



# **LUTON COUNCIL: INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN 2015 - 2021**

## **FINAL STRATEGY: JANUARY 2015**

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# LUTON COUNCIL FACILITIES STRATEGY

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# LUTON COUNCIL FACILITIES STRATEGY

## STRATEGY VISION AND OBJECTIVES

***“To create a high quality and sustainable indoor sports facility offer which provides accessible and inclusive activities for all Luton citizens leading to increased participation and active lifestyle, thereby meeting community need.”***

This Strategy Vision for Luton builds upon the conclusions identified in the Assessment Report (March 2014). It is a plan for the Borough and whilst Luton Borough Council (LBC) has been the key driver, it is expected that plans and actions emanating from it can only be delivered in partnership with other key stakeholders. It provides a clear, coherent way forward for the management and delivery of sports facilities in Luton. The primary focus is to give residents leisure facilities of which they can be proud and ensure that sport and physical activity programmes lead to increases in regular participation, especially amongst the Authority's most deprived communities.

This Strategy has been developed and will be delivered with the community and partners, working together to achieve Luton's Sustainable Community Strategy Vision (2008-2026). This has four themed areas for delivering the vision:

- ◀ Stronger and Safer Communities
- ◀ Health and Well Being
- ◀ Environment and the Economy, and
- ◀ Children and Young People.

Further, the Asset Management plan (AMP) identifies that: 'Luton Borough Council is committed to providing property assets, which are in good condition, fit for purpose and in the best location to support good quality, accessible services to its customers and represent value for money.' It is expected that all facilities identified within this Strategy are DDA compliant and any improvements necessary are covered by the Equality Act 2010 and other LBC strategies.

The vision is also reflective of the wider aspirations of other strategic documents which are considered to be:

- ◀ The need for high quality sports facilities.
- ◀ Facilities placed in the right location to be accessible to the whole community.
- ◀ Facilities and programmes of activity which contribute to reducing health inequalities across the Borough for all age groups.
- ◀ Facilities which contribute to local economic development.
- ◀ Understanding that service delivery may vary to ensure fair health and wellbeing.
- ◀ Facilities and programmes which contribute to the education and skills development of the local population.
- ◀ Facilities which better meet the needs of under-represented and vulnerable people in the Borough including, for example, people with disabilities.

### **Partners**

The strategy has been developed through ongoing engagement with a range of key partners including Active Luton, Luton sports clubs, Sport England, Team Beds and Luton, national governing bodies of sport (NGBs), Luton schools, and Luton Borough Council. Its delivery is predicated on partners accepting and taking responsibility for different aspects of its implementation.

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## Strategic objectives

The above vision is based upon a clear, achievable framework of strategic objectives (not in any priority) and summarised in the boxes below. The three main themes of the strategy reflect Luton's priorities emanating from Sport England's planning aim and objectives for sport; namely:

- ◀ **Protect:** The current facility infrastructure, by establishing a facility infrastructure which establishes defined roles and functions for specific facility types leading to sustainable facility development across Luton.
- ◀ **Provide:** Access to high quality sports facility infrastructure for all residents regardless of personal circumstances.
- ◀ **Enhance:** The programming and animation of facilities in order to meet the changing sport and physical activity needs of local residents.

Figure 1: Sport England Planning for Sport



It is recommended that the Council and its partners adopt the following strategic objectives (as policy) to enable the above vision to be achieved:

### OBJECTIVE 1: PROTECT

**Protect** the current facility infrastructure, by establishing a facility infrastructure which establishes defined roles and functions for specific facility types leading to sustainable facility development across Luton.

### OBJECTIVE 2: PROVIDE

**Provide** a coherent range of good quality, accessible facilities reflecting the hierarchy and serving key communities across Luton

### OBJECTIVE 3: ENHANCE

Based on identified strategic need, **enhance** the opportunities by developing a borough-wide approach to sports facility programming leading to an increase in physical activity outcomes.

## CONTEXT

As the commissioning body for the Strategy, Luton Borough Council has identified a number of priorities which align to its Community Strategy:

- ◀ Promoting healthy living and tackling the key risk factors which affect health.
- ◀ Focusing on prevention and early intervention.
- ◀ Improving leisure and cultural opportunities for all, and better access.
- ◀ Understanding that different service delivery will be necessary to ensure fair health and wellbeing outcomes for all.
- ◀ Improving the health of children and young people.
- ◀ Supporting children and young people to achieve skills and experience to enhance their prospects for the future.
- ◀ Providing positive activities for young people and reducing anti-social behaviour.
- ◀ Better meeting the needs of children and young people with disabilities/learning difficulties.

Building on the completion of 'Luton's Strategic Vision for Sport and Physical Activity' (2013) and 'Luton's Playing Pitch Strategy' (2014), a strategic alliance of key 'sport and physical activity' partners in Luton is to working collaboratively towards the achievement of agreed aims and outcomes of the aforementioned documents and will also lead on delivery of the Indoor Sport Facility Strategy via the four newly established delivery groups, including the following:

- ◀ PE and School Sports Strategy Group (PESS) – leading delivery on the PE and School Sports Strategy and driving community access and community use of school sites.
- ◀ Health and Well-Being Group (HWB) – leading on public health, co-ordination of health programmes and increasing physical activity and participation in sport.
- ◀ Sport and Skill Development Group (SSD) – leading on sport development and NGB engagement, supporting the voluntary and professional sports infrastructure, co-ordination of sport participation programmes and workforce/ skills development.
- ◀ Sport and the Environment Group (SEG) - leading on the recommendations and implementing the Playing Pitch Strategy (2014) and will also lead on the delivery of the Indoor Sports Strategy.

### **Local context**

The Indoor Sport Facility Needs Assessment found the following contextual challenges to be relevant:

- ◀ Luton Council has recently invested in Inspire, which opened in 2012. It is based in the North East of the Borough and comprises an eight court hall, 50m swimming, diving and teaching pools, dry diving, significant health and fitness capability and a range of studios. This is considered to be a high quality regionally significant facility.
- ◀ The unemployment rate in Luton is higher than the national figure of 7.7% at 8.4% and Luton has a much higher rate of residents with no formal qualifications than national and regional figures, 16.1% compared to 9.7% nationally<sup>1</sup>.
- ◀ Gross disposable household income (GDHI) - the amount of money that individuals have left to save or invest after deductions such as taxation, property and social contributions – is 22% less than the national average.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Office of National Statistics GDHI Figures April 2012

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- ◀ Office of National Statistics data indicates that Luton is the most densely populated authority in the East of England. It has the highest average household size (2.7 people).
- ◀ There is very limited space in the Borough on which to develop new housing.
- ◀ The most deprived and densely populated areas are based around Luton town centre. There are also high levels of deprivation in the south of the Borough. The areas in the Borough with lower population density tend to be the ones with lower levels of deprivation.
- ◀ Sports facilities are a key component in the drive to address health inequalities.
- ◀ It is predicted that Luton will experience significant changes in its population structure over the next 8-10 years. This is specifically relevant to the 0-15 age group, which is expected to increase by 20.8% and both the 55-64 and 65+ age groups which are expected to grow by 21.9% and 15.9% respectively. This may well lead to an increase in demand for activities throughout week day periods.
- ◀ Taking advice from LBC officers (Department of Environment and Regeneration, LBC) this study applies a variety of projections to derive the respective outputs which are identified as 18,000; 20,000 and 32,000 households up to 2031. Sport England's local sports profile for Luton forecasts population growth through to 2021 but not 2031.
- ◀ There is a significant BAME community within Luton. The White British segment is the single largest group (45% of the total); Asian residents account for 30% of the population (significantly higher than the national average of 7.8%). As a result there are lower proportions of white and black residents compared to national figures.
- ◀ Luton currently has lower participation levels than the regional and national figures for each key performance indicator. For example, the percentage of adults doing at least 1 x 30 minutes exercise has increased marginally to 28.1%; it is, however, still more than 6% lower than the national and regional averages.
- ◀ Club membership rose from 12.4% to 19.2% from 2010 to 2011 but is still lower than the national average of 21%.
- ◀ Given the range of access required for those with sensory disabilities or those with who are wheelchair users a full audit of access and inclusiveness is required to give a fuller picture of this need in the Borough, particularly as there is a legal duty to ensure access and not to discriminate on the grounds of a person's disability.

This strategy thus looks to address a range of fundamental challenges; not just their existence; but how they are used to meet the needs of:

- ◀ A growing population especially school age and the 'grey market', the requirements of whom may be very different.
- ◀ Cultural differences which result in different pressures on facilities by specific groups.
- ◀ Residents (who may reside in areas of high deprivation) who are currently inactive and need to become more active and healthy.
- ◀ Increased demand for facilities given the proposed increase in population.

### ***Planning***

NPPF paragraph 74 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or

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- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

Given the nature of potential developments in Luton it is important that the Council's Planning Department retains oversight with regard to potential facility developments across the Borough. This includes policies and supplementary planning documents setting out the approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development. It also includes Planning's approach to ensuring that community use of new facilities is agreed at the outset so as to ensure that they contribute to the wider sport and physical activity aspiration of the Council and its partners.

The approach taken by the Council's planning department will be pivotal to the longer term delivery of this strategy over the coming years. As well as securing sports provision in new housing and securing community use, local plans/supplementary planning document policies have a key role in protecting, enhancing and providing/delivering sport/recreation facilities.

## ASSESSMENT REPORT CONCLUSIONS

The following section summarises the key findings of the Assessment Report. These enable key conclusions to be drawn:

### Sports halls

- ◀ Luton has 15 sports hall (3 court and above) sites providing 62 badminton courts.
- ◀ These provide a total of 11 community accessible venues with 49 badminton courts.
- ◀ Sport England FPM analysis indicates unmet demand of 4.28 courts. The assessment undertaken would suggest that this is higher due to the inaccessibility of a number of 3 and 4 court sports halls identified in the assessment report. The FPM model does not, however, specify where these should/could be.
- ◀ Projected population increases will put further pressure on existing facilities.
- ◀ The quality of sports halls is variable in the Borough; the majority are rated as good or above average. Those identified as poor tend not to currently offer committed community use.
- ◀ The amount of community use available at school sites varies, depending on the approach each school takes to community access.
- ◀ There is demand for indoor cricket. The relationship with Bedfordshire Cricket Board and Luton 6<sup>th</sup> Form College is developing. This site is identified as a strategic priority in the Borough Playing Pitch Strategy 2014-2021. It is hoped/expected that this will increase indoor opportunity in the near future.
- ◀ The programming of adult football does not appear to be limiting opportunity for other sports in indoor facilities. Cost appears to be more of an issue, especially with regard to the hire of school facilities.
- ◀ Given the fragmented nature of management arrangements for sports halls; no single organisation is taking a lead on programming activity (including ensuring equitable access for the BAME community and people with disabilities) across the Borough, although Active Luton does have a good understanding of current activity.
- ◀ The proposed population increase is likely to put more strain on the current stock of facilities. Further investment will be required in the sporting infrastructure if it is to keep pace with projected demand.
- ◀ Facility developments in Central Bedfordshire at Houghton Regis and Dunstable may offer alternatives for residents of Luton and are accessible via personal and public transport e.g. through use of the Luton and Dunstable Guided Busway.

### Swimming pools

- ◀ The Assessment Report identifies six swimming pools across five sites in the Borough. This excludes (due to their size and restrictive access arrangements): the pools at Bannatynes, David Lloyd and the Waves Health and Leisure Club.
- ◀ The FPM assessment estimates that there is an over provision of water in the Authority area (equating to approximately 2 lanes of 25m swimming pool). The main facility is located in the North East of the Borough. There is, however, reported over-demand at peak times with all sectors of the community concurrently competing for water space.
- ◀ Based upon a population increase of 18,000 dwellings in Luton, Sport England's Sports Facilities Calculator models additional demand equivalent to a need for a six lane 25m pool.
- ◀ Inspire Luton Sports Village in the North East of the Borough draws users from a wide area from within the Borough and from further afield.

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- ◀ The Council's main swimming pool provision is generally of good quality; Inspire Luton Sports Village is brand new and its quality is high. Investment in other facilities has also contributed to them having been maintained to a good standard.
- ◀ Significant investment was made in Lea Manor in 2014 (roof and electrics). However, it still has wasted space, which cannot be used for classes or other activities, due to weak design. This will require further investment if it is going to optimise use and attract higher levels of custom.
- ◀ Denbigh High School is strategically placed, has high community use and will need investment to help it maintain standards. It is reportedly well used by the local community.
- ◀ In general, community pools coverage in the Borough is adequate; 62.1% of residents live within one mile of a swimming pool. This catchment coverage reduces to 35% of residents if Denbigh High School is taken out of the equation. In this instance, 76% of those in the higher areas of deprivation would, on the basis of the one mile catchment, be unable to access swimming.
- ◀ Denbigh High School Pool is strategically important as its location appears to serve the main deprived areas of the Borough.
- ◀ The current water space is not evenly spread throughout the borough and the projected increase in growth in Luton and Central Bedfordshire is likely to increase pressure on water space over time.
- ◀ Denbigh High School, Lewsey, Lea Manor and Inspire all offer women's only sessions but still face particular challenges in respect of their capacity (upskilling enough women to become lifeguards) to meet the needs of women and girls and specific religious and cultural groups. This policy is being extended to men only as demand has been identified within specific community groups.
- ◀ Team Luton Swimming Club is aware that it has the use of a high quality facility. It has close links and good relationships with Active Luton, using the Active Luton Swim School for talent identification. It attracts very few members from the BAME community.
- ◀ Facility/swimming pool developments in Central Bedfordshire at Houghton Regis and Dunstable may offer alternative facilities for residents of Luton (and are accessible via personal and public transport e.g. through use of the Luton and Dunstable Guided Busway).

### **Indoor bowls**

- ◀ Bowls is a particularly popular sport amongst older age groups.
- ◀ As noted, the older population (55-64 years) is expected to increase substantially in number and as a proportion of the total number of residents in Luton up until 2021.
- ◀ Luton Indoor Bowls Centre, opened in 1988, is a reportedly vibrant club with 500 members. The NGB considers this site to be strategically significant although it does not have funds to invest in it.
- ◀ This is a strategically significant site which has the potential to offer and support physical activity in older people.
- ◀ It is situated in an area of high population density. It has good parking and access, is close to a bus route and has a significant population within walking distance.
- ◀ It is in need of some repair especially to the roof to remain fit for purpose.
- ◀ Support should/could be offered to the Club to assist it to work more effectively in the context of attracting new members. There is currently an under representation from the wider BAME community, in particular. Increased membership should lead to increased financial viability and support the health and well-being agenda by increasing physical activity among different sections of the local community.
- ◀ The facility is potentially at risk from being sold for housing development.

- ◀ Consideration should be given to either protecting the existing facility or to replacing it in full pending decisions about the potential alternative uses of the site.

### **Indoor tennis**

- ◀ Venue 360 is clearly a site of strategic importance for Luton. It incorporates an indoor sports hall, indoor tennis centre and outdoor courts, fitness facilities and social areas. It has excellent parking but access on foot is not easy.
- ◀ It is managed and operated by a not for profit organisation but is under increasing commercial pressure as the subsidy it receives from Vauxhall has been removed.
- ◀ The geographic spread of the tennis membership suggests that most people travel to the venue by car, but it does not draw significantly from outside Luton
- ◀ The LTA Whole Sport Plan emphasises the importance of increasing membership, particularly via the use of community facilities in parks. It is reportedly unlikely to be able to offer funding to invest in the site.
- ◀ Management at Venue 360 has succeeded in securing funds from the LTA (to improve the lights) and from Badminton England for indoor matting enabling higher level participation in both sports.
- ◀ The facility is used extensively by the University. The University suggests that participation could increase further if improved lighting is invested in, between it and the adjacent student accommodation. The University needs to explore the option and extent to which it might be able to make a financial contribution to this.
- ◀ Bedfordshire Cricket Board is actively considering whether the indoor facility has capacity and would be suitable for developing an inclusive indoor cricket league.
- ◀ Venue 360 is also mentioned by Luton Town FC which has aspirations to develop an indoor 3G on site (  $\frac{3}{4}$  of full size) to enable it to become a Category 2 youth football deliverer, as defined by the Premier League
- ◀ LBC needs to consider how it can best support Venue 360 to continue to offer the current, wide range of sports. Venue 360 is likely to need to consider other sporting options (as it seeks to maximise income) which will serve the needs of the local sporting population. As an example, it is thought that indoor cricket will service local need and lead to increases in participation in the local population.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The following key strategic priorities should be considered in delivering this strategy:

- ◀ It is clear that the investment in Inspire has created energy in the Borough with regard to sport and physical activity. Whilst this facility is important and satisfies a substantial volume of demand it also has the potential to more starkly highlight the divide between those who can and cannot gain access to facilities. It is essential that Active Luton continues to monitor usage (on behalf of the Council) to ensure that this facility remains genuinely available to people from all sections of the local community.
- ◀ The FPM identifies that there is unmet demand for 4.28 badminton courts which Sport England's Sports Facility's Calculator estimates will rise by 13 courts if the projected increase of 18,000 dwellings in the Borough. The opening of Stopsley has the potential to redress the balance slightly in the short term, assuming that appropriate community use agreement can be put in place. There is also the potential to negotiate a community use agreement at Cardinal Newman High School.
- ◀ Developing better community use agreements is a key tenet of the PESS group in attempting to encourage improved access. It is, however, unlikely to fully redress the balance of sports hall availability during the day, which is of increasing significance with the projected ageing population.
- ◀ Driving participation up will entail different actions/resources for different sections of the community in particular for vulnerable and hard to reach groups, including people with disabilities.
- ◀ The amount of current water space in the Borough is considered adequate. The projected growth in population (up to 18,000 dwellings) is likely to place the current facilities under increasing pressure. LBC needs to consider how its planning policies support the development of swimming in the future and which partners it can realistically work with in the future.
- ◀ The importance of Denbigh Swimming Pool cannot be underestimated as it serves a deprived local catchment. Although daytime community use is limited, due to it being a school pool, this site remains strategically significant.
- ◀ The flexibility of Venue 360, range of sports on offer, its links with the University, good road access and car parking confirms its importance as a strategic indoor venue in Luton.
- ◀ The indoor bowls centre is another significant site with a current membership of over 500. Consideration needs to be given to making equivalent provision available should this site be given over to housing development.
- ◀ Working with and through NGBs and linking with local clubs is key to driving up participation in sport and physical exercise in the Borough.

## STRATEGY OBJECTIVES

### OBJECTIVE 1 - PROTECT

**Protect** the current facility infrastructure, by establishing a facility infrastructure which establishes defined roles and functions for specific facility types leading to sustainable facility development across Luton.

### Facility hierarchy

To implement objective 1, it is necessary to develop a hierarchy in which specific facilities have distinct roles and functions; carry differing levels of operational weight and related staffing.

It is important that they have a defined function from the users' perspective. In Luton, core facilities deliver orchestrated physical activity geared to extended participation and improving health whilst key neighbourhood facilities offer this alongside and opportunity for accredited clubs to cater for their membership and further develop their sports. This also has the benefit of linking to the Vision for Sport and Physical Activity (2013) which clarifies the authority's focus on increasing participation, volunteering and coaching and supporting voluntary sports clubs and developing the skills of individuals.

Key principles (and a suggested hierarchy of provision) are as shown in the table overleaf, whilst broad principles are illustrated in the hierarchy diagram shown below:

Figure 1.1 Facility hierarchy – core principles



It is worth noting that facilities identified in level 4 below are generally smaller than those identified within the scope of this commission. They are, however, often valuable assets for the local community offering either a range of recreation/participation opportunities or, in some instances, offering beginner to performance opportunities. A map of these facilities is provided as Appendix 1.

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Table 1.1: Proposed facility hierarchy – site designation and definition

Designation	Role and function	Sites
Level 1: Key Borough facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides a Borough significant facility which is the primary performance venue for a single or select number of priority sports.</li> <li>A venue with the potential to host sub-regional, county, Borough-wide and local events.</li> <li>Provides a wide a range of opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in sport and physical activity, contributing significantly to the quality of life of residents across the whole of Luton borough.</li> <li>Provides/programmes opportunities for local people to try new activities, develop their skills and progress to a higher performance level.</li> <li>Is a core venue for training and development of teachers, coaches, volunteers, officials and others in key sports organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspire</li> <li>Venue 360</li> </ul>
Level 2: Dedicated community facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to quality of life of residents in the local community served and provide a range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity.</li> <li>Generally a combination of stand-alone community facilities and sports facilities on school sites (where this is the primary facility within the locality).</li> <li>Is a venue with potential to host Borough-wide, community/local events.</li> <li>Provides a base for the provision of opportunity (delivered by a range of providers) for local people to develop their skills and try new activities.</li> <li>One of several core venues offering health/fitness provision and activity across the Borough.</li> <li>Core venue accommodating the Borough's Learn to Swim programmes (where a pool is incorporated).</li> <li>Provides options for a range of sports organisations to participate, compete and develop skill within their chosen activity (where a sports hall is available).</li> <li>Supports voluntary sports sector to cater for club activity and raise standards in respect of coaching, coach education, administration and volunteer development in chosen sport.</li> <li>Facility use should reflect the demographic profile of the local community</li> <li>If applicable, increases/ improves quality of PE and school sport opportunity for young people attending the school at which it is based.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lea Manor Recreation Centre</li> <li>Lewsey Park Park Pool</li> <li>Hightown Community Sports and Leisure Centre</li> <li>Luton Indoor Bowls Club</li> <li>Luton 6<sup>th</sup> Form College</li> </ul>
Level 3: Neighbourhood facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where within the vicinity of a 'community sports facility' it should complement the programming and opportunities offered to the local community.</li> <li>Contributes to quality of life of the neighbourhood, accommodating a range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity.</li> <li>Either stand-alone smaller dry-side community facilities or sports facilities on school sites which operate within a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lealands High School</li> <li>Denbigh High School</li> <li>Ashcroft High School</li> <li>Barnfield South Academy</li> </ul>

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Designation	Role and function	Sites
	<p>lettings policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides opportunities for range of sports organisations to participate, train and compete in their chosen activity.</li> <li>• Facility use to reflect demographic profile of the local community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barnfield West Academy</li> <li>• Cardinal Newman High School</li> <li>• Challney High School for Boys and Girls</li> <li>• Stopsley High School</li> <li>• Putteridge High School</li> <li>• Icknield High School</li> </ul>
Level 4: Local facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tend to be stand-alone small dry-side community/sports facilities which operate independently.</li> <li>• Contributes to quality of life of residents within the locality providing a limited range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity.</li> <li>• Provides opportunities – often for just for one or two dedicated sports organisations to participate, train and compete (e.g. boxing, martial arts).</li> <li>• Programming generally appeals to a specific demographic e.g. young people or faith groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community centres (see appendix 1)</li> </ul>

## Strategic priorities

Within the prioritisation list the facilities and actions concerning them have been grouped into low medium and high **strategic priorities**, based on the immediate impact of the actions being undertaken. The priorities have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment. For example, Inspire and Venue 360 are considered to be of Borough Wide importance due to the variety of offer at both sites and their prospective impact on high numbers of the public. Another example of a high priority is enabling/supporting Icknield High School to develop a minimum of a four court hall, which has the potential for a positive impact on both educational attainment and increase the availability for community use significantly.

## Specific prioritisation list

The prioritisation list has been created to be delivered over a ten year period. The information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Prioritisation List will require updating as developments occur. It is not feasible to include all facilities with identified development issues. Only facilities, which meet the criteria listed above, have therefore been included. The timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based.

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-3 years); (M) - Medium (4-7 years); (L) - Long (7+ years).

## Facility development

The following section identifies the major investment requirements over the life of this Strategy. It describes what is needed in order to 'protect', 'enhance' and 'provide' sport and leisure facilities for the residents of Luton and enable the Council to meet its wider objectives. It first considers the two of the more important facilities in the Borough.

### *Inspire*

The Assessment Report identifies the importance of Inspire both for residents and non-residents. All areas of Luton Borough are covered in the membership of Inspire Luton Sports Village. As noted in the FPM, there is significant travel to the facility from people resident outside the Borough and this contributes to the financial viability of the site.

There is increasing pressure on the 8 courts sports hall and the site could clearly fully occupy 12 courts. Although it is unlikely that the Council will invest in increasing provision, but were it to do so, this further growth would need to be carried out alongside improved parking provision.

The dry diving is significant. Were this to be invested in and increased in scale, it could offer a vastly improved gymnastics offer which would complement the gymnastics offer presently made by SALTO.

The Council needs to continue to work with Active Luton to ensure that this facility remains accessible to the local community as well as functioning a flagship venue serving a wider than Luton remit. Inspire's location is outside the densely populated areas of the Borough, but this does not appear to be hindering usage and access. Now that the Council has such an exemplary facility it needs to ensure that it is maintained at a high standard and that it continues to offer a high level of access to all Borough residents.

### *Venue 360*

This is a strategically significant facility with good access to main transport routes, good parking facilities which draw in members from outside the Borough. It is a stand-alone venue operated by a not for profit organisation. It has good links with the University which uses it for home fixtures in BUCS competitions. It has benefitted from significant investment over the past few years but reports its main challenge being the increasing competition from budget gyms in the town centre and the reduction in the use of its conference facilities (mainly due to austerity measures *per se*).

The key stated aim of site managers is to sustain the business for sport and recreation and to continue to function as a high quality sporting venue. It is, therefore, keen to develop in a number of ways (both indoor built and outdoor) and is in talks with a range of organisations (including Luton Town FC, LTA, Badminton England and the University of Bedfordshire) to maximise investment and usage.

It is therefore, imperative that Luton Council has a coordinated approach to liaison (i.e. planners, community officers and Active Luton) with Venue 360 in order to stay abreast of potential developments ensuring that they are commensurate with the indoor built facilities strategy.

## Planning

It is important that the Council's Planning Department uses the above requirements to develop supplementary planning documents (SPDs) by setting out an approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development. Local plans also have a key role to play in protecting, enhancing and providing sport and recreation facilities. Guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate indoor facilities.

Section 106 contributions or CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) should be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of existing indoor facilities to maintain quality and increase capacity to accommodate more usage, enhancing their capacity to increase participation. It will be necessary for Luton Council to establish a formula for collating developer contributions for indoor facilities which is demand based. This should be co-ordinated with the approach taken to outdoor sport in the Playing Pitch Strategy.

### **OBJECTIVE 2 - PROVIDE**

Provide a coherent range of good quality, accessible facilities reflecting the hierarchy and serving key communities across Luton

In delivering the above the Council and partners will need to how:

- ◀ They can work with all stakeholders, such as schools, to deliver new and/or refurbished facilities which will address the current undersupply in sports halls.
- ◀ They can work with partners, stakeholders and other local authorities to provide increased water provision as the population increases.
- ◀ The facilities management contract with Active Luton is used to ensure that price does not become a barrier to participation; especially for young people and economically challenged residents.
- ◀ The facilities management contract is used to ensure that where possible income from health and fitness cross-subsidises other activities; especially those that address local physical inactivity, obesity and health related challenges.
- ◀ LBC engages with schools and academies to make their facilities available for community use; and to ensure that this reflects the needs of local residents, pupils and local sports clubs within the catchment. This should be enshrined in community use agreements across as many schools as possible.
- ◀ To define the role of key school sites and coordinate programming and management across Luton.
- ◀ How partners can understand and secure better access to smaller community halls.
- ◀ How partners can agree bespoke, high level interventions to help shape the delivery of services across all facilities to meet Luton's wider health and well-being objectives.

## **OBJECTIVE 3 - ENHANCE**

Based on identified strategic need, **enhance** the opportunities by developing a borough-wide approach to sports facility programming leading to an increase in physical activity outcomes.

In delivering the above the Council working through Active Luton and partners should:

- ◀ Continue to define, develop and work through the four emerging work groups of PE and School Sport Strategy, Health and Wellbeing, Sport and the Environment and Sport and Skill Development. It should use these as a reference point for marrying Luton's sports club infrastructure and physical activity initiatives with key facilities in order to achieve identified sports development and physical activity objectives.
- ◀ Ensure that these work groups take account of facility development and ensure an holistic approach to both strategic programming (across all sites) and input into capital developments required for development.
- ◀ Develop an agreed approach and Luton definition of community use to which all partners sign up and agree to implement; this should build on the good work already being undertaken by Active Luton.
- ◀ Continue to be cognisant of the needs of hard to reach groups such as Black and Minority ethnic groups and people with disabilities in ensuring facilities and programming, therein, are fit for purpose.

# LUTON COUNCIL

## DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

### ACTION PLAN

The following actions are relative to the overall management and programming of key facilities in Luton. Importance is determined by a number of key factors which consider the impact on participation and the estimated timescale of delivery (this is subject to change). All actions identified below should take account of accessibility issues (hearing, visual and wheelchair) and cultural sensitivities (including the opportunity, where possible, for gender specific activities).

Strategic function	Challenges	Recommended actions	Facilities	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
<b>Borough wide programming</b>	Ensuring that facilities are programmed to ensure maximum and complementary activities taking account of talent development.	Consider current programming across the Borough. Ensure that membership data is scrutinised thoroughly to continue to monitor users and, therefore, non -users so that programming is dynamic and is relevant to BAME and people with disabilities. Define the role of each facility within the wider community use offer across Luton. Develop a site by site action plan (taking account of the above) for improving programming across the Borough	All	Short	PESS and Active Luton	Enhance	High
<b>Community use agreements</b>	Increasing the availability of the current stock of sports halls to more sections of the community on a more regular basis	Working through Active Luton and PESS, identify key schools to work with to extend community use. Provide them with up to date and relevant community use agreement.	Key schools	Short	PESS and key schools	Enhance	High
<b>Sports halls</b>	Improving access to facilities during the day time given the current	On a site by site basis (starting with more modern schools) consider different solutions to extending day time access,		Short			

# LUTON COUNCIL

## DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Strategic function	Challenges	Recommended actions	Facilities	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
	reliance on educational facilities	such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Key holder access to specific sports groups</li> <li>◀ Designing in good access to new facilities</li> <li>◀ Understanding disability access by conducting an audit of all sports facilities.</li> </ul>	Level 2 facilities  All facilities		PESS	Enhance	Medium
<b>Swimming pools</b>	Ensuring that there is sufficient water space in Luton given the projected growth in and just outside the Borough	Consider whether current water space in privately managed facilities can be extended to incorporate more community use; or, identify developer contributions which can support the development of sufficient water space to accommodate different levels of population growth in the Borough.	Level 2 facilities	Long	Planners and housing developers	Provide	Medium
<b>Incorporating level 4 facilities into the broader activity portfolio</b>	Ensuring that there is an understanding of the importance of level 4 facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Identify a coordinator to lead on this element of work</li> <li>◀ Undertake review of level 4 facilities to see which are able to increase programming time for physical activity during the day.</li> <li>◀ Consider how the programming of these facilities fit into the wider programming offer</li> <li>◀ Identify improvements which can be made to level 4 facilities (ensuring that they are fit for purpose).</li> </ul>	Level 4 facilities	Medium	Community and cultural groups	Enhance	High
<b>Planning</b>	To recognise the importance of this study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Prepare planning policies to protect existing facilities, which have been</li> </ul>		Short	Planning Department		High

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Strategic function	Challenges	Recommended actions	Facilities	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
	and ensure recommendations are acted upon.	<p>shown to be essential for meeting current and future need (refer to Draft Luton Plan; LP24 Community and Education Facilities).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Develop developer contributions formulae, in order that it will be possible to</li> <li>◀ LBC to adopt the recommendations in this Study and ensure that they are encapsulated in planning policy documents (Local Plan)</li> <li>◀ Develop standards to assist LBC to identify highest priority developments with a view to ensuring that they have an improved chance of securing developer contributions.</li> </ul>		Short			
<b>Review</b>	Keeping the Facilities Strategy relevant and up to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Ensure that the Study undergoes a light touch review annually and is completely reviewed within 5 years of its implementation.</li> </ul>		Medium	LBC		

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

The following actions relative to each of the Borough's key facilities is identified below. Importance is determined by a number of key factors which consider the impact on participation and the estimated timescale of delivery (this is subject to change).

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
<b>Inspire: Luton Sports Village</b>	Active Luton	<p>Ensuring that the facility remains accessible to residents from the more deprived areas of Luton as well as those that can afford it.</p> <p>The site would benefit from additional indoor courts due to demand.</p> <p>There is also demand for more gymnastics</p>	<p>The facility's strategic and borough role must be balanced against the needs of local residents.</p> <p>Continued investment to ensure it remains a high quality destination is imperative.</p> <p>Consideration of extending to include 4 more courts</p> <p>Development and extension of the dry dive area for gymnastics.</p>	Key Borough	<p>Short</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>Long</p> <p>Long</p>	Active Luton	Enhance and Protect	High
<b>Venue 360</b>	Private	<p>A stand-alone facility which is home to Bedfordshire University Sport. Its main challenge is ensuring financial sustainability as it is under increasing pressure due to low budget gyms and increased conferencing.</p> <p>It is working with the University to identify how it might develop another 4 court sports hall.</p> <p>Consideration of how this</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement between LBC and Venue 360 is required.</p> <p>Identify the facility's role within the wider hierarchy of opportunity.</p> <p>Consider how access to facility can be improved by University students.</p> <p>Explore potential (feasibility) as to how the site can be extended to include another 4 court hall (in association with the University).</p>	Key Borough	Medium	Venue 360, University and PESS	Enhance	High

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
		facility fits into wider programming and talent development across the Borough.	Work with Venue 360 to identify funding opportunities at the site is commensurate with this Strategy.					
<b>Lea Manor Recreation Centre</b>	Active Luton / Education	<p>A joint-use site that allows daytime community use. It has had significant recent investment (in the roof). The pool was assessed as below average and the main hall; above average. It is a busy popular site but spaces in the building need to be better developed to ensure maximum use of the site, especially with increasing demand for studio classes.</p> <p>Projected population increases in the local area are likely to put increased pressure on the facilities</p>	<p>Consider further investment to improve the aesthetics of the building and extend the current studio space.</p> <p>Undertake feasibility to determine long term options for the site, including whether to extend current levels of water and hall provision, due to local population growth. LBC to consider whether to secure a significant contribution from Luton North towards major long term replacement/refurbishment or whether Mid Beds will meet the demand through existing/ proposed facilities.</p> <p>Be cognisant of the AGP development and ensure that sufficient parking spaces are available in the future.</p> <p>Ensure both programming and physical access issues are understood and acted upon for BAME and disability groups.</p>	Dedicated community facility	Medium	Active Luton and PESS	Protect and Enhance	Medium
<b>Lewsey</b>		Management has recently	Continue to develop relationships		Short			

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
<b>Park Pool and Sports Centre</b>	Active Luton	won an award for access of hard to reach groups but acknowledges more can be done.	with community groups to ensure that programmes are relevant to the local population and based on community need.	Dedicated community facility	Short	Active Luton and PESS	Enhance	Medium
		Use of the specific boxing facilities by the local boxing community is particularly difficult although Active Luton has extended classes in the centre	Management to consider new boxing products to be used to engage with new markets.				Enhance	Low
		Proposed increase in housing in the area could put increased pressure on pool in particular. Despite recent investment in this site there is still difficulty in engaging with the local community and driving up participation.	Undertake feasibility to determine long term options for the site and consider bringing into one building to reduce long term running costs. It should further examine whether the current level of provision is satisfactory for the projected increase in population locally for both hall and pool provision.				Protect and Provide	Medium
		Ensuring that the facilities remain high quality to ensure regional tournaments can continue to be held at the site.	Ensure both programming and physical access issues are understood and acted upon for BAME and disability groups.		Medium		Protect	Medium
<b>Lealands High School</b>	Educa-	The site has an above average 3 court activity hall but has no community use. The relationship with	Engage with Mitie to establish how the community can access the indoor facilities. Consider this within the wider	Neighbour-	Short	Active Luton and	Enhance	High

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
	tion	Mitie is identified as a key stumbling block regarding use of the site.	programming of the sports halls across the Borough. Define the role of the facility within the wider community use offer across Luton	hood facility		PESS	ce	
<b>Luton Indoor Bowls Centre</b>	Private	This venue faces ongoing issues in respect of the quality of the roof and the site is under threat of redevelopment for housing	Ensure improved or equivalent facilities are provided as close to this location as possible (if the site is given over to housing) Engage with the landlord of the site to discuss the most appropriate way of retaining or re-providing an equivalent facility	Dedicated community facility	Short	Planners, Developer, Cooperative Society and Club	Enhance and/or Provide	Medium
<b>Denbigh High School</b>	Education	This facility offers important swimming opportunities for the local community.	It is essential that community access is maintained due to the strategic positioning of this pool. Explore how the swimming programme at this pool can complement the wider borough swimming offer. Where possible offer support to the volunteers and coaches who work out of Denbigh Pool.	Neighbourhood facility	Short	School management and PESS	Protect	High
<b>Ashcroft High School</b>	Education	Identified as available for community use the costs of using it are considered prohibitive by users. Ensuring that facility programming at the	Establish links with the school and explore alternative (cheaper) methods of community access e.g. key holders. Engage with the School to try and coordinate what it delivers within	Neighbourhood facility	Medium	School management and	Enhance	Low

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
		school is part of a wider coordinated approach to sport development across the Borough	the wider sporting offer made across Luton.			PESS		
<b>Barnfield South Academy</b>	Education	Ensuring that the programming at the school is part of a wider coordinated approach to sport development across the Borough	Maintain links with the school to maintain and reinforce the good community access it currently offers. . Engage with it to try and coordinate what it delivers with the wider sporting offer made across Luton.	Neighbourhood facility	Medium	School management and PESS		Low
<b>Barnfield West Academy</b>	Education	Ensuring that the programming at the school is part of a wider coordinated approach to sport development across the Borough	Maintain links with the school to retain the good community access it currently offers. Engage with it to try and coordinate what it delivers with the wider sporting offer made across Luton.	Neighbourhood facility	Medium	School management and PESS	Enhance	Low
<b>Cardinal Newman Catholic School</b>	Education	The sports hall is identified as a poor with no known community use. Many pupils travel from further afield to this school due to its religious background.	Engage with the School to explore whether it is prepared to open its facilities to community use (without incurring additional cost) and help develop a Community Use Agreement which is aligned to other developments/ programming across the Borough	Neighbourhood facility	Short	Active Luton, PESS, School	Enhance	Medium
<b>Challney High School</b>		Increasing community use	Continue to engage with the school to identify how it might increase the		Short / medium			

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
<b>for Boys &amp; Community College</b>	Education	to the levels offered by other Luton secondary schools.	current level of community use. Define the role of the facility within the wider community use offer across Luton	Neighbourhood facility	m	Active Luton, PESS, School	Enhance	High
<b>Challney High School for Girls</b>	Education	Increasing community use to the levels offered by other Luton secondary schools.	Continue to engage with the school to identify how it might increase the current level of community use. Define the role of the facility within the wider community use offer across Luton	Neighbourhood facility	Short / medium	Active Luton, PESS, School	Enhance	High
<b>Hightown Community Sports and Arts Centre</b>	Active Luton	Operated by Active Luton this is a joint use site situated in an area which faces access difficulties.	Continue to engage with the University and local community to help drive up participation, in particular, during the day whilst taking account of the newly block booked activities for people with learning disabilities.	Dedicated community facility	Short / medium	Active Luton and PESS	Protect	Low
<b>Icknield High School</b>	Education	The site is identified as having two very poor three court halls, which do not host any community use.	Completely refurbish or replace the two three court halls with one six/four court hall, ensuring community use agreements are in place.	Neighbourhood facility	Medium to Long term	Education	Provide	High
<b>Luton 6<sup>th</sup> Form College</b>	Education	Ensuring that this relatively new, high quality facility is programmed effectively by appropriate sports e.g. basketball and cricket There appears to be some VAT implications	Support School to work with Bedfordshire Cricket and basketball representatives to ensure that its facilities are utilised to full advantage within a wider Luton context. Support College to find a solution to the VAT issue which affects its	Borough wide	Short / medium	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Management, BCB, local clubs, PESS	Enhance	High High

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
		associated with the hire of facilities. There is an opportunity for a cricket academy facility which will need the full support and partnership working of ECB, BCB and the College.	lettings policy. Improved partnership working between all parties led by the College.					High
<b>Stopsley High School</b>	Education	Ensuring that the main hall becomes available for community use when it is built	Help the School to develop a community use agreement linked to and coordinated with the wider programming in Luton	Neighbourhood facility	Short	PESS, Active Luton	Enhance	Medium
<b>Putteridge High School</b>	Education	Putteridge High School has opened its new 4 court sports hall in 2014	Work with the School to understand how its hiring policy can complement and link with the wider programme of activities across the Borough which will result in a comprehensive community use agreement, especially given its close proximity to Inspire.	Neighbourhood facility	Medium to longer	PESS, Active Luton	Enhance	High
<b>Smaller community facilities</b> (see Appendix 1)	Various	Site venues are known, however, the quality and availability of them is not. Consultation indicated that some sites more important/greater use in areas of high deprivation than others. Communication with	A commitment to understanding the sporting offer of these sites needs to be agreed. A forum for regular communication (say, once per quarter) with venue providers should be instigated to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand who is using the facilities and what opportunities occur for extending activity</li> </ul>	Local facility	Short to Medium	LBC, Active Luton, PESS	Enhance	Medium

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Management	Challenges	Recommended actions	Hierarchy	Time-scale	Partners	Aim	Importance
		management at some of these facilities is challenging	<p>especially in the day time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities for an integrated programme.</li> <li>Increase physical activity in Luton.</li> </ul>					
<b>New facilities</b>	Not known	Ensuring that facility needs in the growth areas around Luton, which are proposed for Luton's population growth needs (but lie outside LBC's boundaries), could be met in terms of sports halls and swimming pools.	Undertake appropriate feasibility studies of the key public halls and pools close to the growth areas such as Luton North (e.g. Lea Manor/Lewsey) to see if they can be replaced/ expanded and/or consideration of new facilities to complement existing ones.	Dedicated community facility	Long	LBC, developers, Active Luton, PESS	Provide	High

# LUTON COUNCIL

## DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

### Sport specific recommendations

Facility	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead Agency	Partners	Time-scale	Aim
<b>Basketball</b>	Basketball appears to be fragmented across clubs and operators in Luton.	Work with Luton 6 <sup>th</sup> Form College as the preferred venue for Basketball development in the Borough. This will take account of ensuring facility provision is commensurate with relevant league standards.	SSD	Team Beds & Luton/ PESS/ clubs / NGB	Medium	Enhance
<b>Boxing</b>	Boxing is an important sport in the area which has a range of clubs but offers no overall clear pathway for boxers. Getting clubs to use the excellent facilities at Lewsey Park is proving difficult.	Active Luton should continue to work with partners to monitor boxing activity and its development in the Borough; with a view to encouraging and increasing participation, both at clubs and at Lewsey Park.  Active Luton is aware of the under-utilisation by clubs of the excellent facility and should therefore continue to encourage the use of the increased range of ABAE boxing opportunities for the wider population at Lewsey Park.	Active Luton / SSD	Team Beds & Luton/ PESS/ clubs / NGB	Medium to long	Enhance
<b>Badminton</b>	There is significant badminton activity in the Borough, but it does not appear to be joined up.  There are good school facilities for badminton with access to them limited. Programming is an ongoing issue.	Badminton England needs to continue to support local development working through the Sport and Skill Development Group and the Community Badminton Network to support coordination of activity in different venues  Venue 360 is key to this development as it is a recognised performance centre and is the Chair of the Community Badminton Network.	Active Luton/ SSD	Team Beds & Luton/ PESS/ clubs / NGB	Medium	Enhance
<b>Cricket</b>	Cricket is considered a highly sensitive and political sport within Luton. There is	Bedfordshire Cricket Board needs to harness the enthusiasm for cricket and work management at different facilities to help	BCB/	PESS, Active Luton, Venue 360, Luton		

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

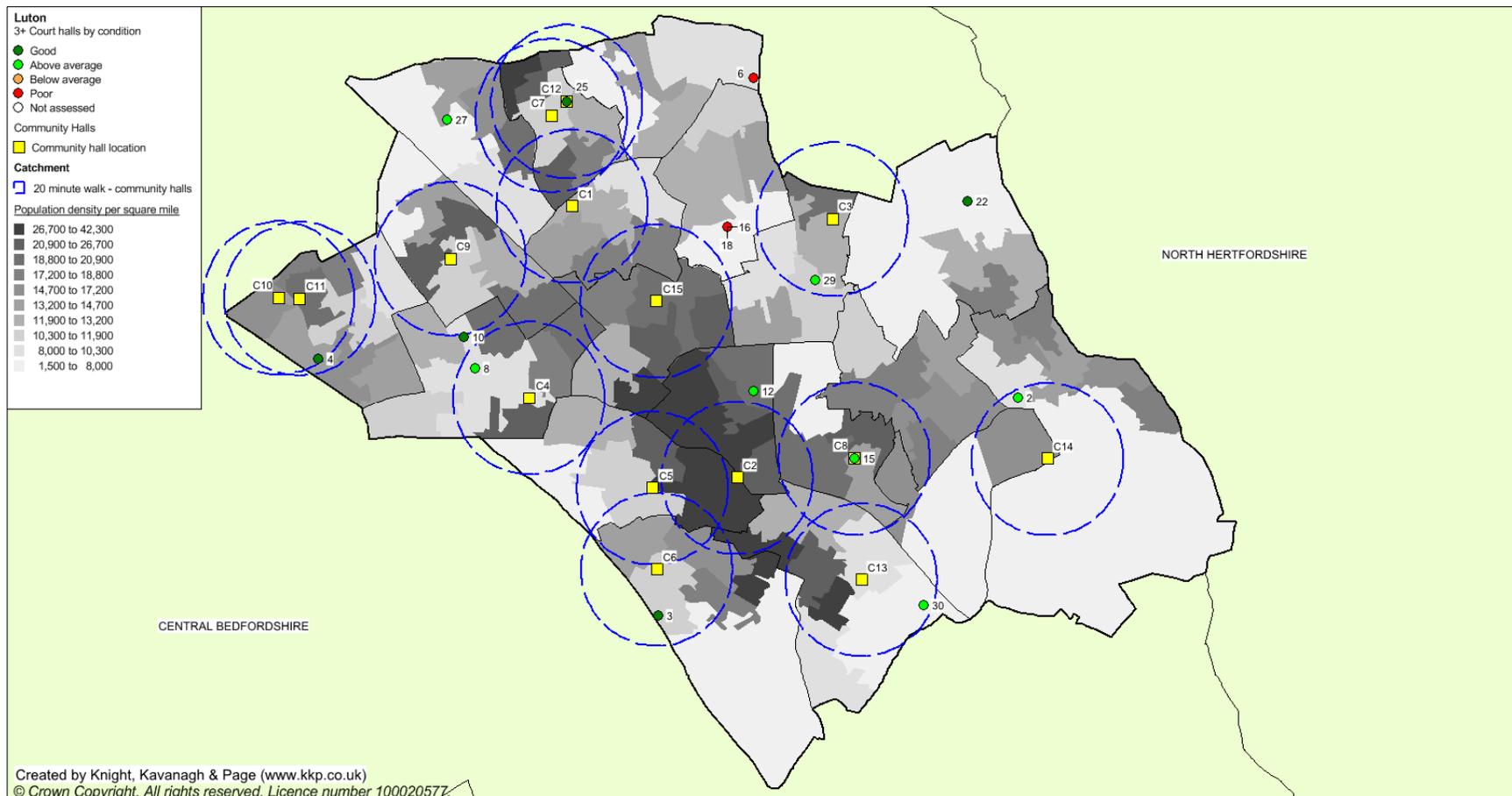
Facility	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead Agency	Partners	Time-scale	Aim
	unmet demand for indoor training facilities across the Borough although activity does take place in a number of venues. Better coordination is required.	coordinate indoor cricket activity across the Borough. All parties need to work towards the provision of an indoor cricket venue in Luton which is accessible to all.		6th Form College, local clubs	Short	Enhance
<b>Indoor bowls</b>	There is a level of uncertainty in the club due to ongoing discussion and speculation regarding the future of the current site and the requirement for ongoing repairs in the roof. There is also a need to support the Club to improve its offer to members of the BAME community.	LBC needs to engage with the developers to understand their intentions for the site. The Club should be supported to produce a development plan to improve its sustainability, and increase its chances of retaining and driving up participation. Consideration/feasibility of where to locate a new facility is required and in depth consultation undertaken with the Club	LBC Planners	Cooperative Society, Active Luton, Team Beds & Luton, EIBA Club	Medium	Enhance
<b>Netball</b>	The NGB suggests that training indoors is not a priority and it would prefer to focus on developing a good Central Venue League outdoors.	Continue to engage with netball leagues and clubs to ensure netball needs are met.	PESS/SSD	Local clubs and Netball England	Short	Enhance
<b>Squash</b>	The Club based at Lewsey Park is particularly pro-active and works well with the NGB and Active Luton. Other squash courts, such as those at Venue 360 and Putteridge School could be	Squash courts will need further investment in the next few years if the quality of facility is to be maintained to its current regional standard. More partnership working and enhanced competitive opportunities between clubs based at different sites	Active Luton,	SSD, NGB/Club	Short Short	Protect Enhance

## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Facility	Challenges	Recommended actions	Lead Agency	Partners	Time-scale	Aim
	better utilised as part of a wider package.					
<b>Swimming and other aquatic sports</b>	Maintaining the current good relationship between the Club, Active Luton and ASA to ensure that the comprehensive swimming and diving offer is retained	Maintain dialogue between the facility operator, ASA and Club to ensure that the needs of the Club are considered in the context of the wider swimming programme.	Active Luton / clubs / NGB/SSD		Short	Enhance
<b>Indoor Tennis</b>	<p>As a two court indoor tennis venue the site is not large enough to generate high levels of income. It therefore relies on other sports, such as badminton and is a multi-functional space.</p> <p>NGB's priorities tend to be more to do with community tennis in parks (Venue 360 is not in an LTA priority area).</p>	<p>A local development plan for tennis needs to be coordinated which will take account of all types of tennis in the Borough.</p> <p>Continue to support Venue 360 to host tournaments and appropriate events and to continue to invest in facilities</p>	<p>Team Beds and Luton</p> <p>County Tennis Association</p>	LTA, Venue 360, local tennis clubs	Medium	Enhance

# LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

## Appendix 1: Map of strategically placed community halls in Luton



Total population within a 10 minute walk access to a community hall = 124,510

# LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

## Luton community halls with useable space

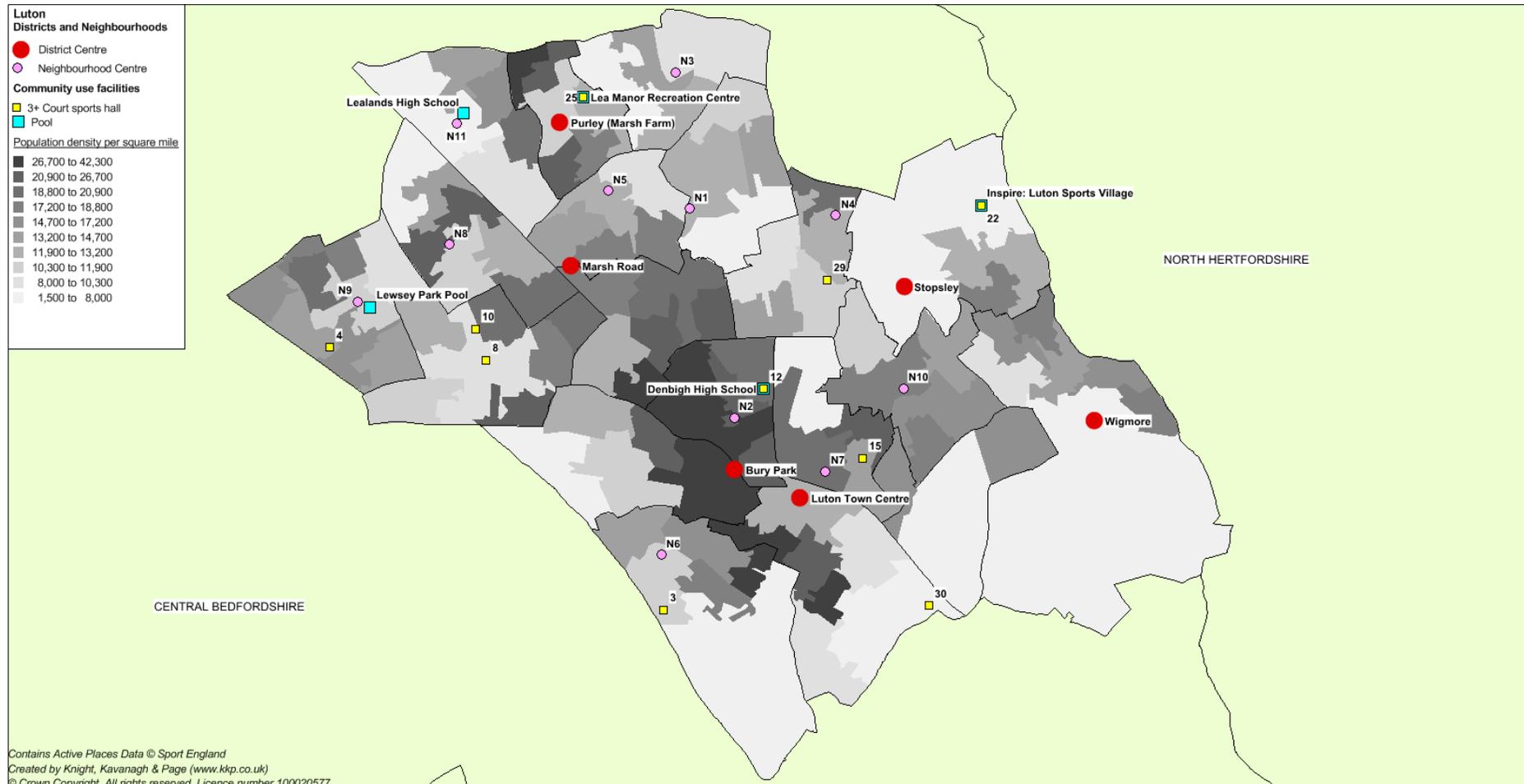
Map ID	Site	Useable Space – m <sup>2</sup>
C1	Bramingham Day Centre	213
C2	Bury Park CC	124
C3	Bushmead CC - Hall1	145
C3	Bushmead CC - Hall 2	104
C4	Chaul End CC	262
C5	Dallow Community Centre	281
C6	Farley CC	127
C7	Futures CC – Hall 1	103
C7	Futures CC – Hall 2	103
C7	Futures CC – Hall 3	103
C8	High Town Sports Centre – Hall 1	405
C8	High Town Sports Centre – Hall 1	232
C9	Hockwell Ring CC	127
C10	Lewsey CC - Hall 1	217
C10	Lewsey CC Hall 2	124
C11	Lewsey Learning Trust	230
C12	Lea Manor old youth building	174
C13	Parktown CC	85
C14	Raynham Way CC – Hall 1	137
C14	Raynham Way CC – Hall 2	94
C15	Saints CC	132

## Luton indoor sports halls 3+ courts

Map ID	Site	Type	Condition	Courts
2	Ashcroft High School	Main	Above average	4
3	Barnfield South Academy	Main	Good	4
4	Barnfield West Academy	Main	Good	4
6	Cardinal Newman Catholic School	Main	Poor	4
8	Challney High School for Boys & Community College	Main	Above average	4
10	Challney High School for Girls	Main	Good	4
12	Denbigh High School	Main	Above average	4
15	Hightown Community Sport & Arts C	Main	Above average	3
16	Icknield High School	Hall	Poor	3
18	Icknield High School	Hall	Poor	3
22	Inspire: Luton Sports Village	Main	Good	8
25	Lea Manor Recreation Centre	Main	Good	4
27	Lealands High School	Main	Above average	3
29	Luton Sixth Form College	Main	Above average	6
30	Venue 360	Main	Above average	4

# LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

Luton – All CU 3+ court sports halls, CU pools with District Centres and Neighbourhood Centres.

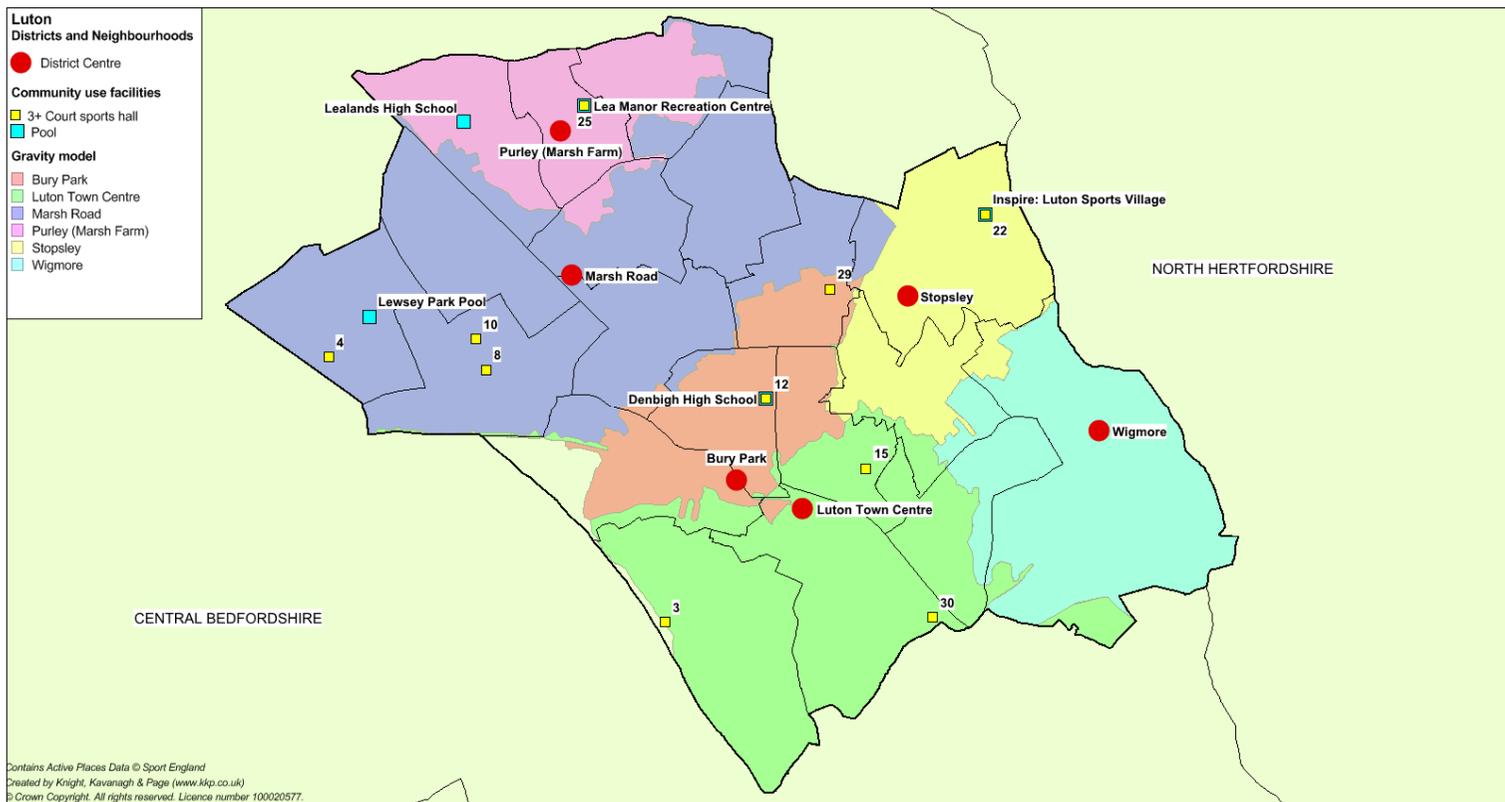


# LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

## Gravity Modelling District and Neighbourhood centres in relation to sports facilities in Luton

Gravity modelling, through the use of geographic information systems (GIS), is a technique to identify the closest facilities to a given area/point of reference taking account of best transport links. It is a modelling system which is only one of a wide range of techniques which can be employed to take account of the importance of facilities to a specific population. The two maps below consider both District and Neighbourhood centres in Luton and identifies which facilities service what population.

### Key Luton District Centres



## LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

### Key District Centres

Map ID	District Centre Name	Serviced by:
	Purley (Marsh Farm)	Lea Manor Recreation Centre and Lealands High School
	Marsh Road	Lewsey Park Pool
	Stopsley	Inspire Luton Sports Village
	Bury Park	Denbigh High School
	Luton Town Centre	Hightown Community Sport & Arts, Barnfield South Academy and Venue 360
	Wigmore	None

### Key: Luton Neighbourhood Centres:

Map ID	Neighbourhood Centre Name	Serviced by:
N1	Birdsfoot Lane South	Not serviced by community accessible leisure facilities
N2	Biscot Road	Serviced by Denbigh High School
N3	Bramingham	Not serviced by community accessible leisure facilities
N4	Bushmead	Serviced by Luton 6 <sup>th</sup> form College
N5	Calverton Road	Serviced by Lea Manor Recreation Centre
N6	Farley	Serviced Barnfield South Academy
N7	High Town	Serviced by Hightown Community Sport & Arts Community Centre and Venue 360
N8	Hockwell Ring	Serviced by Challney High School for Boys & Community College Challney High School for Girls
N9	Lewsey	Serviced by Lewsey Park Pool and Barnfield West Academy
N10	Round Green	Inspire, Luton Sports Village
N11	Sundon Park	Lealands High School

# LUTON COUNCIL DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY

