

**Ploszajski Lynch  
Consulting Ltd.**



**Uttlesford District Council**  
*Sports Facilities Development  
Strategy*

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Aims

- To contribute to the Council's wider aims and objectives for improving health and well-being and increasing participation in sport.
- To relate facility needs to sports development programmes and patterns of participation.
- To develop a list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies, provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.
- To provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.

### Scope

- Sports halls.
- Swimming pools.
- Athletics facilities.
- Indoor bowls halls.
- Outdoor bowling greens.
- Indoor tennis facilities.
- Outdoor tennis courts.
- Health and fitness facilities.
- Squash courts.
- Golf courses.
- Village and community halls.
- Skateparks.
- BMX trail and race track facilities.
- Grass pitches.
- Synthetic turf pitches.

### Context

- 1) **Population** - The current population of Uttlesford is 79,443. The district has an age structure that is relatively close to the national average, although the proportion of people in the 16 to 49 year age range that is traditionally most active in sports participation is 42.3% locally, compared with 46.2% nationally.
- 2) **Growth** - The Office for National Statistics projections for Uttlesford forecast that the population of the district will be 102,000 by 2031, an increase of more than 22,500 people, or 25.9% growth.
- 3) **Health** - Local health indices are generally better than the national norms, underlining the importance of ensuring access to sports and recreation facilities, as part of a wider strategy to ensure that the local population remains physically active and increases its participation.
- 4) **Deprivation** - Whilst the deprivation indices for the district as a whole are relatively low, the lack of access to services in rural areas emphasises the need for local facilities provision.

## Meeting wider priorities

- 5) **The value of sport** - Sport has a valuable role to play in meeting wider policy objectives:
- **Health and well-being** - Physical activity, including sport, is linked to reduced risk of over 20 illnesses, including cardiovascular disease and cancer. Taking part in regular sport can save between £1,750 and £6,900 in healthcare costs per person per annum.
  - **Social capacity and cohesion** - Sport provides an important medium to strengthen community networks and develop and nurture the voluntary sector.
  - **Crime reduction and community** - Studies have found that sport programmes aimed at youths at risk of criminal behaviour can enhance self-esteem and reduce reoffending.
  - **Economic benefits** - Sport contributes £20 billion per annum to the national economy and supports more than 400,000 full-time equivalent jobs, including an estimated 1,100 in Uttlesford.
- 6) **The role of sports facilities** - Sports facilities are an important prerequisite to accommodating the competitive, training and recreational activity programmes that characterize sport and physical activity and deliver such valuable outputs and outcomes.

## The local sports landscape

- 7) **Participation rates** - According to Sport England's annual 'Active People' survey, existing rates of sport and physical activity in Uttlesford are significantly higher than the regional and national averages, as is the role of voluntary sector sports clubs in delivering local opportunities.
- 8) **Facilities supply** - Current levels of facilities supply in Uttlesford appear to be quite good for the population served. However, the high proportion of major built facilities on school sites limits access and means that the actual capacity to accommodate community use is much more limited. The amount of exported demand from Uttlesford also emphasises the lack of capacity in several types of facility including swimming pools. Whilst there is a very vibrant voluntary sports clubs sector locally, 90% of survey respondents identified that current facilities provision is inadequate to meet their needs.

## Sports facilities needs

- 9) **Defining need** - The following factors were assessed to establish current and future sports facilities needs for each type of sports facility in Uttlesford:
- Quantity
  - Quality
  - Accessibility
  - Access
  - Strategic priority
  - Used capacity
- 10) **Current needs** - For most types of facility, the assessment has identified that existing provision is broadly adequate to meet current needs, with the following exceptions:

- **Swimming** - There is a shortage of water space equivalent to two lanes of a 25m pool.
- **Athletics** - There is emerging demand for specialist facilities in the north of the district.
- **BMX race tracks** - Unmet demand for one track
- **Adult football pitches** - There is a deficit equivalent to one pitch.
- **Youth football pitches** - There is a deficit equivalent to six pitches.
- **Rugby pitches** - There is a deficit equivalent to two pitches
- **Synthetic turf pitches for hockey** - Unmet demand equates to one pitch.
- **'3G' football turf pitches** - There is a deficit equivalent to three pitches.
- **Disabled access** - Disabled access is poor at a number of facilities.
- **Changing facilities** - Changing provision is poor at some sites particularly at pitches.

11) **Future needs** - The additional demand for sports facilities an extra 22,500 people by 2031 has been assessed to establish how much can be accommodated by existing spare capacity and how much extra provision will be needed. The additional facilities needed will be:

- **Sports halls** - Two more sports halls.
- **Swimming pools** - One more six-lane 25m pool.
- **Athletics** - Some additional capacity at a specialist local facility.
- **Indoor bowls** - Extra demand accommodated by current spare capacity.
- **Outdoor bowls** - Two new greens.
- **Indoor tennis** - Extra demand accommodated by current spare capacity.
- **Outdoor tennis** - Nine more courts.
- **Health and fitness** - Three more facilities.
- **Squash courts** - One squash court.
- **Golf courses** - Extra capacity equivalent to five holes.
- **Village and community halls** - 14 halls.
- **Skateparks** - Two new skateparks.
- **BMX facilities** - One new BMX trail facility and extra capacity at the race track.
- **Football pitches** - Three more adult pitches, 11 more youth pitches and one more mini pitch.
- **Cricket pitches** - Two more pitches.
- **Rugby pitches** - Two more pitches.
- **Synthetic turf pitches for hockey** - 0.6 more pitches (combined with current needs to create a collective demand for one pitch).
- **'3G' football turf pitches** - 0.62 more pitches (combined with current needs to create a collective demand for three pitches).

### Next steps

- 12) The Strategy will be adopted by UDC and approved by the governing bodies of sport and the local sports community. With this endorsement, it will form part of the evidence base that will inform the current review of UDC's Local Plan.
- 13) The Strategy identifies ways in which the identified shortfalls might be met, but does not contain a detailed action plan for prioritising and delivering the projects. Producing a detailed action plan will be part of a wider exercise to establish overarching local policies and priorities for sport and recreation, for which this document is a key part of the evidence base.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Introduction

Ploszajski Lynch Consulting Ltd. (PLC) was appointed by Uttlesford District Council (UDC) to undertake a Sports Facilities Development Strategy for the district.

## 1.2 Background

In 2012, Uttlesford District Council undertook a comprehensive assessment of open space, sport and recreation needs in the district, which evaluated the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of provision. The *'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy'* document is one of the background documents that forms part of the evidence base for the council's draft Local Plan. It focuses primarily on how many facilities of each type are required both currently and in the future.

What the Strategy does not contain, however, is a detailed action plan for prioritising and delivering projects that will best meet local demand and need and in particular address specific local variations between the three main sub-areas of the district (Saffron Walden, Great Dunmow and Stansted). This will be a separate exercise for which this Facilities Development Strategy is a key part of the evidence base.

Sport England's *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013) and *'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide'* (2014) has provided guidance on relating sports development needs to sports facilities provision. The Council therefore believes that it is timely to update the 2012 strategy, using the new methodologies advocated by Sport England to produce a Sports Facilities Development Strategy that links a detailed appraisal of local sports needs with the previous facilities assessment.

Because the information collected for the 2012 strategy is relatively recent, the current exercise has, where possible and appropriate, re-applied data from the original site audits and assessments, subject to a 'check and challenge' process from the governing bodies of sport and local clubs to ensure that they are still valid. The material has then been reassessed using the framework of Sport England's new guidance, to produce an updated analysis of facilities needs.

## 1.3 The purpose of the study

The purpose of the study is to:

- To contribute to the Council's wider aims and objectives for improving health and well-being and increasing participation in sport.
- To relate facility needs to sports development programmes and patterns of participation.
- To develop a list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies; provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.
- To provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.

## 1.4 The scope of the study

- It covers the whole district but also includes provision in neighbouring areas with catchments that include Uttlesford residents.
- It includes a sub-area analysis of the Saffron Walden, Great Dunmow and Stansted areas.
- It covers the time period to 2031.
- It includes all major types of built sports facilities and playing pitches:

## 1.5 Exclusions

The study focuses on formal specialist sports facilities and the activities that take place in them. As a result it takes no account of the non-specialist provision that sustains many forms of informal sport and physical activity. The exclusions include:

- Roads and the public rights of way network, used for walking, running, cycling and horse riding.
- Parks and open spaces used for informal games and fitness training.
- Provision for children and young people, such as play areas, multi-use games areas.

These types of provision sustain an increasingly significant proportion of sport and physical activity, but by dint of their multi-functional nature and informal patterns of use it is difficult to plan for their provision and growth in the same way as more formal facilities. The Saffron Walden Skate Park and The Hub Management Committee has produced a *Physical Activity and Sports Strategy for Uttlesford* (2015) which addresses current and future needs for these activities. For this reason they have been excluded from this strategy, but this does not imply any lack of appreciation for the valuable and complementary role that they play in providing for sport and physical activity.

## 1.6 Methodology

The methodology for the strategy follows the guidance recently developed by Sport England, specifically:

- For the sport and recreation facilities other than pitches the assessment is based upon *'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance'* (2014).
- For playing pitches the assessment is based upon *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013).

The full detail of the respective methodologies is set out in Appendix I.

## **2 THE LOCAL CONTEXT**

### **2.1 Introduction**

This section identifies the context within which sports facilities provision is currently made in Uttlesford and the extent to which this will influence sports participation and the related need for sports facilities. It includes consideration of:

- Population
- Age structure
- Health indices
- The local economy
- Sports participation
- Market segmentation
- Implications for sports facilities provision.

### **2.2 Background**

Uttlesford District occupies the north-eastern part of Essex, abutting Hertfordshire to the west, Cambridgeshire to the north, and the rest of Essex to the east and south. It has an area of 247.56 sq. miles (641.18 sq km).

There are a large number of listed buildings and significant areas of attractive rural landscape and ancient woodland including Hatfield Forest. In the south of the district is Britain's third largest airport, Stansted.

Close to both London and Cambridge, Uttlesford is well served by major road, rail and air links. The M11 runs through the west of the district as does the London to Cambridge mainline rail link. However, due to its rural nature there are accessibility issues for some without private transport, especially in outlying villages. The district has a population density of just 1.1 per hectare which is not conducive to the provision of frequent public transport.

### **2.3 Population**

#### **2.3.1 Current population**

According to the 2011 Census, the district's population is 79,443. Approximately 40% of residents live in one of the three main centres of population in Great Dunmow (8,830), Saffron Walden (15,500), and Stansted Mountfitchet (6,460). The remainder live in the numerous villages and hamlets within the district.

#### **2.3.2 Age structure**

The district has an age structure that is relatively close to the national average, although the proportion of people in the 16 to 49 year age range that is traditionally most active in sports participation is 42.3% locally, compared with 46.2% nationally.

### 2.3.3 Ethnicity

Uttlesford district has a predominantly white population with 96.7% classing themselves as white, which is well above the average and England as a whole (85.4%).

### 2.3.4 Sub-areas

For the purposes of this study and to enable more localised variations in provision to be identified, the following sub-areas have been identified, based upon the three main settlements in Uttlesford and the surrounding catchments that they serve:

<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Wards</b>		<b>Population</b>
Saffron Walden and district	Ashdon Clavering Littlebury Newport Saffron Walden Audley Saffron Walden Castle	Saffron Walden Shire The Chesterfords The Sampfords Wenden Lofts Wimbish and Debden	31,572
Great Dunmow and district	Barnston and High Easter Felsted Great Dunmow North Great Dunmow South Stebbing	Takeley and the Canfields Thaxted The Eastons The Rodings	29,326
Stansted and district	Birchanger Broad Oak and the Hallingburys Elsenham and Henham	Hatfield Heath Stansted North Stansted South Stort Valley	18,645

*Source: Mid-2011 Ward Level Population Estimates (ONS, 2012)*

### 2.3.5 Population growth

The Office of National Statistics is projecting an increase of 25.9% in the population of Uttlesford by 2031, taking the number of people in the district to 102,000 by this date. Much of the growth will be accounted for by new housing, with a target to deliver 568 dwellings per annum. The precise location of the housing developments has yet to be determined and therefore no geographical components of demand can be identified at this stage.

## 2.4 Health indices

Public Health England's *Health Profile for Uttlesford* (2014) contains the following details on health indices in the district:

- The health of people in the district is generally better than the England average. Deprivation is lower than average, however about 1,245 children (8.3%) live in poverty. Life expectancy for both men (81.8 years) and women (85.1 years) is well above the respective national averages (79.2 years and 83.0 years).

- Local health inequalities are low. Life expectancy is only 1.6 years lower for men and 2.5 years higher for women in the most deprived areas of Uttlesford compared with the least deprived areas.
- 16.1% of children aged 10 - 11 are classified as overweight or obese compared with 18.9% nationally.
- The estimated percentage of the local adult population classified as obese is 18.2%, which is significantly better than the England average of 23.0%.

## **2.5 Deprivation**

None of the 28 wards in Uttlesford district are categorized amongst the most 20% deprived in the country, based upon the Government's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). Overall, the district is ranked as the 294<sup>th</sup> most deprived district out of 335 districts in the country. This places it in the lowest quintile for overall deprivation levels.

However, based upon some individual components of the IMD, several rural areas are classed as being in the top 20% most deprived within England in terms of barriers to housing and services. The Rodings in the south of the district and Wenden Lofts in the north-west of the district are the most deprived small areas within Uttlesford.

## **2.6 The implications for facilities provision in Uttlesford**

- The relatively low proportion of the population aged between 16 and 49 will reduce overall demand for sport and physical activity, because participation rates decrease with age. However, demand for activities such as swimming and bowls, which appeal to older people, are likely to attract disproportionate demand.
- Local health indices are generally better than the national norms, underlining the importance of ensuring access to sports and recreation facilities, as part of a wider strategy to ensure that the local population remains physically active and increases its participation.
- Whilst the deprivation indices for the district as a whole are relatively low, the lack of access to services in rural areas emphasises the need for local facilities provision.
- The projected increase in population of 25.9% by 2031 will create significant additional demand for sports facilities in the district.

## 3 STRATEGIC INFLUENCES

### 3.1 Introduction

This section identifies the policy context for the provision of sports facilities in Uttlesford district. Full details of the policies are contained in Appendix II, but the key implications for facilities provision in Uttlesford are highlighted here.

### 3.2 Local strategic influences

- **The Sustainable Communities Strategy** - *'A Sustainable Community Strategy: A Vision for the Future 2018'* (2008) is document produced by Uttlesford Futures, the Local Strategic Partnership, to provide overall policy direction for organisations in the area. One strategic theme is 'staying healthy', which is underpinned by three strategic priorities to promote healthy lifestyles, reduce obesity and increase participation in sport.
- **The Corporate Plan** - Uttlesford District Council's *'Corporate Plan 2014 - 2019'* (2014) is produced by Uttlesford District Council to guide the council's priorities over the next few years. One key aim of relevance to sport is developing sustainable communities by protecting and encouraging local facilities.
- **Physical Activity and Sports Strategy for Uttlesford** - The *'Physical Activity and Sports Strategy for Uttlesford'* (2015) was produced by the Saffron Walden Skate Group and Hub Management Committee. The strategy aims to get people more active, more healthy and more successful through involvement in all forms of physical activity, including those that use non-traditional and non-specialist types of facilities.
- **The Local Plan** - *'The Uttlesford Local Plan'* (2005) provides a frame of reference for development control in the district. It contains several policies that promote the provision of additional sports facilities in appropriate locations, whilst offering strong protection for the retention of existing sports and recreation facilities.
- **Sports facilities strategies in neighbouring areas** - Assessed deficiencies in neighbouring areas could result in increased demand for facilities in Uttlesford, particularly for youth football and mini-soccer pitches.

### 3.3 Wider strategic influences

- **National Planning Policy Framework** - The Framework emphasises the need to undertake a robust and evidence-based assessment of sports needs, to determine local facilities requirements.
- **Sport England** - Sport England's target to increase participation rates year-on-year will drive up demand for sports facilities amongst the population of Uttlesford if it is achieved.

- **Governing bodies of sport** - The governing bodies of athletics, cricket, football, hockey, rugby and swimming have strategic priorities that support the case for facility development in Uttlesford.
- **Essex Sports Facilities Strategy** - The '*Essex Sports Facilities Strategy 2007 - 2020*' (2008) was produced by Active Essex, the County Sports Partnership and identifies sports facilities needs in the county. Specific needs identified in Uttlesford are for athletics facilities and for all new village/community halls to have dimensions that are consistent with the needs of Badminton.

### **3.4 Summary of the implications for facilities in Uttlesford**

Local strategic policy is supportive of the need to promote sport and physical activity in all its breadth and diversity and to ensure there are sufficient facilities to sustain current and future activity levels.

Central Government policy is supportive of undertaking local assessments of need and the protection of sport and recreation facilities.

Sport England's target to increase participation rates year-on-year will drive up demand for facilities if it is achieved. The emphasis on developing and funding school-community club links will increase the scope for improving the dual use of education sports facilities.

A number of governing bodies of sport have identified facilities objectives that could impact upon provision in Uttlesford

## 4 THE LOCAL SPORTS LANDSCAPE

### 4.1 Introduction

This section summarises the position with regard to existing sports provision in Uttlesford, as a prelude to examining the specific current and future needs for each specific type of facility. The data upon which the analysis is based is listed in full in Appendices III and IV.

### 4.2 Current levels of demand

#### 4.2.1 The 'Active People' Survey

Based upon the results of Sport England's 'Active People' surveys for Uttlesford, which annually measure participation by adults (over 16s), the following trends have been identified:

- **Regular adult participation** - 40.1% of the local population takes part in moderate intensity sport and active recreation for at least 30 minutes at least once a week, which is 5% higher than the regional and national averages.
- **Volunteering** - Rates of volunteering to support sport for at least one hour a week at 10.8% are almost double the regional and national averages, which underlines the vibrancy of the voluntary sector in Uttlesford.
- **Club membership** - Local rates of sports club membership at 28.1% are significantly above the regional and national averages, which underlines the importance of voluntary sector clubs in delivering sports opportunities in Uttlesford.
- **Coaching** - 22.1% of local people have received sports coaching in the past year, again well above the regional and national averages.
- **Organised Competition** - This proportion of adults taking part in organised sports competitions in the past year is 19.1%, almost double the national average.
- **Variations at local level** - Analysis of participation rates at Middle Super Output Area level in Uttlesford (equating to populations between 5,000 and 7,200 people) reveals that whilst participation rates within the main towns are in the upper middle quartiles nationally, the surrounding rural catchments that they serve have localised participation rates that are in the highest quartile.

#### 4.2.2 Market segmentation data

Sport England has undertaken an analysis of 19 adult sporting market segments, to better understand more specific motivations for sports participation and barriers to doing more sport and physical activity. This data provides a useful way of anticipating demand for individual types of activity, based upon the extent to which each segment is over or under represented in the local population.

The dominant segments in Uttlesford are likely to inflate local demand for swimming, cycling, playing pitches, golf and health and fitness facilities.

### 4.3 Current facility supply

- **Dual use facilities** - An unusually high proportion of the major built facilities in the district (83% of sports halls, 75% of swimming pools and 100% of artificial turf pitches) are on school sites and only accessible to the community on a dual use basis. This has the effect of limiting access to evenings and weekends and even then in the absence of formal Community Use Agreements to regulate access at some sites, not all facilities are available unrestrictively. Therefore even though there may appear to be good numbers of some types of facility, usage capacity is frequently quite limited.
- **Voluntary sector provision** - A number of very active and well-managed voluntary sports clubs provide their own facilities and deliver a wide range of participation opportunities for the local community. The presence of such vibrant and effective voluntary sector clubs provides a network of providers who, with appropriate facility developments and enhancements, will be well-placed to accommodate some of the new demand arising from population growth into existing successful operating structures.
- **Exported demand** - Some forms of specialist sports facilities are not currently provided in Uttlesford. These include athletics facilities, indoor tennis and '3G' football turf pitches. For some other types of facility that are provided in the district, a significant proportion of local demand is exported - for example 25.9% of sports hall demand and 35.7% of swimming pool demand. Some of the external facilities used in neighbouring areas (particularly in Bishop's Stortford and Braintree) are close to centres of population in Uttlesford, so access to provision is not necessarily compromised. However, the relatively high proportion of exported demand does imply a lack of capacity in local facilities.
- **Imported demand** - Some demand for facilities is also imported into Uttlesford from neighbouring areas, particularly sports pitches in the south of the district. Locally derived demand for facilities is therefore supplemented by imported demand, which needs to be factored in to local facilities needs assessments.
- **Disabled access** - Disabled access at a number of facilities in the district is problematic, in particular some of the smaller sites provided by voluntary sector clubs.

### 4.4 Views on current provision

Surveys of local clubs and schools were conducted as part of compiling the evidence base for the Strategy, with the assistance of Active Uttlesford and the Saffron Walden Organisation for Sport.

- **Sports club membership** - Local sports clubs are very successful at attracting new members, with 28% overall growth amongst responding clubs over the past three years. Female membership has grown most rapidly of all.
- **Facilities provision** - A shortage of local facilities is identified as problematic by 90% of clubs. As a result, 87.5% of respondents have active plans for additional facility provision. All respondents to the clubs survey believe that there are too few athletics facilities locally.

- **Schools needs** - More than one quarter of schools are unable to meet all their curricular and extra-curricular sports needs at present, due to a shortage of local facilities.
- **Security of access** - Most schools make their sports facilities available for community use, but in the majority of cases, such usage is not regulated by a formal Community Use Agreement and therefore in practice it could be rescinded at any time.

#### **4.5 The implication of the local sports landscape**

- Existing rates of sport and physical activity in Uttlesford are significantly higher than the regional and national averages, as is the role of voluntary sector sports clubs in delivering local opportunities.
- Current levels of facilities supply in Uttlesford appear superficially to be quite good for the population served. However, the high proportion of major built facilities on school sites limits accessibility and means that the actual capacity to accommodate community use is much more limited.
- The amount of exported demand from Uttlesford emphasises the lack of capacity in several types of sports facility.
- Whilst there is a very vibrant voluntary sports clubs sector locally, with many clubs operating a waiting list for new members, 90% of survey respondents identified that current facilities provision is inadequate to meet their needs.

## 5 SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS IN UTTLESFORD

### 5.1 Introduction

This section analyses the current sports facilities needs in Uttlesford, as a prelude to examining the additional provision that will be needed as a result of population growth. The information upon which the assessments are based, including the numerical calculations, is detailed in Appendices III, IV, V and VI.

### 5.2 Assessing current needs

#### 5.2.1 Sports facilities assessment methodology

The methodology applied to assess the supply-demand balance for sports facilities involves the approach advocated in Sport England's *'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide'* (2014), namely:

- Layering information on the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of facilities provision to build up the assessment.
- Utilising planning tools such as Sport England's Facilities Planning Model to support the assessment.
- Considering consultation findings to support the assessment.
- Identifying the key facility issues and priorities.

#### 5.2.2 Playing pitch assessment methodology

The methodology applied to assess the supply-demand balance for pitches is based upon Sport England's recommended methodology, advocated in *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013). To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community was developed.

### 5.3 Assessing future needs

#### 5.3.1 Assessment methodology

The methodology applied to assess the additional future needs for sports facilities arising from the population growth involves the approach advocated in Sport England's *'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide'* (2014) and its related *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013), namely:

- Establishing projected population change.
- Analysing sports development proposals and participation trends.
- Considering existing deficiencies or spare capacity.
- Taking account of any forthcoming changes to facility supply.

### 5.3.2 Assessed demand parameters

Analysis of the above factors influencing the future supply and demand for sports facilities in the Uttlesford is detailed in full in Appendix V and led to the following conclusions, which are reflected in the subsequent assessment of future needs:

- **Population change** - The increased population of 22,500 people arising from housing development will significantly increase demand for sports facilities. With a similar demographic profile to the current population, it is likely that the current rates of sports participation will be reflected within the new population.
- **Participation trends** - According to Sport England's 'Active People' survey, participation at a national level in most of the sports featured in the Strategy has fallen in the period since 2005, in some cases by quite significant margins. This means that future increases in participation cannot be assumed based upon historic trends and have therefore not been factored in to projected needs.
- **Sports development initiatives** - Many of the development programmes proposed by the governing bodies of sport include some ambitious national participation targets, although when these are applied pro rata to the Uttlesford population, the increase in numbers locally is relatively modest so these have therefore not been factored in to projected needs.
- **Changes in supply** - Any known proposed additional sports facilities provision will help to accommodate some of the additional demand arising from the increased population and this has been included in the capacity assessments.

## 5.4 Delivering future needs

### 5.4.1 Process

To identify the most appropriate way to meet the additional sports facilities needs arising from population growth, four sequential questions were addressed:

- **Existing deficiency or spare capacity** - To what extent do existing facilities have any current shortfalls or any over supply?
- **Additional needs** - What additional facilities needs will arise from population growth?
- **Accommodating needs** - Which needs can be met on whole or part by spare capacity in existing facilities and which will need to be met in whole or part by new facilities?
- **Extra facilities** - What extra facilities of each type are required to provide for the residual unmet demand?

### 5.4.2 Methodology

The methodology applied to provide quantified answers to the above questions is as follows:

- **Current facilities provision** - The adequacy of current provision and any existing spare capacity was assessed using Sport England's approved methodologies.

- **Additional needs** - Additional needs were calculated by quantifying the current number of people required to use a facility of each type to effective capacity, based on local supply and demand data. These figures have then been applied to the projected population of 102,000 by 2031, to calculate **the** gross additional facilities needs arising from an extra 22,500 people.
- **Net requirements** - The net requirement for additional provision was calculated by comparing the extra required facilities capacity to the current available facilities capacity, to identify the difference.

## 5.5 Sources of information

### 5.5.1 Consultation

Information was gathered from the following consultees:

- Sport England - Guidance on the assessment methodology and information on overall facilities needs, including the results of applying its facilities planning tools.
- Active Essex - Information on overall facilities needs and engagement with the governing bodies of sport in the county.
- Active Uttlesford - Information on the key sports clubs in the district.
- Uttlesford District Council - Background material on council sports facilities provision.
- 1-Life - Information on usage levels and spare capacity.
- Saffron Walden Organisation for Sport - Information on the key sports clubs in the sub-area and comment on the local supply-demand balance for facilities.
- Governing bodies of sport - Information on strategic facilities priorities and local facilities supply and demand information.
- Town and parish councils - Information on provision in their respective areas and views on local facilities needs.
- Schools - Information on sports facilities needs and aspirations and attitudes towards community use.
- Individual sports clubs - Information on sports facilities needs and aspirations.

### 5.5.2 Facilities planning tools

- Sport England's Facilities Planning Model for sports halls, swimming pools and synthetic turf pitches.
- Sport England's *'Active Places Power'* database.

- Governing body of sport assessments and needs analysis.

### 5.5.3 Surveys

The 2015 surveys of local clubs and schools were cross referenced with previous survey results.

## 5.6 The criteria assessed

### 5.6.1 Quantity

The quantity of each type of sports facility was established by drawing on data from Sport England's 'Active Places Power' database, cross checked against other sources provided by local stakeholders and consultees. Information on facilities in neighbouring areas with catchments that overlap the Uttlesford boundaries was compiled as part of the 2015 review exercise, to provide an additional perspective on facilities that supplement provision within the district.

### 5.6.2 Quality

The quality of sports facilities and playing pitches was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document. Every facility was audited via site visits during the playing season and facility specific criteria were assessed. The ratings for each aspect of each facility were checked and challenged in 2015 via the clubs survey and stakeholder consultation and amended where necessary in the light of any changes since the original survey in 2012.

### 5.6.3 Accessibility

The accessibility of sports facilities, including opening hours, usage programmes, the extent of secured community use, membership arrangements and pricing was assessed as part of the current update exercise, to identify any barriers to use that might impact on the capacity of local provision.

### 5.6.4 Access

The geographical spread of each type of facility was mapped as part of the 2012 study and an appropriate effective catchment determined for each according to Sport England national research and/or the mode of transport and travel times that local consultees indicated that they adopt. The extent of catchment coverage was then determined and any gaps established. This data was checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise.

### 5.6.5 Strategic priority

The assessment of need and priorities for provision identified by the governing bodies of sport and other organisations like Sport Essex who are mandated to take a strategic overview.

### 5.6.6 Used capacity

The used capacity of existing facilities has been assessed as part of the current update exercise, using sources such as Sport England's Facilities Planning Model the clubs survey and stakeholder consultation.

## 5.7 Sports halls

### 5.7.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are six community accessible sports halls in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 13,241 people. Per capita levels of provision vary widely between sub-areas, with Saffron Walden having around four times better provision per capita than the Dunmow sub-area. Nine sports halls in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of all aspects of sports hall provision was assessed as generally good.
- **Accessibility** - Five of the six sports halls are on school sites with no daytime access and community use limited to between 31 and 50 hours per week.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of their nearest sports hall.
- **Strategic priority** - None of the governing bodies of sport that use sports halls (in particular badminton and basketball) have identified a specific strategic need for additional facility provision at present.
- **Used capacity** - Based upon Sport England's definition of 'Comfortable Capacity', whereby a sports hall is deemed to be effectively full when usage reaches 80% of theoretical full capacity, the application of the FPM in Uttlesford reveals that 76% of the overall capacity in the district is used. There is therefore very limited spare capacity in sports halls in Uttlesford and consultation with user clubs and local facility providers, local facility providers and users suggests that there is no spare capacity to accommodate additional demand at present.

### 5.7.2 Conclusions on current provision

Sports halls in Uttlesford are currently operating at 'Comfortable Capacity' and there is no effective spare capacity to accommodate additional use.

### 5.7.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for extra sports hall capacity arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 11,349 people will generate sufficient demand for a standard sized sports hall and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent of 1.98 sports halls by 2031.
- With all current effective capacity fully used and no realistic prospect of increasing access to existing facilities, additional demand will need to be met by two new four-badminton court-sized facilities.

## 5.8 Swimming pools

### 5.8.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are four community accessible swimming pools of 20m or larger in Uttlesford, supplemented by one learner pool. This equates to one main pool per 19,861 people. Per capita levels of provision vary between sub-areas, with no provision at all in the Stansted sub-area. Eight swimming pools in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the southern district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good, although the changing facilities and disabled access at the Friend's School pool are rated as 'poor'.
- **Accessibility** - Three of the four pools are on school sites with no daytime access and two have very limited community access at any time. Community access to the pools at Felsted School and the Friends School is limited to 15 hours per week for block-bookings. Consultation with the schools indicated that there is little scope to increase availability. Saffron Walden Amateur Swimming Club and Dunmow Atlantis Swimming Club both confirmed that they are unable to get sufficient access to the pools they use. As a result they operate a waiting list for membership and have lost swimmers to other clubs. Saffron Walden Diving Club recently had its use of the Friends School pool terminated and has no alternative facility to which it can relocate.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of their nearest swimming pool, if provision in Bishop's Stortford is taken into account.
- **Strategic priority** - The Amateur Swimming Association's Facilities Team has endorsed the need for additional swimming capacity to be developed in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - Based upon Sport England's definition of 'Comfortable Capacity', whereby a swimming pool is deemed to be effectively full when usage reaches 70% of theoretical full capacity, the application of the FPM indicates that there is a current deficit equivalent to two lanes of a 25m pool. These findings are confirmed by consultation with local facility providers, clubs and casual users, which indicates that there is no effective capacity to accommodate additional demand at present.

### 5.8.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is an effective shortfall equivalent to two lanes of a 25m pool in Uttlesford at present. Three of the pools are on school sites and two have very restricted community access.

### 5.8.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for extra swimming pool capacity arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 17,754 people will generate sufficient demand for a 25m x 13m pool and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent of 1.29 pools by 2031.

- With a current deficit of 0.33 of a 25m x 13m pool and no realistic prospect of increasing access to existing facilities, additional demand will need to be met by the equivalent of 1.62 new facilities.

## 5.9 Athletics facilities

### 5.9.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are no specialist athletics facilities in Uttlesford, although 400m synthetic tracks in neighbouring areas (Cambridge, Ware, Harlow and Braintree) serve some needs. There is currently a proposal to provide a 400m synthetic track at Carver Barracks, which whilst used primarily by the Army, would be available for community use.
- **Quality** - The quality of tracks in neighbouring areas was assessed as generally good.
- **Accessibility** - There are no access limitations to the tracks in neighbouring areas.
- **Access** - Analysis of the location of athletics tracks in neighbouring areas suggests that a large area in the north of the district is beyond the catchment of the nearest track.
- **Strategic priority** - UK Athletics and England Athletics have assessed the strategic need for facilities provision in Uttlesford as follows:
  - A marked-out, hard-standing and lit running route for endurance runners may provide an appropriate alternative to a track.
  - In the absence of a track and field club in Saffron Walden at present and with plans for a satellite/after school club for juniors taking time to develop, it is difficult to make a clear case for specialist track and field facilities at present.
  - Should the Carver Barracks track proceed, UK Athletics and England Athletics would be supportive of existing clubs using the site, although at this stage they see no need for field event facilities, since they believe that only endurance athletes would use the track.
  - Consideration should be given to exploring demand for a Compact Athletics Facility, although given the current lack of a track and field club in the area it is difficult to ascertain the precise extent of existing demand in the area.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with track providers in neighbouring areas indicates that there is spare capacity at most 400m synthetic tracks at present, particularly the facility at Wodson Park in Ware. Notwithstanding this, there is strong emerging demand from local athletes for a facility in the north of Uttlesford district.

## 5.9.2 Conclusions on current provision

The provision of specialist athletics facilities in the north of the district would help the track and field aspects of the sport to develop and even in the absence of such provision at present there are current efforts to develop junior participation programmes. The case for a Compact Athletics Facility in Saffron Walden, in conjunction with other multi-sport facility developments in the town, should be explored. The provision of a 400m track at Carver Barracks will comprise an additional means of meeting local needs.

## 5.9.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for extra athletics facilities capacity arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that a population of 22,500 people will generate additional demand equivalent to an additional 0.29 of a Compact Athletics Facility. In practical terms, this might be met by capacity improvements such as adding additional lanes to a 'J' track or expanding field events provision.

## 5.10 Indoor bowls

### 5.10.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There is one community accessible indoor bowls facility in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 79,443 people. The facility is located in the Saffron Walden sub-area. Two indoor bowls facilities in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good, with all aspects of the facility rated as at least 'above average' standard.
- **Accessibility** - Access to the facility is for club members only, but membership fees are set at a level that will not inhibit use.
- **Access** - With the exception of a small part of the central-southern and eastern rural areas, the entire population of the district is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest facility.
- **Strategic priority** - The English Indoor Bowling Association has not identified the need for additional indoor facilities in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - Turpin's Indoor Bowls Club has membership vacancies, the magnitude of which equates to a calculated spare capacity of 0.33 of a facility (equivalent to 2 rinks).

### 5.10.2 Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of indoor bowls facilities in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs, with some spare capacity.

### 5.10.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for extra indoor bowls capacity arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 22,500 people will generate sufficient demand for 0.22 an indoor bowls facility.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been estimated at 0.33 of an indoor bowls green, leaving net spare capacity of 0.11 facilities (less than one rink).

## 5.11 Outdoor bowls

### 5.11.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are 11 community accessible outdoor bowls greens in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 7,222 people. Per capita levels of provision are poorest in the Great Dunmow sub-area. Nine bowling greens in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision of greens and changing facilities is generally 'average' or above, but disabled access is problematic at six sites (Clavering BC, Great Chesterford BC, Radwinter BC, Stansted BC, Stebbing BC and Thaxted BC) and general access at three sites (Clavering BC, Radwinter BC and Stansted BC).
- **Access** - There are no effective limitations on access to bowls facilities in Uttlesford.
- **Accessibility** - The whole population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest bowls green.
- **Strategic priority** - Bowls England has not identified the need for additional indoor facilities in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - All bowls clubs in Uttlesford have some membership vacancies, the magnitude of which equates to a calculated spare capacity of 1.07 outdoor bowls greens.

### 5.11.2 Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of outdoor bowls facilities in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs, with some spare capacity.

### 5.11.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for extra outdoor bowls capacity arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 8,000 people will generate sufficient demand for an outdoor bowls green and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent of 2.84 greens by 2031.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent 1.07 of an outdoor bowls green. This will leave a net shortfall of 1.77 bowls greens once existing spare capacity has been utilised.

## 5.12 Indoor tennis

### 5.12.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are no indoor tennis centres in Uttlesford, but three facilities in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the southern district boundary to meet the needs of the majority of Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - No quality assessment was possible.
- **Access** - The population in the east of the district is outside the catchment of the nearest indoor tennis court.
- **Accessibility** - All the facilities in neighbouring areas are available on a 'pay and play' as well as a membership basis, so there are no effective barriers to access.
- **Strategic priority** - The Lawn Tennis Association has not indicated a strategic need for additional provision in Bishop's Stortford.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with indoor tennis facility providers in neighbouring areas indicates that there is collective spare capacity equivalent to 0.75 of an indoor tennis facility (equating to three courts).

### 5.12.2 Conclusions on current provision

Despite the absence of an indoor tennis centre in Uttlesford, provision in neighbouring areas is adequate to meet existing needs from within the district.

### 5.12.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional indoor tennis capacity arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 22,500 people will generate calculated demand for an additional 0.86 indoor tennis courts.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 3 indoor tennis courts, leaving net spare capacity of 2.14 courts.

## 5.13 Outdoor tennis

### 5.13.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are 35 community accessible outdoor tennis courts in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 2,270 people. Per capita levels of provision are best in the Saffron Walden sub-area and poorest in the Stansted sub-area. 28 tennis courts in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.

- **Quality** - The quality of all court surfaces is rated as at least 'above average' standard, but five changing facilities are rated as below 'average' (Castle Hill TC, Debden Recreation Ground, Dunmow TC, Henham TC and Stansted TC) as are the access arrangements at five sites (Clavering TC, Henham TC, Newport Village TC, Stansted TC and Thaxted TC).
- **Access** - The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest tennis courts.
- **Accessibility** - There are no effective barriers to inhibit access to tennis courts in Uttlesford.
- **Strategic priority** - The Lawn Tennis Association has not indicated a strategic need for additional provision in Uttlesford. Castle Hill Tennis Club would like to create a second tarmac court at its site in Saffron Walden, to expand year round capacity.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with local court providers indicates that there is calculated spare capacity at present, the magnitude of which equates to 3.22 tennis courts.

### 5.13.2 Conclusions on current provision

Current levels of provision of outdoor tennis courts in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs, with some spare capacity.

### 5.13.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for extra outdoor tennis courts arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 2,500 people will generate sufficient demand for an outdoor tennis court and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent of 9 extra outdoor tennis courts by 2031.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 3.22 courts. This will leave a net shortfall of 5.78 courts once existing spare capacity has been utilised.

## 5.14 Health and fitness

### 5.14.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are 10 community accessible health and fitness facilities in Uttlesford, or one per 7,944 people. Levels of provision are poorest in the Great Dunmow sub-area. Eight health and fitness facilities in neighbouring areas (collectively comprising 563 exercise stations) are located close enough to the southern district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of their nearest facility.

- **Accessibility** - There are no effective barriers to inhibit access to health and fitness in Uttlesford.
- **Strategic priority** - There are no assessments of strategic need for additional health and fitness facilities to meet current requirements in the district.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with local health and fitness facility providers indicates that there is calculated spare capacity at present, the magnitude of which equates to 0.07 facilities at present.

#### 5.14.2 Conclusions on current provision

With high levels of demand locally, existing facilities are effectively operating at full capacity.

#### 5.14.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional health and fitness facilities based on assessed of future needs indicates:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 8,000 people will generate sufficient demand for a health and fitness facility and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 2.81 health and fitness facilities by 2031.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 0.07 of a facility. This will leave a net shortfall of 2.74 facilities once existing spare capacity has been utilised.

### 5.15 Squash courts

#### 5.15.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are six community accessible squash courts in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 13,241 people. Sub- area provision varies widely. There are three courts in Saffron Walden and no courts at all in the Stansted sub-area. The Great Dunmow sub-area has three courts, two in Great Dunmow and part use (50%) of two squash courts at Felsted School. There are 3 publicly accessible squash courts in neighbouring areas - two in Haverhill that are close enough to those living east of Saffron Walden and one in Braintree for those in the Great Dunmow sub- area to supplement facility supply.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is rated at average for Saffron Walden Leisure Centre and below average at Great Dunmow Leisure Centre. Poor cleanliness and inadequate maintenance are the main issues.
- **Access** - The whole district population is within 20 minutes driving time of their nearest squash court.
- **Accessibility** - The courts at Felsted School are privately owned by the school and no long term agreement exists with Uttlesford District Council for their continued use by the public.
- **Strategic priority** - England Squash and Racketball has not indicated a strategic need for additional provision in Uttlesford.

- **Used capacity** - Consultation with local court providers indicates that there is calculated spare capacity at present, the magnitude of which equates to 0.64 squash courts. This capacity is partly due to the lack of promotion of the game by the leisure centre management.

### 5.15.2 Conclusions on current provision

Existing facilities are adequate to meet current needs in Uttlesford with some limited spare capacity.

### 5.15.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional squash courts arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 13,000 people will generate sufficient demand for a squash court and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 1.8 courts by 2031.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 0.64 courts. This will leave a net shortfall of 1.16 courts once existing spare capacity has been utilised.
- Evidence from other sports centres shows that solitary squash courts are both uneconomic to construct and maintain and unattractive to clubs, so are generally poorly promoted and used. Squash courts should as a principle be constructed at minimum in pairs and consideration given to using a demountable wall so they can be used during the morning and early afternoon for exercise classes.
- There was historically a fourth court at Saffron Walden Leisure Centre which was subsequently converted into a health studio. If additional capacity is required in the Saffron Walden sub-area, this can be reconverted back into a squash court.

## 5.16 Golf courses

### 5.16.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are two community accessible golf courses in Uttlesford, collectively comprising three nine-hole units, equivalent to one per 38,772 people. There is no provision in the Great Dunmow sub-area. Five golf courses in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good, with all aspects of all facilities rated as at least 'average' standard.
- **Access** - The whole district population is within 30 minutes driving time of their nearest golf course.
- **Accessibility** - There are no effective barriers to inhibit access to golf courses in Uttlesford.

- **Strategic priority** - The English Golf Union has not indicated a strategic need for additional provision in Uttlesford. It has concluded that in the country as a whole, 'supply of golf courses currently exceeds demand, with membership vacancies existing in the majority of golf clubs'.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with the local golf clubs indicates that there is calculated spare capacity at present, the magnitude of which equates to 0.23 of a golf course (4 holes).

### 5.16.2 Conclusions on current provision

Current levels of provision of golf courses in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs, with some spare capacity.

### 5.16.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional golf courses arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 45,000 people will generate sufficient demand for a golf course and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 0.5 courses by 2031.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 0.23 golf courses (4 holes). This will leave a net shortfall of 0.27 courses (5 holes) once existing spare capacity has been utilised.

## 5.17 Village and community halls

### 5.17.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are 54 community accessible village and community halls in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 1,471 people. Per capita levels of provision are relatively consistent between sub-areas.
- **Quality** - The lack of changing provision limits the sport and recreational use of many village and community halls.
- **Access** - The whole district population is within 10 minutes driving time of their nearest village and community hall.
- **Accessibility** - All the village and community halls are available for hire by individuals and groups and all have spare capacity to accommodate additional use.
- **Strategic priority** - There is no identified strategic need for additional provision in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with the local hall providers indicates that there is calculated spare capacity at present, the magnitude of which equates to 1.04 halls.

### 5.17.2 Conclusions on current provision

Existing halls provide for a wide range of sports uses in the district and whilst some halls are limited in this regard, there is still some limited spare capacity.

### 5.17.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional village and community halls arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 1,500 people will generate sufficient demand for a village/community hall and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 15 halls by 2031.
- Effective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated at 1.04 of a hall. This will leave a net shortfall of 13.96 halls once existing spare capacity has been utilised.

## 5.18 Skateparks

### 5.18.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are five skateparks in Uttlesford, which are supplemented by a further 14 facilities in neighbouring areas.
- **Quality** - The overall quality of the activity areas at all skateparks is 'average' or better. However, most sites do not have shelter or on-site toilets, disabled access is variable, particularly at the smaller sites and only one site is currently floodlit.
- **Access** - Access varies by site, with floodlighting at Saffron Walden and Stansted extending usage periods. Most facilities are open access.
- **Accessibility** - The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of the nearest skatepark, so no geographical areas of the district are unserved.
- **Strategic priority** - There are no formal strategic priorities for skatepark provision, although the *Physical Activity and Sports Strategy* (2015) highlights the many benefits of these facilities for encouraging and sustaining sport and physical activity amongst hard to reach groups.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with local facility providers suggests that there is very limited spare capacity at current facilities.

### 5.18.2 Conclusions on current provision

- There is no effective spare capacity at current facilities.
- A new scooter park and an extension for skaters with medium experience is needed at the Saffron Walden facility.
- Disabled access improvements are needed at the Stansted, Dunmow and Thaxted facilities.

- Floodlighting would extend usage periods at the Stansted (planned for 2016), Dunmow and Thaxted facilities.
- There are no permanently available toilets at any of the facilities and no shelter at all bar the Great Chesterford facility.

### 5.18.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional skateparks arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 13,000 people will generate sufficient demand for a skatepark and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 1.41 facilities by 2031.
- With all current effective capacity fully used and no realistic prospect of increasing access to existing facilities, additional demand will need to be met by two new skateparks.

## 5.19 BMX trail facilities

### 5.19.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are two formal BMX trail facilities in Uttlesford, which are supplemented by a number of informal bike trails, bumps, jumps in woods or un-used land in several villages and towns. There are supplemented by a further two facilities in neighbouring areas.
- **Quality** - The quality of both the formal facilities is adequate.
- **Access** - There is open access at the Saffron Walden facility, the other site is at the Carver Barracks.
- **Accessibility** - The southern part of the district is outside the 20 minute drivetime catchment of the nearest formal BMX trail facility.
- **Strategic priority** - There are no formal strategic priorities for BMX trail facilities provision, although the *Physical Activity and Sports Strategy* (2015) highlights the many benefits of these facilities for encouraging and sustaining sport and physical activity amongst hard to reach groups.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with local facility providers suggests that there is very limited spare capacity at current facilities.

### 5.19.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is no effective spare capacity at current facilities.

### 5.19.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional BMX trail facilities arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 40,000 people will generate sufficient demand for a formal BMX trail facility and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 0.56 facilities by 2031.
- With all current effective capacity fully used and no realistic prospect of increasing access to existing facilities, additional demand will need to be met by one new formal BMX trail facility.

## 5.20 BMX race tracks

### 5.20.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are no formal BMX race tracks in Uttlesford, with the nearest facilities in Royston, Braintree, Cambridge, Peterborough, Ipswich and Chicksands.
- **Quality** - In the absence of any local facilities, no quality assessment was possible.
- **Access** - In the absence of any local facilities, no access assessment was possible.
- **Accessibility** - The whole of the district is outside the 20 minute drivetime catchment of the nearest BMX race track.
- **Strategic priority** - There are no formal strategic priorities for BMX race track provision, although the *Physical Activity and Sports Strategy* (2015) highlights the many benefits of these facilities for encouraging and sustaining sport and physical activity amongst hard to reach groups.
- **Used capacity** - The existing facilities in neighbouring areas are well-used.

### 5.20.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is clear demand for a BMX race track in Uttlesford from the users of the local BMX trail facilities.

### 5.20.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional BMX race tracks arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 22,500 people will generate calculated demand for an additional 0.28 BMX race tracks.
- The additional demand should be accommodate by capacity improvements, once the existing deficiency of one track has been met.

## 5.21 Adult football pitches

### 5.21.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are 32 adult football pitches in Uttlesford, which can collectively accommodate 65 match equivalents per week.

- **Quality** - The pitches at Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club and Jubilee Field, Clavering suffer from poor drainage and as a result their usage capacity is reduced. Changing facilities serving adult pitches are rated as poor quality at Alcott Playing Field, Calves Pasture, Felsted Playing Field, Hatfield Broad Oak Social Club, Jubilee Playing Field, Clavering and Takeley Recreation Ground.
- **Access** - The pitches at Carver Barracks are on a MoD site and therefore their community use capacity is limited by Army usage.
- **Accessibility** - The whole population is within 15 minutes driving time of the nearest adult football pitch, so no geographical areas of the district are unserved.
- **Strategic priority** - The Essex Football Association has not identified any specific local priorities for adult football pitch provision.
- **Used capacity** - Nine sites with adult football pitches are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity (Alcott Playing Field, Calves Pasture, Causeway Recreation Ground, Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club, Herbert Farm Playing Fields, Newport Recreation Ground, Saffron Walden Town FC, Takeley FC and White Roding Sports Club). At 12 sites usage is balanced and 10 sites have some spare usage capacity. There is a deficit in the Great Dunmow and Stansted sub-areas and a districtwide deficit of two match equivalents per week. This is caused in large part by youth team (11v11) use of adult pitches.

### 5.21.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is a districtwide deficit equivalent to one standard quality pitch.

### 5.21.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional adult football pitches arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that demand equivalent to an additional five teams will be generated by population growth in Uttlesford by 2031, which will require 2.5 standard quality pitches to accommodate it. With a current deficit equivalent to one standard quality pitch, the future needs will need to be accommodated by new pitches.

## 5.22 Youth football pitches

### 5.22.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are 12 youth football pitches (11v11 and 9v9) in Uttlesford, which can collectively accommodate 21 match equivalents per week.
- **Quality** - The pitches at Laundry Lane Playing Field and Takeley Recreation Ground suffer from poor drainage and as a result their usage capacity is reduced. Changing facilities serving youth pitches at the same sites are both are rated as poor quality.
- **Access** - There are no limitations on access to any youth pitches in the district.
- **Accessibility** - The whole population is within 15 minutes driving time of the nearest youth football pitch so no geographical areas of the district are unserved.

- **Strategic priority** - The Essex Football Association supports the recommendations of the FA Chairman's Commission regarding the establishment of hub sites centred around a '3G' football turf pitch, to accommodate 50 % of youth football matches by 2020.
- **Used capacity** - Eight sites with youth football pitches are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity (Causeway Recreation Ground, Elsenham Playing Fields, Herbert's Farm Playing Field, Laundry Lane Playing Field, Manuden Playing Field, Takeley Recreation Ground, Thaxted Recreation Ground and Wimbish Playing Fields). Two sites have some spare usage capacity. There is a deficit in all three sub-areas and collective deficit of 11 match equivalents per week in the district as a whole.

### 5.22.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is a collective shortfall equivalent to 6 standard quality pitches, evenly spread across the district. One solution for addressing the shortfall will be to follow the recommendations of the FA Chairman's Commission and accommodate the surplus demand on 'new 3G' football turf pitches.

### 5.22.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional youth football pitches arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that demand equivalent to an additional 24 teams will be generated by population growth in Uttlesford by 2031, which will require 12 standard quality pitches to accommodate it. With the existing deficit of 6 pitches, there will be a total shortfall of 18 youth pitches by 2031.

## 5.23 Mini-soccer pitches

### 5.23.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are nine youth football pitches (7v7 and 5v5) in Uttlesford, which can collectively accommodate 32 match equivalents per week.
- **Quality** - The pitches at Laundry Lane Playing Field suffer from poor drainage and as a result their usage capacity is reduced. Changing facilities serving the same site is rated as poor quality.
- **Access** - There are no limitations on access to any mini-soccer pitches in the district.
- **Accessibility** - With the exception of a small area in the south-west corner of the district, where needs are met by pitches in Bishop's Stortford, the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.
- **Strategic priority** - The Essex Football Association supports the recommendations of the FA Chairman's Commission regarding the establishment of hub sites centred around a '3G' football turf pitch, to accommodate 50 % of mini-soccer matches by 2020.
- **Used capacity** - One site is used to beyond its sustainable capacity, usage is balanced at two more and three sites have some spare usage capacity. There is limited spare capacity in two sub-areas and supply and demand are balanced in the other. There is collective spare capacity of 4.0 match equivalents per week in the district as a whole.

### 5.23.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is collective spare capacity equivalent to one standard quality pitch.

### 5.23.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional mini-soccer pitches arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that demand equivalent to an additional 8 teams will be generated by population growth in Uttlesford by 2031, which will require 2 standard quality pitches to accommodate it. This will leave a shortfall equivalent to one standard quality pitch, once existing spare capacity has been absorbed.

## 5.24 Cricket pitches

### 5.24.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are 40 cricket pitches in Uttlesford, collectively comprising 278 grass and 4 artificial turf wickets. These can collectively accommodate 1,193 match equivalents per season.
- **Quality** - The quality of only one pitch (at Wenden's Ambo) is rated as at 'poor' quality. Changing facilities are rated as poor quality at Audley End House, Clogham's Green CC, Dunmow CC, Elmdon CC, Friends School, Hatfield Broad Oak CC, Hatfield Heath CC, Henham Road, Elsenham, High Roding CC, Little Bardfield CC, Molehill Green CC, Saffron Walden CC, Stansted Hall, Thaxted CC and Wenden's Ambo Playing Field.
- **Access** - There are no limitations on access to any cricket pitches in the district.
- **Accessibility** - The whole population is within 15 minutes driving time of the nearest cricket pitch so no geographical areas of the district are unserved.
- **Strategic priority** – In consultation with local clubs, the Essex Cricket Board has identified the provision of specialist indoor cricket training facilities in the district as their main strategic priority.
- **Used capacity** - There is collective spare capacity of 198 match equivalents per season in the district as a whole, although eight sites are used to beyond their sustainable capacity (Dunmow CC, Elmdon CC, High Roding CC, Hockerill CC, Newport Recreation Ground, Radwinter Recreation Ground, Thaxted CC and Wenden's Ambo Playing Field).

### 5.24.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is collective spare capacity equivalent to 50 standard quality wickets (6 pitches).

### 5.24.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional cricket pitches arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that demand equivalent to an additional 27 teams will be generated by population growth in Uttlesford by 2031, which will require 67.5 standard quality wickets (8 pitches) to accommodate it. This will leave a shortfall equivalent to two standard quality pitches, once existing spare capacity has been absorbed.

## 5.25 Rugby pitches

### 5.25.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are six rugby pitches in Uttlesford, which can accommodate 10 match equivalents per week.
- **Quality** - The changing provision at Saffron Walden Rugby Club is inadequate to cater for female use.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of the nearest rugby pitch, so no geographical areas in the town or its surrounds are unserved.
- **Accessibility** - Three rugby pitches on school and MoD sites with no secured access and usage capacity is compromised education and army use respectively.
- **Strategic priority** - The Rugby Football Union supports the need for Saffron Walden Rugby Club to develop new facilities within the town, to enable it to develop its 'Focus' status for women and girls and under 15/16s rugby and operate from a single site. If there is sufficient capacity at the new site, including a rugby-compliant '3G' pitch, the facilities could be shared with Wenden's Ambo Rugby Club.
- **Used capacity** - The pitches at Saffron Walden Rugby Club and Friends School are used to beyond their sustainable capacity by a collective total of 3.5 match equivalents per week. Community use of the other two pitches is currently balanced in terms of supply and demand.

### 5.25.2 Conclusions on current provision

There is a deficit equivalent to two rugby pitches to meet current needs in Uttlesford.

### 5.25.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional rugby pitches arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that demand equivalent to two junior and three mini-rugby teams will be generated by population growth in Uttlesford by 2031, which will require two additional pitches to accommodate it, once the existing deficiency has been met.

## 5.26 Synthetic Turf Pitches for hockey

### 5.26.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There are four synthetic turf pitches for hockey in Uttlesford, with a collective capacity of 90 hours of peak time availability per week. In the absence of any '3G' football turf pitches in the district, demand for hockey pitch usage is supplemented by extensive use of three of the pitches for football training.
- **Quality** - The pitch at Joyce Frankland Academy was built in 1995 and the surface is now poor quality. Pitch resurfacing requirements at other sites also need to be kept under review.

- **Access** - With the exception of a small area in the north-east and south-west of the district, the entire population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.
- **Accessibility** - All four synthetic turf pitches for hockey are on school sites, only one of which is subject to a formal Community Use Agreement.
- **Strategic priority** - England Hockey supports the need for the immediate resurfacing the existing pitch at Joyce Frankland Academy and providing a second pitch to accommodate the needs of Saffron Walden Hockey Club. It would like to retain the pitch at Great Dunmow Leisure Centre for hockey usage, with the junior satellite operation of Blue Hornets Hockey Club.
- **Used capacity** - Sport England's FPM assessment concurs that there is a current deficit equivalent to 0.61 of a pitch and therefore there is no spare capacity for additional use.

### 5.26.2 Conclusions on current provision

Whilst there is some limited spare capacity at some pitches, Saffron Walden Hockey Club makes full use of the available pitch time at Joyce Frankland Academy and thus has no capacity to expand further. The provision of a pitch at Carver Barracks will help to meet some of the current deficit.

### 5.26.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional synthetic turf pitches for hockey arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that demand equivalent to two adult and four junior teams will be generated by population growth in Uttlesford by 2031, which will require 0.6 additional pitches to accommodate it, once the existing deficiency has been met.

## 5.27 3G' Football Turf Pitches

### 5.27.1 Assessment of current provision

- **Quantity** - There is no provision in Uttlesford at present, although pitches at Birchwood High School in Bishops Stortford and Braintree Leisure Centre are within 20 minute drive time catchment advocated by Sport England and meet some needs from within the district.
- **Quality** - No quality assessment was possible.
- **Access** - The population in the south of the district is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest '3G' football turf pitches, but the central and northern areas of Uttlesford are unserved.
- **Accessibility** - There are no limitations on peak time access at either of the pitches in neighbouring areas.
- **Strategic priority** - The Essex Football Association recognises the need for '3G' pitches in Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow but has not confirmed specific locations where these might be located in each respective town, because detailed consultation work has not yet been undertaken amidst a changing landscape of funding and facility priorities. Saffron Walden Town FC would like to provide a '3G' football turf pitch at Caton's Lane, with access for other local clubs.

- **Used capacity** - The Football Association has devised an internal mapping exercise to establish an estimated baseline figure for the number of ‘3G’ pitches required to meet football needs in a locality, which creates a requirement for an additional 3.12 ‘3G’ football turf pitches in Uttlesford.

### 5.27.2 Conclusions on current provision

The FA’s identifies a current need for 3.12 additional ‘3G’ pitches in Uttlesford for football usage. Based upon the number of football teams in each sub-area, there is a need for 1.33 pitches in the Saffron Walden sub-area, 1.07 in the Dunmow sub-area and 0.72 in the Stansted sub-area.

### 5.27.3 Assessment of future provision

The need for additional ‘3G’ football turf pitches arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that with an additional 37 football teams generated by the increased population, there would be demand for an extra 0.67 ‘3G’ football turf pitches.

## 5.28 Summary of sports facilities needs

On the basis of the analysis of the balance between supply and demand of sports facilities in Uttlesford, the adequacy of current provision to meet current needs and to accommodate additional demand arising from population growth by 2031 has been assessed as follows:

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Current position</i>	<i>Extra needs arising from population growth</i>	<i>Net requirements</i>
Sports halls	There is no effective capacity to accommodate additional demand.	1.98 four-badminton court sized sports halls	1.98 four-badminton court sized sports halls.
Swimming pools	A deficit of 0.33 six-lane 25m swimming pools.	1.29 six-lane 25m swimming pool.	1.62 of a six-lane 25m swimming pools - equivalent to one six-lane and one four-lane pool
Athletics facilities	Emerging demand for a specialist athletics facility in the north of the district.	0.29 of a Compact Athletics Facility.	0.29 of a Compact Athletics Facility (involving additional facility capacity), once provision has been made to address current needs.
Indoor bowls	Effective spare capacity at existing facilities is the equivalent of 0.33 of a facility.	0.22 of an indoor bowls facility, leaving net spare capacity of 0.11 of a facility.	No additional requirements.
Outdoor bowls greens	Collective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 1.07 greens.	2.84 outdoor bowls greens.	1.77 outdoor bowls greens once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.
Indoor tennis courts	Collective spare capacity at existing facilities in neighbouring areas has been calculated as 3 indoor courts.	0.86 of an indoor tennis court, leaving net spare capacity of 2.14 courts.	No additional requirements.
Outdoor tennis courts	Collective spare capacity at the current courts has been calculated as the equivalent of 3.22 courts.	9 outdoor tennis courts.	5.78 outdoor tennis courts once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Current position</i>	<i>Extra needs arising from population growth</i>	<i>Net requirements</i>
Health and fitness facilities	Collective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 0.07 facilities.	2.81 health and fitness facilities.	2.74 health and fitness facilities once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.
Squash courts	Collective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 0.64 courts.	1.8 squash courts.	1.16 squash courts once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.
Golf courses	Collective spare capacity at the current courses has been calculated as 0.23 courses (the equivalent of 5 holes).	0.5 courses (the equivalent of 9 holes)	0.27 courses (the equivalent of 5 holes) once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.
Village and community halls	Collective spare capacity at the current facilities has been calculated as the equivalent of 1.04 halls.	15 halls.	13.96 halls once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.
Skateparks	There is no effective capacity to accommodate additional demand.	1.41 skateparks	1.41 skateparks.
BMX trail facilities	There is no effective capacity to accommodate additional demand.	0.57 BMX trail facilities	0.57 BMX trail facilities.
BMX race tracks	A deficit of 1 BMX race track.	0.28 BMX race tracks.	1.28 BMX race tracks.
Adult football pitches	A deficit of 1 adult pitch	2.5 adult football pitches.	3.5 pitches including the existing deficit.
Youth football pitches	A deficit of 6 youth pitches.	12 youth football pitches.	18 pitches including the existing deficit.
Mini-soccer pitches	Collective spare capacity has been calculated as the equivalent of 1 pitch.	2 mini-soccer pitches.	1 pitch once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.
Cricket pitches	Collective spare capacity at the current pitches has been calculated as the equivalent of 6 pitches.	8 cricket pitches.	2 pitches once the existing spare capacity has been absorbed.
Rugby pitches	A deficit of 2.0 rugby pitches.	2.0 rugby pitches.	4 pitches including the existing deficit.
Synthetic turf hockey pitches	A deficit of 0.61 pitches	0.6 of a synthetic turf pitch for hockey.	1.21 pitches including the existing deficit.
'3G' football turf pitches	A deficit of 3.12 '3G' football turf pitches.	0.67 '3G' football turf pitches.	3.79 '3G' football turf pitches including the existing deficit.

## 6 MEETING THE NEEDS

### 6.1 Introduction

This section identifies ways of meeting the deficiencies identified in this assessment. It examines the options for meeting the shortfalls, the delivery partners, specifies what needs to be provided and where and proposes how best this might be achieved.

### 6.2 Dealing with deficiencies

#### 6.2.1 New provision

Providing entirely new sports facilities may be the only means of securing additional provision in the right location. This can be achieved by:

- Identifying entirely new sites for provision in appropriate locations.
- Extending existing provision where feasible.
- Disposing of existing facilities to reinvest the capital receipt in new provision of at least equivalent quantity, quality and accessibility.
- Incorporating facilities into new community provision and housing developments.

#### 6.2.2 Upgrading and refurbishing

Upgrading and refurbishing existing sports facilities would help to meet some of the qualitative deficiencies identified:

- The provision of floodlights for some outdoor sports facilities would extend the period in which they can be used.
- Changing facilities are poor or absent at some outdoor facility sites in the Uttlesford and improvements would significantly enhance the experience of users.
- Improvements in disabled access will improve the usability of many sites.

#### 6.2.3 Enhanced access

Developing new access to sports facilities on education and MoD sites and securing community use at sites where access is only informal at present would significantly improve the availability of provision. Securing improved access through the development of formal agreements serves to safeguard community use of school sports facilities may provide sufficient security of tenure to allow external funding applications to be sought, to provide further enhancements.

#### 6.2.4 Reinstating former facilities

Reinstating sports facilities where usage has, for a variety of reasons, been discontinued in recent times, affords a straightforward response to increased local demand.

## **6.3 Delivery partners**

A wide range of organisations will have a role in implementing the Uttlesford Sports Facilities Strategy. The type of roles are summarised below.

### **6.3.1 Uttlesford District Council**

The council is likely to play the lead role in co-ordinating the development of the larger, more strategic sports facility sites, in conjunction with other partners where appropriate.

### **6.3.2 Town and Parish Councils**

Parish councils will continue to play a valuable role in providing and maintaining sports facilities, especially in the rural parts of the district.

### **6.3.3 Schools**

Many schools in Uttlesford already provide sports facilities from which local communities benefit and there will be further opportunities both to provide additional facilities on school sites to extend and formalise community access to a range of existing provision.

### **6.3.4 Ministry of Defence**

The MoD site at Carver Barracks offers opportunities to develop further the existing community use at the site.

### **6.3.5 Sports clubs**

Local sports clubs are significant providers of sports facilities and will continue to do so. Some clubs may be interested in taking on delegated management responsibilities for facilities management and maintenance from Uttlesford District Council or parish councils.

### **6.3.6 Leisure management contractor**

‘One Life’, the contractor appointed by the Council to run the main leisure centres in the district, may be prepared to invest capital funds to improve the facilities it is managing, on the basis that improved capacity and usage will enable it to generate a commercial return on its investment.

### **6.3.7 Developers**

The developers of new housing and commercial projects in Uttlesford can be required either to provide new sports facilities as part of an individual development, or to make a financial contribution towards the costs of such provision on site or elsewhere in the vicinity. The key principle is that the provision must meet the needs of the residents of the new homes, as opposed to rectifying any pre-existing deficiencies. The mechanisms for securing such funding with either be via Section 106 Agreements or via the Community Infrastructure Levy, the precise arrangements for which have yet to be determined by the district council.

### **6.3.8 Partnership arrangements**

Partnership arrangements involving combinations of any of the above providers will help to share the costs of provision, management and maintenance of additional provision.

## 6.4 Meeting existing needs

The table below identifies the ways in which current deficiencies might be met and the partners who will have a role in providing, funding and managing new and improved provision.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Sports halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• No quality improvements needed.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required.
Swimming pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current deficit equivalent to two 25m lanes.</li> <li>• Changing and disabled access improvements needed at the Friends School pool.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Investigate the feasibility of making additional indoor pool provision at either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A refurbished pool at Saffron Walden County High School, or:</li> <li>• A new site in the Stansted sub-area.</li> </ul> Seek funding for changing and disabled access improvements needed at the Friends School pool.
Athletics tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emerging demand for a specialist athletics facility in the north of the district.</li> <li>• No quality improvements needed.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of providing a Compact Athletics Facility in Saffron Walden.</li> <li>• Confirm the arrangements for secured community access to the proposed 400m track at Carver Barracks.</li> </ul>
Indoor bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• No quality improvements needed.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required.
Outdoor bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• Disabled access improvements needed at 6 sites.</li> <li>• General access improvements needed at 3 sites.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding for disabled access improvements at:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clavering Bowls Club</li> <li>- Great Chesterford Bowls Club</li> <li>- Radwinter Bowls Club</li> <li>- Stansted Bowls Club</li> <li>- Stebbing Bowls Club</li> <li>- Thaxted Bowls Club</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Seek funding for general access improvements at:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clavering Bowls Club</li> <li>- Radwinter Bowls Club</li> <li>- Stansted Bowls Club</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Indoor tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• No quality improvements needed.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Outdoor tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• Fencing improvements needed at one site.</li> <li>• Changing improvements needed at five sites.</li> <li>• General access improvements needed at five sites.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding for new tarmac court and fencing improvements at Castle Hill Tennis Club.</li> <li>• Seek funding for changing improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Castle Hill Tennis Club.</li> <li>- Debden Recreation Ground</li> <li>- Dunmow Tennis Club</li> <li>- Henham Tennis Club</li> <li>- Stansted Tennis Club</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Seek funding for general access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clavering Tennis Club</li> <li>- Henham Tennis Club</li> <li>- Newport Village Tennis Club</li> <li>- Stansted Tennis Club</li> <li>- Thaxted Tennis Club</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• General access improvements needed at one site.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required.
Squash courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• Annual maintenance contracts required for courts at Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow Leisure Centres.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Review and amend the leisure centre management contracts to ensure that squash courts are maintained to an appropriate standard.
Golf courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• No quality improvements needed.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required.
Village and community halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• No qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required.
Skateparks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs, but some capacity improvements needed in Saffron Walden.</li> <li>• Disabled access improvements needed at 4 sites.</li> <li>• Floodlights needed at 3 sites.</li> <li>• Toilets needed at 5 sites.</li> <li>• Shelters needed at 4 sites.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding for capacity improvements, toilets and shelter at Saffron Walden.</li> <li>• Seek funding for disabled access improvements toilets, shelter and floodlighting at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Great Chesterford</li> <li>- Stansted</li> <li>- Great Dunmow</li> <li>- Thaxted.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
BMX trail facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• No qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the south of the district</li> </ul>	No action required.
BMX race tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current deficit of one facility</li> </ul>	Investigate the feasibility of providing a BMX race track in the district and seek funding for the facility subject to a positive outcome.
Adult football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current deficit of 1.0 pitch.</li> <li>• Pitch quality improvements needed at two sites.</li> <li>• Changing improvements needed at six sites.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding applications for pitch quality improvements to improve capacity at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club</li> <li>- Jubilee Playing Field, Clavering</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Seek funding applications for changing improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alcott Playing Field</li> <li>- Calves Pasture</li> <li>- Felsted Playing Field</li> <li>- Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club</li> <li>- Jubilee Playing Field, Clavering</li> <li>- Takeley Recreation Ground</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Youth football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current deficit equivalent to 6.0 pitches.</li> <li>• Pitch quality improvements needed at two sites.</li> <li>• Changing improvements needed at two sites.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of meeting the deficit with '3G' pitch provision at a hub site in each sub-area.</li> <li>• Seek funding for pitch quality improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Laundry Lane Playing Field</li> <li>- Takeley Recreation Ground</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Seek funding for changing improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Laundry Lane Playing Field</li> <li>- Takeley Recreation Ground</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Mini-soccer pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs.</li> <li>• Pitch quality and changing improvements needed at one site.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Seek funding for pitch quality and changing improvements at Laundry Lane Playing Field.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Cricket pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs, although a specialist indoor training facility is an identified strategic priority.</li> <li>• Changing improvements needed at 15 sites.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Seek funding for changing improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audley End House</li> <li>• Clogham's Green Cricket Club</li> <li>• Dunmow Cricket Club</li> <li>• Elmdon Cricket Club</li> <li>• Friends School</li> <li>• Hatfield Broad Oak Cricket Club</li> <li>• Hatfield Heath Cricket Club</li> <li>• Henham Road, Elsenham</li> <li>• High Roding Cricket Club</li> <li>• Little Bardfield Cricket Club</li> <li>• Molehill Green Cricket Club</li> <li>• Stansted Hall</li> <li>• Thaxted Cricket Club</li> <li>• Wenden's Ambo Playing Field</li> </ul>
Rugby pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current deficit equivalent to 2.0 pitches.</li> <li>• No quality improvements needed.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of relocating Saffron Walden Rugby Club to a site in the town with additional pitch capacity.</li> <li>• Seek funding for the development if the feasibility is proven.</li> </ul>
Synthetic turf pitches for hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current deficit equivalent to 0.61 pitches.</li> <li>• Pitch re-surfacing needed at the Joyce Frankland Academy.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding for re-surfacing the existing pitch at the Joyce Frankland Academy.</li> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of developing a second pitch at the Joyce Frankland Academy and seek funding if proven.</li> </ul>
'3G' football turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current deficit of 3.12 pitches.</li> <li>• No quality improvements needed.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the north of the district.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of developing '3G' pitches at a hub site in each sub-area.</li> <li>• Seek funding for the developments if the feasibility is proven.</li> </ul>

## 6.5 Meeting future needs

The table below identifies the ways in which future deficiencies to 2031 might be met:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Sports halls	Additional demand equivalent to 2 sports halls.	Secure the provision of an additional two 4-badminton court-sized sports hall funded by developer contributions.
Swimming pools	Additional demand equivalent to 1.29 6-lane 25m swimming pools.	Secure the provision of an additional 6-lane swimming pool, funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.
Athletics tracks	Additional demand equivalent to 0.29 Compact Athletics Facilities.	Secure the provision of additional facility capacity either at the proposed Compact Athletics Facility in Saffron Walden or the Carver Barracks track.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Indoor bowls	No additional provision required.	Accommodate the additional demand using spare capacity at the existing indoor facility.
Outdoor bowls	Additional demand equivalent to 2.84 bowls greens.	Accommodate some demand using spare capacity of 1.07 existing greens and meet surplus demand by securing the provision of two additional bowls greens, funded by developer contributions.
Indoor tennis	No additional provision required.	Accommodate the additional demand using spare capacity at the existing indoor facilities.
Outdoor tennis	Additional demand equivalent to 9 tennis courts	Accommodate some demand using spare capacity of 3.22 existing courts and meet surplus demand by securing the provision of 6 additional tennis courts, funded by developer contributions.
Health and fitness	Additional demand equivalent to 2.81 health and fitness facilities.	Accommodate some demand using spare capacity of 0.07 existing facilities and meet surplus demand by securing the provision of 2.74 additional health and fitness facilities, funded by developer contributions.
Squash	Additional demand equivalent to 1.8 squash courts.	Accommodate demand in Saffron Walden by converting disused leisure centre court. Secure provision of two or more courts with demountable walls for multipurpose use, funded by developer contributions
Golf courses	Additional demand equivalent to 0.5 golf courses.	Accommodate some demand using spare capacity of 0.33 existing courses and meet surplus demand by securing the provision of additional capacity at existing courses, funded by developer contributions.
Village/community halls	Additional demand equivalent to 15 village/community halls.	Accommodate some demand using spare capacity of 1.04 existing halls and meet surplus demand by securing the provision of an additional 14 halls, funded by developer contributions.
Skateparks	Additional demand equivalent to 1.41 skateparks.	Secure provision of 2 new skateparks, funded by developer contributions.
BMX trail facilities	Additional demand equivalent to 0.57 BMX trail facilities.	Secure provision of 1 new BMX trail facility, funded by developer contributions.
BMX race tracks	Additional demand equivalent to 0.28 BMX race tracks.	Secure provision of additional capacity equivalent to 0.28 tracks, funded by developer contributions.
Adult football pitches	Additional demand equivalent to 1.5 pitches.	Secure the provision of two additional pitches, funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.
Youth football pitches	Additional demand equivalent to 12 pitches.	Secure the provision of an additional 12 youth football pitches funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.
Mini-soccer pitches	Additional demand equivalent to 2 pitches.	Secure the provision of one additional pitch, funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Cricket pitches	Additional demand equivalent to 8 pitches.	Secure the provision of two additional pitches, funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.
Rugby pitches	Additional demand equivalent to 2 pitches.	Secure the provision of 2 additional rugby pitches funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.
Synthetic turf pitches for hockey	Additional demand equivalent to 0.6 pitches.	Secure the provision of one additional pitch, funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.
'3G' football turf pitches	Additional demand equivalent to 0.67 pitches.	Secure the provision of one additional pitch, funded by developer contributions, once the existing deficiency has been met.

## **6.6 Provision for reviews**

Because sport and physical activity is a rapidly changing environment, to ensure that the proposals in the strategy continue to address local needs and strategic priorities, the situation will be reviewed regularly. Assumptions about population growth will be tested regularly and projected requirements refined accordingly. There will therefore be annual reviews of progress towards action plan targets and a three-yearly review of the overall strategic approach.

# APPENDIX I: THE STUDY METHODOLOGY

## 1) Methodology

The methodology for the strategy follows the new guidance recently developed by Sport England, specifically:

- For the sport and recreation facilities other than pitches the assessment is based upon *'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance'* (2014).
- For playing pitches the assessment is based upon *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013).

The detail of the respective methodologies is set out below.

## 2) Sport and Recreation facilities

We adopted the following approach.

### a) Stage One: Preparing and tailoring the approach

We convened a Project Steering Group (PSG) involving representatives of Uttlesford District Council and Active Uttlesford. The PSG discussed and approved:

- The purpose and objectives of the strategy.
- The project scope, time horizon and parameters.
- The project timescales.
- Sub-area issues and the relationship with provision in neighbouring local authorities.

### b) Stage Two: Gathering facility supply information

Qualitative, quantitative and accessibility information on local sports facilities provision in Uttlesford and neighbouring areas was reviewed, including:

- Site name and location.
- Ownership and management.
- Facilities at the site.
- Community accessibility and security of tenure.
- The quality of provision.

### c) Stage Two: Gathering facility demand information

Demand information was compiled by examining:

- The local population profile.
- Sports participation trends at national and local level.
- Unmet, latent, displaced and future demand.
- Local activity demand priorities.
- Sport-specific demand priorities.

#### d) Stage Two: Consultation

Several local surveys were initiated and analysed:

- Consultation with the governing bodies of all the sports that use facilities included in the strategy.
- An on-line survey of local sports clubs that use facilities included in the strategy.
- An on-line survey of all local schools.
- A survey of all town and parish councils.

#### e) Stage Three: Bringing the information together

The data on supply and demand was applied to build a picture of the level of provision by:

- Layering information on the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of facilities provision to build up the assessment.
- Utilising planning tools such as the Facilities Planning Model to support the assessment.
- Considering consultation findings to support the assessment.
- Identifying the key facility issues and priorities.
- Developing evidence-based standards of provision against which to assess current and future needs.

#### f) The application of needs and evidence assessment for sport

The needs assessment and evidence base was applied to:

- Relate facility needs to sports development programmes and patterns of participation.
- Develop a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies; provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.
- Provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.

#### g) Consulting on the strategy

The draft strategy was circulated to the following stakeholders for comment and endorsement:

- Sport England.
- The governing bodies of sport.
- Active Essex.
- Active Uttlesford.
- Saffron Walden Organisation for Sport
- Local sports groups in the Great Dunmow and Stansted areas.
- Local sports clubs and schools.
- Town and parish councils.
- Neighbouring local authorities.

### **3) Playing pitches**

We adopted the following approach in parallel with the sports facilities assessment.

#### **a) Preparing and tailoring the approach**

We convened a Project Steering Group (PSG) involving representatives of Uttlesford District Council and Active Uttlesford. The PSG discussed and approved:

- The purpose and objectives of the strategy.
- The project scope, time horizon and parameters.
- The project timescales.
- Sub-area issues and the relationship with provision in neighbouring local authorities.

#### **b) Gathering pitch supply information**

The following information was compiled:

- Site name and location.
- Ownership and management.
- The number and type of pitches.
- Community accessibility and security of tenure.
- The quality of pitches and changing provision.
- Pitch maintenance arrangements.
- The views of providers and users.

#### **c) Gathering pitch demand information**

Pitch demand information was compiled from consultation with sports clubs, pitch providers, local league secretaries and the governing bodies of the pitch sports. The following information was compiled:

- The timing and levels of use of pitches for competitive matches and training.
- Casual, displaced and latent demand.
- Trends and changes in demand.
- Future demand.

#### **d) Understanding the situation at individual sites**

A site overview was developed for all pitch sites by:

- Comparing the current carrying capacity of each site with its current use.
- Identifying the peak demand periods.
- Establishing the key issues impacting upon the usage of each site.

## e) Developing the picture of current and future provision

An overview of current provision was established by:

- Developing a picture of the position regarding all sites with community access.
- Identifying demand currently accommodated at unsecured sites.
- Establishing the extent of displaced and latent demand.
- Identifying the views and key issues with the adequacy of provision.
- Determining the situation at priority sites.

An overview of future provision was established by:

- Assessing the implications of the current position.
- Factoring in projected population growth.
- Establishing participation aims, trends and changes.
- Examining sports club and site-specific demand.
- Evaluating prospective changes in supply.

## f) Identifying the key findings and issues

We assessed the key findings in relation to the following issues:

- The main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for pitch provision.
- Whether there is enough accessible and secured provision to meet current demand for pitches.
- Whether the pitch provision is of sufficient quality.
- The main characteristics of the future supply and demand for pitch provision.

## g) Developing the recommendations and action plan

Recommendations and an action plan were developed to:

- Highlight the key recommendations arising from the key findings and issues.
- Create an action plan.

## h) Consulting on the strategy

The draft strategy was circulated to the following stakeholders for comment and endorsement:

- Sport England.
- The governing bodies of the pitch sports.
- Active Essex.
- Active Uttlesford.
- Saffron Walden Organisation for Sport
- Local sports groups in the Great Dunmow and Stansted areas.
- Local sports clubs and schools.
- Town and parish councils.

## APPENDIX II: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

### 1) *The Sustainable Communities Strategy*

*'A Sustainable Community Strategy: A Vision for the Future 2018'* (2008) is document produced by Uttlesford Futures, the Local Strategic Partnership, to provide overall policy direction for organisations in the area. The main content relevant to sport and recreation is set out below.

#### a) Vision

The strategic vision for Uttlesford is *'to sustain a high quality of life in which the benefits of the unique character of the district are available to all residents, workers or visitors'*.

#### b) Strategic themes

The themes are:

- Children and young people matter.
- Staying healthy.
- Developing business.
- Feeling safe.
- Protecting the environment.
- Getting around.

#### c) Strategic priorities

The strategic priorities relevant to sport and recreation are as follows:

- To promote healthy lifestyles amongst young people.
- To reduce rural deprivation by increasing access to services.
- To provide support to reduce adult obesity.
- To increase participation in sport, culture and volunteering.

#### d) Implications for sport and recreation

The Strategy illustrates how sport and physical activity, can play a core role in delivering some of the key local priorities.

## **2) The Corporate Plan**

Uttlesford District Council's 'Corporate Plan 2014 - 2019' (2014) is produced by Uttlesford District Council to guide the council's priorities over the next few years.

### **a) Aims**

- To remain a low tax council.
- To continue to listen and respond to our communities so we stay focused on the delivery of high quality key services that matter.
- We will have shared the benefits of growth with our communities in a responsible way that protects and enhances our environment.
- To have improved prosperity.

### **b) Implications for sport and recreation**

The main actions relevant to sport and recreation are as follows:

- Creating a single point of access to services provided by the public and voluntary sectors.
- Developing sustainable communities by protecting and encouraging local facilities.

## **3) The Local Plan**

'The Uttlesford Local Plan' (2005) provides a frame of reference for development control in the district. The main policies of relevance to sport and recreation are set out below.

### **a) Policy objectives**

The policies on leisure and cultural provision have the following objectives:

- To safeguard existing open space within towns and villages for either formal or informal recreation.
- To enable the provision of community facilities in villages, which would accommodate activities central to village life, even where development would not normally be permitted.
- To develop sport and leisure facilities at key sites and enable outdoor recreation in the countryside whilst protecting its character and amenities.
- To improve access to leisure and cultural facilities and to ensure that all leisure and cultural provision is accessible for the benefit of the whole community to ensure social inclusion.

## b) Loss of sport and recreation facilities

Policy LC1 - Loss of sports fields and recreational facilities states that 'Development will not be permitted if it would involve the loss of sports fields or other open space for recreation. Exceptions may be permitted if either of the following applies:

- Replacement facilities will be provided that better meet local recreational needs.
- The need for the facility no longer exists'.

As there is already a deficiency in the number of playing pitches, policy LC1 is concerned with total or partial loss of playing fields. It applies whether the facilities are still in active use or whether through ownership, for example, this is now prevented. It also applies to development that would prejudice the use of land as playing fields. It is not intended to prevent the provision of facilities such as changing rooms, pavilions and club houses.

- If replacement facilities are proposed they must be at least as good as those lost in terms of location, quantity, quality, and management arrangements.
- Replacement facilities must be made available before development of the existing site begins.
- An assessment of current and future needs will need to be submitted demonstrating that there is an excess of playing fields in a locality and the catchment of the facility, or that the site has no special significance to sport or recreation, if planning permission is to be granted for development.
- The Council intends to work with town and parish councils to provide and/ or improve facilities in the District.
- Extensions or additional facilities at existing sports and leisure centres or school sites with potential for dual school and community use will be permitted outside as well as within settlements.

## c) Access to leisure and cultural facilities

Policy LC2 - Access to Leisure and Cultural Facilities states that 'All development proposals for leisure and cultural purposes, whether new build, conversion or extension need to be accessible to all, to ensure social inclusion'.

## d) Community facilities

Policy LC3 - Community Facilities states that 'Community facilities will be permitted on a site outside settlements if all the following criteria are met:

- The need for the facility can be demonstrated.
- The need cannot be met on a site within the boundaries.
- The site is well related to a settlement'.

## e) Outdoor sport and recreation facilities

Policy LC4 - Provision of Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities beyond development limits states that ‘The following developments will be permitted:

- Outdoor sports and recreational facilities, including associated buildings such as changing rooms and club-houses.
- Suitable recreational after use of mineral workings’.

## f) Land west of Little Warden Road, Saffron Walden

Policy LC6 - Land West of Little Walden Road Saffron Walden states that ‘A site west of Little Walden Road, Saffron Walden has been identified to provide a community centre and playing fields as part of a mixed development scheme’.

‘Saffron Walden is the focal point for the northern half of the district yet it is deficient in a number of leisure and cultural amenities. It has a longstanding problem of inadequate provision of playing fields and does not meet the National Playing Fields Association standards. A site west of Little Walden Road has been identified to provide a mixed development consisting of a community centre, playing fields and associated car parking. A Master Plan will be prepared in consultation with the Town Council, residents, and local sports clubs to identify the juxtaposition of uses and the type of playing fields needed’.

## g) Implications for sport and recreation

The Local Plan comprises planning policies that are robust in their defence of sport and recreation facilities.

## 4) Sports Facilities Strategies in neighbouring areas

Of the neighbouring local authorities, South Cambridgeshire District Council, North Hertfordshire District Council, Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City Council, Epping Forest District Council and East Hertfordshire District Council have no current sports facilities strategy. However, the following councils do have current assessments and the key findings are as follows:

### a) North Hertfordshire District Council

The council’s ‘*Facilities Strategy for North Hertfordshire 2010 - 2031: Planning for Sport and Active Recreation*’ (2010) contains the following findings of relevance to Uttlesford district:

- **Sports halls** - Levels of provision of sports halls are adequate to meet existing needs, but depending on a range of population variables, an additional 3.5 halls will be needed by 2031.
- **Swimming pools** - There is sufficient spare capacity in existing swimming pool provision to meet all existing and future needs.
- **Health and fitness** - Levels of provision of health and fitness facilities are adequate to meet existing needs, but an additional one to five new facilities will be needed by 2031.

- **Indoor bowls** - Current facilities are operating at full capacity and a further 1.5 to two facilities will be needed by 2031.
- **Indoor tennis** - An additional three courts are required to meet existing needs, plus a further six to nine courts by 2031.
- **Synthetic turf pitches** - Levels of provision of synthetic turf pitches are adequate to meet existing needs, but between none and two new pitches will be needed by 2031.
- **Synthetic athletics tracks** - Current needs are met by the track in Stevenage, although a specialist athletics training facility in Royston, where accessibility is poorest, might be justified. An additional 400m track will be needed in the district by 2031.

#### b) Braintree District Council

The *'Braintree Green Spaces Strategy'* (2008) includes an analysis of playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities needs in the district. On the basis of a generic outdoor sports facilities spatial standard of 2.0ha per 1,000 people, there is a geographical shortfall in provision in the western wards of the district neighbouring Uttlesford.

#### c) Chelmsford City Council

Chelmsford City Council is currently producing an open space, sport and recreation strategy, but there are no emerging findings available at present.

#### d) Epping Forest District Council

The council's *'Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment'* (2012) contains the following findings of relevance to Uttlesford district:

- Levels of provision of all forms of indoor and outdoor sports facilities are adequate to meet current needs, but an additional sports hall, 0.7 swimming pools, one synthetic turf pitch, one bowls green, one indoor and seven outdoor tennis courts, two squash courts and two health and fitness facilities will be required by 2033.
- There is a current surplus of adult football and rugby pitches, sufficient to meet all additional needs by 2033. However, there is a current shortfall of nine youth football pitches, ten mini-soccer pitches and four cricket pitches. These deficits will increase by five youth football, three mini-soccer and five cricket pitches by 2033.

#### e) East Hertfordshire District Council

The council's *'Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy'* (2010) contains the following findings of relevance to Uttlesford district:

- **Football pitches** - There is deficit of youth football and mini-soccer pitches in the district.
- **Cricket pitches** - There is surplus of cricket pitches.

- **Rugby pitches** - There is deficit of junior and mini-rugby pitches in the areas bordering Uttlesford district.
- **Synthetic turf pitches** - Provision in the district is adequate to meet all current and future needs.
- **Bowling greens** - Provision in the district is adequate to meet current and future needs.
- **Golf courses** - Provision in the district is adequate to meet current and future needs.
- **Tennis courts** - There is some latent demand for additional tennis courts in the district.
- **Athletics tracks** - All athletics track needs are met by the facility in Ware, both currently and in the future.

The council's '*Assessment of Indoor Sports Facilities*' (2011) contains the following findings of relevance to Uttlesford district:

- **Sports halls** - There is a current shortfall of one sports hall in the Hertford area and an additional 2.5 halls will be needed by 2021.
- **Swimming pools** - There is sufficient spare capacity in existing swimming pool provision to meet all existing and future needs.
- **Health and fitness** - Levels of provision of health and fitness facilities are adequate to meet existing needs, but an additional two new facilities will be needed by 2021.
- **Indoor bowls** - There is no current provision in the district and a current need for five to eight rinks, with a further three rinks needed by 2021.
- **Indoor tennis** - Current provision meets existing needs, although a further court may be needed by 2021.
- **Village and community halls** - Current provision meets existing needs, although a further four to seven halls will be needed by 2021.

#### f) South Cambridgeshire District Council

South Cambridgeshire District Council is currently producing an open space, sport and recreation strategy jointly with Cambridge City Council, but there are no emerging findings available at present.

## 5) Central Government

In March 2012, the Government published the *'National Planning Policy Framework'* (2012), setting out its economic, environmental and social planning policies for England. Taken together, these policies articulate the Government's vision of sustainable development, which should be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations. The policies of greatest relevance to sports facilities provision and retention are as follows:

- **Sustainable development** - 'The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Sustainable development means development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'.
- **Health and well-being** - 'Local planning authorities should work with public health leads and health organisations to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population, including expected future changes, and any information about relevant barriers to improving health and well-being'.
- **Open space, sports and recreational facilities** - 'Access to good quality opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. The planning system has a role in helping to create an environment where activities are made easier and public health can be improved. Planning policies should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of sports and recreational facilities in the local area. The information gained from this assessment of needs and opportunities should be used to set locally derived standards for the provision of sports and recreational facilities'.
- 'Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land 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 need for and benefits of the development clearly outweigh the loss'.

In March 2014, the Government produced further *National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)* to guide local authorities in the plan making and decision-taking process. The guidance provides further advice on health and wellbeing matters and open space provision.

It notes that open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space (see NPPF paragraphs 73-74). Open space, which includes all open space of public value, can take many forms, from formal sports pitches to open areas within a development, linear corridors and country parks. It can provide health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby; have an ecological value and contribute to green infrastructure (see NPPF paragraph 114), as well as being an important part of the landscape and setting of built development, and an important component in the achievement of sustainable development (see NPPF paragraphs 6-10). It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas. In carrying out this work, they should have regard to the duty to cooperate where open space serves a wider area.

The guidance refers to Sport England advice on how to carry out assessments and also sets out the circumstances when Sport England should be consulted on development proposals.

## 6) Sport England

### a) Overall policy

The *'Sport England Strategy 2012 - 2017'* (2012) sets out national sports policy objectives for the next five years.

- **Overall aims** - In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, sport in England will be transformed, so that sport becomes a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. The strategy will:
  - See more people taking on and keeping a sporting habit for life.
  - Create more opportunities for young people.
  - Nurture and develop talent.
  - Provide the right facilities in the right places.
  - Support local authorities and unlock local funding.
  - Ensure real opportunities for communities.
- Sport England is seeking a year-on-year increase in the proportion of people who play sport once a week for at least 30 minutes. In particular it hopes to raise the percentage of 14-25 year olds playing sport once a week and reduce the proportion dropping out of sport.
- **Anticipated outcomes** - The outcomes with the greatest potential impact on sports facilities use and provision will be as follows:
  - Every one of the 4,000 secondary schools in England, will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more governing body of sport, depending on the local clubs in its area.
  - County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
  - All secondary schools who wish to do so will be supported to open up, or keep open, their sports facilities for local community use and at least a third of these will receive additional funding to make this happen.
  - Building on the early success of Places People Play, a further £100m will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.

## b) Planning policy

Sport England's national policies in relation to planning policies are contained in '*Spatial Planning for Sports and Active Recreation: Development Control Guidance Note*' (2009). Its planning policy objectives are as follows:

- **A planned approach** - To ensure that a planned approach to the provision of facilities and opportunities for sport and recreation is taken by planning authorities in order to meet the needs of the local community. The level of provision should be determined locally, based on local assessments of need and take account of wider than local requirements for strategic or specialist facilities.
- **Protecting existing places for sport** - To prevent the loss of facilities or access to natural resources which are important in terms of sports development. Should redevelopment be unavoidable, an equivalent (or better) replacement facility should be provided in a suitable location.
- **Significant Areas for Sport (SASPs)** - To prevent the loss or partial loss of any identified SASP to other uses unless an equivalent or improved replacement in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility to the original facility or resource is provided.
- **Planning new places for sport** - To support the development of new facilities, the enhancement of existing facilities and the provision and/or improvement of access to the natural environment which will secure opportunities to take part in sport and which can be achieved in a way which meets sustainable development objectives.
- **Providing for sport through new development** - To promote the use of planning obligations as a way of securing the provision of new or enhanced places for sport and a contribution towards their future maintenance, to meet the needs arising from new development.
- **Shared use sites** - To promote the wider use of existing and new sports facilities to serve more than one group of users. Sport England will encourage potential providers to consider opportunities for joint provision and dual use of facilities in appropriate locations.
- **The Urban Fringe** - To promote the urban fringe as an important resource in providing opportunities for sport, and support proposals for improved access for sport, for the development of extensive facilities such as golf courses and pitches, and for built facilities which can be developed in a way which meets sustainable development objectives and which helps to maintain and improve the identity of this resource.
- **The Green Belt** - To promote the development of outdoor sports facilities in the Green Belt including essential ancillary built facilities. In exceptional circumstances Sport England will support the development of indoor or other built facilities associated with outdoor sports, where there is an identified need and no suitable site is available elsewhere in the locality.

- **Floodlighting** - To support the installation of floodlighting of sports facilities where this will lead to a significant increase in opportunities for sport.
- **Golf** - To support the development in appropriate locations of additional facilities for golf which meet an identified need and in particular encourage the provision of ‘pay and play’ facilities.

## 7) Governing bodies of sport

The governing bodies of sport funded by Sport England each produce a ‘Whole Sport Plan’ containing their sports development and related facilities priorities for the period 2013 to 2017. The facilities elements of the Whole Sport Plans using facility types included in this assessment are summarised below, to assess their implications for provision in Uttlesford district:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Facilities priorities 2013 - 2017</b>	<b>Implications for Uttlesford</b>
Athletics	<p>A hierarchy of facilities is proposed in UK Athletics ‘Facilities Strategy 2014 - 2019’ (2014) with district and local levels of provision comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Club Training Venue</b> - Track and field facilities (indoor and outdoor) that have a strong anchor club with 100+ track and field members. To support site sustainability, Club Venues should have excellent social and ancillary provision and facilities that actively encourage multi-sport usage.</li> <li>• <b>Compact Athletics Facility</b> - A new generation of affordable and sustainable indoor and outdoor athletics satellite facilities that provide a stepping stone into Club Venues. They are designed to fit available spaces and budgets and provide functional, inspiring, facilities at which people of all ages and abilities can improve their fitness and confidence and develop the fundamental athletics movement skills.</li> </ul>	Facility provision of this scale offers an attractive means of meeting athletics needs in the district.
Badminton	<p>Badminton England’s ‘Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017’ (2012) includes provision for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investing in facilities to underpin the operations of county badminton associations, performance centres and community badminton networks.</li> <li>• Investing in leisure facilities to underpin the ‘Play Badminton’ programme.</li> </ul>	Potential for funding to upgrade sports halls to accommodate additional badminton activity.
Basketball	England Basketball’s ‘Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017’ (2012) contains no facilities priorities, but priority areas for club development are focused on major urban areas.	No immediate local opportunities.
Bowls	The Bowls Development Alliance ‘Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017’ (2012) confirms that efforts will focus on support packages promoting participation amongst the over 55’s and disabled participants aged 16+, using the existing clubs network. No capital funding is involved.	Opportunities for clubs to expand their memberships with support packages.

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Facilities priorities 2013 - 2017</i>	<i>Implications for Uttlesford</i>
Cricket	The ECB's <i>National Club Strategy</i> (2012) sets out the priorities for developing cricket at club level. This includes an objective to develop accessible, high quality and innovative facilities.	Opportunities for local clubs to improve facilities provision in line with development programmes.
Cycling	British Cycling's <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2012) identifies that funding is available for 32 traffic-free cycle sport facilities and/or off-road cycling facilities in strategically identified areas.	Potential to develop off-road cycling subject to local demand.
Football	The FA Chairman's <i>England Commission Report</i> (2014) contains the objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create 'Football Hubs' centred around '3G' football turf pitches in 30 cities by 2020.</li> <li>• Increase the number of publicly accessible '3G' football turf pitches by 50% by 2020.</li> <li>• More than 50% of youth and mini-soccer matches should be played on '3G' football turf pitches by 2020.</li> </ul>	The main priority is development in cities, but there will be opportunities in Uttlesford to develop smaller 'Football Hubs' around the main 'Charter Standard' clubs.
Golf	England Golf's <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2012) has no facilities priorities, but County Golf Partnerships will promote participation at existing golf courses.	Opportunities for clubs to expand their memberships.
Gymnastics	British Gymnastics' <i>Facility Strategy 2013 - 2017</i> (2012) includes provision for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Locally accessible facilities</b> - Increasing access to facilities and new spaces resulting from local authority and business austerity measures.</li> <li>• <b>Dedicated Facilities</b> - Funding for dedicated gymnastics centres.</li> <li>• <b>Freestyle Equipment</b> - Funding for freestyle gymnastics equipment packs for clubs and other delivery partners.</li> <li>• <b>Trampoline Equipment</b> - Funding for trampolines in clubs or leisure centres.</li> </ul>	Opportunities to create or enhance local gymnastics provision.
Hockey	England Hockey's <i>The Right Pitches in the Right Places</i> (2011) sets out its facilities priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that hockey can achieve adequate access to pitches where it is not the dominant user.</li> <li>• Making sure that pitch resurfacing issues are addressed for older facilities.</li> </ul>	Potential to secure hockey usage at key sites.
Netball	England Netball's <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2012) has no facilities priorities, but capital funding is available to develop facilities to support the work of Netball Development Community Coaches, based in areas of high population.	No immediate local opportunities.

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Facilities priorities 2013 - 2017</i>	<i>Implications for Uttlesford</i>
Rugby	The Rugby Football Union's <i>National Facilities Strategy for Rugby Union in England 2013 - 2017</i> (2013) contains the following priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the provision of integrated changing facilities that are child friendly and can sustain concurrent male and female activity at the club.</li> <li>• Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches.</li> <li>• Increase the number of Artificial Turf Pitches.</li> <li>• Improve social, community and catering facilities, which can support diversification and the generation of additional revenues.</li> <li>• Invest in facility upgrades which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs.</li> </ul>	Opportunities for local clubs to improve facilities provision in line with development programmes.
Squash	England Squash and Racketball's <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2012) has no facilities priorities, but capital funding is available to develop facilities in 'Hub and Spoke' areas, which do not include Uttlesford district.	No immediate local opportunities.
Swimming	The Amateur Swimming Association's <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2012) has no facilities priorities, but proposals to establish 'Local Aquatic Networks' comprising a 'local area partnership bringing together relevant partners to maximise the amount of usable water space in an area based by producing an 'Aquatic Improvement Plan'.	There is potential to optimise and rationalise the use of local pools through co-ordinated programming.
Table tennis	No facilities priorities, but small grants are available to provide an equipment package to allow community organisations to deliver non-traditional participation opportunities.	Equipment packages may enhance local participation opportunities.
Tennis	Facilities investment will support the delivery of the tennis programmes, largely focused in priority areas to address gaps or improve provision where critical to park or community programmes	No immediate local opportunities.

## **8) Essex Sports Facilities Strategy**

The *Essex Sports Facilities Strategy 2007 - 2020* (2008) was produced by Active Essex, the County Sports Partnership and identifies sports facilities needs in the county:

### **a) Purpose**

The Strategy should be 'used by local authorities and key partners to help inform the level and nature of provision that is required. Critically, it should also assist in planning for provision cross boundary'.

## b) Facilities hierarchy

A hierarchy of provision is proposed:

- **Sub-regional facilities** - Facilities that serve the whole county.
- **District facilities** - Facilities that serve a whole district, but whose catchment may also cover part of another district.
- **Local/neighbourhood facilities** - Facilities that serve the rural areas and specific urban areas. As a minimum, all villages should have access to an indoor facility within the village that can cater for recreational activities in which different age groups can participate. All persons living in rural areas should be no further than 20 minutes drive time from a larger leisure facility and swimming pool open to the community. In urban areas, all persons should be within 20 minutes walking time of a larger leisure centre and a swimming pool open to the community.

## c) Deficiencies in Uttlesford

Consultation with the governing bodies of sport identified the following facilities needs in Uttlesford and/or north Essex:

<i>Governing body</i>	<i>Identified deficiency</i>
UK Athletics	A need for athletics facilities in Uttlesford, possibly a 150m 'J' track, rather than a full 400m facility.
Badminton England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A permanent training/competition venue in north Essex.</li><li>• All new community centres/village halls should include 1-2 badminton courts with correct hall height, lighting and court dimensions.</li></ul>
Amateur Rowing Association	Rowing facilities are required in the Uttlesford to Thurrock corridor.

## APPENDIX III: LOCAL SPORTS DEMAND

### 1) Sports participation data

#### a) The 'Active People' Survey

The 'Active People' survey was commissioned by Sport England. The survey is the largest study of patterns of adult (people aged 16 and over) involvement in sport and physical activity ever undertaken and involved telephone interviews with a representative sample of between 500 and 1,000 residents of each local authority district in the country. Eight surveys have been undertaken to date, which has enabled trends to be tracked over a nine year period. The following Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) are measured and the results for each are tabulated below:

- **Overall participation** - This is defined as 'taking part on at least one day a week in moderate intensity sport and active recreation (at least four days in the last four weeks) for at least 30 minutes continuously in any one session'.
- **Volunteering** - This is defined as 'volunteering to support sport for at least one hour a week'.
- **Club membership** - This is defined as 'being a member of a club particularly so that you can participate in sport or recreational activity in the last four weeks'.
- **Receiving tuition** - This is defined as 'having received tuition from an instructor or coach to improve your performance in any sport or recreational activity in the last twelve months'.
- **Organised Competition** - This is defined as 'having taken part in any organised competition in any sport or recreational activity in the last twelve months'.
- **Organised sport** - This is defined as 'the percentage of adults who have done at least one of receiving tuition in the last twelve months and/or taken part in organised competition in the last twelve months and/or been a member of a club to play sport'.
- **Satisfaction** - This is defined as 'the percentage of adults who are very or fairly satisfied with sports provision in their local area'.
- **Participation in individual sports** - This is defined as 'the percentage of adults who have participated at least once in a sport in the preceding four weeks'.

#### b) Overall participation

Overall rates of regular adult participation in sport and physical activity (at least one session of 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week) show that participation rates in Uttlesford have been consistently well above the regional and national averages over the assessment period:

Area	2005/6	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Uttlesford	39.6%	41.0%	43.8%	38.1%	40.8%	40.5%	44.2%	42.0%	40.1%
East	34.8%	36.5%	35.6%	34.9%	34.7%	36.0%	35.1%	35.3%	34.6%
England	34.2%	35.8%	35.7%	35.3%	34.8%	36.0%	35.7%	35.5%	35.3%

#### c) Volunteering

Rates of volunteer support for sport in Uttlesford have fluctuated during the survey period but have generally been well above the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2012/13</i>
Uttlesford	8.3%	6.8%	5.6%	5.5%	8.5%	10.8%
East	4.9%	5.4%	4.8%	8.0%	7.4%	6.8%
England	5.4%	4.9%	4.7%	4.5%	7.2%	6.0%

#### d) Sports club membership

Rates of sports club membership in Uttlesford have fluctuated during the survey period and are currently well above the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>	<i>2012/13</i>
Uttlesford	28.4%	30.4%	31.4%	27.5%	23.7%	23.5%	28.1%
East	26.2%	25.4%	25.5%	24.3%	23.6%	23.7%	22.2%
England	25.1%	24.7%	24.1%	23.9%	23.3%	22.8%	21.0%

#### e) Sports coaching/tuition

The proportion of adults in Uttlesford who received sports coaching or tuition in the previous 12 months has decreased during the survey period, in line with national, but not regional trends, but still remains well above the national average:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>	<i>2012/13</i>
Uttlesford	24.4%	22.7%	24.9%	22.8%	23.9%	18.4%	22.1%
East	19.0%	19.1%	18.3%	18.3%	23.6%	23.7%	22.2%
England	18.0%	18.1%	17.5%	17.5%	16.2%	16.8%	15.8%

#### f) Organised competition

The proportion of adults in Uttlesford who took part in organised sports competitions in the previous 12 months has fluctuated during the survey period but is currently substantially higher than the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>	<i>2012/13</i>
Uttlesford	19.4%	17.6%	22.3%	15.5%	14.6%	16.4%	19.1%
East	16.0%	15.5%	14.7%	15.3%	14.5%	15.1%	13.6%
England	16.0%	15.7%	14.7%	14.4%	14.3%	14.4%	11.2%

#### g) Satisfaction

In line with national and regional trends, the proportion of adults in Uttlesford who are satisfied with local sports provision has fallen during the survey periods when this element was included, but currently stands above the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2012/13</i>
Uttlesford	68.8%	69.1%	73.0%	68.6%	64.7%
East	71.0%	68.2%	69.7%	70.2%	62.5%
England	69.5%	66.6%	68.4%	69.0%	60.3%

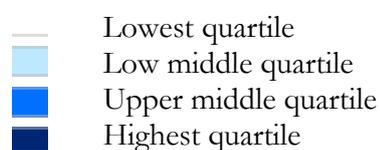
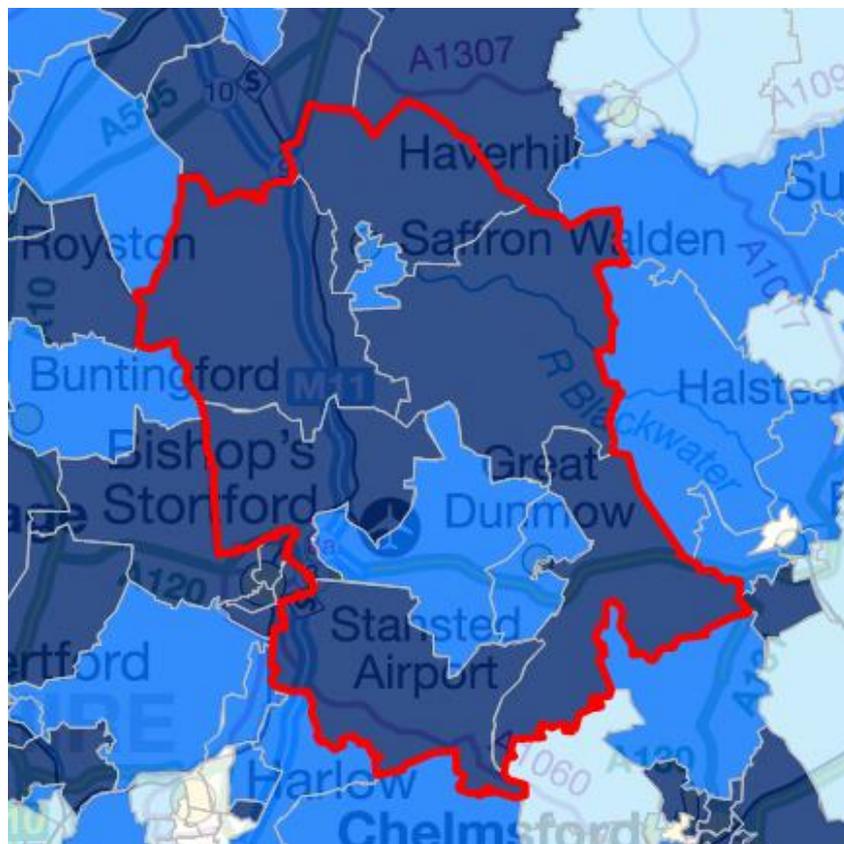
## h) Participation in individual sports

The top five sports in which respondents from Uttlesford participated in the four weeks prior to the 2012/13 survey are listed below, along with the respective regional and national figures:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Uttlesford</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>England</i>
Health and fitness	12.5%	10.1%	10.9%
Cycling	11.9%	8.4%	8.1%
Swimming	10.7%	11.1%	11.5%
Running	8.2%	6.2%	6.5%
Football	5.8%	5.8%	6.3%

## i) Participation by Middle Super Output Area

Sport England's 'Active People Interactive' tool enables local participation data to be mapped, to give a more detailed picture of participation rates at Middle Super Output Area (MSOA) level (equating to populations between 5,000 and 7,200 people). The map below shows the MSOAs covering Uttlesford and its surrounds and it reveals that whilst participation rates within the main towns are in the upper middle quartiles nationally, the surrounding rural catchments that they serve have localised participation rates that are in the highest quartile.



## 2) Market segmentation data

### a) Introduction

Sport England analysed 19 adult sporting market segments, to better understand motivations for participation and barriers to doing more sport and physical activity. This data provides a useful way to anticipate demand for individual types of activity from a given local population.

### b) Market segmentation in Uttlesford

The proportion of the population of Uttlesford in each market segment is tabulated below, with the South-west and national figures for comparison:

<i>Market segment</i>	<i>Uttlesford</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>England</i>
Competitive male urbanites	7.6%	5.3%	4.9%
Sports team drinkers	1.7%	4.0%	5.4%
Fitness class friends	8.9%	5.3%	4.7%
Supportive singles	1.4%	3.2%	4.3%
Career focused females	7.2%	5.0%	4.5%
Settling down males	15.0%	10.5%	8.8%
Stay at home mums	6.9%	5.4%	4.4%
Middle England mums	3.1%	4.8%	4.9%
Pub league team mates	1.2%	4.1%	5.9%
Stretched single mums	0.9%	2.9%	3.7%
Comfortable mid-life males	10.9%	9.6%	8.6%
Empty nest career ladies	8.9%	6.8%	6.1%
Early retirement couples	6.8%	8.2%	6.8%
Older working women	1.1%	3.2%	4.9%
Local 'old boys'	1.1%	2.9%	3.7%
Later life ladies	0.7%	1.6%	2.1%
Comfortable retired couples	9.4%	5.1%	4.2%
Twilight years gents	2.3%	4.3%	4.0%
Retirement home singles	4.8%	7.9%	8.0%

### c) 'Dominant' market segments

Sport England classifies all market segments with more than 7% of the adult population as 'dominant' and their sporting preferences therefore have particular significance for facilities demand in the area. In Uttlesford, the following market segments are dominant and their characteristics and sports preferences are tabulated below:

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Sports that appeal</i>
Competitive male urbanites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 18-25</li> <li>• Single</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• No children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 40% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 19% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rugby</li> <li>• Cricket</li> <li>• Squash</li> <li>• Climbing</li> <li>• Windsurfing</li> <li>• Gym</li> <li>• Tennis</li> <li>• Football</li> </ul>

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Sports that appeal</i>
Fitness class friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 18-35</li> <li>• Single</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• No children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 28% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 34% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Body combat</li> <li>• Netball</li> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Pilates</li> <li>• Gym</li> <li>• Running</li> <li>• Tennis</li> <li>• Aqua aerobics</li> </ul>
Settling down males	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 26-45</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• 50% have children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 32% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 27% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canoeing</li> <li>• Skiing</li> <li>• Cricket</li> <li>• Golf</li> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• Squash</li> <li>• Football</li> </ul>
Comfortable mid-life males	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 36-65</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• 50% have children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 26% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 39% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sailing</li> <li>• Gym</li> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Jogging</li> <li>• Badminton</li> <li>• Golf</li> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• Cricket</li> </ul>
Empty nest career ladies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 46-55</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• No dependent children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 25% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 44% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Yoga</li> <li>• Walking</li> <li>• Horse riding</li> <li>• Aqua aerobics</li> <li>• Pilates</li> <li>• Step machine</li> <li>• Gym</li> </ul>
Comfortable retired couples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 65+</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Owner occupied</li> <li>• Retired</li> <li>• No dependent children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 14% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 70% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bowls</li> <li>• Snooker</li> <li>• Golf</li> <li>• Walking</li> <li>• Tennis</li> <li>• Fishing</li> <li>• Table tennis</li> <li>• Swimming</li> </ul>

#### d) The impact on demand

The dominant segments in Uttlesford are likely to inflate local demand for swimming, cycling, playing pitches, golf and health and fitness facilities.

### 3) Past surveys

An extensive programme of research into sport and physical activity needs for sport and recreation facilities was undertaken as part of the *'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy'* document in 2012:

- **Citizens' panel** - A 2010 citizens' panel survey on open spaces (including indoor and outdoor sports facilities) was reviewed.
- **Local sports clubs** - A 2010 survey of local sports clubs for all indoor and outdoor sports was reviewed.
- **Governing bodies of sport** - A 2011 e-mail survey of governing bodies of sport was undertaken as part of the study.
- **Local pitch sports clubs** - A 2011 e-mail survey of local pitch sports clubs was undertaken as part of the study.
- **Local schools** - A 2011 e-mail survey of local schools was undertaken as part of the study.
- **Local leisure centre users** - A 2011 questionnaire survey of leisure centre users was undertaken as part of the study.

### 4) Key findings from past surveys

The key findings in relation to local sport and recreation facilities provision were as follows:

- The Citizen's Panel survey revealed that a significant proportion of the respondents feel that there are too few of several types of sports facility locally, in particular swimming pools, indoor and outdoor tennis courts, synthetic turf pitches and grass pitches.
- The Council's 2010 survey of local sports clubs revealed high levels of satisfaction with local sports facilities, with 71.4% of respondents saying that their needs are fully met. Conversely, 50% of respondents believe that there are too few synthetic turf pitches locally.
- Most of the governing bodies of sport have no policies or strategic priorities relating to facility provision in the Uttlesford area, although swimming and football have identified some deficiencies.
- Respondents to the pitch sports clubs survey were generally critical of the quality of pitch provision in Uttlesford.
- Schools are already major providers of sports facilities with community use in Uttlesford and several who do not currently offer external access to their facilities would consider doing so in the future.
- The leisure centre users survey showed patterns of very regular (weekly or more frequently) by facility users. As with some other local surveys, local levels of provision for swimming and tennis courts were judged to be insufficient.

## 5) Current surveys

Additional surveys were conducted in conjunction with the current Strategy, with the assistance of Active Uttlesford and the Saffron Walden Organisation for Sport:

### a) Sports clubs survey

18 responses were received, involving clubs covering athletics, canoeing, cricket, golf, fitness training, football, hockey, martial arts, netball, rugby, swimming and triathlon. The key findings were as follows:

- **Membership trends** - 83.33% of responding clubs reported an increase in membership over the past three years, averaging 28% growth across all age groups. The largest increases by age group are for female participants, up by 80% for mini-age group girls in those clubs that provide for them, up 32% for junior women, up 28% for adult women and up 7% for veteran women. In total an additional 2,825 members joined the 18 responding clubs over the past three years.
- **Sports development** - 50% of respondents have a written development plan and a further 20% are currently in the process of producing one. 70% of respondents have the quality assured Club Mark accreditation.
- **Problem issues** - The following issues were identified as current problems for clubs:

<i>Problem</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Lack of appropriate local facilities	90.0%
Lack of external funding (grants etc.)	77.8%
Access difficulties for members (e.g. lack of public transport)	66.7%
Lack of information about local facilities/services	50.0%
Shortage of volunteer help	33.3%
Membership recruitment/retention	22.2%
Lack of internal funding (subs etc.)	22.2%
Limited links/co-operation with other local clubs	11.1%

- **Future plans** - The following were identified as future plans:

<i>Development</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Expand the range of facilities provided	87.5%
Sharing facilities with another club	87.5%
Increase the number of members	77.8%
Relocation to different premises	50.0%
Refurbish existing facilities	38.5%
None	0.0%

- **Opinions on local levels of facility provision** - These were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Too many (%)</i>	<i>About right (%)</i>	<i>Too few (%)</i>	<i>No opinion (%)</i>
Sports halls	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%
Swimming pools	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%
Athletics tracks	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Health and fitness	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%	0.0%
Indoor tennis	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Outdoor tennis	0.0%	42.9%	21.4%	35.7%
Indoor bowls	0.0%	21.4%	7.1%	71.4%
Outdoor bowls	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%	71.4%
Squash courts	0.0%	50.0%	21.4%	28.6%
Netball courts	0.0%	21.4%	35.7%	42.9%
Village/community halls	0.0%	71.4%	7.1%	21.4%
Grass pitches	0.0%	21.4%	64.3%	14.3%
Synthetic turf pitches	0.0%	14.3%	64.3%	21.4%

## b) Schools survey

9 schools responded to the electronic survey. The key findings were as follows:

- **Sports facilities needs** - 66.7% of responding schools reported that their existing facilities meet all their curricular and extra-curricular sports needs, whilst a further 4.7% are able to access appropriate off-site sports facilities (principally swimming pools).
- **Unmet sports facilities needs** - 28.6% of respondents are unable to meet all their current sports facilities needs by on-site or off-site provision at present. The needs principally relate to larger halls and all-weather pitch provision.
- **Current community use** - 85.7% of respondents currently make their sports facilities available for community use. This primarily involves use of a hall and/or grass pitches. In 14.8% of cases, usage is regulated by a formal Community Use Agreement, in 28.1% of cases by an annual booking arrangement, 57.1% by a termly booking arrangement.
- **Future community use** - 85.7% of respondents would be prepared to increase community usage in the future. For those that would not, the reasons cited included a lack of local demand, an absence of staff to supervise the arrangement, access difficulties and cost recovery issues.

## 6) Key findings from current surveys

The key findings in relation to local sport and recreation facilities provision were as follows:

- Local sports clubs are successful at attracting new members, with 28% overall growth amongst responding clubs over the past three years. Female membership has grown most rapidly of all.
- A shortage of local facilities is identified as problematic by 90% of clubs. As a result, 87.5% of respondents have active plans for additional facility provision.

- More than one quarter of schools are unable to meet all their curricular and extra-curricular sports needs at present, due to a shortage of local facilities.
- Most schools make their sports facilities available for community use, but in most cases such it not regulated by a formal Community Use Agreement and could be rescinded at any time.

## 7) Local sports clubs

A summary of club-based sport and recreation activity in Uttlesford is set out below:

### a) Athletics

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Striders Uttlesford Harriers	Lord Butler Leisure Centre
Great Dunmow	Grange Farm & Dunmow Runners (Dunmow) Grange Farm & Dunmow Runners (Felsted)	The Causeway, Great Dunmow Felsted Fitness
Stansted	None	None

### b) Badminton

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Abbey Lane and Newport Badminton Club Bad Girls Badminton Club Court One Badminton Club Newport Badminton Club Sampfords Badminton Club	Abbey Lane Church Hall Lord Butler Leisure Centre Lord Butler Leisure Centre Lord Butler Leisure Centre Lord Butler Leisure Centre
Great Dunmow	Dunmow Badminton Club Maltings Badminton Club Thaxted Badminton Club	Great Dunmow Leisure Centre Great Dunmow Leisure Centre Bolford Street Hall, Thaxted
Stansted	Mountfitchet Badminton Club	Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre

### c) Basketball

Saffron Walden Basketball Club is based at the Lord Butler Leisure Centre.

### d) Bowls

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Clavering Bowls Club Great Chesterford Bowls Club Quendon Bowls Club Radwinter Bowls Club Saffron Walden Town Bowls Club	Clavering Bowls Club Great Chesterford Bowls Club Quendon Bowls Club Radwinter Bowls Club Saffron Walden Town Bowls Club
Great Dunmow	Dunmow Bowls Club Stebbing Bowls Club Thaxted Bowls Club	Dunmow Bowls Club Stebbing Bowls Club Thaxted Bowls Club
Stansted	Birchanger Bowls Club Elsenham Bowls Club Stansted Bowls Club	Birchanger Bowls Club Elsenham Bowls Club Stansted Bowls Club

## e) Cricket

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Ashdon CC (2 adult teams) Audley End & Littlebury CC (2 adult teams) Chesterfords CC (2 adult teams) Clavering CC (1 adult team) Elmdon CC (3 adult teams) Langley CC (1 adult team) Newport CC (3 adult/1 junior teams) Radwinter CC (1 adult team) Rickling Ramblers CC (1 adult team) Saffron Walden CC (9 adult/21 junior teams)  Sampfords CC (1 adult team) Seward's End CC (2 adult teams) Wenden CC (1 adult team)	Walton's Park, Ashdon Audley End House Great Chesterford Recreation Ground Hill Green, Clavering Pilgrim's Hill, Elmdon Langley Upper Green Newport Recreation Ground Radwinter Recreation Ground Rickling Green Anglo-American Playing Field County High Sports Centre Friends School Wenden's Ambo Playing Field High Street, Great Sampford Various Wenden's Ambo Playing Field
Great Dunmow	Aythorpe Roding CC (1 adult/2 junior teams) Clogham's Green CC (1 adult team) Dunmow CC (4 adult/5 junior teams) Eastons CC (1 adult team) High Easter CC (2 adult teams) High Roding CC (3 adult/9 junior teams) Lindsell CC (1 adult team) Little Bardfield Village CC (2 adult/2 junior teams) Molehill Green CC (2 adult teams) Stebbing CC (1 adult team) Thaxted CC (2 adult/3 junior teams)	Roundbush Green Clogham's Green, Leaden Roding St. Edmunds Lane, Dunmow Little Easton Recreation Ground The Street, High Easter Rands Road, High Roding Gallows Green, Lindsell Churchend, Little Bardfield School Lane, Molehill Green Stebbing Recreation Ground Bardfield End Green, Thaxted
Stansted	Birchanger CC (2 adult teams) Farnham CC (2 adult teams) Great Canfield CC (1 adult team) Hatfield Broad Oak CC (1 adult team) Hatfield Heath CC (2 adult teams) Hockerill CC (5 adult/3 junior teams) Little Hallingbury CC (2 adult teams) Manuden CC (1 adult team) Stansted CC (3 adult/2 junior teams) Stansted Hall & Elsenham CC (3 adult/6 junior)  Takeley CC (3 adult/2 junior teams)	Birchanger Social Club Farnham Cricket Club Great Canfield Village Green Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club The Heath, Hatfield Heath Beldham's Lane, Hockerill Gaston Green, Little Hallingbury Manuden Recreation Ground Hargrave Park, Stansted Henham Road, Elsenham Stansted House Parsonage Road, Takeley

## f) Cycling

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Newdales Cycles RT Walden Junior Cycling Club Walden Velo Club	Various

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Great Dunmow	GS Vecchi	Various
Stansted	Eagle Road Club Victoria Cycling Club	Various

### g) Football

Information on local football activity was provided by the Essex FA in its 'Football Participation Report for Uttlesford 2013/14' (2013) which contains the following material of note:

- **Football conversion rates** - The FA calculated the following Football Conversion Rates, to compare the number of people playing football with the local population in each age group, to produce a percentage of each age group that plays football.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Uttlesford (%)</i>	<i>East (%)</i>	<i>England (%)</i>
Adult male (ages 17 - 44)	6.4%	6.4%	4.7%
Adult female (ages 17 - 44)	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
Youth male (ages 10 - 16)	23.2%	22.8%	18.7%
Youth female (ages 10 - 16)	0.3%	2.0%	1.8%
Mini-soccer (ages 5 - 9)	10.7%	12.8%	10.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>

The overall football participation rate in Uttlesford is the same as the regional, but well above the national, average. Of the 45 clubs in Uttlesford, 13 (28.9%) have achieved the FA's quality assured Charter Standard (compared with 27.0% nationally). 87.7% of youth and mini-soccer teams are part of a Charter Standard club, compared with a national average of 81.1%.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Ashdon Villa FC (1 adult team) Debden FC (1 adult team) Great Chesterford Youth FC (1 youth team) Newport FC (3 adult teams) Plantation & Spartak Girls FC (6 youth/1 mini team) Plantation Youth FC (8 youth/6 mini teams) Radwinter FC (1 adult team) Saffron Crocus FC (2 adult teams) Saffron Dynamos FC (1 adult team) Saffron Hawks FC (1 adult team) Saffron Rangers FC (1 adult team) Saffron Walden Town FC (3 adult teams)  Saffron Walden Town YFC (6 youth/3 mini)  Sharp One FC (1 adult) Spartak 78 FC (1 adult) Spartak 78 Youth FC (11 youth/6 mini teams) Walden Ladies FC (1 adult team) Walden Wanderers Youth FC (1 youth team)	Bartlow Road, Ashdon Debden Recreation Ground Chesterford Recreation Ground Newport Recreation Ground Herbert Farm Playing Field Herbert Farm Playing Field Radwinter Recreation Ground <i>Ickleton Village Hall Ground</i> Carver Barracks Wimbish Recreation Ground <i>Linton Village College</i> Caton's Lane Quendon Recreation Ground Caton's Lane Wimbish Recreation Ground Radwinter Playing Fields Jubilee Field, Clavering Herbert Farm Playing Field Herbert Farm Playing Field Wimbish Recreation Ground Wimbish Recreation Ground

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Great Dunmow	Barnston FC (2 adult/1 youth teams) Beaumont Wanderers FC (1 adult team) Dunmow Rhodes FC (2 adult teams) Dunmow Rhodes YFC (13 youth/9 mini teams) Dunmow United YFC (5 youth/7 mini teams) Felsted Rovers FC (2 adult teams) Fritch United FC (2 adult teams) Fritch Youth FC (1 youth team) Roundbush Green FC (2 adult teams) Thaxted Rangers Youth FC (2 adult/4 youth/2 mini) White Roding Sports FC (4 adult teams)	High Easter Road, Barnston High Easter Playing Field Dunmow Recreation Ground Dunmow Recreation Ground Laundry Lane, Little Easton Dunmow Recreation Ground  Felsted Playing Field Alcott Playing Field Alcott Playing Field Roundbush Green Recn. Ground Thaxted Recreation Ground  White Roding Sports Club
Stansted	Abacus Athletic FC (1 adult team) Bentfield FC (1 adult team) Birchanger Social Club (3 adult teams) Brewer FC (1 adult team) Elsenham Youth FC (7 youth/4 mini teams) Hatfield Broad Oak FC (1 adult/1 youth/1 mini team) Hatfield Heath FC (2 adult teams) Littlebury FC (1 adult team) Lower Street FC (1 adult team) Manuden Junior FC (3 youth/2 mini teams) Manuden United FC (2 adult teams) Stansted FC (2 adult teams) Takeley FC (2 adult teams) Takeley Ladies FC (1 team) Takeley Youth FC (4 youth teams)	<i>Grange Paddocks</i> Bentfield Green Playing Field Birchanger Social Club Mill Road, Takeley Elsenham Playing Fields Hatfield Broad Oak Social Club  Calves Pasture Littlebury Recreation Ground The Old Mill Playing Field Manuden Playing Field Manuden Playing Field Hargrave Park Station Road, Takeley Station Road, Takeley Station Road, Takeley

## h) Golf

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Golf Club	Saffron Walden Golf Club
Great Dunmow	None	None
Stansted	Elsenham Golf and Leisure Centre	Elsenham Golf and Leisure Centre

## i) Gymnastics

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Dynamics Gymnastics Club	Lord Butler Leisure Centre
Great Dunmow	Fit 4 Fun Gymnastics Club	Great Dunmow Leisure Centre
Stansted	None	None

## j) Hockey

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Hockey Club (8 men's teams/7 women's teams/9 junior teams) - 461 members.	Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport
Great Dunmow	Blue Hornets Felsted Hockey Club (9 junior teams) - 276 junior members.	Felsted School Great Dunmow Leisure Centre
Stansted	None	None

## k) Judo

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Judo Club	Dame Bradbury School
Great Dunmow	West Essex Judo Club	Stebbing Village Hall
Stansted	None	None

## l) Karate

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Shotokan Karate Club	County High School
Great Dunmow	Dunmow Kyoushinkai Karate Club Dunmow Shotokan Karate Club	Great Dunmow Leisure Centre Great Dunmow Leisure Centre
Stansted	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre

## m) Netball

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Netball Club Saffron Hawks Netball Club	Dame Bradbury School Lord Butler Leisure Centre
Great Dunmow	Dunmow Crests Netball Club Dunmow Junior Netball Club Great Dunmow Netball Club Thaxted Netball Club	Great Dunmow Leisure Centre Great Dunmow Leisure Centre Great Dunmow Leisure Centre Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport
Stansted	Stansted Corkers Netball Club Stansted Sparks Netball Club	Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre <i>Leventhorpe Leisure Centre</i>

## n) Rugby

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Rugby Club (3 adult men's /1 adult women's/8 junior/6 mini teams) Wenden's Ambo Rugby Club (1 adult men's team and 6 mini teams)	Springate, Henham Carver Barracks Carver Barracks Friends School Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport
Great Dunmow	None	None
Stansted	None	None

#### o) Skateboarding and related sports

The Saffron Walden Skate Group is based at the One Minet Skatepark site, adjacent to the Lord Butler Leisure Centre. It accommodates skateboarding, blading, BMX, scootering and Parkour and currently has 838 members of all ages.

#### p) Squash and Racketball

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Squash Club	Lord Butler Leisure Centre
Great Dunmow	None	None
Stansted	None	None

#### q) Sub-aqua

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Walden Sub-aqua Club	Lord Butler Leisure Centre Friends School Pool
Great Dunmow	None	None
Stansted	None	None

#### r) Swimming

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Saffron Seals Swimming Club	Friends School Pool
Great Dunmow	Dunmow Atlantis Swimming Club Dolphin Senior Swim Club	Great Dunmow Leisure Centre Felsted School Pool Great Dunmow Leisure Centre
Stansted	None	None

#### s) Table tennis

No formal club activity

#### t) Tennis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Castle Hill Tennis Club Clavering Jubilee Tennis Club Debden Tennis Club Grove (Saffron Walden) Tennis Club Newport Village Tennis Club The Sampfords Tennis Club	Castle Hill Tennis Club Jubilee Playing Field, Clavering Debden recreation Ground Grove (Saffron Walden) Tennis Club Newport Village Tennis Club Baptist Church Field, Great Sampford
Great Dunmow	Dunmow Tennis Club Stebbing Tennis Club Thaxted Tennis Club	Dunmow Tennis Club Stebbing Tennis Club Thaxted Tennis Club
Stansted	Elsenham Tennis Club Henham Tennis Club Stansted Tennis Club	Elsenham Tennis Club Henham Tennis Club Stansted Tennis Club

#### u) Triathlon

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Local clubs</i>	<i>Facilities used</i>
Saffron Walden	Walden Tri	Various
Great Dunmow	Dunmow Triathlon Club	Various
Stansted	None	None

#### v) Volleyball

No formal club activity

## APPENDIX IV: LOCAL SPORTS FACILITIES SUPPLY

### 1) Introduction

This section analyses the supply of sports facilities in Uttlesford. It is based upon the material in the *'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy'* document, with updates to reflect changes since 2012. As such, it comprises Stage Two of ANOG and Stage B, Step 2 of the PPS Guidance.

#### a) Quantity

The quantity of each type of sports facility was established by drawing on data from Sport England's *'Active Places Power'* database, cross checked against other sources provided by local stakeholders and consultees. Information on facilities in neighbouring areas with catchments that overlap the Uttlesford boundaries was compiled as part of the 2015 review exercise, to provide an additional perspective on facilities that supplement provision within the district.

#### b) Quality

The quality of sports facilities and playing pitches was assessed in the *'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy'* (2012) document. Every facility was audited via site visits during the playing season and facility specific criteria were assessed. The ratings for each aspect of each facility were checked and challenged in 2015 via the clubs survey and stakeholder consultation and amended where necessary in the light of any changes since the original survey in 2012.

#### c) Accessibility

The accessibility of sports facilities, including opening hours, usage programmes, the extent of secured community use, membership arrangements and fees and charges was assessed as part of the current update exercise, to identify any barriers to use that might impact on the capacity of local provision.

#### d) Used capacity

The used capacity of existing facilities has been assessed as part of the current update exercise, using sources such as Sport England's Facilities Planning Model the clubs survey and stakeholder consultation.

#### e) Access

The geographical spread of each type of facility was mapped as part of the 2012 study and an appropriate effective catchment determined for each according to Sport England national research and/or the mode of transport and travel times that local consultees indicated that they adopt. The extent of catchment coverage was then determined and any gaps established. This data was checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise.

## 2) Sports halls

### a) Quantity

Sports halls are defined as community accessible indoor halls with multi-sport markings and minimum dimensions equivalent to three badminton courts. The following facilities are the same as those noted in the 2012 strategy.

<i>Sports hall</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
County High Sports Centre	Audley End Road, Saffron Walden CB11 4UH	33m x 18m
Friends School	Mount Pleasant Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3EB	33m x 18m
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	Peaslands Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3EG	33m x 18m
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	Parsonage Downs, Dunmow CM6 2AT	33m x 18m
Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre	Forest Hall Road, Stansted CM24 8TZ	33m x 18m
Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport	Cambridge Road, Newport CB11 3TR	33m x 18m

### b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Sports halls</i>	<i>Sports halls per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	4	1: 7,893
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	1	1: 29,326
Stansted and district	18,645	1	1: 18,645
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1: 13,241</b>

### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following sports halls in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Sports hall</i>	<i>Location</i>
Alec Hunter Academy	Braintree
Birchwood High School	Bishop's Stortford
Bishop's Stortford College	Bishop's Stortford
Bishop's Stortford High School	Bishop's Stortford
Braintree Sport and Health Club	Braintree
College of Braintree	Braintree
Haverhill Leisure Centre	Haverhill
Leventhorpe Enterprise Academy	Sawbridgeworth
St. Mary's Catholic School	Bishop's Stortford

### d) Quality

The quality of sports hall provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores for sports halls were as follows:

<i>Sports hall</i>	<i>Playing area</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled access</i>	<i>Maintenance /Cleanliness</i>	<i>Parking/ access</i>
County High Sports Centre	5	5	5	5	4
Friends School	5	4	5	5	5
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	5	5	5	5	5
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	4	4	5	4	5
Mountfitchet Romeera LC	5	5	5	5	4
Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport	5	4	4	5	4

#### e) Accessibility

Five of the six sports halls are on education sites and the hours of availability for community use are as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Community use</i>
County High Sports Centre	31 hours per week (evenings and weekends)
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	50 hours per week (evenings and weekends)
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	102 hours per week
Mountfitchet Romeera LC	55 hours per week (evenings and weekends)
Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport	32 hours per week (evenings and weekends)
Friends School	33.2 hours per week (evenings and weekends)

#### f) Used capacity

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) comprises a spatial assessment of sports hall provision based on the nature of sports participation (demand) within an area and the available supply, taking into account issues such as capacity and accessibility. Part of the calculation involves an assessment of the used peak period capacity of facilities and the current figures for sports halls in Uttlesford are as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>% of used capacity</i>
County High Sports Centre	40%
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	100%
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	100%
Mountfitchet Romeera LC	100%
Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport	46%
Friends School	100%

Based upon Sport England's definition of 'Comfortable Capacity', whereby a sports hall is deemed to be effectively full when usage reaches 80% of theoretical full capacity, four of the sports halls are operating at well above this level and two are below the level but with restricted opportunities to expand. With 76% of the overall capacity in the district used, there is therefore no effective spare capacity in sports halls in Uttlesford.

#### g) Access

Analysis of the location of sports halls in Uttlesford in relation to Sport England's advocated 20 minute drive time catchments indicates that the entire population of the district is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest sports hall, including the southern and north-easternmost fringes of the area, which are served by facilities in Bishop's Stortford and Haverhill.

### 3) Swimming pools

#### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, indoor swimming pools are defined as main pools with minimum length of 20 metres, although smaller teaching and diving pools are included in the assessment where they are integral to a facility with a main pool.

<i>Swimming pool</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
Felsted School	Garnett's Lane, Felsted CM6 3LL	23m x 8m
Friends School	Mount Pleasant Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3EB	20m x 10m
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	Parsonage Downs, Dunmow CM6 2AT	25m x 13m
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	Peaslands Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3EG	25m x 10.5m 12m x 10m

#### b) Sub-area analysis

The distribution of both swimming pools and the overall water space they contain in each sub-area is detailed below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pools</i>	<i>Pools per capita</i>	<i>Sq.m water space</i>	<i>Sq.m per 1,000</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	2	1: 10,524	582.5 Sq.m	18.45 Sq.m
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	2	1: 14,663	509.0 Sq.m	17.36 Sq.m
Stansted and district	18,645	0	-	-	-
<b><i>Uttlesford</i></b>	<b><i>79,443</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>	<b><i>1: 19,861</i></b>	<b><i>1,091.5 Sq.m</i></b>	<b><i>6.74 q. m</i></b>

#### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following swimming pools in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Swimming pool</i>	<i>Location</i>
Bishop's Stortford College	Bishop's Stortford
Bishop's Stortford Fitness & Well-being Centre	Bishop's Stortford
Grange Paddocks Leisure Centre	Bishop's Stortford
Hertfordshire & Essex High School	Bishop's Stortford
Braintree Swimming and Fitness	Braintree
Haverhill Leisure Centre	Haverhill
Leventhorpe Enterprise Academy	Sawbridgeworth
Xspect Health and Fitness	Braintree

#### d) Quality

The quality of swimming pool provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores for pools were as follows:

<i>Swimming pool</i>	<i>Pool</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled access</i>	<i>Maintenance/Cleanliness</i>	<i>Parking/access</i>
Felsted School	4	4	4	4	4
Friends School	5	2	2	5	5
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	5	4	4	4	5
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	5	5	5	5	5

#### e) Accessibility

Three of the four pool sites are at schools and the hours of availability for community use are as follows. Community access at Friends School and Felsted School is very limited and is restricted to swimming lessons and block-bookings only.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Community use</i>
Felsted School	15 hours per week (evenings and weekends)
Friends School	15 hours per week (evenings and weekends)
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	85 hours per week
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	103 hours per week

#### f) Used capacity

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) comprises a spatial assessment of swimming pool provision based on the nature of sports participation (demand) within an area and the available supply, taking into account issues such as capacity and accessibility. Part of the calculation involves an assessment of the used peak period capacity of facilities and the current figures for pools in Uttlesford are as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>% of used capacity</i>
Felsted School	45%
Friends School	36%
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	58%
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	49%

Based upon Sport England's definition of 'Comfortable Capacity', whereby a swimming pool is deemed to be effectively full when usage reaches 70% of theoretical full capacity, all of the pools are operating below this level, but Felsted School and Friends School have restricted opportunities to expand. With 52% of the overall capacity in the district used, there appears to be some spare capacity in swimming pools in Uttlesford.

However, consultation with local swimming clubs in Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow indicates that they are unable to access sufficient pool time and that the used capacity calculations in the FPM are unrepresentative.

#### g) Access

Analysis of the location of swimming pools in Uttlesford in relation to Sport England's advocated 20 minute drive time catchments indicates that the entire population of the district is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest pool, including the south-easternmost fringes of the area, which are served by facilities in Bishop's Stortford.

#### 4) Synthetic athletics tracks

##### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, athletics facilities are defined as:

- 400m synthetic tracks with full field events provision.
- Club Training Venues, comprising a mix of specialist and non-specialist facilities.
- Compact Athletics Facilities, comprising a mix of specialist and non-specialist facilities.

There are no such facilities in Uttlesford at present.

##### b) Quality

In the absence of local athletics facilities, no quality assessment was possible.

##### c) Accessibility

All of the athletics tracks in neighbouring areas (Braintree, Harlow, Ware and Cambridge) are available for hire by clubs and individuals and all have existing spare capacity.

##### d) Access

Analysis of the location of athletics tracks in neighbouring areas together with the 20 minute drive time catchments advocated by UK Athletics shows that a large area in the north of the district is beyond the catchment of the nearest track.

#### 5) Indoor bowls

##### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, indoor bowls halls are defined specialist indoor facilities with appropriate playing surface and rink dimensions for bowls. Facility provision is unchanged from the 2012 strategy and comprises the following:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Rinks</i>
Turpin's Indoor Bowls Club	Peaslands Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3EG	6

##### b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Facilities per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	1	1: 31,572
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	0	-
Stansted and district	18,645	0	-
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1: 79,443</b>

### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following indoor bowls facilities in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Location</i>
Haverhill Bowls and Sports Club	Haverhill
Tye Green Indoor Bowls Club	Harlow

### d) Quality

The quality of indoor bowls provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Access</i>	<i>Other</i>
Turpin's Indoor Bowls Club	5	4	5	5

### e) Accessibility

Access to the facility is for club members only, but membership fees are set at a level that will not inhibit use. There is spare capacity at the club to accommodate additional members.

### f) Access

Analysis of the location of the indoor bowls facilities in Uttlesford and neighbouring areas in relation to a 20 minute drive time catchment from within which the clubs concerned draw their users, indicates that with the exception of a small part of the central-southern and eastern rural areas, the entire population of the district is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest facility.

## 6) Outdoor bowls

### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, outdoor bowls greens are defined as effectively flat, fine turf grassed areas, 40 yards x 40 yards, with regulation banks and ditches around the perimeter and ancillary facilities for changing and equipment storage.

There are 11 bowling greens in Uttlesford, equivalent to one facility per 7,222 people:

<i>Site</i>	
Birchanger Bowls Club	Radwinter Bowls Club
Clavering Bowls Club	Saffron Walden Town Bowls Club
Dunmow Bowls Club	Stansted Bowls Club
Elsenham Bowls Club	Stebbing Bowls Club
Great Chesterford Bowls Club	Thaxted Bowls Club
Quendon Bowls Club	

## b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>Greens per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	5	1: 6,314
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	3	1: 9,775
Stansted and district	18,645	3	1: 6,215
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1: 7,222</b>

## c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following bowling greens in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Bowling green</i>	<i>Location</i>
Bishop's Stortford Bowling Club (x2)	Bishop's Stortford
Bocking Alliance	Braintree
Braintree Bowls Club	Braintree
Castle Camps Bowls Club	Haverhill
Duxford Bowls Club	Duxford
Havers Park Lawn Bowls Club	Bishop's Stortford
Sawbridgeworth Bowls Club	Sawbridgeworth
Steeple Bumpstead Bowls Club	Haverhill

## d) Quality

The quality of outdoor bowls provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Playing surface</i>	<i>Pavilion/ changing</i>	<i>Disabled access</i>	<i>Parking/ access</i>
Birchanger Bowls Club	3	4	3	3
Clavering Bowls Club	4	3	2	2
Dunmow Bowls Club	5	5	4	4
Elsenham Bowls Club	4	5	3	3
Great Chesterford Bowls Club	5	3	2	3
Quendon Bowls Club	5	4	3	3
Radwinter Bowls Club	5	4	2	2
Saffron Walden Town Bowls Club	5	5	4	4
Stansted Bowls Club	4	3	2	2
Stebbing Bowls Club	5	3	2	3
Thaxted Bowls Club	4	4	2	3

## e) Accessibility

Access to all facilities is primarily for club members, although some clubs have usage schedules which allow 'pay and play' by non-members. Membership fees are set at a level that will not inhibit use. There is spare capacity at all clubs to accommodate additional members.

## f) Access

Analysis of the location of the outdoor bowls facilities in Uttlesford in relation to a 20 minute drive time catchment from within which the local clubs indicated that they draw their members, indicates that the entire population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest outdoor bowls green.

## 7) Indoor tennis

### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, indoor tennis halls are defined as specialist indoor facilities with appropriate playing surface and court dimensions for tennis. There are currently no such facilities in Uttlesford.

### b) Quality

In the absence of any indoor tennis facilities in Uttlesford, no quality assessment was undertaken.

### c) Accessibility

All the facilities in neighbouring areas (Hertford, Harlow and Cambridge) are available on a 'pay and play' as well as a membership basis.

### d) Access

Analysis of the location of the indoor tennis facilities in neighbouring areas to Uttlesford in relation to a 30 minute drive time catchment from within which the facilities concerned draw their users indicates that the population in the east of the district is outside the catchment of the nearest indoor tennis court.

## 8) Outdoor tennis

### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, outdoor tennis courts are defined as specialist outdoor facilities with appropriate playing surface and line markings for tennis:

There are 35 tennis courts in Uttlesford, equivalent to one court per 2,270 people.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Castle Hill Tennis Club	3
Clavering Tennis Club	2
Debden Recreation Ground	2
Dunmow Tennis Club	2
Elsenham Tennis Club	2
Great Chesterford Recreation Ground	2
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	4
Grove (Saffron Walden) Tennis Club	5
Henham Tennis Club	2
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	2
Newport Village Tennis Club	2
Stansted Tennis Club	2
Stebbing Tennis Club	2
Thaxted Tennis Club	2
The Sampfords Tennis Club	1

#### b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Courts</i>	<i>Courts per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	19	1: 1,662
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	10	1: 2,933
Stansted and district	18,645	6	1: 3,108
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1: 2,270</b>

#### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following tennis courts in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Tennis courts</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No. Courts</i>
Bishop's Stortford Tennis Club	Bishop's Stortford	14
Braintree Tennis Club	Braintree	7
Castle Gardens tennis courts	Bishop's Stortford	3
Shalford Village Hall tennis courts	Braintree	4

#### d) Quality

The quality of tennis court provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Courts</i>	<i>Lights</i>	<i>Fencing</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Access</i>
Castle Hill Tennis Club	5	-	2	2	3
Clavering Tennis Club	4	-	4	-	2
Debden Recreation Ground	4	-	4	2	3
Dunmow Tennis Club	5	5	5	2	4
Elsenham Tennis Club	5	5	5	5	5
Great Chesterford Recreation Ground	4	4	4	5	4
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	5	5	5	5	4
Grove (Saffron Walden) TC	5	4	5	5	4
Henham Tennis Club	4	-	4	2	2
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	5	5	5	4	5
Newport Village Tennis Club	3	-	3	-	2
Stansted Tennis Club	5	5	5	2	2
Stebbing Tennis Club	5	5	5	5	3
Thaxted Tennis Club	4	5	4	4	2
The Sampfords Tennis Club	4	-	4	-	3

#### e) Accessibility

Six of the courts (17.1%) are available for casual use. The remainder are operated by tennis clubs, but membership fees are set at a level that will not inhibit use. There is spare capacity at all clubs to accommodate additional members.

#### f) Access

Analysis of the location of the outdoor tennis facilities in Uttlesford in relation to a 15 minute drive time catchment from within which the local clubs indicated that they draw their members, indicates that the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest court.

### 9) Health and fitness

#### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, health and fitness facilities are defined as dedicated community accessible facilities with a range of exercise equipment (stations).

There are 10 health and fitness facilities in Uttlesford, providing a collective total of 354 stations.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Stations</i>
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	72
County High Sports Centre	27
Elsenham Golf & Leisure Centre	15
Felsted School	35
Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre	37
Livingwell Health Club (Stansted)	19
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	55
Pace Health Club (Stansted)	32
Get Up N Go	33
Just Gym	29

## b) Sub-area analysis

The distribution of both health and fitness facilities and the number of equipment stations they contain in each sub-area is detailed below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Facilities per capita</i>	<i>Stations</i>	<i>Stations per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	4	1: 7,893	161	1: 196
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	2	1: 14,663	90	1: 326
Stansted and district	18,645	4	1: 4,661	103	1: 181
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1: 7,944</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>1: 224</b>

## c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following health and fitness facilities in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Health and fitness facilities</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No. Stations</i>
Bishop's Stortford Fitness & Well-being Centre	Bishop's Stortford	100
Braintree Sport and Health Club	Braintree	60
Braintree Swimming and Fitness	Braintree	30
Challenge Active	Bishop's Stortford	106
Grange Paddocks Leisure Centre	Bishop's Stortford	120
Koru Gym	Bishop's Stortford	14
Leventhorpe Leisure Centre	Sawbridgeworth	40
Xspect Health and Fitness	Braintree	93

## d) Quality

The quality of health and fitness provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Equipment</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	5	5	3	5
County High Sports Centre	4	4	3	4
Elsenham Golf & Leisure Centre	4	4	3	4
Felsted School	5	4	4	3
Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre	5	5	5	5
Livingwell Health Club	5	5	5	5
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	5	5	5	5
Pace Health Club	5	5	4	4
Get Up N Go	5	4	4	4
Just Gym	4	4	4	4

## e) Accessibility

Three of the facilities (30.0%) and 164 stations (46.3%) are at public leisure centres and are available for 'pay and play' usage. The remainder are operated by clubs, but membership fees are set at a level that will not inhibit use. There is spare capacity at all facilities to accommodate additional members.

## f) Access

Analysis of the location of the health and fitness facilities in Uttlesford in relation to a 20 minute drive time catchment from within which the local facilities indicated that they draw their members, indicates that the entire population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest facility.

## 10) Squash courts

### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, squash courts are defined as specialist courts for squash and racketball, complying with regulation dimensions, with community access. There are seven courts at three locations in Uttlesford, equivalent to one court per 13,241 people.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Felsted School	1
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	2
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	3

### b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Courts</i>	<i>Courts per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	3	1: 10,524
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	3	1: 9,775
Stansted and district	18,645	0	-
<b><i>Uttlesford</i></b>	<b><i>79,443</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>	<b><i>1: 13,241</i></b>

### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following squash courts in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Squash courts</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No. courts</i>
Braintree Tennis Club	Braintree	1
Haverhill Leisure Centre	Haverhill	2

### d) Quality

The quality of squash court provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Score</i>
Felsted School	2
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	2
Lord Butler Leisure Centre	3

#### e) Accessibility

Five of the courts (83.3%) are available for ‘pay and play’ usage. There is limited community usage of the courts at Felsted School, but there is spare capacity at all sites to accommodate additional usage.

#### f) Access

Analysis of the location of the squash courts in Uttlesford in relation to a 20 minute drive time catchment from within which the local facilities indicated that they draw their users, indicates that the entire population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest court.

### 11) Golf courses

#### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, golf courses are defined as dedicated community accessible facilities comprising nine or eighteen holes.

There are two golf courses in Uttlesford, collectively comprising 27 holes, equating to one course per 39,772 people, or one hole per 2,942 people:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Holes</i>
Elsenham Golf & Leisure Centre	9
Saffron Walden Golf Club	18

#### b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Courses</i>	<i>Courses per capita</i>	<i>Holes</i>	<i>Holes per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	1	1: 31,572	18	1: 1,754
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	0	-	-	-
Stansted and district	18,645	1	1: 18,645	9	1: 2,072
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1: 39,722</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1: 2,942</b>

#### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following golf courses in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

<i>Golf courses</i>	<i>Location</i>
Bishop’s Stortford Golf Club	Bishop’s Stortford
Braintree Golf Club	Braintree
Great Hadham Golf Club	Bishop’s Stortford
Haverhill Golf Club	Haverhill
Notleys Golf Club	Braintree

#### d) Quality

The quality of golf course provision was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Clubhouse</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>
Elsenham Golf & Leisure Centre	5	4	3	4
Saffron Walden Golf Club	5	3	4	4

#### e) Accessibility

Access to both facilities is available for members and 'pay and play' golfers and both have membership vacancies.

#### f) Access

Analysis of the location of the golf courses in Uttlesford in relation to a 30 minute drive time catchment from within which the local clubs indicated that they draw their members, indicates that the entire population is within 30 minutes drive of the nearest course.

### 12) Village and community halls

#### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, village and community halls are defined as multi-purpose indoor facilities that are capable of accommodating a range of sports activities, such as carpet bowls, yoga and aerobics, mostly at a recreational level.

There are 54 village and community halls in Uttlesford, equivalent to one hall per 1,471 people:

- Arkesden Village Hall
- Aythorpe Roding Village Hall
- Berden Village Hall
- Bolford Street Hall
- Chishill Village Hall
- Debden Memorial Hall
- Duddenhoe End Village Hall
- Elmdon Village Hall
- Farnham Village Hall
- Fritch Green Community Hall
- Great Canfield Village Hall
- Great Easton Parish Hall
- Great Sampford Village Hall
- Hatfield Broad Oak Village Hall
- Hempstead Village Hall
- High Easter Village Hall
- Leaden Roding Village Hall
- Ashdon Village Hall
- Barnston Village Hall
- Birchanger Church Hall
- Broxted Village Hall
- Clavering Village Hall
- Dourdan Pavilion
- ET Foakes Memorial Hall, Gt. Dunmow
- Elsenham Village Hall
- Felsted Memorial Hall
- Golden Acre Comm. Centre, Saffron Walden
- Great Chesterford Community Centre
- Great Hallingbury Parish Hall
- Hadstock Village Hall
- Hatfield Heath Village Hall
- Henham Sports and Community Centre
- Langley Community Centre
- Lindsell Village Hall

- Little Canfield Village Hall
- Little Easton Memorial Hall
- Little Walden Village Hall
- Manuden Village Hall
- Newport Village Hall
- Radwinter Village Hall
- Swards End Village Hall
- Takeley Silver Jubilee Hall
- Wendens Ambo Parish Hall
- Wimbish Village Hall
- Little Chesterford Village Hall
- Little Hallingbury Village Hall
- Littlebury Village Hall
- Mole Hill Green Village Hall
- Quendon and Rickling Village Hall
- St. John's Church Hall, Stansted Mountfitchet
- Stebbing Village Hall
- Ugley Village Hall
- Widdrington Village Hall
- Women's Institute Hall, High Roding

## b) Sub-area analysis

The distribution of village and community halls in each sub-area is detailed below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Halls</i>	<i>Halls per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	23	1: 1,373
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	16	1: 1,833
Stansted and district	18,645	15	1: 1,243
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1: 1,471</b>

## c) Quality

The quality of village and community halls was assessed in the 'Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy' (2012) document and the ratings were checked and challenged as part of the 2015 review exercise. The facilities were rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Span</i>	<i>Light</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>
Arkesden Village Hall	3	3	3	1	3	3
Ashdon Village Hall	3	1	3	1	4	3
Aythorpe Roding Village Hall	3	2	2	1	3	3
Barnston Village Hall	3	2	2	1	3	3
Berden Village Hall	4	2	4	1	5	4
Birchanger Village Hall	3	2	3	1	3	3
Bolford Street Hall	4	3	4	2	3	3
Broxted Village Hall	2	2	2	1	4	4
Chrishall Village Hall	3	2	3	3	4	3
Clavering Village Hall	4	3	3	1	2	3
Debden Memorial Hall	4	3	3	1	2	3
Dourdan Pavilion	2	2	2	5	4	4
Duddenhoe End Village Hall	2	1	3	1	4	3
ET Foakes Memorial Hall	4	5	3	3	3	3
Elmdon Village Hall	3	2	2	1	2	2
Elsenham Village Hall	5	5	5	3	3	3
Farnham Village Hall	3	2	2	1	3	3
Felsted Memorial Hall	3	2	2	1	3	3
Fritch Green Community Centre	5	5	5	4	4	4

<i>Site</i>	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Span</i>	<i>Light</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>
Golden Acre Community Centre	2	2	3	1	4	4
Great Canfield Village Hall	3	3	2	1	3	2
Great Chesterford Community Centre	5	5	5	5	5	5
Great Easton Parish Hall	3	2	3	1	4	2
Great Hallingbury Parish Hall	3	2	2	1	4	3
Great Sampford Village Hall	3	2	3	1	4	4
Hadstock Village Hall	4	2	3	1	3	2
Hatfield Broad Oak Village Hall	3	2	2	1	2	3
Hatfield Heath Village Hall	4	2	3	3	2	3
Hempstead Village Hall	3	2	3	1	3	3
Henham Sports and Comm. Centre	5	5	5	4	4	4
High Easter Village Hall	3	3	3	3	4	3
Langley Community Centre	3	3	2	1	3	3
Leaden Roding Village Hall	3	2	2	1	2	3
Lindsell Village Hall	2	2	1	1	3	2
Little Canfield Village Hall	3	2	2	1	3	4
Little Chesterford Village Hall	2	1	1	1	3	2
Little Easton Memorial Hall	3	2	2	1	3	3
Little Hallingbury Village Hall	3	3	3	1	3	3
Little Walden Village Hall	2	2	2	1	2	2
Littlebury Village Hall	2	2	2	1	2	2
Manuden Village Hall	5	5	5	5	5	5
Mole Hill Green Village Hall	3	2	2	1	4	3
Newport Village Hall	4	3	3	1	4	3
Quendon and Rickling Village Hall	3	2	2	1	2	3
Radwinter Village Hall	3	4	3	1	2	2
St. John's Church Hall	4	4	3	1	4	4
Sewards End Village Hall	3	2	3	2	4	3
Stebbing Village Hall	4	4	3	1	2	3
Takeley Silver Jubilee Hall	3	2	2	1	3	3
Ugley Village Hall	2	2	2	1	3	3
Wendens Ambo Parish Hall	3	1	3	1	4	3
Widdington Village Hall	5	4	4	1	5	5
Wimbish Village Hall	3	2	2	1	3	3
Women's Institute Hall	2	2	2	1	2	3

#### d) Accessibility

All the village and community halls are available for hire by individuals and groups and all have spare capacity to accommodate additional use. Not all are configured to accommodate a full spectrum of sports activities, but all provide a valuable supplementary role to specialist indoor sports facilities.

#### e) Access

Analysis of the location of the village and community halls in Uttlesford in relation to a 10 minute drive time catchment from within which the local facilities indicated that they draw their users, indicates that the entire population is within 10 minutes drive of the nearest hall.

### 13) Skateparks

#### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, skateparks are defined as dedicated community accessible facilities with formal, permanent features. There are five skateparks in Uttlesford, equating to one per 15,889 people:

<i>Site</i>
One Minet Park, Saffron Walden
Great Chesterford Skatepark
Stansted Skatepark
Dunmow Skatepark
Thaxted Skatepark

#### b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Facilities per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	2	1: 15,786
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	2	1: 14,663
Stansted and district	18,645	1	1: 18,645
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1: 15,889</b>

#### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following skateparks in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

- Cambridge - 4 main skateparks, one metal ramp at Parkside and 3 concrete parks at Jesus Green, Arbury and Cherry Hinton.
- Braintree - 3 concrete skateparks at Silver End, New Park and Old Park.
- Colchester - 1 outdoor park, another in the pipeline and one indoor park, which charges.
- Chelmsford - ramps in park.
- Harlow - concrete skatepark.
- Bishops Stortford - concrete half-pipe and street section.
- Buntingford - half-pipe.
- Royston - small concrete skatepark.
- Linton - wooden ramp.

#### d) Quality

The quality of skateparks was rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Score</i>
One Minet Park, Saffron Walden	5
Great Chesterford Skatepark	4
Stansted Skatepark	4
Dunmow Skatepark	3
Thaxted Skatepark	4

#### e) Accessibility

Access varies by site, with floodlighting at Saffron Walden and Stansted extending usage periods. Most facilities are open access.

#### f) Access

The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of the nearest skatepark, so no geographical areas of the district are unserved.

### 14) BMX trail facilities

#### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, BMX trail facilities are defined as dedicated community accessible facilities with formal, permanent features. There are two BMX facilities in Uttlesford, equating to one per 39,722 people:

<i>Site</i>
Saffron Walden Trails
Carver Barracks

#### b) Sub-area analysis

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Facilities per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	2	1: 15,786
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	0	-
Stansted and district	18,645	0	-
<b><i>Uttlesford</i></b>	<b><i>79,443</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>	<b><i>1: 39,772</i></b>

#### c) Provision in neighbouring areas

The closest BMX trail facilities in neighbouring areas are in Meldreth and Cambridge.

#### d) Quality

The quality of BMX trail facilities was rated on a five point scale, where 5 equates to 'very good', 4 to 'good', 3 to 'average', 2 to 'poor' and 1 to 'very poor'. The scores were as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Score</i>
Saffron Walden Trails	4
Carver Barracks	4

#### e) Accessibility

Both facilities are open access.

#### f) Access

The southern part of the district is beyond 20 minutes driving time of the nearest skatepark.

## 15) BMX race tracks

### a) Quantity

For the purposes of the assessment, BMX race tracks are defined as dedicated community accessible facilities with formal, permanent features. There are no BMX race tracks in Uttlesford.

### b) Provision in neighbouring areas

The following BMX facilities in neighbouring areas are located close to the boundaries of Uttlesford and meet some exported demand from the district.

- Royston - home of Roystons Rockets team, membership needed.
- Braintree - membership required.
- Cambridge - BMX track in planning stage. Micro-scooter and mini-BMX tracks (quarter size).
- Peterborough - Orton BMX track.
- Ipswich - Landseer Park.
- Chicksands - mini BMX track.

### c) Quality

In the absence of any local facilities, no quality assessment was possible.

### d) Accessibility

In the absence of any local facilities, no quality assessment was possible.

### e) Access

None of the district is beyond 20 minutes driving time of the nearest BMX race track.

## 16) Playing pitches

### a) Definition

The pitches included in the analysis are defined as natural or artificial turf areas permanently laid out with regulation markings, with the following dimensions for club-level play as specified in Sport England's 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011) and the FA's 'Guide to Pitch Dimensions' (2013), have community access and are used for competitive play.

<b>Pitch Type</b>	<b>Pitch length</b>	<b>Pitch width</b>	<b>Size including run-offs</b>
Adult football	100m	64m	106m x 70m
Youth football (U17-U18)	100m	64m	106m x 70m
Youth football (U15-U16)	91m	55m	97m x 61m
Youth football (U13-U14)	82m	50m	88m x 56m
Youth football (9v9)	73m	46m	79m x 52m
Mini-soccer (7v7)	55m	37m	61m x 43m
Mini-soccer (5v5)	37m	27m	43m x 33m
Adult cricket	20.12m	Max. 36.6m/Min. 3.05m	111.56m x 106.69m
Adult rugby	Max. 144m	Max. 70m	Max. 154m x 80m
Artificial Grass Pitch for Hockey	91.4m	55m	101.4m x 63m
'3G' Football Turf Pitch	100m	64m	106m x 70m

## b) Quantity

The number of pitches of each type with community use and used in Uttlesford are as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>AGP</i>
Alcott Playing Field	1	-	-	-	-	-
Anglo-American Playing Field	-	-	-	1	-	-
Audley End House	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ashdon Villa Football Club	1	-	-	-	-	-
Barnston Football Club	1	1	-	-	-	-
Bentfield Green Playing Field	1	-	-	-	-	-
Birchanger Social Club	1	-	-	1	-	-
Calves Pasture	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carver Barracks	2	-	-	-	1	-
Causeway Recreation Ground	2	1	2	-	-	-
Clavering Village Green	-	-	-	1	-	-
Clogham's Green Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
County High Sports Centre	-	-	-	1	-	1
Debden Recreation Ground	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dunmow Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Elmdon Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Elsenham Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Elsenham Playing Fields	1	1	1	-	-	-
Farnham Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Felsted Playing Field	1	-	-	-	-	-
Felsted School	-	-	-	-	-	1
Friends School	-	-	-	2	1	-
Great Canfield Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Great Chesterford Recreation Ground	-	-	1	1	-	-
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hargrave Park	1	-	-	1	-	-
Hatfield Broad Oak Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hatfield Heath Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Herbert Farm Playing Fields	1	2	2	-	-	-
High Easter Playing Field	1	-	-	1	-	-
High Roding Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Hockerill Cricket Club	-	-	-	2	-	-
Jubilee Field, Clavering	1	-	-	-	-	-
Langley Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Laundry Lane Playing Field	-	1	2	-	-	-
Lindsell Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Little Bardfield Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Little Easton Recreation Ground	-	-	-	1	-	-
Little Hallingbury Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Littlebury Recreation Ground	1	-	-	-	-	-
Manuden Playing Fields Association	1	1	-	1	-	-

<i>Site</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>AGP</i>
Molehill Green Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport	-	-	-	-	1	1
Newport Recreation Ground	2	-	-	1	-	-
Quendon Recreation Ground	1	-	-	-	-	-
Radwinter Recreation Ground	1	-	1	1	-	-
Rickling Ramblers Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Roundbush Green	1	-	-	1	-	-
Saffron Walden Rugby Club	-	-	-	-	3	-
Stansted Hall Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Stebbing Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Saffron Walden Town FC	1	-	-	-	-	-
Sampfords Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Takeley Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Takeley Football Club	1	-	-	-	-	-
Takeley Recreation Ground	1	2	-	-	-	-
Thaxted Cricket Club	-	-	-	1	-	-
Thaxted Recreation Ground	1	1	1	-	-	-
Walton's Park	-	-	-	1	-	-
Wenden's Ambo Playing Field	-	-	-	1	-	-
White Roding Sports Club	1	-	-	1	-	-
Wimbish Recreation Ground	2	1	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>

### c) Sub-area analysis

- **Adult football**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	12	1: 2,631
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	9	1: 3,258
Stansted and district	18,645	11	1: 1,695
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1: 2,483</b>

- **Youth football**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	3	1: 10,524
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	4	1: 7,332
Stansted and district	18,645	4	1: 4,661
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1: 7,222</b>

- **Mini-soccer**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	4	1: 7,893
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	5	1: 5,865
Stansted and district	18,645	1	1: 18,645
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>79,443</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1: 7,944</b>

- **Cricket**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	14	1: 2,255
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	12	1: 2,444
Stansted and district	18,645	14	1: 1,332
<b><i>Uttlesford</i></b>	<b><i>79,443</i></b>	<b><i>40</i></b>	<b><i>1: 1,986</i></b>

- **Rugby**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	6	1: 5,262
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	0	-
Stansted and district	18,645	0	-
<b><i>Uttlesford</i></b>	<b><i>79,443</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>	<b><i>1: 13,241</i></b>

- **Artificial Grass Pitches**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Saffron Walden and district	31,572	2	1: 15,786
Great Dunmow and district	29,326	2	1: 14,663
Stansted and district	18,645	0	-
<b><i>Uttlesford</i></b>	<b><i>79,443</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>	<b><i>1: 19,861</i></b>

#### d) Quality

The quality of playing pitches was assessed in the ‘*Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy*’ (2012) document. The facilities were audited via site visits during the playing season and the following criteria were assessed:

- **The playing surface** - This includes grass cover, pitch dimensions, gradient, evenness, length of grass, drainage, goalposts and evidence of any unauthorised use.
- **The changing facilities** - This includes the availability of changing rooms, kitchen and/or bar, the interior and exterior appearance, showering and toilet provision, medical room, disability access and parking arrangements.

The site assessments were checked and challenged via the clubs survey and stakeholder consultation and amended where necessary in the light of any changes since the original survey in 2012. The pitches and changing facilities were rated as ‘good’, ‘standard’ or ‘poor’.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Changing</i>
Alcott Playing Field	Good	Poor
Anglo-American Playing Field	Good	Poor
Audley End House	Good	Poor
Ashdon Villa Football Club	Standard	Standard
Barnston Football Club	Standard	Standard
Bentfield Green Playing Field	Standard	Standard
Birchanger Social Club	Good	Good
Calves Pasture	Standard	Poor

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Changing</i>
Carver Barracks	Good	Good
Causeway Recreation Ground	Standard	Good
Clavering Village Green	Standard	Standard
Clogham's Green Cricket Club	Standard	Poor
County High Sports Centre	Good	Good
Debden Recreation Ground	Good	Standard
Dunmow Cricket Club	Standard	Poor
Elmdon Cricket Club	Standard	Poor
Elsenham Playing Fields	Standard	Good
Farnham Cricket Club	Standard	Standard
Felsted Playing Field	Standard	Poor
Friends School	Good	-
Great Canfield Cricket Club	Standard	Standard
Great Chesterford Recreation Ground	Standard	Good
Great Chishill Recreation Ground	Poor	Standard
Hargrave Park	Good	Standard
Hatfield Broad Oak Cricket Club	Standard	-
Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club	Poor	Poor
Hatfield Heath Cricket Club	Good	Poor
Herbert Farm Playing Fields	Standard	Good
High Easter Cricket Club	Good	Standard
High Roding Cricket Club	Standard	Poor
Hockerill Cricket Club	Good	Good
Joyce Frankland Academy	Standard	Standard
Jubilee Field, Clavering	Poor	Poor
Langley Cricket Club	Good	Poor
Laundry Lane Playing Field	Good	Poor
Lindsell Cricket Club	Standard	Standard
Little Bardfield Cricket Club	Good	Poor
Little Easton Recreation Ground	Standard	Standard
Little Hallingbury Cricket Club	Good	Standard
Littlebury Recreation Ground	Good	-
Manuden Recreation Ground	Good	Good
Molehill Green Cricket Club	Standard	Poor
Newport Recreation Ground	Standard	Good
Quendon Recreation Ground	Standard	Standard
Radwinter Recreation Ground	Standard	Standard
Rickling Ramblers Cricket Club	Good	Good
Roundbush Green	Standard	Standard
Saffron Walden Rugby Club	Good	Good
Saffron Walden Town FC	Good	Good
Sampfords Cricket Club	Standard	Standard
Stansted Hall and Elsenham CC	Standard	Poor
Stebbing Cricket Club	Standard	Good
Takeley Cricket Club	Good	Standard
Takeley Football Club	Good	Good
Takeley Recreation Ground	Good	Poor

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Changing</i>
Thaxted Cricket Club	Good	Standard
Thaxted Recreation Ground	Standard	Standard
Walton's Park	Good	Standard
Wenden's Ambo Playing Field	Standard	Poor
White Roding Sports Club	Good	Standard
Wimbish Recreation Ground	Standard	Standard

#### e) Accessibility

- **Adult football** - Two adult football pitches (6.3%) are on an MoD site with no formal community use agreement, so access could in theory be rescinded at any time.
- **Youth football** - No youth football pitches are on school sites.
- **Mini-soccer** - No mini-soccer pitches are on school sites.
- **Cricket** - Three cricket pitches (8.1%) are on school sites with no formal community use agreement, so access could in theory be rescinded at any time.
- **Rugby** - One rugby pitch (16.7%) is on an MoD site with no formal community use agreement, so access could in theory be rescinded at any time.
- **Artificial grass pitches** - One artificial grass pitch (25.0%) is on a school site with no formal community use agreement, so access could in theory be rescinded at any time.
- **'3G' football turf pitches** - Both '3G' football turf pitches in neighbouring areas that serve some of the needs of Uttlesford residents are on sites with secured community access.

#### f) Access

Access to the different pitch types was assessed as follows:

- **Adult football** - Analysis of the location of adult football pitches in Uttlesford in relation to a 15 minute drive time catchment from within which local football clubs indicated that they draw their adult players, indicates that the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.
- **Youth football** - Analysis of the location of youth football pitches in Uttlesford in relation to a 15 minute drive time catchment from within which local football clubs indicated that they draw their youth players, indicates that the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.
- **Mini-soccer** - Analysis of the location of mini-soccer pitches in Uttlesford in relation to a 15 minute drive time catchment from within which local football clubs indicated that they draw their mini-soccer players, indicates that including a small area in the south-west corner of the district, where needs are met by pitches in Bishop's Stortford, the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.

- **Cricket** - Analysis of the location of cricket pitches in Uttlesford in relation to a 15 minute drive time catchment from within which local cricket clubs indicated that they draw their players, indicates that the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.
- **Rugby** - Analysis of the location of rugby pitches in Uttlesford in relation to a 20 minute drive time catchment from within which local rugby clubs indicated that they draw their players, indicates that including a small area in the north and south of the district, the entire population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.
- **Artificial grass pitches** - Analysis of the location of artificial grass pitches in Uttlesford in relation to the 20 minute drive time catchment advocated by Sport England indicates that with the exception of a small area in the north-east and south-west of the district, the entire population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest pitch.
- **'3G' football turf pitches** - There is no provision in Uttlesford at present, although pitches at Birchwood High School in Bishops Stortford and Braintree Leisure Centre are within 20 minute drive time catchment advocated by Sport England and meet some needs from within the district.

# APPENDIX V: CURRENT BALANCE BETWEEN SUPPLY AND DEMAND

## 1) Introduction

This section analyses the current balance between the supply of and demand for each type of sports facility in Uttlesford. As such, it comprises Stage Three of ANOG and Stage C, Steps 4 to 6 of the PPS Guidance.

### a) Sports facilities assessment methodology

The methodology applied to assess the supply-demand balance for sports facilities involves the approach advocated in Sport England's *'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide'* (2014), namely:

- Layering information on the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of facilities provision to build up the assessment.
- Utilising planning tools such as the Facilities Planning Model to support the assessment.
- Considering consultation findings to support the assessment.
- Identifying the key facility issues and priorities.

### b) Playing pitch assessment methodology

The methodology applied to assess the supply-demand balance for pitches is based upon Sport England's recommended methodology, advocated in *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013). To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site with how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate over an appropriate period of time without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of 'match equivalent' sessions at each site.
- An indication of the extent to which natural grass pitches are being used during their respective peak periods.
- The key issues with and views on the provision at a site and its use.

The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are

- **Being overplayed** - where use exceeds the carrying capacity.
- **Being played to the level the site can sustain** - where use matches the carrying capacity.

- **Potentially able to accommodate some additional play** - where use falls below the carrying capacity.

The situation at individual sites can then be aggregated to identify the position at a sub-area level, to identify the potential for excess demand at some sites to be accommodated by excess supply at others in the locality. Other factors can also be assessed such as:

- The extent of any demand being accommodated on sites with unsecured community access.
- The impact of latent or displaced demand.
- The situation at priority sites.

This analysis then enables an assessment to be made of the adequacy of existing pitch provision.

## 2) Sports halls

### a) Facilities Planning Model assessment

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) comprises a spatial assessment of sports hall provision based on the nature of sports participation (demand) within an area and the available supply, taking into account issues such as capacity (expressed in terms of badminton court units to take account of the different dimensions of sports halls) and accessibility. The key findings for sports halls in Uttlesford for a 'run' of the FPM in 2015 were as follows:

- **Supply** - Because the FPM takes account of smaller halls, it calculates that there is the equivalent of 31.4 badminton courts of sports hall space in Uttlesford (scaled to 20.87 courts to take account of hours available for community use), providing a total capacity of 5,698 visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp).
- **Demand** - Demand for sports halls from the local population is 5,607 vpwpp. This is equivalent to demand for 25.68 badminton courts in the peak period, with a 'comfort factor' included, which recognises that sports halls are effectively at full capacity when peak usage reaches 80% of theoretical full capacity.
- **Supply demand balance** - On the basis of the above assessment, there is a shortfall equivalent to 4.81 badminton courts (equivalent to more than one sports hall) in the district.
- **Satisfied demand** - The FPM calculates that 93.4% of the demand for sports hall provision in Uttlesford is satisfied.
- **Imported/exported demand** - Not all of the satisfied demand from residents of Uttlesford is met by provision within the district. 74.1% of the district's satisfied demand is retained, while 25.9% is exported to adjacent districts, mainly to facilities in Bishop's Cleeve and Braintree.

- **Used capacity** - ‘Used capacity’ is a measure of usage and throughput at sports halls and estimates the extent to which facilities are well used. The FPM is designed to include a ‘comfort factor’, which in the case of halls assumes that usage over 80% of capacity is busy and the hall is operating at an uncomfortable level. Sports halls in Uttlesford are collectively used to 76.2% of capacity in the peak period and therefore very limited spare capacity.
- **Personal/relative share** - ‘Personal/relative share’ is a measure of which areas have a better or worse share of facility provision. It helps to establish whether Uttlesford has less or more share of sports hall provision than other areas when compared against a national average figure which is set at 100. Uttlesford has a relative share of 107, which means that residents of the district have 7% better provision than the national average.

## b) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are six community accessible sports halls in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 13,241 people. Per capita levels of provision vary widely between sub-areas, with Saffron Walden having around four times better provision per capita than the Dunmow sub-area. Nine sports halls in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good.
- **Accessibility** - Five of the six sports halls are on school sites with no daytime access.
- **Used capacity** - With 76% of the overall capacity in the district used, there is no effective spare capacity in sports halls in Uttlesford.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 15 minutes driving time of their nearest sports hall.

## c) The views of consultees

The following views on sports hall provision were expressed by consultees:

- Great Dunmow Town Council identified that ‘we do not believe that current provision for sports halls in the district and town are adequate to meet existing needs. Great Dunmow Leisure Centre is operating over capacity at peak times and there are long waiting lists for, for example, weekend exercise classes or gym places’.
- 71.4% of respondents to the 2015 clubs survey identified that there are too few sports halls to meet current needs.

## d) Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of sports halls in Uttlesford are not adequate to meet existing needs, because

- Four of the key sites are operating at levels well above ‘comfortable capacity’.

- There is evidence from the local consultation that not all users can obtain as much access to sports halls as they need.

### 3) *Swimming pools*

#### a) *Facilities Planning Model assessment*

The key findings for swimming pools in Uttlesford for a ‘run’ of the FPM in 2015 were as follows:

- **Supply** - The FPM recognises four swimming pool sites (with five pools) in Uttlesford, because it has included the provision at Felsted School and Friends School which have limited public access. The total water area of 1,096m<sup>2</sup> has been scaled to 815.2m<sup>2</sup> to take account of hours available for community use and a capacity of 7,067 visits per week in the peak period. This equates to 14.11m<sup>2</sup> water space per 1,000 people, slightly above the average for Essex, the East and England.
- **Demand** - Demand for swimming pools from the resident population is 5,348 vpwpp. This is equivalent to demand for 887.6m<sup>2</sup> in the peak period (with the inclusion of a ‘comfort factor’ that assumes that a pool is effectively ‘full’ when it reaches 70% of its theoretical capacity).
- **Supply demand balance** - On the basis of the above, there is a deficit equivalent to 72.42m<sup>2</sup> in the peak period, with the ‘comfort factor’ included. This represents about half of a 25m four lane pool with a comfort factor included.
- **Satisfied demand** - 93.9% of demand for swimming pools in the district is currently met. This compares with a national average of 91.4%.
- **Imported/exported demand** - Not all of the satisfied demand from residents of Uttlesford is met by provision within the district. Only 64.3% of demand is retained, whilst 35.7% is exported to pools in Bishops Stortford and Braintree.
- **Personal/relative share** - ‘Personal/relative share’ is a measure of which areas have a better or worse share of facility provision. It helps to establish whether have less or more share of swimming pool provision than other areas when compared against a national average figure which is set at 100. Uttlesford has a relative share of 124, which means that residents of the district have 24% better access to pools than the national average.

#### b) *Audit findings*

- **Quantity** - There are 4 community accessible swimming pools in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 19,861 people. Per capita levels of provision vary between sub-areas, with no provision at all in the Stansted sub-area. Eight swimming pools in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good, although the changing facilities and disabled access at the Friend’s School pool are rated as ‘poor’.

- **Accessibility** - Three of the four pools are on school sites with no daytime access and two have very limited community access at any time. Local swimming clubs are unable to access as much pool time as they need.
- **Used capacity** - The FPM calculates that there is a current deficit equivalent to two lanes of a 25m pool.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 15 minutes driving time of their nearest swimming pool, if provision in Bishop's Stortford is taken into account.

#### c) The views of consultees

Saffron Walden Amateur Swimming Club made the following observations:

- The pools at the Friends School and Felsted School have very restrictive community access and the former facility has poor quality changing provision very poor access for elderly and disabled swimmers.
- The inclusion of the learner pool at Lord Butler Leisure Centre within the capacity calculations is misleading because it is only 80cm deep and has no practical applications for any other forms of swimming.
- A new 6-lane pool is required immediately to meet current needs.

Dunmow Atlantis Swimming Club confirmed that they are unable to get sufficient access to the pool at Great Dunmow Leisure Centre and that as a result they operate a waiting list for membership and have lost swimmers to other clubs.

#### d) Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of swimming pools in Uttlesford are not adequate to meet existing needs because:

- Sport England's Facilities Planning Model calculates that there is a current deficit equivalent to two lanes of a 25m pool.
- Uttlesford is a large net exporter of swimming demand to neighbouring areas, which indicates that access to local facilities is not meeting all needs.
- There is evidence from the clubs' consultation that there is a shortage of pool space for competitive swimmers in the district.

### 4) Synthetic athletics tracks

#### a) Audit findings

- **Demand** - There are four local running clubs, although there is no club in the Stansted sub-area. According to the most recent 'Active People' survey, 8.2% of the adult population of Uttlesford runs at least once a week, compared with the national average of 6.5%.
- **Supply** - There is no synthetic athletics track in Uttlesford, but some needs are served by two facilities in neighbouring areas.

- **Accessibility** - Tracks in neighbouring areas are available for hire by clubs and individuals at rates that are unlikely to preclude access.
- **Used capacity** - There is some spare capacity at both neighbouring tracks.
- **Access** - A large area in the north of the district is beyond the catchment of the nearest track.

## b) The views of consultees

- UK Athletics and England Athletics stated that:
  - A marked-out, hard-standing and lit running route for the Saffron Striders club may provide an appropriate alternative to a track.
  - In the absence of a track and field club in Saffron Walden at present and with plans for a satellite/after school club for juniors taking time to develop, it is difficult to make a clear case for specialist track and field facilities at present.
  - Should the Carver Barracks project proceed, then UK Athletics and England Athletics would be supportive of the existing clubs using the site, although at this stage they see no need for field event facilities, since they believe that only endurance athletes would use the track.
  - Some consideration should be given to exploring demand for a Compact Athletics Facility, but given the lack of a track and field club in the area it is difficult to ascertain current demand in the area.
- Saffron Striders Running Club confirmed that they have 146 members at present, but ‘no lit, open areas for running in the dark. Hence a lot of running takes place on roads which is not ideal for safety and has acted as a barrier to setting up junior running activities’. Specialist track and field facilities of some sort would help to rectify this.
- The Army base at Carver Barracks near Debden is the base for two Engineer Regiments who want to develop sports facilities on the base, primarily for use by the armed forces but also with community access. The Army has developed proposals that include an 8-lane 400m track as part of the package of provision.
- 100% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that there are too few athletics facilities in the district at present.

## c) Assessment of current provision

There is some emerging demand for a facility in the north of the district. The UK Athletics *Facilities Strategy 2014 - 2019* (2014) defines a hierarchy of athletics facilities provision, which includes the following elements at a district level:

- **Club Training Venues** - Track and field facilities (indoor and outdoor) that have a strong anchor club(s) with 100+ track and field members and a focus on athletes at the Event Group stage of the Athlete Development Model, promoting appropriate training and competition opportunities. To support site sustainability, Club Venues should have excellent social and ancillary provision and facilities that actively encourage multi-sport usage. Club venues are suitable for low level competitions only.
- **Compact Athletics Facilities** - A new generation of affordable and sustainable indoor and outdoor athletics satellite facilities that provide a stepping stone into Club Venues. Compact Athletics Facilities are designed to fit available spaces and budgets, and provide functional, inspiring, facilities at which people of all ages and abilities can improve their fitness and confidence and develop the fundamental athletics movement skills of run, jump and throw.

The provision of a Compact Athletics Facility in Saffron Walden, in conjunction with other multi-sport facility developments in the town, would be the most appropriate scale of facility to meet the needs arising from current local development initiatives. However, the proposed provision of a 400m track at Carver Barracks, it would comprise an additional means of meeting local needs.

## 5) Indoor bowls

### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There is one community accessible indoor bowls facility in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 79,443 people. The facility is located in the Saffron Walden sub-area. Two indoor bowls facilities in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good, with all aspects of the facility rated as at least 'above average' standard.
- **Accessibility** - Access to the facility is for club members only, but membership fees are set at a level that will not inhibit use.
- **Used capacity** - There is spare capacity at the club to accommodate additional members.
- **Access** - With the exception of a small part of the central-southern and eastern rural areas, the entire population of the district is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest facility.

### b) The views of consultees

Only 7.1% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that there are too few indoor bowls facilities in the district at present.

### c) Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of indoor bowls facilities in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs from within the district.

## 6) Outdoor bowls

### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are 11 community accessible outdoor bowls green in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 7,222 people. Per capita levels of provision are poorest in the Great Dunmow sub-area. Nine bowling greens in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision of greens and changing facilities is generally 'average' or above, but disabled and general access are more problematic at six and three sites respectively.
- **Accessibility** - There are no effective barriers to inhibit access to bowls facilities in Uttlesford.
- **Spare capacity** - There is spare capacity to accommodate additional use at all facilities.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest bowls green.

### b) The views of consultees

All of the respondents to the sports clubs survey who expressed an opinion believe that the amount of outdoor bowls facilities in the district is 'about right' at present.

### c) Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of outdoor bowls facilities in Uttlesford appear to be adequate to meet existing needs from within the district.

## 7) Indoor tennis

### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are no indoor tennis centres in Uttlesford, but three facilities in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to meet the needs of the majority of Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - No quality assessment was possible.
- **Accessibility** - All the facilities in neighbouring areas are available on a 'pay and play' as well as a membership basis.
- **Used capacity** - There is spare capacity at all neighbouring facilities to accommodate additional use.
- **Access** - The population in the east of the district is outside the catchment of the nearest indoor tennis court.

## b) The views of consultees

50% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that there are too few indoor tennis facilities in the district at present.

## c) Assessment of current provision

Despite the absence of an indoor tennis centre in Uttlesford and the views expressed in the clubs' survey, provision in neighbouring areas seems adequate to meet existing needs from within the district.

## 8) Outdoor tennis

### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are 35 community accessible outdoor tennis courts in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 2,270 people. Per capita levels of provision are best in the Saffron Walden sub-area and poorest in the Stansted sub-area. 28 tennis courts in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of all court surfaces is rated as at least 'above average' standard, but five changing facilities area rated as below 'average' as are the access arrangements at five sites.
- **Accessibility** - There are no effective barriers to inhibit access to tennis courts in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - There is spare capacity at all courts to accommodate additional use.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest tennis courts.

## b) The views of consultees

42.9% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that the amount of outdoor bowls facilities in the district is 'about right' at present.

## c) Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of outdoor tennis courts in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs from within the district. However, quality deficiencies in changing facilities and access at selected sites should be addressed.

## 9) Health and fitness

### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are 10 community accessible health and fitness facilities in Uttlesford, or one per 7,944 people. Levels of provision are poorest in the Great Dunmow sub-area. Eight health and fitness facilities in neighbouring areas (collectively comprising 563 exercise stations) are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.

- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good.
- **Accessibility** - There are no effective barriers to inhibit access to tennis courts in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - There is spare capacity at all facilities to accommodate some additional use.
- **Access** - The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of their nearest facility.

#### b) The views of consultees

71.4% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that the amount of health and fitness facilities in the district is 'about right' at present.

#### c) Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of health and fitness facilities in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs from within the district.

### 10) Squash courts

#### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are 6 community accessible squash courts in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 13,241 people. Sub-area provision varies widely, with no courts at all in the Stansted sub-area. Three squash courts in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is rated as 'below average' at two sites (comprising four courts).
- **Accessibility** - There is limited public access to the court at Felsted School, but there are no other effective barriers to inhibit access to squash courts in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - There is spare capacity at all courts to accommodate additional use.
- **Access** - The whole district population is within 20 minutes driving time of their nearest squash court.

#### b) The views of consultees

- There is limited access to the courts at Felsted School. The quality of all courts in the district is lower than originally assessed, with poor cleanliness and maintenance an issue.
- 50% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that the amount of squash courts in the district is 'about right' at present.

#### c) Assessment of current provision

Current levels of provision of squash courts in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs from within the district, although the quality issues should be addressed.

## **11) Golf courses**

### **a) Audit findings**

- **Quantity** - There are 2 community accessible golf courses in Uttlesford, collectively comprising 27 nine-hole units, equivalent to one per 38,772 people. There is no provision in the Great Dunmow sub-area. Five golf courses in neighbouring areas are located close enough to the district boundary to supplement facility supply for Uttlesford residents.
- **Quality** - The quality of provision is generally good, with all aspects of all facilities rated as at least 'average' standard.
- **Accessibility** - There are no effective barriers to inhibit access to golf courses in Uttlesford.
- **Used capacity** - There is spare capacity at all courses to accommodate some additional use.
- **Access** - The whole district population is within 30 minutes driving time of their nearest golf course.

### **b) The views of consultees**

The English Golf Union has concluded that in the country as a whole, 'supply of golf courses currently exceeds demand, with membership vacancies existing in the majority of golf clubs'.

### **c) Assessment of current provision**

Current levels of provision of golf courses in Uttlesford are adequate to meet existing needs from within the district.

## **12) Village and community halls**

### **a) Audit findings**

- **Demand** - Patterns of demand for sports use of village and community halls are complex, in particular because of the large variations in the size and layout of the activity spaces they contain and the consequent impact on the range and capacity of different sports that can be accommodated. However, most can accommodate activities such as carpet bowls, keep fit and aerobics, whilst some of the larger facilities include a regulation sized badminton court.
- **Quantity** - There are 54 community accessible village and community halls in Uttlesford, equivalent to one per 1,471 people. Per capita levels of provision are relatively consistent between sub-areas.
- **Quality** - The lack of changing provision limits the sport and recreational use of many village and community halls.

- **Accessibility** - All the village and community halls are available for hire by individuals and groups.
- **Spare capacity** - All halls have some spare capacity to accommodate additional use.
- **Access** - The whole district population is within 10 minutes driving time of their nearest village and community hall.

#### b) The views of consultees

71.4% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that the amount of village and community halls in the district is 'about right' at present.

#### c) Assessment of current provision

There is no evidence that existing provision of village and community halls is inadequate to supplement the more specialist indoor sports facilities provision in Uttlesford.

### 13) Skateparks

#### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are five skateparks in Uttlesford, which are supplemented by a further 14 facilities in neighbouring areas.
- **Quality** - The overall quality of the activity areas at all skateparks is 'average' or better. However, most sites do not have shelter or on-site toilets, disabled access is variable, particularly at the smaller sites and only one site is currently floodlit.
- **Access** - Access varies by site, with floodlighting at Saffron Walden and Stansted extending usage periods. Most facilities are open access.
- **Accessibility** - The whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of the nearest skatepark, so no geographical areas of the district are unserved.
- **Strategic priority** - There are no formal strategic priorities for skatepark provision, although the *Physical Activity and Sports Strategy* (2015) highlights the many benefits of these facilities for encouraging and sustaining sport and physical activity amongst hard to reach groups.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with local facility providers suggests that there is very limited spare capacity at current facilities.

#### b) Assessment of current provision

- There is no effective spare capacity at current facilities.
- A new scooter park and an extension for skaters with medium experience is needed at the Saffron Walden facility.

- Disabled access improvements are needed at the Stansted, Dunmow and Thaxted facilities.
- Floodlighting would extend usage periods at the Stansted (planned for 2016), Dunmow and Thaxted facilities.
- There are no permanently available toilets at any of the facilities and no shelter at all bar the Great Chesterford facility.

### c) Assessment of future provision

The need for additional skateparks arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 16,000 people will generate sufficient demand for a skatepark and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 1.41 facilities by 2031.
- With all current effective capacity fully used and no realistic prospect of increasing access to existing facilities, additional demand will need to be met by two new skateparks.

## 14) BMX trail facilities

### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are two formal BMX trails in Uttlesford, which are supplemented by a number of informal bike trails, bumps, jumps in woods or un-used land in several villages and towns. There are supplemented by a further two facilities in neighbouring areas.
- **Quality** - The quality of both the formal facilities is adequate.
- **Access** - There is open access at the Saffron Walden facility, the other site is at the Carver Barracks.
- **Accessibility** - The southern part of the district is outside the 20 minute drivetime catchment of the nearest formal BMX trail facility.
- **Strategic priority** - There are no formal strategic priorities for BMX trail facilities provision, although the *'Physical Activity and Sports Strategy'* (2015) highlights the many benefits of these facilities for encouraging and sustaining sport and physical activity amongst hard to reach groups.
- **Used capacity** - Consultation with local facility providers suggests that there is very limited spare capacity at current facilities.

### b) Assessment of current provision

There is no effective spare capacity at current facilities.

### c) Assessment of future provision

The need for additional BMX trail facilities arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 40,000 people will generate sufficient demand for a formal BMX trail facility and on this basis there will be additional demand equivalent to 0.56 facilities by 2031.
- With all current effective capacity fully used and no realistic prospect of increasing access to existing facilities, additional demand will need to be met by one new formal BMX trail facility.

## 15) BMX race tracks

### a) Audit findings

- **Quantity** - There are no formal BMX race tracks in Uttlesford, with the nearest facilities in Royston, Braintree, Cambridge, Peterborough, Ipswich and Chicksands.
- **Quality** - In the absence of any local facilities, no quality assessment was possible.
- **Access** - In the absence of any local facilities, no access assessment was possible.
- **Accessibility** - The whole of the district is outside the 20 minute drivetime catchment of the nearest BMX race track.
- **Strategic priority** - There are no formal strategic priorities for BMX race track provision, although the *Physical Activity and Sports Strategy* (2015) highlights the many benefits of these facilities for encouraging and sustaining sport and physical activity amongst hard to reach groups.
- **Used capacity** - The existing facilities in neighbouring areas are well-used.

### b) Assessment of current provision

There is clear demand for a BMX race track in Uttlesford from the users of the local BMX trail facilities.

### c) Assessment of future provision

The need for additional BMX race tracks arising from an assessment of future needs indicates that:

- Based upon current usage patterns, a population of 22,500 people will generate calculated demand for an additional 0.28 BMX race tracks.
- The additional demand should be accommodate by capacity improvements, once the existing deficiency of one track has been met.

## 16) Adult football pitches

### a) Site-specific assessment

The site specific analysis for adult football pitches in Uttlesford is set out below. Capacity, demand and the resultant balance at peak times are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions. Pitches which are outside the district but used by Uttlesford clubs are shown in italics, to highlight exported demand.

In line with FA guidance, it has been assumed that a ‘good’ quality adult pitch will accommodate three match equivalents per week, a ‘standard’ quality pitch will accommodate two match equivalents per week and a ‘poor’ quality pitch will accommodate one match equivalent per week. This has also been assessed in the context of pitch availability at peak usage periods, where there may be demand from two or more teams for the one available match equivalent at that time.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Alcott Pl. Field	1	2.0	Flitch United FC	2.5*	-0.5	* Includes use of adult pitch by youth team
Ashdon Villa Football Club	1	2.0	Ashdon Villa FC	1.0	+1.0	
Barnston Football Club	1	2.0	Barnston FC	2.5*	Balanced	* Includes use of adult pitch by youth team
Bentfield Green Playing Field	1	2.0	Bentfield FC	1.0	+1.0	
Birchanger Social Club	1	2.0	Birchanger Social Club FC	2.0	Balanced	
Calves Pasture	1	2.0	Hatfield Heath FC	3.0	-1.0	
Carver Barracks	2	2.0*	Saffron Dynamos FC	0.5	+1.5	* Capacity reduced by MoD usage
Causeway Recn. Ground	2	4.0	Dunmow Rhodes FC	4.5*	-0.5	* Includes use of adult pitches by youth teams
Debden Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Debden FC	1.0	+1.0	
Elsenham Playing Fields	1	2.0	Lower Street FC	1.0	+1.0	
Felsted Playing Field	1	2.0	Felsted Rovers FC	2.0	Balanced	
<i>Grange Paddocks Leisure Centre</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2.0</i>	Abacus Athletic FC	2.0	Balanced	
Hargrave Park	1	2.0	Stansted FC	2.0	Balanced	
Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club	1	1.0*	Hatfield Broad Oak FC	2.5**	-1.5	* Capacity reduced by poor quality pitch ** Includes use of adult pitch by youth teams
Herbert Farm Playing Fields	1	2.0	Spartak '78 FC	4.0*	-2.0	* Includes use of adult pitch by youth teams
High Easter Playing Field	1	2.0	Beaumont Wanders FC	1.0	+1.0	
<i>Ickleton Village Hall Ground</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2.0</i>	Saffron Crocus FC	2.0	Balanced	

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Jubilee Field, Clavering	1	1.0*	Sharp One FC	1.0	+1.0	* Capacity reduced by poor quality pitch
Linton Village College	1	1.0*	Saffron Rangers FC	1.0	Balanced	* Capacity reduced by education usage
Littlebury Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Littlebury FC	1.0	+1.0	
Manuden PF Association	1	2.0	Manuden United FC	2.0	Balanced	
Newport Recn. Ground	2	4.0	Newport FC	4.5	-1.5	
Quendon Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Saffron Walden Town FC	2.0	Balanced	
Radwinter Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Radwinter FC Saffron Walden Town FC	2.0*	Balanced	* Includes use of adult pitch by youth team
Roundbush Green	1	2.0	Roundbush FC	2.0	Balanced	
Saffron Walden Town FC	1	2.0	Saffron Walden Town FC Saffron Walden YFC*	3.0	-1.0	* Includes use of adult pitch by youth teams
Stansted Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Stansted FC	2.0	Balanced	
Takeley Football Club	1	2.0	Takeley FC	3.0	-1.0	
Takeley Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Brewer FC	1.0	+1.0	
Thaxted Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Thaxted Rangers FC	2.0	Balanced	
White Roding Sports Club	1	2.0	White Roding Sports FC	4.0	-2.0	
Wimbish Recn. Ground	2	4.0	Saffron Hawks FC Saffron Walden Town FC* Walden Ladies FC Walden Wanderers YFC*	4.0*	Balanced	* Includes use of adult pitch by youth teams

## b) Sub-area assessment

The supply-demand balance of adult football pitches at a sub-area level is as follows. The weekly balance figure represents the number of match equivalents. Spare capacity is indicated with a 'plus' sign and a deficit with a 'minus' sign:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Saffron Walden and district	14	25.0	24.0	+1.0
Great Dunmow and district	8	16.0	16.5	-0.5
Stansted and district	11	21.0	23.5	-2.5
<i>External pitches</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>Balanced</i>

## c) Qualitative analysis

The following changing facilities that serve adult football pitches are rated as 'poor' quality on the basis of the site audits, which adversely affects the overall quality of the playing experience:

- Alcott Playing Field.
- Calves Pasture.
- Felsted Playing Field.
- Hatfield Broad Oak Social Club.
- Jubilee Field, Clavering
- Takeley Recreation Ground

#### d) Summary

The key findings on adult football pitches are as follows:

- Nine sites are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity.
- At 12 sites, usage is balanced
- 10 sites have some spare usage capacity.
- There is a deficit in two sub-areas.

### 17) Youth football pitches

#### a) Site specific assessment

The site specific analysis for youth football pitches in Uttlesford is set out below. Capacity, demand and the resultant balance at peak times are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions.

In line with FA guidance it has been assumed that a ‘good’ quality youth pitch will accommodate four match equivalents per week, a ‘standard’ quality pitch will accommodate two match equivalents per week and a ‘poor’ quality pitch will accommodate one match equivalent per week. This has also been assessed in the context of pitch availability at peak usage periods, where there may be demand from two or more teams for the one available match equivalent at that time.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Barnston Football Club	1	2.0	Barnston FC	1.0	+1.0	
Causeway Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Dunmow Rhodes YFC Dunmow United YFC	4.5	-2.5	
Elsenham Playing Fields	1	2.0	Elsenham Youth FC	3.5	-1.5	
Gt. Chesterford Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Great Chesterford YFC	1.0	+1.0	
Herbert's Farm Playing Field	2	4.0	Plantation & Spartak Girls Plantation Youth FC Spartak '78 Youth FC	7.0	-3.0	

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Laundry Lane Playing Field	1	1.0*	Dunmow Rhodes YFC	2.5	-1.5	* Capacity reduced by poor quality pitch
Manuden Playing Field	1	2.0	Manuden Junior FC	2.5	-0.5	
Takeley Recn. Ground	2	2.0*	Takeley Youth FC	3.0	-1.0	* Capacity reduced by poor quality pitch
Thaxted Recn. Ground	1	2.0	Thaxted Rangers YFC	3.0	-1.0	
Wimbish Playing Fields	1	2.0	Saffron Walden YFC	4.0	-2.0	

## b) Sub-area assessment

The supply-demand balance of youth football pitches at a sub-area level is as follows. The weekly balance figure represents the number of match equivalents. Spare capacity is indicated with a 'plus' sign and a deficit with a 'minus' sign:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Saffron Walden and district	4	8.0	12.0	-4.0
Great Dunmow and district	4	7.0	11.0	-4.0
Stansted and district	4	6.0	9.0	-3.0

## c) Qualitative analysis

The following changing facilities that serve youth football pitches are rated as below 'poor' quality on the basis of the site audits, which adversely affects the overall quality of the playing experience:

- Laundry Lane Playing Field
- Takeley Recreation Ground.

## d) Summary

The key findings for youth football pitches are as follows:

- Eight sites are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity.
- Five sites have some spare usage capacity.
- There is a deficit in all sub-areas.

## 18) Mini-soccer pitches

### a) Site specific assessment

The site specific analysis for mini-soccer pitches in Uttlesford is set out below. Capacity, demand and the resultant balance at peak times are expressed as 'match equivalent' sessions.

In line with FA guidance it has been assumed that a ‘good’ quality mini-soccer pitch will accommodate six match equivalents per week, a ‘standard’ quality pitch will accommodate four match equivalents per week and a ‘poor’ quality pitch will accommodate two match equivalents per week. This has also been assessed in the context of pitch availability at peak usage periods, where there may be demand from two or more teams for the one available match equivalent at that time.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>		<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Causeway Recn. Ground	2	8.0	Dunmow Rhodes YFC Dunmow United YFC	8.0	Balanced	
Elsenham Playing Fields	1	4.0	Elsenham YFC	4.0	Balanced	
Herbert’s Farm Playing Field	2	8.0	Plantation & Spartak Girls Plantation YFC Spartak YFC	8.5	-0.5	
Laundry Lane Playing Field	2	4.0*	Dunmow Rhodes YFC	3.0	+1.0	* Capacity reduced by poor quality pitches
Radwinter Recn. Ground	1	4.0	Saffron Walden YFC	3.0	+1.0	
Thaxted Recn. Ground	1	4.0	Thaxted Rangers YFC	2.0	+2.0	

## b) Sub-area assessment

The supply-demand balance of mini-soccer pitches at a sub-area level is as follows. The weekly balance figure represents the number of match equivalents. Spare capacity is indicated with a ‘plus’ sign and a deficit with a ‘minus’ sign:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Saffron Walden and district	3	12.0	11.5	+0.5
Great Dunmow and district	5	16.0	13.0	+3.0
Stansted and district	1	4.0	4.0	Balanced

## c) Qualitative analysis

No mini-soccer pitches or the changing facilities that serve them are rated as ‘poor’.

## d) Summary

The key findings for mini-soccer pitches are as follows:

- One site is currently used to beyond its sustainable capacity.
- At two sites usage is balanced
- Three sites have some spare usage capacity.
- There is limited spare capacity in two sub-areas and supply and demand are balanced in the other.

## e) The views of consultees

Saffron Walden Town Football Club made the following observations:

- The Club has medium term plans to significantly expand the number of youth teams it has, at least doubling from the current levels.
- To assist with this expansion, the club has expressed an interest in operating the new pitches being delivered as part of the Caton's Lane development and would like to provide the changing facilities for the pitches as part of a new stand at the Caton's Lane end of its current ground.
- The Club would like to provide a '3G' football turf pitch at Caton's Lane, with access for other local clubs.

Saffron Hawks Sports Club confirmed that its youth football and mini-soccer teams have difficulty accessing sufficient grass pitches.

## 19) Cricket pitches

### a) Site specific assessment

The site specific analysis for cricket pitches in Uttlesford is set out below. As per Sport England guidance, capacity is expressed as match equivalents per *season*, as opposed to per *week* for all other pitch types.

- In line with ECB guidance it has been assumed that a 'good' quality wicket will accommodate 5 matches per season, a 'standard' quality wicket will accommodate 4 matches per season and a 'poor' quality wicket will accommodate 3 matches per season.
- Adult teams account for an average of 0.5 'home' games per week and junior teams for 0.35 'home' games per week.
- Artificial turf wickets are shown in brackets in the table below and will accommodate 35 matches per season.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Seasonal capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Seasonal demand</i>	<i>Seasonal balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Anglo-American Playing Field	21(1)	140.0	Saffron Walden Cricket Club	140.0	Balanced	Good quality pitch Poor quality changing
Audley End House	9	45.0	Audley End & Littlebury CC	20.0	+25.0	Good quality pitch Poor quality changing
Birchanger Social Club	8	40.0	Birchanger Cricket Club	20.0	+20.0	Good quality pitch Good quality changing
Clavering Village Green	4	16.0	Clavering Cricket Club	10.0	+6.0	Standard quality pitch Standard changing
Clogham's Green CC	10	40.0	Clogham's Green CC <i>Harlow Cricket Club</i>	30.0	+10.0	Standard quality pitch Poor quality changing
County High Sports Centre	9(1)	80.0	Saffron Walden Cricket Club	65.0	+15.0	Good quality pitch Good quality changing

<i>Site</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Seasonal capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Seasonal demand</i>	<i>Seasonal balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Dunmow Cricket Club	12	48.0	Dunmow Cricket Club	90.0	-52.0	Standard quality pitch Poor quality changing
Elmdon Cricket Club	6	24.0	Elmdon Cricket Club	30.0	-6.0	Standard quality pitch Poor quality changing
Farnham Cricket Club	6	24.0	Farnham Cricket Club	20.0	+4.0	Standard quality pitch Standard changing
Friends School	12	60.0	Saffron Walden Cricket Club	60.0	Balanced	Good quality pitch No changing
Great Canfield CC	6	24.0	Great Canfield Cricket Club	20.0	+4.0	Standard quality pitch Standard changing
Gt. Chesterford Recn. Ground	10	40.0	Chesterfords Cricket Club	20.0	+20.0	Standard quality pitch Good quality changing
Hargrave Park	10	50.0	Stansted Cricket Club	40.0	+10.0	Good quality pitch Standard changing
Hatfield Broad Oak CC	4	16.0	Hatfield Broad Oak CC	10.0	+6.0	Standard quality pitch No changing
Hatfield Heath Cricket Club	8	40.0	Hatfield Heath Cricket Club <i>Harlow Cricket Club</i>	40.0	Balanced	Good quality pitch Poor quality changing
Henham Road, Elsenham	6	30.0	Stansted Cricket Club Stansted Hall & Elsenham CC	30.0	Balanced	Good quality pitch Poor quality changing
High Easter Cricket Club	4	20.0	High Easter Cricket Club	20.0	Balanced	Good quality pitch Standard changing
High Roding Cricket Club	10	40.0	High Roding Cricket Club	73.0	-33.0	Standard quality pitch Poor quality changing
Hockerill Cricket Club	8	40.0	Hockerill Cricket Club	80.0	-40.0	Good quality pitch Good quality changing
Lindsell Cricket Club	4(1)	51.0	Lindsell Cricket Club	10.0	+41.0	Standard quality pitch Standard changing
Little Bardfield Cricket Club	8(1)	75.0	Little Bardfield Cricket Club	40.0	+35.0	Good quality pitch Poor quality changing
Little Easton Recn. Ground	6	30.0	Eastons Cricket Club	10.0	+20.0	Standard quality pitch Standard changing
Little Hallingbury CC	8	40.0	Little Hallingbury CC	20.0	+20.0	Good quality pitch Standard changing
Manuden Playing Field	6	24.0	Manuden Cricket Club	10.0	+14.0	Standard quality pitch Good quality changing
Molehill Green Cricket Club	5	20.0	Molehill Green CC	20.0	Balanced	Standard quality pitch Poor quality changing
Newport Recn. Ground	8	32.0	Newport Cricket Club	40.0	-8.0	Standard quality pitch Good quality changing
Radwinter Recn. Ground	2	8.0	Radwinter Cricket Club	10.0	-2.0	Standard quality pitch Standard changing
Rickling Ramblers CC	6	30.0	Rickling Ramblers CC	10.0	+20.0	Good quality pitch Good quality changing
Roundbush Green	10	40.0	Aythorpe Roding CC	30.0	+10.0	Good quality pitch Standard changing
Sampfords Cricket Club	8	32.0	Sampfords Cricket Club	10.0	+22.0	Standard quality pitch Standard changing
Stansted Hall	8	32.0	Stansted Hall & Elsenham CC	30.0	+2.0	Standard quality pitch Poor quality changing

<i>Site</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Seasonal capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Seasonal demand</i>	<i>Seasonal balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Stebbing Cricket Club	6	24.0	Stebbing Cricket Club	10.0	+14.0	Standard quality pitch Good quality changing
Takeley Cricket Club	8	40.0	Takeley Cricket Club	10.0	+30.0	Good quality pitch Standard changing
Thaxted Cricket Club	8	40.0	Thaxted Cricket Club	50.0	-10.0	Good quality pitch Poor quality changing
Walton's Park	6	30.0	Ashdon Cricket Club	20.0	+10.0	Good quality pitch Standard changing
Wenden's Ambo Playing Field	8	24.0	Saffron Walden Cricket Club Wenden Cricket Club	45.0	-21.0	Poor quality pitch Poor quality changing

### b) Sub-area analysis

The supply-demand balance of cricket pitches at a sub-area level is as follows. The seasonal balance figure represents the number of match equivalents. Spare capacity is indicated with a 'plus' sign and a deficit with a 'minus' sign:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Seasonal balance</i>
Saffron Walden and district	109(2)	561.0	480.0	+81.0
Great Dunmow and district	73(2)	388.0	353.0	+35.0
Stansted and district	96	442.0	360.0	+82.0

### c) Qualitative analysis

The following aspects of cricket changing facilities are rated as 'poor' quality on the basis of the site audits, which adversely affects the overall quality of the playing experience:

- Audley End House
- Clogham's Green Cricket Club
- Dunmow Cricket Club.
- Elmdon Cricket Club
- Friends School
- Hatfield Broad Oak Cricket Club
- Hatfield Heath Cricket Club
- Henham Road, Elsenham
- High Roding Cricket Club
- Little Bardfield Cricket Club
- Molehill Green Cricket Club

- Saffron Walden Cricket Club
- Stansted Hall
- Thaxted Cricket Club
- Wenden’s Ambo Playing Field.

#### d) The views of consultees

Consultation with the Essex Cricket Board and local clubs identified a priority for a specialist indoor cricket training facility in the district.

#### e) Summary

The key findings for cricket pitches are as follows:

- Seven sites are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity.
- At six sites, usage is balanced
- 22 sites have some spare usage capacity.
- Poor quality pavilions are an issue at 15 cricket pitch sites.
- A specialist indoor cricket training facility is a strategic priority in the district.

### 20) Rugby pitches

#### a) Site-specific analysis

The site specific analysis for rugby pitches in Uttlesford is set out below. Capacity, demand and the resultant balance are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions at peak times.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Carver Barracks	1	2.0	Wenden’s Ambo Rugby Club Saffron Walden Rugby Club	2.5	-0.5	
Friends School	1	1.0*	Wenden’s Ambo Rugby Club	1.0	Balanced	* Capacity reduced by education usage
Joyce Frankland Academy	1	1.0*	Wenden’s Ambo Rugby Club	1.0	Balanced	* Capacity reduced by education usage
Saffron Walden Rugby Club	3	6.0	Saffron Walden Rugby Club	7.5	-1.5	

#### b) Sub-area assessment

The supply-demand balance of adult rugby pitches at a sub-area level is as follows. The weekly balance figure represents the number of match equivalents. Spare capacity is indicated with a ‘plus’ sign and a deficit with a ‘minus’ sign:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Saffron Walden and district	6	10.0	12.0	-2.0
Great Dunmow and district	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced
Stansted and district	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced

### c) Qualitative analysis

All aspects of the quality of the rugby pitches and related changing facilities in the district are at least 'standard' quality.

### d) The views of consultees

Saffron Walden Rugby Club would like to develop new facilities within the town, to enable it to expand its activities and operate from a single site.

### e) Summary

- Two sites are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity.
- At two sites, usage is balanced
- There is no provision in two of the sub-areas.

## 21) Synthetic Turf Pitches for Hockey

### a) Site-specific analysis

The site specific analysis for synthetic turf pitches for hockey in Uttlesford (sand-dressed and sand-filled surfaces) is set out below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Comments</i>
County High Sports Centre	30.0*	Football training and casual hire	28.0	+2.0	* Capacity reduced by schools use
Felsted School	15.0*	Blue Hornets Felsted HC	13.5	+1.5	* Capacity reduced by schools use
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	48.0*	Blue Hornets Felsted HC Football training and casual hire	38.0	+10.0	* Capacity reduced by schools use
Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport	34.0*	Saffron Walden HC	34.0	Balanced	* Capacity reduced by schools use

### b) Sub-area assessment

The supply-demand balance of synthetic turf pitches for hockey at a sub-area level is as follows. The weekly balance figure represents the number of hours of availability. Spare capacity is indicated with a 'plus' sign and a deficit with a 'minus' sign:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Saffron Walden and district	2	64.0	62.0	+2.0
Great Dunmow and district	2	63.0	51.5	+11.5
Stansted and district	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced

### c) Qualitative analysis

The pitch at Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport was built in 1995 and the surface is now poor quality. Pitch resurfacing requirements at other sites also need to be kept under review.

### d) Facilities Planning Model assessment

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) assesses synthetic turf pitch provision by comparing demand in an area with supply, taking into account issues such as capacity and access. The findings for synthetic turf pitches in Uttlesford for a 'run' of the FPM in 2015 are as follows:

- **Supply** - Because the FPM takes account of hours available for community use, it calculates that pitch supply in Uttlesford is effectively equivalent to 2.3 pitches, providing a total capacity of 1,670 visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp).
- **Demand** - Demand for synthetic turf pitches from the local population is 1,758 vpwpp. This is equivalent to demand for 2.4 pitches in the peak period.
- **Supply demand balance** - On the basis of the above assessment, there supply and demand in the district are almost exactly balanced.
- **Satisfied demand** - The FPM calculates that 74.3% of the demand for synthetic turf pitches in Uttlesford is satisfied.
- **Imported/exported demand** - Not all of the satisfied demand from residents of Uttlesford is met by provision within the district. Only 51.8% of the district's satisfied demand is retained, whilst 48.2% is exported to adjacent districts, mainly to facilities in Bishops Stortford and Braintree.
- **Unmet demand** - Unmet demand for synthetic turf pitches in the district amounts to the equivalent of 0.61 pitches.
- **Used capacity** - 100% of synthetic turf pitch capacity in Uttlesford is used at the peak period.
- **Personal/relative share** - 'Personal/relative share' is a measure of which areas have a better or worse share of facility provision. Uttlesford has a relative share of 139, which means that residents of the district have 39% better access to provision than the national average.

### e) The views of consultees

Saffron Walden Hockey Club is unable to expand its activities at the Joyce Frankland Academy pitch, which is at full capacity already and would like to develop a second synthetic turf pitch for hockey at the site.

The Army is planning to install a sand-filled hockey pitch in the centre of the proposed athletics track at the Carver Barracks which will be available for community use.

## f) Summary

Whilst there is some limited spare capacity at some pitches, Saffron Walden Hockey Club makes full use of the available pitch time at Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport and thus has no capacity to expand further. The FPM assessment concurs that there is a current deficit equivalent to 0.61 of a pitch and therefore there is no spare capacity for additional use. The provision of a pitch at the Carver Barracks will help to meet some of the current deficiency.

### 22)'3G' Football Turf Pitches

There are currently no '3G' football turf pitches (rubber crumb-filled surfaces) in Uttlesford. The Football Association (FA) has devised an internal mapping exercise to establish an estimated baseline figure for the number of '3G' football turf pitches needed to serve the current number of affiliated teams in a local authority. The estimate involves the following assumptions:

- Every football team in a locality will require one training 'slot' per week on a '3G' pitch, defined as one-third of the area of a full-sized pitch for one hour.
- Based upon Sport England national research on synthetic turf pitch usage, an average of 55 training 'slots' per week will be available at a full-sized '3G' pitch.
- Smaller and/or commercially provided '3G' pitches are assumed to be capable of accommodating an average of 10 training 'slots' per week.
- According to data provided by the Essex FA, the football clubs based in Uttlesford have a total of 153 teams, which creates a requirement for an additional 3.12 '3G' football turf pitches.

The Essex FA endorses the need for additional '3G' football turf pitches in the district and these should be located at key hub sites for football.

### 23) Summary of current needs

On the basis of the analysis of the current balance between supply and demand of sports facilities in Uttlesford, the following needs have been identified:

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Sports halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 sports halls, with overall peak utilisation rates of 76%.</li> <li>• The FPM calculates a deficit equivalent to one 4-badminton court sports hall.</li> </ul>	All aspects of all facilities are currently rated as at least 'above average' quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest sports hall.</li> <li>• 5 of the 6 sports halls are on school sites with no daytime access.</li> </ul>
Swimming pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 swimming pools</li> <li>• The FPM calculates a deficit equivalent to two 25m lanes.</li> </ul>	Changing facilities and disabled access are rated as 'below average' quality at Friends School pool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The whole population is within 15 minutes driving time of their nearest pool, if provision in Bishop's Stortford is taken into account.</li> <li>• 2 pools have very limited community access.</li> </ul>

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Synthetic athletics tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current provision</li> <li>Emerging demand in the north of the district for specialist facilities.</li> </ul>	No qualitative deficiency	The whole of the Saffron Walden sub-area is outside the 20 minute drivetime catchment of the nearest track.
Indoor bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 facility with 6 indoor rinks</li> <li>Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with some spare capacity</li> </ul>	All aspects of the current facility are currently rated as at least 'above average' quality	Most of the district is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest facility.
Outdoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11 outdoor bowls greens</li> <li>Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with some spare capacity</li> </ul>	Disabled access improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clavering BC</li> <li>Great Chesterford BC</li> <li>Radwinter BC</li> <li>Stansted BC</li> <li>Stebbing BC</li> <li>Thaxted BC</li> </ul> General access improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clavering BC</li> <li>Radwinter BC</li> <li>Stansted BC</li> </ul>	The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest bowls green.
Indoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current provision</li> <li>Provision in neighbouring areas meets existing needs.</li> </ul>	No qualitative deficiency	The population in the east of the district is outside the catchment of an indoor tennis court.
Outdoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>35 outdoor tennis courts</li> <li>Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with some spare capacity</li> </ul>	Fencing improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Castle Hill TC</li> </ul> Changing improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Castle Hill TC</li> <li>Debden Recreation Ground</li> <li>Dunmow TC</li> <li>Henham TC</li> <li>Stansted TC</li> </ul> General access improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clavering TC</li> <li>Henham TC</li> <li>Newport Village TC</li> <li>Stansted TC</li> <li>Thaxted TC</li> </ul>	The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest tennis court.
Health and fitness facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 health and fitness facilities</li> <li>Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with some spare capacity</li> </ul>	All aspects of all facilities are currently rated as at least 'average' quality	The whole population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest health and fitness facility.

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Squash courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 squash courts</li> <li>• Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with some spare capacity</li> </ul>	Quality improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Felsted School</li> <li>• Great Dunmow Leisure Centre</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest squash court.</li> <li>• 2 courts have limited community access.</li> </ul>
Golf courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 golf courses</li> <li>• Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with some spare capacity</li> </ul>	All aspects of all facilities are currently rated as at least 'average' quality	The whole population is within 30 minutes drive of the nearest golf course.
Village and community halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 54 village and community halls</li> <li>• Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with some spare capacity</li> </ul>	Improvements needed at most halls to accommodate additional sports usage.	The whole population is within 10 minutes drive of the nearest village/community hall.
Skateparks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Skateparks</li> <li>• Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with no spare capacity</li> </ul>	Capacity improvements, toilets and shelter needed at Saffron Walden. Disabled access improvements toilets, shelter and floodlighting needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Chesterford</li> <li>• Stansted</li> <li>• Great Dunmow</li> <li>• Thaxted.</li> </ul>	The whole population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest skatepark.
BMX trail facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 BMX trail facilities</li> <li>• Levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs with no spare capacity</li> </ul>	All aspects of all facilities are currently rated as at least 'average' quality	The population in the south of the district is outside the 20 minute drivetime catchment of the nearest BMX facility.
BMX race tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current provision</li> <li>• Provision in neighbouring areas meets very limited existing needs.</li> </ul>	No qualitative deficiency	The whole population of the district is effectively outside the catchment of a BMX race track.
Adult football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 adult football pitches</li> <li>• Overall levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs, but 4 sites are used to beyond their sustainable capacity.</li> </ul>	Pitch quality improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hatfield Broad Oak SC</li> <li>• Jubilee Playing Field, Clavering</li> </ul> Changing improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcott Playing Field</li> <li>• Calves Pasture</li> <li>• Felsted Playing Field</li> <li>• Hatfield Broad Oak SC</li> <li>• Jubilee Playing Field, Clavering</li> <li>• Takeley Recreation Ground</li> </ul>	The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest adult football pitch.

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Youth football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 youth football pitches</li> <li>• A collective weekly deficit of 7.0 match equivalents</li> <li>• 6 sites are used to beyond their sustainable capacity.</li> </ul>	Pitch quality improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laundry Lane Playing Field</li> <li>• Takeley Recreation Ground</li> </ul> Changing improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laundry Lane Playing Field</li> <li>• Takeley Recreation Ground</li> </ul>	The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest youth football pitch.
Mini-soccer pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 mini-soccer pitches</li> <li>• Overall levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs</li> </ul>	No qualitative deficiency	The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest mini-soccer pitch.
Cricket pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 cricket pitches</li> <li>• Overall levels of provision are adequate to meet existing needs, but 7 sites are used to beyond their sustainable capacity.</li> </ul>	Changing improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audley End House</li> <li>• Clogham's Green Cricket Club</li> <li>• Dunmow Cricket Club</li> <li>• Elmdon Cricket Club</li> <li>• Friends School</li> <li>• Hatfield Broad Oak Cricket Club</li> <li>• Hatfield Heath Cricket Club</li> <li>• Henham Road, Elsenham</li> <li>• High Roding Cricket Club</li> <li>• Little Bardfield Cricket Club</li> <li>• Molehill Green Cricket Club</li> <li>• Saffron Walden Cricket Club</li> <li>• Stansted Hall</li> <li>• Thaxted Cricket Club</li> <li>• Wenden's Ambo Playing Field.</li> </ul>	The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest cricket pitch.
Rugby pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 rugby pitches</li> <li>• A collective weekly deficit of 2.5 match equivalents</li> <li>• 2 sites are used to beyond their sustainable capacity.</li> </ul>	No qualitative deficiency	The whole population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest rugby pitch.
Synthetic turf pitches for hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 artificial turf hockey pitches</li> <li>• The FPM calculates a deficit equivalent to 0.61 pitches</li> </ul>	Pitch resurfacing needed at Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport.	The whole population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest synthetic turf pitch for hockey.
'3G' football turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No provision at present</li> <li>• A collective deficit equivalent to 3.12 pitches.</li> <li>• Essex FA advocates provision at mini hub sites based around key football clubs.</li> </ul>	No qualitative deficiency	Most of the population is beyond a 20 minutes drive of the nearest '3G' football turf pitch.

# APPENDIX VI: FUTURE BALANCE BETWEEN SUPPLY AND DEMAND

## 1) Introduction

This section analyses the future balance between the supply of and demand for sports facilities and pitches in Uttlesford, in the period to 2031 (the period of the draft Local Plan). As such, it comprises Stage Three of ANOG and Stage C, Steps 5 and 6 of the PPS Guidance.

## 2) Sports facilities methodology

The application of the locally-derived, evidence-based standards of provision is the most appropriate way to assess the need for future provision of sports facilities, taking account of:

- Projected population change.
- Participation trends.
- Any particular clubs or sites where demand is likely to increase in the future.
- Any forthcoming changes to facility supply.

## 3) Playing pitch methodology

To identify whether the supply of pitches is adequate to meet future demand, the following assessment was undertaken:

- The extent to which population change in the study area will affect the demand for provision.
- How participation aims, current trends and predicted changes in the way that pitch sports are played and pitches used may affect the demand for provision.
- Any particular sports clubs or sites where demand is likely to increase in the future.
- Any forthcoming changes in the supply of provision and how will this affect the adequacy of provision to meet demand.

Changes in demand have been modelled using ‘Team Generation Rates’, which identify how many people in a specified age group in the study area are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected increases in population to identify the likely number of additional teams and their related pitch needs in the future, taking account of participation aims and trends.

#### 4) Projected population change to 2031

The Office for National Statistics published '2012-based Sub-national Population Projections for Local Authorities in England' (2014). Long-term sub-national population projections are an indication of the future trends in population by age and sex over the next 25 years. They are trend-based projections, which means assumptions for future levels of births, deaths and migration are based on observed levels mainly over the previous five years. They show what the population will be if recent trends continue. The figures on projected population change in Uttlesford to 2031 and are tabulated below in five year age bands:

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Population 2015</i>	<i>Population 2031</i>	<i>% Change</i>
0-4	5,000	5,000	-
5-9	5,000	6,000	+20.0%
10-14	5,000	7,000	+40.0%
15-19	5,000	6,000	+20.0%
20-24	4,000	4,000	-
25-29	4,000	4,000	-
30-34	4,000	5,000	+25.0%
35-39	5,000	6,000	+20.0%
40-44	7,000	7,000	-
45-49	7,000	7,000	-
50-54	6,000	7,000	+16.7%
55-59	5,000	7,000	+40.0%
60-64	5,000	7,000	+40.0%
65-69	5,000	7,000	+40.0%
70-74	3,000	6,000	+100.0%
75-79	3,000	4,000	+33.3%
80-84	2,000	4,000	+100.0%
85-89	1,000	3,000	+300.0%
90+	1,000	2,000	+200.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81,000</b>	<b>102,000</b>	<b>+25.9%</b>

Source: '2012-based Sub-national Population Projections for Local Authorities in England' (ONS, 2014)

The above projects match the current proposals for housing supply in Uttlesford in the Local Plan period to 2031 as follows:

- **Housing need** - Housing need has been confirmed as 545 dwelling per annum in the 17 year plan period, making a total of 9,265 new properties.
- **Household size** - The national average household size is currently 2.45 people.
- **Projected population** - Based upon the above figures, there will be 22,699 more residents in Uttlesford by 2031, taking the total population to 102,142. This will amount to an increase of 28.6% in the district population.

For the purposes of this strategy, the rounded figure of 102,000 has been taken as the assumed population of the district by 2031.

The precise location of the housing developments in the district that will accommodate the new population has yet to be determined and therefore no geographical components of demand can be identified at this stage.

## 5) Participation aims and trends

The implications of participation aims, current trends and predicted changes in the way that sports are played and facilities are used is examined below:

### a) Participation aims

The participation aims and targets for each of the main sports funded by Sport England are included in the governing bodies of sports' *Whole Sport Plans*' and are summarised below:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Participation aims</b>	<b>Implications for Uttlesford</b>
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key aim is to get 500,000 more people involved in informal running, primarily through the 'Run England' activation programme where trained running leaders, recreational running groups and marked routes and trails.</li> <li>Initiatives to promote track and field athletics will primarily be focused on 11 priority cities.</li> </ul> Source: <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main emphasis is on recreational running, using non-specialist facilities such as roads, paths, parks and open spaces to promote participation.</li> <li>If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 750 runners in Uttlesford by 2017.</li> </ul>
Badminton	Proposed initiatives to get an extra 30,000 participants nationally by 2017 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Community Badminton Networks' which will bring together schools, clubs and local authorities to develop participation.</li> <li>'Smash Up' Badminton for 14-16 year olds.</li> <li>'Play Badminton' to increase casual players.</li> </ul> Source: <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 50 badminton players in Uttlesford by 2017.
Basketball	A focus on 'Satellite Clubs' in targeted locations to get more young people playing more regularly. Source: <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2013)	Uttlesford is not a targeted location.
Bowls	The 'Play Bowls' initiative will provide a package of support to clubs in designated 'Hot Spots' (which include Essex) to attract 10,400 new bowlers nationally. Source: <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 15 bowlers in Uttlesford by 2017.
Cricket	The focus is to 'retain existing regular players by providing more bespoke playing programmes'. Source: <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2013)	Maintain current team numbers of 76 adult teams and 49 junior teams.
Cycling	The aim is to attract an extra 125,000 cyclists nationally through the 'Go Ride' participation programme of led rides and competitions. Source: <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main emphasis is on using non-specialist facilities such as roads, paths, parks and open spaces to promote participation.</li> <li>If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 180 cyclists in Uttlesford by 2017.</li> </ul>
Football	The aim is to attract an extra 200,000 footballers nationally through the 'Just Play' and 'Football Mash Up' participation programmes. Source: <i>Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017</i> (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 300 footballers in Uttlesford by 2017.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Participation aims</b>	<b>Implications for Uttlesford</b>
Golf	'County Golf Partnerships' will be formed, to attract an extra 60,000 golfers nationally, through the 'Get into Golf' and 'Golf Roots' initiatives. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 90 golfers in Uttlesford by 2017.
Gymnastics	The aim is to attract an extra 10,000 gymnasts nationally by establishing 'Gymnastics Networks' including 'Satellite Venues' to help expand capacity in clubs. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There may be scope to develop 'Satellite Venues' in non-specialist facilities like village and community halls.</li> <li>• If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 20 gymnasts in Uttlesford by 2017.</li> </ul>
Hockey	The aim is to attract an extra 17,000 hockey players nationally by establishing the 'Rush Hockey' and 'Back to Hockey' initiatives. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it would mean an extra 25 hockey players in Uttlesford by 2017.
Judo	The aim is to develop 'Club Clusters' in targeted locations, to promote 'Recreational Judo' and 'Judo Fit'. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	Uttlesford is not a targeted location.
Netball	The aim is to attract an extra 27,000 netballers nationally by establishing the 'Back to Netball' initiative. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 40 netballers in Uttlesford by 2017.
Rugby	The aim is to attract an extra 32,000 rugby players nationally, building on the publicity surrounding the Rugby World Cup. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 50 rugby players in Uttlesford by 2017.
Squash	The aim is to attract an extra 23,000 squash players nationally, but in geographical target 'Hub and Spoke' areas only. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	Uttlesford is not a targeted location.
Swimming	The aim is to attract an extra 100,000 swimmers nationally, involving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The establishment of 'Local Aquatic Networks' to maximise available pool space.</li> <li>• Initiatives including 'Learn2Swim', 'Swimfit', 'Swim Britain' and 'Active Workplaces'.</li> </ul> Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	If the national target is achieved locally, it will mean an extra 150 swimmers in Uttlesford by 2017.
Table Tennis	The aim is to develop 'Ping!' programme in targeted locations, to attract an extra 24,000 participants nationally by 2017. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	Uttlesford is not a targeted location.
Tennis	The focus in the LTA's 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013) is to increase regular participation in tennis by 20,000 people nationally, but in geographical target areas. Source: 'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017' (2013)	Uttlesford is not a targeted location.
Triathlon	Triathlon England has no specific participation targets, but aims to grow the sport by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Simply Tri' low cost events based on the 'Park Run' concept.</li> <li>• Mass participation events in iconic locations.</li> </ul>	The main emphasis is on using non-specialist facilities such as roads, paths, parks and open water to promote participation events.

## b) Participation trends

Adult (16+) national monthly participation rates in most of the sports included in the strategy have been recorded in the past five 'Active People' surveys and the results are tabulated below, together with the percentage change in the ten year period between 2005 and 2015:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>2005/06</i>	<i>2007/08</i>	<i>2008/09</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>	<i>2012/13</i>	<i>2013/14</i>	<i>2014/15</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Athletics	3.33%	3.89%	4.16%	4.45%	4.47%	4.72%	4.65%	4.96%	5.11%	+1.78%
Badminton	1.29%	1.24%	1.20%	1.24%	1.20%	1.26%	1.16%	1.13%	1.04%	-0.25%
Basketball	0.39%	0.45%	0.46%	0.36%	0.36%	0.35%	0.36%	0.31%	0.36%	-0.03%
Bowls	2.21%	2.32%	2.10%	2.02%	1.54%	1.57%	1.73%	1.53%	1.40%	-0.81%
Cricket	0.48%	0.49%	0.49%	0.41%	0.51%	0.43%	0.34%	0.37%	0.32%	-0.16%
Cycling	4.14%	4.37%	4.60%	4.43%	4.15%	4.45%	4.62%	4.75%	4.72%	+0.58%
Football	4.97%	5.18%	5.08%	4.96%	4.98%	4.94%	4.25%	4.39%	4.34%	-0.63%
Golf	2.18%	2.29%	2.15%	2.04%	1.96%	1.97%	1.73%	1.67%	1.67%	-0.51%
Gymnastics	0.14%	0.15%	0.12%	0.12%	0.11%	0.12%	0.11%	0.09%	0.10%	-0.04%
Hockey	0.23%	0.24%	0.23%	0.21%	0.19%	0.25%	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	-0.03%
Judo	0.04%	0.05%	0.04%	0.06%	0.03%	0.06%	0.04%	0.05%	0.04%	No change
Netball	0.27%	0.29%	0.32%	0.34%	0.31%	0.37%	0.28%	0.35%	0.35%	+0.08%
Rugby	0.46%	0.56%	0.50%	0.46%	0.42%	0.42%	0.37%	0.43%	0.40%	-0.06%
Squash	0.74%	0.71%	0.72%	0.69%	0.67%	0.61%	0.55%	0.45%	0.45%	-0.29%
Swimming	8.04%	7.83%	7.57%	7.50%	6.62%	6.81%	6.77%	6.16%	5.83%	-2.21%
Table Tennis	0.17%	0.18%	0.20%	0.30%	0.32%	0.23%	0.25%	0.22%	0.23%	+0.06%
Tennis	1.12%	1.18%	1.27%	1.04%	0.88%	1.03%	0.94%	0.97%	0.97%	-0.15%

The implications for future demand for sports facilities in Uttlesford are as follows:

- The governing bodies of sport have some ambitious targets to increase participation, but when translated into an Uttlesford context, the numbers over the current four year period are comparatively modest.
- Examination of national participation data over the period 2005 to 2015 puts the ambition of many of the national targets into context, with only three of the sports experiencing an increase in adult participation over that period.
- Many of the sports development initiatives involve innovative ways of promoting the sports concerned, often in non-traditional settings, so demand for formal facilities may be relatively unaffected.

## 4) The effects of changes in supply

The principal impact of known potential changes in the supply of sports facilities in Uttlesford are as follows:

### a) Swimming facilities

Some feasibility work has been undertaken to establish the case for additional swimming provision in Saffron Walden, although this is very much at a preliminary stage.

## b) Athletics facilities

The MoD has firm proposals to install an 8-lane 400m synthetic athletics track at the Carver Barracks in Debden. There is some community use of existing facilities at the site, so it should be possible to secure some access to the track for civilian needs.

## c) Synthetic Turf Pitches for Hockey

Saffron Walden Hockey Club currently uses the synthetic turf pitch at Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport, but the pitch needs resurfacing and the club has insufficient pitch time in relation to its demand. It would therefore like to develop a second pitch at the site.

## 5) Summary of the evaluation of future supply and demand

Analysis of the factors influencing the future supply and demand for sports facilities in Uttlesford to 2031, leads to the following conclusions:

- **Population change** - There will be an overall rise of almost 22,700 people (a 28.6% increase) in the district population by 2031. This will significantly increase demand for sports facilities, regardless of participation trends.
- **Participation trends** - According to Sport England's *'Active People'* survey, participation in most of the sports featured in the strategy has fallen in the period since 2009, in some cases by quite significant margins. This means that future increases in participation cannot be assumed based upon historic trends, although overall participation rates in Uttlesford are well above the national average at present.
- **Sports development initiatives** - Many of the development programmes proposed by the governing bodies of the respective sports include some ambitious national participation targets, although when these are applied pro rata to the Uttlesford population, the increase in numbers locally is relatively modest.
- **Changes in supply** - There are a number of active proposals to develop new and improved facilities in the district, which will help to accommodate some increases in participation.

## 6) Identifying future facilities needs

### a) Introduction

To identify the additional sports facilities needs arising from the increase in population in Uttlesford by 2031, four sequential questions have been addressed:

- **Existing deficiency or spare capacity** - To what extent do existing facilities have any current shortfalls or any over supply?
- **Additional needs** - What additional facilities needs will arise from the increase in population of 22,500 people?

- **Accommodating needs** - Which needs can be met on whole or part by spare capacity in existing facilities and which will need to be met in whole or part by new facilities?
- **Extra facilities** - What extra facilities of each type are required to provide for the residual unmet demand?

## b) Methodology

The methodology applied to provide quantified answers to the above questions is as follows:

- **Current facilities provision** - The adequacy of current provision and the extent of any existing spare capacity is assessed in sections 6 - 8 above, using Sport England's approved methodologies.
- **Additional needs** - Additional needs have been calculated by quantifying the current number of people required to use a facility of each type to effective capacity, taking account of existing spare capacity or deficiencies, based on local supply and demand data. These figures have then been applied to the population of Uttlesford in 2031 to calculate **the** gross additional facilities needs arising from 22,500 people.
- **Net requirements** - The net requirements for additional provision has been calculated by comparing the extra required facilities capacity to the current available facilities capacity, to identify the difference.

## c) Quantified needs

Based upon the above, the quantified local facilities needs are as follows:

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantified facility needs</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Sports halls	1 sports hall per 11,349 people.	The 6 sports halls in Uttlesford are operating at effective full capacity and the FPM calculates a deficiency of 1 further sports hall.
Swimming pools	1 swimming pool per 17,654 people.	The 4 swimming pools in Uttlesford are operating at effective full capacity and the FPM calculates a deficiency equivalent to a further 0.5 of a pool.
Athletics facilities	1 training facility per 79,443 people.	There is strong demand for a local athletics training facility in Saffron Walden.
Indoor bowls	1 indoor bowls facility per 102,000 people.	There is significant spare capacity at the existing facility in Saffron Walden and at other facilities in neighbouring areas at present.
Outdoor bowls greens	1 green per 8,000 people.	The 11 outdoor bowls greens in Uttlesford all have spare capacity to absorb some additional demand.
Indoor tennis courts	1 indoor tennis facility per 102,000 people.	There is spare capacity at facilities in Harlow, Cambridge and Hertford at present
Outdoor tennis courts	1 outdoor tennis court per 2,500 people.	The 35 courts in Uttlesford all have spare capacity to absorb some additional demand.
Health and fitness facilities	1 health and fitness facility per 7,500 people.	The 11 health and fitness facilities in Uttlesford all have limited spare capacity to absorb some additional demand.
Squash courts	1 squash court per 12,500 people.	The 7 courts in Uttlesford all have spare capacity to absorb some additional demand.

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantified facility needs</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Golf courses	1 golf course per 45,000 people.	The 2 golf courses in Uttlesford both have spare capacity to absorb some additional demand.
Community halls	1 community/ancillary hall per 1,500 people.	The 54 village and community halls in Uttlesford all have spare capacity to absorb some additional demand.
Skateparks	1 skatepark per 16,000 people	The 5 skateparks in Uttlesford are operating at effective full capacity.
BMX trail facilities	1 BMX trail facility per 40,000 people	The 2 formal BMX trail facilities in Uttlesford are operating at effective full capacity.
BMX race tracks	1 BMX race track per 79,443 people	There is no track in the district at present and clear demand from the users of the trail facilities.

#### d) Additional facilities needs

The application of the quantified local facilities needs to the projected additional population of 22,700 people produces the following additional requirements. The needs are expressed as facility equivalents:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Quantified needs</i>	<i>Current facilities</i>	<i>Current needs</i>	<i>Extra needs by 2031</i>	<i>Net additional needs in 2031</i>
Sports halls	1: 11,349	6	7	2	3
Swimming pools	1: 17,654	4	4.5	1.29	1.79
Athletics facilities	1: 79,443	0	1	0.29	1.29
Indoor bowls	1: 102,000	1	0.78	0.22	0
Outdoor bowls	1: 8,000	11	9.93	2.84	1.77
Indoor tennis	1: 102,000	0	0	0	0
Outdoor tennis	1: 2,500	35	31.78	9.08	5.87
Health and fitness	1: 8,000	10	9.93	3.03	2.96
Squash	1: 13,000	6	5.36	1.82	1.18
Golf courses	1: 45,000	2	1.77	0.50	0.27
Community halls	1: 1,500	54	52.96	15.13	14.09
Skateparks	1: 16,000	5	5	1.82	6.82
BMX trail facilities	1: 40,000	2	2	0.57	0.57
BMX race tracks	1: 79,443	0	1	0.28	1.28

#### e) Additional pitch needs

To identify whether the supply of pitches is adequate to meet future demand, changes in demand have been modelled using 'Team Generation Rates', which identify how many people in a specified age group in the study area are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected increases in population to identify the likely number of additional teams and their related pitch needs in the future.

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2031</i>	<i>Teams 2031</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male football	17-45	14,200	44	1: 323	15,500	48	+4	2.0
Adult female football	17-45	14,200	5	1: 2,840	15,500	6	+1	0.5
Boys youth football	10-16	3,500	63	1: 56	4,700	83	+21	10.5
Girls youth football	10-16	3,500	9	1: 389	4,700	12	+3	1.5

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2031</i>	<i>Teams 2031</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	4,000	41	1: 98	4,800	49	+8	2
Adult male cricket	16-55	21,000	71	1: 296	23,100	78	+7	1.0
Adult female cricket	16-55	21,000	2	1: 10,500	23,100	2	-	0
Boys junior cricket	10-15	3,000	51	1: 59	4,100	69	+18	6.5
Girls junior cricket	10-15	3,000	5	1: 600	4,100	7	+2	0.5
Adult male rugby	19-45	13,200	4	1: 3,300	14,300	4	-	0
Adult female rugby	19-45	13,200	1	1: 13,200	14,300	1	-	0
Boys junior rugby	13-18	3,000	7	1: 429	3,800	9	+2	1.0
Girls junior rugby	13-18	3,000	1	1: 3,000	3,800	1	-	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	6,000	13	1: 462	7,800	17	+4	2.0
Adult male hockey	18-45	13,700	8	1: 1,714	14,900	9	+1	0.1
Adult female hockey	18-45	13,700	7	1: 1,957	14,900	8	+1	0.1
Boys junior hockey	8-17	5,000	9	1: 556	5,900	11	+2	0.2
Girls junior hockey	8-17	5,000	9	1: 556	5,900	11	+2	0.2

The additional requirement for '3G' football turf pitches can be calculated using the FA's guide of 1 pitch per 55 teams. With an additional 37 football teams generated by the increased population, there would be demand for an extra 0.67 '3G' football turf pitches. The net additional pitch requirements are tabulated below, indicating the extent to which any existing spare capacity can accommodate the extra demand.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Current pitches</i>	<i>Current needs</i>	<i>Extra needs by 2031</i>	<i>Net additional needs in 2031</i>
Adult football	32	26.5	2.5	0
Youth football	11	15	10.5	14.5
Mini-soccer	10	7	4.0	1.0
Cricket	38	35	3.0	0
Rugby	6	7	0.5	1.5
Artificial turf pitches for hockey	4	4.61	0.6	1.21
'3G' football turf pitches	0	2.78	0.62	3.4