

**Stroud District Indoor/Built Sports Facility Needs  
Assessment  
Final report  
July 2019**

**2018 – 2040**

Report produced on behalf of Stroud District Council

by Leisure and the Environment

in association with Ethos Environmental Planning Ltd

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## **Stroud District Indoor/Built Sports Facility Needs Assessment**

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>AL</b>	Active Lives
<b>ANOG</b>	Assessment of Needs and Opportunities Guide
<b>APP</b>	Active Places Power
<b>APS</b>	Active People Survey
<b>CIL</b>	Community Infrastructure Levy
<b>EA</b>	England Athletics
<b>EIBA</b>	English Indoor Bowling Association
<b>FPM</b>	Facility Planning Model
<b>GI</b>	Green Infrastructure
<b>H&amp;FS</b>	Health & Fitness Suites
<b>LTA</b>	Lawn Tennis Association
<b>MS</b>	Market Segmentation
<b>NGB</b>	National Governing Body (of sport)
<b>NPPF</b>	National Planning Policy Framework
<b>ONS</b>	Office of National Statistics
<b>SFC</b>	Sports Facility Calculator
<b>VPWPP</b>	Visits per week (at) peak period

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## Description of report

1.1 This is one of a set of reports covering Stroud District, prepared for Stroud District Council as part of a wider assessment of Green Infrastructure, Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study within the District. It considers the provision of built (principally indoor) sports and active recreation facilities for the community within the District.

## Study Overview

1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>1</sup> details three overarching objectives required to achieving sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. These dimensions should provide a framework, and shape the approach to assessing public open space, green infrastructure, sport and recreation.

1.3 The overarching intent of the wider study is to provide a robust audit and assessment evidence base of open space and sport and recreation areas set within a Green Infrastructure network, enabling a coherent strategy approach to policy and development management recommendations that follow five themes:

1. Protect the existing open space network;
2. Enhance and improve the accessibility and quality of existing provision;
3. Provide new open space to expand the network strategically;
4. Create multifunctional strategic hubs of open space; and
5. Work together to protect, deliver and effectively manage open space, green infrastructure, sport and recreation provision across the District.

1.4 The study will inform the review of the Stroud District Local Plan. The aim has been to complete the study to a standard, so that a robust and up-to-date assessment is provided that it:

- is in conformity with relevant national guidance (including that of the government, and national agencies and organisations);
- meets all of the requirements of the NPPF;
- allows the Council to meet requirements arising from planned growth;
- enables the development of sound policy within the Local Plan Review;
- provides an assessment in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility;

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<sup>1</sup> National Planning Policy Framework (July 2018) paragraph 8.

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- provides an assessment of the suitable uses for identified open spaces, for example identifying opportunities for the installation of fixed play equipment where there is a shortage of playspaces;
- enables the Council to identify areas of surplus and deficit in open space, sports and recreation facilities with regards to quantity, quality and accessibility;
- provides the Council with an up-to-date robust assessment of informal leisure, open space and other green infrastructure assets' requirements to meet the needs of the Local Plan Review;
- provides mapping information to support any proposed Green Infrastructure network with the accompanying GI Strategy recommendations;
- provides the Council with a robust evidence base to:
  - a) negotiate and apply provision at the major growth sites that may be proposed through the Local Plan Review;
  - b) inform the negotiation of public open space section 106 contributions with developers and use of CIL where appropriate; and
  - c) inform the infrastructure requirements as part of the preparation by the Council of a revised Infrastructure Delivery Plan and potential future change work on CIL

1.5 The wider study will provide a robust framework to help strengthen Stroud District's provision by providing a series of interrelated actions that are all working towards the same goal, which is to protect, enhance and provide an open space, green infrastructure and sport network across the District to create a thriving landscape of well-located and well-connected open spaces, which supports our existing and future community.

### **Methodology**

1.6 This report is based on the Sport England guide 'Assessment of Needs and Opportunities Guide' (ANOG) methodology, which advocates a broad approach to be undertaken looking at supply and demand and considering need in terms of:

- **Quantity** - what facilities there are in the area, and how many?

- **Quality** – how good are facilities in terms of condition and being ‘fit for purpose’?
- **Accessibility** - where they are located?
- **Availability** - how available are they? (The degree of ‘availability’ is analogous to the level of ‘Community Use’ (see para 1.13)).

1.7 ANOG states that it is only by understanding all these elements together and their inter-relationship that a rounded view can be obtained of the supply and demand for facilities in an area. As also advocated by ANOG extensive consultation has been undertaken to inform the analysis. Questionnaire surveys were undertaken:

- A residents’ sample survey.<sup>2</sup>
- Surveys of national governing bodies of sport and local clubs.
- A survey of parish councils and schools.

1.8 Discussions were also undertaken with key District Council officers and representatives of other relevant agencies and organisations.

1.9 Other relevant policies and assessments undertaken on behalf of the Council have also been reviewed as part of a trawl for relevant information and data (mentioned at appropriate points within this report).

1.10 An explanation of the use of population data is provided as **Appendix 1**.

1.11 The assessment has also been informed by analytical techniques, which include GIS mapping, and Sport England on-line analytical tools such as the Facility Planning Calculator (FPM), Active Lives (AL), Active People Surveys (APS), and Market Segmentation (MS). Active People and Market Segmentation tools are explained further in **Appendix 2** of this report.

## **Report Framework**

1.12 The report is made up of 6 main sections:

- Section 2 provides context for the study in respect of planned change within the local authority, and an analysis of the characteristics of the population that have a relevance to planning for sport and recreation. Key policies of other stakeholders are also noted.
- Sections 3,4,5,6, and 7 provide an assessment of provision for different facilities/activities, based on a consideration of their quantity, quality and accessibility, and availability for ‘community use’.

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<sup>2</sup> A questionnaire survey was therefore designed by Ethos and agreed by the District Council. It was distributed to a random sample of 4000 households. In addition, an online version was promoted by the Council. Respondents were asked to respond to provide a view on behalf of their household, rather than simply as individuals. 516 surveys were completed. The total number of people represented through the household survey was 1,135 and the average household size of the households was 2.2 – slightly lower than the UK average and Stroud District as a whole

The term 'Community Use' is central to this study and is defined below. At the end of each section there are summary key messages..

- Section 8 considers the impact of future planned population change on those facilities/activities considered in the sections 3 to 7. As appropriate it outlines some potential standards of provision for key facilities, and other appropriate strategic recommendations to help meet both existing and future demand for facilities.

### **What is community use?**

1.13 At its simplest 'community use' is a term that is used to describe the extent to which a given sport or recreation facility is available for use by members of the general community- either on a pay-as-you go informal basis, or as part of an organised club or group.

1.14 In practice, the above definition of community use will include a wide range of management regimes whose admission policies will span informal 'pay-as-you-go' access, by the general community; and, through to use by organised clubs and groups by booking or longer-term agreements etc. Whether facilities are available for significant community use depends on several factors, including:

- Type of facility (and whether its size and design might be of use to the community at large, or at least significant groups within the community);
- The cost of using facilities, and whether they are 'affordable';
- The times and days of availability (times of most demand for the general community are likely to be in the evenings and at the weekends, as well as during mid-week lunchtime (popular for people at work)); and,
- The extent to which such use by the community is 'assured' over the longer-term.

1.15 Facilities will therefore have diverse value because of their varying scale, location, and management/pricing policies. This is not to deny the importance of other smaller provision for local clubs and groups, as well as those residents who prefer to pay for access to private/commercial facilities.

### **District-wide, local, and wider perspectives**

1.16 As appropriate, the report examines provision at both the District-wide and for 8 individual local 'clusters'. Given the geographical spread of the District, it is essential for the assessment to provide this two-tier insight.

1.17 There are facilities within neighbouring local authorities that may be used by residents of the District (and vice versa), and this is reflected in the cross-border analyses undertaken for key facility types (such as leisure centres, and specialist venues).

## 2 CONTEXT

### General

2.1 This section:

- Reviews key policies and priorities of the local authority, as well as other important stakeholders relevant to planning for sport and recreation within the local authority.
- Describes the current demographic character of the local authority, and how it is likely to change in the coming years, up to 2040.
- Reviews characteristics of the adult population and how they influence people's inclination to take part in sport and active recreation<sup>3</sup>.

2.2 Key messages have been identified, taking into account the above.

2.3 Policies and strategies are subject to regular change. The summary provided in this section was correct at the time of writing.

### Strategic Context

#### **National Strategic Context**

##### ***National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) revised July 2018***

2.4 The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced.

2.5 The NPPF states that *Strategic policies* should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development, and make sufficient provision<sup>4</sup> for:

- housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development;
- infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
- community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure); and,
- conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.

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<sup>3</sup> Of course, participation in sport and active recreation is not limited to adults, and many young people will be involved. However, much of this activity takes place within the school curriculum, which is largely outside the scope of this report. Also, Sport England analytical tools and data, such as Active People, Active Lives, and Market Segmentation include only adults (16 years and over) in the data. Where the needs of children and young people are relevant, they have been identified in this report.

<sup>4</sup> In line with the presumption in favour of sustainable development.



2.6 The NPPF specifies that *Non-strategic policies* should be used by local planning authorities and communities to set out more detailed policies for specific areas, neighbourhoods or types of development. This can include allocating sites, the provision of infrastructure and community facilities at a local level, establishing design principles, conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment and setting out other development management policies.

2.7 *Neighbourhood planning* gives communities the power to develop a shared vision for their area. Neighbourhood plans can shape, direct and help to deliver sustainable development, by influencing local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan.

2.8 The NPPF requires that planning policies and decisions should aim to *achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places* which:

- promote social interaction;
- are safe and accessible; and,
- enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs.

2.9 To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services to meet community needs, planning policies and decisions should:

- plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;
- take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community;
- guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs;
- ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community; and
- ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.

2.10 In respect of *open space and recreation*, the NPPF states that "Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.

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

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

2.11 Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails.

2.12 The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.

2.13 The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and,
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

2.14 In relation to promoting *sustainable transport* the NPPF states inter alia that, “opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use are identified and pursued”.

### ***Sporting Future - A New Strategy for an Active Nation***

2.15 This cross-government strategy seeks to address flat-lining levels of sport participation and high levels of inactivity in this country. Through this strategy, government is redefining what success in sport means, with a new focus on five key outcomes: physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In future, funding decisions will be made on the basis of the outcomes that sport and physical activity can deliver.

2.16 It is government’s ambition that all relevant departments work closer together to create a more physically active nation, where children and young people enjoy the best sporting opportunities available and people of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy the many benefits that sport and physical activity bring, at every stage in their lives.

2.17 Government is reaffirming its commitment to Olympic and Paralympic success but also extending that ambition to non-Olympic sports where it will support success through grassroots investment in those sports, and by sharing UK Sport’s knowledge and expertise. The strategy outlines

what is expected of the sector to deliver this vision, and how the government will support it in getting there.

2.18 Public investment into community sport is to reach children as young as five years of age, as part of the strategy. The move will see Sport England's remit changed from investing in sport for those aged 14 and over to supporting people from five years old right through to pensioners, in a bid to create a more active nation.

2.19 Investment will be targeted at sport projects that have a meaningful, measurable impact on how they are improving people's lives – from helping young people gain skills to get into work, to tackling social inclusion and improving physical and mental health.

2.20 Funding will also be targeted at groups who have low participation rates to encourage those who do not take part in sport and physical activity to get involved. This includes supporting women, disabled people, those in lower socio-economic groups and older people. Sport England has established a fund to get inactive people physically active and will support and measure participation in sport and wider physical activity going forward.

### ***Sport England Strategy – 'Towards an Active Nation' 2016-2021***

2.21 In response to the Government's strategy, Sport England's new strategy vision is that everyone in England, regardless of age, background or ability, feels able to take part in sport or activity. Sport England's new vision and its supporting aims will therefore contribute to achieving the government's. Key features of the new Strategy are:

- Dedicated funding to get children and young people active from the age of five, including a new fund for family-based activities and offering training to at least two teachers in every secondary school in England to help them better meet the needs of all children, irrespective of their level of sporting ability.
- Working with the sport sector to put customers at the heart of everything they do, and using the principles of behaviour change to inform their work.
- Piloting new ways of working locally by investing in up to 10 places in England – a mix of urban and rural areas.
- Investing up to £30m in a new volunteering strategy, enabling more people to get the benefits of volunteering and attracting a new, more diverse range of volunteers.
- Helping sport keep pace with the digital expectations of customers – making it as easy to book a badminton court as a hotel room.
- Working closely with governing bodies of sport and others who support people who already play regularly, to help them become more efficient, sustainable and diversify their sources of funding.

2.22 With respect to the final bullet point (above) a projected 38% of Sport England controlled investment will be directed through the National Governing Bodies of Sport. This is the largest of Sport England's funding programmes.

2.19 In addition to the above, there are several National Governing Body (NGB (of sport)) strategies that set out medium to longer-term aspirations for the growth of sports concerned, and which will have relevance to this study. NGBs will have been guided by their own national strategies in responding to the consultation underpinning this assessment.

### **Local Context (refer to Figure 2.1)**

2.20 The District covers an area of approximately 45,325 hectares (about 175 square miles). Stroud lies about 20 miles north of Bristol and immediately south of Gloucester and Cheltenham. The District shares boundaries with Cotswold District, Gloucester City, Tewkesbury Borough and the unitary authority of South Gloucestershire. To the west is the Forest of Dean, which sits on the opposite bank of the River Severn estuary.

2.21 Much of the eastern half of the District falls into the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which covers just over 50% of the District's total land area. The western half of the District, characterised by the low-lying landscape of the Severn Vale, is bounded by the Severn Estuary and includes extensive areas of land liable to flooding which extend eastwards along the river corridors within the Stroud Valleys. The District contains internationally important wildlife sites at the Severn Estuary, at Rodborough Common south of Stroud, and there is beech woodland straddling the north eastern boundary of the District with Tewkesbury District.

2.22 The main town, Stroud, acts as the focal point of the wider functional urban area within the Stroud Valleys. The Valleys are home to some 49,000 people (just over 40% of the District's population), including just under 6,000 in the town of Nailsworth. Stroud town is the District's largest commercial centre.

2.23 With the Gloucester-London main railway line running through it, Stroud has easy rail access to the north and east, including to Birmingham and London; junction 13 of the M5 lies five miles to the west of the town centre.

2.24 Towards the south of the District lie the towns of Cam and Dursley (population approximately 15,000), which jointly act as a focus for the South Vale area. Cam and Dursley has a rail station on the Bristol-Birmingham main railway line. Stonehouse (just under 8,000 people) lies just outside the topographical Stroud Valleys (3.5 miles west of Stroud), but the town functions as part of this urban area. Close to the M5 junction 13, Stonehouse also benefits from a rail station on the Gloucester-London line.

2.25 To the north of the District, Hardwicke (just under 4,000 people) forms part of the Gloucester urban area. The remaining countryside areas of the District are mainly used for agriculture and contain a large number of smaller towns, villages and hamlets. The population of Stroud District has increased by more than the national average.

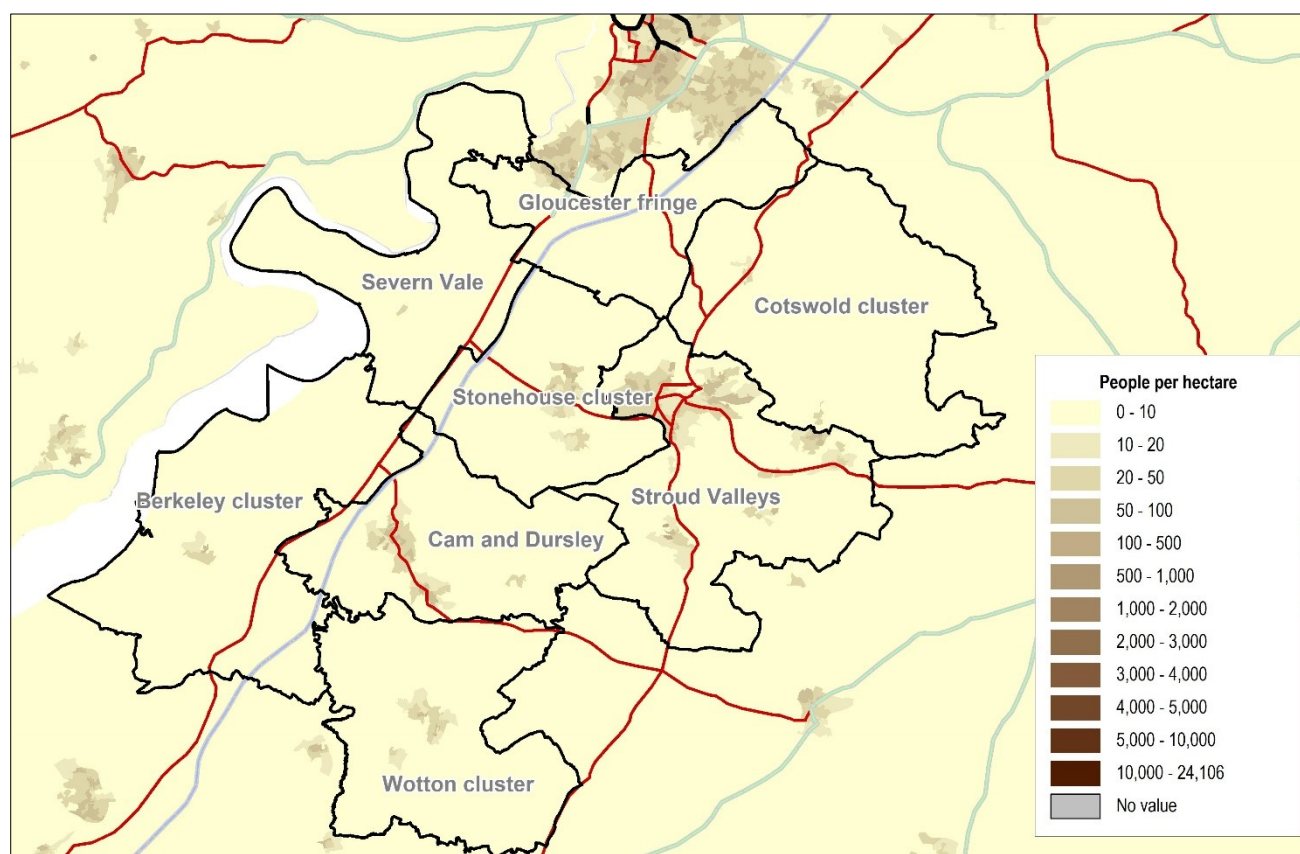
2.26 **Figure 2.1** shows the boundaries of the 8 'local clusters' that will be the basis of sub-district analyses and recommendations within this report. These clusters are used in the current local plan. The clusters are comprised as follows:

- **Berkeley Cluster:** Town Council: Berkeley; Parish Councils: Alkington, Ham and Stone, Hamfallow, Hinton, Slimbridge.

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- **Cam/Dursley Cluster:** Town Council: Dursley; Parish Councils: Cam, Coaley, Dursley, Nympsfield, Owlpen, Stinchcombe, Uley.
- **Cotswold Fringe Cluster:** Parish Councils: Bisley-with-Lypiatt, Cranham, Miserden, Painswick, Pitchcombe.
- **Gloucester Fringe Cluster:** Parish Councils: Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon, Hardwicke, Harescombe, Haresfield, Upton St Leonards.
- **Severn Vale Cluster:** Parish Councils: Arlingham, Elmore Frampton-on-Severn, Fretherne-with-Saul, Longney & Epney, Moreton Valance, Whitminster
- **Stonehouse Fringe Cluster:** Town Council: Stonehouse; Parish Councils: Eastington, Frocester, Kings Stanley, Leonard Stanley, Standish
- **Stroud Valleys Cluster:** Town Councils: Nailsworth and Stroud; Parish Councils: Brimscombe and Thrupp, Cainscross, Chalford, Horsley, Minchinhampton, Nailsworth, Randwick and Westrip, Rodborough, Stroud, Whiteshill and Ruscombe, Woodchester
- **Wotton Cluster:** Town Council: Wotton under Edge; Parish Councils: Alderley, Hillesley & Tresham, Kingswood, North Nibley, Wotton under Edge

Figure 2.1: Stroud District



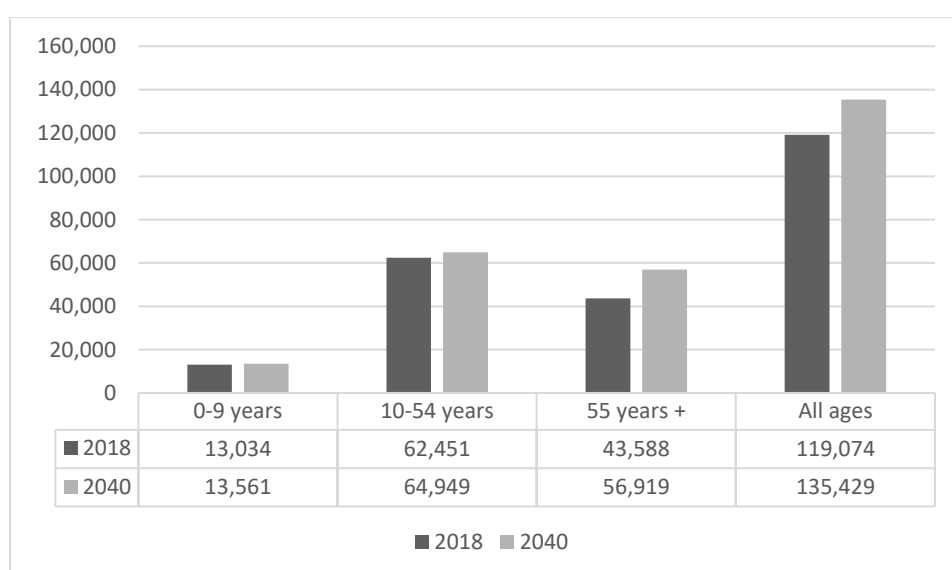
## Demographic Character and how it is likely to change up to 2040

### Population

2.25 As at 2018 the District was estimated to have a population of 119,074. This figure is based upon population projections provided by the ONS.<sup>5</sup> The same projections calculate that by the year 2040 the population will have increased to 135,429. This figure is itself only based upon previous trends, and does not necessarily take into account the impact of planned new residential growth yet to be determined.

2.26 This ONS projected growth will affect the local demography in different ways. **Figure 2.2** shows the impact it is likely to have on general age cohorts within the population.

**Figure 2.2: Changing local population and age structure<sup>6</sup>**



2.27 The most noteworthy feature of the above changes is that whilst there is an overall growth in the population generally, the biggest numerical increases are in the oldest age groups and especially within those in the post retirement age groups.

2.28 Generally, it is the younger adult age groups between 16 and 45 years of age that have the greatest propensity to participate in sports and active recreation. Whilst these age groups will continue to grow within the local authority the majority of growth will come from within the older age groups, and this will have implications for the way in which sport and recreation facilities are planned.

2.29 What the above projections don't account for is the impact of planned new growth allocated within the emerging new Local Plan.

<sup>5</sup> Office of National Statistics Population projections by single year age groups (2016 base)

<sup>6</sup> Office of National Statistics Population projections by single year age groups.

### **Anticipated distribution of housing growth (2018-2040)**

2.30 The Stroud District Local Plan identifies the housing, employment, retail and community development that is required to meet local needs up until 2031. It sets out the strategy for distributing development within the District and policies for protecting and conserving the natural and built environment.

2.31 The District Council started the process of reviewing the current Local Plan last year. Following consultation, and committee resolution the Council's preferred strategy for meeting development needs over the next 20 years includes the following:

2.32 **Town Centres:** the Preferred Strategy will seek to deliver:

- Stroud town centre: walking and cycling links to and from the Stroudwater canal and the wider Stroud valleys network;
- Nailsworth town centre: improved walking and cycling links to the wider Stroud valleys network;
- Dursley town centre: improved walking and cycling links connecting with Cam and Uley;
- Wotton-under-Edge town centre: the Greenway cycle and walking route, subject to further feasibility work; and,
- Stonehouse town centre: better cycling and walking links with and signage to/from the Stroudwater canal and to the wider Stroud valleys network.

2.33 **Local Housing Need:** the Preferred Strategy will seek to deliver: at least 638 new homes per year for a twenty-year period, on a mix of brownfield and greenfield allocated housing sites of varying sizes to ensure delivery is maintained throughout the plan period.

2.34 **Local Green Spaces and Community Facilities:** the Preferred Strategy will seek to deliver:

- A full audit of accessible open spaces across the District and their primary purpose;
- A mapped Green Infrastructure (GI) network, linking urban areas to the wider countryside, identifying important habitats, landscape features, river and green corridors and ecological networks;
- A set of standards for local open space, sport and recreation facility provision to assess the adequacy of provision;
- A full assessment of existing local open space, sport and recreation facility provision and identification of surpluses and deficiencies based on quality, quantity and accessibility;
- Site opportunities to address shortfalls in local open space, sport, recreation and community facility provision;
- Opportunities to address gaps in the GI network and enhance the network function;
- Restoration of the derelict canal between Stonehouse and Saul Junction, reconnecting Stroudwater Navigation to the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal, including creating 30 hectares of biodiverse habitat and canal towpath;
- Improvements to the Stonehouse to Nailsworth cycleway, including biodiversity improvement and resurfacing work; creation of the Cam, Dursley and Uley Greenway and potential to deliver a Wotton under Edge, Kingswood and Charfield Greenway;

- Support for the identification of local green spaces through Neighbourhood Development Plans and the protection of community facilities through existing Assets of Community Value legislation;
- Opportunities to address identified community needs in association with new development through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and s106 agreements;
- Support for the planned provision of community facilities alongside housing growth through master planning of strategic and other major developments;
- Continued protection of identified areas of biodiversity, landscape, and heritage importance; and,
- A mitigation strategy for the Cotswold Beechwoods SAC to assess and address recreational pressures including from growth within Gloucester.

2.35 **Growth strategy:** the Preferred Strategy will distribute at least 5,700 additional dwellings and sufficient new employment land to meet needs for the two decades.

2.36 The strategy will concentrate housing growth at the main towns of Cam and Dursley, Stonehouse and Stroud, where there is best access to services, facilities, jobs and infrastructure.

2.37 Housing and employment growth will also be centred at two new settlements at Sharpness and at Wisloe within the Severn Vale (A38/M5 corridor) where there is the potential to create new sustainable communities along garden village principles. Further strategic employment growth will also be concentrated at accessible locations within the A38/M5 corridor.

2.38 In order to meet wider development needs and to support and improve existing services and facilities at smaller towns and larger villages, lesser levels of growth will be delivered at the local service centres of Berkeley, Minchinhampton, Nailsworth and Painswick.

2.39 Limited further growth will be delivered at the villages of Brimscombe, Chalford, Kings Stanley, Kingswood, Leonard Stanley, Manor Village and Thrupp which have a range of local facilities and which benefit from good transport links, or which have the potential to develop better transport links, to strategic facilities at the nearby towns of Stroud and at Wotton-under-Edge, where growth potential is limited by environmental constraints.

2.40 Further infill development to maximise the use of brownfield land will be supported at these and other settlements within settlement development limits.

### **Participation by adults<sup>7</sup> in physical activity, affluence, and deprivation**

2.39 For 10 years the Sport England Active People surveys ran annual sample surveys of adults (16+ years) and information from these surveys is presented later in this report. Further details of the Active People Surveys (APS) are contained in **Appendix 2**.

2.40 The sequence of surveys reached Active People year 10 (AP10), and has now been discontinued, and replaced by an Active Lives Survey in 2016 (see also **Appendix 2**). Active Lives is

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<sup>7</sup> Participation by children in physical activity is not considered here, but will be covered in a forthcoming initiative commissioned by Sport England "Active Lives: Children and Young People".



also a regular survey of adult activity, but asks slightly different questions, and uses a different methodology compared with Active People. As at the time of preparing this report, Active Lives had only been running for 2 years, so not enabling meaningful comparison between results over a useful time sequence. For this assessment, use has therefore been made of both surveys.

2.41 Research has shown that there is a high correlation between levels of deprivation, and participation levels in sport and recreation. (i.e. the more deprived an area the lower the tendency for residents in those areas to participate, and vice versa), and this correlation is evident in **Figures 2.3 and 2.4**. Both Figures have a traffic light colour scheme reflecting the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)<sup>8</sup> scores for the locality. All of the approximately 30,000 plus Census Super Output Areas (SOAs) within England have been categorised into one of four quartiles based on their ranking in the most recent available government IMD at the time of this study. The red represents SOAs in the highest ranked (most deprived) quartile whilst, the dark green represents those in the lowest ranked (most affluent) quartile.

2.42 There are some parts of the District (in the Cam and Dursley area) which appear in the worst quartile. Other areas (in the Stroud Valleys and Stonehouse Cluster) contain populations in the second worst quartile.

2.43 Underlying the IMD data in Figure 2.3 are data indicating % of adults which Active Lives indicate undertake 30 minutes or less physical activity/week (excluding gardening). Local Active Lives data is available down to Census Middle Super Output Area (MSOA), which are larger than SOAs.

2.44 Acknowledging that there are areas outside the District that score far worse using this measure, the Figure suggests an association between low physical activity levels and higher incidences of deprivation within the District. **Figure 2.4** tends to confirm the existence of this association, through once more overlaying IMD data onto (this time) Active Lives data, but this time on the % of adults taking part in physical activity for more than 150 minutes/week.

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<sup>8</sup> IMD stands for Index of Multiple Deprivation. This is a government sponsored suite of social, economic and other indicators that seek to inform the assessment of relative deprivation and affluence, geographically within England. The index/indices are based on ONS geographical units, and are updated periodically.

Figure 2.3: Deprivation and low participation

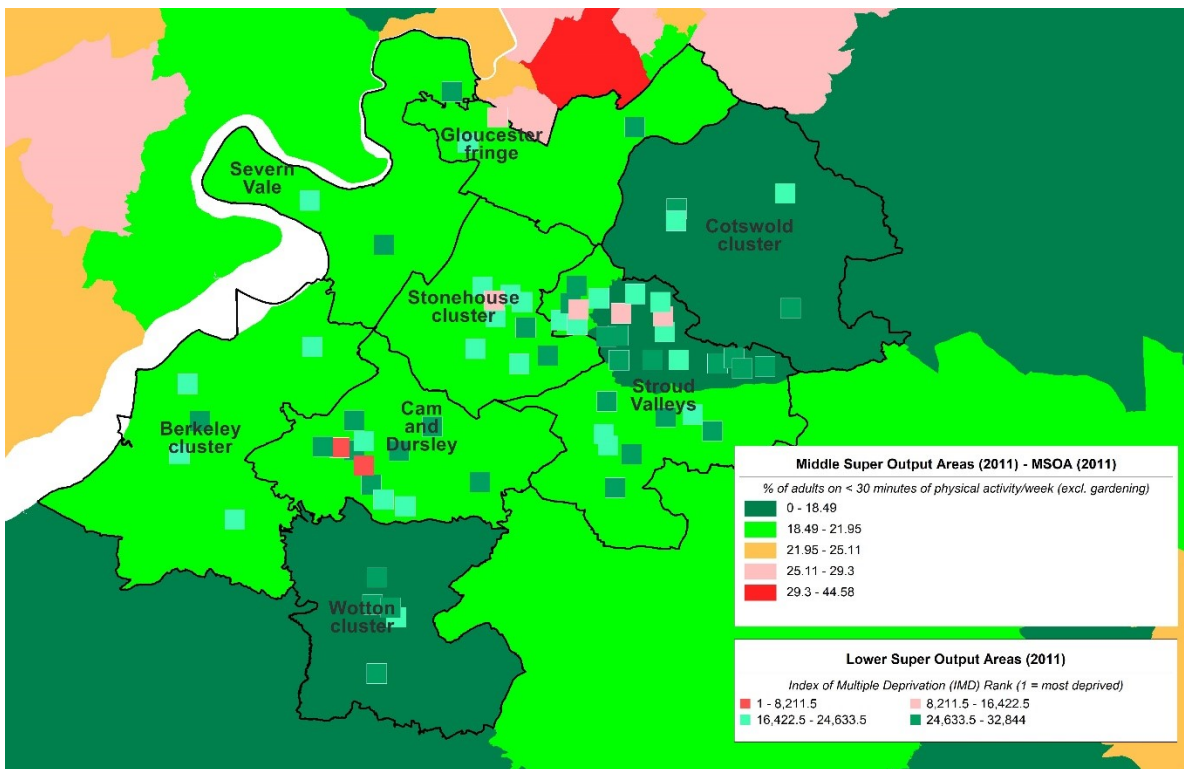
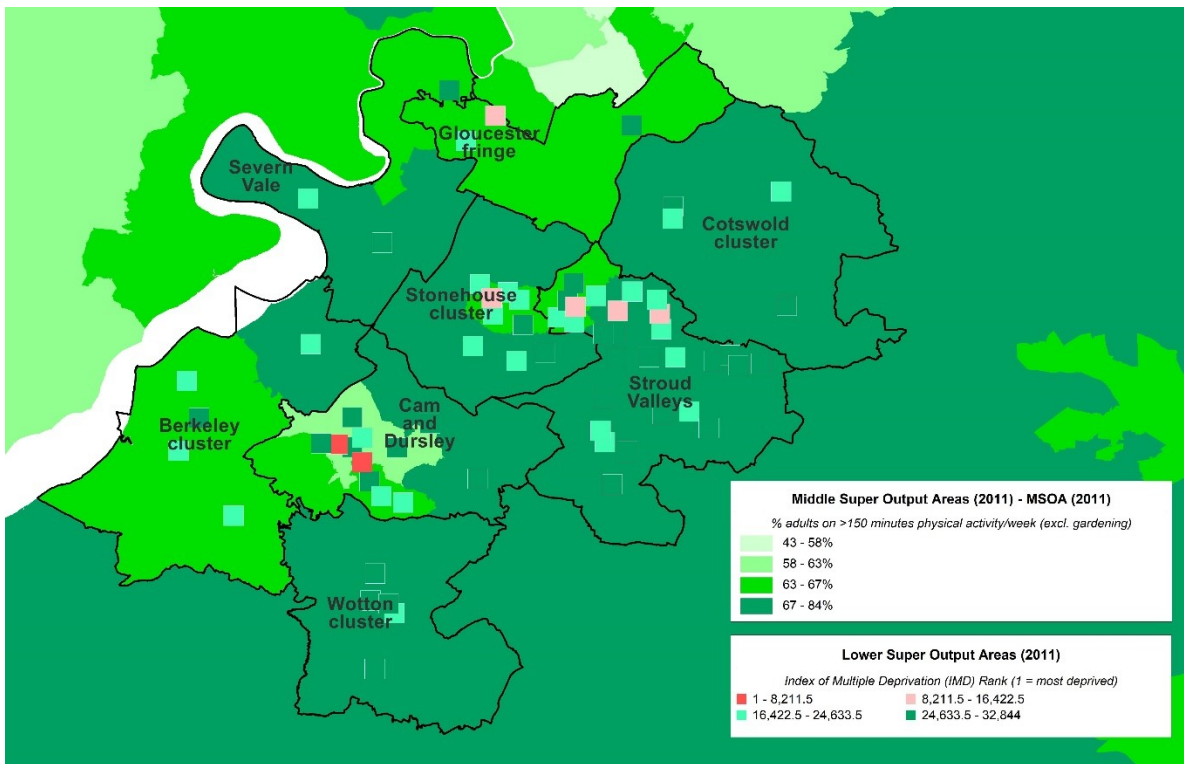
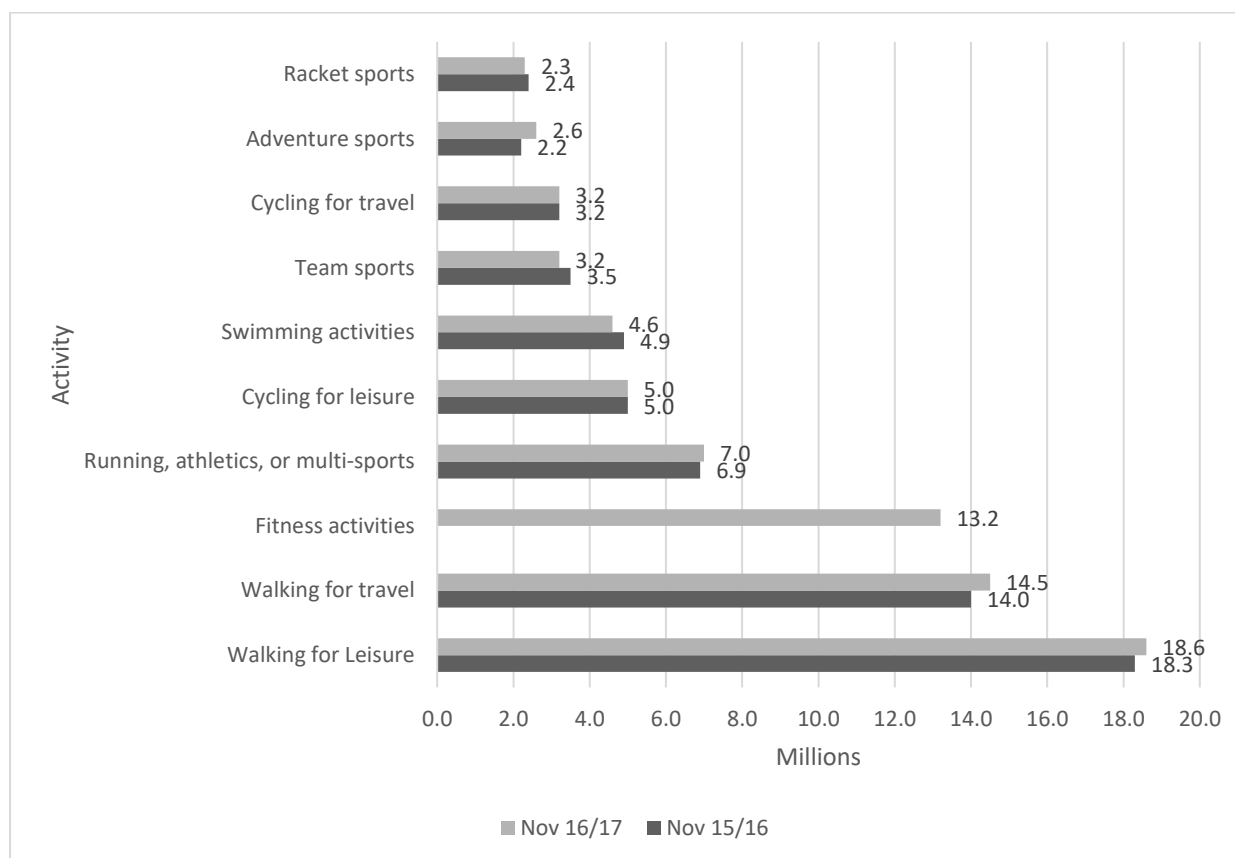


Figure 2.4: Affluence and higher participation levels



2.45 Active Lives (and previous Active People) surveys highlight the relative popularity of different types of sport and physical recreation. For the Active Lives surveys activity-by activity data were (at the time of preparing this report) unavailable at the local authority level. However, local levels of popularity for respective activities are likely to be similar to those in England as a whole.

**Figure 2.5: Active Lives survey results for adults taking part at least twice in the last 28 days\* for selected activity groups (excluding gardening)**



\*at the time of the survey

The findings reveal that many people are active simply through walking or cycling. Fitness activities such as going to the gym, or aerobics are also extremely popular; whilst, many codified sports activities are much less popular amongst adults.

**Key Messages from this section**

**2.42 The character of the local authority’s population continues to change, and will affect the types of sport, play and leisure activity appealing to local people.**

**2.43 The natural ageing of the District’s population will to some extent be offset in local areas that are subject to significant new housing growth.**

**2.44 The Council is working in a financially challenging environment- this brings challenges, but it also presents a clear opportunity for reviewing the Council’s leisure service and facilities it operates.**

**2.45 The Council's current and emerging new local plans advocate the importance of sustainable provision of sports and recreational opportunities, for the benefit both of people and the environment.**

**2.46 Outside the principal settlements, the District's rural areas will present challenges in providing sustainable sports and recreational opportunities. Each of the District's identified local clusters will experience unique issues due to their varying geographic and demographic characteristics.**

### 3 LEISURE CENTRES IN GENERAL

#### General

3.1 Sections 4 and 5 deal discretely with sports halls and swimming pools, which are basic components of community indoor/built sports provision. Between them they can host a range of 'wet' and 'dry' activities and facilities. However, they are in themselves often part of larger complexes hosting other facilities and associated activities, in the form of 'Leisure Centres'.

3.2 Leisure Centres continue to form the bedrock of local authority 'built' sports provision. In largely rural local authorities, such as Stroud District, leisure centres and the associated outside facilities can often be the only sports and recreation facilities that are owned/operated by the principal local authority.

3.3 Whilst Sections 4 and 5 examine the local supply and demand of indoor swimming pools and sports halls. However, functioning leisure centres hosting pools, sports halls and other facilities can offer something more than the sum of the total parts, and the synergy between different elements and activities within a leisure centre can provide economic, health and social benefits that are significantly more than if pools, sports halls, and other elements are built in isolation.

3.4 Essentially, this section deals with the primary leisure centres, which are owned by the District Council; it also covers provision in the education sector where relevant. However, the contribution made by private and commercial leisure facilities in meeting local needs is recognised within the report as a whole.

3.5 There are clearly synergies between provision in different sectors- for example, provision at commercial venues may help to alleviate pressure at public facilities, whilst also offering their customers an environment within which they feel more comfortable.

3.6 Nonetheless, the main focus of this assessment is on facilities that are in 'community use'. (See paragraph 1.13).

#### **Existing provision with Stroud District (quantity and quality)**

3.7 There are currently six facilities operating in the District which have the character of community leisure centres. Four of these had, at the time of preparing this report, financial input from the District Council to influence how they are managed for community benefit.

- **Stratford Park Leisure Centre, Stroud** ('wet and dry', including 25m x 4-lane pool, squash courts, activity studios, equipped fitness suites, wet/dry changing, café, physio rooms, dedicated reception, lifts, and 50m Lido pool for the summer month). The venue is set within the attractive and multifunctional Stratford Park. This venue is operated by 'Everyone Active' on behalf of the District Council.
  - **The Pulse, Dursley** ('wet and dry' including 25 x 3 lane pool, equipped fitness space, and large dance/activity space, wet/dry changing, dedicated reception with refreshment area, viewing area for pool, and lift). This venue is managed directly by the District Council.
-

- **Maidenhill Sports Centre, Maidenhill School, Stonehouse** ('dry', with 4-court sports hall, gym, dance/activity room, changing, and dedicated reception). This venue was, up until September 2018, managed outside school hours by the District Council. The Stonehouse Sports Centre Ltd now works in partnership with the Governors of Maidenhill School to ensure that the facility remains open to the public outside of school hours.
- **Thomas Keble School, Eastcombe** ('dry', with 4-court sports hall, equipped fitness suite, dance/activity room, changing, and small reception kiosk). This venue was, up until September 2018, managed outside school hours by the District Council. School Letting Solutions has now been engaged by the school to manage community use outside of school hours.
- **Wotton Sports Centre, Katherine Lady Berkeley School** ('dry' including 4-court sports hall squash court, equipped fitness suite, activity/dance studio, changing, and dedicated reception). This venue is managed outside school hours by 'Sport Wotton'- a charitable trust.
- **Rednock Sports Centre, Rednock School, Dursley** ('dry' with 4-court sports hall, equipped fitness suite, 2 squash courts, changing, reception kiosk, attached community/social venue). This venue is managed both inside outside school hours by the school.
- **Archway School, Stroud:** ('wet and dry' with 4-court sports hall, equipped fitness suite, activity/teaching room, 20m x 4-lane swimming pool, wet/dry changing, reception kiosk). This venue is managed both inside outside school hours by the school.

3.8 The facilities at the Archway School, Wotton Sports Centre, Rednock Sports Centre, Thomas Keble Sports Centre, and Maidenhill Sports are therefore not resourced by the District Council.

3.9 All of the above avenues have outside facilities, such as courts and pitches, but which are beyond the scope of this report.

3.10 Other larger state-funded and independent schools in the local authority have significant built sports facilities (see below). Whilst these can sometimes be available for outside use by clubs and organisations, their primary function is to meet the needs of the school. The noteworthy schools in this respect are:

- Wycliffe College and Preparatory School, Stonehouse) (Independent school: 1 x 8-court sports hall, 1 x 3-court sports hall, dance/activity space/equipped fitness suite. The facilities are used by a variety of community sports clubs, when not required by the school (including football, hockey, rugby, cricket, netball, and basketball).
- Marling School, Stroud (state-supported school: 4-court sports hall, equipped fitness suite). Facilities are let regularly to local judo, netball, basketball, and football clubs. The sports hall is let out to external clubs and organisations every weekday evening and Saturday mornings, so the only availability is Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

3.11 The above schools therefore allow varying amounts of community access to their facilities, subject to the priority demands of the school.

3.12 Stroud High School for Girls has a 4-court sports hall, but is largely for school use, albeit there is evidence of a small amount of club use.

### Site visits

3.13 Site visits have been conducted at the six key venues above, with non-technical assessments being made. The following principal observations are made:

- **Stratford Park Leisure Centre:** Attractive facility located in Stratford Park, benefitting from ample car parking. The venue is maintained to a high standard. However, the 4<sup>th</sup> (oldest) squash court is in need of renovation, and perhaps would be better suited to conversion for alternative use. The Lido pool is clearly a very attractive and iconic warm weather facility.
- **The Pulse:** A very busy and modern venue in the heart of Dursley. Parking immediately next to the venue is extremely well-used, but there is also parking at the nearby supermarket. The pool is clearly heavily used, as is the new extension housing the equipped fitness suite and studio. There is little scope for physical expansion of the venue beyond its footprint, given adjacent car parking and embankment to the rear.
- **Maidenhill Sports Centre:** Conventional school sports hall that has benefitted from additional investment to also provide a dance/activity studio, equipped fitness suite, and dedicated reception. However, signage to the venue is very poor, as is the narrow and awkward access from the road. Carparking is on-campus and considered reasonable for a venue of this size.
- **Thomas Keble Sports School:** A modern, attractive sports hall, amongst other facilities. Parking is sufficient. The sports hall roof leaks during wet weather.
- **Wotton Sports Centre:** Externally, has the appearance of a 1960s/70s school sports block, but there has been much upgrading internally including an attractive reception. The venue is set in large and attractive playing fields and there is ample parking.
- **Rednock Sports Centre:** Conventional and dated school sports facility, with ample parking. The venue also includes a community centre and social building which offers synergies. The internal circulation is cramped and unattractive, and the sports hall 'reception' is a small office in the middle of the block and removed from the entrance. Changing is dated and unappealing.
- **Archway School:** Conventional and dated school sports facility, with ample parking. There is potentially an attractive reception area. The changing is dated and very unappealing. There are also issues with the suspended sealing in some part of the complex. The swimming pool is removed from the main sports block, and could not be viewed, although the pool is used by local clubs and groups by arrangement.

### Outside the local authority

3.14 Outside the local authority, the more significant leisure centres within convenient distance of parts of the District are likely to be:

- Yate Leisure Centre, South Gloucestershire Council ('wet and dry' with pool complex including 25m pool, 7-court sports halls, studios and fitness suite, squash courts);
- Thornbury Leisure Centre, South Gloucestershire Council ('wet and dry' with pool complex including 25m pool, 2 x 5-court sports halls, studios and fitness suite, squash courts, indoor bowling)
- Brockworth Sports Centre, Tewkesbury District Council ('wet and dry' with 25m pool, 4-court sports hall, equipped fitness suite, studio;
- GL1 Centre, Gloucester City Council ('wet and dry' with pool complex including 25m x 8-lane; 25m x 4-lane, learner pools, 8-court sports hall, equipped fitness suites, studios/activity spaces; and,
- Beaufort Sports Centre, Gloucester City Council ('wet and dry' including 20m x 4-lane pool, 4-court sports hall, equipped fitness suite, dance/activity room.

3.15 There will be other smaller venues outside Stroud District which may be used by the District's residents, but the above are very likely to share the large majority of 'exported demand' from the District, and may be more convenient to reach for some residents in the outer reaches of the District.

3.16 The potential accessibility to external centres is considered further in the relevant sections dealing with Swimming Pools and Sports Halls (Sections 4 and 5)

### **Key Stakeholders**

#### ***The views of local residents***

3.17 As part of the overall assessment a sample residents/household survey has been conducted. The survey highlighted that sport and leisure centres are used regularly by significant numbers of households on a regular basis. More detail is provided in the two sections of this report dealing with swimming pools and sports halls (sections 4 and 5).

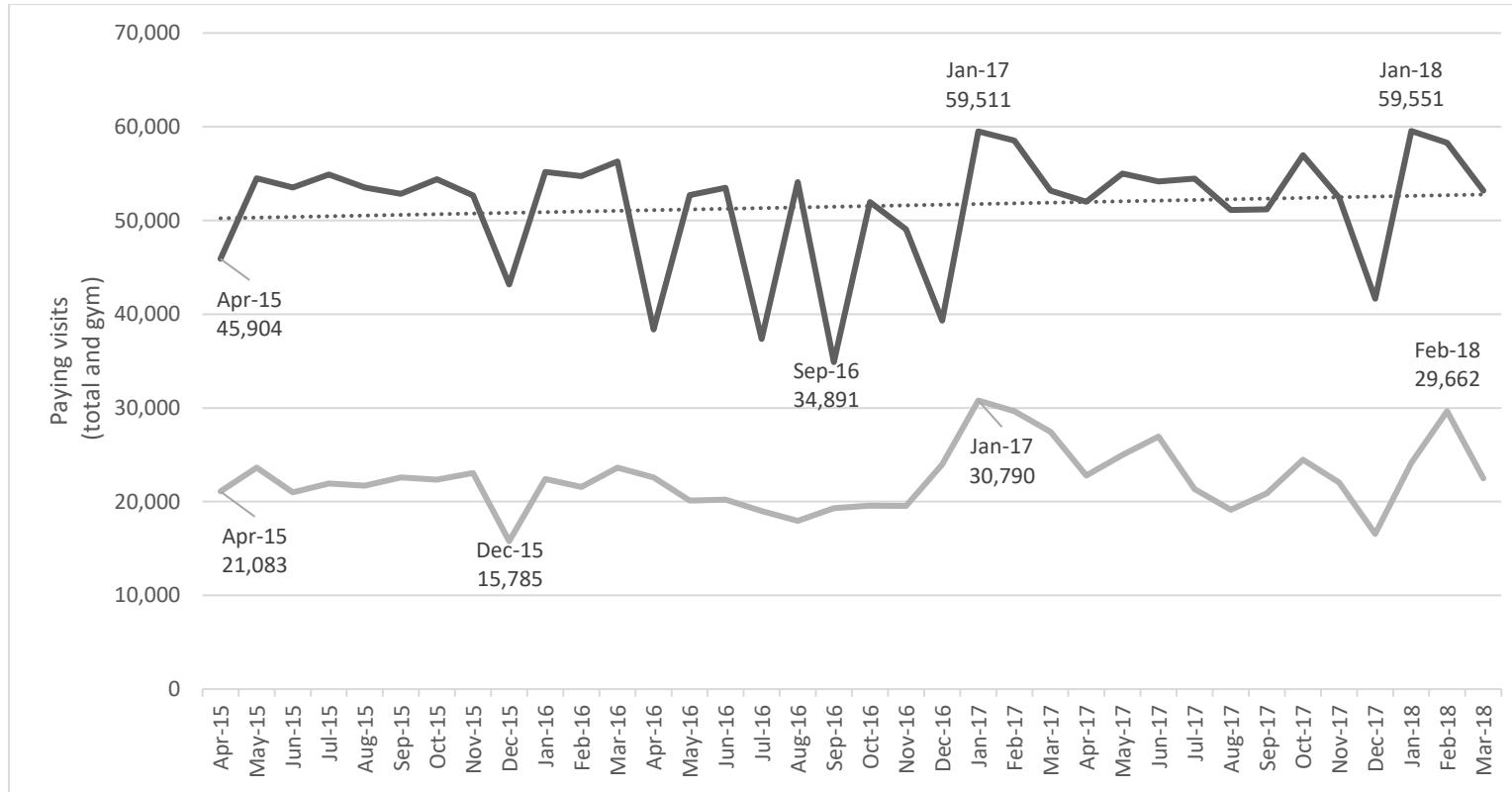
#### **Data on usage**

3.19 Data on the use of both the Stratford Park and The Pulse Leisure Centres have been provided. These two venues will be the most heavily used in the District in respect of community activity.

3.20 The data are summarised in **Figures 3.1 and 3.2**. The figures relate to visits by both members and non-members over the period and, as can be seen, there has been considerable variation from month to month, with low points commonly occurring during the principal holiday periods. However, the overall trend in the near 3-year period has seen a modest growth. The modernity and attractiveness of a leisure centre are factors influencing levels of use. It is hoped that recent refurbishments and developments at the two leisure centres will improve further levels of visits and use.

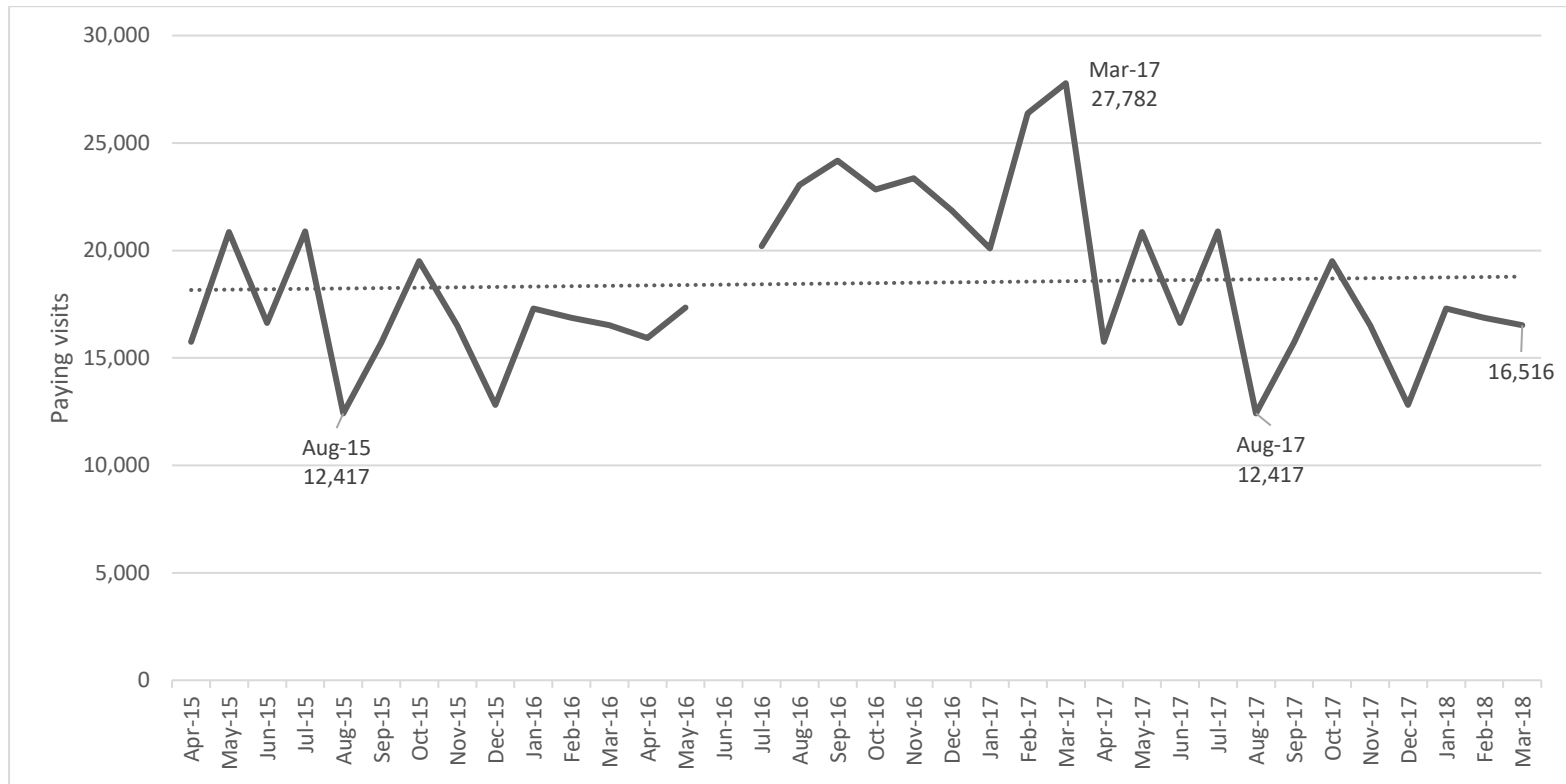


**Figure 3.1: Overall time-sequence trend of usage of Stratford Park Leisure Centre (April 2015-March 2018)**



## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

**Figure 3.2: Overall time-sequence trend of usage of The Pulse Leisure Centre (April 2015-March 2018)**



Note: The centre re-opened in July 2016 upon completion of the 'dry-side' extension, with equipped gym and studio.

### **Other significant components of successful leisure centres.**

3.21 The key to a successful leisure centre is that it should be planned, designed and managed in a way that best meets the needs of the target community and market niche. The key components of a successful leisure centre also vary greatly- some of the bigger facilities can offer ice rinks, extreme sports accommodation, indoor bowls greens. Outdoor provision like floodlit artificial turf pitches are also very popular with users. However, in respect to indoor facilities there are two types of provision (beyond swimming pools and sports halls) which can often help underpin the finances of centres – these are ‘health and fitness suites’ and ‘studios’. These two facilities host many ‘individualistic’ activities popular amongst certain demographics groups, and these include<sup>9</sup>:

- **Exercise, Movement and Dance:** Includes dance exercise;
- **Fitness & Conditioning:** Includes body building, conditioning activities / circuit training, cross training, exercise bike / spinning class, exercise machine / running machine / treadmill, health and fitness, keep fit / sit ups, step machine, skipping, powerlifting and weight training;
- **Gym:** Includes exercise sessions classified by respondents as 'gym' without reference to specific machines (which are included in Fitness and conditioning); and,
- **Keepfit Classes:** Includes Body Attack, Body Balance, Body Combat, Body Jam, Body Pump, Body Step, Body Vive, Boxercise, Pilates, Yoga and Zumba.

3.22 Health and Fitness suites (H&FS) is a term used here to cover indoor ‘gym’ facilities with a range of equipment designed to help with aerobic and anaerobic health, fitness and training regimes. They can be found as standalone venues, or often as part of a larger sports and leisure complex such as council leisure centres and commercial ‘health spas’ etc. These activities tend to have high participation rates amongst both women and men. Many are run on a commercial club basis, and those in local authority leisure venues can help to cross-subsidise other facilities.

3.23 The provision of flexible studio and activity spaces is an increasingly important element of any local provision, meeting the increasing need for more various physical activity programmes as opposed to formal sport opportunities. They are most commonly used for dance and aerobics sessions, but can also host martial arts and many other activities that do not require large spaces. Provision covers various sectors including local authority, private, commercial, club, and education. These sectors afforded by a variety of access opportunities ranging from pay and play (such as those found in the Council’s leisure centres) to up-market commercial club facilities.

3.24 Details on the current location of known such facilities is provided in **Appendix 4**.

3.25 The importance of these two types of facility in respect of usage by local people is shown by reference to Sport England Active People Survey data. The Active People Surveys and the method of sampling is explained in **Appendix 2**. Amongst other activities covered these surveys provide data on the number of adults regularly taking part in ‘gym and keep fit’ activities (see above definition), which is considered to be fairly representative of use of health and fitness suites.

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<sup>9</sup> The bullet-pointed terms and definitions are based on guidance provided by Sport England’s Active People website.

**Figure 3.3: Adults participating in gym and keep fit activities at least once a week.**



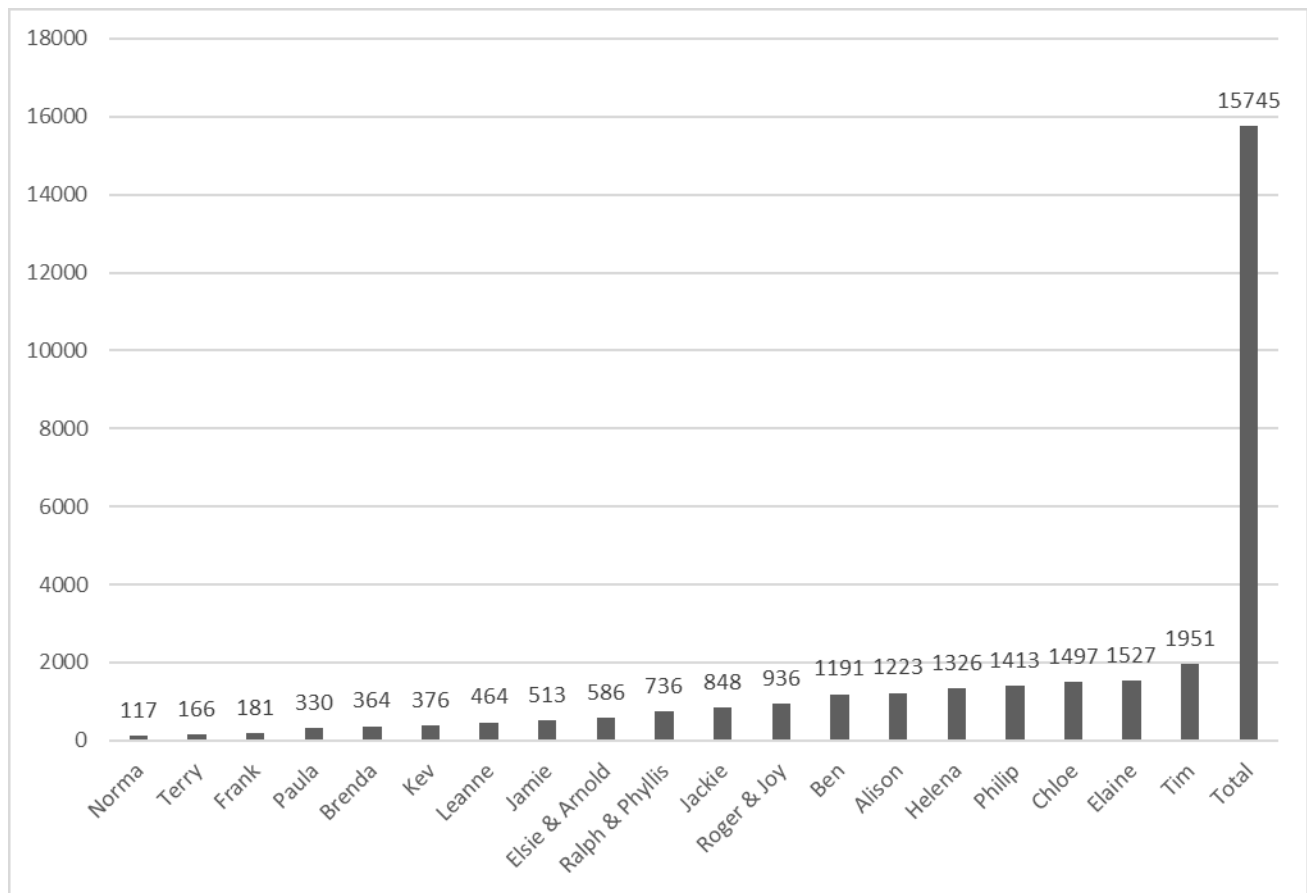
3.26 From these the headline figures are as follows:

	Average%	Min%	Max%
England	14.61%	12.60%	16.00%
South West	12.97%	10.60%	14.50%
Gloucestershire	14.08%	11.20%	16.80%
Stroud District	12.33%	9.76%	16.50%

3.27 The maximum survey point reading for the District is higher than for England and the South West, but lower than for the county. However, the overall average for the District compares unfavourably with those for the other geographies. If a figure of 14% was assumed, this would work out at 13,577 of the adult population taking part on a regular basis, and at least weekly.

3.28 The Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England are explained further in **Appendix 2** of this report, but the ‘names’ relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2. Furthermore, Market Segmentation data suggest that the number of adults who would like to do more sports activity and who stated their preferred option for this would be keep fit and gym (including aerobics classes) projected to the following:

**Figure 3.4: Adults with the propensity to take part in Keep Fit and Gym activity.**



3.29 Market Segmentation therefore estimates 15,217 adults in the District have the propensity to take part in aerobics/gym activity, which is higher than the Active People-based estimate (above).

3.30 The Fitness Industry Association (FIA) has devised a model that provides guidance on the supply of stations against the current anticipated demand.

3.31 The model defines health and fitness users as all people participating in health and fitness, including private club members and users of local authority facilities. The model is based on peak period demand, and the peak times are identified as follows:

- Mon-Fri, 6pm – 10pm
- Sat-Sun, 12pm – 4pm

3.32 For modelling purposes, it is assumed that 65% of the total weekly usage occurs at the busiest (peak) time periods. Based on research with health and fitness operators it has been assumed that the average member/user visits the facility 2.4 times per week. This is premised on the knowledge that many people who take part do so regularly and very frequently. If there is local evidence of lower usage rates then the assumption about weekly usage could be reduced.

3.33 **Table 3.5** (below) applies the FIA model to an assumed 14% of the adult population (96,983).

**Table 3.5: Demand calculation for health and fitness (using the FIA model)**

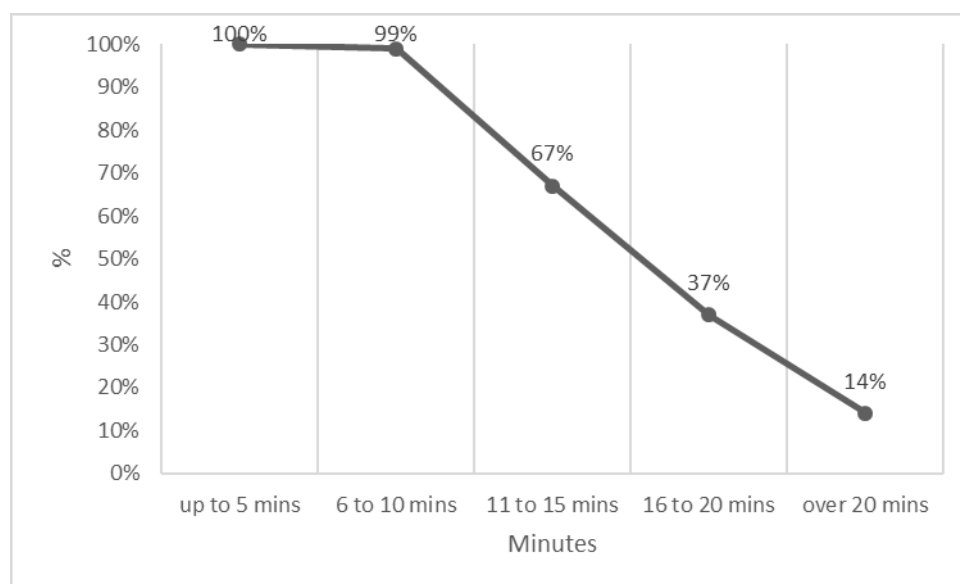
Standard	Values	Total
Population (over 16)		96,983
% of population participating in health and fitness activity	14%	c.13,577
Average number of visits per week	2.4	32,586
No. of visits in peak time	65%	21,181
No. of visits on one hour of peak time	28 hours	756 (21,181/28 hours)
<b>TOTAL NO. OF STATIONS REQUIRED (PEAK TIME)</b>		<b>756</b>

3.34 This shows that, on this basis, a total of 756 stations are required during the peak-time period to accommodate anticipated current levels of demand. According to Active Places, the current supply (See Appendix 4) is 619 (if facilities that are for ‘private use’ are excluded). The two figures therefore are not too far removed from each other, but perhaps different enough to suggest that there may be scope for growth in local participation. This conclusion would be supported by the comparative Active People and Market Segmentation data.

### **Accessibility (Geographical)**

3.35 The household survey consultation conducted as part of the overall study identified where households make use of the opportunities identified. In the case of sports/leisure centres 67% of users are prepared to travel up to 15 minutes to make use of such facilities. 37% of these would travel up to 20 minutes and 14% more than 20 minutes This indicates the majority (75 percentile) being somewhere around 20 minutes. The most popular mode being by car - **See Figure 3.6.**

**Figure 3.6: Residents' preparedness to travel to Leisure Centres**



3.36 Acceptable travel times to major community facilities, such as swimming pools and sports halls are discussed in later sections.

**Plans for future new and changed provision**

3.37 Currently, there are no formalized plans for new leisure centre venues, although new facilities have previously been part of the new Forest Green Stadium proposal at the A417/M5 junction. However, there is uncertainty about the principle, nature and scale of the development, at the time of writing this report.

3.38 Plans for improved provision at existing centres exist, and these are covered in relevant sections covering specific provision.

3.39 The District Council's withdrawal from involvement with operating and investing in facilities at both Maidenhill and Thomas Keble School venues leaves some uncertainty over the future availability of both these venues for use by the community at large. However, both schools have now put in place alternative community use management regimes, and there are model examples of school-based leisure centres elsewhere operating successfully despite the absence of local authority funding. One such exemplar is at the Wotton School where community use of the leisure centre is managed by the Wotton Sports Trust.

**Key messages from this section**

3.40 **Leisure trends and demands change, and so too should local authority-controlled leisure provision, if the 'offer' is to be sufficiently attractive to get more people into beneficial physical activity.**

3.41 **Leisure centres offer more than the sum total of all their parts, and the right mix of facilities can improve the financial sustainability of centres.**

**3.42 Provision of H&F and studio provision are now integral to the successful operation of the best leisure centres, and these should not be thought of as just supporting the traditional main components of pools and sports halls. They are 'big hitters' in the quest to provide viable and attractive venues. Whilst the H&F market has expanded rapidly within the District in recent years, there may be scope for additional limited expansion. Increased population through planned growth may also heighten demand for such facilities.**

**3.43 Major funding opportunities arising out of developer contributions, should allow for a review of the way in which leisure centres are provided and run in the District. Section 8 identifies that the scale of growth predicted in the District by 2040 will generate substantial demands for new leisure centre facilities.**

**3.44 With the District Council's withdrawal from direct investment in and managing of dual-use leisure centres, developer contributions may become a vital source of funding for such school-based centres.**



## 4 INDOOR SWIMMING POOLS

### General

4.1 This section considers the provision of swimming facilities within the local authority with respect to quantity, quality, and accessibility and availability (for community use). Key messages will then be summarised. Swimming as an activity will cover not just casual swimming by members of the public, but also race swimming, synchronised swimming, and water polo etc. Pools can also be used as training venues for canoeing and sub-aqua, although the utility of conventional pools for such activities is limited.

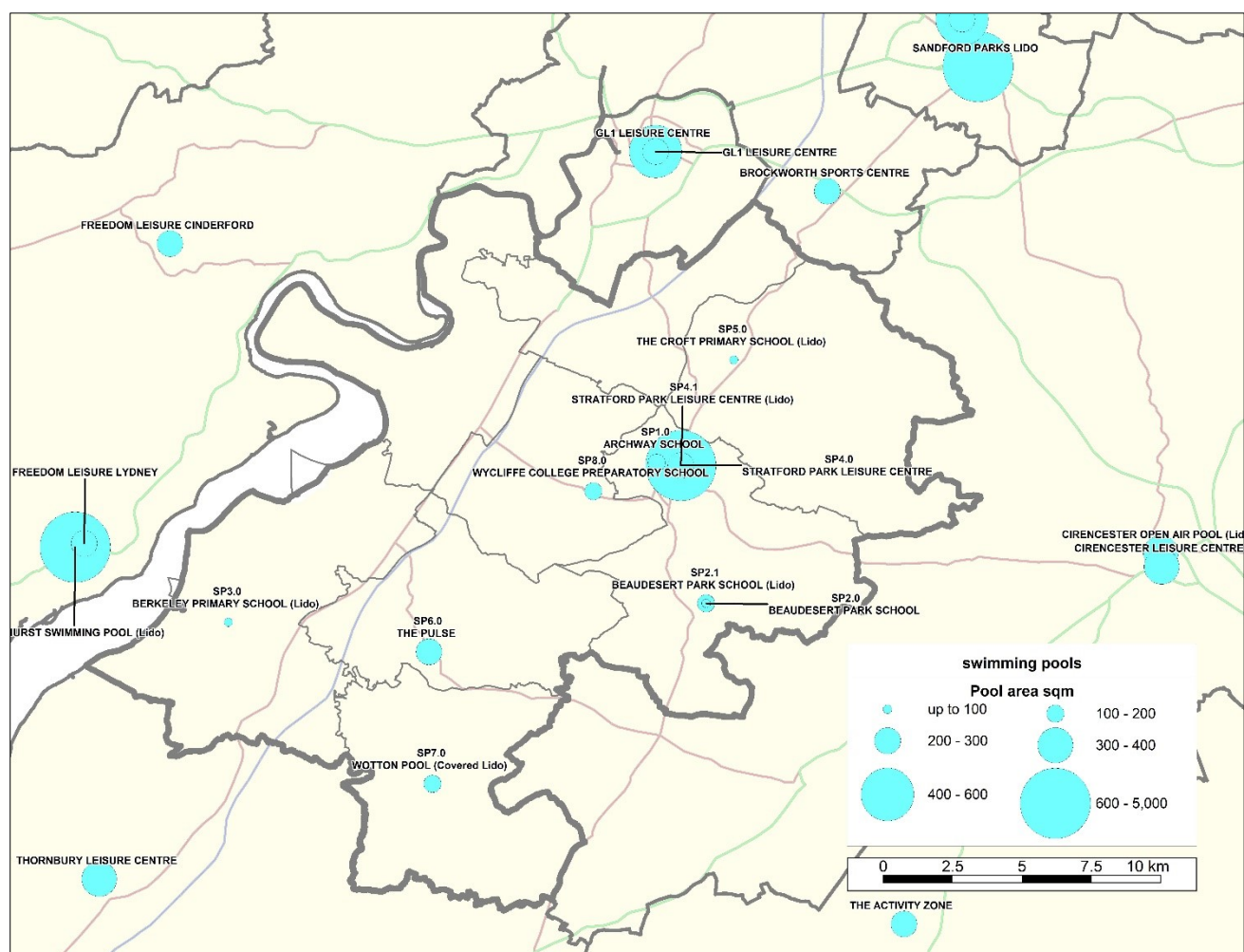
### Quantity

#### **Existing provision (general)**

4.2 **Figure 4.1** below show the location and description of key community swimming pools within the District and just outside the District. **Table 4.1** lists all indoor pools within the District of which this study has a record.

4.3 The most important community pools within the District are those at Stratford Park Leisure Centre (Stroud), and The Pulse (Dursley). These accommodate the major part of resident demand within the District. There are other indoor pools that are used for club and group activity including at The Archway School (Stroud); and, at Wycliffe College- use by community clubs at these two venues is limited by the primary function of the pools to meet school needs.

**Figure 4.1: Location of key swimming pools**



4.4 Important local seasonal venues are located in Wotton (Wotton Pool is a small Lido Pool with retractable cover); and, the 50-metre Lido at Stratford Park, the latter also being used by clubs for training in the warmer months.

4.5 Although initially heated before the war, the lido is now a cold-water pool, open for around 100 days a year during the summer months. The lido has some repair requirements, and offers very limited access for disabled people.

4.6 These constraints are reflected in the community’s engagement with the pool. The visitor numbers have been falling each year with an average of between 5,000 and 8,500 visits over the summer season.

4.7 Consultants were engaged by Stroud District Council, Stroud Town Council, and the Heritage Lottery Fund to undertake a feasibility Study. The report resulted in an options shortlist, and a recommended vision that:

“A high-quality capital project that will reinstate the heritage grandeur of Stratford Park Lido. The project will deliver a multi-use, outdoor pool, centred on community involvement, with catering

facilities, community spaces and exciting programme of events.....While the capital project is being developed, a new management board will be established to oversee immediate improvements to Stratford Park Lido, holding community events for all the family.”

4.8 Other outdoor pools, such as the Berkeley Primary School, offer some community season during warmer months, and the summer holiday period.

**Table 4.1: Description of known pools in the District (Categorisation adopted from the Sport England Active Places Power database- (see Appendix 3)**

Name	Facility Reference	Facility Sub Type	Lanes	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Pool area sqm	Pool length	Pool width
ARCHWAY SCHOOL	SP1.0	Main/General	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	Local Authority (in house)	1953	180	20	9
BEAUDESERT PARK SCHOOL	SP2.0	Main/General	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)		180	18	10
BEAUDESERT PARK SCHOOL (Lido)	SP2.1	Lido	0	Private Use	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)		94	13	7
BERKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL (Lido)	SP3.0	Lido	0	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1910	90	18	5
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE	SP4.0	Main/General	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1975	250	25	10
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE (Lido)	SP4.1	Lido	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1965	850	50	17
THE CROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL (Lido)	SP5.0	Lido	3	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)		70	10	7
THE PULSE	SP6.0	Main/General	4	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Local Authority (in house)	2016	212	25	8
WOTTON POOL (Covered Lido)	SP7.0	Lido	3	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1935	111	18	6
WYCLIFFE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL	SP8.0	Main/General	5	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)		155	20	7

4.9 There may be some small (primarily outdoor) pools that have not been identified, but which are too small in any event to be included in the analysis considered in the following paragraphs.

#### **Availability/community use<sup>10</sup>**

4.10 The two District Council-controlled pool venues are managed by Everyone Active, on behalf of the Council. The Stratton Park indoor pool has significant levels of education use during school hours, but this is not the case with The Pulse. Both venues have a varied programme of group and casual activity, and are available on a pay-as-you-go basis for much of the peak-time.

4.11 The Stratford Park indoor pools accommodate school activity mid-week during the term. Otherwise, the indoor pools offer a range of activities including fitness swimming, casual swims, aqua aerobics, children's and learner sessions, and private hire (such as for clubs and parties). Normal weekday hours are between 07.00 and 22.00 weekdays, with slightly shorter hours at the weekends.

4.12 The Pulse at Dursley is open between 06.30 and 21.00 during the week, but with slightly shorter hours at weekend. Like the Stratford Park complex, the pool hosts a similar mix of activities to those at Stratford Park, as well as club activity and private hire. However, there is very limited school use, which allows greater community access during the week, throughout the year.

4.13 Neither complex has a distinct 'teaching pool'.

4.14 Opening hours generally encompass daytimes and evenings throughout the week, although there is significant block-bookings at Stratton Park for school use. The combined indoor water space offered by the Council-controlled venues is estimated to be **462 square metres**. This would work out at 3.88 square metres of pools space per thousand people and based on the existing estimated population for the District at 2018.

4.15 As identified in Table 4.1, the District also has pools in the education sector. There are synergies between provision in different sectors. For example, provision at schools (when not required for curricular use) will benefit clubs that might otherwise struggle to find time and space for their needs at local authority venues. Within the school sector there is some impressive pool provision, which is sometimes available for use by outside clubs and groups. For example, Archway School, Beaudersert Park School, and Wycliffe College between them offer 515 sq.m of indoor pool space- more than the space offered at the District Council controlled indoor pools. Some of this school provision will be used by local groups, and as part of holiday-let schemes. However, such availability is unlikely to be on a secured and long-term basis.

4.16 There is no clear hierarchy of local authority facilities. This is because each facility serves its own discrete geographical area, and they are largely mutually exclusive in their

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<sup>10</sup> See Section 1.15 for an explanation of this term

catchments. The Stratton Park and Pulse complexes serve areas that will generate additional demands, resulting from planned housing growth.

4.17 In addition to venues within the District facilities in neighbouring local authorities, may be used by the District's residents, and especially those in Thornbury and Gloucester (see **Figure 4.1**). Ease of accessibility to these external venues is discussed later in this section.

#### **Sport England Facilities Calculator (FC)**

4.18 The Facilities Calculator is a Sport England web-based tool which can help estimate the potential numbers of basic community facilities (such as sports halls and swimming pools) that might be generated by large-scale housing/population growth in a given location. The calculator must be used with caution and an understanding of what it is and isn't designed to do. For example, its estimations don't account for existing provision in the locality (which will need to be factored in). In addition, as it is based on national data, it will not take into account local circumstances. Nevertheless, it is a useful analytical tool when used in conjunction with types of analysis.

4.19 Based on the current estimated population the FC suggests a provision of 1,211 sq.m square metres of indoor waterspace for community use (or 9.75 sq.m per 1000 people), for an estimated 7,295 visits per week at peak period (VPWPP). This compares with 2,192 sq.m in total within the District. However, only an estimated 642 sq.m is available at the local authority-controlled indoor pools and available for community use at times of peak demand throughout the year. This is only half the amount suggested by the FC.

4.20 Lido pools (such as at Stratford Park and Wotton) will offer important seasonal capacity in the warm months. The Archway Pool also offers regular use to a local swimming club, and other local groups. Such use is by prior arrangement and agreement between the school and users.

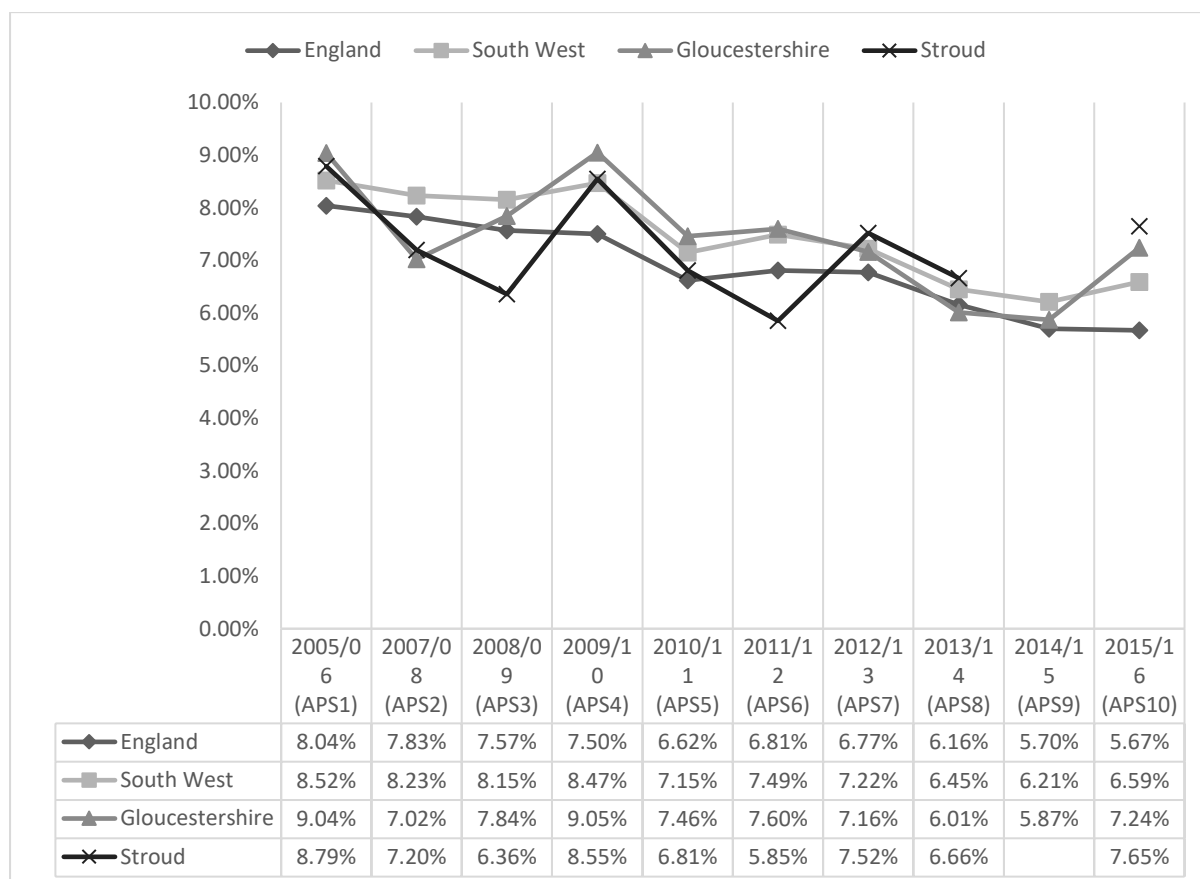
4.21 If the contributions of the lido pools and Archway Pool are discounted, relative to the FC estimate of need there is a shortfall waterspace of the equivalent of around 2.5 x 25m, 4-lane community pools.

4.22 Seasonal variations apply in provision due to the existence of the Stratford and Wotton open air pools, in particular- the Stratford Park Lido is itself an Olympic size pool, with about 850 sq.m of water space. However, it is only open in the warmer months. The Wotton Pool is also seasonally limited, but small (only 110 sq.m).

4.23 The importance of swimming as a participative activity is illustrated by findings of the Active Lives survey (see Figure 2.5), and by reference to the previous Sport England Active People Survey data. The Active People Surveys (APS) and the method of sampling is explained in **Appendix 2**. Amongst other activities covered these surveys provide data on the number of adults regularly taking part in 'swimming' (indoors and outdoors).

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

**Figure 4.2: Adults participating in swimming (indoors and outdoors) at least once a week.**

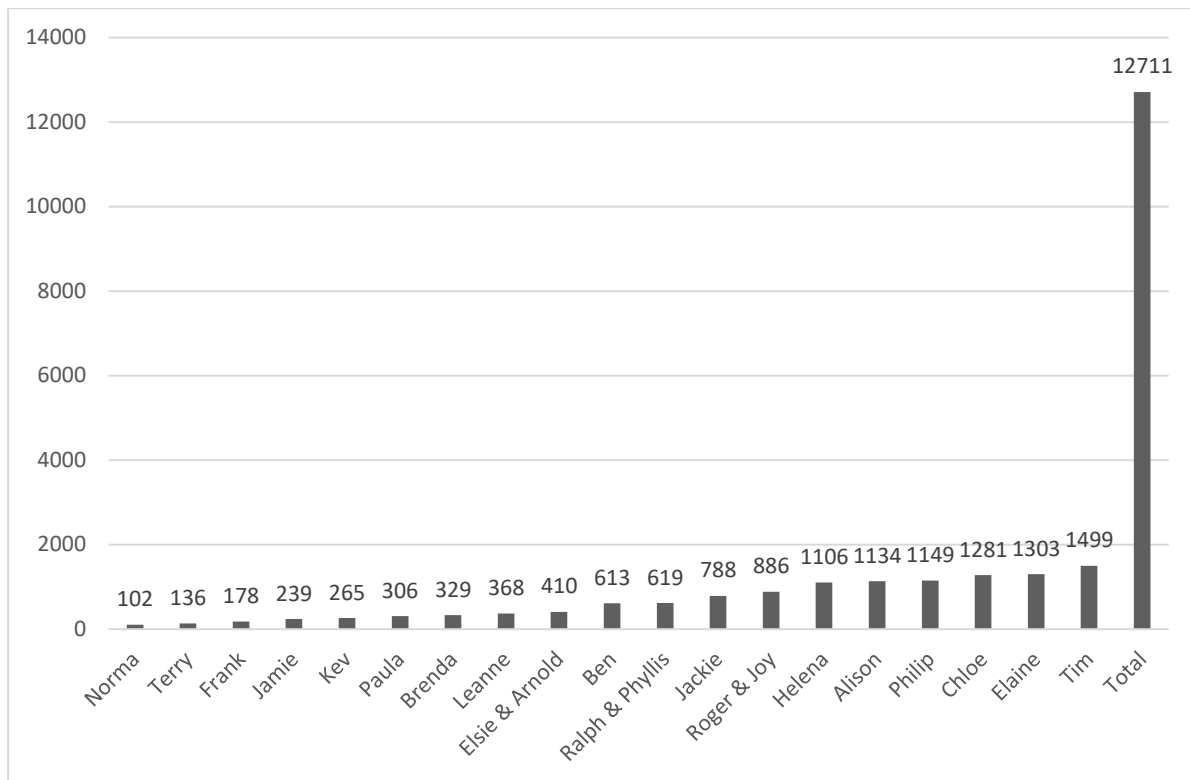


4.24 Due to limited data samples, there is an incomplete set of points specifically for Stroud District. However, if the mean average of the nine available data points is taken (7.27%), it would give an estimated to be 7,050 adults swimming on a weekly basis.

	Average%	Min%	Max%
England	6.87%	5.67%	8.04%
South West	7.45%	6.21%	8.52%
Gloucestershire	7.43%	5.87%	9.05%
Stroud District	7.27%	5.85%	8.79%

4.25 The Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England are explained further in **Appendix 2** of this report, but the 'names' relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2. Market Segmentation data suggest the number of adults in the District likely to take part in swimming is 12,711. (**Figure 4.3**).

**Figure 4.3: Representation of Sport England (adult) Market Segments in the District who would like to do (more) swimming**



4.26 This figure is significantly higher than the Active People highpoint estimate, suggesting that there may be scope to grow adult participation further. The relatively low provision of community pools waterspace perhaps contributes to a depressed level of activity.

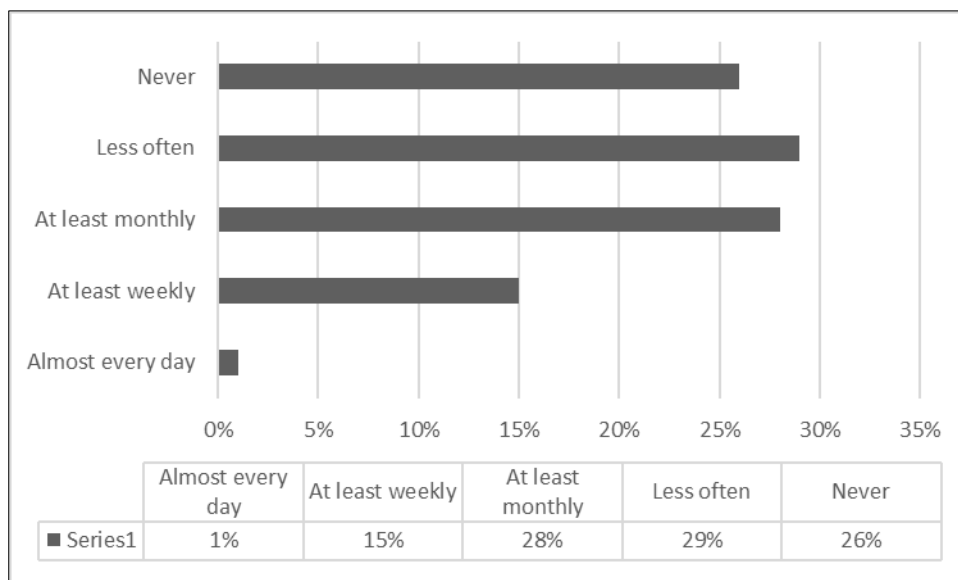
### Views of Stakeholders

#### *The views of local residents*

4.27 The Household Survey conducted as part of the overall study identified the following in respect of frequency of use by household members:



**Figure 4.4 Use of swimming pools by local household members**



4.28 44% therefore make use of swimming pools at least monthly, with around 15% using pools at least once a week. 21% of respondents suggested a need for more swimming pools. (79% said there were enough pools).

***Parish and town councils***

4.29 A general concern was expressed by some local councils about lack of overall access to sports facilities, given the rurality of much of the local authority’s geography, and issues with public transport.

4.30 In addition:

- Berkeley Town Council suggested that Berkeley Primary School outdoor swimming pool requires improvement.
- Frampton on Severn Parish Council stated there is no facility for swimming in an area surrounded by water and where deaths by drowning regularly occur.
- Stonehouse Town Council Neighbourhood Development Plan shows the need for new community sports and social facilities and a swimming pool.
- Wotton-under-Edge Town Council states that the local swimming pool is undergoing a programme of refurbishment – refurbishment, new changing rooms and solar panels and tiling of pool being undertaken via grants

***National Governing Bodies (ASA Facilities Manager) and Active Gloucestershire***

4.31 The ASA suggest Stroud District has an existing deficit of water space of 170sqm. The ASA states that this is not enough to request further provision, although the ASA would like to ensure existing provision is provided and, if needed, replaced.

4.32 Active Gloucestershire suggest that there may be lack of access to a conventional indoor swimming pool in the Severn Vale area.

### **Clubs**

4.33 The Stroud Masters Swimming Club is based in Stroud and uses the Archway Pool, as well as the Stratton Park Leisure Centre pools. The club caters primarily for adults of 40 years +, but also has younger adults from 16 years, and over. The club's total male and female membership is c. 50, which has remained at a stable level for the three most recent years.

4.34 There are other clubs (which have not responded to the club questionnaire survey):

- Durlsey Dolphins: a local competition club that trains at both The Pulse, and at Wycliffe College.
- Severside Tritons: A large local club with two main bases Stratford Park and Thornbury Leisure Centre (outside the District). The club also uses facilities for training within the District at Wycliffe College (Stonehouse) and the Archway School (Stroud). The club support swimmer at county and regional level.

### **Quality of provision**

#### **Site visits**

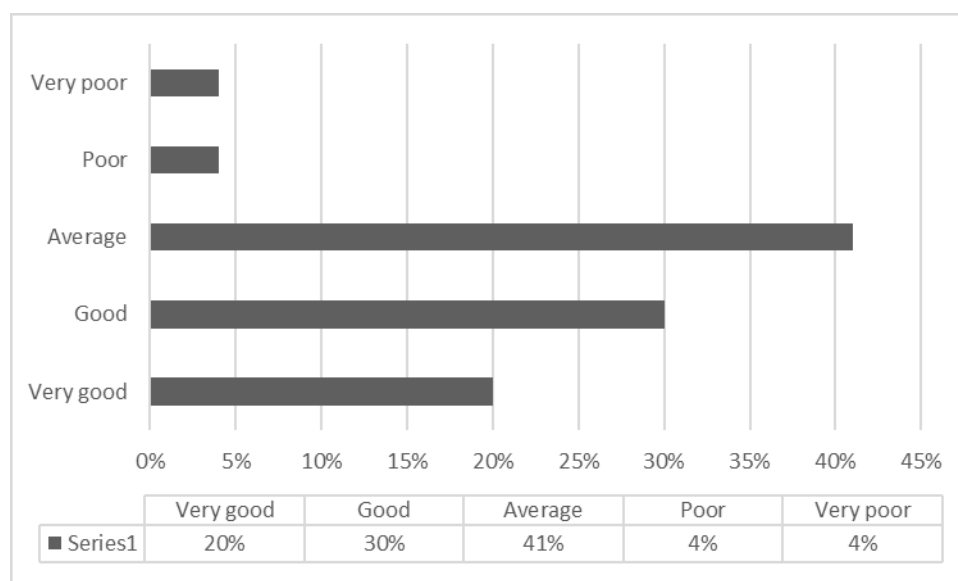
4.35 As mentioned in Section 3, site visits were made to the key leisure centres within the District, including all community swimming pools. The quality of the indoor pools at both Stratton Park and The Pulse, together with ancillary changing facilities is of a very good standard. However, the three-lane pool at The Pulse limits its functionality both for recreation swimming and potential galas. There is scope to remodel the pool to a 4-lane facility, but this would require removal of an existing promontory and steps on one side of the pool.

#### **Views of Stakeholders**

##### ***The views of local residents***

4.36 The Household Survey conducted as part of the overall study identified the following in respect of perceived quality of facilities:

**Figure 4.5: Views on the quality of swimming pools expressed by householders**



4.37 The vast majority of households therefore considered the quality of provision to be average or better.

***Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) (Head of Facilities)***

4.38 (As above) the ASA stresses that the stock of community pools must be maintained and replaces- otherwise provision could drastically reduce quickly.

***Clubs***

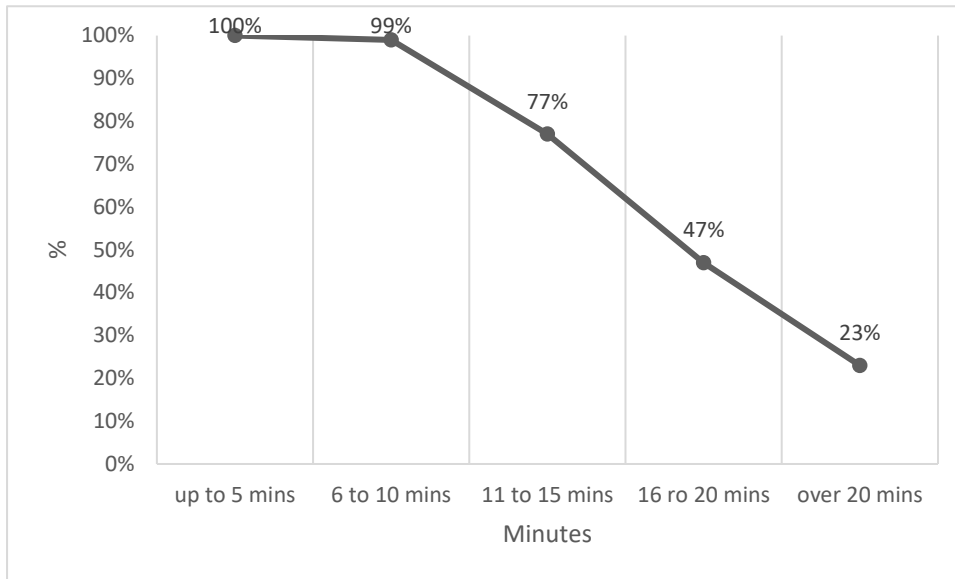
4.39 One of the three local clubs responded to the club questionnaire survey- Stroud Masters. The club response stated that the pool at Archway School is in serious need of repair and has suffered from a lack of investment.

**Access**

**Views of local residents**

4.40 The household survey consultation conducted as part of the overall study identified that where households make use of the opportunities 77% of users are prepared to travel up to 15 minutes to use swimming pools. The 75 percentile is therefore likely to be around 15 minutes. The most popular mode being by car - see **Figure 4.6**.

**Figure 4.6: Residents' preparedness to travel to swimming pools**



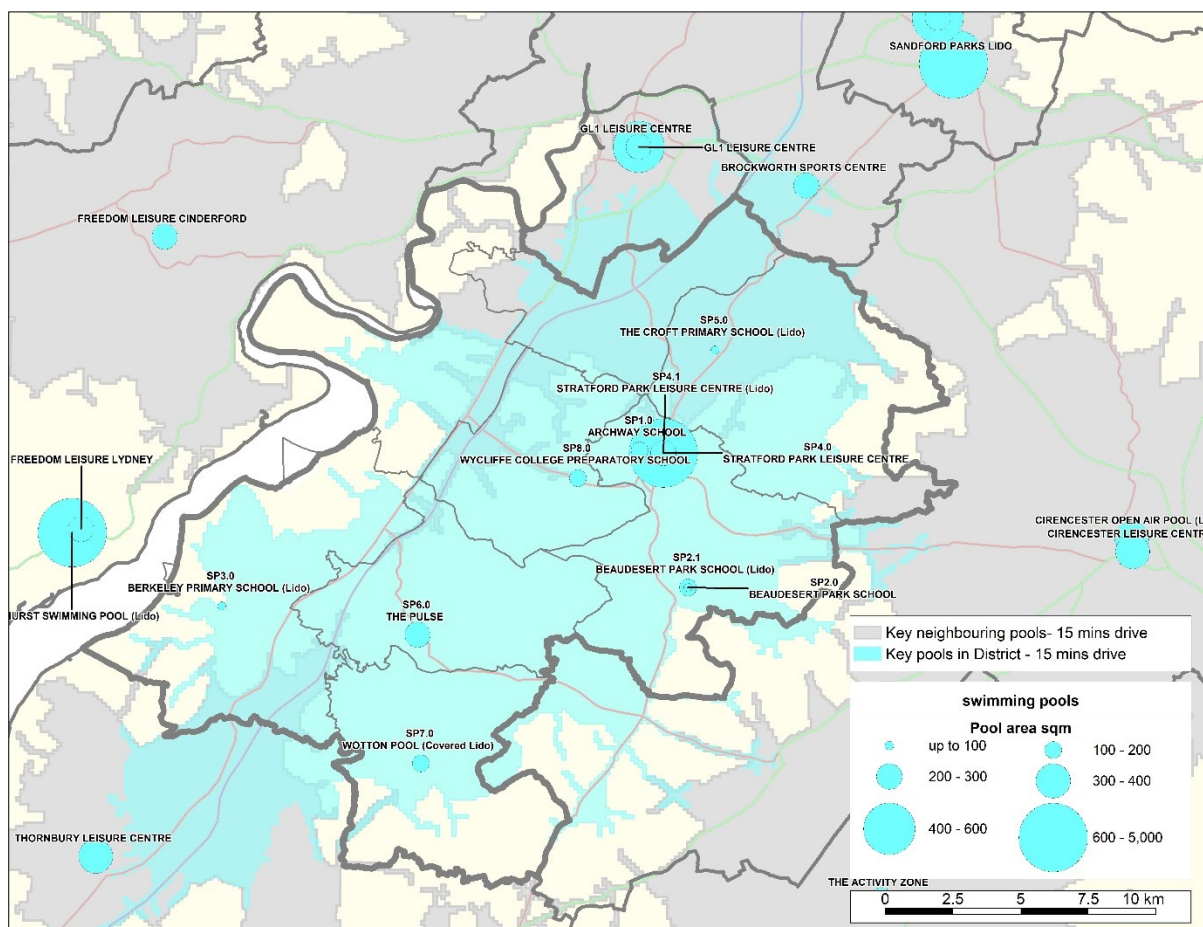
**What is an acceptable drivetime to a pool?**

4.41 Data underpinning Sport England modelling suggest 20-minute drive or walk time catchments. The 20-minute catchment is based on data obtained from previous national research by Sport England, which concluded that a 20-minute drive time represented 90% of the user catchment on average for swimming pools. However, the same research indicated that around 60 per cent of users were only prepared to travel up to 10 minutes.

4.42 If 15 minutes is adopted as an acceptable travel time to pools for 75% of the population the resultant catchments for the two local authority venues and significant neighbouring pools are shown on the **Figure 4.7**. The catchments are based on assumed average speeds for different classes of roads. The map shows only small parts of the District excluded from the combined Stratford Park/Pulse catchment. It is estimated that the population falling outside the combined catchment is 7,668. Although much of the excluded area is currently sparsely populated, some parts may accommodate planned growth - such as around Sharpness and the Cam/Wisloe area (See Section 8).

4.43 Some of the excluded area will be within reach of facilities at Thornbury Leisure Centre, and in Gloucester (for example).

**Figure 4.7: 15-minute drive catchments for key swimming pools (within and outside the District)**



### Plans for future new provision

4.44 The study and associated consultation have revealed some plans and aspirations for the improvement of existing facilities.

4.45 The management at The Pulse at Dursley expressed a desire to see the existing pool widened from three to four lanes, which will allow for swimming galas to take place. This could be undertaken within the pool building’s existing footprint.

4.46 There are on-going plans to further improve the existing Wotton Pool to improve changing facilities and overall user-experience at this summer season lido, which has a sliding roof for wet weather.

4.47 Finally, there is an ‘Action’ identified in the District Council’s Corporate Delivery Plan (2018-22) to refurbish Stratford Park Lido and install solar panels to heat pool water. This should help to extend the season of this already very popular warm weather attraction.

### Key messages from this section

4.48 **Quantity:** The combined indoor waterspace offered by the Council controlled venues is estimated to be 462 square metres. An optimal amount of waterspace for the District is suggested by the Sport England FC to be 1,251 sq.m square metres of waterspace for

**community use (or 9.75 sq.m per 1000 people). Even accounting for the role pools in the education sector can play in meeting some demand in the community, the District appears to be significantly under-provided. The availability of pools outside the District (in Gloucester and Thornbury, for example) is noted.**

**4.49 The above figures do not reflect the role of the Stratton Park Lido in the summer months, which is considerable in fine weather.**

**4.50 Quantity: Whilst existing pool stock is largely meeting local demands, an increase in population will place future demands upon venues, as explained further in Section 8.**

**4.36 Quality: The existing Council-controlled pools are in good condition and well-used. However, the quality of the pool at Archway School is deteriorating.**

**4.37 Accessibility: There are only small parts of the District outside a reasonable travel time to one of these two venues. However, some of the excluded parts of the District may host significant planned new development, such as around Sharpness and the Cam/Wisloe area.**

## 5 SPORTS HALLS

### General

5.1 This section considers the provision of sports halls within the local authority with respect to their quantity, quality, and accessibility. Issues and options for sports hall provision will then be summarised.

5.2 Sports halls can accommodate a diverse range of sports and recreational activities. They are flexible spaces that can be used for activities that include basketball, badminton, indoor football, football training, cricket winter training, table tennis, gymnastics, netball, and a host of other training activities.

### Quantity

5.3 Background research indicates several sports halls within the local authority area. Some of these will be largely or wholly un-available for use by the general community. Halls will also be of varying sizes and utility for use by the community.

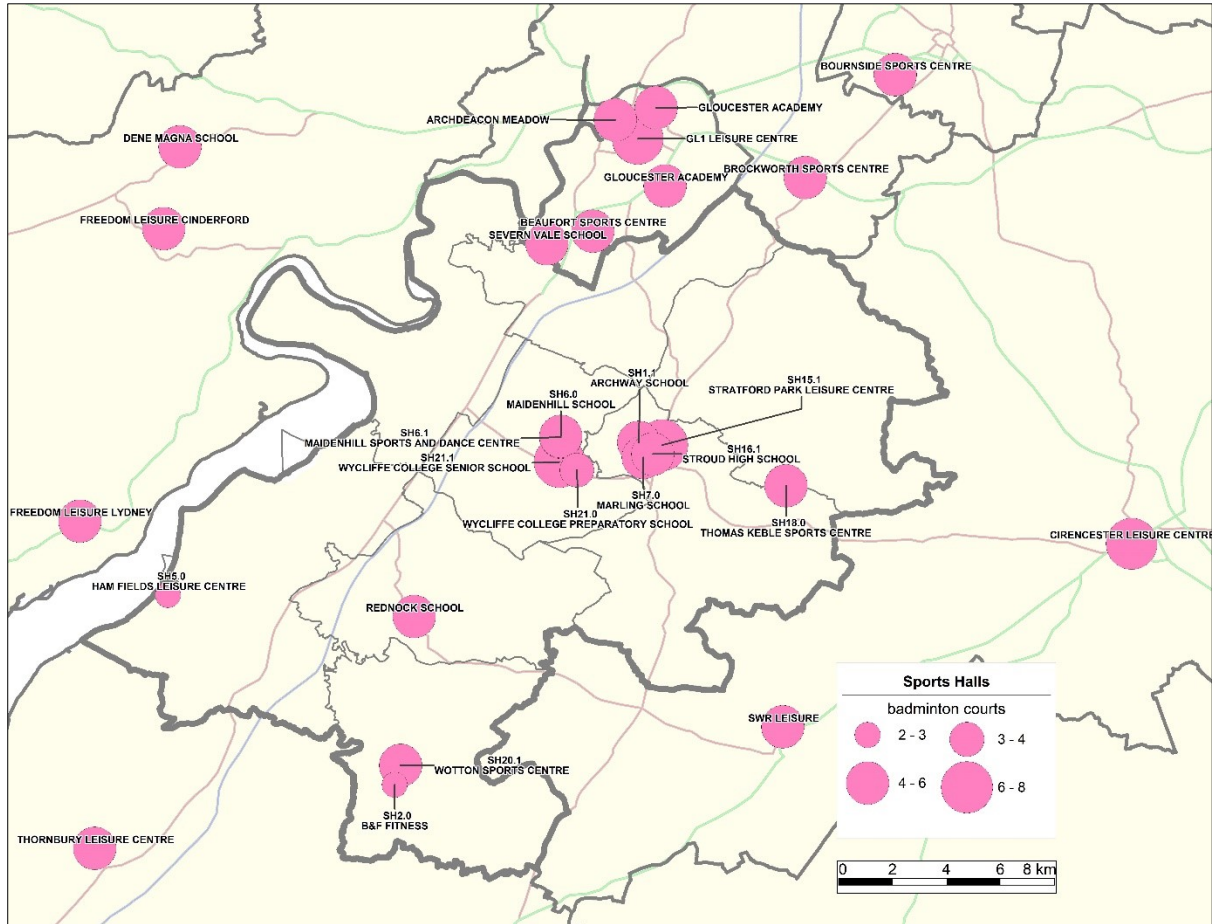
5.4 This section does not cover village and community halls, which also make a valuable contribution to providing recreation opportunities and especially in rural areas, where it may not be feasible to provide conventional sports halls. Such facilities are covered in Section 7.

### Existing provision (general)

5.5 **Figure 5.1** below shows the location and description of key community sports halls within and just outside the District. **Table 5.1** lists all the sports halls in District of which the study has a record. Halls of the size of at least 3-badminton courts in parallel are big enough to host activities such as basketball and 5-a-side football. Smaller halls are better suited to supporting activities such as keep fit, and martial arts which do not require the dimensions required by other sports.

# Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

Figure 5.1: Location of key sports halls





**Table 5.1: Known sports halls (by type<sup>11</sup>). Categorisation adopted from the Sport England Active Places Power database- (see Appendix 3)**

Name	Facility Reference	Facility Sub Type	Badminton courts	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built
ARCHWAY SCHOOL	SH1.0	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	Local Authority (in house)	1953
ARCHWAY SCHOOL	SH1.1	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	Local Authority (in house)	1998
B&F FITNESS	SH2.0	Activity Hall	2	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	2014
BEAUDESERT PARK SCHOOL	SH2.1	Activity Hall	0	Private Use	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)	
FOCUS SCHOOL	SH3.0	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	
FRAMPTON-ON-SEVERN COMMUNITY CENTRE	SH4.0	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Community Organisation	
HAM FIELDS LEISURE CENTRE	SH5.0	Activity Hall	2	Registered Membership use	Other	Trust	1974
MAIDENHILL SCHOOL	SH6.0	Main	4	Private Use	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	2010

11

Main	Main multi-sports hall(s) within site. Minimum size is marked out as 3 Badminton courts and above. Dimensions Min width 18m, max width 70m, Min Length 27m Max length 90m
Activity Hall	This is a multi-sports hall (below 3 badminton courts) where activities take place that does not qualify as a main hall and is not a purpose-built studio. It can include Community/Village halls. It should be between the following dimensions: min width 9m, max width 18m, min length 17m, max length 26m. It may or may not be marked out.

Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

Name	Facility Reference	Facility Sub Type	Badminton courts	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built
MAIDENHILL SPORTS AND DANCE CENTRE	SH6.1	Main	4	Pay and Play	Foundation School	TBC (Stonehouse Sports Centre Ltd)	2011
MARLING SCHOOL	SH7.0	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	2004
NAILSWORTH RECREATION CENTRE	SH8.1	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Controlled School	School/College/University (in house)	
NAILSWORTH RECREATION CENTRE	SH8.0	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Controlled School	School/College/University (in house)	
NAILSWORTH SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS	SH9.0	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	
RANDWICK VILLAGE HALL	SH10.0	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Local Authority (in house)	1960
REDNOCK SCHOOL			4				
SHEEPSCOMBE VILLAGE HALL	SH12.0	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	
ST ROSES SCHOOL	SH13.0	Activity Hall	0	Private Use	Non-Maintained Special School	School/College/University (in house)	
STINCHCOMBE VILLAGE HALL	SH14.0	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	1956
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE	SH15.1	Main	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1975
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE	SH15.0	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1975
STROUD HIGH SCHOOL	SH16.1	Main	4	Private Use	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2000
STROUD HIGH SCHOOL	SH16.0	Activity Hall	0	Private Use	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1945
THE ACORN SCHOOL	SH17.0	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)	

Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

<b>Name</b>	<b>Facility Reference</b>	<b>Facility Sub Type</b>	<b>Badminton courts</b>	<b>Access Type</b>	<b>Ownership Type</b>	<b>Management Type</b>	<b>Year Built</b>
THOMAS KEBLE SPORTS CENTRE	SH18.0	Main	4	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Commercial (School Letting Solutions)	2007
WOODCHESTER VILLAGE HALL	SH19.0	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	
WOTTON SPORTS CENTRE	SH20.0	Activity Hall	1	Pay and Play	Community Organisation	Commercial Management	1984
WOTTON SPORTS CENTRE	SH20.1	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community Organisation	Commercial Management	1984

## Availability/community use<sup>12</sup>

5.6 The list comprises a range of provision covering local authority, education, and voluntary facilities. Only a proportion will be available for the general community to use.

5.7 In terms of utility for the general community it is the local authority provision at Stratford Park that is most significant, and which is owned by the District Council, and managed on its behalf by Everyone Active. There are also halls available and in regular de facto community use at Maidenhill School (Stroud), Thomas Keble School (Eastcombe), Archway School (Stroud), Katherine Lady Berkley (KLB- Wotton), and Rednock School (Dursley). Previous contracts for the management of both Maidenhill and Thomas Keble sports centres held by the District for their management outside school hours have finished. Alternative management regimes have been established.

5.8 The hall (and overall sports centre) at KLB School is managed by the 'Sport Wotton' Trust, since the District Council relinquished its management involvement. Rednock and Archway Schools, are managed directly by the schools, and have significant community use primarily for club and organised activity.

5.9 There are other 'large' (4-court+) sports halls at Marling School (Stroud) and Wycliffe College (Stonehouse) that have community use when not used by the schools. Access by the community to these venues will be through one-to-one agreements between a club/group and the school concerned. Normally the club/group concerned will need to have public indemnity cover in place.

5.10 The extent to which facilities are open to community use will, amongst other things, depend on the times they are open to the general public and clubs/groups. For local authority-controlled leisure centres not on school campuses, these opening hours will generally encompass daytimes and evenings throughout the week. However, for school and college-based venues, this will be limited to times when facilities are not required for curriculum use.

5.11 Available information on times of availability has been checked as far as possible, although the policies and practices in respect of community availability of school facilities can change.

5.12 The Stratton Park Leisure Centre sports hall is open on weekdays between 06.00 and 22.30, with slightly reduced hours at the weekend. Other key sports halls are on school sites and opening hours for community use are more limited- generally speaking, between c.18.00 to 21/22.00 during the week, with more limited opening at weekends.

5.13 The following facilities (**Table 5.2**) are deemed to be the most significant sports halls for community use within the District, judged by their size and availability. The venues appear in the table in order of the estimated significance for community use.

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<sup>12</sup> See the end of Section 1 for an explanation of this term.

**Table 5.2: Sports halls in local authority considered to offer significant community use**

Name	Facility Reference	Facility Sub Type <sup>13</sup>	Badminton courts	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE	SH15.1 + 15.1	Main + Activity Hall	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1975
WOTTON SPORTS CENTRE	SH20.0 + 20.1	Main + Activity Hall	4 + 1	Pay and Play	Community Organisation	Commercial Management	1984
MAIDENHILL SPORTS AND DANCE CENTRE	SH6.1	Main	4	Pay and Play	Foundation School	TBC (Stonehouse Sports Centre Ltd)	2011
THOMAS KEBLE SPORTS CENTRE	SH18.0	Main	4	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Commercial Management (School Letting Solutions)	2007
ARCHWAY SCHOOL	SH1.0 + 1.1	Main and Activity Hall	4 + 1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	Local Authority (in house)	1953
REDNOCK SCHOOL			4				
MARLING SCHOOL	SH7.0	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	2004

13

Main	Main multi-sports hall(s) within site. Minimum size is marked out as 3 Badminton courts and above. Dimensions Min width 18m, max width 70m, Min Length 27m Max length 90m
Activity Hall	This is a multi-sports hall (below 3 badminton courts) where activities take place that does not qualify as a main hall and is not a purpose-built studio. It can include Community/Village halls. It should be between the following dimensions: min width 9m, max width 18m, min length 17m, max length 26m. It may or may not be marked out.

5.14 It is those facilities that have embedded policy and/or practice of community use that have the longest opening hours for the general community, as well as the greatest levels of throughput.

5.15 A badminton court is used by Sport England as a unit for indicating the size of a sports hall. There are estimated currently to be the equivalent of 39 conventional badminton courts hosted in the various sports halls across the local authority offering significant community use. The majority of these courts will be located in the larger halls – principally, those with four or more courts.

5.16 Only 6 of the above courts are controlled by the local authority (at Stratton Park). Other than Stratford Park, all key provision is therefore based on education sites.

### **Sport England Facilities Calculator (FC)**

5.17 The Facilities Calculator is a Sport England web-based tool which allows users to estimate the potential numbers of basic community facilities (such as sports halls and swimming pools) that might be generated by large-scale housing/population growth in a given location. The calculator must be used with caution and an understanding what it is and isn't designed to do. For example, its estimations do not account for existing provision. In addition, as it is based on national data, it will not account for local circumstances. Nevertheless, it is a useful analytical tool when used in conjunction with types of analysis.

5.18 Based on the current estimated population the FC suggests an optimal provision within the of 32 court spaces (the equivalent of 8 x 4-badminton court size sports halls) for community use- 0.27 courts per 1000 population) for an estimated 7,046 VPWPP. This compares with an existing 39 courts in halls offering significant community use, but of which only 6 are controlled by the local authority (at Stratton Park). Facilities at Archway School (Stroud), Wotton (KLB School) and Dursley (Rednock School), Thomas Keble School, and Maidenhill Sports and Dance Centre can also be factored in, given the strong record of community use and management; this would then offer 29 court spaces.

5.19 There are synergies between local authority and education sectors- provision at schools can benefit clubs that might otherwise struggle to find sufficient time and space for their needs at local authority venues. For example, facilities at Archway or Marling Schools can be an alternative to Stratford Park Leisure Centre - whilst provision at the two school venues is somewhat basic compared with Stratford Park, it is likely to be cheaper- an attraction to many clubs and groups wishing to block-book.

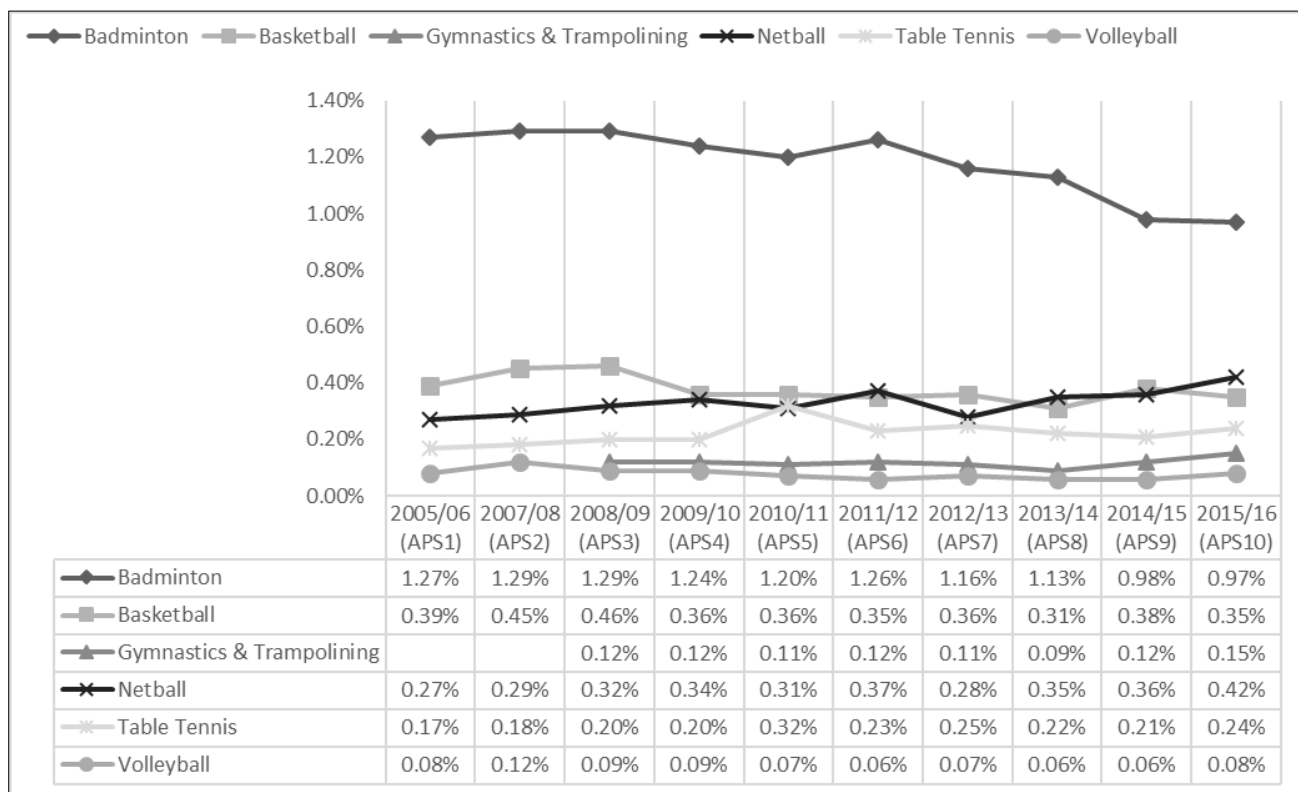
5.20 Sports halls are potentially very important venues for a range of sports, including Badminton; Basketball; Gymnastics and Trampolining; Netball (indoor and outdoor); Table Tennis; Volleyball (indoor and outdoor). Sports halls are also often used for indoor football and cricket training, and 'Futsal', represents the evolution of traditional indoor 5/6-a-side competitive football. There are other sports activities, such as roller skating/hockey that can use appropriate surfaces; and, walls can be designed to allow for indoor climbing.

5.21 The (potential) importance of sports halls as venues for many of these sports is illustrated below, by reference to Sport England Active People Survey data. The Active People Surveys (APS) and the method of sampling is explained in **Appendix 2**. Amongst other activities covered, these surveys provide data on the number of adults regularly taking part in Badminton; Basketball; Gymnastics and Trampolining; Netball; Table Tennis; and Volleyball.

5.22 Data (along with relevant comments) are provided at National (England); Regional (South West), Sub-regional (Gloucestershire); and, local (Stroud District) level.

**Figure 5.2a: Adults participating in key sports hall activities at least once a week.**

**National Picture: England**

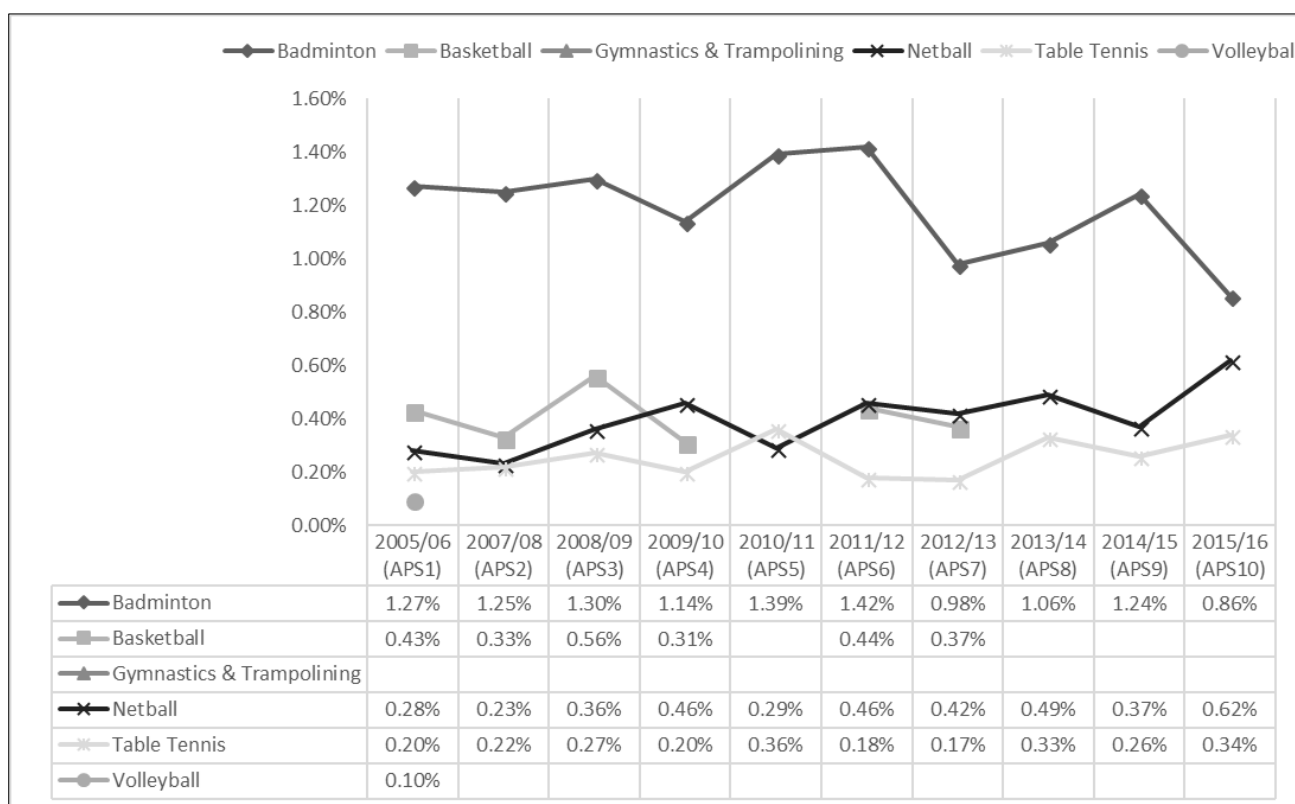


**Comments:** There are incomplete annual data point series for ‘Gymnastics & Trampolining’. The ranges and averages for each of the sports are:

Sport	Average	Min	Max
Badminton	1.18%	0.97%	1.29%
Basketball	0.38%	0.31%	0.46%
Gymnastics & Trampolining	0.12%	0.09%	0.15%
Netball	0.33%	0.27%	0.42%
Table Tennis	0.22%	0.17%	0.32%
Volleyball	0.08%	0.06%	0.12%

**Figure 5.2b: Adults participating in key sports hall activities at least once a week.**

**Regional Picture: South West**



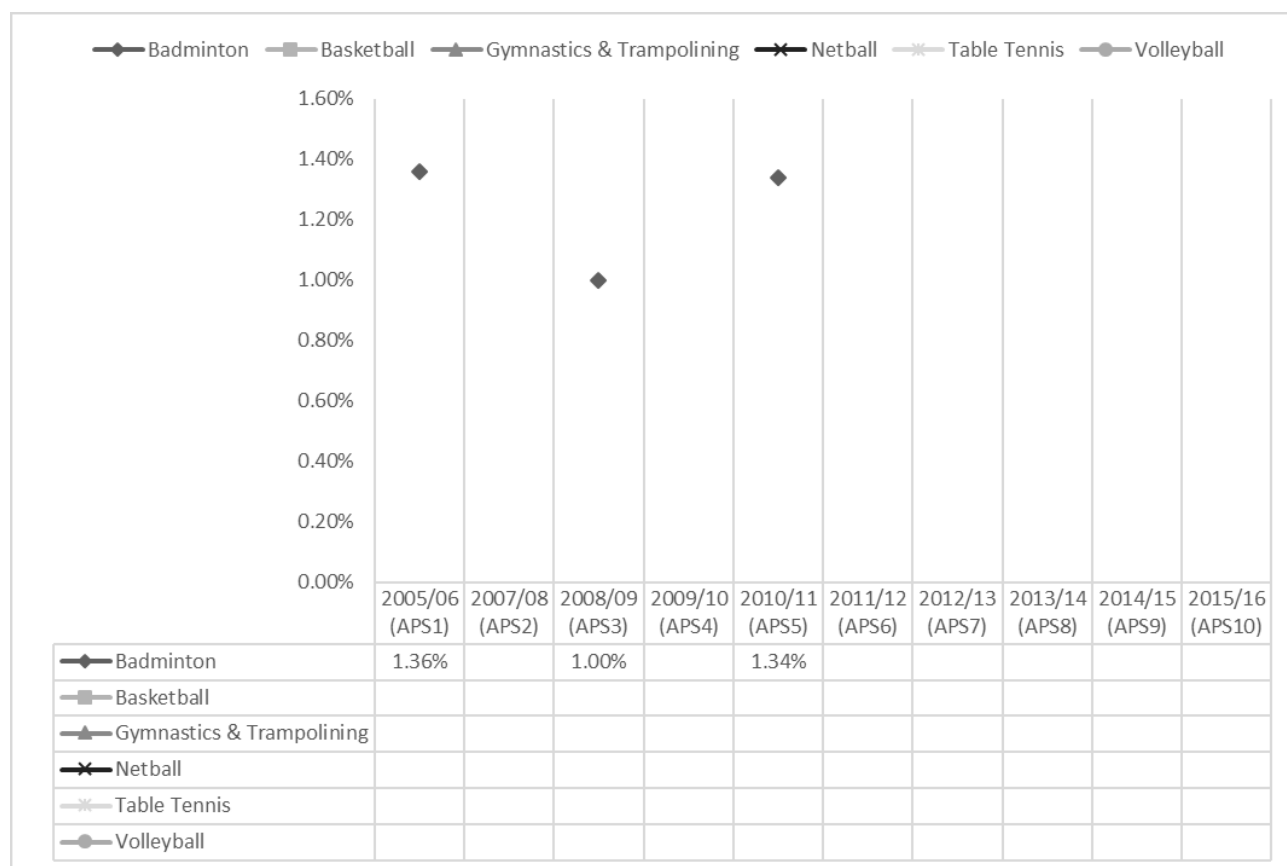
**Comments:** There are no data points, for Gymnastics and Trampoline and incomplete data point series for 'Basketball' and 'Volleyball'. The ranges and averages for each of the sports are:

Sport	Average	Min	Max
Badminton	1.19%	0.86%	1.42%
Basketball	0.41%	0.31%	0.56%
Gymnastics & Trampolining	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Netball	0.40%	0.23%	0.62%
Table Tennis	0.25%	0.17%	0.36%
Volleyball	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%



**Figure 5.2c: Adults participating in key sports hall activities at least once a week.**

**Sub-regional Picture: Gloucestershire**



**Comments:** There are no data points for anything other than an incomplete set for ‘Badminton’:

Sport	Average	Min	Max
Badminton	1.23%	1.00%	1.36%

**Comments:** There is only a limited data point spread for ‘Badminton’. The range and average for Badminton is 1.23%

**Local Picture: Stroud District**

**Comments:** There are no data points at all for any of the relevant sports at this geographic level.

**Commentary**

5.23 In the absence of complete or near complete datasets below the Regional level, it has been judged to estimate the local (Stroud District) adult participation levels largely from the regional data set.

5.24 Although the value of data points along the 10-year time span of the Active People fluctuates over the years, for consistency it has been judged that taking the available mean averages for each sport is the most appropriate basis for estimating local participation. With the following results:

Sport	Average	Estimated adult participation in Stroud District
Badminton	1.19%	1,154
Basketball	0.41%	398
Gymnastics & Trampolining	0.12% (Average for England)	116
Netball	0.40%	388
Table Tennis	0.25%	242
Volleyball	0.10%	97

5.25 These do not appear to be high and/or significant numbers, but when the resultant space/facility requirements are examined the implications can be appreciated. For example, if the needs of the estimated 1,154 adults playing badminton at least once a week (and probably for the better part of at least an hour) were measured in respect of a standard 4-court sports hall<sup>14</sup> it would fill two such venues without, fully satisfying demand.

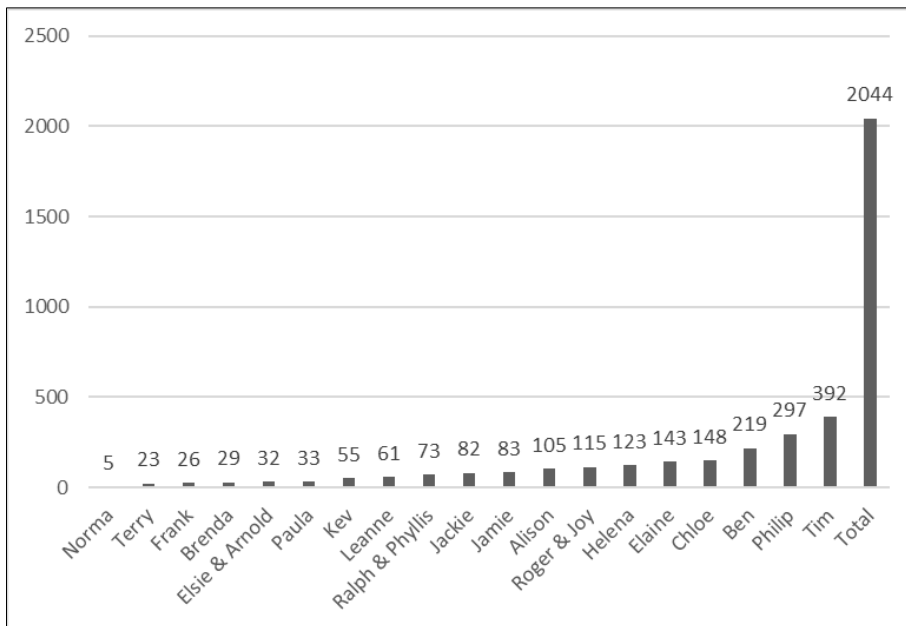
5.26 As an added check on the above estimated participation levels, the Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England have been used. The data and tool are explained further in **Appendix 2** of this report, but the 'names' relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2., Market Segmentation data suggest the number of adults in the District likely to take part is as follows.

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<sup>14</sup> For example, if 1,154 adults played badminton each week, and the matches were equally divided between singles and doubles, then this would result in 385 x 1-hour sessions of court space to meet this demand (including turnaround time). If this need was measured in the context of a 4-court dual use community sports hall (with hours of community availability 4.5 x 5 midweek, and 24 over weekends = 46.5 hours) this would provide 186 hours of court time. In short, this level of demand would be enough to fill out the above sports hall by a multiple of 2.10. This excludes consideration of several important factors, including the need for sports hall management to cater for other activities; and, the preference of many players to opt for certain core hours within overall times of availability, which would further squeeze times of practical availability.

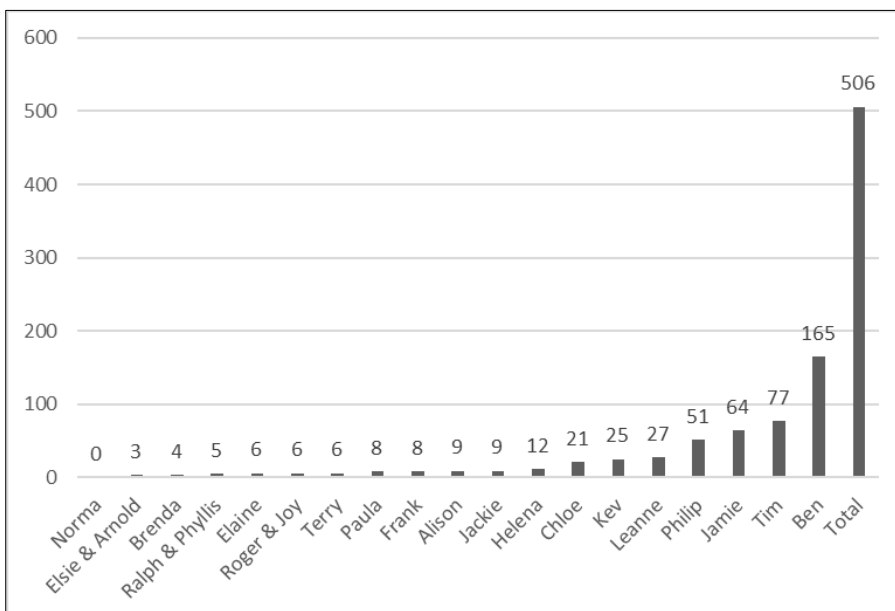
**Figure 5.3 (a-f): Representation of Sport England (adult) Market Segments in the District who have the propensity to play key sports hall activities**

**a) Badminton**



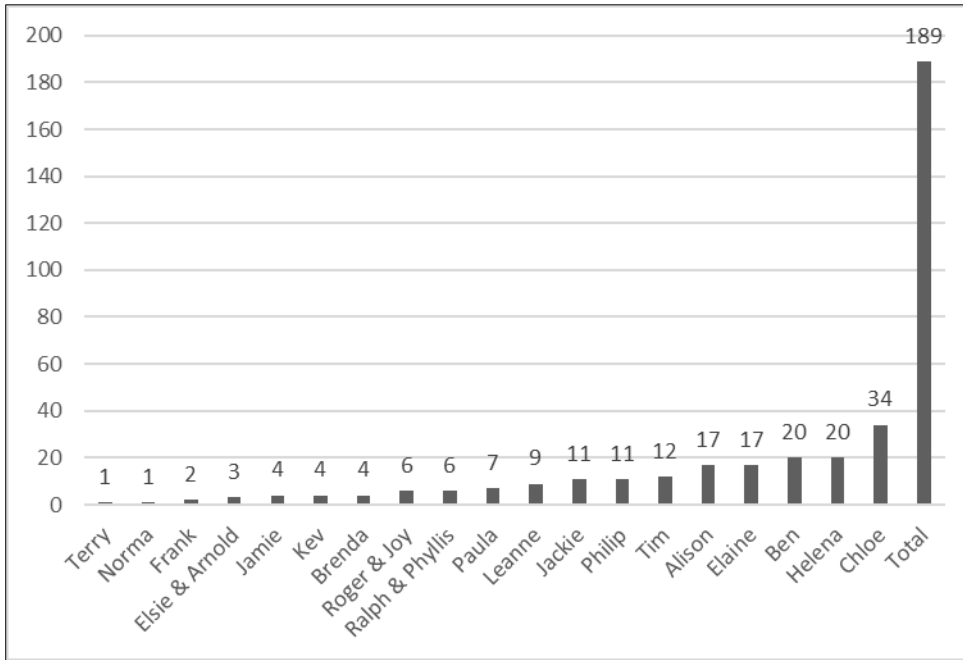
**Comment:** 2,044 (significantly above the Active People average value).

**b) Basketball**



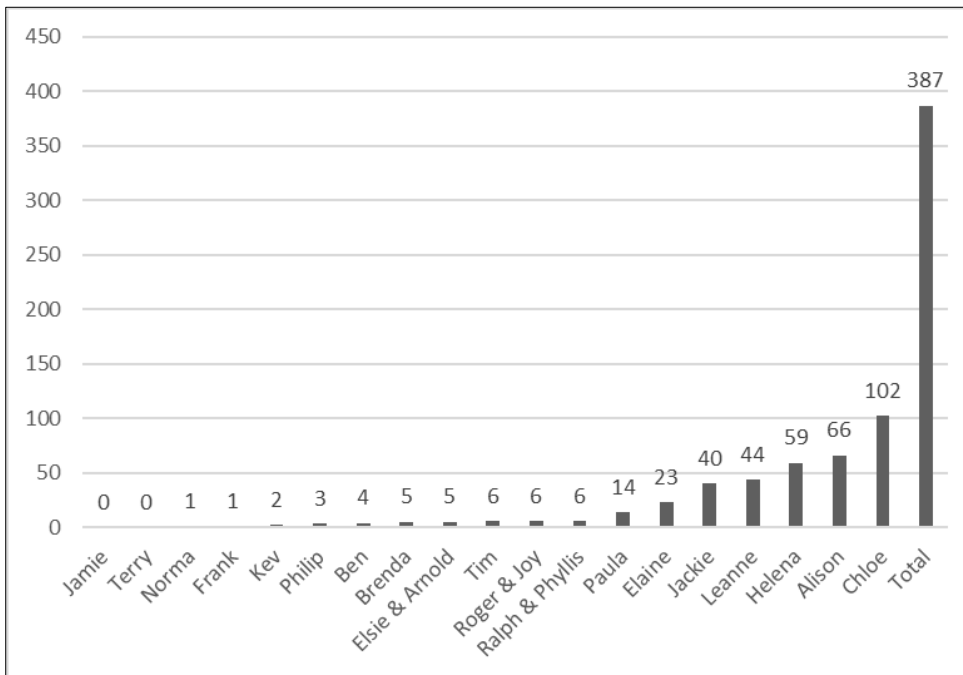
**Comment:** 506 (Significantly above the Active People average value).

**c) Gymnastics and Trampolining**



**Comment:** 189 (close to the Active People average value).

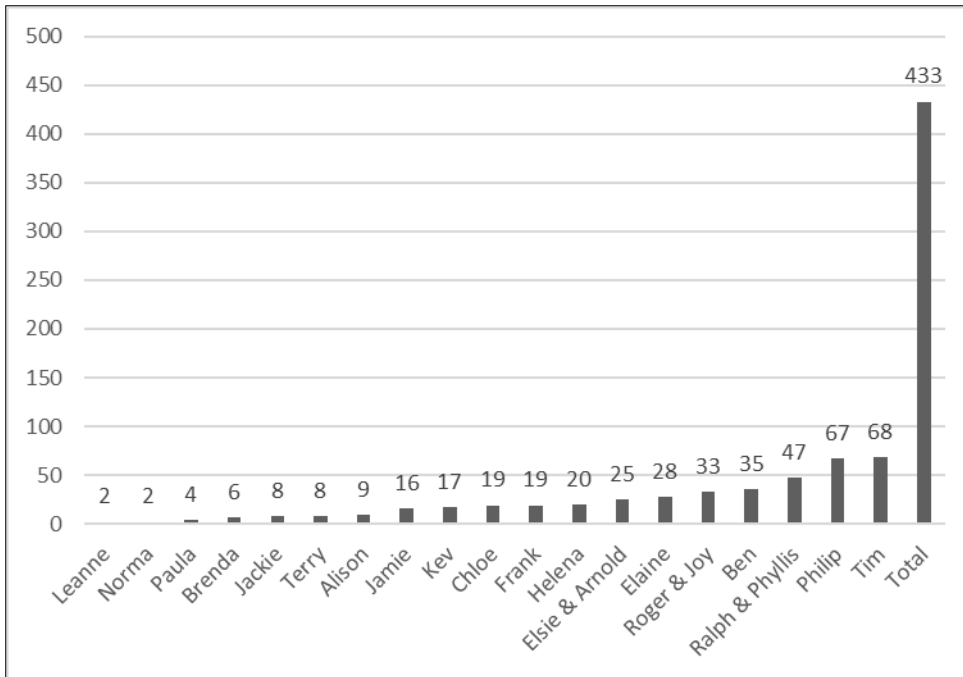
**d) Netball**



**Comment:** 387 (very near the Active People average value).

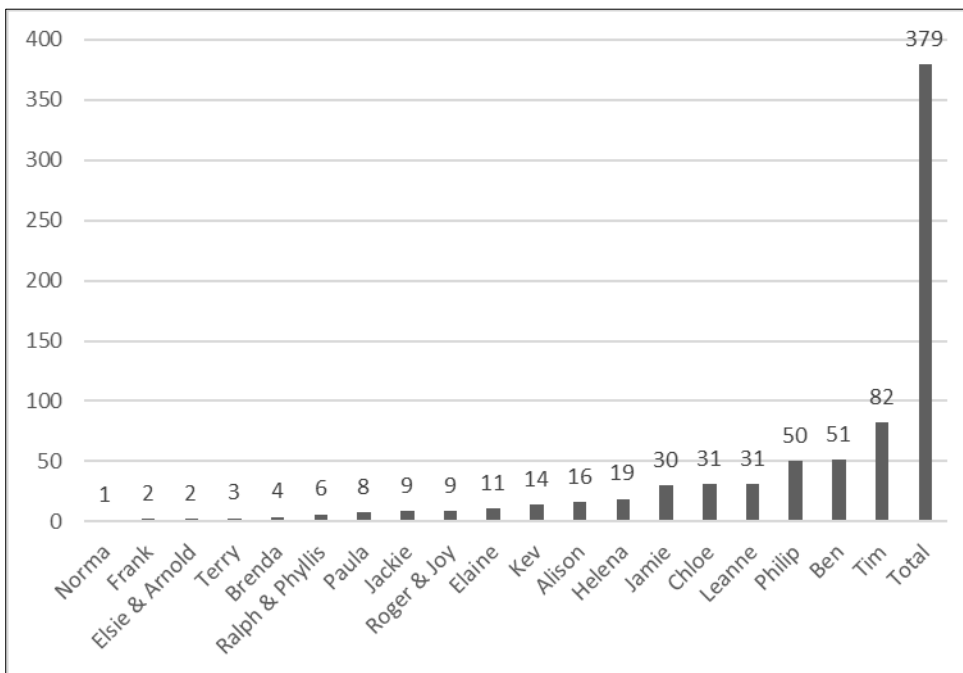
**e) Table Tennis**

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment



**Comment:** 433 (significantly above the Active People average value).

### f) Volleyball



**Comment:** 379 (significantly above the Active People average value).

5.27 In most of the cases the Market Segmentation estimates are higher than those provided by Active People, suggesting that for many sports there is potential for increases in participation. For Badminton, the difference between the Market Segmentation and Active People figures used is  $2,044 - 1,154 = 890$ . This additional amount would be enough to fill another 1.6 4-court sports hall, using the same assumptions as before.

5.28 The sports reviewed above can be played in venues other large sports halls. For example, badminton can take place in other venues with appropriate height clearance and flooring. Table tennis clubs can operate from a variety of venues. Throughout the country gymnastics and trampolining clubs are beginning to find venues in warehouse-type venues, away from leisure centres

### **Views of Key Stakeholders**

#### ***The views of local residents***

5.28 The household survey conducted as part of the overall study identified that Sport/Leisure Centres (which include sports halls) are used by many people both frequently and regularly. Although only 1% of respondents said that they used them almost every day; 25% stated use at about once a week; and, a further 5% at least monthly. However, 68% of respondents suggested that they used leisure centres less often, or never.

5.29 When looking solely at regular users (defined here as those who use facilities at least once/month), analysis reveals that around 80% use facilities at least once a week- suggesting a high fidelity and level of patronage amongst this group.

5.30 The consultation also suggested that 31% of respondents felt there were insufficient such venues, although 67% felt there were enough (with 1% suggesting there were too many).

#### ***Views of Parish and Town Councils, and others***

5.31 Although several local councils responding to the survey conducted for this assessment referred to indoor facilities, there were few specific references to sports halls, although a general concern was expressed by some of the rural councils about an overall lack of access to sports facilities.

5.32 The following local councils made comments of particular relevance to sports halls:

- Wotton-under-Edge Town Council: The (Wotton) schools' sports halls could be used for Easter and summer activities and some adult education classes could take place. The Wotton Community Sports Foundation is setting a very high standard of outdoor/indoor sports activities for the whole community provided through volunteers and fundraising but still further work to be done.
- Harwicke Parish Council: There is insufficient indoor space for sporting/leisure activities.
- Stonehouse Town Council: New sports centre and changing room facilities required at Oldends Lane.

### ***Views of National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of Sport and the County Sports Partnership***

5.33 Active Gloucestershire suggests there is there is next to no indoor facilities in the Quedgeley / Kingsway / Hardwicke area. As such there is no gym, swimming pools and limited *sports halls* (Severn Vale).

5.34 Despite a considerable amount of chasing there was a very poor response level from NGBS representing sports that may use sports halls.

### ***Views of local clubs***

5.35 The following local clubs with an existing or potential interest in the use of sports hall space for their activities have responded to the club survey.

5.36 **Stroud Ladies Netball Club:** There needs to be additional venues with more than one netball court available, to enable matches and training simultaneously. Training sessions usually involve two to three teams. There are only 5 locations in Gloucestershire having multiple (side-by-side) indoor courts, and two of them are private schools with restricted availability. There are currently 50+ netball clubs playing in Gloucestershire with the majority having more than 1 team

5.37 **Stroud Handball Club:** The club uses Stratton Park Leisure Centre as its main venue, but also Marling and Stroud High Schools for training. The numbers have increased over the last 3 years as the profile of the sport has increased. The club has been working with local schools and seen a large increase in interest from juniors. Based on enquiries and interest, the club anticipates a continuation in the increase in members, but requires more resources e.g. affordable court space/time in order to cater for the demands. The requirements for a full-size Handball court are 44m x 24m, which cannot be catered for by any of the sports centres within Stroud, or indeed the County. For junior competitions, the club requires a venue with two courts (not full size). Therefore, the club would like to see an expansion of an existing sports centre, or development of a new centre which could cater for the needs of the sport.

5.38 **Randwick Netball Club:** The Club's main venue is the Archway School, but within the District, it also uses Stratton Park Leisure Centre for training. Adults have decreased due to Netball fun league & lack of facilities available. Juniors have increased due to wide spread good reputation of the club.

### **Quality of provision**

#### **Site visits**

5.39 Facility inspections were made to the key leisure centres within the District, including all those containing community sports halls (at Stratton Park, Wotton School, Maidenhill School, Thomas Keble, Rednock School, and Archway School). As summarised in Section 3, the overall view was that the quality of the sports halls at these principal venues is generally good. However, for some of the school-based venues there are issues in respect of related facilities (as described in Section 3).

5.40 Generally, there can be shortcomings in design in respect of sports halls when considering the needs of certain sports. Some needs might be relatively inexpensive to cater for if considered at an early stage in the design process for new facilities. Examples are storage facilities for resident clubs and floor fixtures (such as for volleyball posts).

## Views of key stakeholders

### Views of local residents

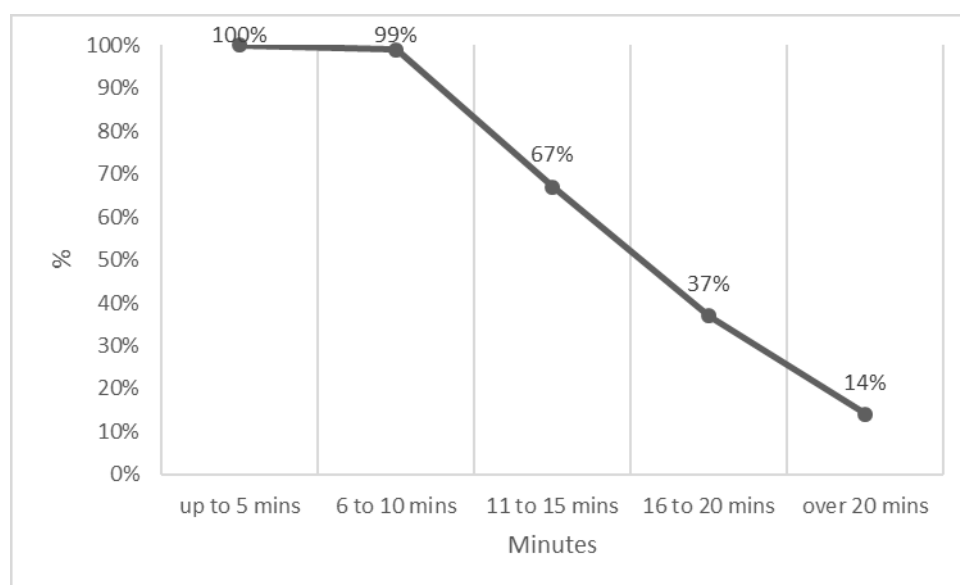
5.41 The Household consultation conducted as part of the overall study identified that 55% of respondents felt that Sport/Leisure Centres (which includes sports halls) were of a Good or Very Good quality. 38% considered such facilities to be average quality, with 7% of respondents viewing them to be either Poor or Very Poor.

### Access

#### Views of local residents

5.42 The household survey consultation conducted as part of the overall study identified that where households make use of sports/leisure centres 67% are prepared to travel up to 15 minutes to make use of such facilities. 37% of these would travel up to 20 minutes and 14% more than 20 minutes. This indicates the majority (75 percentile) being somewhere around 20 minutes. The most popular mode being by car - see **Figure 5.4**.

**Figure 5.4: Preparedness to travel to sports and leisure centres**



#### What is an acceptable drivetime to a sports hall?

5.43 Data underpinning Sport England modelling suggests a 20-minute drive or walk time catchments. The 20-minute catchment is based on data obtained from previous national research by Sport England, which concluded that a 20-minute drive time represented 90% of the user catchment on average for sports halls. However, the same research indicated that around 60 per cent of users were only prepared to travel up to 10 minutes.

5.44 If 15 minutes is adopted as a travel time to sports halls acceptable to 75% of the population, the resultant catchment for the sole council-controlled sports hall complex (Stratton Park) is shown on **Figure 5.5**. The catchments of significant neighbouring venues outside the District are also shown.

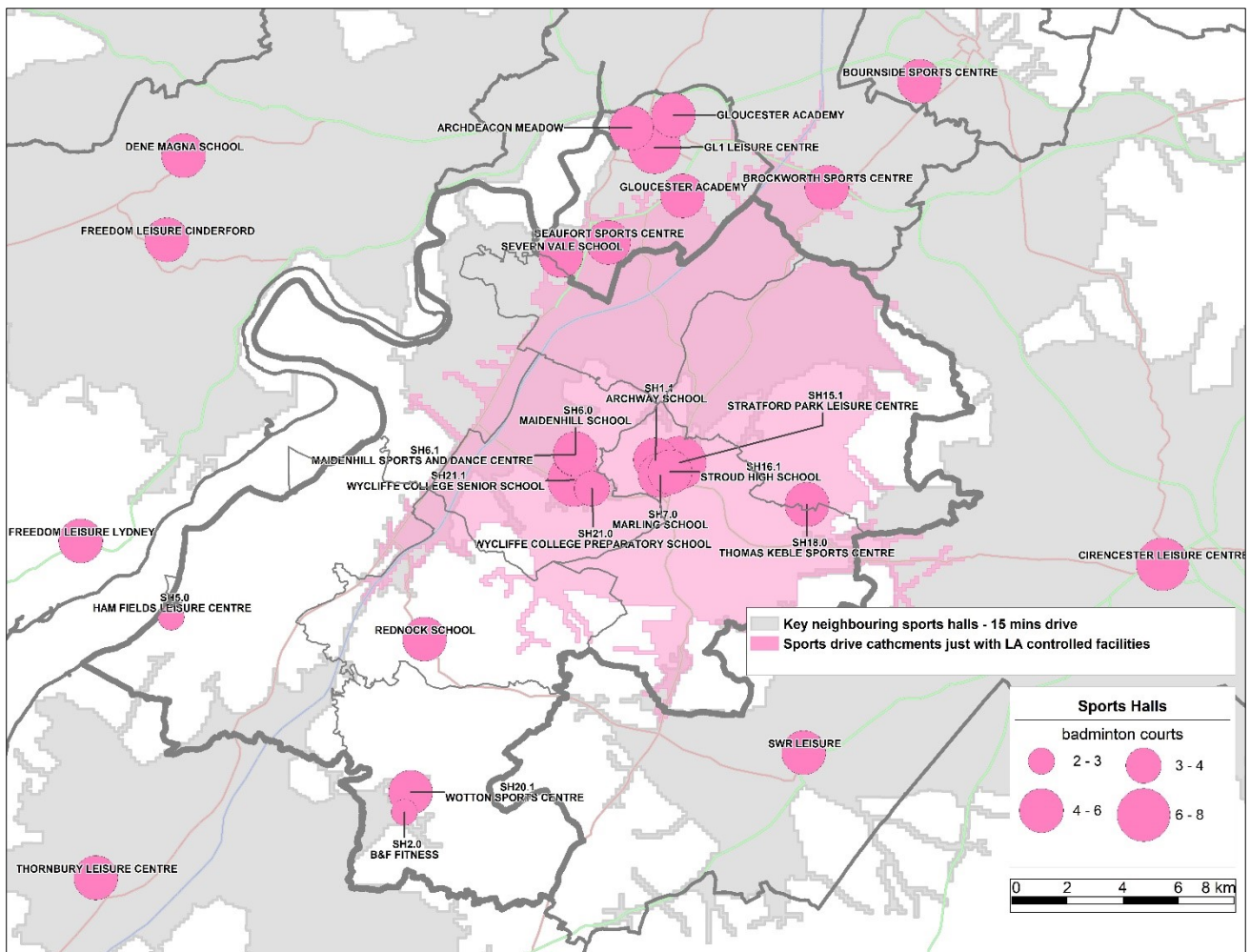


## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

The catchments are based on assumed average speeds for different classes of roads. The map shows there is a large area in the south of the District falling outside both the Stratton Park complex, as well as those of neighbouring facilities. It is estimated that the part of the District not lying within the Stratton Park catchment has c.44,000 residents.

5.45 This shows the importance of ensuring that sports halls facilities (such as those at Wotton School and Rednock School (Dursley)) remain fully open to community use. This principle also applies to school facilities near or in Stroud, such as Maidenhill, Thomas Keble, Marling, and Archway. All these schools help to meet demand that cannot be satisfied at Stratton Park- such facilities are frequently best suited to accommodating clubs through regular block bookings.

**Figure 5.5: 15-minute drive catchments from key sports halls in neighbouring areas (within and outside the District)**



### **Future demand for sports halls activities (based on ONS projections)**

5.46 ONS population projections predict a rise in the District's overall population from 119,074 in 2018, to 135,429 in 2040- an increase of 16,355 persons. The adult (16 years +) population is predicted to rise by 14,914 in that same period.

5.47 Based on participation rates used in this section it is anticipated that the growth in adult population might yield the following order of additional participants by 2040:

- Badminton: 283 additional adults;
- Basketball: 61 additional adults;
- Gymnastics & Trampolining: 18 additional adults;
- Netball: 60 additional adults;
- Table Tennis: 37 additional adults; and,
- Volleyball: 15 additional adults.

5.48 Rather than plan individually for such sports it is better to integrate their needs (and others) into a 'standard' of provision for sports halls, and this is addressed in Section 8.

5.49 The local impact of planned new housing growth on participation is discussed in Section 8.

### **Plans for future new provision**

5.50 The study and associated consultation have not identified any formally proposed new or improved sports halls, although it is understood that the Wycliffe College is considering improvements to its junior school's indoor sports facilities. Also, the Marling School has stated a desire to have an artificial turf pitch, to enable more efficient use between indoor and outdoor facilities.

5.51 The most significant potential impact on the availability of sports halls for community use is the District Council's decision not to renew existing management agreements in respect of existing indoor sports facilities at both Maidenhill and Thomas Keble Schools. However, as described earlier, the replacement management regimes will hopefully maintain at least the same level of community access to both these facilities.

### **Key messages from this section**

5.52 **Quantity: There are some activities that can be housed in sports halls, but which sometimes benefit from alternative accommodation of a suitable type and location, and which can be better devoted to the bespoke needs of those activities. Activities such as gymnastics and table tennis may be cases in point.**

5.53 **Quantity: An optimal amount of sports hall space within the District is suggested to be 32 court spaces (the equivalent of 8 4-court sports halls for community use- 0.27 courts per 1000**

population). This compares with an existing 39 courts in halls offering significant community use, but of which only 6 (at Stratton Park) are controlled by the local authority. Facilities at Archway School (Stroud), Wotton (KLB School), Dursley (Rednock School), Thomas Keble School, and Maidenhill Sports and Dance Centre (Stroud) can also be factored in, given the strong record of community use and management; this would then offer 29 court spaces.

5.54 **Quantity:** Future housing and population growth will place additional demands on sports halls, as explained further in Section 8.

5.55 **Quality:** Some of the older school facilities (such as those at Rednock and Archway Schools) are in need of upgrade and repair.

5.56 **Accessibility:** With the withdrawal of District Council involvement from sports halls at Maidenhill and Thomas Keble Schools, the remaining Council-controlled venue at Stratford Park will only offer be accessible to around two thirds of the District's residents. The continued availability of school-based sports halls for local residents and clubs is therefore very important.

## 6 OTHER INDOOR/BUILT FACILITIES

### General

6.1 Beyond indoor swimming pools and sports halls (perhaps combined into larger leisure centres) there are other forms of more specialist 'built' sports facilities, and these include indoor tennis courts, indoor bowls greens, athletics tracks, and Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs). The last of these is covered by a separate report as an output of the overall GI, Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study.

6.2 The above facilities can sometimes be found as part of much larger leisure centre complexes, as well as standalone venues.

6.3 **Lawn Tennis** can be played on a variety of surfaces, both indoors and outdoors. Indoor tennis facilities require a significant amount of space: the space required for a single court is around the equivalent of a 4-badminton court sports hall. They tend to be provided as part of a larger leisure complex, and usually on a commercial or club basis.

6.4 **Bowls** can be played either outdoors or indoors. Whilst most provision continues to be outdoors using traditional turf rinks, there are also many indoor facilities across the country using artificial surfaces, which are available for play throughout the year and in the evenings. It is these indoor facilities that are the subject of this section. There are other varieties of indoor bowls that take place in venues like village halls and community centres, using portable mats. These are also outside the scope of this section. There will be some cross-over between indoor and outdoor bowls in terms of winter and summer activity (for example), and this needs to be accounted for in assessing demand for provision.

6.5 **Athletics** includes facilities required for participating in activities collectively known as track and field. Running, obviously, also takes place off-track. Synthetic surfaces are now generally required for competitive track and field athletics.

6.6 **Cycling** facilities include those for traditional track-based cycling, but also bmx and other venue-based forms of the activity. Issues concerning provision for general recreation and utility cycling are covered within the Community and Stakeholder consultation report, as well as in the existing local plan; and, the cycling and walking infrastructure plan prepared by the District Council. Other relevant recommendations affecting cycling in general will also be included within the Green Infrastructure and Open Space report of study.

6.7 **Squash** facilities cover indoor provision for both squash and racketball. Provision can be stand-alone but is more normally part of larger sports and leisure complexes.

6.8 **Figure 6.1** shows the location of all known indoor tennis, indoor bowls, synthetic athletics tracks, track-based cycling and squash facilities in and around the borders of the District.

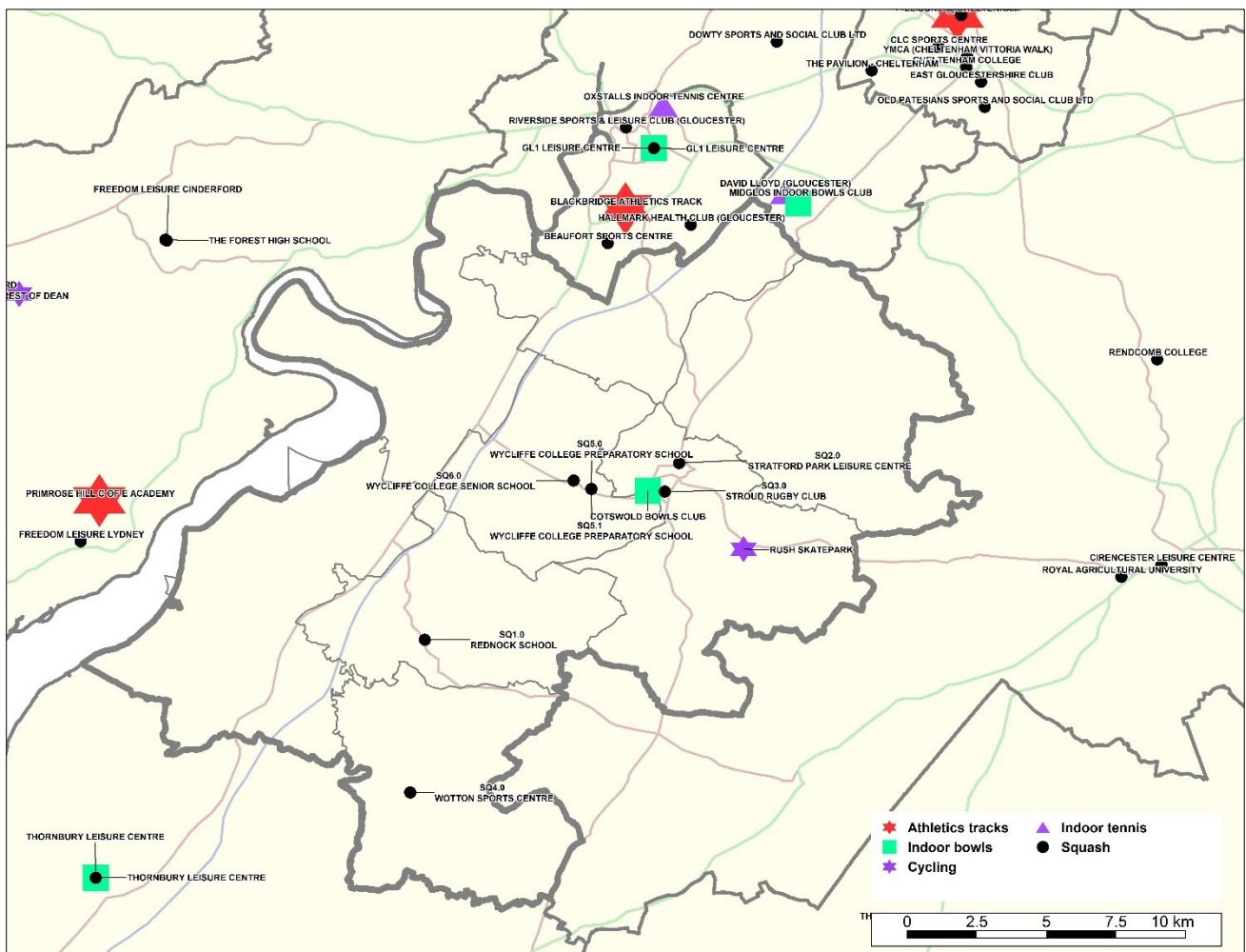
6.9 The principal locations in the District are:

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

- Indoor Bowls (Stroud). A modern six-rink venue owned and managed by Stroud District Bowling Club (which also has an outdoor green).
- Indoor Skatepark (Brimscombe). The Rush Skatepark also caters for BMX, and is housed in former industrial warehousing.
- Squash courts at Rednock School (Dursley); Stratford Park Leisure Centre (Stroud); Stroud Rugby Club; Wotton Sports Centre; and Wycliffe College (Stonehouse).

6.10 There is no dedicated indoor tennis venue and no synthetic athletics track within the District. The closest facilities of this type are in Gloucester, which also hosts indoor bowling facilities. There are also indoor tennis and indoor bowling facilities in nearby Brockworth (Tewkesbury).

**Figure 6.1: Athletics, Indoor Tennis, Indoor Bowls and Squash facilities in and around the local authority**



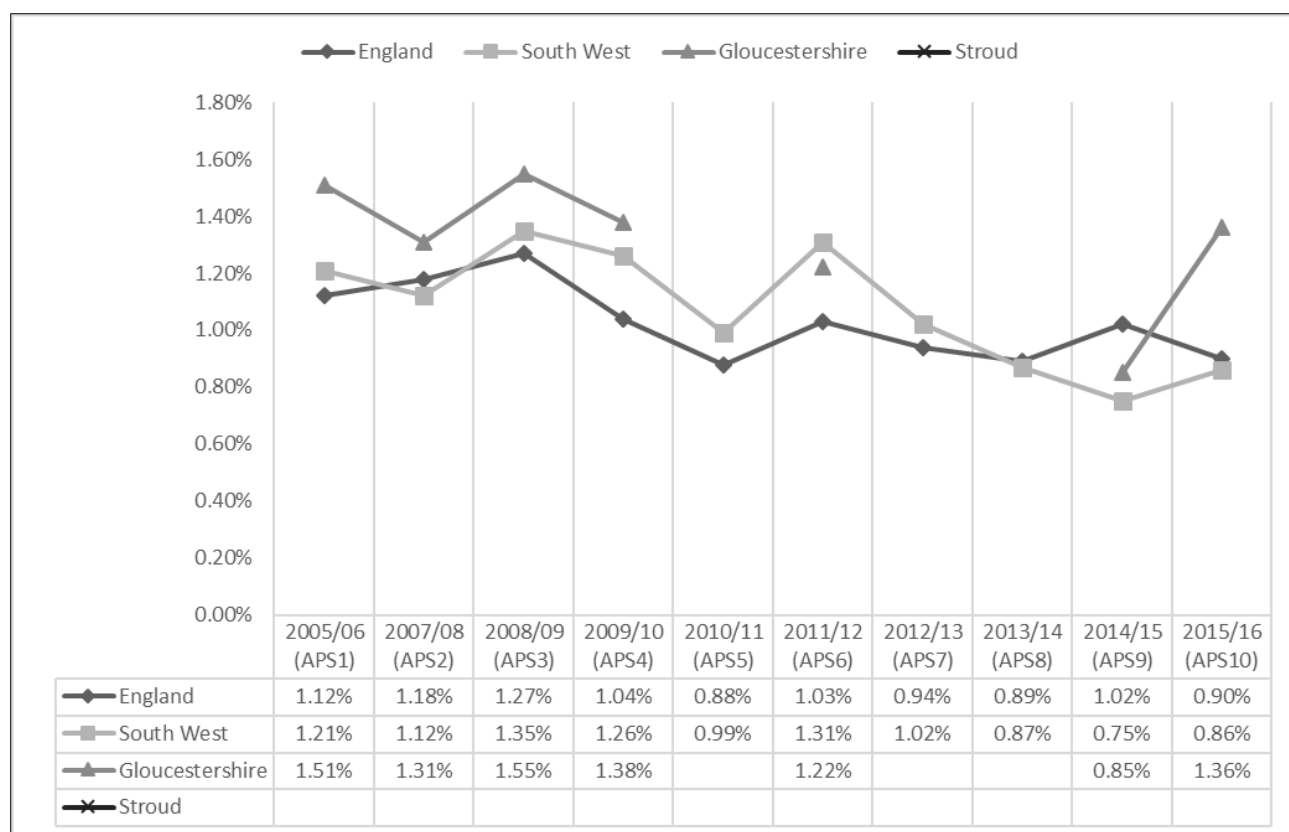
## Indoor Tennis

### Quantity (Indoor Tennis)

#### Active People and Market Segmentation

6.11 The relative importance of tennis as a participative activity is illustrated below, by reference to Sport England Active People Survey data. The Active People Surveys (APS) and the method of sampling is explained in Appendix 2.

**Figure 6.2: Adults participating in tennis (indoor and outdoor) at least once a week.**



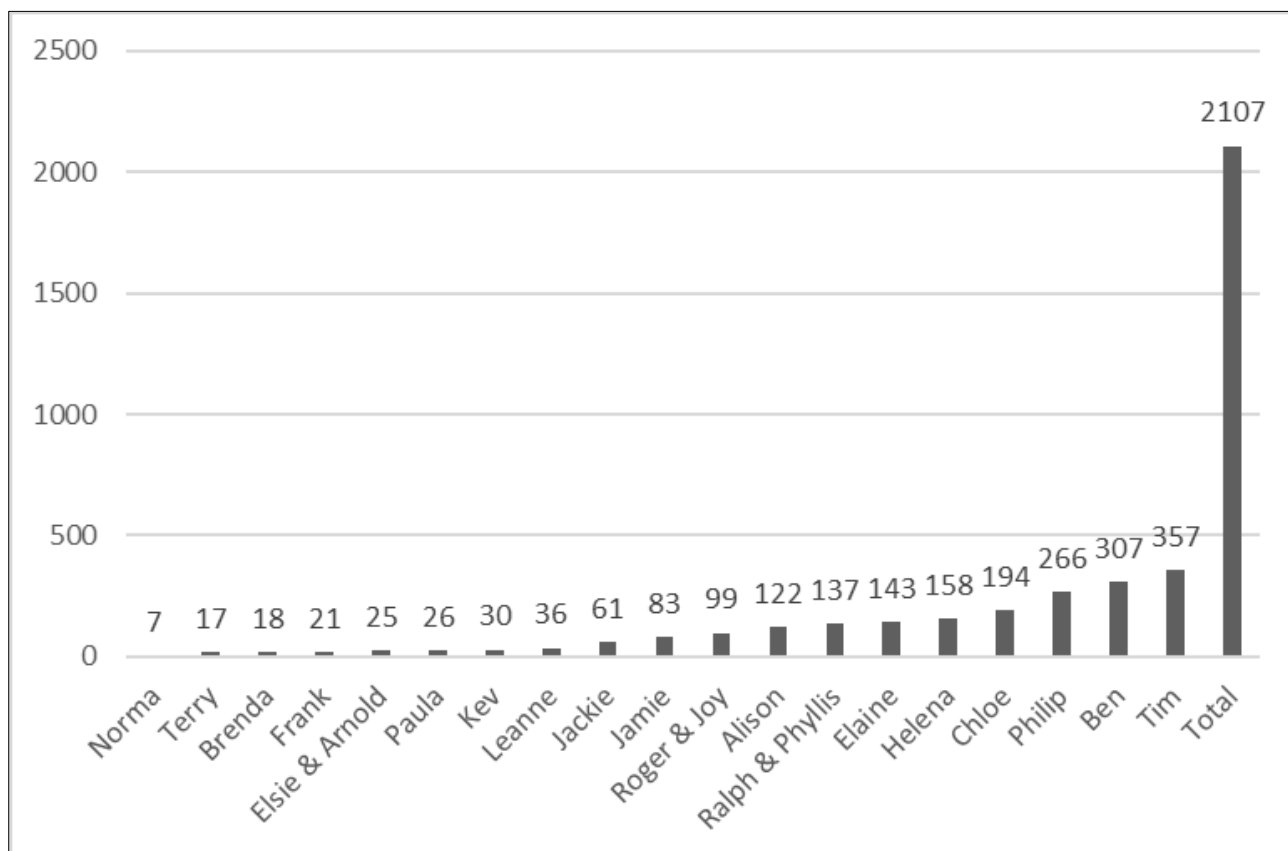
6.12 Due to the small size of the sample it is not appropriate to provide APS survey figures for the District. However, the average of the annual estimates available for Gloucestershire suggests about 1.31% of adults play tennis (either indoor or out) on at least a weekly basis; for the South West the figure is c. 1.07%; and for England it is about 1.03%. Where the opportunity exists, there will be a significant amount of cross-over by participants between indoor and outdoor tennis activity.

	Average	Min	Max
Gloucestershire	1.31%	0.85%	1.55%

6.13 Assuming 1.3% for the District this means that the current number of adults playing tennis on at least a weekly basis is an estimated 1,270 adults.

6.14 As an added check on the above estimated participation levels, the Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England have been used. The data and tool are explained further in **Appendix 2** of this report, but the ‘names’ relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2. **Figure 6.3** shows Market Segmentation data, suggesting that the number of adults with the characteristics making the sport potentially suited to them is 2,107.

**Figure 6.3: Sport England (adult) Market Segments in the District with the characteristics that would make tennis attractive to them.**



6.15 This figure is much higher than the number estimated through the Active People data, suggesting that there is potentially scope for growth in the sport locally. The District does not contain an indoor tennis facility, and provision of one could exploit the apparent potential to grow activity levels in the sport. However, the proximity of facilities in Brockworth and Gloucester must also be a factor in considering the feasibility of such provision.

### Views of Local Residents

6.16 The household sample survey conducted as part of the wider project suggested that in terms of specialist indoor facilities (which includes indoor tennis provision) 84% of respondents felt there are ‘enough’; with 17% saying there was a need for more. (1% felt there was not the need for as many).

### **Views of the National Governing Body (Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Regional Tennis Participation Manager)**

6.17 The LTA representative states that, overall for indoor tennis facilities, the Stroud area is or will be fairly-well covered by potential investments in authorities to the North and South. However, in principle it is reasonable that an area the size of Stroud could justify some kind of indoor tennis centre to serve the towns and villages surrounding it. The LTA has made other comments in respect of outdoor provision, and these are dealt with in the accompanying Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports report.

#### **Quality (Indoor Tennis)**

6.18 Given that there are no dedicated indoor facilities in the District, there are no valid comments to make under this section.

#### **Accessibility (Indoor Tennis)**

6.19 The household survey conducted as part of the overall study identified that, where households make use of the specialist indoor sports facilities (which will include indoor tennis), 54% users are prepared to travel up to 15 minutes to make use of such facilities. 26% of these would travel up to 20 minutes and 16% more than 20 minutes. This indicates that majority 75 percentile are prepared to travel between 10 and 15 minutes to use such facilities (perhaps closer to 10 minutes). The most popular mode being by car. This would bring the nearest indoor tennis facilities (in Brockworth and Gloucester) within convenient reach of northern parts of the District, but no further.

### **Bowls**

#### **Quantity (Indoor Bowls)**

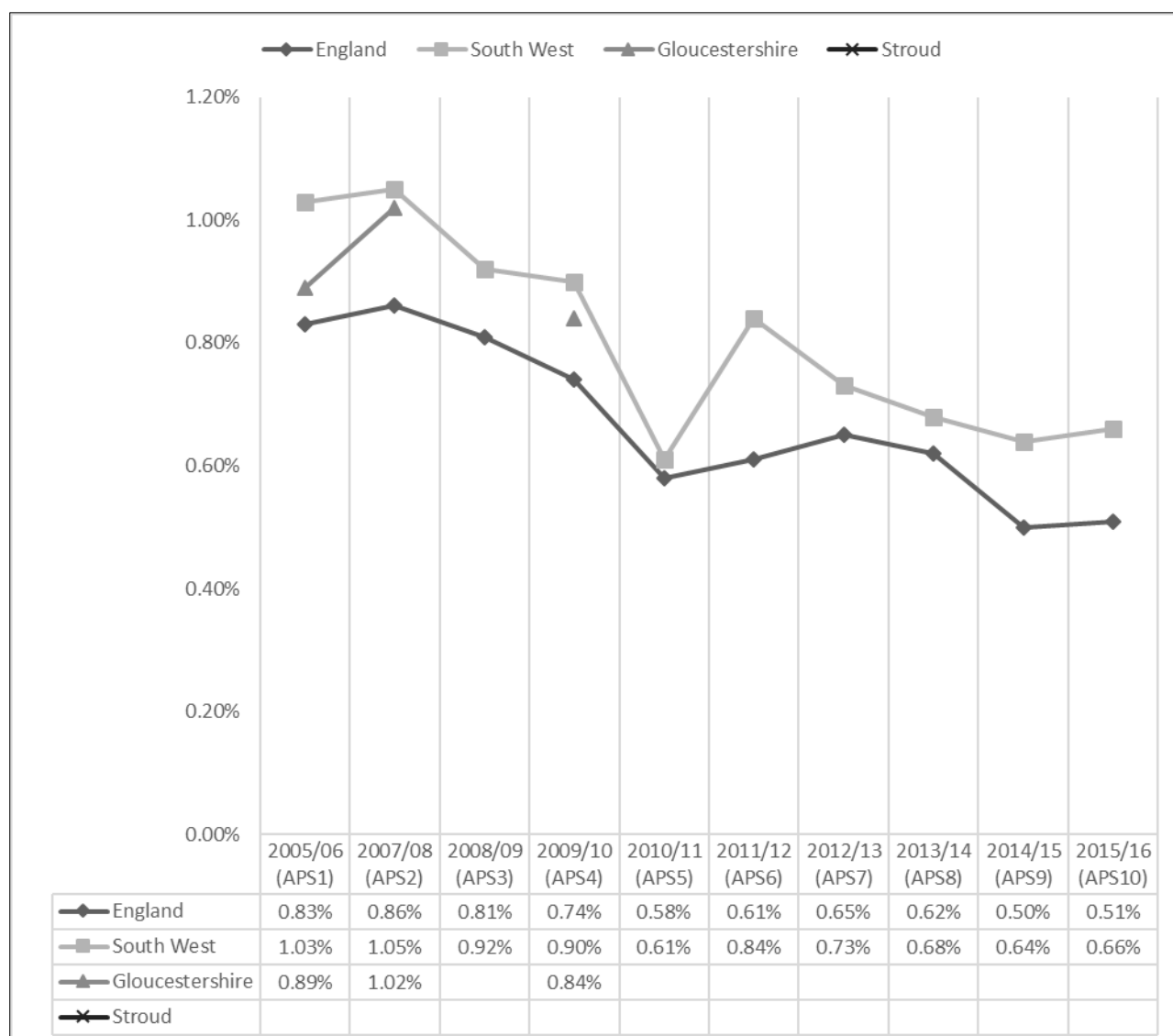
#### ***Active People and Market Segmentation***

6.20 Due to the small size of the sample there are no meaningful APS survey figures for the District. However, the average of the annual estimates available for England suggests about 0.67% of adults play bowls (either indoor or out) on at least a weekly basis; for the South West the figure is c. 0.81%; and for Gloucestershire it is 0.92%. The average for Gloucestershire is therefore higher than for either the region or England.

	<b>Average</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Max</b>
Gloucestershire	0.92%	0.84%	1.02%



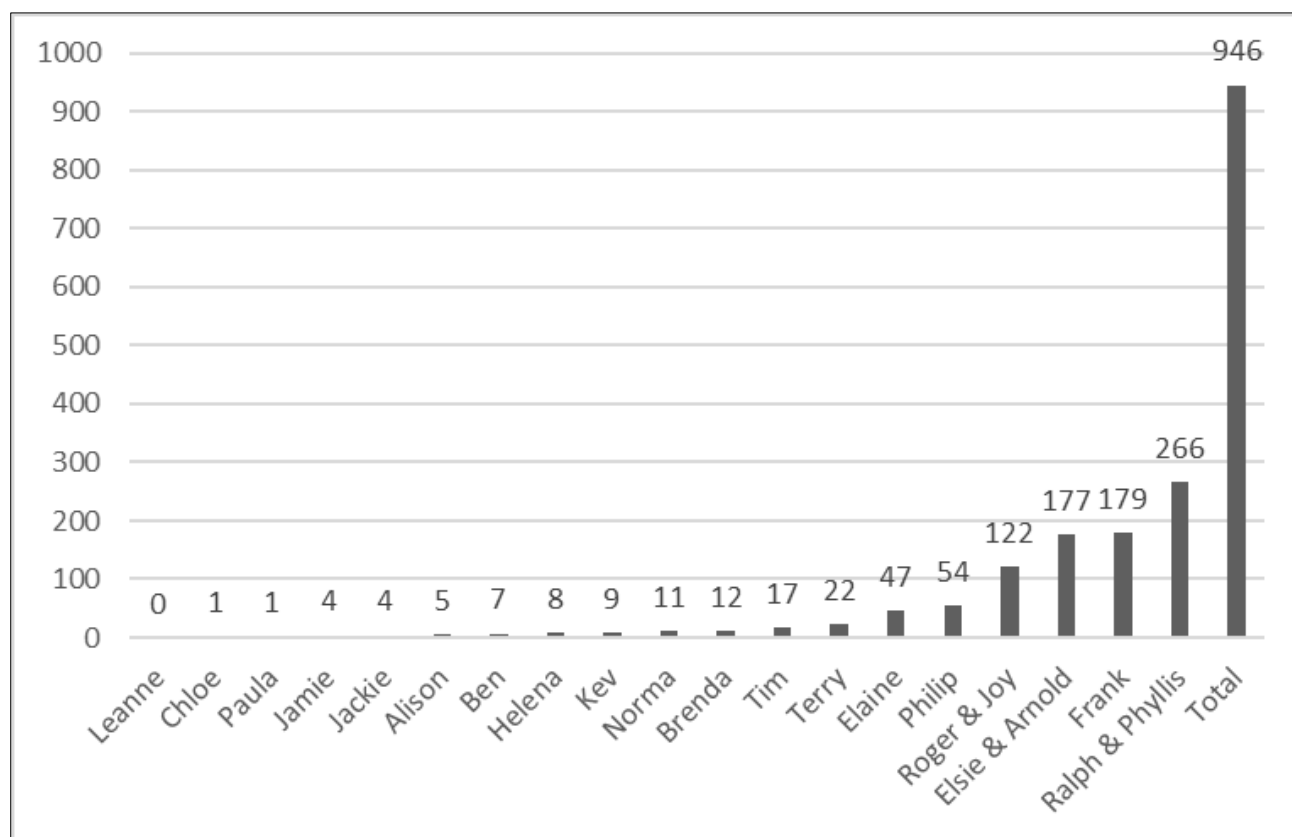
**Figure 6.4: Adults participating in bowls at least once a week.**



6.21 Assuming an average of 0.92% for the District (i.e. the Gloucestershire average) this means that the current number of adults playing bowls on at least a weekly basis is an estimated 892 adults. This will include both indoor and outdoor bowls. Where the opportunity exists, there will be a significant amount of cross-over by participants between indoor and outdoor bowls activity.

6.22 As an added check on the above estimated participation levels, the Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England have been used. The data and tool are explained further in **Appendix 2** of this report, but the 'names' relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2. **Figure 6.5** shows Market Segmentation data suggesting that the number of adults with the characteristics making the sport potentially suited to them is 756.

**Figure 6.5: Sport England (adult) Market Segments in the District with the characteristics that would make bowls attractive to them.**



6.23 This figure is higher than the average estimated through the Active People survey, but not so much as to suggest great potential for growth in participation.

6.24 The membership of the Cotswold Bowls Club is in the order of 450 (300 males, and 150 females), and included in this is a small number of junior age group members. The Club is prioritising a drive to recruit young members, in respect of marketing.

**Comments of the EIBA (Development Manager)**

6.25 As a guide the English Indoor Bowls Association (EIBA) suggests that there might be expected to be a ratio of 1-indoor rink per 14-17,000 population. The current level of provision (6 rinks) works out at around 1 rink: 19,678 population.

6.26 The EIBA also suggest that the number of rinks required can be related to the estimated number of members: assume 80-100 members per rink. With a current recorded membership of around 450, the Cotswold Club by itself offers a good level of provision- working out at around 75 members per rink, based on the current population.

6.27 Some of the potential indoor bowls market within the District may also be attracted to facilities in Gloucester and Brockworth.

6.28 The Development Manager of the EIBA considers that the one existing club meets current and future needs.

## **Quality (Indoor Bowls)**

6.29 The existing venue is a club-run facility with 6 indoor rinks, and has a spectator/social area, lockers, toilets and bar, and catering/refreshment facilities. The facility appears to be maintained to a very high standard. General access provision for people with physical disability is also present, including wheelchair access for bowling. Outside there is ample carparking, as well as an outdoor green. In its response to a club survey, the Club suggests that the high standard of facilities has attracted people looking for a new club. However, it has expressed concerns about the ageing membership, and a consequent need to improve disability facilities.

## **Accessibility (Indoor Bowls)**

6.30 The household survey conducted as part of the overall study identified that, where households make use of the specialist indoor sports facilities (such as indoor bowls), 54% are prepared to travel up to 15 minutes to make use of such facilities. 26% of these would travel up to 20 minutes and 16% more than 20 minutes. This indicates that the majority 75 percentile are prepared to travel between 10 and 15 minutes to use such facilities (perhaps closer to 10 minutes). The most popular mode being by car. This would bring the existing Stroud-based facility within reach of residents in the northern part of the District.

6.31 The northern extremities would also be within 15 minutes' drive facilities in Brockworth and Gloucester. In comparison, the southern part of the District is largely outside a 15-minute catchment, although a facility at Thornbury (in South Gloucestershire) will have a 15-minute catchment extending into the extreme southern part of the District.

6.32 The consultation with the EIBA suggests that a 20-30 minute travel time might be acceptable, depending upon the current facility provision. However, the EIBA also emphasizes the importance of public transport in some parts of the country, and especially the rural areas.

6.33 Extending the notional catchment of the Stroud-based facility to 20 minutes would provide coverage of most of the District with the most significant exception being the Wotton area, which might be within easier reach of the Thornbury facility.

## **Athletics**

### **Quantity (Athletics)**

#### ***Active People and Market Segmentation***

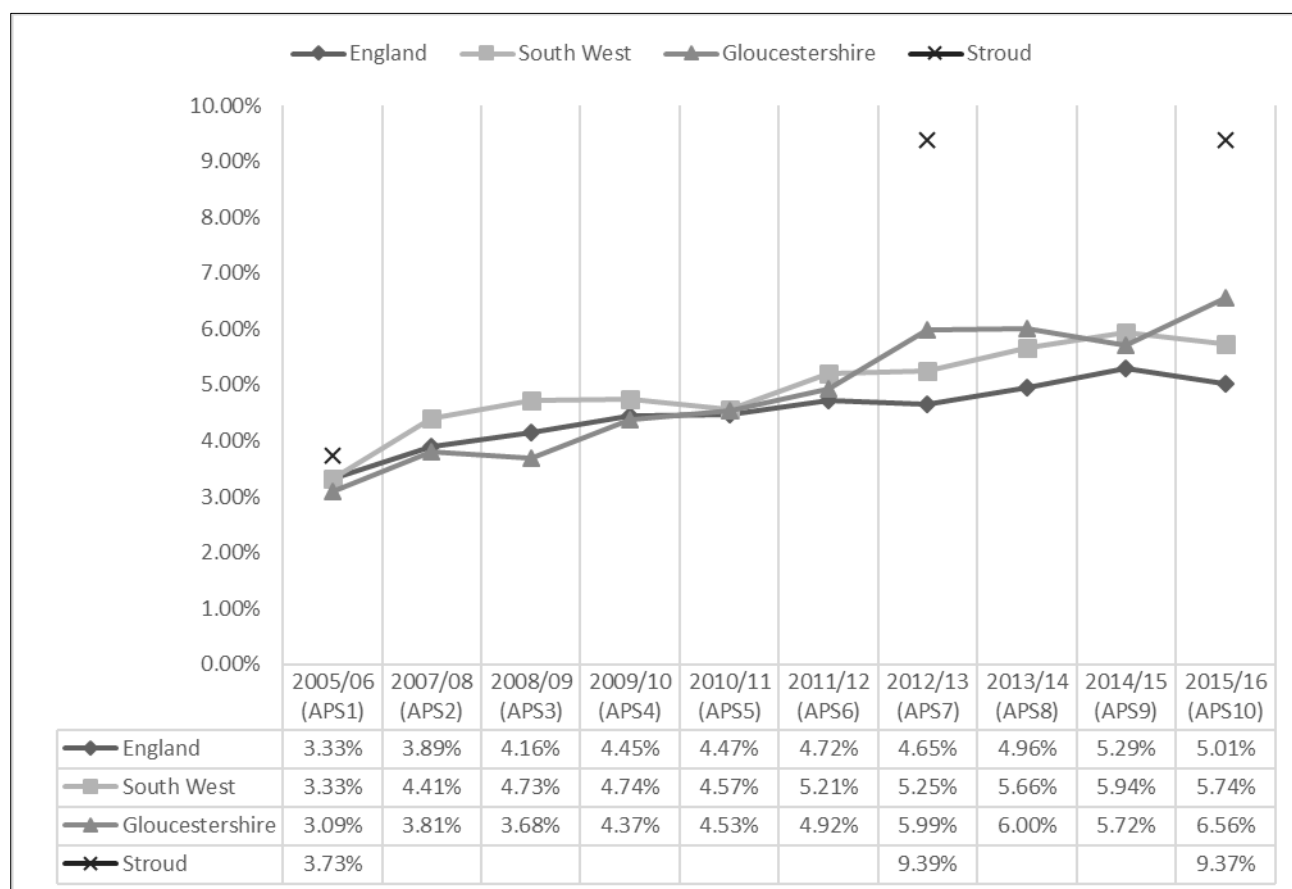
6.34 The popularity of Athletics (including road running and track and field), is such that sample sizes for the District are sufficient to offer point data for three years over a span of 10 years. For each of these three years the District's estimated adult participation rate was higher than corresponding county, regional and national figures. The average for the District is 7.5% adults taking part on at least a weekly basis. The corresponding estimates available for England suggests 4.49% of adults take part on at least a weekly basis; for the South West the figure is 4.96% and for Gloucestershire it is 4.87%.

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

6.35 Adopting the average 7.5% (for the District) suggests that the current number of adults in the District taking part in road running or track and field at least once/week is an estimated 7,273 adults. The majority of these participants will be running off-track, although there will be some cross-over.

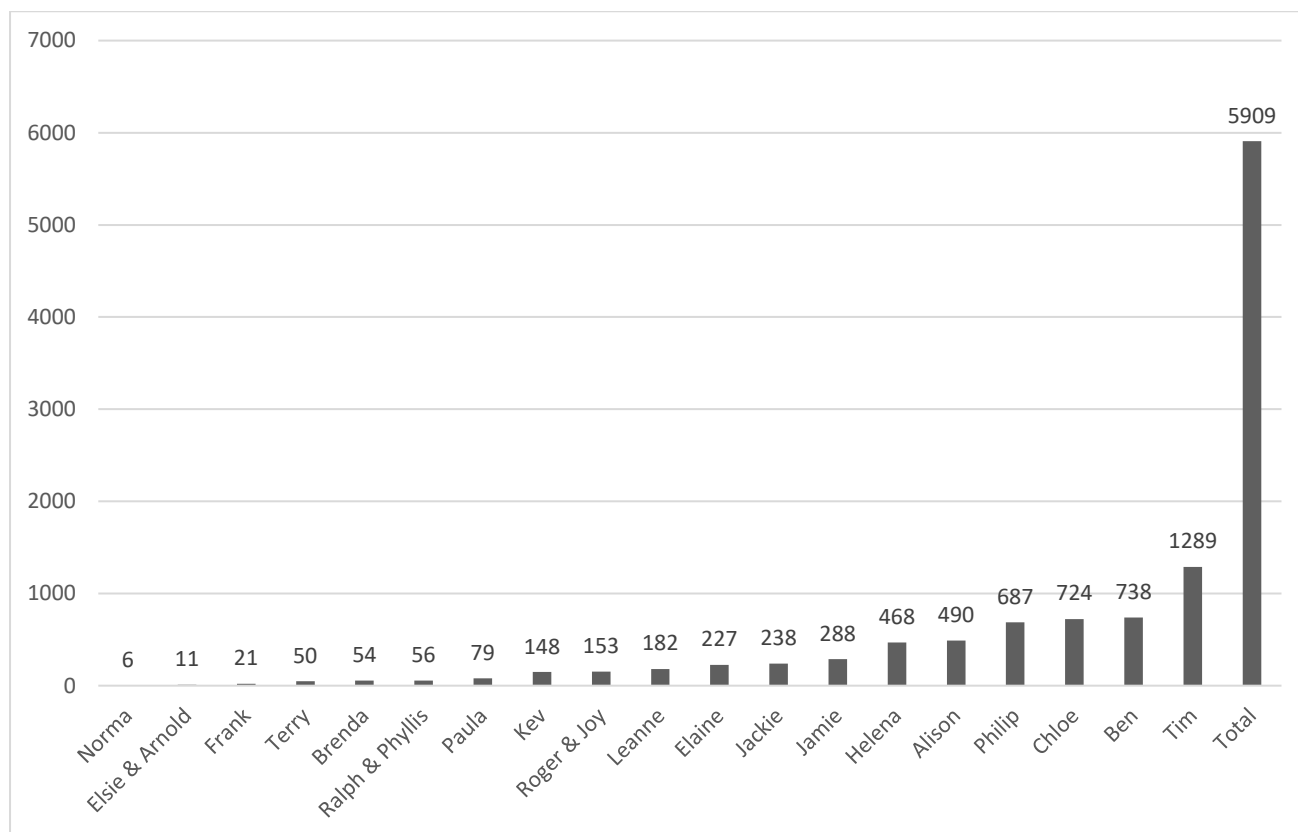
	Average	Min	Max
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	7.50%	3.73%	9.39%

**Figure 6.6: Adults participating in athletics at least once a week.**



6.36 As an added check on the above estimated participation levels, the Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England have been used. The data and tool are explained further in **Appendix 2** of this report, but the 'names' relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2. **Figure 6.7** shows Market Segmentation data suggesting that the number of adults with the characteristics making the sport potentially suited to them is 5,909.

**Figure 6.7: Sport England (adult) Market Segments in the District with the characteristics that would make athletics attractive to them.**



6.37 The above comparisons between Active People and Market Segmentation analyses suggest that existing participation in the District is already high, and perhaps above what might be anticipated based on the District’s overall demographic profile.

6.38 There several informal running groups across the District, but the main clubs are Stroud and District Athletic Club, Dursley Running Club, and Cotswold All Runners. The first two of these clubs responded to a club questionnaire survey.

6.39 Stroud and District Athletics Club is based at the Archway School (Stroud). It has around 240 members with a near 50-50 gender split, and around 100 members under 16 years of age. The club also has a small group that trains at Minchinhampton (using Beaudesert School facilities) and surrounding areas of the common and village. The Club runs widely around the Stroud valleys using the canal towpaths, woodland trails (including the Cotswold Way), roads and lanes as far away as Stonehouse, Eastington, Nailsworth, Chalford, Painswick, Haresfield Beacon, Selsey Common, Rodborough Common, Minchinhampton Common, Wick St, Sheepscombe and Bisley.

6.40 The Dursley Running Club is based at the facilities of Dursley Rugby Club in Stinchcombe. It has close to 400 members, with a small majority being male. There are around 50 members under 16 years of age. The club uses facilities at the rugby club, but also local roads and off-road routes.

6.41 Both clubs participate in track and non-track events, although there is no local synthetic track within the District. Membership levels have generally improved over recent years, but especially

amongst females. However, the cross-over between running (casual, training, competition) is emphasised.

### **Quality (Athletics)**

6.42 There is no dedicated synthetic track in the District, with the nearest being in Gloucester, Yate, and Cheltenham. The responding clubs have both stated a desire to see a dedicated track and other facilities provided in the area. Such a facility was proposed as part of the potential Forest Green Rovers development at M5 Junction 13, but which was later dropped.

6.43 The Dursley Running Club is working with the host rugby clubs on a potential multi-use all weather surface for all-year use by both sports.

### ***Views of England Athletics (EA) (Support Manager)***

6.44 EA believe that the District would benefit from an athletics training venue in the area if demand can be demonstrated and a sustainable business plan is developed. However, EA stress that the impact new facilities would have on existing facilities within the sub region must be considered. Consequently, EA's view is that a facility primarily for training would be beneficial to clubs, schools and local communities.

### **Accessibility (Athletics)**

6.45 The responding clubs to the questionnaire survey suggest that the majority of membership is in both cases drawn from 5 miles or less of the home venue, but these catchments are in the absence of dedicated all-year track and field facilities. There are fewer dedicated synthetic tracks compared to most other community sports facilities, and therefore an acceptance of longer travelling times.

6.46 Applying a 20-minute drive catchment from the two nearest synthetic tracks (in Gloucester and Yate) would provide coverage of much of the District. However, the District has the benefit of at least three established athletics/running clubs, two of which have stated the benefits their membership would derive from dedicated facilities closer to home.

## **Cycling**

### **Quantity (Cycling)**

#### ***Active People and Market Segmentation***

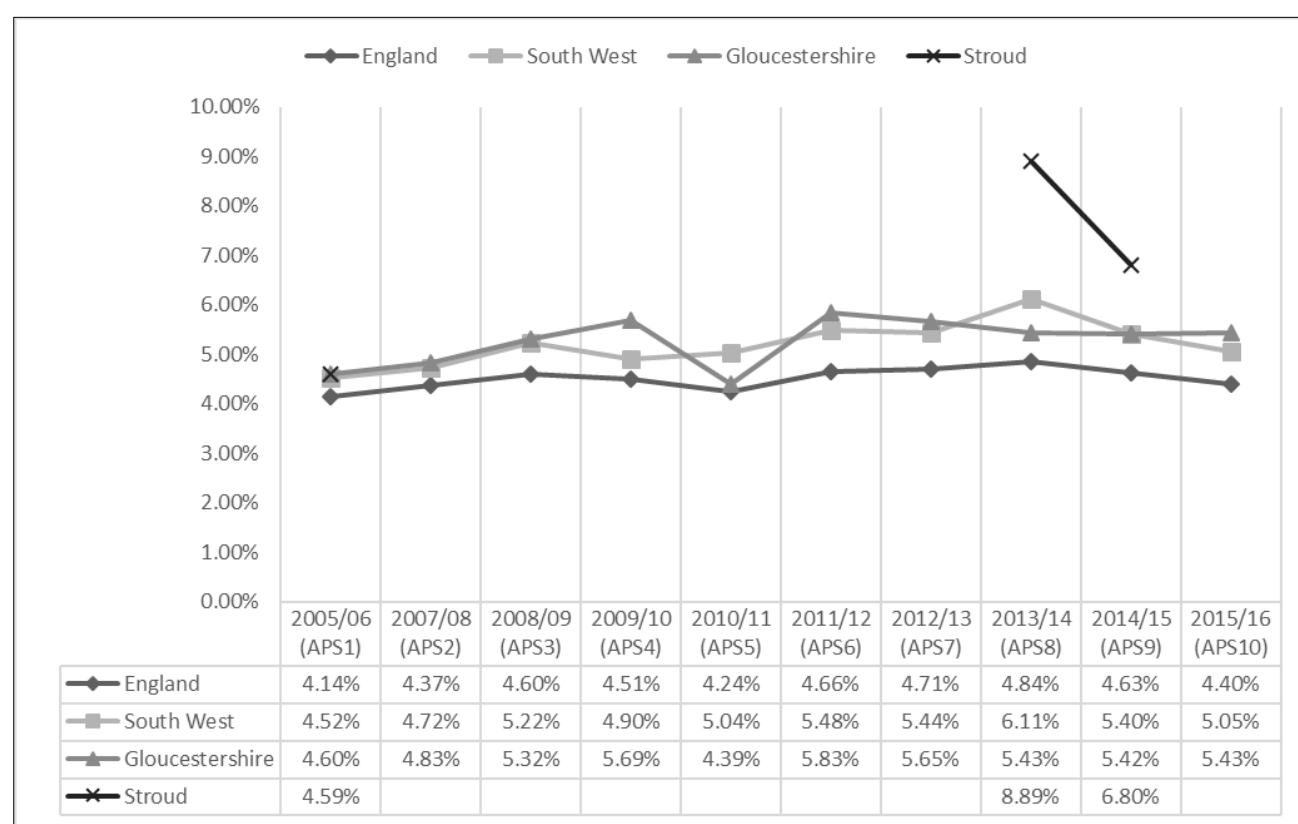
6.47 The popularity of cycling (including road, off-road and venue-based activities), is such that sample sizes for the District are sufficient to offer point data for three years over a span of 10 years. For each of these three years the District's estimated adult participation rate very highly compared with the corresponding county, regional and national figures. The average for the District is 6.76% adults taking part on at least a weekly basis. The corresponding estimates available for England suggests 4.51% of adults take part on at least a weekly basis; for the South West the figure is 5.19% and for Gloucestershire it is 5.26%.

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

6.48 Adopting the average 6.76% (for the District) suggests that the current number of adults in the District taking part in cycling in all forms at least once/week is an estimated 6,600 adults. The majority of these participants will be cycling on roads

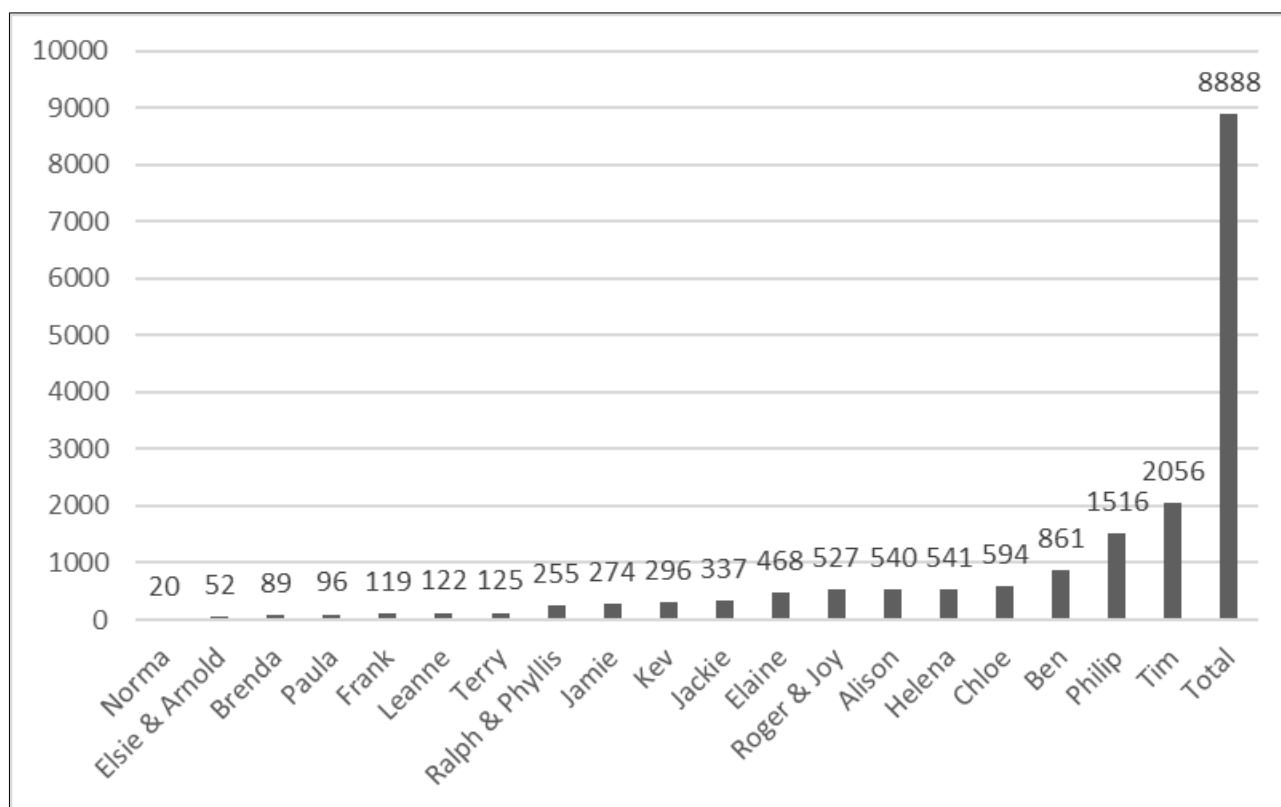
	Average	Min	Max
England	4.51%	4.14%	4.84%
South West	5.19%	4.52%	6.11%
Gloucestershire	5.26%	4.39%	5.83%
Stroud	6.76%	4.59%	8.89%

**Figure 6.8: Adults participating in cycling at least once a week.**



6.49 As an added check on the above estimated participation levels, the Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England have been used. The data and tool are explained further in Appendix 2 of this report, but the 'names' relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2. Figure below shows Market Segmentation data suggesting that the number of adults with the characteristics making the sport potentially suited to them is 8,888.

**Figure 6.9: Sport England (adult) Market Segments in the District with the characteristics that would make cycling attractive to them.**



6.50 This figure is higher than the average estimated through the Active People survey, and suggests there may still be scope to further increase rates of participation from its already relatively high base.

6.51 Notwithstanding the above commentary on adult participation, the Rush Skate Park at Brimscombe, is likely to appeal at least as much to young people. It is a major indoor facility for a variety of wheeled activities, which includes BMX. The facility is housed in a former warehouse at Brimscombe Port.

### Quality (Cycling)

6.52 Internally the Rush Skate Park looks to be a superb venue. It is located in a former warehouse at the Brimscombe Port Industrial Estate. In many ways this is an ideal location for such a venue. However, the facility is somewhat removed from the main population centres, and access to and from the larger site by vehicle involves negotiating an awkward junction.

### Accessibility (Cycling)

6.53 The location of the Rush venue probably means that it is inaccessible to many young people within the main population centres, to allow them to use it frequently. For many young people there will be a reliance on parents for transportation.



## Squash

### Quantity (Squash)

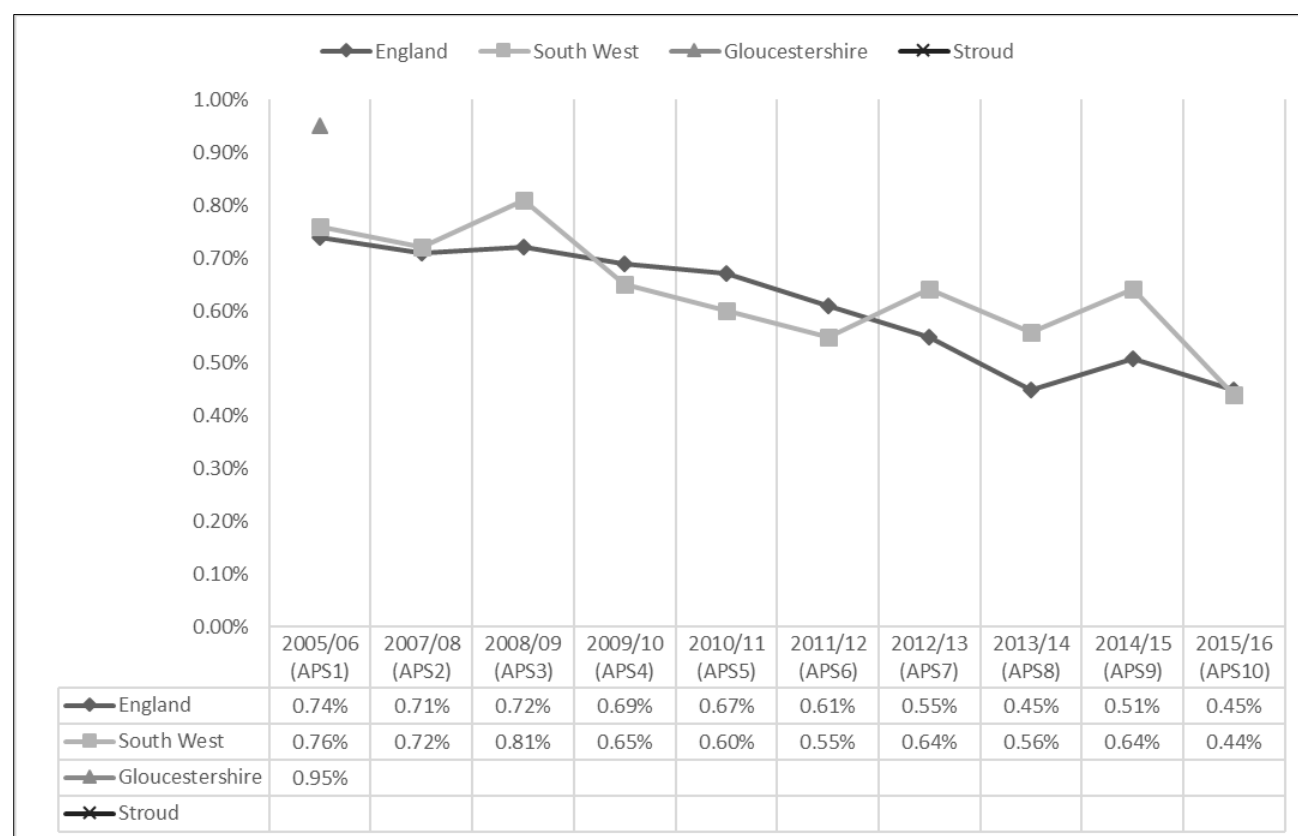
#### Active People and Market Segmentation

6.54 Due to the small size of the sample there are no meaningful APS survey figures for the District, and only one year-point measure available for the County. However, the average of the annual estimates available for England suggests about 0.61% of adults play bowls (either indoor or out) on at least a weekly basis; for the South West the figure is c. 0.64%; and the single year-point figure for Gloucestershire it is 0.95%. The single figure for Gloucestershire is therefore higher than for either the region or England.

6.55 It is also clear that adult participation in squash has been in decline in recent years. It may therefore be safer to adopt a figure of 0.7% as a rate to base current participation estimates upon (i.e. lower than the only point figure available for Gloucestershire, but higher than comparable national and regional figures). Using this percentage would mean that an estimated 684 of the district’s adults took part in bowls at least once a week.

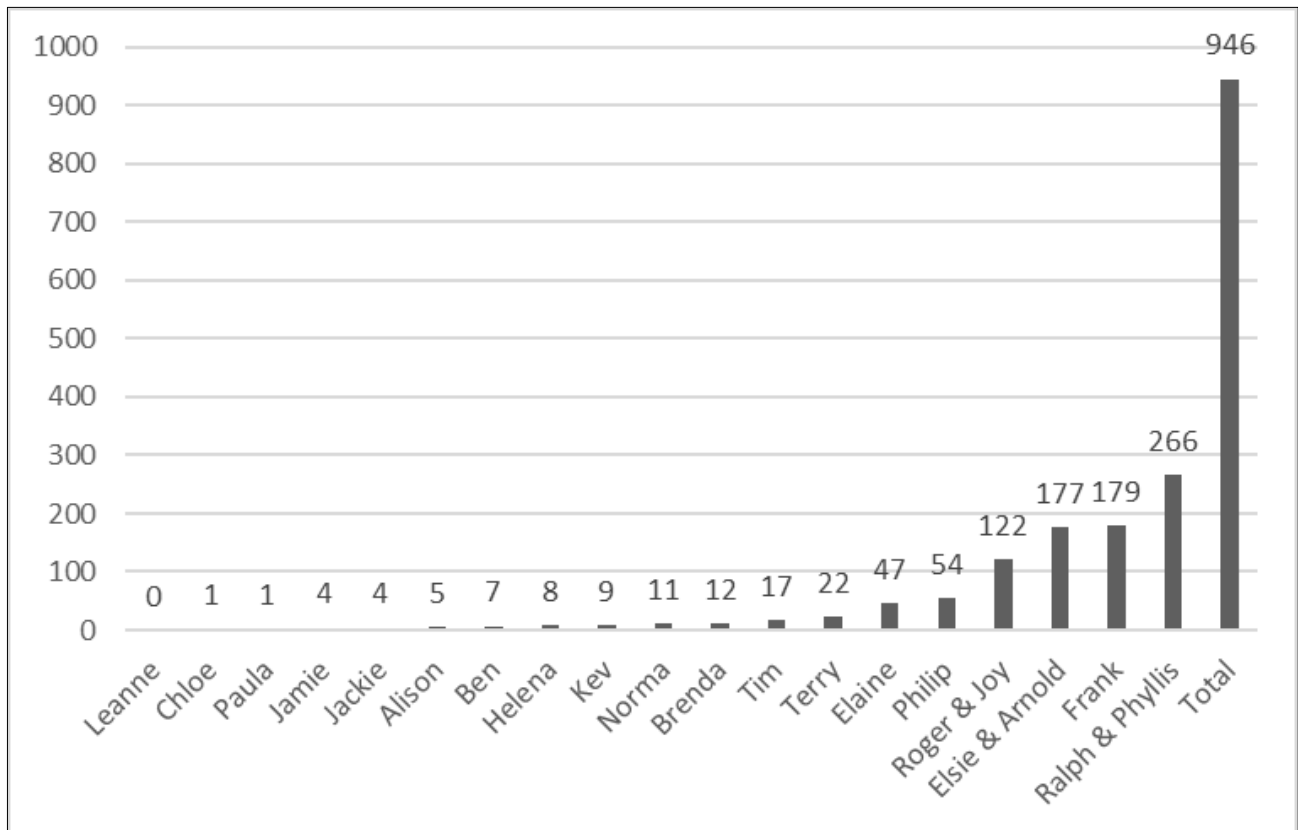
	Average	Min	Max
England	0.61%	0.45%	0.74%
South West	0.64%	0.44%	0.81%
Gloucestershire	0.95%	0.95%	0.95%

Figure 6.10: Adults participating in squash and racketball at least once a week.



6.56 As an added check on the above estimated participation levels, the Market Segmentation data and tool from Sport England have been used. The data and tool are explained further in Appendix 2 of this report, but the ‘names’ relate to socio-economic groupings within the adult population that are defined in Appendix 2. The below figure shows Market Segmentation data suggesting that the number of adults with the characteristics making the sport potentially suited to them is 946.

**Figure 6.11: Sport England (adult) Market Segments in the District with the characteristics that would make squash attractive to them.**



6.57 This figure is higher than the Active People informed estimate, suggesting that there might be scope to grow the sport, albeit from a small base.

6.58 There are thought to be 15 squash courts located at 7 different venues across the District, of which 8 courts are located across the Wycliffe College campus.

**Table 6.1: Squash courts in the District**

Name	Facility Reference	Facility Sub Type	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Courts
REDNOCK SCHOOL	SQ1.0	Normal	Sports Club / Community Association	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	1
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE	SQ2.0	Normal	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Commercial Management	4
STROUD RUGBY CLUB	SQ3.0	Normal	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	2
WOTTON SPORTS CENTRE	SQ4.0	Normal	Pay and Play	Community Organisation	Commercial Management	1
WYCLIFFE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL	SQ5.1	Glass-backed	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)	1
WYCLIFFE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL	SQ5.0	Normal	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)	3
WYCLIFFE COLLEGE SENIOR SCHOOL	SQ6.0	Glass-backed	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)	4

6.59 In the absence of any responses from representatives of squash to consultation invitations, there is no evidence presented pointing to a shortage of facilities to meet existing needs. In fact, there may be slight overprovision in the public sector based on current needs, leading to a motivation to use under-used courts for alternative activity. The management at Stratford Park Leisure Centre has expressed a view that one of the existing courts at the venue could be better used as office or ancillary activity space.

6.60 No serious concerns have been raised in respect of the quality of existing provision, within the public sector, although management at the Stratford Park Leisure Centre suggest that the roof the oldest of the suite of courts at the venue is not in good condition. This court is the subject of the aspiration by management to convert to alternative space.

**Future demand for specialist facilities (based on ONS projections)**

6.61 ONS population projections predict a rise in the District’s overall population from 119,074 in 2018, to 135,429 in 2040- an increase of 16,355 persons. The adult (16 years +) population is predicted to rise by 14,914 in that same period.

6.62 Based on participation rates used in this section it is anticipated that the growth in adult population might yield the following order of additional adult participants by 2040:

- Tennis: 194 (although Market Segmentation data suggests it could be a higher figure).
- Bowls: 137

- Athletics: 1,118
- Cycling: 1,008 (although Market Segmentation data suggests it could be a higher figure).
- Squash: 104

6.63 The local impact of planned new housing growth on participation is discussed in Section 8.

#### **Plans for future new provision (Indoor Tennis, Indoor Bowls, Athletics, Cycling, Squash)**

6.64 There are no known proposals currently for the provision of new or improved indoor tennis and indoor bowls facilities.

6.65 A previous proposal to provide a full-size synthetic track and field facility (Junction 13, M5) will not progress. However, there is consensus between key local clubs over the desirability of providing better training facilities.

6.66 In terms of recreation/utility cycling proposals for new routes are contained in District and County capital programmes (as in the Local Plan and the Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan). There is also a proposal to relocate the Rush indoor facility into Stroud and onto Stratford Park. This is due to the existing site being earmarked for major redevelopment.

6.67 As stated, the management at Stratford Park Leisure Centre would like to convert the oldest (and little-used) squash court at the venue into a flexible space for a variety of uses.

#### **Key messages from this section (to be expanded in Section 8)**

6.68 **Quantity: A reasonable estimate of the number of adults in the District taking part regularly in the activities cited in this section are:**

- **Tennis: 1,270 adults (although there may be potential for growth in this figure, and especially if an indoor venue were provided);**
- **Bowls: 892 adults (including circa 450 members at the existing and only indoor facility);**
- **Athletics (including off-track running): 7,273 adults;**
- **Cycling (all forms); 6,600 adults (with perhaps potential to grow further); and,**
- **Squash: 684 adults (with perhaps potential for some small additional growth.**

6.69 **This suggests the following estimated additional regular participants for the above sports locally by 2036, based on ONS projections:**

- **Tennis: 194 additional players (potentially more);**
- **Bowls: 137 additional players;**
- **Athletics (including off-track running): 1,118 extra runners, jumpers and throwers (many of these will be off-track runners);**
- **Cycling (all forms): 1,008 (potentially more)**
- **Squash: 104 additional players**

**6.70 Future housing and population growth will increase localised demand for such facilities, as explained further in Section 8. There is no overwhelming argument to suggest that these increases will require additional new venues, with the possible exception of track and field training facilities for athletics.**

**6.71 Quality: Generally, the specialist facilities (where they exist) covered in this section are of a good standard. The main issue currently is considered to be the lack of a 'track and field' training facility. Much 'off-track' running is recreational and for simple health and fitness: such running will often take place on the roads, streets and in parks, open spaces, and recreational corridors (such as Rights of Way). Simple way-marking and gauging of safe and attractive all-year routes would help cater further for this activity.**

**6.72 Accessibility: Access to the existing indoor bowls venue is as good as might be hoped for in a District like Stroud, and there are facilities to the north and south of the District.**

**6.73 In the absence of dedicated track and field facilities, the nearest provision is in Gloucester, which is not ideal for existing established clubs requiring access to such facilities, especially for training.**

**6.74 There is no dedicated indoor tennis facility in the District, but provision exists in Gloucester.**

**6.75 The Rush Skatepark is not well located relative to its potential core catchment population.**

## 7 SMALL COMMUNITY HALLS

### General

7.1 This section deals specifically with village halls and community halls. There are definitional issues that influence the remit of this section, and the coverage it provides. A practical definition of what is covered might be *'venues that are owned and supported by the community, and with recognised policies and practices of full community use (see Section 1), and which are large enough to embrace a wide range of recreation activities and functions.'*

7.2 This would tend to include facilities that are controlled by local councils and council-supported trusts; but, perhaps not facilities managed by church estate, clubs, organisations, or education, health and social institutions. This is not to deny the importance of this type of venue in meeting community needs, but they are not considered here. Neither does the definition cover spaces that form part of larger venues, such as activity rooms in leisure centres.

7.3 Even with this restricted definition the remit will cover a wide range of facilities of all shapes, sizes and ages. It also includes activities that might be hosted: including sports like table tennis, martial arts, and short mat/carpet bowls; and, other recreation pursuits like keep fit/aerobics; dances; and, other more passive activities and functions.

7.4 Outside the principal settlements, the District is predominantly rural and has many small and quite geographically isolated communities: in this respect village and other small community halls, have great local importance. Within the principal settlements, and away from the recognised leisure centres, they are also venues that serve an important local recreation and social functions.

### Quantity

7.5 The following **Table 7.1**, and the accompanying **Figure 7.1** list and locate those venues which have been identified and recorded as being bespoke standalone village and community halls. In total there are 67 identified venues<sup>15</sup> of varying sizes, but with all hosting at least 1 community hall of a reasonable size. When these are divided into the local authority estimated population it provides a level of provision of around 1 venue per 1,777 people.

7.6 The populations served by each of these venues will vary enormously, depending on the size of the local population catchment; the type/scale of venue; and, the way in which a given venue is promoted and managed.

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<sup>15</sup> Facilities have been identified primarily through web searches, including use of an online 'Village Hall Finder' supported by the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council.

Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

**Table 7.1: Small community hall provision in the District**

Name	Hall ref	Parish	Cluster	Main hall	Main hall size (Sq.m)	Main hall seated capacity	Meeting room	Kitchen	WC	Off street parking
Amberley Parish Room	SH1.0	Minchinhampton	Stroud Valleys	Yes	240	120	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Arkell Community Centre	SH2.0	Nailsworth	Stroud Valleys	Yes		60	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Arlingham Village Hall	SH3.0	Arlingham	Severn Vale	Yes	50	75	No	Yes	Yes	No
Ashmead Village Hall	SH4.0	Cam	Cam and Dursley	Yes	80	60	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Berkeley Town Hall	SH5.0	Berkeley	Berkeley cluster	Yes	160	50	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Bisley WI Village Hall	SH6.0	Bisley-with-Lypiatt	Cotswold cluster	Yes	95	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Box Village Hall	SH7.0	Minchinhampton	Stroud Valleys	Yes	100	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brimscombe & Thrupp Social Centre	SH8.0	Brimscombe and Thrupp	Stroud Valleys	Yes	144	120	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brookthorpe Village Hall	SH9.0	Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon	Gloucester fringe	Yes	55	60	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bussage Village Hall	SH10.0	Chalford	Stroud Valleys	Yes	82	50	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cam Winterbotham Memorial Hall	SH11.0	Cam	Cam and Dursley	Yes	126	199	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cam Youth & Community Centre	SH12.0	Cam	Cam and Dursley	Yes	91	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cashes Green Community Centre	SH13.0	Cainscross	Stroud Valleys	Yes	91	120	No	No	Yes	No
Chalford Hill Methodist Church Hall	SH14.0	Chalford	Stroud Valleys	Yes	77	70	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chalford Village Hall	SH15.0	Chaceley		Yes	41	50	No	Yes	Yes	No
Chantry Centre	SH16.0	Dursley	Cam and Dursley	Yes	252	20	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Coaley Village Hall	SH17.0	Coaley	Cam and Dursley	Yes	128	120	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cranham Village Hall	SH18.0	Cranham	Cotswold cluster	Yes	95	100	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dursley & District Community Centre	SH19.0	Dursley	Cam and Dursley	Yes	87	150	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

### Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

Name	Hall ref	Parish	Cluster	Main hall	Main hall size (Sq.m)	Main hall seated capacity	Meeting room	Kitchen	WC	Off street parking
Dursley Town Hall and Market Place	SH20.0	Dursley	Cam and Dursley	Yes	78	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Eastcombe Village Hall	SH21.0	Chalford	Stroud Valleys	Yes	130	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eastington Community Centre	SH22.0	Eastington	Stonehouse cluster	Yes		150	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eastington Village Hall (Owen Harris Memorial Building)	SH23.0	Eastington	Stonehouse cluster	Yes	98	75	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Edge Hill Village Hall	SH24.0	Painswick	Cotswold cluster	Yes	75	60	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Elmore Village Hall	SH25.0	Elmore	Severn Vale	Yes	85	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Frampton-on-Severn Cadbury Hall (Community Centre)	SH26.0	Frampton on Severn	Severn Vale	Yes	153	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Frampton-on-Severn Village Hall	SH27.0	Frampton on Severn	Severn Vale	Yes	98	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
France Lynch Church Rooms	SH28.0	Chalford	Stroud Valleys	Yes	100	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Frith Youth Centre Bussage	SH29.0	Chalford	Stroud Valleys	Yes		120	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hardwicke Village Hall	SH30.0	Hardwicke	Gloucester fringe	Yes	220	150	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Harescombe Village Hall / Parish Room	SH31.0	Harescombe	Gloucester fringe	Yes	43	60	No	Yes	Yes	No
Hillesley & Tresham, Hopkins Hall	SH32.0	Hillesley and Tresham	Wotton cluster	Yes	70	60	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Horsley Village Hall	SH33.0	Horsley	Stroud Valleys	Yes	95	105	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kings Stanley Village Hall	SH34.0	King's Stanley	Stonehouse cluster	Yes	170	183	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kingswood Village Hall	SH35.0	Kingswood	Wotton cluster	Yes	96	120	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Leonard Stanley Village Hall	SH36.0	Leonard Stanley	Stonehouse cluster	Yes	40		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minchinhampton Market House	SH37.0	Minchinhampton	Stroud Valleys	Yes	84	80	No	Yes	Yes	No
Miserden Village Hall	SH38.0	Miserden	Cotswold cluster	Yes	90	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes



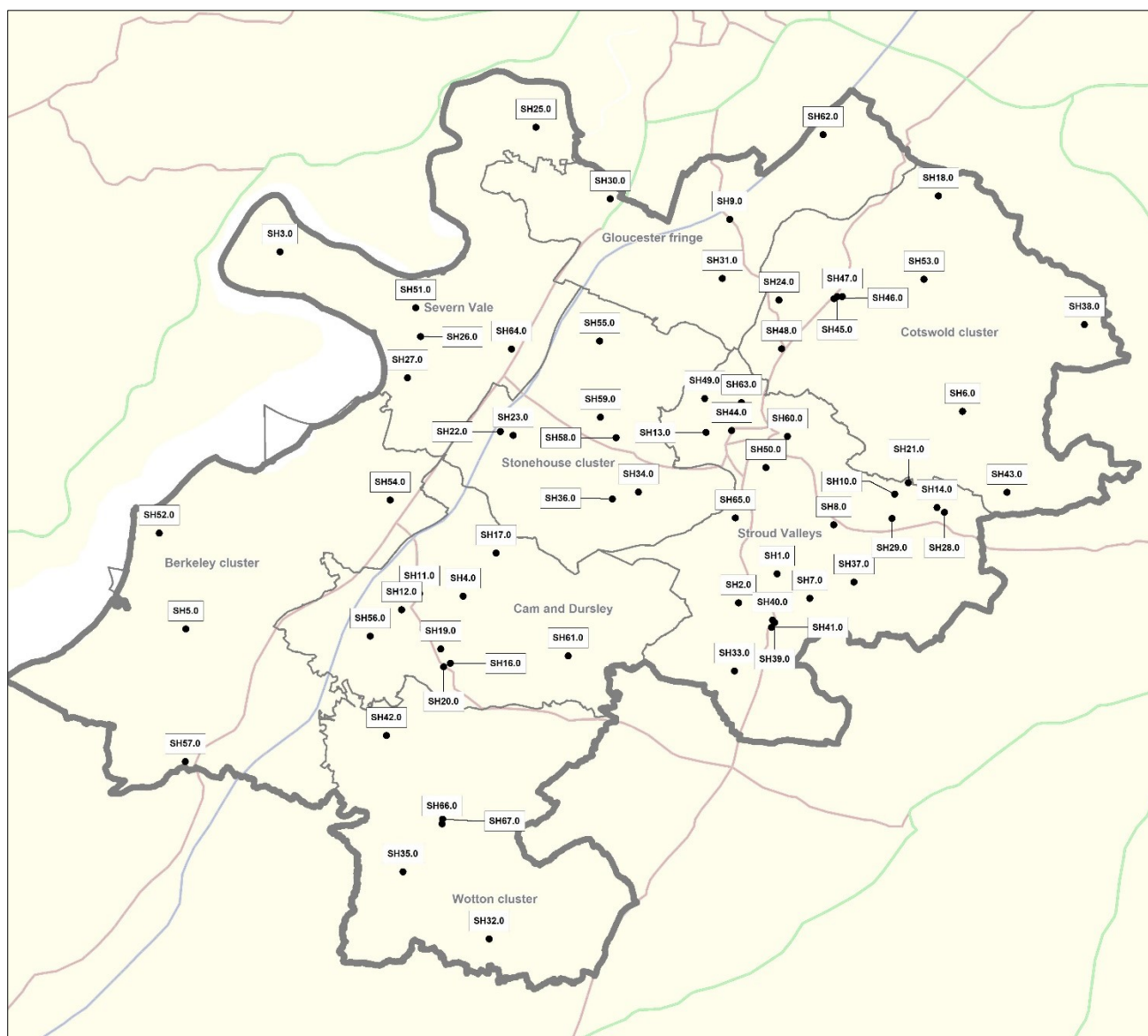
### Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

Name	Hall ref	Parish	Cluster	Main hall	Main hall size (Sq.m)	Main hall seated capacity	Meeting room	Kitchen	WC	Off street parking
Nailsworth Subscription Rooms	SH39.0	Nailsworth	Stroud Valleys	Yes		150	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Nailsworth, Mortimer Room	SH40.0	Nailsworth	Stroud Valleys	Yes	35	50	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Nailsworth Town Hall	SH41.0	Nailsworth	Stroud Valleys	Yes		162	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Nibley Village Hall	SH42.0	North Nibley	Wotton cluster	Yes	78	80	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Oakridge Village Hall	SH43.0	Bisley-with-Lypiatt	Cotswold cluster	Yes	90	100	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paganhill Maypole Village Hall	SH44.0	Stroud	Stroud Valleys			60	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Painswick Centre	SH45.0	Painswick	Cotswold cluster	Yes	150	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Painswick Town Hall	SH46.0	Painswick	Cotswold cluster	Yes	90	40	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Painswick Youth & Community Pavillion	SH47.0	Painswick	Cotswold cluster	No		20				
Pitchcombe Village Hall	SH48.0	Pitchcombe	Cotswold cluster	Yes	60	60	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Randwick Village Hall	SH49.0	Randwick	Stroud Valleys	Yes	60	80	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rodborough Community Hall	SH50.0	Rodborough	Stroud Valleys	Yes		87	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Saul Memorial Hall	SH51.0	Fretherne with Saul	Severn Vale	Yes	84		No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sharpness Village Hall	SH52.0	Hinton	Berkeley cluster	Yes	127	120	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sheepscombe Village Hall	SH53.0	Painswick	Cotswold cluster	Yes	79		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Slimbridge Village Hall	SH54.0	Slimbridge	Berkeley cluster	Yes	108	99	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Standish Village Hall	SH55.0	Standish	Stonehouse cluster	Yes	64	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stinchcombe Village Hall	SH56.0	Stinchcombe	Cam and Dursley	Yes	126	110	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stone Village Hall	SH57.0	Ham and Stone	Berkeley cluster	Yes	78	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

### Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

Name	Hall ref	Parish	Cluster	Main hall	Main hall size (Sq.m)	Main hall seated capacity	Meeting room	Kitchen	WC	Off street parking
Stonehouse Community Centre	SH58.0	Stonehouse	Stonehouse cluster	Yes	128	100	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stonehouse, Oldends Lane Pavillion	SH59.0	Stonehouse	Stonehouse cluster	Yes	60	15	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stroud, The Exchange	SH60.0	Stroud	Stroud Valleys	Yes	42	40	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Uley Village Hall	SH61.0	Uley	Cam and Dursley	Yes	101	100	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Upton St Leonards Village Hall	SH62.0	Upton St. Leonards	Gloucester fringe	Yes	144	150	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Whiteshill and Ruscombe Village Hall	SH63.0	Stroud	Stroud Valleys	Yes	67	70	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Whitminster Village Hall	SH64.0	Whitminster	Severn Vale	Yes	150	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Woodchester Village Hall	SH65.0	Woodchester	Stroud Valleys	Yes	79	75	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wotton - The Chipping Hall	SH66.0	Wotton-under-Edge	Wotton cluster	Yes	91	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Wotton Civic Centre	SH67.0	Wotton-under-Edge	Wotton cluster	Yes	114	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Figure 7.1: Village and community halls in the local authority**



## Views of Key Stakeholders

### *Local residents*

7.7 The household survey of local residents undertaken as part of this assessment suggests that 15% of respondents use village and community halls at least once a week; and, 54% at least monthly. The same survey highlighted that 84% of respondents felt there to be ‘enough’ village halls and community centres.

### *Views of Parish and Town Councils, and others*

7.8 The survey of local parish councils undertaken for this assessment suggested an overall lack of access to key leisure facilities within the District in respect of some localities within the District. Local community halls therefore assume greater importance as a hub of community activity.

7.9 In detailed responses to the above survey the following local parish councils made relevant observations in respect to community halls.

<b>Parish/Town Council</b>	<b>Observations</b>
Kingswood Parish Council	The parish council is consulting on the village hall and the current facilities.
Nailsworth Town Council	The town council is currently drawing up a strategic plan to prioritise projects over the next year. The town council is investigating moving the offices to a central 'civic centre', bringing the Town Council offices into the same building as the library, town council-managed Tourist Information Centre and the Mortimer Room. This will trigger the refurbishment of the Mortimer Room and some refurbishment of the Town Hall.
Stonehouse Town Council	Stroud District Council have refused planning permission for new community facilities at Oldends Lane. It is the Town Council's wish to improve the safety of persons using Oldends Lane carpark and to remove run-down buildings which give the area an appearance of neglect.

### **Quality**

7.10 The household survey conducted as part of this assessment identified that 58% of respondent residents rated village and community halls as good or very good and 37% rated them as average quality. 5% of respondents considered provision to be of poor quality.

7.11 There are no accepted benchmarks to assess the quality of such venues, other than their overall adequacy relative to physical access (including for people with disabilities) and health and safety legislation. The 'acceptability' of a facility should really be judged relative to the identified needs of the local community. Overly rigid approaches to assessments would not take into account the diversity of character that itself is part of the charm of the local stock of these buildings.

7.12 Overall observations suggest that the majority of these facilities are in a good state of repair, although there can be significant financial issues associated with maintaining, upgrading, and promoting these facilities.

### **Accessibility**

7.13 The household survey identified that 69% of users of village halls and community centres would not wish to travel more than 10 minutes, of which 31% would not expect to travel more than 5 minutes. The preferred mode of transport is walking (77% of respondents); and, by car (21%)

7.14 Most of the District has a village or community hall nearby when access is by car. Where there are gaps and/or where population is sparse there may be other small venues (such as church halls) that serve a community function. The main issue is perhaps where those unable to use a car or public transport, cannot easily walk to a venue.

### **Discussion**

7.15 Other than the specific comments made by local councils, the overall consultation has not highlighted any apparent major issues with the provision of village and community halls. However, such facilities cannot be considered in isolation from the more general concerns of remoteness and geographical isolation experienced in some of the district's rural communities. The concluding section to the Community and Stakeholder Consultation Report stressed the importance of recognising travel times as a factor influencing willingness to access and use facilities of many kinds. This is especially relevant given the geography of the District.

7.16 The Community and Stakeholder Consultation also indicated the potential importance of village and community halls in providing local opportunities in villages that cannot easily access core facilities in the key settlements.

7.17 Village and community halls are therefore an essential part of overall community infrastructure, and their multifunctional recreation and social role is critical to the functioning and long-term sustainability of the district's rural settlements.

### **Key messages from this section**

**7.18 Village and community halls are local venues for active recreation. They are important basic community facilities and need to be planned.**

**7.19 Based on evidence presented in this section, Section 8 suggests a local standard for the provision of village and community halls.**

**7.20 The local authority has a good range and spread of village and community halls. However, in some locations natural and planned population change within the local authority may increase the demand for access to such venues.**

**7.21 It will be important to continue to review the level of provision, especially in areas of rapid population change.**

**7.22 Quantity: There is generally a good geographic and quantitative spread of such facilities within the local authority, and they serve an important sports function where more centrally-placed leisure centres are difficult to reach. Such venues will also be required in areas of planned growth to complement traditional leisure centre provision.**

**7.23 Quality: Most of the existing village/community halls appear to be of a good level of repair and maintenance, although of varying age and fitness for contemporary needs. In some locations their upgrading will help to meet community needs where access to more centrally placed leisure centres is difficult.**

**7.24 Accessibility: Surveys underpinning this assessment suggested that most respondents would be prepared to travel around 10 minutes (by foot or car) to a village/community hall, and this suggests that there is already a good spread of facilities.**

## 8 FUTURE PROVISION, STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### General

8.1 This section considers future natural and planned changes that will impact upon the need for the facilities covered in this report. It looks at projected growth to the year 2040. It goes on to consider some outline standards (where appropriate) to guide the provision of new and improved facilities, especially in relation to planned new housing allocations where increased need is likely to be most acute. Other recommendations are made in respect of the provision of specific types of facility, and planning policy and guidance.

### Natural and planned population change (to 2040)

8.2 As at 2018 the District was estimated to have a population of 119,074. This figure is based upon population projections provided by the ONS. The same projections calculate that by the year 2040 the population will have increased to 135,429. This figure is itself only based upon previous trends, and does not necessarily take into account the impact of planned new residential growth yet to be determined.

8.3 The preferred growth strategy for the for the new local plan currently under preparation is detailed in Appendix 1 and is based on the 8 local 'clusters' described in Section 2.

### Guidance for the development of new and improved facilities

8.4 **Tables 8.1** and **8.2** provide recommendations for new and improved provision, on a District-wide, and local cluster basis respectively. The recommendations are based on the findings of Sections 3 to 7, which themselves have also been informed by the associated Community and Stakeholder Consultation. Where appropriate, outline standards of provision will be to help guide provision in relation to new housing with respect to Section 106 contributions and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)<sup>16</sup>.

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<sup>16</sup> At the time of undertaking this assessment the Government had announced (in its Autumn 2017 Budget Statement) consultation on developer contributions, including changes to the current CIL system; the role of Section 106 Agreements; and, the relationship between the two.

**Table 8.1: Summary of guidance in relation to specific facilities: District-wide**

Facility	Key conclusions from this Built facilities assessment for facilities under Column A	Recommended Standard of Provision (if appropriate) based on conclusions	Standards (Column C) as applied to additional population increase by 2040 <sup>17</sup>	Cost of required new provision: Potential capital cost of the quantities (based on sources indicated) <sup>18</sup>
Indoor swimming pools (Section 4)	<p><b>Quantity:</b> The combined <u>indoor</u> waterspace offered by the Council controlled venues is estimated to be 462 square metres. An optimal amount of waterspace for the District is suggested by the Sport England FC to be 1,251 sq.m square metres of waterspace for community use (or 9.75 sq.m per 1000 people). Whilst also taking into account the role pools in the education sector can play in meeting some demand in the community, the District appears to be significantly under-provided, although the availability of pools outside the District is recognised.</p>	<p><b><u>9.75 sq.m waterspace/1000 persons.</u></b> This a reasonable per capita provision of water space when divided by the current estimated local authority population.</p> <p>Ideally, no more than 15 minutes' drive or walk time (the latter in urban areas); and, a quality component (perhaps referring to an expectation on the extent and character of secured community use, and the design of new or improved facilities, such as shape, dimensions, depth variation etc.)<sup>19</sup>.</p>	<p>If the quantitative component of the outline standard was applied to the <i>projected housing-led population growth</i> between now and 2040 (23,881) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra <b><u>233 sq.m. of waterspace.- just over the size of a 25m x 4 lane pools.</u></b></p> <p>(If the quantitative component of the above outline standard was applied to the <i>ONS projected population growth</i> between now and 2040 (16,355) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra 160 sq.m of waterspace.)</p>	c. £4,115,480 <sup>20</sup>

<sup>17</sup> See paragraphs 8.3 and paragraphs 2.30 (the latter for a full explanation of how these figures are derived).

<sup>18</sup> Sport England Facility Costs (2nd Quarter 2018). These were the most up-to-date figures available from Sport England at the time of the study. The current Sport England cost data should be used at all times, and is available from <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>

<sup>19</sup> The costs provided in the above schedule are based on 'affordable' community facility designs offered on <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/>

<sup>20</sup> A wet and dry leisure centre including 4-lane pool, 4-court hall, and 50- unit health and fitness plus studio would cost c. £7,345,000, and this might be a more cost-effective option than a standalone pool.



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	<p><b>Quantity:</b> Whilst existing pool stock both in and outside the District may be meeting the majority of local demands an increase in population will place further demand upon venues.</p> <p><b>Quality:</b> The existing Council-controlled pools are in good condition and well-used. However, the quality of the pool at Archway School is deteriorating.</p> <p><b>Accessibility:</b> There are only small parts of the District outside a reasonable travel time to at least one of the two Council controlled venues (Stratford Park and The Pulse). However, some of the excluded parts of the District may well host significant planned new development, such as around Sharpness and the Cam/Wisloe area.</p>			
Sports halls (Section 4)	<p><b>Quantity:</b> There are some activities that potentially can be housed in sports halls, but which sometimes benefit from alternative accommodation of a suitable type and location, and which can be better devoted to the bespoke needs of those</p>	<p><b>0.27 courts/1000 persons.</b> This is reasonable per capita provision of sports hall court units.</p> <p>Ideally, no more than 15 minutes' drive or walk time (the latter in urban areas); and, a quality</p>	<p>If the quantitative component of the above outline standard was applied to the <i>projected housing-led population growth</i> between now and 2040 (23,881) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra <b><u>need for approximately 6.4 extra</u></b></p>	<p>£3,856,000<sup>22</sup></p>

<sup>22</sup> A wet and dry leisure centre including 4-lane pool, 4-court hall, and 50- unit health and fitness plus studio would cost c. 7,345,000, and this might be a more cost-effective option than a standalone sports hall.

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	<p>activities. Activities such as gymnastics and table tennis may be cases in point.</p> <p><b>Quantity:</b> An optimal amount of sports hall space within the District is suggested to be 32 court spaces (the equivalent of 8 4-court sports halls for community use- 0.27 courts per 1000 population). This compares with an existing 39 courts in halls offering significant community use, but of which only 6 (at Stratton Park) are controlled by the local authority. Facilities at Archway School (Stroud), Wotton (KLB School), Dursley (Rednock School), Thomas Keble School (Eastcombe), and Maidenhill Sports and Dance Centre (Stroud) can also be factored in, given the strong record of community use and management; this would then offer 29 court spaces.</p> <p><b>Quantity:</b> Future housing and population growth will place additional demands on sports halls.</p> <p><b>Quality:</b> Some of the older school facilities, such as those at Rednock and Archway Schools are in need of upgrade and repair.</p>	<p>component (perhaps referring to an expectation on the extent and character of secured community use, and the design of new or improved facilities, such as shape, dimensions, etc.).<sup>21</sup></p>	<p><b><u>courts (the equivalent over 1.5 additional 'standard size' 4-court sports hall.</u></b></p> <p>(If the quantitative component of the above outline standard was applied to the <i>ONS projected population growth</i> between now and 2040 (16,355) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra 4.4 extra courts.)</p>	
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<sup>21</sup> The costs provided in the above schedule are based on 'affordable' community facility designs offered on <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/>

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	<p><b>Accessibility:</b> With the withdrawal of District Council involvement from sports halls at Maidenhill and Thomas Keble Schools, the remaining Council-controlled venue at Stratford Park will only offer be accessible to around two thirds of the District’s residents. The continued availability of school-based sports halls for local residents and clubs is therefore very important.</p>			
<p>Health &amp; Fitness Suites (Section 3, Appendix 4)</p>	<p>Appendix 4 of this report identifies an estimated 619 health &amp; fitness stations with suite venues throughout the District. (Excluding those identified for ‘private use’). Based on the current population estimates for 2018 this number of units equates to approximately 5.2 stations per 1000 population.</p> <p>This provision includes that which is not under the control of the local authority (such as at schools commercial and membership facilities) but is not just for ‘private’ use.</p> <p>The public sector makes a significant contribution to the provision of such facilities driven by a community-focused pay-as-you play ethos.</p>	<p><b>6.3 health &amp; fitness station/ 1000 persons</b> (<i>see under comment for explanation of how this has been derived</i>)</p> <p>Ideally, no more than 15 minutes’ drive or walk-time (the latter in urban areas); and, a quality component (perhaps referring to an expectation of the extent and character of secured community use, and the design of new or improved facilities, such as shape, dimensions, etc.)<sup>23</sup>.</p>	<p>If the quantitative component of the above outline standard was applied to the <i>projected housing-led population growth</i> between now and 2040 (23,881) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra <b>150 health and fitness stations spread over one or more of it centres</b>. It would be sensible for this provision to be made in association with new or improved provision for leisure centres in line with the recommendations within the appropriate section of this report.</p> <p>(If the quantitative component of the above outline standard was applied to the <i>ONS projected</i></p>	<p>(see note under costings for indoor swimming pools)</p>

<sup>23</sup> The following link provides guidance on the design of health and fitness facilities in the context of ‘wet/dry’ leisure centres: <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/combined-wet-and-dry-facilities/>

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	The ratio of provision is close to that recommended by the Fitness Industry Association methodology (see paragraph 3.30) which works out at 756 stations (6.3 stations/1000 persons).		<i>population growth</i> between now and 2040 (16,355) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra 103 extra stations)	
Indoor bowls (Section 6)	The evidence of the assessment is that the need for indoor bowls is largely being met currently, and this is supported by the view of the sport's national governing body. The existing (and only) venue in the District appears well-placed to meet current needs.	A standard is not considered to be appropriate. However, see column to the right and the comments provided by the English Indoor Bowls Association on appropriate levels of provision (paras 6.25-6.28).	If guidance provided by the sport's governing body is applied to the <i>projected housing-led population growth</i> between now and 2040 (23,881) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra rink lane. If possible, any additional provision should be made through enlarging the existing venue in Stroud.	
Indoor tennis (Section 6)	The evidence of the assessment is that whilst the District does not currently host a dedicated indoor venue, there may be potential demand for a facility of some description. Additional demand may be generated from planned development.  The LTA representative states that, overall for indoor tennis facilities, the Stroud area is or will be fairly-well covered by potential investments in authorities to the North and South. However, in principle it is reasonable that an area the size of Stroud could justify some kind of indoor tennis	A standard is not considered to be appropriate. However, see column to the right.	The situation should be kept under review.	c.£2,475,000 is an estimated cost for a 3-court indoor facility. An extra court would cost an estimated £805,000.

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	centre to serve the towns and villages surrounding it.			
Athletics (Section 6)	<p>Evidence provided in Section 6 demonstrates the popularity of athletic activity, including various forms of running. Local athletic clubs in the District are strong, and have expressed a desire for dedicated track and field facilities.</p> <p>England Athletics (EA) believe that the District would benefit from an athletics training venue in the area if demand can be demonstrated and a sustainable business plan is developed. However, EA also state that the impact new facilities would have on existing facilities within the sub region must be considered. Consequently, EA's view is that a facility primarily for training would be beneficial to clubs, schools and local communities.</p> <p>Given the popularity of general running within the population there should also be a focus on safe, waymarked, off-road running opportunities, such as Run England's 3-2-1 initiative.</p> <p>Initiatives such as 'Park Run' which make use of existing public open space</p>	No standard suggested but see column to right	<p>The desire for a dedicated track and field facility primarily for training for use by both clubs and schools has been well vocalised.</p> <p>Although a full-size athletics track may not be justified, a reduced size 'j-track' facility would be an important local acquisition, although its location would need careful consideration so as to draw use from existing clubs and schools. The facility could be scaled-up to full-size at a later date if needed.</p>	<p>A full-scale 6-lane floodlit facility might be expected to cost c. £1,435,000 at current prices. A reduced-size 'j-track' facility would cost less.</p>

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	can also be extremely popular, and are not capital intensive.			
Studios (Section 3 and Appendix 4)	Studios are valuable and multi-functional spaces that should be embraced in both new and refurbished leisure centres wherever possible. They can accommodate activities that have wide appeal across the demographic groups	No standard suggested but see column to right	These should be integral to all new/improved major sports hall provision. (See under Sports Halls (above) for an indication of required needs in this regard)	(See note under costings for indoor swimming pools)
Small community hall (Section 7)	<p>Village and community halls are local venues for active recreation. They are important basic community facilities and need to be planned.</p> <p>The local authority has a good range and spread of village and community halls. However, in some locations natural and planned population change within the local authority may increase the demand for access to such venues.</p> <p>It will be important to continue to review the level of provision, especially in areas of rapid population change.</p> <p><b>Quantity:</b> There is generally a good geographic and quantitative spread of such facilities within the local authority, and they serve an important sports function where more centrally-placed leisure centres are difficult to reach. Such venues will also be</p>	<p>The existing level of provision within the local authority is around 1 venue per 1,777 people. The evidence suggests that this stock is, overall, well-maintained, and used.</p> <p>The above figure (rounded to 1:1,800 people (or 0.55 halls/ 1000 persons) could be the basis of an appropriate quantitative standard.</p> <p>A quality component would be essential. To retain the diversity and character of facilities (in the tradition of village halls) provision should include facilities such as a main hall (at least 100 sq.m) suited to a range of passive and active recreation activities, a meeting room, toilets, a supporting kitchen, ancillary space, and parking.</p>	<p>If the quantitative component of the above outline standard was applied to the projected housing-led population growth between now and 2040 (23,881) it suggests that the additional demand generated would lead to a need for an extra 13 basic venues.</p> <p>However, the way in which provision is made will depend on the nature of the location, and the whether or not there is scope to enhance the capacity of existing venues.</p> <p>In existing expanding urban areas it may be sensible to provide few but larger new/improved venues (that might provide larger main halls, additional meeting rooms, and ancillary activity space etc).</p>	c.£10,400,000 (based on an assumed unit cost of £800,000) for a basic provision of the type described in the 'recommended standard' column

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	<p>required in areas of planned growth to complement traditional leisure centre provision.</p> <p><b>Quality:</b> Most of the existing village/community halls appear to be of a good level of repair and maintenance, although of varying age and fitness for contemporary needs. In some locations their upgrading will help to meet community needs where access to more centrally placed leisure centres is difficult.</p> <p><b>Accessibility:</b> Surveys underpinning this assessment suggested that most respondents would be prepared to travel around 10 minutes (by foot or car) to a village/community hall, and this suggests that there is already a good spread of facilities.</p>	<p>In areas where new growth requires a large venue, single, scaled-up provision could be provided instead of more than one smaller venue.</p> <p>It is emphasised though that the success of such venues depends on proactive marketing and management, and this should go hand-in-hand with the provision of a building.</p> <p>An accessibility standard could be based on a 10-minute drive/walk time, which is evidenced by the household survey</p>		
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**Table 8.2: Summary of guidance in relation to specific facilities: by Local Cluster**

Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
<b>Berkeley Cluster:</b> Town Council: Berkeley; Parish Councils: Alkington, Ham and Stone, Hamfallow, Hinton, Slimbridge.	Indoor swimming pools	7,690	75 sq. metres additional waterspace required	<p>There is currently no dedicated indoor community pool in this area, and it is on the extremity of catchments for pools elsewhere.</p> <p>Although 75 sq.m equates to around only a third of the water space required for a 25 m x 4-lane pool (212 sq.m). There is justification to explore the provision of a new/improved facility perhaps in conjunction with the education sector.</p>
	Sports halls		2 additional court spaces required	<p>There is limited provision currently in this area, which is on the extremity of catchments for key venues elsewhere. Additional provision will be justified as a result of planned development.</p> <p>There is justification to explore the provision of a new/improved facility perhaps in conjunction with the education sector. Although, the existing facility at Ham Fields may warrant upgrading/expanding.</p>
	Health & Fitness Suites		48 additional stations required	Investment should be undertaken in conjunction with approaches agreed for swimming pool and sports hall investment in respect of this cluster.
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No investment proposed
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed



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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
	Athletics		n.a	No investment proposed
	Studios		n.a	Investment should be undertaken partly in conjunction with approaches agreed for swimming pool and sports hall investment in respect of this cluster.  Village and community halls may also be suitable venues for such facilities, where investment is planned.
	Cycling		n.a.	To be addressed in wider planning strategy
	Small community halls		4.2 basic hall units (or equivalent) required	Although some new provision may be required, the improvement of the capacity and quality of existing venues should be explored as part of the solution
<b>Cam/Dursley Cluster:</b> Town Council: Dursley; Parish Councils: Cam, Coaley, Dursley, Nympsfield, Owlpen, Stinchcombe, Uley.	Indoor swimming pools	3,425	33 sq. metres additional waterspace required	Investment should be focussed on the existing Pulse venue, perhaps by contributing to widening the pool to provide a 4-lane facility
	Sports halls		1 additional court space required	Investment should be focussed on improving provision at Rednock School, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.
	Health & Fitness Suites		22 additional stations required	Investment should be focussed on The Pulse and Rednock School (the latter subject to appropriate community use arrangements).
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No investment proposed

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed
	Athletics		n.a	A local athletics facility strategy should take into account the needs of Dursley Running Club and should support the provision of a shared all-weather training facility for use by local running and rugby clubs.  The planned improvements to walking and cycling links connecting with Cam and Uley should also provide for safe, marked running routes.
	Cycling		n.a.	To be addressed in wider planning strategy
	Studios		n.a	Improvements should be focussed on The Pulse and Rednock School, the latter subject to appropriate community use arrangements
	Small community halls		1.9 basic hall units (or equivalent) required	Although some new provision may be required, the improvement of the capacity and quality of existing venues should be explored as part of the solution
<b>Cotswold Fringe Cluster:</b> Parish Councils: Bisley-with-Lypiatt, Cranham, Miserden, Painswick, Pitchcombe.	Indoor swimming pools	217	2 sq. metres additional waterspace required	There is currently no dedicated indoor community pool in this area. Investment would be best focussed on improving existing pool facilities in Stroud.
	Sports halls		0.1 additional court spaces required	Investment should be focussed on the Thomas Keble facility, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.
	Health & Fitness Suites		1 additional station required	Investment should be focussed on the Thomas Keble facility, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No investment proposed
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed
	Athletics		n.a	No investment proposed
	Cycling		n.a	To be addressed in wider planning strategy
	Studios		n.a	Any investment should be focussed on the Thomas Keble facility, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.  Village and community halls may also be suitable venues for such facilities, where investment is planned
	Small community halls		0.1 basic hall unit (or equivalent) required	The limited investment funding available should be focussed on a discrete priority project to be identified by relevant stakeholders
<b>Gloucester Fringe Cluster:</b> Parish Councils: Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon, Hardwicke, Harescombe, Haresfield, Upton St Leonards.	Indoor swimming pools	3,785	37 sq. metres additional waterspace required	There is currently no dedicated indoor community pool in this area. Investment would be best focussed on improving existing pool facilities in the Stroud Valley Cluster.  However, if new provision were to be made in the Berkeley Cluster (see above) a contribution might be made to such provision subject reasonable access by car.

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
	Sports halls		1 additional court space required	There is currently no significant provision in this cluster, and investment might be best directed towards local village halls and community centres to improve opportunities for indoor sports.
	Health & Fitness Suites		25 additional stations required	Investment might be best directed towards local village halls and community centres to improve access to health and fitness facilities within this area, and to potentially help underpin the viability of village/community halls.
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No investment proposed
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed
	Athletics		n.a	No investment proposed
	Cycling		n.a	To be addressed in wider planning strategy
	Studios		n.a	Village and community halls may also be suitable venues for such facilities, where investment is planned
	Small community halls		2.1 basic hall units (or equivalent) required	Although some new provision may be required, the improvement of the capacity and quality of existing venues should be explored as part of the solution
<b>Severn Vale Cluster:</b> Parish Councils: Arlingham, Elmore Frampton-on-Severn, Fretherne-with-Saul, Longney & Epney, Moreton Valance, Whitminster.	Indoor swimming pools	219	2 sq. metres additional waterspace required	There is currently no dedicated indoor community pool in this area. Investment would be best focussed on improving existing pool facilities in the Stroud Valley/Stonehouse areas.

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
				However, if new provision were to be made in the Berkeley Cluster (see above) a contribution might be made to such provision, subject to reasonable access by car.
	Sports halls		0.1 additional court space required	There is currently no significant provision in this cluster, investment might be best directed towards local village halls and community centres to improve opportunities for indoor sports.
	Health & Fitness Suites		1 additional station required	Investment might be best directed towards a local village hall/community centre.
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No investment proposed
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed
	Athletics		n.a	No investment proposed
	Cycling		n.a	To be addressed in wider planning strategy
	Studios		n.a	Village and community halls may also be suitable venues for such facilities, where investment is planned
	Small community halls		0.1 basic hall unit (or equivalent) required	The limited investment funding available should be focussed on a discrete priority project to be identified by relevant stakeholders

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
<b>Stonehouse Fringe Cluster:</b> Town Council: Stonehouse; Parish Councils: Eastington, Frocester, Kings Stanley, Leonard Stanley, Standish	Indoor swimming pools	4,251	41 sq. metres additional waterspace required	<p>There is currently no dedicated indoor community pool in this area. Investment would be best focussed on improving existing pool facilities in the Stroud Valley Cluster (Stratton Park and Archway Schools). See below.</p> <p>Apart from the Stratton Park facility, a pool at Archway School offers scope for upgrade subject to better community use arrangements.</p>
	Sports halls		1 additional court space required	Investment should be focussed on the Maidenhill Sports and Dance Centre, subject to appropriate community use arrangements
	Health & Fitness Suites		30 additional stations required	Investment will be best directed towards Maidenhill Sports and Dance Centre, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No investment proposed
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed
	Athletics		n.a	Planned improvements to cycling and walking links to/from the Stroudwater canal and to the wider Stroud valleys network, should incorporate safe, marked running routes
	Cycling		n.a	To be addressed in wider planning strategy
	Studios		n.a	Any investment should be focussed on the Maidenhill Sports and Dance Centre, subject to appropriate community use arrangements

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
	Small community halls		2.3 basic hall units (or equivalent) required	<p>Although some new provision may be required, the improvement of the capacity and quality of existing venues should be explored as part of the solution.</p> <p>Stonehouse Council would like to improve community facilities at Oldends Lane, and this should be explored further with the Council.</p>
<b>Stroud Valleys Cluster:</b> Town Councils: Nailsworth and Stroud; Parish Councils: Brimscombe and Thrupp, Cainscross, Chalford, Horsley, Minchinhampton, Nailsworth, Randwick and Westrip, Rodborough, Stroud, Whiteshill and Ruscombe, Woodchester	Indoor swimming pools	3,839	37 sq. metres additional waterspace required	<p>Investment should be focussed on the existing provision in the Cluster.</p> <p>Apart from the Stratton Park facility, a pool at Archway School offers scope for upgrade subject to better community use arrangements.</p> <p>Innovative improvements to the Stratton Park Lido may merit consideration as part of improvements, although recognising that these will only have seasonal benefit.</p>
	Sports halls		1 additional court space required	Investment should be focussed on the Stratton Park venue. However, facilities at Archway School offer scope for improvement and expansion, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.
	Health & Fitness Suites		25 additional stations required	Investment should be focussed on the Stratton Park venue. However, facilities at Archway School offer scope for improvement and expansion, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No additional investment is proposed, although the situation should be kept under review. Any additional

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
				investment should be focussed on the existing venue in Stroud.
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed at this time, although the situation should be kept under review. If such a facility is ultimately felt to be warranted within the District, then this (or the Stonehouse) Cluster is likely to be the optimum location.
	Athletics		n.a	<p>A local athletics facility strategy should take into account the needs of Stroud and District Athletics Club and should support the provision of a shared all-weather training facility: ideally a floodlit 'j-track' design. Potential venues are the Archway School in this cluster, or an appropriate location in the Stonehouse Fringe Cluster.</p> <p>The planned improvements to walking and cycling links to and from the Stroudwater canal and the wider Stroud valleys network, should also provide for safe, marked running routes: as should the planned improved walking and cycling links to the wider Stroud valleys network</p>
	Cycling		n.a.	<p>The Rush indoor wheels park at Brimscombe Port requires relocation to a locality more accessible to the majority of potential users (ideally in Stroud).</p> <p>Other cycling issues addressed in wider planning strategy</p>



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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
	Studios		n.a	Investment should be focussed on the Stratton Park venue. However, facilities at Archway School offer scope for improvement and expansion, subject to appropriate community use arrangements.
	Small community halls		2.1 basic hall units (or equivalent) required	Although some new provision may be required, the improvement of the capacity and quality of existing venues should be explored as part of the solution.  Note: Nailsworth Town Council is investigating moving the offices to a central 'civic centre', bringing the Town Council offices into the same building as the library, town council-managed Tourist Information Centre and the Mortimer Room. This will trigger the refurbishment of the Mortimer Room and some refurbishment of the Town Hall.
<b>Wotton Cluster:</b> Town Council: Wotton under Edge; Parish Councils: Alderley, Hillesley & Tresham, Kingswood, North Nibley, Wotton under Edge	Indoor swimming pools	455	4 sq. metres additional waterspace required	Investment should be focussed largely on the Pulse venue in the Cam/Dursley Cluster.  Innovative improvements to the Wotton Pool may merit consideration as part of improvements, although recognising that these will largely only have seasonal benefit.
	Sports halls		0.1 additional court space required	Investments should be focussed on Wotton Sports Centre.
	Health & Fitness Suites		3 additional stations required	Investments should be focussed on Wotton Sports Centre.
	Indoor bowls		n.a	No investment proposed

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Cluster	Facility	Additional population based on new housing projected (See Appendix 1)	Calculation: Standards as applied to additional population increase by 2040	Investment strategy
	Indoor tennis		n.a	No investment proposed
	Athletics		n.a	The potential Greenway cycle and walking route (subject to further feasibility work) should also take into account the potential to provide safe, marked running routes.
	Cycling		n.a	To be addressed in wider planning strategy
	Studios		n.a	Any investments should be focussed on Wotton Sports Centre.
	Small community halls		0.3 basic hall unit (or equivalent) required	The limited investment funding available should be focussed on a discrete priority project to be identified by relevant stakeholders. Note: Kingswood Parish Council is consulting on the village hall and the current facilities.

## **Other considerations**

8.5 Village and community halls figure prominently in this report and its recommendations. However, a detailed facility audit has not been conducted. Given the focus on improving the quality and capacity of existing venues (in addition to essential new provision) it will be important for the Council to have a better understanding of the character and quality of local village and community halls to inform investment decisions.

8.6 Other than the recommendations in Tables 8.1 and 8.2, it will be very important for the Council to provide complementary guidance through its planning policies, and these should cover the following.

8.7 Include policies and proposals in the Development Plan which are consistent with National Planning Policy Framework guidance and, in particular, include reference to the recommendations contained in this Section.

8.8 Include proposals that cover the relevant recommendations contained in **Tables 8.1 and 8.2** where the location and/or site of new or improved provision is determined.

8.9 In assessing all options, the potential for developing/improving bone fide community facilities on existing and new school sites should be considered.

8.10 In circumstances where there are proposals to develop and use facilities contrary to the recommendations of this assessment and any subsequent strategy and action plan, they should only be approved where:

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

## **Appendix 1: Explanation of the standard approach to population projections and estimation of participation levels by adults**

### **Population projection**

There are two approaches to population projection used for this assessment.

- a) Baseline population data is obtained from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) Population projections by single year age groups (2016 base). This has been used to indicate the change in population District-wide based on previous trends and the demographic characteristics of the population, including average household sizes. (Estimates for the years 2018 and 2040 have been used from this source); and,
- b) Using projected new housing, together with an average household size (based on ONS estimates), to allow examination of the impact that new housing allocations will have in respect of localised population change and the demand for new facilities in the areas concerned.

'b)' is therefore an estimate of the order of population generated through planned growth, and it will be different from the ONS-based projections. It would be wrong to combine the two totals together to produce an even higher overall total, because much of the new housing may accommodate a movement of the existing population within the District into new dwellings. 'b)' numbers can be linked directly to the impact of new housing, and is therefore a more rational figure in respect of the negotiation of developer contributions. However, 'a)' numbers allow for estimates of the size of local participation in various activities to be made.

Column J (and supporting notes) of the following table indicate the estimated population arising from anticipated new housing, for each of the 8 sub areas, and in total (for the District).

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Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>
<b>Sub Area</b>	<b>Unimplemented permissions 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018</b>	<b>Sites allocated - without permission</b>	<b>Additional allocations</b>	<b>Windfall</b>	<b>SubTotal (A+B+C+D)</b>	<b>Apportion 'Various'</b>	<b>Total (E+F)</b>	<b>30% of G</b>	<b>G-H</b>	<b>Additional population accrued. (based on Column I * 2.3*)</b>
<b>Berkeley</b>	258	300	4090	125	4773	3	4776	1433	3343	<b>7690</b>
<b>Cam/Dursley</b>	865	0	1040	219	2124	3	2127	638	1489	<b>3425</b>
<b>Cotswold Fringe</b>	37	0	20	76	133	2	135	40	94	<b>217</b>
<b>Gloucester Fringe</b>	1575	750	0	23	2348	3	2351	705	1646	<b>3785</b>
<b>Severn Vale</b>	75	0	0	59	134	2	136	41	95	<b>219</b>
<b>Stonehouse</b>	1729	9	725	175	2638	3	2641	792	1848	<b>4251</b>
<b>Stroud</b>	1107	220	560	495	2382	3	2385	715	1669	<b>3839</b>
<b>Wotton</b>	115	0	50	114	279	3	282	85	198	<b>455</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5761</b>	<b>1279</b>	<b>6485</b>	<b>1286</b>	<b>14811</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14833</b>	<b>4450</b>	<b>10383</b>	<b>23881</b>
<i>Hardwicke#</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1500</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>					<i>0</i>
<i>Brookthorpe-w-Whaddon#</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>					<i>0</i>

\* The mid-2016-based total population estimate for SDC in 2018 (119,074 (say 119,100)) divided by the mid-2016 based corresponding estimate for households (51k) equals 2.33 as an average household size. The corresponding figure for the 2036 time horizon is 2.257; and, only very slightly less (2.256) for the 2040 time horizon. 2.3 is a compromise between all three of the above.

# Potential sites for additional Gloucester City allocations

### **Estimating participation by adults**

General estimates of participation levels in various activities are based on information derived from Sport England's Active People Surveys of the adult population (16 years +)- See Appendix 2.

The ONS figures for 2018 estimate that there are 97,646 residents of 16+ years. In the various sport-by-sport estimates provided in this assessment, a realistic estimate (based on the above data) of the percentage of adults participating in specific activities at least once-a-week have been applied to the above figure, to provide numerical estimates. By 2040, the ONS estimates predict that the 16 years + population will have increased to 112,560 (a net increase of 14,914). The above percentages are therefore also applied to this net projected increase to estimate the change in the number of adult participants likely to participate with at least the same regularity.

## **Appendix 2: Further Explanation of Sport England Active People and Market Segmentation analyses**

Carried out on behalf of Sport England by the leading social research company TNS BMRB, the Active People Survey (APS) measured the number of adults taking part in sport across England. Providing the most comprehensive and authoritative picture of sports participation in England, APS was central to Sport England's measurement of its own strategy and the performance of key partners.

### **Active People Surveys**

APS was the largest survey of its kind ever undertaken – 165,000 adults (age 14 and over) were interviewed each year

The size of the survey meant results could be published for a large number of different sporting activities and for every local authority area in England

Time series data stretches back to the first wave of the survey in 2005/6, with the final AP survey covering 2016.

Random sampling, survey design ensured results representative of the population

Survey design included:

- 1 Randomly sampled landline telephone interviews with adults aged 16 and over – extended to age 14 and over in July 2012
- 2 Calls made throughout the year and at different times across each day
- 3 500 interviews per local authority (district and single tier) each year

The APS results were not always available at the local authority level due to the inadequate size of data samples in some situations.

### **Active Lives Surveys**

Active Lives Surveys measure the activity levels of people across England.

There are two surveys: Active Lives Adult, which is published twice a year, and the Active Lives Children and Young People, which is published annually.

Both offer insight into how people are getting active.

Data are therefore collected for two surveys, with our Active Lives Adult Survey focusing on people aged 16 and above, while Active Lives Children and Young People looks at the activity levels of children aged 5-16.

Both surveys represent a new way of measuring the number of people taking part in sport and physical activity.

Collection of data for our Active Lives Adult Survey began in November 2015 – replacing the Active People Survey – and runs for an initial period of five years, while the first Children and Young People equivalent details activity levels during the September 2017 to July 2018 academic year and was published in December 2018.

### **Market Segmentation**

Sport England's market segmentation has been designed to help understand the life stages and attitudes of different population groups –and the sporting interventions most likely to engage them.

The market segmentation data builds on the results of Sport England's Active People survey; the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's [Taking Part survey](#); and the [Mosaic tool from Experian](#). It presents a picture of 19 dominant social groups in each area, and puts people's sporting behaviour in the context of complex lives. Propensity modelling – a statistical technique that matches the probability of displaying a particular behaviour or attitude to each demographic category – was used to link the survey data to wider population groups.

This created a tool with two key elements:

- 1 a Sport England segment for every adult in England
- 2 the ability to count market segment profiles for any region or community, down to postcode level.

The 19 dominant social groups are summarised in the link: <http://segments.sportengland.org/querySegments.aspx>



## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

Segment	Forename & brief description	Gender/age/status	Sports Most Interested in	Motivations	Barriers	How to increase Participation	Participation Profile
01	Ben (Competitive Male Urbanites)	Male, 18-25, Single, Graduate professional	Rugby, Squash, Windsurfing, Tennis, Climbing, Gym, Football	Improving performance, Training for competition, Social, Enjoyment, Keep fit	Time, Interest	Better facilities, Improved transport	Most active in population, Approx. 20% of segment zero days
02	Jamie (Sports Team Drinkers)	Male, 18-25, Single, Vocational Student	Basketball, Football, Weight Training, Boxing, Martial Arts	Social, Performance, Competition	Time	Better facilities, Longer opening hours	Second highest participation of all types, Approx. 30% of segment zero days
03	Chloe (Fitness Class Friends)	Female, 18-25 Single Graduate Professional	Running, Aqua Aerobics, Tennis, Gym, Swimming	Weight Fitness	Time	Cost Opening Hours Facilities People to go with	Active type. Approx. 30-35% of segment zero days
04	Leanne (Supportive Singles)	Female, 18-25, Single, Likely to have children, Student / part time vocational education	Swimming, Gym, Aerobics, Dance Exercise, Body Pump, Utility Walking	Losing weight, Activities for children	Health isn't good enough, Time	Help with child care, Longer opening hours, Cost	Least active of group A who participate. Approx 40-45% of segment zero days
05	Helena (Career Focused Females)	Female, 26-35, Single, Full time professional	Gym, Road Running, Dance Exercise, Body Pump, Yoga	Losing weight, Keeping fit, Improving performance	Time, People to go with	Longer opening hours, People to go with	Very active type. Approx. 30-35% of segment zero days
06	Tim (Settling Down Males)	Male, 26-45, Single / married, May have children, Professional	Canoeing, Cricket, Cycling, Squash, Skiing, Golf, Football	Improve performance, Keep fit, Social	Time	More free time, Help with childcare	Very active type. Approx 25-30% of segment zero days
07	Alison (Stay at Home Mums)	Female, 36-45, Married Housewife, Children	Swimming, Badminton, Aerobics, Pilates, Cycling, Exercise Bike	Taking children, Losing weight, Keeping fit	Time	Help with childcare, Better facilities	Fairly active type. Approx 30-35% of segment zero days
08	Jackie (Middle England Mums)	Female, 36-45, Married Part time skilled worker, housewife, Children	Swimming, Dance Exercise, Body Pump, Ice Skating (with children), Aqua Aerobics	Taking children, Losing weight	Time, Cost, Lack of interest	Help with childcare, Cheaper admissions	Average activity. Approx 45-50% of segment zero days.
09	Kev (Pub League Team Mates)	Male, 36-45, Single / married, May have children, Vocational	Football, Darts, Snooker, Weights, Fishing, Pool, Ten Pin Bowling, Cricket	Competition, Social, Enjoyment, Perform	Time, Slight cost factor	More free time, Cost, Facilities	Less active within group B. Approx. 50% of segment zero days

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

10	Paula (Stretched Single Mums)	Female, 26-35, Single, Job seeker or part time low skilled	Swimming, Utility walking, Aerobics, Ice Skating	Lose weight, Take children	Cost, Lack of childcare, Poor transport, Lack of interest	Improved transport, Cheaper admission, Help with childcare, Better facilities	Least active type within Group B. Approx. 60% of segment zero days
11	Philip (Comfortable Mid-Life Males)	Male, 46-55, Married, Professional, Older children	Sailing, Badminton, Cycling, Gym, Jogging, Golf,	Social, Taking children, Improving performance, Enjoyment	Time, Lack of childcare	More free time, Help with childcare	Most active within Group C. Approx. 40% of segment zero days
12	Elaine (Empty Nest Career Ladies)	Female, 46-55, Married, Professional, Children left home	Swimming, Walking, Aqua Aerobics, Step Machine, Yoga Gym	Keeping fit, Losing weight, Help with injury	Time, Lack of interest	Longer opening hours, More people to go with	Reasonably active type. Approx. 40-45% of segment zero days
13	Roger and Joy (Early Retirement Couples)	Male / female, 56-65, Retired or part-time	Swimming, Walking, , Bowls, Sailing, Golf,	Keeping fit, To help with injury, Enjoyment, Taking grandchildren	Poor health, Lack of interest, Transport	Better facilities, Improved Transport	Participate once or twice a week, Approx. 50-55% of segment zero days
14	Brenda (Older Working Women)	Female, 46-55, Single / married, May have children, Low skilled worker	Swimming, Utility Walking, Dance Exercise, Aerobics, , Keep fit	Weight, Bring grandchildren, Help with injury	Lack of interest, Time	More free time, Longer hours, Help with childcare (for grandchildren)	Sometimes participates, Approx 60-65% of segment zero days
15	Terry (Local 'Old Boys')	Male age, 56-65, Single / married, Low skilled worker, Job seeker	Fishing, Shooting, Pool, Darts, Snooker, cycling	Help with injury, Social	Poor health, Lack of people to go with, Cost	People to go with	Some low intensity participation, Approx 65-70% of segment zero days
16	Norma (Later Life Ladies)	Female, 56-65 Single / married, Low skilled worker, Retired	Walking, Keep fit, Swimming, Aqua Aerobics	Help with injury or disability	Poor health, Cost	People to go with	Lowest participation of Group C, Approx 75-80% of segment zero days
17	Ralph and Phyllis (Comfortable Retired Couples)	Male / female, 65+, Married, Retired	Bowls, Golf, Walking, Fishing, Swimming	Social, Improve performance and keep fit, Enjoyment	Transport, Lack of people to go with	Improved transport, More people to go with	Highest participation of Group D, Approx. 70% of segment zero days
18	Frank (Twilight Year Gents)	Male 66+, Married / single, Retired	Bowls, Golf, Darts, Pool, Snooker, Walking, Fishing	Social, Enjoyment	Poor health	Improved transport, Cheaper admission	Medium participation for group D Approx. 75-80% zero of segment days

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

19	Elsie and Arnold (Retirement Home Singles)	Male / female, 66+, Widowed, Retired	Walking, Dancing, Bowls, Low-impact exercise	Social, Help with injury	Health problems and disability	Improved transport, People to go with	Lowest participation of Group D, Approx. 85% of segment zero days
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## Appendix 3: Active Places definitions of terms, in full

### What are the facility Access Type definitions?

Access Types are **defined** as:

**Free Public Access** - There is no charge to use the facility

**Pay and Play** - The main means of public access to the facility is on payment of a charge. The facility may also have a membership scheme, and it may be possible to block book the facility for a specific activity or for lessons, but during the public opening hours anyone can just turn up, pay and play.

For example: Local authority swimming pool or health and fitness facility, where the casual user pays per session, although there is also a membership scheme.

**Sports Club/Community Association use** - The main means of public access to the facility is via sports clubs or community associations, which book it for use by their members. Membership of the club or association is based on a particular sport or community group, and is not based on performance criteria or on a particular facility. The club or association may use several different facilities.

For example: Access to indoor bowls greens is through a bowls club, or to athletics tracks through an athletics club. School swimming pool that can be used by a swimming or sub-aqua club, but cannot be used by the general public.

**Registered Membership use** - The main public access to the facility is by membership. Members usually pay a joining fee as well as a monthly or annual subscription. Membership is controlled by the owner or manager of the facility.

For example: Fitness First health and fitness facility can only be used by registered members

**Private use** - The facility cannot be used by the public, either on a pay and play basis or through a recreational club, except when playing against the owner of the site. It may be available for use by elite clubs or development squads.

For example: School grass pitches that are only available for the school teams and the teams they are playing against. University, prison, MOD etc facilities that are not available for public use.

### **Not Known**

Access Types are **grouped** into the following categories:

- **Public Access**
  - **Private**
  - **Not Known**
-

### **What are the facility Management Type definitions?**

Generally there is one management type for each site. Sometimes there may be more than one (e.g. outdoor facilities are managed by the LEA but indoor facilities are handled by a private contractor).

Management Types are **defined** as:

**School/College/University (in house)** - Managed by the school/college themselves. Community access to these facilities are often limited to fit around curriculum/University use

**Local Authority (in house)** - Managed by Local Authority using their own staff.

**Private Contractor (PPP/PFI)** - Facility managed by a private contractor as part of the Public Private Partnership / Private Finance Initiative. PPP/PFI is a partnership between the public and private sector for the purpose of delivering a project or service traditionally provided by the public sector. This is an arrangement whereby the public sector pays the contractor to build and run a facility for a set period (25 years), after which the facility is handed back to the public sector. This arrangement is increasingly common with the development of new schools and some Local Authority Leisure Provision.

**Trust** - Charitable Trust set up to run sports facilities. A number of Local Authorities have set up Leisure Trusts to run their leisure centres. These Trusts benefit from charitable status and work outside the Local Authority structure. The Local Authority remains the owner of the facility.

**Sport Club** - Where the facility is managed by a sports club.

**Commercial Management** - Where the facility is managed by a commercial company, such as commercial health clubs. There are also Local Authority Facilities which have been contracted in to manage Local Authority Leisure Centres.

**CSSC** - Civil Service Sports Council provides sports facilities for employees in Government departments and agencies, the Post Office, BT and many other public bodies and in many companies carrying out ex-civil service work. The CSSC is the largest corporate provider of sport and leisure in the UK and have a network of sports facilities across the country.

**Community Organisation** - Facilities that are managed and run by Community Organisations, such as community associations and user groups.

**Industry Sports Club** - Facilities which are managed by an Industrial/Commercial Company for the benefit and use by its staff. Use of these facilities are often limited to family members of employees.

**Health Authority** - Facilities which are managed by the Health Authority.

**MOD** - Facilities on MOD sites managed by Armed Forces. Limited community availability.

## **Other - Other types of management**

**Not Known** - Facilities where the management type is not known.

Management types are **grouped** into the following categories:

- **Education**
- **Local Authority**
- **Trust**
- **Commercial**
- **Others**
- **Not Known**

## **What are the facility Operational Status definitions?**

Operational Status means the functional status of a facility. The Operational Status of a facility is defined as:

- **Planned**
- **Under Construction**
- **Operational**
- **Temporarily Closed**
- **Closed**
- **Does not appear to meet Active Places criteria\***
- **No Grass Pitches Currently Marked Out**
- **Not Known**

\* The “Does not appear to meet Active Places criteria” means that the data collected under further inspection has been found to not meet the definitions of the facility type/sub type as defined in the Sports Data Model e.g. it is an AGP where the length is too small etc. It is not a reflection of the quality or it failing to meet a certain design standard. The definitions of the facility types can be found under Help > Sports Data Model (SDM).

## **What are the facility Ownership Type definitions?**

Ownership Types are **defined** as:

(Note, for educational establishments the education type is taken from the Type of Establishment code in Edubase).

**Local Authority** - Facilities owned by the Local Authority, to include District, Borough, County and Unitary Councils

**Community school** - Similar to former County schools. LEA employs the school's staff, owns the school's land and buildings and is the admissions authority (it has primary responsibility for deciding the arrangements for admitting pupils).

**Voluntary Aided School** - Similar to former aided schools. The governing body is the employer and the admissions authority. The school's land and buildings (apart from playing fields which are normally vested in the LEA) will normally be owned by a charitable foundation.

**Voluntary Controlled School** - Very similar to former controlled schools. The LEA is the employer and the admissions authority. The school's land and buildings (apart from the playing fields which are normally vested in the LEA) will normally be owned by a charitable foundation.

**Foundation School** - At foundation schools the governing body is the employer and the admissions authority. The school's land and buildings are either owned by the governing body or by a charitable foundation.

**City Technology College** - Independent all-ability, non fee-paying schools for pupils aged 11-18. Their purpose is to offer pupils of all abilities in urban areas across England the opportunity to study successfully a curriculum geared, with the help of private sector sponsors, towards the world of work. Also encouraged to innovate in the development, management and delivery of the curriculum.

**Community Special School** - Is the special school equivalent of mainstream Community schools yet are catered wholly or mainly for children with statutory statements of special educational needs.

**Non-Maintained Special School** - Independent special schools approved by the Secretary of State for Education and Skills. They are run on a not-for-profit basis by charitable trusts and normally cater for children with severe and/or low incidence special educational needs.

**Independent School approved for SEN Pupils** - A special school equivalent of Other Independent catering wholly or mainly for children with statutory statements of special educational needs. Has been approved by the DfES for SEN provision.

**Other Independent Special School** - A special school equivalent of Other Independent catering wholly or mainly for children with statutory statements of special educational needs.

**Other Independent School** - Any school which provides full time education for 5 or more pupils of compulsory school age, which is not maintained by a local education authority or a non-maintained special school.

**Foundation Special School** - A special school equivalent of the mainstream Foundation school catering wholly or mainly for children with statutory statements of special educational needs.

**Pupil Referral Unit** - Any school established and maintained by a local authority which is specially organised to provide education for children who are excluded, sick or otherwise unable to attend mainstream school and is not a county or special school.

**LEA Nursery School** - Is maintained by a local education authority and is not a special school, providing education for children who have attained the age of 2 but are under compulsory school age.

**Playing for Success** - Through Playing for Success, the DfES is establishing out of school hours study support centres within top football clubs and at other sports' clubs grounds and venues. The centres use the environment and medium of football to help motivate pupils identified by their schools, as being in need of a boost to help them get back up to speed in literacy and ICT.

**Academy Sponsor Led** - Academies are all-ability, state-funded schools established and managed by sponsors from a wide range of backgrounds, including high performing schools and colleges, universities, individual philanthropists, businesses, the voluntary sector, and the faith communities

**EY Setting** - Early Years settings include private and voluntary day nurseries, pre-schools, playgroups, childminding networks, portage services and Local Authority day nurseries. The database only lists EY Settings that are registered with the Early Years Development Plan and Childcare Partnerships.

## **Further Education**

### **Higher Education Institutions**

### **Miscellaneous Education**

### **Secure Units**

### **Sixth Form Centres**

**Commercial** - Site owned by a commercial company .

**Sports Club** - Site owned by a sports club.

**Community Organisation** - Facilities that are owned and run by Community Organisations, such as community associations and user groups.

**Government** - Sites which are owned by Government Departments, excluding Local Authority site & MOD sites.

**Industry (for employees)** - Facilities which are owned by an Industrial/Commercial Company for the benefit and use by its staff. Use of these facilities are often limited to family members of employees.

**Health Authority** - Facilities which are owned by the Health Authority.

**MOD** - Facilities owned by the MOD.

**Other** - Other types of ownership

**Not known** - Sites where the ownership is not known



**Academy Convertors** - All schools that have chosen through Governing Body Resolution and application to the Secretary of State to become an Academy under the Academies Act 2010.

**Academy Free Schools** - Free Schools are all-ability state-funded schools set up in response to parental demand. The most important element of a great education is the quality of teaching and Free Schools will enable excellent teachers to create schools and improve standards for all children, regardless

**Academy Specials** - Special Schools that have chosen through Governing Body Resolution and application to the Secretary of State to become an Academy under the Academies Act 2010. These will be handled differently to Academy convertors and will follow a different process which is currently being developed

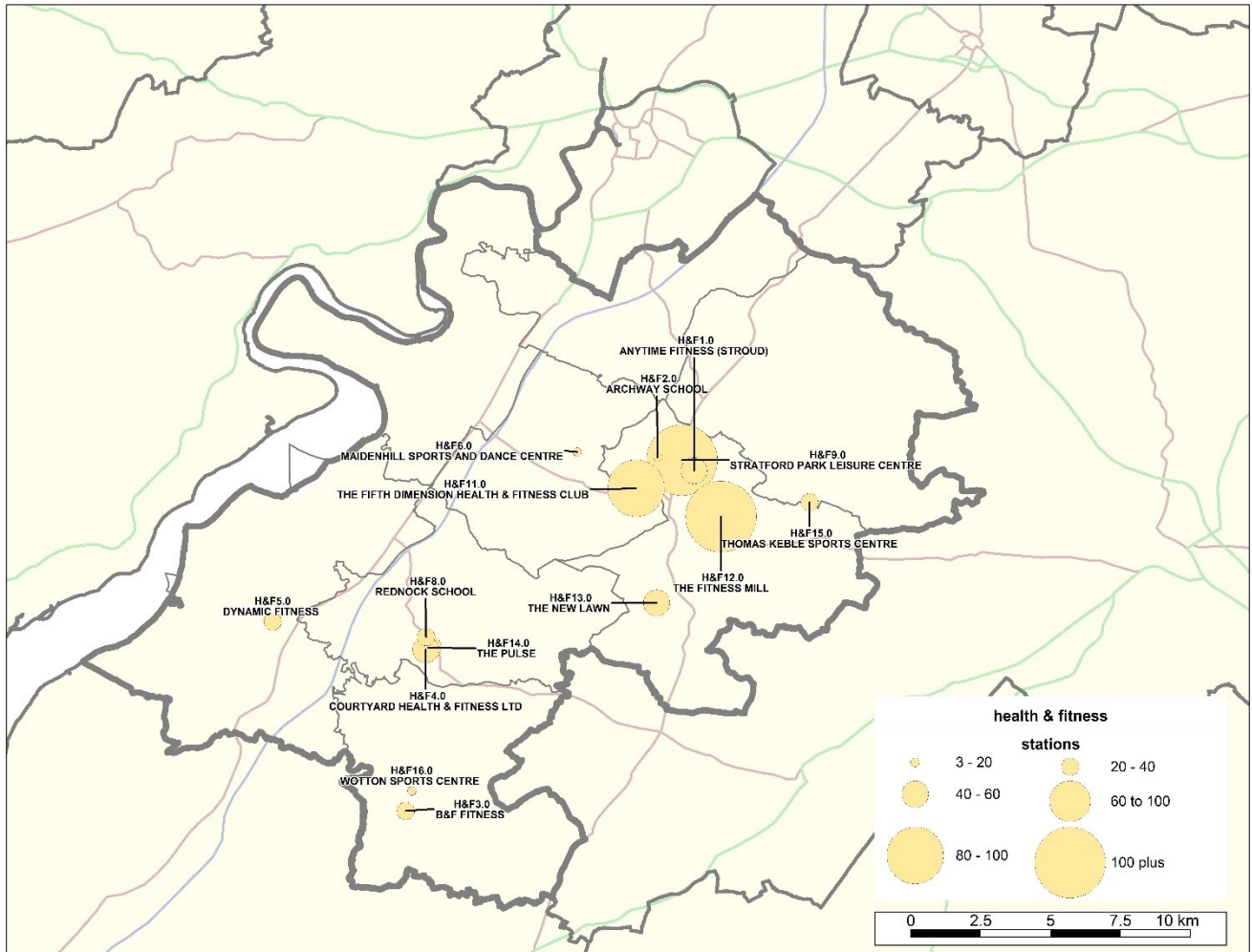
### **Special College**

Ownership types are **grouped** into the following categories:

- **Local Authority**
- **Education**
- **Commercial**
- **Sports Club**
- **Community Organisation**
- **Others**
- **Not Known**

# Appendix 4 (A): Health & Fitness Suites and Studio provision in the District

## Health & Fitness



# Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

## Studios



## Appendix 4 (B): List of provision

### Health & Fitness Suites

Name	Facility Reference	Stations	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Refurbished
ANYTIME FITNESS (STROUD)	H&F1.0	49	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2015	No
ARCHWAY SCHOOL	H&F2.0	13	Pay and Play	Community school	Local Authority (in house)	1998	Yes
B&F FITNESS	H&F3.0	21	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	2014	No
COURTYARD HEALTH & FITNESS LTD	H&F4.0	42	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1997	No
DYNAMIC FITNESS	H&F5.0	34	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	2006	Yes
MAIDENHILL SPORTS AND DANCE CENTRE	H&F6.0	16	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Local Authority (in house)	2006	Yes
MARLING SCHOOL	H&F7.0	18	Private Use	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	2004	No
REDNOCK SCHOOL	H&F8.0	30	Pay and Play	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	2015	No
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE	H&F9.0	100	Registered Membership use	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1975	Yes
STROUD HIGH SCHOOL	H&F10.0	18	Private Use	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2009	No
THE FIFTH DIMENSION HEALTH & FITNESS CLUB	H&F11.0	83	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2003	Yes
THE FITNESS MILL	H&F12.0	100	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1996	Yes
THE NEW LAWN	H&F13.0	40	Pay and Play	Sports Club	Sport Club	2006	No

### Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

Name	Facility Reference	Stations	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Refurbished
THE PULSE	H&F14.0	45	Registered Membership use	Foundation School	Local Authority (in house)	1980	Yes
THOMAS KEBLE SPORTS CENTRE	H&F15.0	30	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Local Authority (in house)	2002	No
WOTTON SPORTS CENTRE	H&F16.0	16	Registered Membership use	Community Organisation	Commercial Management	2001	No
WYCLIFFE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL	H&F17.0	20	Private Use	Other School Independent	School/College/University (in house)		No
WYCLIFFE COLLEGE SENIOR SCHOOL	H&F18.0	22	Private Use	Other School Independent	School/College/University (in house)	2004	No

## Stroud District Built and Indoor Sports Facility: Needs Assessment

### Studios

Name	Facility Reference	Access Type	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built	Refurbished	Year Refurbished
ANYTIME FITNESS (STROUD)	ST1.0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2015	No	
ARCHWAY SCHOOL	ST2.0	Pay and Play	Community school	Local Authority (in house)	1998	Yes	2008
COURTYARD HEALTH & FITNESS LTD	ST3.0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2004	No	
DYNAMIC FITNESS	ST4.0	Pay and Play	Commercial	Commercial Management	2006	No	
MAIDENHILL SPORTS AND DANCE CENTRE	ST5.0	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Local Authority (in house)	2006	Yes	2013
REDNOCK SCHOOL	ST6.0	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)			
STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE	ST7.0	Registered Membership use	Local Authority	Commercial Management	1975	Yes	2011
STROUD HIGH SCHOOL	ST8.0	Private Use	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2009	No	
THE FIFTH DIMENSION HEALTH & FITNESS CLUB	ST9.0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2003	No	
THE FITNESS MILL	ST10.0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1996	Yes	2010
THE NEW LAWN	ST11.0	Pay and Play	Sports Club	Sport Club	2006	No	
THE PULSE	ST12.0	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Local Authority (in house)		No	
THOMAS KEBLE SPORTS CENTRE	ST13.0	Pay and Play	Foundation School	Local Authority (in house)	2002	No	
WOTTON SPORTS CENTRE	ST14.0	Pay and Play	Community Organisation	Commercial Management	2013	No	