson

Date: 13th September 2010

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resources	Responsible Officer	Progress
DELIVERY AGAINST THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF THE NORTH WARWICKSHIRE GREEN SPACE STRATEGY					
Establish a framework to enable the Borough Council to contribute to delivery of key priorities SP017 and SP018 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy	Prepare an Allotments Policy Statement for approval by Members	December 2008	Staff time	LM / CDO(E)	Complete – policy Statement approved at C.& E Board in January 2009
In accordance with key priority SP017 support the establishment of a federation of allotments associations for North Warwickshire	Carry out consultation with allotment associations to establish demand for a federation and to determine a way forward	December 2008	staff time and volunteer time £1000 grant from WCC	CDO(E)	Complete - North Warwickshire Allotment Federation constituted
	Establish a framework through an SLA to support the continuing development of the Allotment Federation and ensure funding is available to enable delivery	March 2009	staff and volunteer time £1000 in 2008/09, £750 in 2009/10, £500 per annum thereafter	CDO(E) / Federation / LM	Complete - SLA in place and funding identified in existing budget
	Establish an annual prize giving event	March 2009	staff and volunteer time	Federation / CDO(E)	Annual event established to take place in September.

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resources	Responsible Officer	Progress
PROJECTS					
New Arley Gun Hill					
In accordance with key priority SP018 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy support the local community to establish an Allotment Association and bring about the regeneration of the former site at Gun Hill, New Arley					Complete
Warton					
In accordance with key priority SP018 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy support the local community to establish an Allotment Association and bring about the regeneration of the former site at Waverton Avenue, Warton					Regeneration of allotments complete - wildlife area on hold pending proposals to develop housing on part of the site

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resources	Responsible Officer	Progress
Mancetter					
In accordance with key priority SP018 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy support the local community to establish an Allotment Association and bring about the development of a site in Mancetter	Carry out community and member consultation to determine the way forward with regard to land at Ramsden Road, Mancetter	October 2008	staff time	LM / CDO(E)	C. & E. Board October 2008 determined not to progress with this site – matter referred to Corporate Property Officer Dec 2008 for future consideration.
	Confirm the need for further allotment land in Mancetter	August 2010	staff and volunteer time	CDO(E) / Federation	To be progressed through a Borough-wide mapping exercise to be carried out by the North Warwickshire Federation – outcome expected by November 2010
	Subject to a need for new provision being confirmed, determine the availability of the site at Old Farm Road, Mancetter	September 2010	staff time	LM	To be progressed once the outcome of the mapping exercise is known

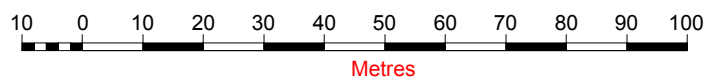
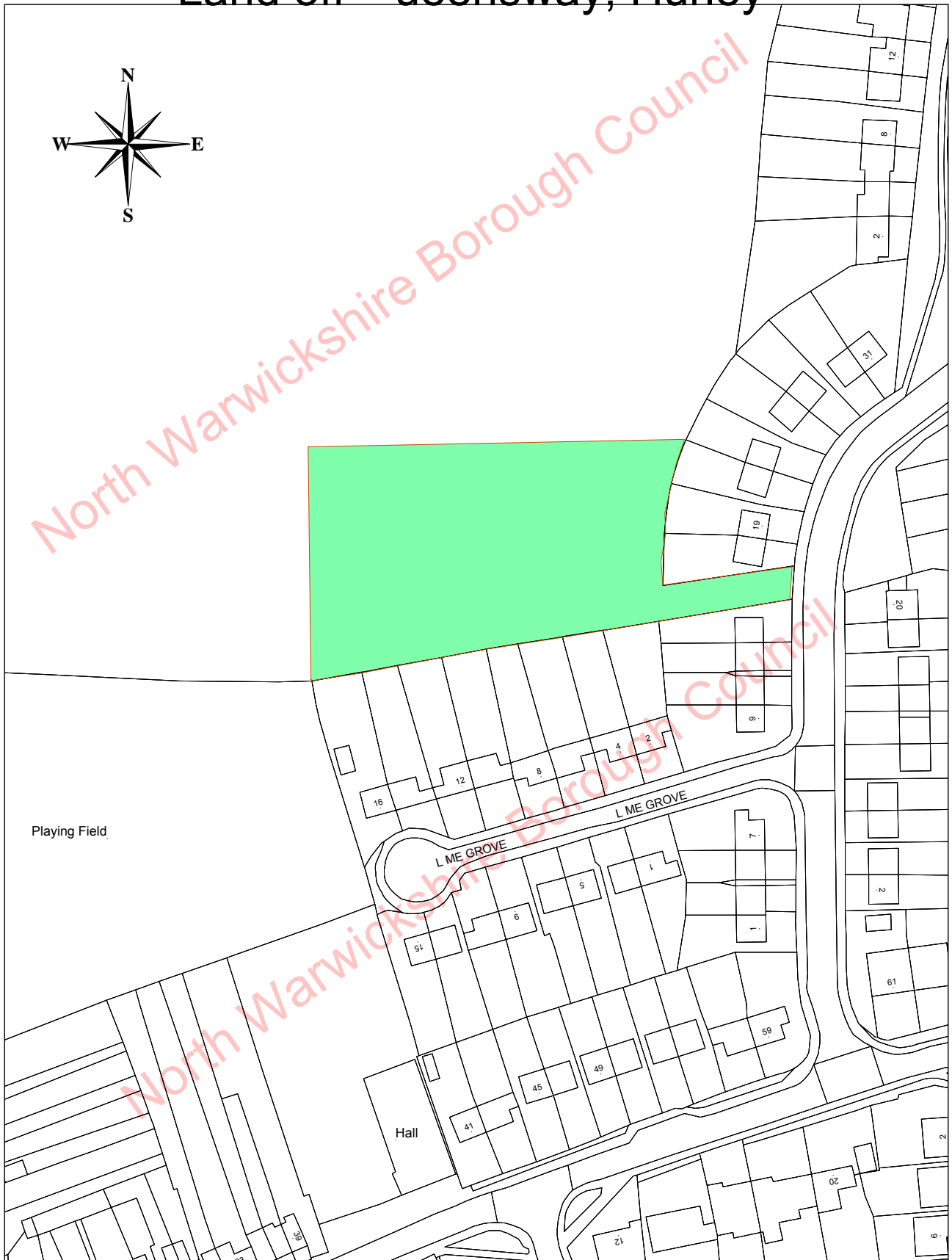
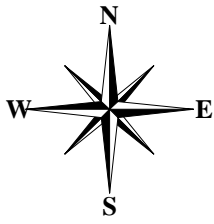
Objective	Action	Timescale	Resources	Responsible Officer	Progress
Hurley					
In accordance with key priority SP018 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy, and in response to a petition from local residents, support the local community to establish an Allotment Association and bring about the development of a site in Hurley	Carry out community consultation to determine feasibility and the way forward for the establishment and long-term management of a site	Summer 2010	staff time	CDO(E) / LM	Allotment Association set up and working towards formal constitution.
	Secure a new site for allotment provision in Hurley subject to confirmation of community interest - confirm the availability of a potential site identified off Queensway	April 2010	staff time	LM	Community interest confirmed – request for the use of the land off Queens Way approved by Resources Board in April 2010 but objections lodged by neighbouring residents. Discussions in progress with Warwickshire County Council, alternative site expected to be available February 2011.
	Subject to availability of a site prepare the land for handover to an Allotment Association	Spring 2011	staff and volunteer time £10,000 from the revenue budget	Allotment Association / LM / CDO(E)	Subject to site availability

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resources	Responsible Officer	Progress
Ansley Common, Bretts Hall					
In accordance with area priority AP027 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy and the Safer Neighbourhoods Action Plan develop an improvement plan for the Bretts Hall Allotments site in Ansley Common	As a first step secure the site by the installation of more robust boundary fencing	March 2010	£25,000 from earmarked reserves	LM	Expected to be completed September 2010
PROJECT MANAGEMENT					
Ensure effective delivery of, and accountability for, the Allotments Development Programme	Review and, if necessary, revise the Allotments Policy Statement annually	annual	staff time	LM / CDO(E)	Revised Policy Statement approved by C. & E. Board March 2010
	Review and, if necessary, revise leasing arrangements for Borough Council sites	June 2010	Staff time	LM	To be progressed
	Hold regular progress meetings	bi-monthly	staff time	LM/ PDM/ CDO(E)	Ongoing meetings
	Complete risk assessments for the Allotments Development Programme and for each development project	December 2008 and at inception of projects	staff time	LM	Assessments in place

Objective	Action	Timescale	Resources	Responsible Officer	Progress
PROJECT MANAGEMENT <i>continued</i>					
Ensure effective delivery of, and accountability for, the Allotments Development Programme <i>continued</i>	Complete initial equalities impact needs assessment for the Allotments Policy Framework	December 2008	staff time	LM	Initial EINA completed
	Monitor revenue budget	on-going	Staff time	LM	Monthly finance reports
	Reporting to Members	on-going	staff time	LM / AD(L&CD)	Next report to C. & E. Board in October 2010

AD (L&CD) – Assistant Director (Leisure & Community Development Division) LM – Landscape Manager PDM – Partnership & Development Manager
 CDO(E) – Community Development Officer (Environment)

Land off ueensway, Hurley



North Warwickshire
Borough Council



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Agenda Item No 10

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Queen Elizabeth II Fields
Challenge**

1 Summary

- 1.1 The report informs Members of the opportunity for the Authority to take part in the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge.

Recommendation to the Board

That the Board indicates whether or not it wishes the Authority to take part in the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge and, if so, nominates sites for suggested inclusion within the programme.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Environment, Safer Communities, Health, Well-being and Leisure, Community Life and Resources, together with all Ward Members, have had the opportunity to comment on the content of this report.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is a project to create a permanent legacy from the two major events scheduled to occur in the United Kingdom in 2012: Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics.
- 3.2 Fields in Trust (the operating name for the National Playing Fields Association) is inviting local authorities across the country to nominate a number of fields in their area that it is believed would merit protection as Queen Elizabeth II Fields. Nominations will then be subject to a public vote in 2011. By working in conjunction with partners, Fields in Trust aims to deliver increased participation in outdoor activities and volunteering schemes. The Challenge will culminate in "Have a Field Day", a 2012 nationwide mass participation community event on protected sites across the country.
- 3.3 The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge offers the Borough Council an opportunity to take part in this high profile national campaign, which seeks to

afford lasting benefits for local communities. More particularly, it offers the opportunity to protect important community assets (parks and/or playing fields) by:

- Making an express and recognisable commitment to local people to safeguard land, facilities and opportunities for sport, play and outdoor recreation both now and in the future
- Protecting public access to outdoor space
- Providing reassurance to potential investors regarding viability and sustainability
- Ensuring that in the case of sale proceeds are reapplied to replacement facilities, with a priority on new outdoor publicly accessible facilities.

As such, the initiative accords well with this Authority's commitment to the provision and development of outdoor recreation space, as demonstrated through the adopted North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy, the North Warwickshire Play Strategy and the draft North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy.

- ...
- 3.4 More detailed information from Fields in Trust is set out in Appendices A and B. Information can also be found on the websites www.qe2fields.com and www.fieldsintrust.org

4 The Legal Process

- 4.1 Any field selected for protection through the Challenge would be made subject to a deed of dedication safeguarding it in the longer term. The objective is to protect sites in perpetuity but in special circumstances Fields in Trust would consider protecting a site for a fixed period of time, but not normally less than 99 years. Whilst legal ownership of, and management responsibility for, the land would remain with the Council, it would be held in trust for the inhabitants of a specific area and would be known as a "Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field".

- 4.2 Fields in Trust would be a party to the dedication in order that it would be able to oversee the scheme and ensure that the Council fulfils its obligations under the deed, on behalf of the community which has the benefit of the dedication.

- ... 4.3 Appendix C explains more fully the implications of entering into a deed of dedication.

- 4.4 The Authority can only nominate sites for protection that are within its ownership. Information regarding the Challenge has been forwarded to town and parish councils for their consideration in relation to sites that they own.

5 Potential Sites for Nomination

5.1 The Borough Council owns 14 sites that would potentially be eligible for protection, namely:

- Atherstone Royal Meadow Drive Recreation Ground
- Hartshill Grange Road Recreation Ground
- Mancetter Brook Walk Recreation Ground
- Ridge Lane Recreation Ground
- Dordon Kitwood Avenue Recreation Ground
- Dordon Long Street Recreation Ground
- Grendon Boot Hill Recreation Ground
- Polesworth Abbey Green Park
- Coleshill Cole End Park
- Old Arley Recreation Ground
- Hurley Recreation Ground
- Kingsbury Sycamore Road Recreation Ground
- Piccadilly Recreation Ground
- Wood End Recreation Ground

5.2 Fields in Trust does not place any limit on the number of sites that can be nominated by a single body. It has a target, however, of protecting 2012 sites by the time of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games. Further to receipt of advice from Fields in Trust, the Board is advised to take a balanced view that demonstrates the Authority's commitment to the long-term provision of outdoor recreation space whilst not unduly limiting its future options as a landowner. In this regard, Members should note that protections already exist for parks and open spaces through relevant planning law. It is felt, therefore, that if the Board wishes to become involved in the Challenge it would be appropriate to nominate only very key site(s) for potential inclusion in the initiative. Taking account of Green Space Strategy priorities and the potential implications of the draft Playing Pitch Strategy, it is suggested that these "key sites" could include one or more of Brook Walk Recreation Ground, Mancetter, Abbey Green Park, Polesworth, Old Arley Recreation Ground and/or Sycamore Road Recreation Ground, Kingsbury.

5.3 Each of the identified sites is a significant area of recreational space within the local community offering a range of facilities, including children's play areas, teen provision and sports pitches. The sites at Mancetter, Polesworth and Old Arley have received significant capital investment in recent years and further investment in play facilities is planned at Old Arley and Kingsbury. All four sites offer potential for further improvement in the future.

5.4 After taking due account of the protections already in place for parks and open spaces and the need to retain flexibility as a landowner, Members views are sought as to whether the Authority should take part in the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. If so, they are also asked to identify sites for suggested nomination.

6 Report Implications

6.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 6.1.1 There are limited financial implications of becoming involved in the Challenge. Dedication of sites as Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields would require appropriate signage to be installed, which would be funded from the existing Parks and Playing Fields revenue budget.
- 6.1.2 There may be costs associated with the legal process of executing deeds of dedication and / or registering land. It is expected that these would be minimal and that they would be met from within the existing parks and playing fields revenue budget.
- 6.1.3 If the Council subsequently disposed of dedicated land in accordance with section 36 of the Charities Act 1993 the proceeds of sale must be reinvested in an appropriate replacement facility, otherwise a scheme of the Charity Commission - a legal document which gives formal consent to amend, replace or amplify a charity's governing document - would be necessary.

6.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 6.2.1 Access to outdoor space has been shown to help with community cohesion and to reduce anti-social behaviour.

6.3 Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 6.3.1 The establishment of a charitable trust of land by a deed of dedication would be a disposal for the purposes of land registration. If the land is currently unregistered there may be a need to submit an application for first registration.
- 6.3.2 A deed of dedication would contain restrictions on the Council's behaviour in respect of the dedicated site. Fields in Trust would have the ability to approve, or object to, any disposal of the site or erection of structures thereon. If the Council did subsequently wish to dispose of the land it may be possible with the consent of Fields in Trust, provided that the land is replaced by another dedication and the disposal is undertaken in accordance with section 36 of the Charities Act 1993.

6.4 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 6.4.1 Access to outdoor space has been shown to help with community cohesion, reducing anti-social behaviour and improving the health and well-being and quality of life of people of all ages.
- 6.4.2 Protection of outdoor recreational sites ensures their sustainable provision for future generations.

6.5 Risk Management Implications

6.5.1. No new risk implications would arise from dedicating sites through the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. The sites would remain within the responsibility of the Borough Council and would be subject to the risk management processes already in place.

6.6 Equalities Implications

6.6.1 No new equalities implications would arise from dedicating sites through the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. In providing outdoor recreation space the Authority strives to be equitable to all sectors of the community.

6.7 Links to Council's Priorities

6.7.1 Dedication of sites through the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge would contribute to the corporate priorities to:

- Enhance community involvement and access to services
- Protect and improve our environment
- Defend and improve our countryside and rural heritage
- Tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens
- Work with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (719212).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
None			

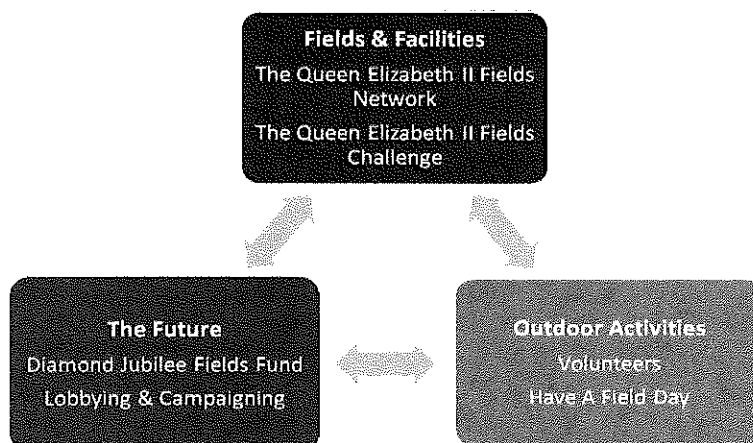
Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge



The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is an exciting new programme to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee led by its Patron Prince William. It is a landmark project to create a permanent, tangible and relevant legacy from the two major events scheduled to occur in the UK in 2012; Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics.

Access to outdoor space has been shown to help with community cohesion, reducing anti-social behaviour and improving the health and well being of people of all age groups. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics represent fantastic opportunities for more work to be done in tackling these key national issues.

Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is the largest programme in the UK to protect and improve outdoor recreational space and is structured around three pillars:



The campaign will create a branded network of 2012 permanently protected playing fields in communities all across the UK – the Queen Elizabeth II Fields, in Scotland the Queen Elizabeth Fields - as a visible, permanent, grassroots legacy arising from 2012.

We plan to challenge the public, with the support of a national media partner, to create their own legacy by voting for a local playing field to be protected in their community. By working in conjunction with partners we will deliver increased participation in outdoor activities and volunteering schemes. The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge will culminate in Have a Field Day, a nationwide mass participation community event on protected sites all across the country.

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in a high profile nationwide campaign with real local impact. It will secure a permanent and credible legacy which will benefit generations to come.

Please play on the grass!



How Can Local Authorities Get Involved?

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is an exciting new programme to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee led by its Patron Prince William. It is a landmark project to create a permanent, tangible and relevant legacy from the two major events scheduled to occur in the UK in 2012; Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics.

We would like Local Authorities across the country to nominate a number of fields in their area that they would be happy to protect as a Queen Elizabeth II Field which can then be put to a public vote in 2011. The eventual winner will be protected and designated a Queen Elizabeth II Field.

Local Authorities can submit their nominations to the Challenge by contacting Fields in Trust on info@fieldsintrust.org or on 020 7427 2110.

What Do Local Authorities Gain?

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is a fantastic opportunity to be part of a high profile national campaign that has a real impact and benefit on local communities. It represents an excellent and cost effective way for Local Authorities to mark both the Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics in their area whilst also securing a platform to help achieve key targets around increasing physical activity and promoting the sustainability agenda.

What Are the Benefits of Protecting Fields?

- Making an express and recognizable commitment to local people to safeguard land, facilities and opportunities for sport, play and outdoor recreation both now and forever
- Protecting public access to outdoor space
- Providing reassurance to potential investors regarding viability and sustainability
- Ensuring that in the case of sale proceeds are reapplied to replacement facilities, with a priority on new outdoor facilities



What Flexibility is Built Into Protection?

Fields in Trust has developed a range of options for long-term protection. Flexibility allows for measures to be put in place which are:

- Charitable or non-charitable
- In perpetuity or for a set number of years (not usually less than 99)
- Specific to safeguarding the actual or foreseeable type of sport, play or recreational or usage involved including indoor facilities where appropriate

What is the Minimum Criteria for Queen Elizabeth II Fields?

Existing sites protected by Fields in Trust and new sites to be afforded protection by Fields in Trust need to satisfy the following criteria if they are to be accepted into The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

The criteria are:

- Evidence of title permitting site use for outdoor, sport, play and/or recreation must be produced.
- Sites may be provided with facilities and equipment or used as general open space, and established for that purpose by way of planning requirements
- Each site's principal use should be outdoor sport, play and/or recreation, though FIT wants to be flexible and in this context dedications also including indoor leisure facilities, village halls or other buildings enabling community recreation will be considered
- The minimum acceptable size is 0.2 hectare (0.5 acre)
- Sites need to be accessible in terms of location
- Sites need to be accessible in terms of affordability for the community concerned
- Sites should be open to the public, established charitably, as facilities held by a sports club under the CASC regime or held as Public Open Space
- All sites will need local managers, who will be responsible for the quality of facilities, their maintenance and development, improving participation and use, and financial and operational sustainability
- Compliance with existing legislation relating to sport, play or open space

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 What is the initiative all about?

The QEII Fields Challenge aims to safeguard hundreds of playing fields in perpetuity for future generations in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee and as a permanent tribute to Queen Elizabeth II. The initiative has particular pertinence given the other landmark event scheduled to take place in the UK in 2012: the London Olympics.

2 Why is access to green space such an important issue at this time?

Access to outdoor space is vital for communities and plays an important role in providing a place for both physical activity and relaxation. Sport and play are essential tools for developing confidence, self-esteem and learning the importance of team work. It is well documented that community recreation reduces alienation, loneliness and anti-social behaviour whilst also promoting ethnic and cultural harmony.

The recent Inverdale report published in May 2010 states that there is evidence that the number of playing fields has reduced from 26,000 in 1992 to 20,000 in 2009 and so it is vital that we take action.

3 How many fields actually need to be secured to reach the 2,012 target? How many do you have already?

Around 1,500 need to be secured to make the 2,012 target. At present, Fields in Trust currently protects 1,271 fields. Many of these are already dedicated to specific people or purposes, notably the King George V Memorial Playing Fields, which were established as a memorial to the late Monarch after his death in 1936, and total 471 fields. Some other sites that make up the 1,271 fields are very localised and small and do not meet the criteria established for the Queen Elizabeth II Fields. Therefore, the total number of existing sites that can be included is approximately 550 leaving the total of new dedications to be found between now and 2012 at around 1,512.

4 Are you creating any new fields? Or are they all existing fields?

It is anticipated that the vast majority of the fields commemorating The Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be existing playing fields – where they are valued and supported by the votes of local people it is very important that they are protected. However we also hope to help create some brand new fields by protecting outdoor space within new housing estates, persuading private landowners to donate land for recreational use – especially in rural areas – and potentially through the conversion of public wasteland.

5 Aren't you just re-naming existing fields after The Queen?

Absolutely not, Fields in Trust exists to safeguard fields through legal means by placing covenants on the land, meaning they have to remain playing fields forever. Decades of urban development have seen the stock of playing fields reduce substantially. Once lost, playing fields are lost for good. FIT's aim is to safeguard existing fields for the future. The QEII Fields Challenge will boost *existing* numbers of safeguarded fields for the benefit of future generations.

6 Once the 2,012 target is reached, will the programme end?

It's too early to say. At the moment, the target is for 2,012 fields, but Fields in Trust has an ongoing programme of saving and enhancing playing fields, so we would always be interested in more.

7 Is there a deadline for acquiring the 2,012 sites - 2012?

FIT will be working to secure as many Queen Elizabeth II Fields as possible by 2012 but some fields may come on line after this date if negotiations are protracted. As the Challenge heralds the

beginning of an exciting decade of sporting events in the UK we are very happy that the project may extend beyond 2012.

8 What is the role of the UK Government in this programme?

The previous and current governments have both been broadly supportive of this initiative to protect outdoor spaces for sport, play and recreation in the landmark year of 2012. An endorsement of the campaign from Hugh Robertson, Minister for Sport and the Olympics is on our website.

9 Who are you targeting with this initiative?

FIT aims to engage the whole nation with this exciting legacy initiative. At the outset we are chiefly targeting the larger local authorities as their support for the project is absolutely the key to its success. We want each Local Authority throughout the United Kingdom to nominate a series of playing fields in their area that they would be happy to protect as a Queen Elizabeth II Field (to be known as a Queen Elizabeth field in Scotland). We will then target the public at large by putting these fields forward to a vote allowing the general public to vote for their favourite local playing field to be protected. We hope that the public will be excited by the chance to be involved in creating a permanent and tangible legacy to benefit their community both now and in the future. We also hope that Local Authorities will see the great benefits that protecting these spaces will have in terms of addressing some of their key agendas around increasing physical activity, promoting social cohesion and improving the environment, alongside celebrating Her Majesty's 60 years on the throne in a long-lasting way for their communities.

On a secondary level we also want to encourage any town, parish or community council; sports club, recreational charity, voluntary body or private landowner who might want to get involved with the initiative and so will be accepting submission of individual fields to the scheme providing they meet the set criteria. This will provide a great opportunity to create some brand new playing fields.

11 Why should Local Authorities get involved with this initiative?

Local Authority elected members and officers take many important decisions and The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge presents an opportunity to safeguard a community facility that will not only benefit people today but also generations to follow, securing for communities access to outdoor spaces for sport, recreation and play. At a time when one in three children under 12 is overweight or obese, protecting and encouraging greater use of local parks and playing fields is vital.

12 How will people vote for their nominated field?

The public will vote for their favourite local playing field through our new website www.qelfields.com. All playing fields nominated by Local Authorities will be uploaded to this site so that people can search for their area and cast a vote for the field they would like to be protected as a Queen Elizabeth II Field. We are hoping to provide a mechanism to enable the public to cast votes by phone and text. Voting will commence in 2011.

13 How can the public support the Challenge?

The public can support the Challenge in a number of ways including by actively voting for playing fields to be protected and encouraging their Local Authority to sign up to the initiative. Donations from the public to the Challenge would, of course, also be welcomed!

14 Will Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland be as interested in a campaign that has the London Olympics as one of its pillars?

The project aims to create playing fields in perpetuity for future generations across the UK as a lasting legacy of the Diamond Jubilee. Clearly there is relevance to the many other sporting events this decade: Olympics in London and the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, together with other landmark events such as the Rugby World Cup scheduled for 2015.

15 How is a playing field defined and what are the criteria to be met?

There are many ways to define a field but what we are primarily interested in are sites used for outdoor sport, physical recreation and play. We do however also recognise the importance of informal use and therefore there will be sites of real community value which function as general open space. We want to include these where appropriate.

16 Does Fields in Trust lobby Government for a change in the law?

FIT's primary aim is to secure better access to outdoor space for sport, play and recreation for everyone, and so part of their core work involves campaigning to strengthen the statutory protection of playing fields. FIT have had considerable success lobbying government over the years and helped to secure greater protection for both school and community playing fields and will continue to seek enhancement of this legislative protection.

17 Does FIT try to influence Local Authorities in their decision making?

Fields in Trust has worked very closely with Local Authorities since its formation in 1925, and of course continues to do so. We recognise fully the contribution made by many Authorities in terms of providing and managing playing fields and other forms of open space for local communities. We have had a positive impact in terms of recommending facility standards for sport and play, recreational planning matters including the widely used *Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play* (aka *The Six Acre Standard*), direct protection of sites owned and managed by authorities (about 50% of the 1271 we protect) and indirect protection through planning and educational legislation.

19 Why are you putting this to a public vote? Why not protect all the nominated fields?

We want to create a real sense of public engagement around the project so that communities not only feel that something relevant and tangible is created as a legacy but that they have played a part in helping to create it. FIT's model works very much on the basis of local ownership and management and so we are pleased to be able to extend this community involvement to the new campaign. Our goal is 2,012 fields protected by 2012 but, with sufficient funds, we'd be delighted to include more fields in the overall tally. On this occasion first past the post will operate – maybe it will engender some local competition!

20 What is the legal process for protecting these sites?

With the larger local authorities we aim first to agree a Memorandum of Understanding governing our joint commitments to matters relating to site identification, nomination and selection. When the actual sites have been selected following the community voting process, each site will be made subject to a deed of dedication safeguarding it in the longer term. Our objective is to protect sites in perpetuity but in special circumstances we would consider protecting a site for a fixed period of time, but not normally less than 100 years.

21 Will the specific playing field always be protected?

Fields in Trust does accept that on rare occasions communities change and land use changes accordingly. Parts of sites, or very rarely, whole sites can therefore be disposed of provided the disposal is of clear advantage, and in the best interests of the community, from a recreational perspective. The criteria which FIT applies to replacement facilities are that they should be of:

- at least equal size
- better quality

- serving the same community in terms of catchment area.

Additionally, and very importantly, the entire proceeds of any disposal should normally be re-applied to new sport, recreation and/or play facilities, with priority given to outdoor prior to indoor facilities

22 Can previously dedicated fields be included?

It depends on the terms of the dedication but where any site is dedicated as a memorial to one or more deceased people, FIT regards it as inappropriate for inclusion in the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge.

23 Will FIT take over the management of a field?

No, all the sites protected by FIT are locally managed. Local communities, landowners and users are in a far better position to know how local facilities can best be provided, used and enhanced. All aspects of management and maintenance are determined locally. FIT's role is custodial and advisory. We see protection by these means as having a light touch but being absolutely effective. We ensure that the fact of protection of these sites is in the public domain and that any change of use or any buildings which fall outside the terms of protection need our specific advance consent.

www.qe2fields.com

fields@fieldsintrust.org



FIELDS IN TRUST: DEED OF DEDICATION COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are we being asked to sell the relevant land?

No. Legal ownership of the land remains with the Council. However, the land is held on trust for the inhabitants of a specific area and is to be known as a “Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field” (it is essential that a sign is erected at the site identifying the land as such (see clause 4.5 of the deed)).

Whilst ownership remains with the Council, the establishment of the charitable trust of land by the deed of dedication would be a disposal for the purposes of triggering land registration. Therefore if the land is unregistered you may be obliged to submit an application for first registration of the land.

Why is the National Playing Fields Association a party to the deed?

“National Playing Fields Association” is the constitutional name for “Fields in Trust” and is the name under which the charity enters into contracts and deeds. Fields in Trust is a party to the dedication so that it is able to oversee the scheme and ensure that the Council fulfils its obligations under the deed, on behalf of the community which has the benefit of the dedication.

How long does the trust last?

Once the land is dedicated for charitable purposes the charitable trust exists in perpetuity.

Why are we being asked to register the trust as a charity?

Charitable trusts are subject to various controls under charity law. Charity trustees have a statutory duty under the Charities Act 1993 to register their charity with the Charity Commission unless their gross annual income is less than £5,000. Some charities are exempt or excepted by law from registration, but that does not apply to these dedications. Note that even if the charity has a small income and so is not required to register, it is still subject to the jurisdiction of the Charity Commission and the constraints of charity law. This legal registration requirement is set out in clause 4.6 of the deed. Once dedicated, the land will be what is referred to as “functional permanent endowment” that is dedicated to delivering a specific charitable purpose. We would note that if the income of the charity from all sources exceeds £5,000 you will need to register it with the Charity Commission but this will not be something that Fields in Trust can help with and you should obtain your own legal advice.

Do we have to use the site as “public playing field and recreational ground” only (clause 4 of the deed)?

No. Depending on the site’s current and possible future use, the user clause can be amended by agreement e.g. it could include reference to “open space” or to “a community hall”.

How will the deed restrict our dealings with the dedicated site?

Clauses 4.1 to 4.5 of the deed contain restrictions on the Council’s behaviour in respect of the dedicated site. It is important in particular to Fields in Trust that it has the ability to approve (through the consent mechanism in the deed, which requires Fields in Trust to act reasonably (see clause 4.8)) any disposal of the site or erection of structures thereon, although it may be possible to carve out certain types of structures (e.g. sports pavilion or changing rooms) from this restriction.

If the Council does wish to dispose of the land, this may be possible with the consent of Fields in Trust provided that the land is replaced by another dedication and the disposal is done in accordance with section 36 of the Charities Act 1993 as set out below.

How will the charitable status of the trust restrict our dealings with the dedicated site?

Section 36 of the Charities Act 1993 states that no disposal of charity land can be made without an order of the Court or the Charity Commission. It does provide a statutory self certification system for disposals without such an order provided the requirements of sections 36 and 37 are strictly followed. One of the important restrictions which still require an order is disposals to connected persons. This would arise for example, if the Council as charity trustee were to dispose to itself in its capacity as a local authority.

As a matter of charity law the dedicated site is functional permanent endowment. This means that even if there is a power to dispose of the land under section 36 the proceeds of sale must be reinvested in an appropriate replacement facility. If the proceeds are to be used for any other purpose, a scheme of the Charity Commission will be necessary. The reason for this is that in not replacing the dedicated site the Council would be making changes to the original charitable purposes of the charity, and that needs a scheme of the Charity Commission.

If further information is needed we suggest that you discuss this with the Charity Commission or refer to the latest guidance note (currently CC38) on its website www.charity-commission.gov.uk

Will Fields in Trust maintain the site?

No. Even though clause 4.4 of the deed provides that Fields in Trust may provide advice on the management and running of the site, the responsibility for maintaining the site remains with the Council. Fields in Trust has no ongoing obligations in respect of the site. Clause 4.4 of the deed of dedication also places an obligation on the Council to maintain the land having regard to the guidance issued from time to time by the Charity Commission to Local Authority Trustees and the local government toolkit available at www.charity-commission.gov.uk/Library/toolkit. The Council will need to satisfy itself as to its duties as a local authority as well as its duties as trustees of a charitable trust and any conflicts may need to be referred to the Charity Commission.

What is the General Disposal Consent 2003 (the GDC) (clause 3 of the deed)?

The GDC sets out circumstances in which a local authority is able to dispose of an interest in land without the Secretary of State's consent. These include when the disposal is likely to contribute to the achievement of the promotion of the social well-being of residents or persons present in its area. The entering into of a trust constitutes a disposal of beneficial interest in land and therefore the trust needs to fall within the GDC if specific Secretary of State consent is going to be avoided.

Why is the value of the property important (clause 3 of the deed)?

If a local authority disposes of an interest in land for consideration less than its value (an "undervalue") and such undervalue exceeds £2 million, consent of the Secretary of State is still required, even where it falls within the GDC.

What if the disposal does not fall within the GDC or is at an undervalue of more than £2 million?

It is for the Council to satisfy itself as to whether the GDC is applicable to the particular disposal and if the £2 million threshold is exceeded. In the event that the disposal does not fall within the GDC or is at an undervalue of more than £2 million, the Council should seek consent from the Secretary of State.

What do the statutory references in the first paragraph of clause 4 mean?

The deed requires compliance with certain statutory provisions which can be briefly explained as follows:

Section 111 LGA 1972 deals with subsidiary powers of local authorities providing for powers to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive to, the discharge of any of their functions.

Section 2 LGA 2000 permits local authorities to take any steps they consider are likely to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental well-being of the local community, subject to restrictions in section 3.

S127 LGA 1972 deals with disposals of land held by parishes and communities.

Should I seek legal advice in relation to entering into the deed?

Yes, if the Council feels that such advice is needed. While Fields in Trust are happy to assist you in understanding the purpose of the deed, this is a potentially complex area of law and the Council should ensure that it seeks any legal advice necessary to enable it to enter into the deed.

3 August 2010



Agenda Item No 11

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Atherstone Leisure Complex –
Redevelopment of Crèche Space**

1 Summary

- 1.1 At its meeting held in June, the Board resolved to close the crèche at Atherstone Leisure Complex with effect from the end of December 2010. In so doing, Members also instructed officers to present costed proposals for viable alternative uses of the space released through closure of the crèche. This report details a specific development proposal for the consideration of the Board.

Recommendation to the Board

That, on the basis of the financial and usage projections detailed in the report, the Board approves both the development of the proposed Lifetimes Fitness Studio subsequent to the closure of the crèche at Atherstone Leisure Complex and the proposed level of charges identified in the report.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Safer Communities, Health, Well-being and Leisure, Community Life and Resources, together with appropriate Ward Members, have all had an opportunity to comment on the content of this report.
- 2.1.2 At their meeting held on 1 September 2010, Members of the Environment and Health, Well-being and Leisure Portfolio Groups noted the proposed development of a new health and fitness service at Atherstone Leisure Complex.

3 Background

- 3.1 When it determined to close the crèche at Atherstone Leisure Complex with effect from the end of December 2010, the Board recognised that an opportunity existed to develop a new service for the community in the space thus released and, in so doing, both enhance use of the facility and reduce its operational subsidy. Officers, therefore, were instructed to investigate potential alternative uses of the crèche room and subsequently present costed proposals for viable alternative uses of the area in question.
- 3.2 In pursuance of this undertaking, officers gave due consideration to perceived community demand and the priorities of both the Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy. Particular regard was paid to the need to enhance access to services, to develop healthier communities and to increase the customer base at the Leisure Complex whilst also reducing its budget deficit. Specific focus was afforded to those sections of the community least likely to access the Leisure Complex, including women, older people and those people with greater risks to their health and welfare.

4 Lifetimes Fitness Studio

- 4.1 The Board will be aware that potential use of the crèche space is constrained by its relatively small size and design. It cannot, therefore, accommodate bulky equipment and a central column restricts movement in the room. Nevertheless, consideration was given to a range of options that included the use of the space as a meeting area, a venue for various types of parties and/or youth activities or an inter-active health and fitness studio.
- 4.2 Subsequent to research and site visits (to one of which Members were invited), based on trend analysis in the leisure industry, the use of new technologies and the desire to engage “hard to reach” groups, it is considered that it would be most appropriate to develop the space to provide a focused, yet flexible range of health and well-being activities that would appeal to a broad spectrum of people within the local community. Similar to the “Gymophobics” concept, the proposed installation of “Easy Line” type fitness equipment within a “Lifetimes Fitness Studio” would provide a new, exciting and multi-functional healthy workout experience that would both complement and enhance the existing service offering within the Leisure Complex.
- 4.3 The Easy Line type equipment is modern, versatile and accessible, in that it provides health and fitness workouts, complemented by physical gaming and reaction applications, that appeal to young people (over the age of 13 years), as well as affording an opportunity to programme sessions specifically for women, older people and those with health and/or mobility problems. Through its eight lightweight fitness stations, the under-pinning technology also enables the development of tailored sessions for people who are “time poor”, but who would welcome a total body workout in under 30 minutes. In so doing, the Lifetimes Fitness Studio, which would be the first of its type in the Borough, would provide a new health and well-being service, in that its low impact, full body workout seeks to provide an opportunity for people who are

less fit and/or less active than they wish to be to undertake a specific, appealing and accessible exercise programme without the need to enter that which some people consider to be the daunting fitness suite environment. Accessibility would be further enhanced through the flexible programming of the Studio, which would include sessions for specific age groups and single sex sessions, as well as “open access” arrangements.

- 4.4 The benefits of providing a full body workout within a 30 minute period include the opportunity to levy charges (Table A) that are proportionately lower than those applicable in the Authority’s full fitness suites (see Table B). Subject to the introduction of the Lifetimes Studio, existing direct debit “members” will have the option to upgrade their package to “Ultimate Plus” for an extra £6.00 per month. They will then have unlimited access to the proposed new Lifetimes Studio (subject to specific programming considerations). Alternatively, the following charges are proposed:

Table A

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Catagory</i>	<i>Charge</i>
Lifetimes Studio	Standard	£2.50 + VAT
Lifetimes Studio	Junior/Concession	£2.00 +VAT
Lifetimes Studio	Direct Debit	£5.00 +VAT per month

Table B

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Catagory</i>	<i>Charge</i>
Lifetimes Fitness Suite	Standard peak	£4.09 +, VAT
Lifetimes Fitness Suite	Standard off peak	£3.06 + VAT
Lifetime Fitness Suite	Concession	£2.04 + VAT

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 The Council has corporate priorities to “enhance access to services”, to “tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens” and to “achieve a balanced budget”. On occasions, these priorities can conflict with one another. This was the case when the Council made the difficult decision to close the crèche at the Leisure Complex. The proposed development of the Lifetimes Fitness Studio, however, affords an opportunity for a coherent approach to be taken to the advancement of these priorities and those of the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 5.2 The closure of the crèche has enabled a thorough review to be made of the options for making more financially viable use of the space thus released. The Easy Line type equipment would enable the development of a health and well-being service that would appeal to young and older people, women and those with fitness and mobility problems. Importantly, the project business plan indicates that provision of this new service would enable of full year

revenue saving of approximately £13,000 a year after three years, following pay back of the equipment and refurbishment costs.

6 Report Implications

6.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 6.1.1 The capital cost of the eight station Easy Line type equipment is approximately £10,000, plus a requirement for minor works to the area totalling £3,000, which it is proposed be funded from the Council's Invest to Save budget. This includes a requirement to pay back the capital sum within a period of time defined within a supporting project business plan. In this case, the business plan would propose a three-year pay back for the equipment costs.
- 6.1.2 The ongoing revenue costs of the Suite include a £2,000 annual contribution to the replacement of the equipment, which has an expected five year lifespan, and provision for 18.5 hours a week of Instructor/Coach time, which is anticipated to cost £12,896 per annum, based on 2010/11 pay scales.
- 6.1.3 Within the table below, it is estimated that five standard and three junior/concessionary cash paying customers will use the Studio during each peak hour of operation, of which there are four in each day. It is also assumed that there will be 5% (33 members) of existing direct debit members taking up the "Ultimate Plus" package). In adopting a cautious use projection, no assumption has been made about off-peak use. On this basis, the Studio will realise a full-year revenue saving of over £13,000 after three years of operation.
- 6.1.4 If it is assumed that only three standard and two junior/concessionary customers use the Studio during each peak hour of use (Table II), the facility would still breakeven after three years. These calculations additionally assume that the introduction of the Lifetimes Fitness Studio would not have an adverse impact on any other service within the Leisure Complex and that there would be no additional utility costs.

Table I

Easy Line Net Costs - Expected Usage

5 Adults and 3 Junior/Concessions Users per

Peak Hour, plus 5% DD take up

	Year			
	1	2	3	4
Income	(27,901)	(27,901)	(27,901)	(27,901)
Inductions	(1,240)	(248)	(248)	(248)
Total Income	(29,141)	(28,149)	(28,149)	(28,149)
Staff Costs	12,896	12,896	12,896	12,896
Equipment Payback	4,333	4,333	4,333	
Contribution to Replacement Fund	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Net Cost	(9,912)	(8,920)	(8,920)	(13,253)

Table II

Easyline Net Costs -

3 Adults & 2

concessions per peak

hour +5% DD take up

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
income	(18,10	(18,10	(18,10	(18,10
inductions	(1,240)	(248)	(248)	(248)
Total Income	(19,34	(18,34	(18,34	(18,34
Staff Costs	12,896	12,896	12,896	12,896
Equipment payback	4,333	4,333	4,333	0
Cont to replacement	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Net Cost	(112)	880	880	(3,453)

6.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 6.2.1 Appropriately timetabled and accessible leisure opportunities provide constructive alternatives to anti-social and/or criminal behaviour and thereby help to reduce the likelihood of disorder within the community.

6.3 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 6.3.1 The development of the proposed Easy Line type service would ensure provision of opportunities for improved constructive leisure activity within communities and enhance local cohesion, social inclusion and individual quality of life. It also impacts positively upon the creation of sustainable, healthy and safe communities.

6.4 Human Resources Implications

- 6.4.1 The project business plan includes provision for the employment of a part-time Instructor/Coach, which, subject to Board approval for the project, would

be undertaken in accordance with the Authority's Recruitment and Selection Policy.

6.5 Risk Management Implications

6.5.1 The risks associated with the proposals are attached in the accompanying risk assessment.

6.6 Equalities Implications

6.6.1 An Equality and Impact Needs Assessment is attached to the report.

6.7 Links to Council's Priorities

6.7.1 As identified in the main body of the report, the proposals contained herein have the potential to impact upon the corporate priorities to:

- Enhance community involvement and access to services
- Tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens
- Work with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Make best use of our resources through achieving a balanced budget and developing our workforce

6.7.2 The report content and its inherent proposals also have positive implications for the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities to:

- Raise aspirations, educational attainment and skills
- Develop healthier communities
- Improve access to services

The Contact Officer for this report is Peter Wheaton (719257).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
None			

Equality Impact Assessment Summary Sheet

Please complete the following table summarised from the equality impact assessment form. This should be completed and attached to relevant Board reports.

Name of Policy Procedure/Service	Lifetimes studio development
Officer Responsible for assessment	Peter Wheaton

Does this policy /procedure /service have any differential impact on the following equality groups /people

- (a) Is there a positive impact on any of the equality target groups or contribute to promoting equal opportunities and improve relations or:
- (b) could there be a negative impact on any of the equality target groups i.e. disadvantage them in any way

Equality Group	Positive impact	Negative impact	Reasons/Comments
Racial	x		Options exist to specialise sessions
Gender	x		Options exist to specialise sessions
Disabled people	x		Facility could be developed to improve activity options for people with a disability
Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people			
Older/Younger people	x		Positive impact if the facility developed to create opportunity for a wider range of people from the local community to participate.
Religion and Beliefs			
People having dependents caring responsibilities		x	Closure of the facility may result in loss of opportunity for childcare whilst participating in leisure activities.
People having an offending past			
Transgender people			

Agenda Item No 12

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Leisure Facilities –
Bank Holiday Closures**

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks the Board's approval for the Bank Holiday closure of leisure facilities during 2011/12.

Recommendation to the Board

That the schedule of leisure facility closures, as set out in paragraph 4.1 of this report, be approved.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Health, Well-being and Leisure, Community Life and Resources, together with appropriate Ward Members, have all had an opportunity to comment on the content of this report.

3 Background

- 3.1 Leisure facilities close for eight statutory and four extra statutory days each calendar year. In order to close when public demand and income levels are likely to be relatively low and, conversely, open when the demand for access is higher, it is suggested that the schedule of closures identified below is approved by the Board. In this regard, it is proposed that the extra statutory day following the Spring Bank Holiday be transferred to 24 December 2011 and that the extra statutory day following the August Bank Holiday be transferred to 31 December 2011.
- 3.2 The proposed extended closure over the Christmas and New Year period allows for essential maintenance to be undertaken at a time when public demand for use is very low.

4 Proposed Leisure Facility Closure Schedule

4.1 The proposed 2011/12 leisure facility closure schedule is as follows:

1	Good Friday	Friday 22 April 2011
2	Easter Monday	Monday 25 April 2011
3	May Day	Monday 02 May 2011
4	Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 30 May 2011
5	Late Summer	Monday 29 August 2011
6	Day from 01 June	Friday 24 December 2011
7	Christmas Day	Saturday 25 December 2011
8	Boxing Day	Sunday 26 December 2011
9	Extra Statutory Day	Tuesday 27 December 2011
10	Day from 30 August	Friday 31 December 2011
11	New Year's Day	Saturday 01 January 2012
12	Day from Easter	Sunday 02 January 2012

5 Report Implications

5.1 Financial Implications

5.1.1 Proposed budgetary provision for 2011/12 will provide for the extent of closure indicated in this report. The proposed schedule will also enable the facilities to minimise the impact of the closures and remain open during periods of higher customer demand.

5.2 Environment and Sustainability Implications

5.2.1 There is a judgement to be made on the balance between the likely low level of demand for the services on the proposed days of closure and the potential benefits for the health and well-being of a small number of customers who may wish to use the facilities on these days. If the facilities are open during peak periods of demand this will maximise the potential health benefits for customers.

5.3 Risk Management Implications

5.3.1 Changes to facility opening hours impact upon levels of customer demand. This has, however, been considered within the context provided by the proposals contained in the report and the risk is felt to be minimal, given that the proposed closures are scheduled for the periods of lowest customer use.

5.4 Equalities

5.4.1 Opening hours are monitored in relation to demand. It is not believed that these opening hours, or the proposed closures, disproportionately affect any particular groups or members of the community and it is not considered that the report proposals will adversely affect the Council's drive to ensure equalities in all aspects of service provision.

5.5 Links to Council Priorities

- 5.5.1 The proposed facility closures will ensure that the centres remain open during periods of peak demand and, therefore, enhance community involvement and access to services and ensure that the Council is making the best use of its resources. The proposals also allow the facilities to maximise opportunities for participation, thereby enabling the Council to “tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens”. Additionally, the proposals are consistent with the three priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The Contact Officer for this report is Peter Wheaton (719257).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
None			

Agenda Item No 13

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

Report of the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive

Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April - June 2010

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Community and Environment Board for April to June 2010.

Recommendation to the Board

That Members consider the performance achieved and highlight any areas for further investigation.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio Holder and Shadow Portfolio Holder for Resources, Councillors Bowden and Butcher have been sent a copy of this report and any comments received will be reported to the Board.

3 Background

- 3.1 This report shows the first quarter position with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets for 2010/11. This is the first report showing the progress achieved so far during 2010/11.

4 Progress achieved during 2010/11

- 4.1 Attached at Appendices A and B are reports outlining the progress achieved for all the Corporate Plan targets and the performance with the national and local performance indicators during April to June 2010/11 for the Community and Environment Board.

- 4.2 Members will recall the use of a traffic light indicator for the monitoring of the performance achieved.

Red – target not achieved

Amber – target currently behind schedule and requires remedial action to be achieved

Green – target currently on schedule to be achieved.

5 Performance Indicators

- 5.1 The current national and local performance indicators have been reviewed by each division and Management Team for monitoring for the 2010/11. All the indicators including the quarterly and annual returns are shown on the spreadsheet. Only the quarterly returns will be shown on subsequent reports until the year end returns are prepared. Members should be aware that the current set of national indicators are being reviewed by the Coalition Government and maybe subject to deletion and or changes in the current year. For example, the requirement to carry out a Place Survey has recently been announced as being cancelled.

6 Overall Performance

- 6.1 The Corporate Plan performance report shows that 84% of the Corporate Plan targets and 76% of the performance indicator targets are currently on schedule to be achieved. The report shows that individual targets that have been classified as red, amber or green. Individual comments from the relevant division have been included where appropriate. The table below shows the following status in terms of the traffic light indicator status:

Corporate Plan

Status	Number	Percentage
Green	21	84%
Amber	4	16%
Red	0	0%
Total	25	100%

Performance Indicators

Status	Number	Percentage
Green	19	76%
Amber	6	24%
Red	0	0%
Total	25	100%

7 Summary

- 7.1 Members may wish to identify any areas that require further consideration where targets are not currently being achieved.

8 Report Implications

8.1 Safer Communities Implications

- 8.1.1 There are community safety performance indicators which are reported to Executive Board.

8.2 Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 8.2.1 The national indicators have been specified by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government as part of a performance framework for local government as set out in the local Government White Paper Strong and Prosperous Communities. They are currently being reviewed by the Coalition Government.

8.3 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 8.3.1 Improvements in the performance and quality of services will contribute to improving the quality of life within the community.

8.4 Risk Management Implications

- 8.4.1 Effective performance monitoring will enable the Council to minimise associated risks with the failure to achieve targets and deliver services at the required performance level.

8.5 Equalities

- 8.5.1 There are a number of equality related actions and indicators highlighted in the report including developing access to community services, tackling health inequalities and inter generational work.

8.6 Links to Council's Priorities


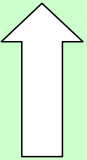
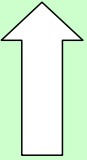
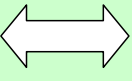
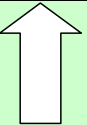
- 8.6.1 There are a number of targets and performance indicators contributing towards the priorities of access to services, improving housing in the borough, tackling health inequalities, achieving a balanced budget and developing our workforce.

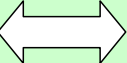



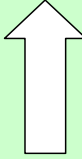
The Contact Officer for this report is Robert Beggs (719238).

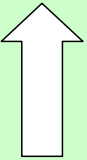
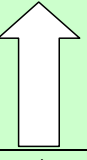
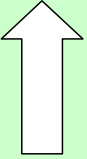
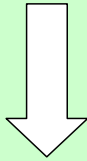
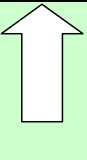
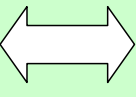
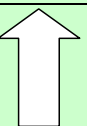
Background Papers






Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97




Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
National Indicators for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships	Department for Communities and Local Government	Statutory Guidance	February 2008

Ref	Start Date	Action	Board	Lead Officer	Reporting Officer	Theme	Sub-Theme	Update	Traffic Light	Direction
7	Apr-10	Implementing the annual LEADER business plan. The objectives of the LEADER project are to improve ease of access to community services for individuals, communities and businesses in rural North Warwickshire and specifically targeting those groups with most barriers to face through isolation and deprivation; and to develop a more inclusive and sustainable community transportation and communications network within, between and beyond settlements in the area	Community & Environment Board	Pro tem DCE	Simon Powell	Community Life		Work on implementing the LEADER Business Plan is progressing according to the timescale agreed with AWM. The LEADER Development Officer is in post and working with relevant groups, with a view to the submission of projects for inclusion within the programme. DEFRA support for LEADER, however, is currently subject to review, the outcome of which will not be known until September 2010.	Green	
9	Apr-10	Raising aspirations, skill levels and attainment through recognised vocational qualifications, volunteering and targeted activities (e.g. Cook and Taste, Activities4U, leadership and environmental awards, etc.) Action within the Leisure and Community Development Division will secure the attainment of 105 nationally or locally accredited qualifications in 2010/11	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Community Life		Work to raise aspirations, skill levels and attainment is progressing in accordance with action plans in the Partnership and Development section. Targeted activities have included Cook and Taste and Healthy Lifestyle programmes in schools in Arley, Atherstone and Hartshill. Further healthy eating programmes have also been developed for the summer. Recognised vocational qualifications have been achieved through the Children's University.	Green	
10	Apr-10	Taking action in accordance with targets and outcomes identified in the LEADER business plan to protect existing village shops and post offices in order to ensure our villages are as vital and sustainable as possible by a) Continuing supporting rural post offices by awarding 100% rate relief; b) Investigating and pursuing projects and opportunities which help to maintain rural services; and c) Identifying opportunities to find resources to support village shops and social enterprises	Community & Environment Board	AD (R&B) / DCE	Bob Trahern	Community Life		100% rate relief has been awarded in line with the Councils guidelines to all rural post offices in 2010/11	Green	
35	Apr-10	Continuing to be sympathetic to the needs of the farming and rural communities to improve access to services and enhance communication for and with rural communities	Community & Environment Board	ACE(CS)	Bob Trahern	Community Life	DCE	This will be reliant on LEADER bids being successful in terms of access issues. The remainder will be focus on ensuring key messages across services are communicated to rural communities where necessary	Amber	
37	Apr-10	Implementing LEADER projects that contribute to village renewal, development and conservation and upgrading the rural heritage in accordance with the LEADER business plan	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Community Life		The closing date for the first round of Expression of Interests is 19 July 2010. The Development Officer will work with potential applicants to develop eligible projects that meet LEADER objectives.	Green	

Ref	Start Date	Action	Board	Lead Officer	Reporting Officer	Theme	Sub-Theme	Update	Traffic Light	Direction
39	Apr-10	Continuing to participate in Economic Development and work with partners including WCC, C & W Chamber, AWM by participation in the LAA Economy Theme Group, the Sub regional economic development group, the Warwickshire Investment Partnerships and the sub regional Destination Management Partnership and to implement the actions in accordance with the groups' work plans and issue emerging from the Warwickshire Economic Area Assessment	Community & Environment Board	CE	ACE (CS)	Community Life	DCE	Discussions are currently taking place with the County Council regarding representation and input to county wide economic development activity.	Amber	
45	Apr-10	Ensuring that the levels of cleanliness on roads, streets, pavements and open spaces within the Borough are maintained to not more than the 2009/10 year end figure for National Indicator 195a of 8%	Community & Environment Board	AD (S)	Richard Dobbs	Environment		The latest survey results indicate that the Council is well on course to meet the year end target of 8%.	Green	
46	Apr-10	Identifying flooding and drainage projects will be continued and specific issues tackled in conjunction with partners (incl. WCC & Environment Agency) through advice, investigation and (where necessary) enforcement including projects to spend the Property Protection Grant allocation and implementation of the site specific action plans by March 2011	Community & Environment Board	AD (S)	Richard Dobbs	Environment		Property Protection Grant Funding allocation is on schedule as are other ongoing flooding projects.	Green	
47	Apr-10	Continuing to work closely with Public Realm Partners on all public realm issues within the Borough and to review the Partnership's effectiveness by March 2011	Community & Environment Board	AD (S)	Richard Dobbs	Environment		Partnership work is continuing to produce results - particularly on main roads in the Borough. Review will take place later in the year.	Green	
48	Apr-10	Encouraging communities, in conjunction with other partner organisations, to identify and report public realm concerns and thereafter ensure that four sustainable local "clean up" initiatives are undertaken	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD) / AD (S)	Simon Powell	Environment		Four community clean-up events have been supported, in Atherstone, Hurley, Polesworth and Water Orton, through the loan of litter picking equipment, the removal of rubbish and graffiti, the provision of skips and the supply of graffiti removal equipment. Additional targeted fly-tipping work has taken place in Corley, as identified through the local PACT process.	Green	











Ref	Start Date	Action	Board	Lead Officer	Reporting Officer	Theme	Sub-Theme	Update	Traffic Light	Direction
49	Apr-10	Working with WCC and other relevant agencies to support and deliver actions that promote waste minimisation, recycling, litter awareness and reduce dog fouling, including through work with eight schools and support for the national eco-schools programme	Community & Environment Board	AD (S) / AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Environment		Two talks on recycling have been given to schools (Oakfield and Racemeadow). As a result, Racemeadow students are currently designing a banner for the recycling vehicle to help encourage more people to recycle. Nine Schools also received a visit from Recycler the Rapping Robot (via WCC) to promote the "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" message. These visits were targeted at schools which had not received a previous visit, not yet engaged with eco-schools programme or accessed offers of recycling talks.	Green	
50	Apr-10	Reviewing the success of the Warden Scheme and examining ways in which the service could be expanded or improved in conjunction with relevant Town and Parish Councils and local Members by September 2010	Community & Environment Board	AD (S) / DCE	Richard Dobbs	Environment		Review to be initiated at the Environment Portfolio Group meeting due to be held in September.	Green	
51	Apr-10	Reviewing grass cutting arrangements through the outcomes of the Grounds Maintenance Service Review as well as continuing to work with town and parish councils to target specific areas by May 2010	Community & Environment Board	AD (S) / AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Environment		The initial Grounds Maintenance Service Review work (including grass cutting arrangements) is complete and a new draft specification has been prepared, which will be considered, along with the relevant financial implications, by the C&E Board at its meeting in October.	Green	
52	Apr-10	Complete the review and adopt the action plan arising from the related Parks and Open Spaces Value for Money Review by May 2010	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD) / AD (S)	Simon Powell	Environment		Work on the Parks and Open Spaces VFM Review has been delayed, principally due to the demands of the Playbuilder Programme (a matter that has been reported to the Scrutiny Board). It is now anticipated that the Review will be completed in September/October	Amber	
53	Apr-10	Exploring opportunities to work more closely with neighbouring authorities, Contractors and WCC to improve recycling services across the Borough and increase the recycling rate to over 30%	Community & Environment Board	AD (S)	Richard Dobbs	Environment		A revised contract with the new contractor 'Palm Recycling' will be put into operation in October 2010. The kerbside collection service will then cater for the collection of plastics and cardboard. It is anticipated that a significant lift in performance will result.	Green	
54	Apr-10	Policies on renewable energy and reducing carbon to be included in the Core Strategy which will be publicised by October 2010 and then submitted formally to the Secretary of State	Community & Environment Board	ACESC	Dorothy Barratt	Environment		Work on Core Strategy stalled due to abolition of RSS	Amber	
55	Apr-10	A Climate Change Strategy will be agreed by Members, including an updated action plan, with a view to reducing the carbon emissions of the Council by 10% in 2010/11	Community & Environment Board	ACESC	Steve Maxey	Environment		The strategy has been agreed. The work towards implementing the action plan is ongoing.	Green	



Ref	Start Date	Action	Board	Lead Officer	Reporting Officer	Theme	Sub-Theme	Update	Traffic Light	Direction
56	Apr-10	Implementing phase 3 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy in accordance with the revised Action and Funding Plan	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Health & Wellbeing		Work to implement phase 3 of the GSS is progressing satisfactorily and in accordance with the Action and Funding Plan.	Green	
57	Apr-10	Within the context provided by the Health, Well-being and Leisure Strategy and on-going discussions relating to "Building Schools for the Future", determining by October 2010 and then commencing implementation of the agreed approach to the future provision, management and operation of the Council's leisure facilities, having particular regard to the short and long-term future of Coleshill Leisure Centre	Community & Environment Board	Deputy CE /AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Health & Wellbeing	DCE	The Building Schools for the Future programme has now been stopped by the Coalition Government. Work is progressing, however, in respect of the future provision, management and operation of the Council's leisure facilities and particularly with regard to the future of Coleshill Leisure Centre.	Green	
58	Apr-10	In conjunction with the Children, Young People and Their Families theme group, reinvigorating the NW Play Partnership and continuing to co-ordinate implementation of the NW Play Strategy, in accordance with the revised Action Plan	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Health & Wellbeing		Discussions are being held with relevant partners. In the meantime, Officers are continuing to co-ordinate implementation of the NW Play Strategy in accordance with the Action Plan.	Green	
59	Apr-10	Continuing to evaluate, and thereafter report on, the impact of the three-year Play Area Development Programme by September 2010 and completing the implementation of the local Playbuilder programme by March 2011	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Health & Wellbeing		Evaluation of Phase 1 of the Play Area Development Programme has been completed and reported to the C&E Board in June 2010. It will be further reported to Scrutiny Board in September 2010. New play facilities have been installed at Ridge Lane and Baddesley Ensor through the Playbuilder Programme. Consultation has been completed for installations in Kingsbury and Old Arley and scheme designs are being produced.	Green	
60	Apr-10	In accordance with the approved Allotments Policy Statement, advancing the development of a further allotment site in North Warwickshire, most likely in Hurley, by March 2011	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Health & Wellbeing		Work is progressing with a group of residents in Hurley to help them form a constituted Allotments Association. A potential site has been identified, although it is subject to a degree of local opposition. Alternative sites are being explored, including land in the ownership of the County Council.	Green	

Ref	Start Date	Action	Board	Lead Officer	Reporting Officer	Theme	Sub-Theme	Update	Traffic Light	Direction
61	Apr-10	Continuing to co-ordinate the sustainable development of Wellness Matters, including its further expansion into targeted communities and through the promotion of healthy lifestyles and healthy eating in three communities by November 2010	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Health & Wellbeing		Wellness Matters continues to develop co-ordinated health and well-being initiatives around the Borough. Targeted programmes have included after-school healthy eating taster sessions and a recently completed seven week Cook and Taste programme at Hartshill School. Further Cook and Taste programmes will commence in Hurley and Coleshill in September, whilst a health and well-being programme is also being developed in conjunction with Birchwood School in Polesworth. A healthy lifestyle scheme is being developed in Dordon and a summer safety campaign will be held in Atherstone.	Green	
62	Apr-10	Continuing to ensure compliance with the Council's statutory responsibilities as a partner and Compact signatory within the WSCB and through implementation of the provisions of the recently revised and adopted Child Protection Policy by training a pool of internal Child Protection Trainers and delivering WSCB Level 1 training to appropriate staff by March 2011	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Health & Wellbeing		The Council is continuing to undertake its responsibilities as a partner and Compact signatory within the WSCB. Relevant training is being provided to appropriate staff and the provisions of the Child Protection Policy are being implemented.	Green	
66	Apr-10	Continuing to develop and deliver targeted positive interventions, community safety projects and constructive leisure opportunities (e.g. Call4Sport, Activities4U, etc.) to provide diversionary activities, reduce instances of anti-social behaviour and meet the wider needs and aspirations of young people, inter-generational work and wider community development activity as detailed in the Leisure and Community Development Division's Service Plan	Community & Environment Board	AD (L&CD)	Simon Powell	Safer Communities		Youth engagement projects have included a Borough-wide football tournament at Aston Villa's training ground in which ten teams took part, including from the Council, the Police and Fire and Rescue. Friday night summer sessions have been delivered in Ansley Common, Hartshill, Warton and Wood End. A mobile skate facility will operate with Call4Sport throughout the summer. Community-based projects are also planned in Dordon, Hartshill, Warton and Wood End for this period. Activities4U and other diversionary initiatives also continue to operate and engage young people and families about a range of issues, including the dangers of alcohol mis-use.	Green	

PI Ref	Description	Division	Section	High/Low is good	2010/11 Target	2009/10 Outturn	National Best Quartile	Performance	Traffic Light	Direction	Comments	Suggested reporting interval	Board	Reported to MT
Chief Executive's Division														
ACPI H1	The percentage of food premises inspections that should have been carried out that were carried out for high risk premises.	Chief Executive	Env Health (C, L &HP)	High	100%	87%	N/A	42%	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
ACPI H4	The percentage of food premises interventions that should have been carried out that were carried out for low risk premises.	Chief Executive	Env Health (C, L &HP)	High	100%	New	N/A	7%	Green	↔		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI182	Satisfaction of business with local authority regulatory services	Chief Executive	Env Health (C, L &HP)	High	90%	81%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI196	Improved street and environmental cleanliness – fly tipping (matrix of enforcement actions vs. number of tipping incidents)	Chief Executive	Env Health (C, L &HP)	Low	Grade 2 Effective	Grade 3 Not Effective	Grade 2 Effective	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
Leisure and Community Development														
BVPI 119e	Satisfaction with - parks & open spaces :	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	High	70%	68%	74.20%	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
LM 1a (new)	Delivery of actions in the 10 year Green Space Strategy - % achieved	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	High	45%	13%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
LM 1b (new)	Delivery of actions in the 10 year Green Space Strategy - % in progress	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	-	36%	17%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
LM 2	% of Play Areas meeting BS/EN and DDA standards	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	High	74%	65%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
LM 3a (new)	% improvement in APSE PI standings - quartile 1 scores achieved	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	High	38%	37%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
LM 3b (new)	% improvement in APSE PI standings - quartile 2 scores achieved	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	High	25%	19%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
LM 3c (new)	% improvement in APSE PI standings - quartile 3 scores achieved	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	High	31%	19%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
LM 3d (new)	% improvement in APSE PI standings - quartile 4 scores achieved	Leisure & Community Development	Landscape Management	Low	6%	25%	N/A	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
ACPI I1b	Swimming pools and sports centres : : The net cost per swim/visit	Leisure & Community Development	Leisure Facilities	Low	£1.91	£2.02	N/A	£1.81	Green	↔		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
FAC-LPI 9	Leisure Centres - Total income per visit :	Leisure & Community Development	Leisure Facilities	High	£2.30	£2.44	N/A	£2.72	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes

PI Ref	Description	Division	Section	High/Low is good	2010/11 Target	2009/10 Outturn	National Best Quartile	Performance	Traffic Light	Direction	Comments	Suggested reporting interval	Board	Reported to MT
ACPI I1a	Swimming pools and sports centres : The number of swims and other visits per 1,000 population.	Leisure & Community Development	Leisure Facilities	High	7,310	6,611	N/A	1549	Amber	↓	Lower than anticipated visitor numbers, particularly at Coleshill Leisure Centre, at which investment in the fitness suite is planned. The indicator may also be affected by the removal of Free Swimming in the future	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 119a	Satisfaction with - sports/leisure facilities :	Leisure & Community Development	Leisure Facilities	High	48%	47%	51.50%	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 1	Number of customer contacts	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	30,500	19,083	N/A	8013	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 2	Total number of projects delivered by the section	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	110	136	N/A	38	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 3	Total number of partners	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	70	51	N/A	N/A	-	-	Annual	A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 4	Customer satisfaction with Community Development activities	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	80%	87%	N/A	95%	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 5	Percentage of successful funding applications	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	75%	83%	N/A	100%	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 6	Number of funding bids supported	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	40	48	N/A	18	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 7	Team benchmark % satisfaction scores	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	85%	89%	N/A	85.60%	Green	↔		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 8	Partner organisations satisfaction with its relationship with P&D	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	80%	New	N/A	N/A	-	-	Annual	A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 9	The number of nationally accredited qualifications gained as a consequence of P&D activity	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	90	New	N/A	26	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
P&D PI 10	The number of locally accredited qualifications gained as a consequence of P&D activity	Leisure & Community Development	Partnership & Development	High	15	New	N/A	21	Green	↑		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
Streetscape														
NI194	Level of air quality - reduction in NOx and primary PM10 emissions through LA estate and operations	Streetscape	Facilities Management	High		Not available	Baseline Year	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes

PI Ref	Description	Division	Section	High/Low is good	2010/11 Target	2009/10 Outturn	National Best Quartile	Performance	Traffic Light	Direction	Comments	Suggested reporting interval	Board	Reported to MT
NI185	CO2 reduction from local authority operations	Streetscape	Facilities Management	High		Not ready	Baseline Year	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 82	Percentage of household waste arisings : which have been sent by the Authority for recycling	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	High	15%	10.41%	26.9%*	11.0%	Green		Steady performance levels. It anticipated that the majority of the indicators below will remain fairly static for the first two quarters. The introduction of a revised kerbside service in October will undoubtedly have significant effect on the last two qu	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 82	The percentage of household waste sent by the Authority for composting or treatment by anaerobic digestion. :	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	High	18%	18.25%	19.8%*	23.0%	Green		Steady performance levels	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 84	Number of kilograms of household waste collected per head of the population. :	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	Low	462	466	373kg*	495	Amber		Steady performance levels	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 88	Number of collections missed per 100,000 collections of household waste :	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	Low	25	46.68	N/A	29	Amber		An improvement upon last years outturn but that was the result of snow affect	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
REF-LPI 2	Percentage of missed collections put right by the end of the next working day. :	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	High	-	Not available	N/A	Not available	-	-		Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI191	Residual household waste per household	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	Low	722	769	482kg	774	Amber		Steady performance levels	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI192	Household waste recycled and composted	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	High	33%	28.65%	45.77%	34.00%	Amber		Steady performance levels	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI193	Municipal waste landfilled	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	Low	67%	73.22%	N/A	69	Amber		Steady performance levels	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 91	Percentage of households resident in the authority's area served by kerbside collection of at least two recyclables.	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	High	100%	95.92%	100%*	96	Green		No change	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 90	Percentage of survey respondents expressing satisfaction with: : Household waste collection	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	High	94%	94.1%	84.5%	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 90	Percentage of survey respondents expressing satisfaction with: : Waste recycling facilities	Streetscape	Refuse & Recycling	High	76%	73.3%	76.0%	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
BVPI 89	Percentage of people satisfied with cleanliness standards. :	Streetscape	Streetscape	High	77%	66.8%	64.0%	N/A	-	-		A	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI195a	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (litter)	Streetscape	Streetscape	Low	6%	6%	2.00%	1.00%	Green		Please note : Lower percentage score equates to an improved performance level.	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI195b	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (detritus)	Streetscape	Streetscape	Low	10%	10%	6.00%	9.00%	Green		Please note : Lower percentage score equates to an improved performance level.	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes

PI Ref	Description	Division	Section	High/Low is good	2010/11 Target	2009/10 Outturn	National Best Quartile	Performance	Traffic Light	Direction	Comments	Suggested reporting interval	Board	Reported to MT
NI195c	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (graffiti)	Streetscape	Streetscape	Low	1%	1%	0.00%	0.00%	Green		Please note : Lower percentage score equates to an improved performance level.	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes
NI195d	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (fly posting)	Streetscape	Streetscape	Low	0%	0%	0.00%	0.00%	Green		Please note : Lower percentage score equates to an improved performance level.	Q	Community and Environment Board	Yes

Agenda Item No 14

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Chief Executive And Solicitor
To The Council**

**Council response to the Griffin
report into the major outbreak of
E. coli 0157 in 2009**

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report details the findings of the Griffin Report into the major outbreak of *E. coli* at a children's farm in Surrey in 2009 insofar as they relate to this Authority, the actions taken in response to this incident at the time of the outbreak and since the publication of the report. It also seeks the Board's approval to appoint the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council or in his absence the Environmental Health Manager, as the person responsible for managing the Authorities participation in outbreak control.

Recommendation to the Board

- a That the actions taken by the Environmental Health Division prior to and following the publication of the Griffin report be noted; and**
- b That the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council or in his absence the Environmental Health Manager, be responsible for managing the Authorities participation in outbreak control.**

2 Background

- 2.1 In August and September 2009 an outbreak of *Escherichia coli* 0157 (*E. coli* 0157) led to severe illness in a number of visitors to Godstone Farm in Surrey. *E. coli* 0157 is relatively uncommon but, because the illness it causes (bloody diarrhoea which can be complicated by haemolytic uraemic syndrome [HUS]) can be severe or fatal it remains a serious public health issue.
- 2.2 Godstone Farm is an 'open farm', a visitor attraction where the public may have animal contact. There are numerous similar farms around the Country and five such venues in North Warwickshire. The age profile of visitors is predominantly the under 10s and their parents or carers. One of the farms in North Warwickshire receives large numbers of visitors annually including numerous coach parties from schools and playgroups.

- 2.3 E. coli 0157 is a highly virulent organism; it can survive for long periods of time in the environment; ingesting just a few organisms, possibly between 10 and 100 can cause illness in humans; young children (particularly under five years of age) and older people (particularly over 75 years of age) are very vulnerable; the illness can be very serious and is sometimes fatal; after recovery from illness some people are left with permanent kidney or brain damage. There is currently no recognised, specific treatment other than good supportive care.
- 2.4 E. coli is commonly carried by animals and ruminants (e.g. cows and sheep) are considered the major reservoir of infection, although the organism has been found in a wide variety of animals. E.coli 0157 causes no clinical signs of infection in animals, but may colonise the rectum of cattle and these colonised animals greatly increase the potential for spread of E. coli 0157 in their faeces. There are no established on farm control options, so all ruminants need to be considered as infected by E. coli 0157.
- 2.5 A variety of sources have been identified for E. coli 0157 outbreaks in humans, including foodborne, waterborne, person to person spread and animal contact. The common link is that the organism is excreted in animal or human faeces and gains access to susceptible humans through ingestion. Agricultural and environmental exposures, particularly contact with ruminants, are well recognised causes of E. coli 0157 human infections, both as outbreaks and sporadic cases.
- 2.6 The Godstone Farm outbreak affected 93 people of whom 76 (82%) were under 10 years of age. Of these children 17 were diagnosed with HUS and of these 8 required dialysis, some of whom have been left with permanent kidney damage. It is possible that some children with HUS will experience long term damage including hypertension and kidney failure and may require a kidney transplant in the future.

3 The Regulatory Framework for Open Farms

- 3.1 Four separate streams of legislation apply to health hazards that may be present at open farms covering public health, food safety, animal health and health and safety at work. Prevention of risks to human health arising at open farms is governed principally by food safety and health and safety law which covers risk to visitors and depends primarily on compliance by farm operators with statutory duties. The Council is the agency responsible for enforcing these duties and its inspectors based in the Environmental Health Division (EHD) have the delegated powers to serve improvement or prohibition notices and to prosecute duty holders that fail to comply. However in line with the Council's enforcement policy an educative and advisory approach is normally adopted except in cases of imminent risk or of continued failure to comply with the law having been provided with the appropriate advice.
- 3.2 Officers have been working to existing guidance published by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) which provides advice on farm layout, animal contact, eating areas, washing facilities, provision of information and training and

supervision. Emphasis has been placed on hand washing by visitors as the main means of controlling the risk of infection.

4 The Griffin Report

- 4.1 An independent investigation committee was appointed under the Chairmanship of Professor George Griffin which reported in June 2010.
- 4.2 The report confirmed the primary source of the outbreak as the main animal petting barn at Godstone Farm. There was also evidence of environmental contamination at the farm, suggesting that even without direct animal contact there was a risk of infection from contact with contaminated surfaces or soiled footwear.
- 4.3 The report identified serious shortcomings in the handling of the outbreak by all of the agencies involved. There was a time lag before the link between the reports of E. coli 0157 infection was recognised; delay in convening an outbreak control team and delay in closing the farm even after the link had been established.
- 4.4 The report also identified that hand washing alone cannot be relied upon to prevent outbreaks of E. coli 0157 infection acquired by contact with animals or their faeces and that there is a need to introduce measures to reduce the chance of contact with faecal matter as a primary measure.
- 4.5 There were 43 recommendations, most of which relate to NHS Clinical Services and to the Health Protection Agency (HPA). However some relate directly to the Council or are matters that Council can enforce on the duty holders. These are:
 - Farm operators should ensure that the layout and design of public areas are such that visitor contact with animal faecal matter (particularly ruminant) is minimised or eliminated.
 - There is a need to raise public awareness of the potential infection risks when arriving at a farm attraction, emphasising the parent/carer's decision to allow children to have animal contact.
 - The regulatory Agencies and others should explore ways of working together in regulating open farms clarifying roles, responsibilities and relationships.
 - All HPUs and EHDs should have robust handover arrangements in place, during working hours and out of hours, to ensure that details of recently reported E. coli 0157 cases are communicated to the relevant staff.
 - Animal contact, especially with ruminants, should be prioritised as the activity to be closed at the earliest suspicion of a farm related E. coli 0157 outbreak.

- Every LA should ensure that a senior post has been identified with responsibility for managing the LA's participation in outbreak control.

5 Council Response to the Outbreak

- 5.1 During September 2009 when the outbreak was in the news all the open farms in the Borough were visited by officers from the EHD and assessed using the existing HSE guidance. Bearing in mind that all these premises had been inspected before and that they had all been provided with the HSE guidance by the EHD, officers were disturbed to find serious issues at all the farms. These related particularly to hand washing facilities, signage and information for visitors and faecal contamination of public areas. The owners were spoken to and the imminent risk was removed. This was followed up with an advisory letter and a further copy of the HSE guidance. Re-visits were made within a few days when it was found that all the farms complied with the guidance. In addition all schools and playgroups were sent a letter offering guidance on how to remain safe when visiting open farms.
- 5.2 Following the publication of the Griffin report all of the farms were visited again (although one had ceased trading by this time). The purpose of these visits was to assess the farms in view of the recommendations in the Griffin report, in particular the avoidance of faecal contamination in public areas. Further areas for improvement were identified and it was pleasing that all the businesses co-operated in implementing the recommendations of the EHD.
- 5.3 In view of the findings during the inspections the risk rating used to determine the inspection frequency of the open farms in the Borough has been amended and these premises will receive an annual inspection until such time that our confidence in the management allows less frequent visits. This inspection frequency does not preclude us making additional visits at any time should we receive complaints or other intelligence or further guidance from the HPA or HSE.
- 5.4 Copies of the Government leaflet 'Avoiding infection on open farm visits' have been supplied to all the farms with a request that all visitors be handed a copy when they purchase tickets. Copies of these leaflets have also been placed in doctor's surgeries, libraries and other public areas.
- 5.5 The EHD already has close working relationships with both the HPA and the HSE. The Consultant In Communicable Disease Control from the HPA and the Local Authority Partnership Manager from the HSE attend monthly liaison meetings with the County EHD and communicable disease is a standing agenda item. There has been a lot of discussion on the subject of E. coli 0157 around clarifying roles and responsibilities and the practical aspects of prevention and investigation of outbreaks.
- 5.6 Robust channels of communication are already in place between the EHD and the HPA including out of hours contacts. All Officers in the EHD have mobile phones.

- 5.7 The EHD has a procedures manual which has a standard operating procedure for investigating outbreaks of E. coli 0157 including all the necessary forms and contact details. This procedure is reviewed and updated regularly.
- 5.8 The EHD staff are fully competent to investigate cases of E. coli 0157 in conjunction with the HPA. Relevant Officers attended an HPA training course in October 2009 on the investigation of E coli 0157 outbreaks.
- 5.9 It has subsequently been realised that there are places other than open farms where people may come into contact with farm animals. The EHD has spoken with the organisers of the agricultural shows that take place each summer who have been provided with guidance and have been very co-operative in securing improvements.

6 Further Action Required

- 6.1 The Council must ensure that a senior post has been identified with responsibility for managing our participation in outbreak control. It is suggested that the person nominated should be the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council and in his absence the Environmental Health Manager.
- Opportunities will be sought for further training of EHD staff with Inspectors who hold agricultural experience.
 - There is a working party considering a revision of the current guidance and when this is published further visits may be necessary to ensure that the farms meet the current standard.
 - Officers from the EHD will remain vigilant in looking for locations other than the obvious ones of the open farms where members of the public may come into contact with farm animals.

7 Report Implications

7.1 Safer Communities Implications

- 7.1.1 By taking prompt action following the outbreak in September 2009 the Council is protecting communities from harm and helping to minimise the risks of outbreaks in the borough.

7.2 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 7.2.1 The actions taken by the Environmental Health Department contribute to improving the environment of the open farms. This will contribute towards sustainability by ensuring the necessary guidance is followed to help facilitate safe and appropriately managed farm visitor attractions within the borough.

The Contact Officer for this report is Steve Whiles (719326).

Agenda Item No 15

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Leisure and Community
Development Division –
Divisional Service Plan**

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the progress that has been made in respect of achieving the actions identified in the Leisure and Community Development Division's approved 2010/11 Service Plan.

Recommendation to the Board

That Members note the progress made by the Leisure and Community Development Division in achieving the outcomes identified in its 2010/11 Service Plan.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Countryside and Heritage, Safer Communities, Health, Well-being and Leisure, Environment, Community Life and Resources have all had the opportunity to comment on the content of this report.

3 Introduction and Service Plan Progress

- 3.1 At its meeting held in January 2010, the Board approved the content of the Leisure and Community Development Division's Service Plan, which guides the work of the Landscape Management, Leisure Facilities and Partnership and Development sections in their pursuance of the priorities identified in the Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy. This report formally notes the Division's progress in respect of the achievement of the Service Plan actions. In this regard, updates are provided against each action within the Plan which can be viewed on the Council's website http://www.northwarks.gov.uk/site/scripts/meetings_committees.php?headerID=4 Members should be aware, however, that this information is not intended to provide an exhaustive account of the work being undertaken within the Division. On the contrary, it merely provides an indication of progress in respect of certain key tasks. Detailed performance management

is undertaken through the very specific action plans that guide the work of each section.

- 3.2 It is pleasing to be able to report that progress is good in the first half of the year. In respect of the “Key Headline Divisional Objectives” on-going programmes of work are being maintained in order to ensure the advancement of objectives contained within the Corporate Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy; the provisions of the recently adopted Child Protection Policy are being implemented, as is Phase 3 of the Green Space Strategy; whilst despite the demise of “Building Schools for the Future”, consideration continues to be given to the future provision and management of the Council’s leisure facilities.
- 3.3 Each of the “Supporting Divisional Actions for 2010/11” is being advanced in accordance with the proposals identified in the Service Plan, although implementation of the North Warwickshire Play Strategy is being progressed through existing partnerships, including school cluster groups, as well as through a reinvigoration of the Play Partnership. Despite the uncertainty surrounding the funding of the local LEADER programme, work continues to be advanced in partnership with WCAVA and the Local Action Group. There has been little interest, however, from local communities requiring assistance in the implementation of their Parish Plan priorities. Worthy of particular note is the Authority’s performance within the Sports Unlimited programme co-ordinated through Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire (CSW) Sport, in which North Warwickshire has again recorded the best performance of each of the partners within the sub-region. North Warwickshire was the only area to exceed its Year 2 spring-term target, whilst also recording a big increase in female participation rates and membership within sports clubs. This level of performance has enabled the acquisition of additional external funding support from CSW Sport.
- 3.4 Members will be aware that the coalition Government ceased its financial support of the Free Swimming Programme at the end of July 2010, as a consequence of which charges were re-introduced for previously qualifying members of the public with effect from 1 August 2010. A progress report on the implications of this change will be presented to the Board in due course. Despite the difficulties associated with a change of this nature, however, only one complaint has been received further to the re-introduction of charges.
- 3.5 Community-based consultation continues to inform all aspects of the services provided through the Leisure and Community Development Division. Additionally, it had been hoped to undertake a specific consultation exercise in conjunction with the Council’s Citizen’s Panel before the summer holiday period. Capacity limitations, however, determined that this undertaking had to be delayed until later in the year. The findings from the consultation will be reported to Members in due course.

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 The Leisure and Community Development Division makes a valued and substantial commitment to the achievement of Corporate Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy targets. Through community engagement and the development and delivery of activity that is designed to advance the attainment of locally set priorities, the Division advances its aim of improving the quality of life for everyone who lives, works in or visits the Borough. The Division's Service Plan ensures that clarity of role and priority are provided in an area of work that has few boundaries, particularly when working in partnership with agencies in the statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors. The Plan is designed to ensure that activity is targeted in a manner that is strategically co-ordinated and makes best use of the limited resources that the Council has to deliver on its duty to the community planning process and, therefore, to the residents of North Warwickshire.

5 Report Implications

5.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 5.1.1 There is no new financial implication arising directly from this report. All of the activity detailed in the Divisional Service Plan will be met either through existing budgetary provision or through the acquisition of external grant aid.

5.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 5.2.1 The work of the Division impacts positively on the reduction of crime and the fear of crime and officers are directly involved in the development of projects that meet a number of Community Partnership priorities.

5.3 Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.3.1 None, other than those specifically identified in the Service Plan.

5.4 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 5.4.1 Working in the community helps to sustain and enhance the quality of life of local people. Leisure and Community Development provision also impacts positively on the creation of sustainable communities, enhances social health and improves individual and collective well-being. Specific projects additionally contribute to environmental improvements, the enhancement of biodiversity and the mitigation of the effects of climate change.

5.5 Human Resources Implications

- 5.5.1 None, other than those specifically identified in the Service Plan.

5.6 Risk Management Implications

5.6.1 The risks associated with this report have already been identified within the context provided by the corporate Strategic Risk Management process.

5.7 Equalities Implications

5.7.1 The work of the Leisure and Community and Development Division is targeted at reducing inequalities in access to service provision. The equalities implications of all projects are considered as part of the project management process.

5.8 Links to Council's Priorities

5.8.1 Leisure and Community Development activity has positive and direct links to the corporate priorities to:

- Enhance community involvement and access to services
- Protect and improve our environment
- Defend and improve our countryside and rural heritage
- Tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens
- Work with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Make the best use of our resources through achieving a balanced budget and developing our workforce

5.8.2 The work of the Division is also deliberately targeted at achieving the following priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy:

- Raising aspirations, educational attainment and skills
- Developing healthier communities
- Improving access to services

The Contact Officer for this report is Simon Powell (719352).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	LSP (WCC and NWBC)	Sustainable Community Strategy	2009/26
2	Chief Executive	Corporate Plan	2010/11

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
Key "Headline" Divisional Objectives							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain on-going programmes of Leisure and Community Development work and ensure that, wherever appropriate, Divisional activity contributes to the advancement of objectives contained within the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy, the Corporate Plan and the Warwickshire Local Area Agreement 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Our Resources</p> <p>NI 6 (Volunteering) / NI 21 (ASB) / NI 56 (Childhood Obesity) / NI 69 (Bullying) / NI 110 (Young People and Positive Activities) / [continued on next page]</p>	AD (L&CD)	April 2010	On-going	High	C&E Board approval of actions taken in support of the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy, the Corporate Plan and the Warwickshire LAA	Progressing satisfactorily. Regular reports are made to Boards and the North Warwickshire Community Partnership detailing progress in respect of the achievement of relevant priorities

Section ?**LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11**

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
• (as above)	NI 120 (All Age All Cause Mortality) / NI 123 (Smoking) / NI 195 (Environmental Cleanliness) / NI 197 (Local Biodiversity) / NI 112 (U18 Conception Rate) / LI 7 (Fruit and Vegetables Five-a-Day) / LI 8 (Physical Activity Five-a-Week) / NI 8 (Adult Participation in Sport) / LI 11 (Number of Older People Who Fall) Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities						

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure compliance with the Council's statutory responsibilities as a partner and Compact signatory within the Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board, including the need to implement the provisions of the recently revised and adopted Child Protection Policy 	<p>Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Tackling Health Inequalities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime</p> <p>NI 69 / NI 110</p>	CE & AD (L&CD)	April 2010	On-going	High	<p>C&E Board approval of actions taken in support of the Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board</p> <p>Implement the new Child Protection Policy</p>	Policy provisions are being implemented. Six members of NWBC staff have received Child Protection "Train the Trainer" training. These staff will be delivering the WSCB Level 1 course to relevant colleagues throughout the Authority

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the context provided by the corporate “Health, Well-being and Leisure Strategy” and on-going discussions relating to “Building Schools for the Future”, determine and commence implementation of the approach to the future provision, management and operation of the Council’s leisure facilities 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 69 / NI 110 / NI 120 / LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Leisure Facilities</p>	DoCE / AD (L&CD) & LFM	April 2010	March 2013	High	Approach to the future provision, management and operation of the Council’s leisure facilities endorsed by the C&E Board	Despite the demise of “Building Schools for the Future”, consideration continues to be given to the future provision and management of the Council’s leisure facilities

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Phase 3 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy in accordance with its revised Action and Funding Plan 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 110 / NI 120 / NI 195 / NI 197 / LI 7 / LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	AD (L&CD) & LM	April 2010	March 2011	High	Actions identified in Phase 3 of the Action and Funding Plan completed, reported to and endorsed by the C&E Board	Of the actions identified for Phase 3 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy, 7% have so far been completed, 30% are ongoing or in progress and 15% are unlikely to be taken forward due to budgetary constraints. It is expected that the remainder will be progressed this year

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
Supporting Divisional Actions for 2010/11							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with the NW Children, Young People and Their Families (CYP&F) theme group, reinvigorate the North Warwickshire Play Partnership and thereafter continue to co-ordinate implementation of the NW Play Strategy, in accordance with the revised Action Plan 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 69 / NI 110 / LI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	PDM / LM & CDO (YP&I)	April 2010	On-going	Medium	Projects implemented in accordance with the revised Action Plan	Due to changes in Borough-wide delivery structures, Play Strategy actions are being implemented through existing partnerships, including Extended Services "cluster groups". The improvement and development of play facilities is being advanced in conjunction with parish councils, including through the delivery of training and information events

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with other Divisions and partner organisations, as appropriate, encourage communities to identify and report public realm concerns and thereafter ensure that sustainable local “clean up” initiatives are undertaken 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 21 / NI 110 / NI 195 / NI 197 / LI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces</p>	PDM / LM / CDO (E) & CDO (SC)	April 2010	March 2011	High	Support four “community clean ups” (one per Area Forum) in 2010/11	Five community clean-up events have been supported, in Atherstone, Hurley (2), Polesworth and Water Orton. Forms of assistance have included the loan of litter picking equipment, the removal of rubbish, the provision of skips and the supply of graffiti removal equipment

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Warwickshire County Council, relevant agencies and other divisions to support and deliver activities that promote waste minimisation, recycling, litter awareness and dog fouling, including through education in schools and support for the national eco-schools programme 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 21 / NI 110 / NI 195 / LI 8</p> <p>Improve Parks and Open Spaces</p>	PDM / CDO (E)	April 2010	March 2011	High	Work with eight schools to promote environmental education and deliver related activity	<p>Talks on recycling have been given to Oakfield and Racemeadow Schools. As a result, Racemeadow students have designed a banner for the recycling vehicle to help encourage more people to recycle. Support has also been given to the Coombe Abbey Education Event. Nine schools have received a visit from "Recycler", the Rapping Robot, to promote the "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" message. These visits were targeted at schools that had either not received a visit in the past or which had not yet engaged with "eco-schools" programme</p> <p>Dog fouling awareness has been undertaken at two events, the opening of the Ridge Lane Play Area and the Mancetter Fun Day</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with NHS Warwickshire, continue to co-ordinate the sustainable development of Wellness Matters, including its expansion into targeted outreach communities, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles and healthy eating 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 56 / NI 110 / NI 120 / NI 123 / NI 112 / LI 7 / LI 8 / NI 8 / LI 11</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	CDO (HI)	April 2010	On-going	High	Delivery of the anticipated outcomes within the Wellness Matters Action Plan	Wellness Matters continues to develop co-ordinated health and well-being initiatives around the Borough. Targeted initiatives have included after-school healthy eating taster sessions. A seven week Cook and Taste programme has been completed at Hartshill High School. Further programmes have commenced at schools in Coleshill and Hurley. A health and well-being programme is also being developed in partnership with Birchwood School. A targeted Wellness Matters summer safety campaign was undertaken in Atherstone. Five health walks have been developed in North Warwickshire, in Atherstone (2), Hurley, Mancetter and Old Arley. The Council's "Healthy Workforce Week" was used to raise awareness of health and well-being in the workplace

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with key partners, raise levels of physical activity within the community. 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 110 / NI 120 / LI 8 / NI 8 / LI 11</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	<p>PDM / LFM / CDO (HI) / CDO (SI&S) / CSCD O</p>	<p>April 2010</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Increase the percentage (By 1% -from 23.6% to 24.6%) of adults undertaking a minimum of 30 minutes physical activity five or more times per week, the number of attendances at sessions being co-ordinated and delivered through the School Sport Partnership and the number of clubs achieving Club Mark status</p>	<p>The Sports Club Development Officer has supported four clubs to achieve "Clubmark" accreditation (Pak Shaheen Cricket Club, Atherstone Rangers Football Club, Grendon Equestrian Centre and Moor Farm Stables). The SCDO is working with numerous clubs to achieve the "Clubmark" standard. Four clubs have also been supported to deliver summer coaching camps, achieving over 500 contacts</p> <p>Sports sessions continue to be delivered before, during and after-school, attracting over 250 children per week</p> <p>North Warwickshire's Sports Unlimited projects continue to beat challenging targets. It is the best performing project of its type in the sub region</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with partner agencies, continue to ensure delivery of relevant actions arising through Safer Neighbourhood processes 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 21 / NI 69 / NI 110 / NI 195 / LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	PDM / LM & CDO (SC)	April 2010	On-going	High	CDRP and Area Fora approval of actions taken through PACT processes	<p>All priority actions that have arisen from safer neighbourhood meetings have been advanced accordingly. During the last six months, the following actions have taken place for priority locations; multi-agency meetings for Wood End and Corley, localised awareness leaflets have been produced and delivered, CCTV cameras have been deployed, diversionary activities have been delivered, improvement plans have been investigated. Partners have also investigated the fly tipping process and relationships between the Borough Council and the Environment Agency have improved</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the successful delivery of the AWM funded LEADER programme, in partnership with WCAVA and the North Warwickshire Local Action Group 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 110 / NI 197 / LI 8</p> <p>Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	AD (L&CD) / PDM / CDO (RR)	April 2010	March 2013	High	Board and LAG approval of delivery against the provisions of the corresponding Action Plan	<p>Delivery of the LEADER programme is underway – 16 Expression of interests were received and five projects have submitted full applications. The Local Action Group continues to be developed and the Executive Group was inducted on 06 September</p> <p>Concerns remain regarding DEFRA's support of the LEADER programme. The outcome of a related review will not now be known until October</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local communities to assist in the implementation of Parish Plan priorities 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 110 / NI 195 / NI 197</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	CDO (RR)	April 2010	On-going	High	Number of actions implemented with the assistance of the CDO (RR)	<p>Four parish plan groups, namely Atherstone, Curdworth, Fillongley and Hartshill, have been contacted to notify them of the availability of assistance from the Authority. Curdworth, Fillongley and Hartshill have taken up the offer to discuss the matter further</p> <p>Work is currently being undertaken with Austrey Parish Council to assist in the delivery of Parish Plan actions</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide positive interventions to address anti-social and nuisance behaviour, including through targeted activities (e.g. Call4Sport, Activities4U, etc.) 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 21 / Ni 69 / NI 110 / NI 195 / LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	PDM / CDO (SC) / CDO (YP&I) & CDO (SI&S)	April 2010	On-going	High	<p>Reduction in the number of reported anti-social / nuisance behaviour incidents</p> <p>Number of targeted interventions</p>	<p>Youth engagement projects have included the organisation of a Borough-wide football tournament at Aston Villa's training ground, within which 10 teams took part, including teams from the Council, Police and Fire and Rescue. Friday night summer sessions have been delivered in Ansley Common, Hartshill, Warton, and Wood End. A mobile skate facility has been purchased and used successfully within Call4Sport summer sessions. Summertime community based projects have been delivered in Dordon, Hartshill, Warton and Wood End. During Activities4U and other diversionary sessions, young people are spoken to about the dangers of alcohol misuse. Leaflets have been distributed to parents to raise awareness about the dangers of young people drinking and to encourage them to talk to their children about alcohol</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise aspirations, skill levels and attainment through recognised vocational qualifications, volunteering and targeted activities (e.g. Cook and Taste, Activities 4U, leadership and environmental awards, etc.) 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 69 / NI 110 / NI 112 / LI 7 / LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	PDM / All CDOs	April 2010	On-going	High	<p>Number of participants who achieve a recognised qualification or skill</p> <p>Number of targeted interventions</p>	<p>Targeted health and well-being activities have included Cook and Taste programmes in Arley, Atherstone and Hartshill schools, thereby increasing basic cooking skills and awareness of healthy lifestyles. Further healthy eating programmes have been delivered over the summer. Related recognised vocational qualifications have been achieved through the Children's University</p> <p>Family cooking sessions were held over each week of the summer holiday and were also accredited by the Children's University</p> <p>Disability sessions returned to the summer programme, with 12 days of activities, including an overnight residential trip. During the programme, young people were challenged with a number of outdoor activities, including raft building, climbing and team games, as well as having to cook for themselves</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the countywide Community Confidence Strategy and thereafter develop an Action Plan to address North Warwickshire residents' fear of crime and their low levels of community confidence. 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 21 / NI 69 / NI 110 / NI 195 / LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	CDO (SC)	April 2010	On-going	High	<p>Number of targeted interventions/campaigns</p> <p>Reduction in the number of residents who are fearful of crime</p>	<p>Good news stories are being promoted through North Talk. Community safety days have been held at Arley, Corley, Fillongley, Mancetter, Polesworth, Shuttington and Water Orton. Local community safety leaflets have been produced for New Arley and Corley. Parish magazines have also placed important community safety messages in their local publications. Four further days of action are planned in September and October in conjunction with the community safety days in order to ask residents about their main concerns, which will then provide a focus for future action</p>

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the context provided by the “Health, Well-being and Leisure Strategy”, identify and commence implementation of the short and long-term future of Coleshill Leisure Centre 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 56 / NI 110 / NI 120 / LI 8 / NI 8 / LI 11</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	AD (L&CD) / LFM	April 2010	March 2013	High	Board approval of the proposals and corresponding business plan(s) relating to the future of CLC	Consideration continues to be given to the short and long-term future of Coleshill Leisure Centre. Reports will be made to relevant Boards in due course

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the effective management, promotion and administration (including the monitoring and evaluation of performance) of the Free Swimming Programme at Atherstone Swimming Pool and, in conjunction with partners, seek to influence the DCMS to ensure the sustainability of the Programme beyond March 2011 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 110 / NI 120 / LI 8 / NI 8 / LI 11</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Leisure Facilities</p>	LFM	April 2010	March 2011	Medium	Increase in swimming participation for those people aged 60 years and over and 16 years and under	The coalition Government ceased its financial support of the Free Swimming Programme at the end of July 2010. Charges were re-introduced for previously qualifying members of the public from 01 August 2010

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with the Streetscape Division, implement the approved outcomes of the Grounds Maintenance Service Review, thereby improving service delivery and operational efficiency 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>Ni 6 / NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 110 / NI 120 / NI 195 / NI 197 / LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	LM	April 2010	On-going	High	Board approval of progress in respect of the delivery of outcomes arising from the Grounds Maintenance Service Review	The related GIS record has been revised and a new draft grounds maintenance specification prepared. Costs are being applied and the budgetary implications considered as a matter of priority

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
Policy, Strategy, Standards and Process							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with appropriate external organisations and key stakeholders, including within the context provided by the development of a county-wide Third Sector Strategy, review the Council's schemes of financial assistance to outside organisations, to ensure their relevance to the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy and to the principles of the Warwickshire Compact 	Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources NI 6	PDM	April 2010	October 2010	Medium	Completion of review and adoption of new scheme criteria	A three year contract for the delivery of Third Sector Support Services has been developed and awarded to Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action in conjunction with WCC and other districts Discussion are still taking place with regard to Independent Advice and Financial Inclusion (e.g. CAB), Equalities and Community Cohesion and Support Services for Rural Communities and Local Councils (e.g. WRCC)

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsequent to the completion of the Sport and Recreation and Parks and Open Spaces Value for Money Reviews, implement the agreed Action Plans accordingly 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>LI 8 / NI 8</p> <p>Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	AD (L&CD) / LFM / LM	April 2010	March 2011	High	Successfully implement approved VFM Action Plan provisions	The Sport and Recreation VFM Review is due for imminent completion. The Parks and Open Spaces Review is due to be reported to the C&E Board in January 2011

Section ?**LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11**

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to review processes and procedures within the Division, including within the context provided by Internal Audit investigations and agreed recommendations, in order to ensure compliance with all appropriate corporate policies and protocols, including the Health and Safety Policy, counter fraud, use of resources and data quality requirements, etc.	Making Best Use of Our Resources	AD (L&CD) / PDM / LFM & LM	April 2010	On-going	High	Processes and procedures that continue to comply with all internal policy requirements	Progressing satisfactorily

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
Performance Management and Indicators							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the context provided by the Action Plans arising out of the Sport and Recreation and Parks and Open Spaces Value for Money Reviews, formulate and agree a sustainable and long-term approach to performance management (including the use of meaningful performance indicators and a Balanced Scorecard approach) within the Division 	Making Best Use of Our Resources	AD (L&CD) / LFM / LM / PDM	April 2010	October 2010	High	Adoption of a new performance management framework	This action will be progressed within the context provided by the VFM Reviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue in membership of APSE in order to enable the benchmarking and critical examination of the Division's performance in a wider, external context 	Improving Access to Services Access to Services / Making Best Use of Our Resources Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities	LFM / LM	April 2010	March 2011	High	Presentation and endorsement of performance reports by relevant Boards	Membership of APSE retained. Progressing satisfactorily

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
E-Government							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with the Corporate Services Division, investigate the options and business case for procuring software to support relevant functions within the Division (e.g. Leisure Facilities, Grounds Maintenance, Play Areas, Tree Management, etc.) 	<p>Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	PDM / LFM / LM	April 2010	October 2010	Medium	Agreed outcome of investigation to procure new software to support relevant activity within the Division	Business case for Tree Management software in preparation

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Action	Links with the Sustainable Community Strategy / Corporate Plan / LAA Indicators / Place Survey	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date	Priority	Measurement of Success	Progress - September 2010
Risk Management							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all identified Divisional risks are assessed and managed in accordance with the moderated and agreed control procedures and that opportunities are taken to reduce risks wherever possible (particularly in respect of the potential abuse of vulnerable people and the loss of external funding support for Divisional activities) 	Improving Access to Services Access to Services / Making Best Use of Resources NI 69	AD (L&CD) / PDM / LFM & LM	April 2010	On-going	High	Approved risk moderations and reduction of risk levels within the Division	Divisional risks continue to be assessed, reported and managed according to agreed processes

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Consultation								
<ul style="list-style-type: none">In pursuance of the outcomes of the aforementioned Value for Money Reviews, undertake consultation to inform the Division’s work in respect Community Development, Landscape Management and Leisure Facility provision	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	PDM / LFM & LM	April 2010	On-going	High	Analysed and documented outcomes of consultation work and Board approval of subsequently revised Action Plans, as appropriate	Community-based consultation continues to inform all aspects of the services provided through the Division. A further Divisional consultation exercise will be undertaken with the Citizens’ Panel later in the year	
Gershon and Value for Money								
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify, implement and document efficiency savings within the Division, in accordance with corporate protocols	Making Best Use of Our Resources	AD (L&CD) / PDM / LFM & LM	April 2010	On-going	Medium	Realised efficiency savings	Efficiency savings continue to be identified, implemented and documented according to agreed protocols	

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Training and Development							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure delivery of the Divisional Training Plan, particularly in respect of the following widely held needs: Financial Management, People Management, Child Protection and Health and Safety 	Raising Aspirations Making Best Use of Our Resources and Developing our Workforce	AD (L&CD) / PDM / LFM & LM	April 2010	March 2011	High	Delivery of 80% of the Divisional Training Plan commitments	Progressing satisfactorily

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Partnership Working							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a key role in the co-ordination of activity within relevant Community Partnership theme groups and other sub-regional and local partnerships, as appropriate 	<p>Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services</p> <p>Access to Services / Protecting Our Environment / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources</p> <p>NI 6 / NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 69 / NI 110 / NI 120 / NI 123 / NI 195 / NI 197 / NI 112 / LI 7 / LI 8 / NI 8 / LI 11</p> <p>Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities</p>	AD (L&CD) / PDM / LFM & LM	April 2010	On-going	High	Action plan progress endorsed by Community Partnership and other relevant groups	Role maintained and developed within all key partnership groups

Section ?

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION - SUMMARY ACTION PLAN 2010/11

Equalities							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake Equalities Impact and Needs Assessments across all areas of Divisional policy and activity and implement those activities arising out of the EINA Peer Review that are relevant to the Division 	Raising Aspirations / Developing Healthier Communities / Improving Access to Services	AD (L&CD) / PDM / LFM & LM	April 2010	On-going	High	Completed programme of Equality Impact and Needs Assessments	EINAs undertaken in respect of all relevant Divisional policy and activity
	Access to Services / Tackling Health Inequalities and Providing Leisure Opportunities / Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime / Making Best Use of Resources						
	NI 6 / NI 21 / NI 56 / NI 69 / NI 110 / NI 120 / NI 123 / NI 195 / NI 197 NI 112 / LI 7 / LI 8 / NI 8 LI 11						
	Enhance Activity Provision for Teenagers / Improve Parks and Open Spaces and Leisure Facilities						

Agenda Item No 16

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

**Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)**

**Sports Club Development Officer –
Progress Report**

1 Summary

The Sports Club Development Officer (SCDO) project is a three-year initiative funded by Sport England through its Community Investment Fund. The project will conclude in June 2012. This report highlights the progress made by the SCDO in the first year of the undertaking.

Recommendation to the Board

That Members note the valuable progress made to date by the Sports Club Development Officer in achieving the outcomes agreed with Sport England as part of the Community Investment Fund agreement.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

2.1.1 The Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders for Safer Communities, Health, Well-being and Leisure, Environment, Community Life and Resources have all had the opportunity to comment on the content of this report.

2.1.2 Councillor Lorraine Freer has made the following comment:

2.1.3 “This sounds a resounding success especially with the Olympics on the way, youngsters sometimes need a window to access all this information to encourage them to get involved, as you say a lot of the public do not realise what we have to offer in this area. I hope you can organise some more as it benefits everyone.”

3 Background

3.1 The Sports Club Development Officer (SCDO) was recruited in June 2009 after the Borough Council made a successful application to Sports England's Community Investment Fund. The SCDO has been recruited to achieve specific targets agreed with Sport England as part of the corresponding funding agreement. The main objectives of the role are to:

- Build the capacity of existing sports clubs and groups to better enable them to meet the related needs of the community
- Assist clubs and groups to achieve relevant accreditations, thereby improving service standards
- Provide opportunities for mentoring, volunteering and training within specific areas of related activity
- Raise awareness and promote the profile of sports clubs and groups
- Encourage and develop lifelong opportunities for participation in sport and community organisations
- Develop appropriate “school to club” links and promote participation pathways
- Increase investment in grassroots sport through the Community Amateur Sports Club scheme
- Engage sports clubs and groups in the North Warwickshire Sports Forum

3.2 Accordingly, the project contributes to the following National Performance Indicators:

- NI 8 Adult participation in sport
- NI 6 Participation in regular volunteering
- NI 55 Obesity among primary school aged children in reception year
- NI 56 Obesity among primary school aged children in Year 6
- NI 57 Children and young people’s participation in high quality PE and Sport
- NI 119 Positive activities for young people

3.3 The SCDO has now completed the first year of the three-year project, which will conclude in June 2012.

3.4 As can be deduced from the project objectives, the SCDO has responsibility for improving and developing the infrastructure of community-based sports clubs and groups that provide active recreation opportunities. The main aspect of the work is to enable clubs and groups to operate to an accredited standard, focusing on safe practices and high quality provision to gain “Club Mark” accreditation. Where appropriate, the project also encourages clubs to become registered as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) in order to take advantage of tax relief and gift aid benefits. It also helps with the day-to-day issues faced by voluntary sports clubs, such as volunteer retention, attracting funding and marketing and promotion to attract new members.

4 Current Progress

4.1 The project has been successful in advancing a number of new initiatives in North Warwickshire and the sub-region, including the formation of the Borough's first Sports Club Forum. The Forum provides a collective network and voice for local sports clubs and allows for the interchange of ideas and other forms of peer support on development issues.

4.2 Through the Forum, local clubs highlighted the struggle they faced in trying to market their activities and attract new members. To address this issue, the clubs decided that they would like to hold a Sports Club Road Show at which they would jointly promote their activities to a "cluster" of schools (a secondary school and its feeder primary schools). The sub-region's inaugural Road Show event was held at Queen Elizabeth School and Sports College, Atherstone, in October 2009. Due to its success, a second event was held at Polesworth High School in April 2010. Two further Road Shows are planned for the second year of the project. Appendices A1 and A2 provide further details of these events.

4.3 As previously identified, a key performance measure for the project is to support clubs to achieve "Club Mark" accreditation. In this respect, North Warwickshire was notable in the West Midlands, when, with the SCDO's support, Grendon Equestrian Centre and Moor Farm Stables became the first equestrian centres in the region to receive their accreditations. Further success has led to Atherstone Rangers Football Club and Pak Shaheen Cricket Club receiving quality mark status. Through growing the number of clubs that secure the Club Mark accreditation, the local community can be confident that these clubs provide leisure opportunities within an environment that is safe and equitable and that all operating standards are high. In the medium-term it is expected that this will enhance activity levels throughout the Borough. Support is currently being offered to a further nine clubs as they work towards their accreditation.

4.4 Building positive relationships with local sports clubs is having a direct impact on improving performance against wider targets. The SCDO has supported local clubs and groups to deliver activity through Sport England's "Sports Unlimited" programme. This has enabled those involved with North Warwickshire sport to collectively become the best performing area within the sub-region in terms of attracting young people to participate in sports-related activity. Indeed, North Warwickshire was the only area to surpass its challenging participation target (see Appendix B). Additionally, the SCDO also supported four clubs to apply for funding to operate summer coaching camps, which collectively attracted over 500 young people into sport, in so doing growing the membership of the clubs involved.

5 Conclusion

5.1 In its first 12 months of operation the Sports Club Development Officer project has made substantial progress in working with local clubs and schools to improve the quality of local voluntary sports organisations, helping them to

develop their sustainability and increase levels of participation. Progress to date has exceeded the targets set in conjunction with Sport England and very positive feedback is being received from project participants. It is anticipated that this encouraging level of progress will be maintained in the remaining two years of the undertaking and that North Warwickshire will be an area where people can be assured of a high quality and positive sporting experience.

6 Report Implications

6.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 6.1.1 There is no new financial implication arising directly from this report. The Sports Club Development Officer position is entirely grant funded in the sum of just under £78,000 over three years. Additional related activity detailed in the report is met either through existing budgetary provision or, in the vast majority of cases, through the acquisition of further external grant aid.

6.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 6.2.1 Through the provision of high quality activities, the work of the sports clubs which are assisted by the Sports Club Development Officer, impacts positively on the reduction of crime and the fear of crime.

6.3 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 6.3.1 The club development work undertaken by the Sports Club Development Officer enhances both the local environment (with improvement to local facilities) and helps to plan and ensure the long-term sustainability of sports provision in local communities.

6.4 Human Resources Implications

- 6.4.1 None, although it should be noted that the Sports Club Development Officer post is a time limited (three-year), grant funded position.

6.5 Risk Management Implications

- 6.5.1 The risks associated with this report have already been identified within the context provided by the corporate Strategic Risk Management process.

6.6 Equalities Implications

- 6.6.1 The work of the Leisure and Community and Development Division is targeted at reducing inequalities in access to service provision. The equalities implications of all projects are considered as part of the project management process.

6.7 Links to Council's Priorities

6.7.1 Work of the Sports Club Development Officer has positive and direct links to the corporate priorities to:

- Enhance community involvement and access to services
- Protect and improve our environment
- Tackle health inequalities through improving well-being and providing leisure opportunities to all of our citizens
- Work with our partners to tackle crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Make the best use of our resources through achieving a balanced budget and developing our workforce

6.7.2 The Sports Club Development Officer also assists in achieving the following priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy:

- Raising aspirations, educational attainment and skills
- Developing healthier communities
- Improving access to services

The Contact Officer for this report is Evan Ross (719270).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
None			

Queen Elizabeth Sports Club Road Show

Overview

The Sports Club Road Show Event was first envisaged by Anne Porter, School Sports Coordinator, Queen Elizabeth School and Sports College (QESSC). The idea was then discussed at a North Warwickshire Sports Club Forum and all agreed that it was an excellent idea to 'showcase' the local clubs to local young people. The first event was held at Queen Elizabeth School and Sports College on the 1st October 2009. This event was a first of its kind within the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Sports Partnership.

Aims

The main aim of the road show was to increase participation at local sports clubs, whilst recognising sports contribution to the development of stronger social networks and more cohesive communities. They also provide new opportunities for young people to engage with new or alternative peer groups.

For a variety of reasons some people within the Borough do not know what sports clubs or active recreation groups are accessible to them in their local community. The Road Show tackled this by demonstrating the type of activity that is available to the young people on their doorstep. Access to such opportunities will enable young people to develop skills, help with personal and social development and provide a foundation for helping to make sport and healthy exercise a lifelong habit.

The project also supports wider agendas such as reducing anti-social behaviour by providing young people with a positive alternative to such behaviour. This was supported by the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership which provided bags that promoted the clubs and the role of sport in providing young people with a positive pastime.

The clubs that attended the Road Show provided the young people with the chance to try new sports that the pupils might not normally have had chance to participate in. Club members were also on hand to answer any questions the young people had.



Young Leader Support

QESSC and Kingsbury School released sports volunteers for the event. The volunteers helped clubs set up stalls, gave out bags, greeted primary schools and generally helped out throughout the day. The event could not have run so smoothly without their energy, enthusiasm and dedication to the day.



Participation

The schools involved were QESSC (all years), St Benedicts, Oakfield Junior School, Racemeadow Primary School and Woodside Primary School (Year 5 and 6 Pupils). Overall over 1000 pupils attended the day.



The clubs involved in the Road Show were Atherstone Rugby Club, Atherstone Hockey Club, Atherstone Cricket Club, Atherstone Tae Kwondo, Grendon Equestrian, Birch Coppice Bullets, Atherstone Rangers, Hurley Kings, Tamworth Sailing Club, Tamworth Boxing Club, Atherstone Golf Club and Purley Chase Golf Club. The clubs made their own individual 'stalls' interactive so the young people got a flavor of some activities the clubs do. This went down really well with the young people.

Statements made by the young people have included:

- "This is a great day"
- "Can we do this every week?"
- "I never realised how many clubs were local to us"



Evaluation

Each young person left the road show with a draw string bag courtesy of the Crime Reduction Partnership carrying a stay safe message, a sports club directory funded by QESSC at the back of which was a voucher for £10 off the membership costs to join one of the clubs showcased at the event funded by North Warwickshire School Sports Partnership.

Success Straight away!

Many clubs took names and addresses so that they could send further information out to pupils. An instant success story came from Atherstone Rugby Club who at their training evening on the same day had three new young people attend, which they were really pleased about.

The day overall was a great success, all of the young people enjoyed the day which we hope generated interest in joining local sports clubs.

Evaluation is being carried out with the sports clubs to measure the impact the road show has had on membership and retention at their club.

Polesworth Sports Club Road Show

Overview

The Sports Club Road Show Event was organised by Stephanie Lawrence, Sports Club Development Officer (SCDO) for North Warwickshire Borough Council and Penny Manton, School Sports Coordinator, The Polesworth School.

One of the main hurdles facing Sports Clubs is the marketing and promotion of their clubs with many relying on word of mouth. It was identified that many of the local young people were unaware of the vast and diverse sporting opportunities that are provided by local clubs. Therefore the idea of a Sports Club Road Show Event where all clubs can collectively showcase their activities was considered an inventive way of raising local clubs profiles.

This was the second Road Show of its kind and it was held on Monday 19th April 2010.

Aims

The main aim of the road show was to promote local sports clubs thus increasing membership within the clubs. The project had the added benefit of recognising sports contribution to wider agendas such as the development of stronger more cohesive communities. Access to such opportunities will also enable young people to develop skills, help with personal and social development and provide a foundation for making sport a healthy lifelong habit.

Sport already has a massive impact on reducing anti-social behaviour in the borough. By promoting these opportunities we will further embed sports as an alternative to negative behaviour.

Method

The event was co-ordinated by Steph Lawrence, SCDO at North Warwickshire Borough Council in partnership with The Polesworth School, NWSCF, Community Safety Partnership and North Warwickshire School Sports Partnership.

14 Clubs were present on the day with many different sports on show, including:-

- Football
- Sailing
- Horse Riding
- Hockey
- Boxing
- American Football

- Cricket
- Rugby
- Golf

Each sports club was allocated space in the sports hall and surrounding area to showcase their own sport and promote their club. The clubs organised fun interactive activities that allowed the young people to try some of the skills required for their sport. For instance Football had a 'beat the goalie' competition and Boxing had hit the count 'n' strike as many times as they could in 10 seconds.

Every attendee left with a 'Stay Safe' bag (funded by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership) and a Sports Club Directory, which included information on all of the sports clubs that attended the day and activities at local leisure centres. On the back of the directory there was a voucher entitling the holder to £10 towards a new membership at one of the participating clubs, funded by North Warwickshire School Sports Partnership.

Twenty-five sports leaders from The Polesworth School and Kingsbury School and Science College assisted the clubs throughout the day. Their tasks included, handing out the bags, welcoming the primary schools, supplying refreshments, assisting with individual clubs and generally helping out throughout the day. Their energy, enthusiasm and dedication to the day was fantastic and to show our appreciation each young person received a letter thanking them for their support and offering them a free session at one of the councils leisure centres.

Evaluation

Over 1000 young people attended the day from The Polesworth School and cluster primary schools giving the clubs captive audience they would not normally have access to.

We decided on the following key performance indicators to measure the impact of the project:

- Number of Young People at the event (1023)
- Number of Clubs at the event (14)
- Number of young people joining a club as the result of the event

Please find below a table of results compiled from the evaluation forms:

OVERVIEW

Teachers Evaluation	Score	Comments
How would you rate the organisation of the event? (1 being high, 5 being low)	1.3	Only 3 Schools
How would you rate the Directory? (1 being high, 5 being low)	1.3	responded out of the 7
Did the variety of sports meet your expectations ?(1 being high, 5 being low)	2.8	
Did the pupils from your school find the event useful? (YES/NO)	100% YES	
Would you like to see this event repeated? (YES/NO)	100% YES	
Overall how would you rate the Sports Club Roadshow? (1 being high, 5 being low)	1.5	

Clubs Evaluation	Score	Comments
How would you rate the organisation of the event (1 being high, 5 being low)	1.2	
How would you rate the Directory (1 being high, 5 being low)	1	Only 4 out of the 14 Clubs
Were the Sport Leader Volunteers useful throughout the day? (YES/NO)	100% YES	have sent forms back
Prior to the event was there enough information? (YES/NO)	100% YES	
Have you had any new members join your club due to the roadshow? (YES/NO)		1 Club - 1 Member
Would you be interested in attending another roadshow? (YES/NO)	100% YES	
Overall how would you rate the day? (1 being high, 5 being low)	1.2	

Young People's Evaluation - 238 responses	Yes	No
Did you enjoy the roadshow event?	236	2
Did you like the bags you received?	169	69
Did you find the sports club directory useful?	124	114
Have you joined a club since the event?	20	218

Perhaps the most pleasing aspect was eleven out of the fourteen sports clubs have expressed how they would like to be invited to another event.

One of the sports clubs, Tamworth Boxing Club, expressed its views of the day in the following e-mail:

Hi Steph

Thanks for your e.mail. Monday was great and both myself and the team really enjoyed the day. I thought the event was very well organised and the pupils a joy to work with. The road show gave the opportunity to promote the club to a large amount of young people in a fairly short space of time.

The two boxers (Sian Hemming and Ricky Johnson) who came to the event and very bravely stood behind the pads for the day were exhausted but inspired by the youngster's gusto and spirit.

The youngsters were very keen to give boxing a try and it was wonderful to see the determination and enthusiasm they showed as they punched the 'mega-strike' and hit the 'count 'n' strike as many times as they could in 10 seconds. The comments were wonderful and I quote from one young lady "stand back this could be dangerous". There was certainly a very determined excitement to have the highest score and win a club t-shirt.

I think the diversity of clubs and organisations at the event gave the youngsters an opportunity to experience a comprehensive range of sports that are sometimes not easy for them to access.

The overall prior planning and organisation on the day, including an excellent lunch and tea and coffee provision was excellent and I would like to say a thank-you to the Sports Leaders who were involved and the day.

Thanks again.

Challenges

As with all events of this size there are numerous challenges that must be addressed to ensure that aims are met.

Space allocation and pupil management – As there were up to 200 pupils around at any one time crowd management was key to allow all young people the opportunity to visit each activity. To assist with this the young sports leaders were used to chaperone small groups.

Minimising disruption to school timetable – As the event was based on school site we had to plan around the existing timetable to minimise disruption to lessons. This was made more difficult as the pupils from the cluster primary schools were also in attendance. Good planning and support from the young leaders and teachers at the school allowed the day to run smoothly.

Possibly the most challenging aspect of the event was the facilitation of Grendon Equestrian Centre and their horses Bagger Boy who also attended the day. Their display was enjoyed by all - if only they knew the length of the risk assessment!

Outcomes

The project was a huge success in securing positive outcomes for the young people. All of the young people enjoyed the event and they now have a greater understanding of what sports clubs are on their doorstep. There was immediate impact as Atherstone Golf Club had seven new members join the club a few days later as a result of attending the event.

Quotes from the day included

- “This is a great day”
- “Can we do this every week?”
- “I never realised how many sports clubs were local to me”
- “I’m definitely joining the hockey club”

The impact of the day was further support by the local press with some running two page spreads on the event taking the message to an even wider audience.

Conclusion

The event would not have been the same were it not for the energy and enthusiasm of the sports clubs, young leaders and the pupils attending the event. The interactive nature of the day proved a massive success and gave the pupils the chance to try a new sport and become aware of the opportunities that lie on their doorstep.

The support received from the schools, the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and the Schools Sports Partnership enable the provision of an enhanced experience for the pupils, allowing the reinforcement of key messages around sport and the part it plays in everyday life.

Sport Unlimited Year Two KPI 3 Results

CS	Coventry	Solihull	Warwick	North Warwickshire	Bugby	Stratford	Leamington	Southern region
Year 2 Target	1,906	1,213	664	349	504	574	717	5,928
Actual Achieved Summer	160	286	63	11	81	49	0	650
Actual Achieved Autumn	455	182	175	106	76	64	88	1,146
Actual Achieved Spring	353	393	139	246	138	79	82	1,430
Total Achieved	968	861	377	363	295	192	170	3,226
Percentage to Target	938	352	287	14	209	382	547	2,702
Percentage Achieved	51%	71%	57%	104%	59%	33%	24%	54%

4 October 2010

Health, Well-being and Leisure Portfolio Group

16 June 2010

Attended	Portfolio Members - Councillors Smitten and Fowler Officers – Simon Powell, Peter Wheaton, Alethea Wilson and Jaki Douglas
Apologies	Councillor Welby

Minutes

		Action
1	<p>Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS)</p> <p>A Wilson explained that the PPS is made up of three component parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Outline Assessments (of pitches and ancillary accommodation)Draft StrategyAction and Funding Plan <p>The PPS will be delivering actions identified in the Green Space Strategy. It covers all pitches, not just those owned by the Borough Council. It looks at current and future needs and provides a clear framework for investment to meet the identified needs.</p> <p>It addresses four key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 Addressing quantitative deficiencies2 Looking at qualitative improvements3 Maximising access (e.g. working with schools and looking at tenure options)4 Supporting the development of local sports clubs in the Borough <p>Amendments to the draft strategy are being finalised. It is anticipated that the Action and Funding Plan will also be available for the C&E Board next week.</p> <p>Cllr Fowler queried future funding, in respect of A Wilson identified potential options and the limitations consequent upon the public spending review. The work will, however, be invaluable in future by providing background evidence of need for future funding bids.</p>	

	<p>S Powell sought Members views on the principle of clubs taking on responsibility (through long term leases) of NWBC sites.</p> <p>Councillors Smitten and Fowler were supportive of this principle.</p> <p>Recommendation of the Portfolio Group:</p> <p>That the C&E Board supports the future implementation of the Playing Pitch Strategy, subject to consideration within the context provided by the Borough Council's capital and revenue budgets.</p>	
2	<p>Playbuilder</p> <p>Four sites are being developed in this second phase of the Play Area Development Programme. Two new play spaces have already been completed, in Ridge Lane and Baddesley Ensor (owned by the Parish Council).</p> <p>In total, just over £200,000 has been allocated to the local Playbuilder Programme, £50,000 per site, one in each Area Forum Area.</p> <p>The next two sites are in Sycamore Road, Kingsbury, and Old Arley. Kingsbury's consultation is now complete and the final stage of the Old Arley consultation will take place on 21 June.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the process has not run entirely smoothly, either with the County Council or the contractors. The play areas that have been produced are of very good quality, but there have been problems with the installation process. A meeting has been held with the contractors and relevant assurances have been received.</p> <p>Portfolio Members advised officers to ensure that Wicksteed stay on track and that good communication is maintained with all interested parties.</p>	SNP / AW
3	APSE reports	
3.1	<p>Parks, Open Space and Horticultural Services</p> <p>A Wilson referred to the report being presented to the C&E Board on 21 June, in respect of which the key findings are:</p> <p>Overall there has been an improvement in performance. The percentage of indicators in the top quartile has increased from 25% to 37%. The number of indicators in the second quartile has remained the same at 19%.</p> <p>Costs are consistently low compared to others in the "family group". The number of recorded public events in parks has improved.</p>	All to note

	<p>There is a high level of staff absence in the Grounds Maintenance team, however, this is being addressed.</p> <p>There remains a low level of customer satisfaction, so there is a need to improve service standards. This is being addressed through the Green Space Strategy and the Playing Pitch Strategy.</p> <p>The targets for next year (this current year) are for 38% in top quartile and 25% in the second quartile.</p> <p>Linked to this is the Grounds Maintenance Service Review (GMSR), which will involve the development of a performance based specification.</p> <p>Cllr Fowler queried the County Council payment towards grass cutting and was informed that a meeting was taking place with County officers that afternoon.</p> <p>The GMSR will be presented to the C&E Board in October, by which time the outcome of the County Council review of grass cutting should be known.</p>	All to note
3.2	<p>Leisure Facilities</p> <p>The second year of benchmarking has been positive, with Arley Sports Centre (ASC) and Coleshill Leisure Centre (CLC) both having their subsidy per visit in the top quartile, as is customer spend per visit. With regard to staff absence, there has been a reduction at ASC and CLC , however sickness levels at Polesworth Sports Centre (PSC) remain quite high. This matter is being progressed with support from Human Resources.</p> <p>PSC is the oldest dual-use facility in the family group. The net cost per head of population has reduced, as has the net cost per catchment household.</p> <p>Staff costs have reduced, particularly due to the restructure that was introduced with effect from 01 April.</p> <p>Cllr Smitten queried whether staff had been made redundant, and was informed that the majority of the reductions had been made with staff being redeployed.</p> <p>Usage per opening hour had improved, and customers have been involved with the process.</p> <p>The Place Survey indicates that customer satisfaction is improving, however, there are problems with this survey and the Division will be undertaking its own consultation to glean a clearer picture of local satisfaction with Borough Councils services.</p>	All to note

	<p>Cllr Fowler queried levels of membership and was informed that income targets have been achieved, however the number of visits has slightly reduced. Improvements that have recently been made in the facilities should see an improvement in this year's usage trends.</p> <p>Cllr Fowler also queried Coleshill Leisure Centre's "life expectancy", and was informed the facility's limitations are being managed, but that its product lifecycle was relatively short.</p>	
4	<p>Free Swimming</p> <p>Free swimming attendances are very good, with North Warwickshire recording high numbers of customers making use of the scheme and achieving very well in comparison with family group authorities.</p> <p>Numbers have slightly decreased during Year 2, although this is a national trend.</p> <p>With regard to continuation of the scheme, officers have written to the DCMS, as requested by Members, requesting a continuation of the Programme, in respect of which a holding response was received. If the scheme is not continued, Members will need to decide what to do in respect of the loss of the £58,000 Government grant.</p>	All to note
5	<p>Partnership Summer Activity Brochure</p> <p>The draft partnership Summer Activity Brochure was distributed. This year, excellent links have been developed with the Extended Schools Coordinators, who have assisted with the process. The leaflet is the most all encompassing leaflet that has been delivered to parents in North Warwickshire. There is a variety of activity for young people of all ages and interests and the brochure includes a significant amount of free and very low cost activity (subsidised by grants), which will assist parents in the current economic climate. Activities are also targeted to tackle the Borough's rising obesity problem and are targeted in areas that have higher deprivation and require diversionary activities.</p> <p>Members were pleased to see the vast array of activity and were pleased to hear about the partnership working being undertaken.</p>	All to note
6	<p>Next meeting to be arranged to allow the Portfolio Group sufficient time to forward recommendations to the C&E Board meeting to be held on 04 October.</p>	SNP

Joint Environment and Health, Well-being and Leisure Portfolio Groups Meeting

01 September 2010

Minutes

1 Present

Cllr Wykes (Chairman for Items 1 and 2) Cllr Smitten (Chairman for Items 3 to 10), Cllr Freer, Cllr Welby, Cllr Phillips and Cllr Lewis

Simon Powell, Richard Dobbs, Bernard Woodhall, Alethea Wilson, Peter Wheaton and Jaki Douglas

2 Apologies

Cllr Hayfield, Cllr May, Cllr Fowler, Cllr Swann, and Cllr Morson

3 Recycling

RD updated Members on the delay in implementing major changes to the Borough Council's recycling service. The new "roll out" date for the service, to include the collection of plastics and cardboard, is the week beginning 18 October. This is to allow time for a participation survey to be undertaken, which will also include waste analysis work.

All to note

Sacks will be provided for the new materials and some minor route changes will be made to harmonise with garden waste collection, where this is possible (round sizes differ, so this is not possible in all cases). Additionally, collections will now take place on Bank Holiday Mondays and isolated properties will be requested to bring waste to the main road.

Contact Centre staff have been briefed.

Cllr Freer queried textile collection and assistance for elderly residents in remote properties. There will be a new bag that will be recognisable as being from the collection company for textiles and it will still be distributed to a charity. Members asked for clarity regarding the charity that will benefit from this collection. The assisted collection list has been updated and when residents are informed of the new service (approximately two weeks in advance of it starting) they will also be informed of who to contact if they have any queries or problems with the proposed changes.

RD

4	Playbuilder	<p>Members were reminded that the Borough Council had been awarded £203,000 to redevelop four play areas and that it had been determined to improve one site within each Area Forum. Two sites have been successfully installed (Ridge Lane and Baddesley Ensor) and consultation has been carried out and designs confirmed for the Year Two sites at Sycamore Road, Kingsbury, and Old Arley Recreation Ground.</p> <p>Members were then informed that the coalition Government had frozen the funding for the Playbuilder scheme and that the Borough Council was due to be informed in the next few weeks whether or not it was able to proceed with the identified schemes.</p> <p>Other sources of funding have been investigated, however, with a view to progressing the schemes in Arley and Kingsbury in the event of Playbuilder funding not being forthcoming. Equipment may need to be removed if resources cannot be found to develop these sites.</p>	All to note
5	Play Areas	<p>Members were informed of two play areas where community consultation needs to be undertaken. Sunset Close in Polesworth has two remnants of play equipment on its site and officers are suggesting that this needs to be removed and not replaced as the site is unsuitable. Local Councillors have been consulted and the Parish Council is due to meet shortly to discuss the issue. Councillor Stanley has requested that the local community be consulted. The Portfolio Groups supported the proposed removal and would like to see the area retained as open space.</p>	All to note
		<p>Following the installation of the play area at Royal Meadow Drive, Atherstone, there is a recommendation from the Community and Environment Board that local people should be consulted on the future of the Warwick Drive play area. Should local people wish to keep this site there is also a recommendation that discussions then be held with Atherstone Town Council regarding taking responsibility for the ownership of this site. The Portfolio Groups supported the proposed course of action.</p>	All to note
6	Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge	<p>AW provided Members with a handout detailing information regarding the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge, which has been received from Fields in Trust (formerly the National Playing Fields Association). The Challenge has been developed to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympic Games. The organisation is looking for the Borough Council to nominate recreation areas to become Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields, which will involve the site having a legal dedication that will place it in Charitable Trust. This would mean that the Council could not easily dispose of the land and any capital receipt from a future sale would have to be used to improve recreation for the local community.</p>	All to note

	<p>Following clarification that the scheme relates to current recreation areas and that the Borough Council can only nominate sites that it owns, Members all thought that the scheme was a good idea and were in favour of its principle. Officers suggested that one site per Area Forum be nominated, although Members would like to see more. SP explained that the initial documentation implied that the organisation was looking for a single proposal from the Borough. AW will check with Fields in Trust and check on a realistic nomination figure for the Borough to submit.</p>	AW
7	Grounds Maintenance Service Review	
	<p>AW updated Members of progress with this initiative. The proposed revised specification had been received and was now being costed. The Review would be presented to the C&E Board in October. Members were asked to study the report upon its receipt in view of the significance of potential service changes.</p>	All to note
	<p>Cllr Freer queried about road sign cleaning. RD confirmed that this is a County Highways function and said that he would check the County's cleaning programme.</p>	RD
8	Hurley Allotments	
	<p>AW and the Community Development Officer (Environment) have been working with the community, which now has a formally constituted group. Initially NWBC land (which had been moved from Housing to the General Fund) was being considered as a potential site. Following vociferous opposition from a small number of the community, however, a WCC site at Holly Farm is now being favoured. It is hoped that the lease between the County and the Association will be completed in February 2011.</p>	All to note
	<p>Members confirmed that they were supportive of the £10,000 allotment budget continuing to be used to support the development of the site in Hurley. Additionally, in line with the support that would have been provided on the Borough Council site, Members confirmed that they were supportive of the funding being used to pay the rent for the first year.</p>	
9	Leisure and Community Development Divisional Plan Update	
	<p>Copies of the Divisional Plan were circulated and SP informed Members that work is progressing well in all areas of activity.</p>	All to note
	<p>Concern is held about progress in respect of the Sport and Recreation Value for Money Review, which is behind schedule, although it is hoped to report on this subject to the Community and Environment Board in the near future. It was pleasing to report, however, that staffing costs within facilities have been a major area of concern and a significant amount of work has been undertaken to address this issue.</p>	SP
	<p>Additionally, whilst on-going consultation with users is undertaken within Leisure Facilities and by the Partnership and Development Section, the</p>	SP/PW/JD

proposed Divisional consultation exercise was behind timetable. This will now be undertaken in the New Year using the Citizens Panel.

10 Atherstone Leisure Complex – Crèche

Members were informed of the new “Gymophobics” facility that may be installed in the crèche space at Atherstone Leisure Complex. Members would be invited to visit a site using the equipment this month. The equipment is for people aged 13+ years and is very flexible and simple to use. It is particularly aimed at people who don’t currently use a gym.

All to note

Members are aware that the crèche is due for closure at the end of December. Due to staffing issues, however, the opening hours will be reducing from five mornings per week to three from October.

All to note

11 Any Other Business

Sports Unlimited Success - JD informed the Groups of the excellent performance achieved by the Community Development Officer (Social Inclusion and Sport) and the Sports Club Development Officer, in that they have ensured that Sports Unlimited funding has been used to surpass its targets (number of young people participating in sports activity). The service in North Warwickshire is currently outperforming all other areas across the sub-region.

All to note

This success means that North Warwickshire can access additional funding to further increase the opportunities available locally.

Junior Pitch Potential - Cllr Wykes had received a query from a member of the public who had identified a potential area of land that could be used to address the undersupply of junior pitches in the Hartshill area. Cllr Wykes was asked to put the person in touch with AW

Cllr Wykes

Fitness Suite Opening - PW informed Members that invitations will soon be going out for the opening of the new Fitness Suite at Atherstone Leisure Complex. The opening will be undertaken by Olympian Tim Brabants at 11.00am on 08 October.

All to note

Agenda Item No 18

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

Report of the Assistant Director (Streetscape)

Warwickshire Waste Seminar

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report is to inform Members of the content of 'The Way Ahead for Warwickshire's Waste' meeting held on 6 September 2010 and also to confirm future attendance by officers and Members at subsequent meetings.

Recommendation to the Board

That Members note the contents of the report and, in particular, the intention to repeat the seminars for officers and Members on a quarterly basis.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Environment Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders have been sent a copy of this report for comment.

3 Background

- 3.1 On 6 September 2010 a meeting of Members and officers from Warwickshire County Council and the Borough and District Councils involved in waste management took place at the Eliot Park Innovation Centre (EPIC) in Nuneaton. The purpose of the seminar was to determine a joint approach to Warwickshire's waste to achieve optimum performance above and beyond that currently reached.
- 3.2 The meeting was addressed by Martin Stott, Head of Environment and Resources at Warwickshire County Council, who set out the current level of performance of waste management throughout the County. The performance summary is attached at Appendix A.
- ...
- 3.3 There followed a presentation by officers from South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils about their joint approach to waste collection and recycling. The revised collection services they have introduced over the last eighteen months mean that they are now achieving a recycling

percentage of 70% of their waste and operated a service which continued to provide a weekly collection of food waste.

- 3.4 Following the presentations officers and Members split into smaller groups to discuss the ongoing issues and challenges for waste management in Warwickshire. All attendees agreed that the level of understanding resulting from these discussions and subsequent group comparison of ideas had been extremely beneficial. The meeting, being less formal than those of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership at Shire Hall, seemed to diminish the division of matters being for the 'disposal' or 'collection' authorities, and, consequently, there was a more joint approach to topics.
- 3.5 Notes from the presentations given are attached as appendices. Members of this Board and the Environment Portfolio Group may wish to visit South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Councils to view their waste management operations at first hand in order to assess what elements of their services could potentially be introduced in North Warwickshire.
- 3.6 It is intended that the seminar be repeated on a quarterly basis with attendance by officers and Members from all the Warwickshire local authorities in order to help frame the strategy for waste management across the county over the coming years. In addition to this, work is also being undertaken at a sub-regional level with Coventry and Solihull Councils and officers are also currently investigating the potential benefits of the Total Environment Programme as part of that ongoing work.
- 3.7 It is anticipated that one of the outcomes of these various work streams will be a range of efficiency savings through increased partnership working, shared resources and joint procurement.

4 Report Implications

4.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 4.1.1 No implications arising directly from this report, but it is anticipated that these programmes will deliver efficiency savings in the future.

4.2 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 4.2.1 Increased efficiency in areas such as waste management and the sharing of best practice with top performing and neighbouring Councils will increase this Council's performance in these areas.

4.3 Links to Council's Priorities

- 4.3.1 These programmes and initiatives link directly to the Council's priorities of Making Best Use of Resources and Protecting and Improving our Environment.

The Contact Officer for this report is Bernard Woodhall (715341 Ext 4376).

Stratford District - 2009/10



- ↻ Population – **117,800**
- ↻ Area in Hectares - **97,800**
- ↻ Population Density - **1.20 people per hectares (310 people per square mile)**
- ↻ Number of Households - **50,000 (2.3 people per household)**



Alternate Week Collection



58% recycling and composting rate

27% Recycling

31% Composting

445 kg of waste per head

182 kg Residual Waste

121 kg Recycling

140 kg Composting

recycle for Warwickshire

Rugby Borough - 2009/10



- ↻ Population – **91,000**
- ↻ Area in Hectares - **35,100**
- ↻ Population Density – **2.59 people per hectares (670 people per square mile)**
- ↻ Number of Households - **38,000 (2.4 people per household)**



Alternate Week Collection



51% recycling and composting rate

26.6% Recycling

24.4% Composting

438 kg of waste per head

215 kg Residual Waste

116 kg Recycling

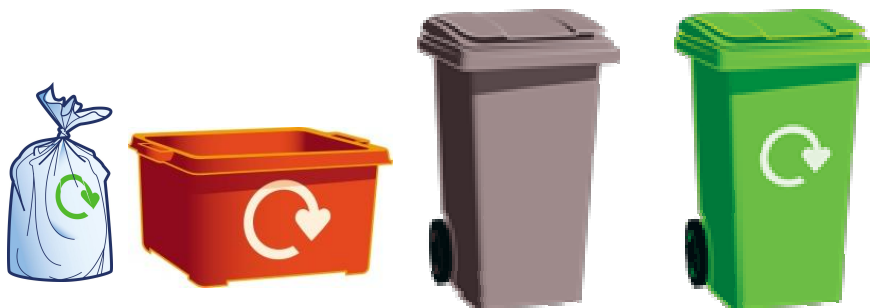
107 kg Composting

 **recycle** for Warwickshire

Warwick District - 2009/10



- Population – **134,600**
- Area in Hectares – **28,300**
- Population Density – **4.76 people per hectares (1,233 people per square mile)**
- Number of Households – **58,000 (2.3 people per household)**



Alternate Week Collection

49% recycling and composting rate

22% Recycling

27% Composting

368 kg of waste per head

186 kg Residual Waste

82 kg Recycling

100 kg Composting



 **recycle** for Warwickshire

North Warwickshire - 2009/10

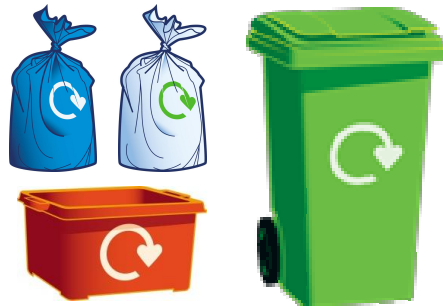


North Warwickshire
Borough Council

- ↻ Population – **62,200**
- ↻ Area in Hectares - **28,400**
- ↻ Population Density – **2.19 people per hectares (608 people per square mile)**
- ↻ Number of Households - **26,000 (2.3 people per household)**



Weekly Collection



Alternate Week Collection



27% recycling and composting rate

10% Recycling

17% Composting

483 kg of waste per head

353 kg Residual Waste

48 kg Recycling

82 kg Composting

recycle for Warwickshire

Nuneaton and Bedworth - 2009/10

- Population – **121,200**
- Area in Hectares – **7,900**
- Population Density – **15.34 people per hectares (4,261 people per square mile)**
- Number of Households – **50,000 (2.4 people per household)**



Weekly Collection

Alternate Week
Collection



34% recycling and composting rate

17% Recycling

17% Composting

425 kg of waste per head

280 kg Residual Waste

73 kg Recycling

72 kg Composting

 **recycle** for Warwickshire

HWRCs – 2009/10



60% recycling and composting rate

35% Recycling

25% Composting

9 Sites Across the County

62 % highest Recycling Rate

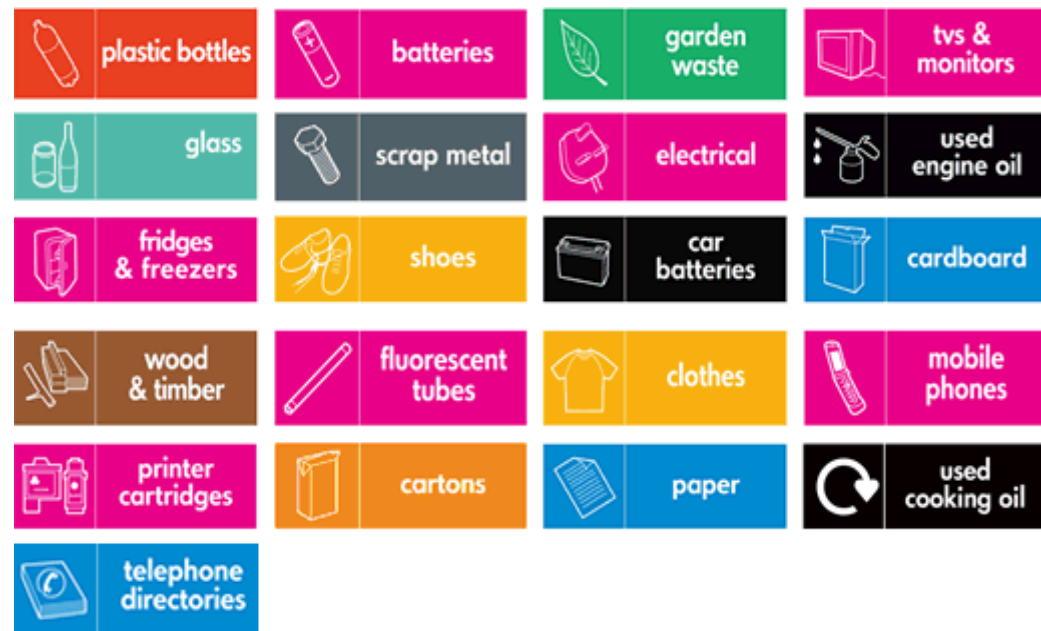
36 % Lowest Recycling Rate

91kg of waste per head

37kg Residual Waste

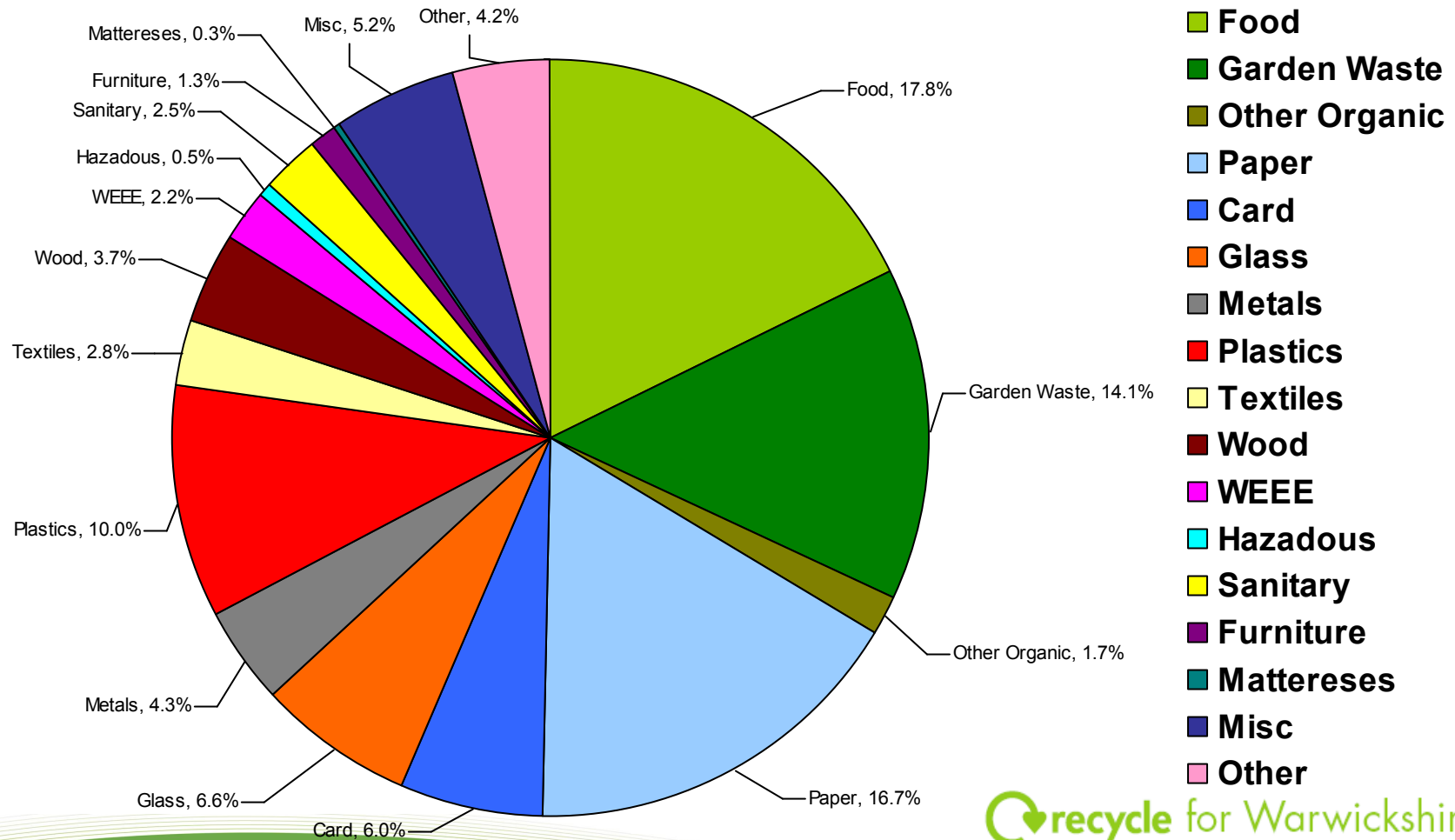
32kg Recycling

22kg Composting



 **recycle** for Warwickshire

What waste do we have?



What waste are we capturing?

62% of Food and Garden Waste Composted

High garden waste capture at NBBC. High food and garden waste capture rate in SDC

68% of Glass Recycled

Very high captures rates for WDC and SDC

48% of Metals Recycled

Highest captures rates for SDC

49% of Paper and Card Recycled

Highest captures rates for SDC

46% of Wood Recycled or Composted

Mainly through the HWRCs

12% of Textiles Reused or Recycled

Highest capture rates for HWRCs, WDC and NBBC

11% of Plastics Recycled

Highest captures rates for SDC and NBBC

40% of E-Waste Recycled

Mainly through the HWRCs

Agenda Item No 19

Community and Environment Board

4 October 2010

Report of the Assistant Director Streetscape

National Review of Waste Policies

1 Summary

- 1.1 On 15 June 2010, the Secretary of State for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs the Rt Hon Caroline Spelman MP announced that the Government would undertake a full review of waste policy in England. To inform that review an 'open to all' invitation for comment was issued as detailed in the document 'Review of Waste Policies – Call for Evidence' in the appendices. This report is to seek approval for the submission of a response from the Board.

Recommendation to the Board

That Members consider the proposed response to the 'Review of Waste Policies – Call for Evidence' shown at Appendix B and approve a submission based upon that.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Environment Portfolio and Shadow Portfolio Holders have been sent a copy of this report for comment.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Government's ambition for waste management in England was defined in the Coalition's Programme for Government and Defra's Structural Reform Plan as 'working towards a zero waste economy'. The purpose of the review is to look at all aspects of waste policy and waste management in England to ensure that we are taking the right steps to delivering this ambition.
- 3.2 The aim of the Review of Waste Policies - Call for Evidence is to invite views on both the current state of the waste policy and waste management in England and what measures should be considered to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of waste management in England. The deadline for submitting views through this Call for Evidence is 7 October 2010. A copy of the document is shown at Appendix A.
- ...

- ... 3.3 Appendix B to this report details the considered comments of the Assistant Director Streetscape and the Refuse Collection and Recycling Manager. The comments have been constrained to particular questions and therefore are shown only as relevant extracts from the Review of Waste Policies.

4 Report Implications

4.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 4.1.1 No implications arising directly from this report.

4.2 Environment and Sustainability Implications

- 4.2.1 None directly but an opportunity for local views to be considered in structuring national waste policy.

4.3 Links to Council's Priorities

- 4.3.1 There is potential for impact upon local waste infrastructure via national policy decisions and correspondingly links to the Council's priority of Protecting and Improving our Environment.

The Contact Officer for this report is Bernard Woodhall (715341 Ext 4376).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date

Review of Waste Policies

Call for Evidence

This appendix is a DFRA document and is protected from being copied electronically. A hard copy is included in the printed agenda.

To view online click this link

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/waste-review/100729-waste-review-call-for-evidence.pdf>

Questions

General

2.3 This group of questions considers some aspects of our general approach to waste policy and waste delivery. We would welcome your views on the Government's approach to waste, including these specific questions:

What should the nation's ambition for waste management be? What do we need to do to achieve a 'zero waste economy'?

Greater emphasis should be placed on conservation of resources and maximising value.

How could the contribution waste management in England makes to the economy and our environmental and energy goals be maximised?

The role of waste as a low-carbon method of energy production should be promoted through financial incentives and relaxation of planning restrictions. The development of new technologies should also be encouraged.

How can Government make the best use of the skills and knowledge of the private sector, civil society and local communities in delivering a zero waste economy?

Less restriction and more encouragement for businesses to bring waste to where it can be more usefully separated and reused/recycled etc.

Do local authorities have the right responsibilities for waste services? Are there further services that could be devolved to local authorities or directly to local communities?

Joint Waste Authorities or at least Joint Waste Committees, the potential in savings from shared services for collection authorities is clear. Adding the joint view of both collection and disposal to the equation will provide a more balanced view and management of what is ultimately the same budget i.e. the public purse.

How can illegal waste activity be minimised, including reducing levels of fly-tipping? Are sanctions for breaches of waste regulation fair and proportionate?

As above make it easier for people/businesses (more affordable) to bring waste to disposal sites (HWRC) so that it can be treated correctly. Users can be advised accordingly and perhaps will understand the need for the correct disposal. Easier and cheaper access to well managed and regulated disposal sites will help reduce illegal disposal and fly-tipping and therefore reduce overall costs.

How can we balance regulation to ensure that we protect health and the environment without unnecessarily burdening businesses and local authorities? What are the opportunities to reduce or remove the burdens of regulations?

Waste Prevention

2.4 Waste prevention is the term used for taking measures to reduce the quantity of waste that is generated. These measures range from simple actions such as reducing food waste and reusing items to technical activities such as extending the lifespan of products. It also includes measures taken before a material becomes waste to reduce its hazardousness or other negative impacts of waste. As the first layer of the hierarchy, it should be promoted as a priority over the others. We would welcome your views on waste prevention in England, and in particular on:

What roles should (i) national and local government; (ii) businesses; (iii) voluntary organisations; and (iv) individuals take in order to prevent waste from arising, and to reduce the hazardousness or environmental impact of waste?

Greater emphasis upon packaging reduction. More responsibility upon the 'seller' to recover the waste generated e.g. providing facility for the return of cans, bottles and jars, cardboard etc. The current system is inefficient in its vehicle traffic. Delivery vehicles will often carry loads of new materials to supermarkets etc., but then return empty. Shoppers will drive to the supermarket with no items for return for reuse or recycling but take those as new materials away within their shopping. Both are making journeys and using fuels without using that to the best effect. This really only requires a change in thinking but needs encouragement.

What can be done to encourage businesses to design and manufacture products which produce less waste – such as those which last longer, can be upgraded and/or repaired, and don't have hazardous components? How might Responsibility Deals contribute to this?

Financial incentives are usually effective. Use of business taxation or VAT reductions for goods with high recycled content may be effective and of benefit to both the manufacturer and the retailer in particular.

Which waste streams or materials should be a priority for waste prevention?

Commercial and Industrial waste which make up the majority of waste arising in the UK. More emphasis should be placed on materials which are rare or expensive to manufacture or which are difficult and costly to dispose of.

How should waste prevention be measured?

Waste prevention, like recycling, should not simply be based on weight/volume but also factors which reflect the issues set out above. Materials could be weighted based on these factors to give greater value to those materials which, say, have a large carbon footprint or are scarce.

Preparing for Reuse

2.5 Preparing for reuse means checking, cleaning or repairing recovery operations, by which products or components of products that have become waste are prepared so that they can be re-used without any other pre-processing. Examples of preparing for reuse are refurbishing old IT equipment or discarded furniture. We would welcome your views on preparing for reuse in England and in particular:

The cost of scaling such operations to enable them to have significant effect has to be recognised. An altruistic outcome may be desirable but still has to be affordable, especially in the current economic environment.

What more do you think Government, businesses and civil society could do to increase activities that prepare waste for reuse?

Source separation of materials is generally accepted as the best method of providing high quality of recyclate material and certainly larger items e.g. furniture and white goods need to be in good condition for there to be a market. However the nature of source separation schemes is usually of higher cost and therefore will not be favoured

Which waste streams or products are priorities for reuse?

Those materials which are difficult or costly to produce from the raw material, or where reprocessing leads to a significant deterioration in material quality

What are the existing barriers to preparing more waste for reuse from both the household waste stream and the 'Commercial and Industrial' and 'Construction and Demolition' waste streams?

Source separation of materials is generally accepted as the best method of providing high quality of recyclate material and certainly larger items e.g. furniture and white goods need to be in good condition for there to be a market. However the nature of source separation schemes is usually of higher cost and therefore will not be favoured.

Who is best placed to deliver an increase in reuse? How could civil society take a role?

Freebays? The perception that you 'can't get something for nothing' perhaps militates against greater success of such schemes. Also those most in need have the least access to these sites and the least ability to transport items.

Recycling

2.6 Recycling means converting used materials into new products. For most materials and products, recycling is better for the environment than energy recovery and disposal. We would welcome your views on recycling in England generally, and in particular:

What should the role and nature of local authority waste management collection and disposal services be?

Education and collection systems designed to encourage recycling i.e. ease of use and limiting the recourse to disposal in residual waste.

How can individuals, businesses and communities best be motivated to recycle more?

Individuals: Education, understanding the benefit to society and easy to use systems. For businesses it has to be cost effective.

How does the choice, including frequency, of collection service impact on the quantity and quality of waste fit for recycling?

There is an undeniable link to increased recycling from reduced frequency of residual waste collection. Commingled recycling is probably more readily acceptable for the public than multi container source separation. Whilst commingled systems may reduce the quality of material recovered (particularly paper) there is evidence that the latest MRF's are improving commingled quality.

Should greater emphasis be placed on using recyclable/recycled materials in manufacturing and production and, if so, how should this be achieved?
Reduced business taxes for companies whose products are made from or in part made from recycled materials. Reduction in VAT on goods that have recycled content could stimulate the market for recycled content products.

Energy recovery

2.7 Energy recovery is about extracting, through various technologies, energy from the waste left once as much as possible has been prevented, reused and recycled. Energy derived from bio waste can contribute to renewable energy targets. Energy from Waste (EfW) covers a range of established technologies including combustion and anaerobic digestion, as well as emerging technologies such as advanced gasification and pyrolysis. The Government is committed to delivering a huge increase in EfW through anaerobic digestion. We would welcome your views on EfW in England, and in particular:

What are the barriers to delivering an increase in EfW capacity, including a huge increase in generation from anaerobic digestion? How might these be addressed?

The product of anaerobic digestion requires sufficient 'land spread' to be available or required for a sustainable market.

What role should Government, industry and voluntary groups play in communicating the benefits of EfW to local communities?

A major role in producing information to answer public concerns about EFW plants and their effect upon the environment. (TV publicity).

How can Government best support local government in the development of waste management plans that include EfW facilities?

Special planning dispensation to allow EFW's to be sited away from residential areas, thereby reducing the NIMBY protest. This may place them in a location that is not within a designated development area hence special dispensation. Given the relatively small number of plants required it should not be beyond the wit of man to locate them as sensitively as possible with that remit.

What steps can be taken to encourage community ownership of EfW facilities?

Disposal

2.8 Disposal is now considered the last resort for many types of waste. Biodegradable waste in landfill decomposes to release methane, one of the most dangerous greenhouse gases. Disposing of valuable resources rather than using them again is also economically unsustainable. We would welcome your views on the use of waste disposal in England, and in particular on:

How best to further reduce the amount of waste going to landfill?

The first step should always be waste prevention and minimisation. Failing that, EFW appears to be an answer for both the uneconomic and the non-viable for recycling waste stream, particularly as the energy production benefit could help to reduce the pressure upon energy supply.

What are the types of waste where a continuation of landfill might be acceptable?

There are elements of hazardous and radioactive waste which are currently best disposed of through landfill. This should continue until alternative technologies become available.

When should we aim to be as close to zero waste to landfill as possible?

This is dependent upon it being the right target. A significant proportion of waste can be usefully and viably reduced/reused/recycled. If the cost is too great or the environmental benefit too little there is no sense in taking a sledgehammer to crack the insignificant nut that is left.