active YORK

Built Sports Facilities Strategy 2014

Just 30

Contents

Section 1: Introduction 3

Section 2: Methodology 5

Section 3: Strategic Context 9

Section 4: Swimming Pools 19

Section 5: Sports Halls 24

Section 6: Artificial Grass Pitches 30

Section 7: Indoor Bowls 35

Section 8: Specialist Indoor Provision 37

Section 9: Specialist Outdoor Provision 41

Section 10: Key Issues and Recommendations 45

Section 11: Action Plan 52

Foreword

York is a beautiful, vibrant, active city with many high quality cultural and leisure opportunities. For sport and active leisure, the opportunities are offered in a wide range of venues and locations. Our facilities range from small scale community, single sport sites to regionally significant multi sport venues.

This document is a key part of our Partnership's sports strategy which has 5 key aims:

- To ensure that every individual in York will be aware of the health benefits of active leisure and of the opportunities available to them.
- To ensure that coaching and development opportunities exist for participants to improve their performance and to compete at the highest levels.
- To ensure the sustainability of the sport and active leisure infrastructure in the city including high quality facilities and strong clubs.
- To capitalise on the contribution that sport & active leisure makes to the culture and quality of life of residents in the city.
- To promote and enhance the role that sport & active leisure can play in developing safer and stronger communities.

This facility strategy gives a clear picture of the current level and quality of provision of many key sports facility types. It identifies facility types which the city has an under provision of and where there are significant issues in terms of quality and standards. It also shows how the predicted population growth to 2030 will affect demand for facilities. The strategy concludes with an action plan for the city's sports facility stakeholders. This sets out key facility projects for the next two to five years and the need to continually review that strategy and action plan to keep it current and make the most of the opportunities available to us.

We believe that to encourage people to participate in sport, facilities must be appealing, accessible and fit for purpose. We also recognise the need for a facility mix that reflects the levels and types of participation in the city. Through consultation we have produced this strategy which, we hope you agree, provides the foundations to support a sustainable high quality facility mix which meets the needs of participants at all levels, encourages participation, raises the standard of play and residents expectations and above all helps make York, the most active city in the country.

Active York Board

Section 1: Introduction

1.1
This document has been produced and published by Active York. The majority of the fieldwork, data collection and stakeholder consultation were carried out by City of York Council. Active York is the city's strategic sport and active leisure partnership. It's board comprises of representatives of the health sector, higher and further education, community clubs, the voluntary sector and the city's professional sports clubs. This strategy forms an integral part of the Active York Sport & Active Leisure Strategy (March 2013). It is designed to be read in conjunction with Active York's Playing Pitch Strategy June 2014 as many of the facility issues are shared.

1.2
This document is designed to support the Council's emerging Local Plan to guide planning decisions and considers provision of the following facilities:

- Swimming pools.
- Sports halls.
- Artificial Grass Pitches.
- Indoor Bowls centres.
- Specialist Indoor Facilities.
- Specialist Outdoor Facilities

1.3
The range of facilities covered has been determined following consultation with the Active York board, local partners and community representatives.

The Need for the Study

1.4
One of Active York's key aims is: To ensure the sustainability of the sport and active leisure infrastructure in the city, including high quality facilities and strong clubs. To do this it is essential that there is a shared ownership and understanding of the current level and quality of facility provision and the future needs and ambitions for provision. This strategy has been developed to draw all of the city's built facility issues together, and to set out the work needed to ensure the city continues to have high quality sustainable facilities.

1.5
This document is designed to be used as a supporting document for the city's emerging Local Plan and as an aid to facility development. The contents of the strategy are consistent with the "National Planning Policy Framework" (NPPF, 2012) section 3 – Supporting prosperous rural economy, and Section 8 Promoting healthy communities, which both make reference to the need for community and sports facilities. The strategy will also:

- provide evidence to justify the provision of new sport and recreation provision or enhancement of existing
- help assess the merits of planning applications and guide planning obligations;
- help direct expenditure of any future Community Infrastructure Levy monies and Section 106 planning contributions for sport
- support the development of sport and physical activity in the city by ensuring a high quality facility infrastructure exits.

1.6
Active York aims to encourage participation in the broadest range of sports but also in active recreation generally. This document addresses the need to cater for both formal and informal activities, and to provide an imaginative mix of facilities to encourage sports participation at all levels.

1.7
This report pulls together the key findings of on-going sports development work, desk based analysis and community consultation. Highlighting both areas of concern and opportunities and presents an action plan for the delivery and retention of high quality sport and recreation facilities across the city.

1.8
The action plan at Section 11 of this document identifies the key facility projects to be addressed over the next 5 years. However the document is designed to be a living plan which responds to changes in demographics, funding and planning policy.

Section 2: Methodology

2.1
The project has been overseen by a steering group of stakeholders including, representatives of the Active York board and City of York Council Sport & Active Leisure officers.

2.2
We have gathered data from Sport England planning tools, club and national governing body consultation, the city's sports stakeholders including City of York Council, schools, North Yorkshire Sport, the city's universities and colleges and community clubs to ensure a detailed and robust evidence base. The strategy is designed as a rounded, deliverable and realistic document which is intended to support the Active York strategic aims.

2.3
Due to the relatively confined boundaries of the City of York Authority area analysis has been carried out on city wide basis. The majority of the city's community sports clubs and local facilities cater for the city's residents only, however the city does have a number of larger facilities which attract regular participants from outside the Local Authority boundary and one off visits from tourists or sports event participants. Some specific actions and priorities have been identified for individual communities, reflecting the needs and demographics of the facility's catchment area.

Demographic Analysis

2.4
In order to understand how the population profile of the city will affect current and future demand for sports facilities in the city we have carried out demographic and socio economic analysis. The highlights of this research are discussed in more detail in Section 3.

2.5
Future demand has been calculated using the 2010 population projections for 2030. This corresponds with the period covered by the city's local plan. The document is designed to be updated regularly to reflect population changes during the local plan period. For ease of calculation this document assumes that sports participation rates will remain constant. The action plan and recommendations however are based on the city's ambitions to increase participation in sport and physical activity.

Identifying Local Need

2.6
In order to be able to effectively review and plan local provision it is clear that we need to know and understand the city's provision and the local need. This has been done in a number of ways, as set out below.

Strategic review

2.7
We have undertaken a research exercise in order to review relevant background policy documents that provide an indication of local needs and the context for this strategy. The key findings from this work are set out in Section 3 of this report. The recommendations and implications of these documents have been used to inform the future planning of facilities in sections 4 to 11 of this strategy.

Community Consultation

2.8
Active York board members and partners gathered the views of their members and participants throughout the production of the strategy. During summer 2013 this document was subject to broad community and statutory planning consultation, as part of the local plan consultation period. The views gathered through this process are reflected in this document.

Sports Club Survey

2.9
A club questionnaire was sent to clubs approximately 70 clubs who use the city's built facilities (including public leisure facilities, school sites, private sector facilities and community club sites). The questionnaire has identified the sports clubs views on both quality and quantity of provision. Responses were received from 24 clubs across a range of sports.

2.10
A questionnaire was also sent to schools to review the quality of the facilities that they have access to and offer for community use, in some cases these were followed up by telephone enquiries or meetings. Comments were received from all of the city's secondary schools and eight primary schools.

2.11
Responses were received from a broad range of clubs including badminton, football, indoor bowls, hockey and rowing. Many of the clubs who responded were interested in developing their own facility improvement projects.

2.12
Many of the schools who responded were satisfied with the facilities that they have available at their school and did not feel that the development of a sports facilities strategy was relevant to their site. All secondary schools identified that they offer community access to their sports facilities.

National Governing Body Consultation

2.13
The National Governing Bodies (NGBs) responsible for the range of sports played at the built facilities were contacted to ask for their views on the quality and quantity of provision in the city and their plans for facility development in the area.

2.14
Responses varied depending on the level of engagement that the governing body has within the city. Those clubs who have major facility issues and who are developing facility improvement projects have been supported in these ambitions by their governing bodies. The Football Association, the Bowls Alliance and British Rowing were all keen to ensure that the needs of their sports are represented in this strategy.

2.15
In each section of this strategy the York position is compared with the facility ambitions of the relevant NGBs and how our circumstances relate to their whole sport development plans.

Active York partnership

2.16
This document is part of a suite of documents that form the delivery plan for Active York's strategic aims. Members of the executive board have been involved in the steering group. An Active York city workshop was used to gauge club's facility issues. The final document and action plan will be owned and driven by Active York and its many stakeholders and partners.

Auditing Local Provision

2.17
A comprehensive desktop audit has been carried out to identify all relevant sports and physical activity facilities across the city. This included undertaking a review of the online national databases of sports facilities, Active Places Power planning tool, desk research, telephone research and consultation with sports partners and colleagues. In addition, a survey was sent to all schools in the authority area to ensure we had identified relevant facilities on school sites. Any queries or gaps in knowledge were addressed by site visits to the relevant facilities.

Quantity

2.18
Sport England's strategic planning tools were used to assess the theoretical supply, and demand balance for facilities. The Facilities Planning Model (FPM) has been developed as a planning tool to inform the process of deciding if, and where new or improved community facilities are required. It provides an objective assessment of the relationship between the quantity of facilities provided against the level of facilities required to meet the estimated demand from the population in a given area during the peak period. It factors in spatial distribution, condition, travel patterns and cross boundary relationships. For more details with regards to the FPM and its assumptions see the details on Sport England's website at www.sportengland.org. The FPM was used to assess the provision of sports halls, artificial grass pitches and swimming pools.

2.19
The strategic planning tools within Active Places Power were also used to compare the amount/ number of facilities per 1000 people with national and regional averages and with levels seen in comparator authorities. Coupled with consultation, this helps to assess the adequacy for each type of facility within the City of York Council authority area.

Quality

2.20
Through analysis of the site visit data collected, desk research and consultation, we have assessed the quality of existing facilities and have identified where quality needs to be improved. This is set out in the relevant section and in the action plan.

Accessibility

2.21
Accessibility has been assessed through the consultation process and has been reviewed in terms of:

- opening hours and level of community use.
- physical access to a site. and
- preferred mode of transport and journey time to get to a facility.

Strategic Framework

2.22
This strategy is based on the research and consultation findings and sets out the key issues, surpluses and shortfalls, future priorities and opportunities for new or improved sport and recreation provision. Current provision is also compared to the projected 2030 population of the city, to establish where future shortfalls in provision are likely to develop. Section 10 considers the implications of this assessment for future planning policy, operational management and partnership working across the sports sector in the city.

Action Plan

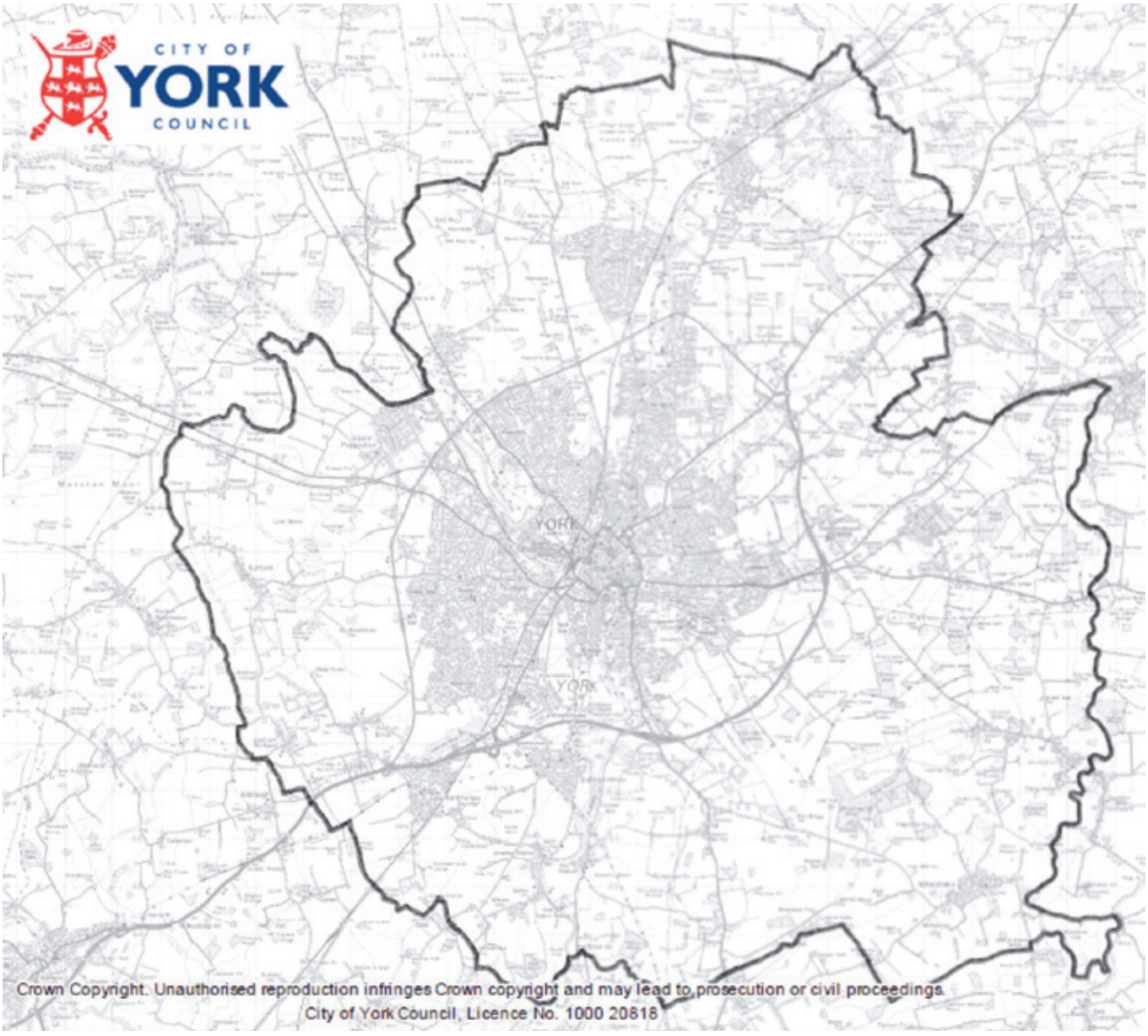
2.23
Analysis of the data gathered for this document has highlighted a number of key issues which need to be addressed to maintain and enhance the quality and quantity of sports facilities in the city. A 5 year action plan is contained in Section 11 which sets out each of the key projects, the lead organisation for delivering these projects and the main indicators of the projects' success. The Action Plan is designed to be a live document and to be updated regularly in response to facility and demographic changes.

Section 3: Strategic Context

3.1
The strategic context builds a picture of York in terms of population, demographic profile, local and regional context and how built sports facilities fit within achieving local aims and objectives.

Local Demographics

3.2
The area covered by this strategy is the City of York Local Authority boundary, shown below, which covers an area of approximately 300km2. The area is primarily urban with suburban communities. However there is a small rural population for whom access to leisure opportunities can be difficult without access to a car. Demographic analysis of the York area highlights the following issues which will affect participation in sport and the demand for access to sports facilities.



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Indicator	City of York	Relevance to sports facility provision.
Total population – taken from 2011 census data.	198,051. This is an increase of 9.4% since 2001. This is a faster growth than regionally or nationally. Population projections indicate an anticipated growth to 221,700 by 2030.	Appropriate provision will be needed to address the demand generated by the continuing population increase.
Ethnic origin	The Black ad Minority Ethnic (BME) population has now increased to 9.8%. Many of these residents are overseas students, but there has also been an increase in the BME resident population. 1.2% of this population are of Chinese origin.	Facility providers must address the needs of BME communities, Targeting programmes specifically to these communities where relevant.
Population aged 20-24yrs.	10% of York's population is aged 20-24. This is significantly higher than the regional or national figure. In response York also has a high proportion of residents living in shared housing, mainly student accommodation.	The facilities provided must reflect the needs of this sector of the population. The city must work with the Higher education sector to address the needs of students both within the educational establishments and across the city.
Population aged 85 and over	The number of residents aged 85 and over has increased by 30% since 2001	Facility providers must consider how they cater for this growing sector of the population. They must address accessibility, the range of activity and customer service and expectation.

Indicator	City of York	Relevance to sports facility provision.
Disability	6.6% of the population reported that they have a lot of limitation in day to day activity. This is much lower than regional or national figures but it is still 13,018 people. 23% of households reported that they had at least 1 person with a long term health problem or disability.	Facility providers must consider how to address the needs of this population and their carers. This must include the range of activities the accessibility and location of facilities and the cost and support services offered to those accessing activities.
Car ownership	A high proportion of households only have 1 car or van available 46.7% ranking York highest regionally and 10th nationally.	This has implications for the planning of facilities and sports provision. Facilities need to be focussed around public transport routes and close to other community facilities. It also supports the need for high quality walking and cycling provision for transport and recreation.
Employment	There are a lower proportion of workless households with dependant children in York 2.4% than regionally 4.4% and nationally 4.2%. This figure has fallen since 2001.	Facility providers must consider how to cater for lower income households. This relates to both timing and cost of activities.

3.3
The emerging Local Plan identifies housing requirements and strategic development sites in the city which, coupled with existing developments with planning permission will affect the population of the city and more specifically the population profile of their local areas. Council officers are working with developers to ensure that the need for community sports provision is addressed within those developments and will continue to do so for future residential schemes.

3.4
York's population projections for the next 16 years anticipate a significant growth in the population aged 70 and over. This will have a significant impact on the economy, health and leisure service providers and infrastructure in the city.

3.5
The emerging local plan also proposes a number of major residential developments. To ensure that provision is sufficient to cater for localised increases in demand, recommended local standards for provision are set out to help guide the provision of community and sports facilities in these developments.

Sports Participation Rates

3.6
The Active People survey conducted annually since 2005/6 by Ipsos MORI on behalf of Sport England, is the largest ever survey of sport and active recreation to be undertaken in Europe. It is a telephone survey of adults in England (aged 16 plus) and is unique in providing reliable statistics on participation in sport and active recreation for all 354 local authorities in England at a local level.

3.7
The data identifies how participation varies from place to place at a local authority level and between different groups in the population. The key findings for York are detailed below.

Headline findings

Indicator	City of York	Implications
Participation in sport and active recreation at least 3 times per week at moderate intensity for at least 30 minutes	2005/6 24.9% of adult population. This figure has fluctuated in recent years. The latest Active People results for 2011/13 for York is 27.1%	This is significantly higher than the regional figure. Indicating a slightly higher demand for facilities. This does however highlight that 72.9% of the population are not regular sports participants and that considerable work is needed to raise awareness, develop programmes and provide facilities that will encourage new and sustained participation. The challenge is to provide attractive, inspirational, safe and affordable facilities.
Proportion of the adult population doing zero sessions of moderate intensity sport and active recreation per week.	43.6% of the adult population.	Nationally this figure has remained above 47% since 2005. York is clearly managing to offer opportunities that are encouraging some but not regular sports participation. Can we design facilities and programmes that encourage continued and repeated visits?

Indicator	City of York	Implications
At least 1 hour a week volunteering to support sport.	9% This compares to a national figure of approximately 7%.	This reflects York's strong community sporting infrastructure, but also the reliance there is on a volunteer workforce to run sport activity and facilities in the city. This also indicates the need to design low maintenance community facilities which reduce the burden on volunteers and frees time to lead activity.
At least 1 session of Sport or active recreation per week.	York 39.6% of adults. National figure 36%. Yorkshire and Humber figure 36.3%.	This highlights the slightly higher participation rates in York.
Participation in 3 sports sessions per week for those with a limiting disability	9.3% This is consistent with the national figure.	Facility planners and providers must consider how they can provide facilities that best meet the needs of this community.
Participation in 3 sports sessions per week for those aged 55+	16.8% This is significantly higher than the national figure	Facility planners and operators must consider how they can design and operate facilities in a way that will address this gap in participation between the general population and those aged 55 and over.
Participation in 3 sports sessions per week for those in socio economic groups 5,6,7 and 8	17.6% This is significantly higher than the national figure.	Facility planners and providers should consider how to narrow this participation gap when planning new facilities and sports programmes.

3.8

This headline information above shows that York has a higher than average participation rate in sport in the general population and for those aged 55+. However there are clearly some areas where the participation gap must be addressed. Particularly for those with a long term limiting disability, those in lower socio economic groups and those aged 55+. There continues to be lower participation in sport by women than men in the city and nationally. The design and operation of our facilities must respond to the needs of these groups.

Market Segmentation

3.9

Sport England has developed nineteen sporting segments to help us understand the nation's attitudes and motivations – why they play sport and why they don't. This is particularly important to understand in order to ensure that the facilities in York cater for the needs and expectations of local residents. The research builds on the results of Sport England's Active People Survey, the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's Taking Part survey and the Mosaic tool from Experian. It informs Sport England's Strategy and Business Plan and helps ensure that money is invested into areas where it will have the greatest impact.

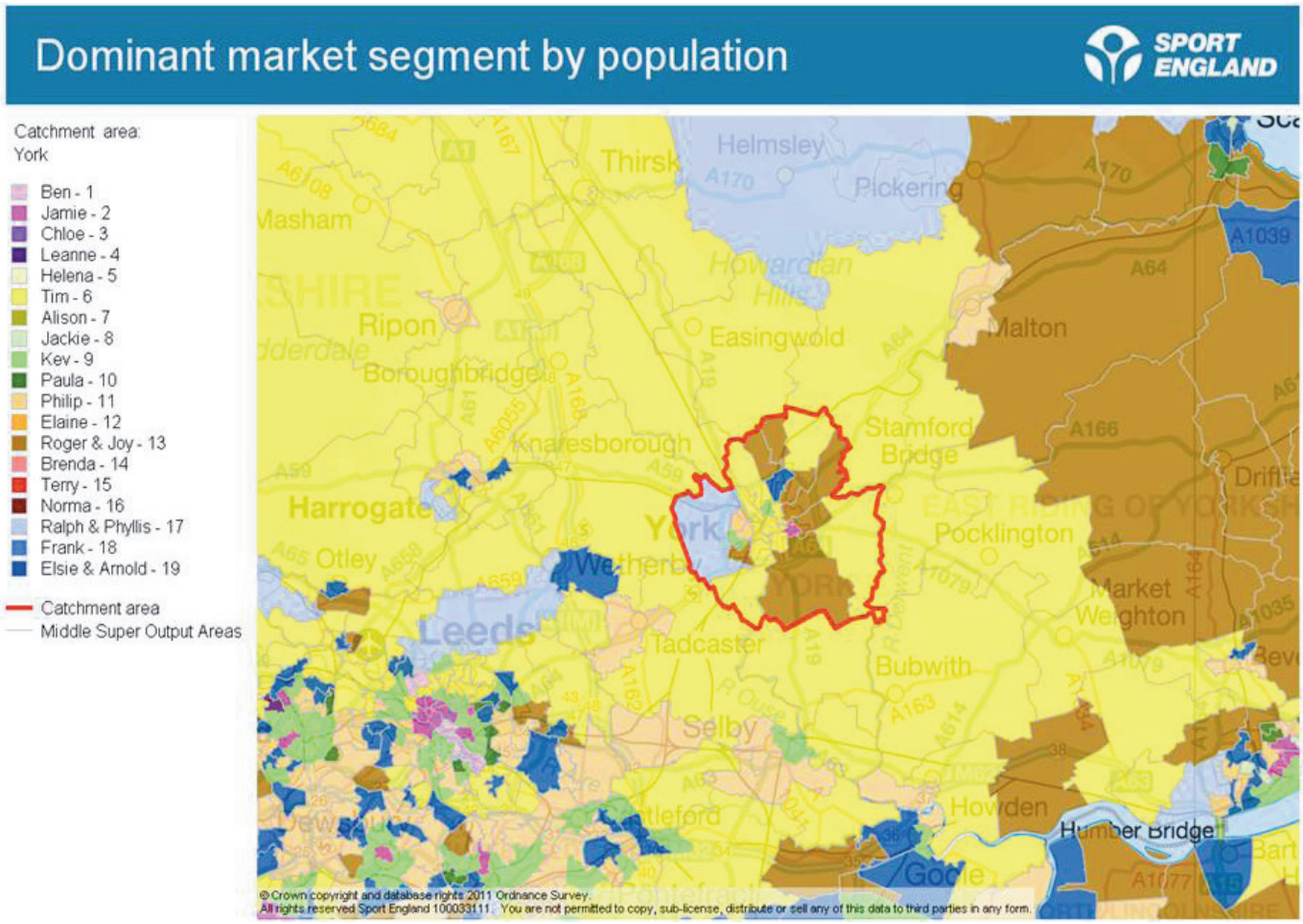
3.10

Residents are classified according to their key characteristics and analysis of the dominant market segments provides an indication as to the type of facilities that may be required if certain groups are to become more active. The key characteristics of some of the dominant population groups in York are illustrated in the Table below.

Name	Age	Characteristics
Roger & Joy (segment 13)	56-65 Early retirement	Roger & Joy are slightly less active than the average adult population but are the most active of the over 55s. Those who do participate, are most likely to swim, cycle, play golf or do some form of keep fit. A higher proportion than others in this age group are members of a club (often a golf club or a fitness gym). The main motivation for participation is enjoyment and keeping fit. The main barrier to increased activity is Health/injury or disability.
Tim (segment 6)	26-35	A very active sector enjoying high intensity activities. Enjoys technical sports such as skiing and water sports as well as team games and individual activities. Motivators to participate include improving performance, keeping fit and making friends. Busy lives are a barrier to participating more.

Name	Age	Characteristics
Kev (segment 9)	36-45	Average participation in sport. Top sports for this group include keep fit/gym, Football, cycling and swimming. The main reasons for participation are just because they enjoy it and keeping fit. The main barrier to increasing participation is work commitments.
Elsie & Arnold (segment 19)	66+	Lowest participation group, with health problems and disability being major inhibitors to activity. Those who do participate tend towards low intensity activities such as walking, bowls or dancing (traditional ballroom) Safe environments would encourage this group to walk more often Organised low impact and low intensity events would be welcomed.

3.11
The market segmentation map below shows that 'Roger & Joy' is the most dominant market segment in York.



Literature Review

3.12

We have identified and reviewed a wide range of policies, strategies, key actions and activities from a range of cross cutting services and organisations at a local, county, regional and national level that will have an influence on sports and physical activity provision in York – a summary of the key documents reviewed is set out below.

Document reviewed	Key points	Links to sports facilities strategy
Sport England's Strategy 2011/12 to 2014/15	Elements include: • People, places, play programme that directs funding into increasing participation and supporting the facilities infrastructure to encourage and support this increase. • Ensuring that National Governing Bodies (NGBs) are funded appropriately until 2017 to deliver on key objectives and the NGBs are delivering the priorities for the future of their sports. • Improving market intelligence and business effectiveness.	There is opportunity for existing and future facilities to engage in these programmes to generate support (financial and in kind) from Sport England and partner organisations. This opens up greater opportunities to work with NGBs to help them deliver their priorities in York. Facility providers will need to fully understand their current and potential markets, to understand their users and the reasons for non usage. They will also need to carry out effective business planning.
Healthy Lives, Brighter futures (2009)	Labour government policy on improving the health of Children and Young people. This document recognises the health improvements that have taken place but highlights the need to continue this improvement. Public sector settings provide healthy environments and encourage children to make healthy choices. It also stresses the need to make information available for parents and children.	This policy outlines the need for facility providers to cater for families and children, to offer opportunities for children and young people to make their own choices, try new activities and develop long term patterns of participation.

Document reviewed	Key points	Links to sports facilities strategy
National NHS Change for Life Campaign.	This campaign is designed to target families to improve their eating habits and increase their levels of physical activity. Families are encouraged to register with the campaign and receive guidance and suggestions for activity.	Facility providers can register with the campaign so that they come up on local facility searches. They will have to consider how they can cater for family activities and how they can help promote healthy choices.
North Yorkshire Sport. Business Plan 2012-2015.	One of the key priorities in this document is to "Build a strong sustainable, adequately resourced sporting infrastructure across North Yorkshire". The document also sets out how North Yorkshire Sport will work with sports governing bodies to help them deliver their priorities across the county.	York's facility providers can work with sports governing bodies and North Yorkshire sport to address the county's demand for facilities.
City of York Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2012	This document sets out the health needs and inequalities in the city. It sets out the need to particularly focus on the health needs of the aging population and to tackle health problems and obesity in Children and Young people. It also makes a series of recommendations. The most relevant in this context being "We recommend that there is continued support for initiatives aimed at increasing levels of physical activity across the whole population and that priority is given to vulnerable groups and those who are least active.	This document will direct the health spending in the city. Facility planners and providers have the opportunity to work with the city's clinical commissioning group and Health and well-being board to address some of the city's health inequalities. This can be done through the provision of specialist services for certain communities.

Document reviewed	Key points	Links to sports facilities strategy
Active York Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy.	This document sets out the partnership's vision "For York to be a city that offers the widest range of sport and active leisure opportunities for more people, to be more active, more often". It has 5 key aims to help achieve this broader vision including: To ensure the sustainability of the sport and active leisure infrastructure in the city, including high quality facilities and strong clubs.	The Active York strategy is the parent document for this sports facilities strategy. Active York's strategy and the partnership its self will be the key delivery route for the actions within this document. They will offer support for funding applications, advice on sports development, partnership working on delivery projects and guidance with the facility planning and design processes.
York Aquatics Strategy 2010	This document, produced by York aquatics forum, a partnership of clubs, providers, swim teachers and swimmers, sets out a development plan for swimming in the city. The primary focus is around swimmer and coach/ teacher development. But there is also a focus on broadening the range of aquatics activities available and ensuring that the facilities are there to support this development.	The opportunity exists for facility providers to engage with the aquatics forum to provide a venue for some of the proposed development programme. Any future pools plans will have to reflect the ambitions of the city swimming development plan.
City of York Children and Young People's plan. "Dream Again" 2013-2016	This document sets out the city's key findings and actions on how to ensure that York is a good place for Children to grow up. The document covers the quality of parks, play areas, sport and things to do. It supports the recommendation that all children and young people do at least 60 minutes physical activity per day.	There is an opportunity for facility providers and planners to deliver some of the objectives within the Children & Young People's plan, to provide opportunities for young people to be more active and to engage young people in the planning and design of projects.

3.13
Now that we understand the context in which sport and leisure facilities are being provided, it is important to understand 'where we are now' in terms of the sports facility infrastructure. The following sections set out the adequacy of existing sports facilities across the city. Each section details the current position for that particular facility type, summarises the findings from consultation and from use of theoretical strategic planning tools, in relation to that particular type of facility and identifies any issues in relation to quantity, quality and accessibility. It then sets out some of the opportunities that are available to address the issues identified and implications for the planning process.

Section 4: Swimming Pools

Current Provision

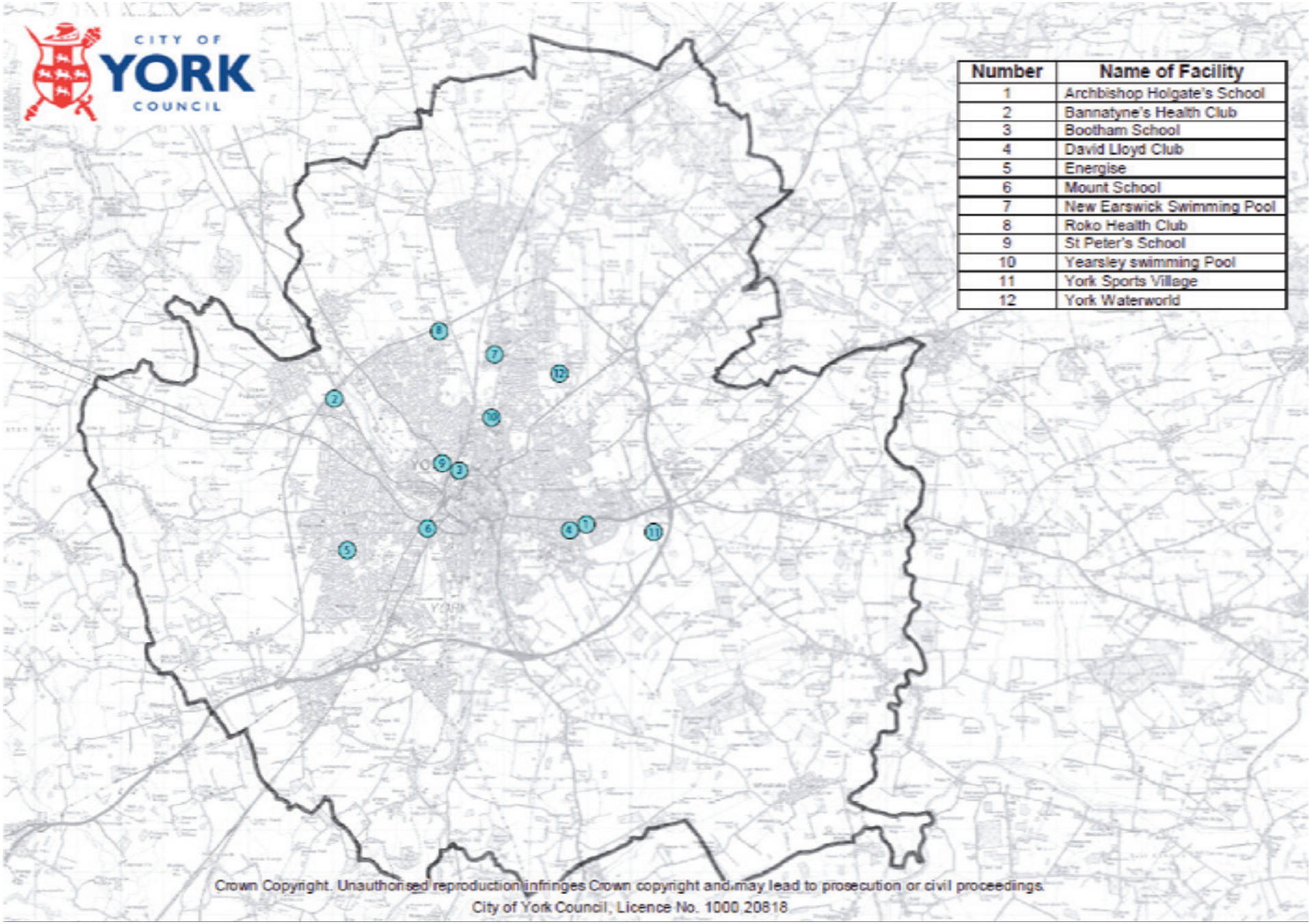
4.1
The city currently has 32 swimming pools which are a mix of facility types: public, member only fitness facilities, hotel pools, school facilities with community access and private facilities. For the purposes of assessing the adequacy of current provision only facilities which offer public access, to their members, community clubs and groups or the general public, have been included in the supply and demand analysis.

Adequacy of Current Provision

4.2
The following table lists the pools that have been included in the supply and demand analysis. The map overleaf shows the locations of the pools.

4.3
There are currently no public facility plans which will have an impact on the future provision of swimming pools in York.

Name of Facility	Size of pool	Accessibility	Year Built/ refurbished
Archbishop Holgate's School	276m2	Dual use/ club use	1963/ 1985
Banatynes Health Club	200m2	Membership	2001
Bootham school	230m2	Dual use/ club use	1912/ 2005
David Lloyd Club	300m2	Membership	2003
David Lloyd Club	80m2	Membership	2003
Energise	325m2	Public	2009
Energise	91m2	Public	2009
Energise	25m2	Public	2009
Mount school	184m2	Dual use/ club use	1980
New Earswick Swimming Pool	180m2	Public/ club use	1967
Roko Health Club	180m2	Membership	2008
Roko Health Club	64m2	Membership	2008
St Peter's School	312m2	Dual use/ club use	2011
Yearsley swimming Pool	708m2	Public	1908/ 2007
York sports village	450m2	Public	2012
York sports village	144m2	Public	2012
York Waterworld	256m2	Public	1997
York Waterworld	128m2	Public	1997



Number	Name of Facility
1	Archbishop Holgate's School
2	Bannatyne's Health Club
3	Bootham School
4	David Lloyd Club
5	Energise
6	Mount School
7	New Earswick Swimming Pool
8	Roko Health Club
9	St Peter's School
10	Yearsley swimming Pool
11	York Sports Village
12	York Waterworld

4.4
There is a good distribution of pools across the City. However there are two clusters of provision where catchments overlap. This is most noticeable in the south east sector of the urban area where of the city where the pools at York Sports Village, David Lloyd, and Archbishop Holgate School are all within a kilometre of each other. Similarly the pools at Bootham and St. Peter's Schools lie 500m apart on opposite sides of Bootham.

4.5
Inevitably, given the cluster of pools outlined above, there are gaps in provision in York. This is most noticeable in the urban area in Acomb, and Heworth, and with the large outlying villages of Strensall and Haxby.

Facilities Planning Model Analysis

4.6
Sport England has undertaken an analysis of the FPM data for York's swimming pools based on the national facilities audit. For further details of the methodology and assumptions made see: www.sportengland.org

4.7
The following FPM Parameters are set in relation to swimming pools:

- all facility data is drawn from the National Facilities Audit;
- single pools of less than 160m2 (tanks) or 200m2 (leisure pools) are excluded from the model unless they are ancillary to a main pool of the minimum size;
- private sector provision is included; and
- pools are considered to be at full capacity when utilisation reaches 70%. This is called the comfort factor.

4.8
The following table (overleaf) shows swimming pool supply and demand analysis in York in comparison to regional, national and other Local Authority comparators (these authority areas have similar population sizes and demographic make ups to York).

4.9
The table shows that based on available water space swimming pool provision in York is above both the regional and national average. York also has more water space per 1000 in the population (20.4m2) than it's nearest comparable authorities.

4.10
York's pools are able to satisfy 95.9% of demand for water space. This compares favourably with the national average which stands at 90.5%, the regional average 88.4% and York's nearest comparable authorities.

4.11
Despite the high level of satisfied demand for pool space in the city there are some small pockets of (small quantities of) unmet demand for peak time swimming. These are in Dringhouses & Woodthorpe, Heworth, and Haxby wards. All of this unmet demand is due to the nearest pool being to far away to access. These pockets of unmet demand closely match the areas identified above as being ones without a local pool.

	York	National	Yorkshire region	Bath & NE Somerset	Canterbury
Number of pools	18	3063	290	11	11
Number of pool sites	12	2176	205	10	7
Supply of total water space in m2	4133	679150	64545	2831	2321
Supply of publicly available water space in m2 (scaled with hours available in peak period)	3127	562459	53742	2323	2016
Water space per 1000 population	18.79	12.79	11.96	15.44	15.06
% of total demand satisfied	95.9	90.5	88.4	94.2	92.7
Demand swimming pool provision in m2 Taking into account comfort factor	2184.4	565283	57378.7	1932.3	1627.2
Supply/ Demand balance- variation in m2 compared to the minimum required	943	-2823.7	-3636.83	391.11	388.88

Quality and Accessibility

4.12

The table above shows that the majority of the city's publicly accessible pool stock has been built, (or refurbished), within the last 10 years. These facilities are all considered to be of good quality, with high quality ancillary facilities and disability access.

4.13

The majority of the school pools are used extensively by the city's swimming clubs, private swim schools and community organisations. The hours of availability and the take up of this availability varies across the sites, but it is clear that the school pools are a valuable community aquatics asset. The pools at Bootham and the Mount schools have the lowest levels of availability during peak periods. It may be possible to increase access to these pools without having a negative impact on the school and school community's operation and access.

4.14
The pool stock includes a number of private members clubs/gyms. These are all well used, as York has a high rate of gym membership. However they do provide very limited access to coaching, clubs and swim schools. This is balanced by the number of school pools which primarily offer club and group access.

4.15
Yearsley Swimming Pool is very highly regarded by its regular and loyal customers, partly due to its length (50 yards) character and history. These customers primarily travel to the pool by walking, cycling or by public transport, the site has accessible bays but no other parking provision. The pool is within walking distance of the city centre and a number of residential areas which have low car ownership.

4.16
The pool has a low attractiveness rating (in terms of FPM ratings) due to its age and general accessibility. A recent refurbishment programme has improved disability access, the reception area and shower facilities. Due to land availability and the design of the building, it has been difficult to add additional leisure facilities on the site to cater for leisure trends and attract new groups of users.

4.17
The oldest pool in the survey is New Earswick; this pool again is well used by community groups running swimming lessons, coaching and disability sessions. The pool itself is in good condition but there is a need to improve the changing, entrance and spectator provision. A recent application for support for this from Sport England was unsuccessful.

4.18
Waterworld is now sixteen years old and has had no refurbishment during this time. The pool is designed to suit the leisure market and offer a different aquatics experience to the other conventional pool types in the city. The facility offers an active recreation opportunity for children, young people and families. Many of the leisure feature, slides, lazy river and water features are aged and in need of replacement or modernisation. This should be addressed as part of the development of the new community stadium construction.

4.19
The nearest public swimming facilities to the city boundary are in Tadcaster to the West, Norton to the North East, Thirsk to the North and Selby to the South. These facilities are between 10 and 25 miles from York City centre. The FPM indicates that 11.6% of the used capacity of York's pools is imported from outside the York boundary. These will be visits by people who work in the city, and those for who the city's pools are closer or more accessible than any others. Any changes in the provision of facilities in the surrounding authorities will have an impact on the demand for facilities in York, and vice versa.

Projections

4.20
By 2030 the population of York is projected to increase to 221,700 will bring the demand for pool space in m2 to approximately 2445m2. Assuming no changes in pool stock the water space available per 1,000 in the population would reduce to 18.3m2 which is still significantly higher than the regional and national figures. This is clearly a very rough calculation which does not factor in the aging pool stock or the residential locations of the new residents and therefore which facilities would be facing increased demand.

4.21
The city's local plan proposes a number of major housing development sites across the city. A number of these will have a significant impact on the population of the local area. These proposals could lead to large population increases in the areas around Huntington, Clifton Moor, and to the South East of the A64. Developers of these schemes must map access to community facilities, including swimming pools as part of their projects. It is important that access to pool space is addressed in addition to the total pool capacity.

4.22
Any future pool projects would have to carry out detailed localised supply and demand analysis to establish how the proposals would affect provision and other pools in the city.

Consultation

4.23
This document was subject to a 6 week consultation period as part of the Local Plan Preferred Options consultation. Comments received in relation to swimming pool provision during this time have been reflected, where appropriate, here and in the action plan at the end of this document. Facilities questionnaires were sent to local swimming clubs and the ASA.

4.24
The ASA responded to say, "there is obviously a large number of swimming facilities available to clubs and general public through public facilities, private clubs and schools. There have been no issues raised to us regarding any of the facilities". Following the opening of the pools at York Sports Village, (supported by the ASA), in 2012, the clubs now have access to a competition venue and a fully equipped short course training venue. This facility has been welcomed by the clubs and the governing body.

4.25
Yeasley Pool Action Group sent a detailed response expressing concerns about the use of the FPM as the basis for assessing local supply and demand for pool space, feeling that it was data driven and lacking in detail about how each pool is used. They were keen to highlight the strengths of Yearsley pool and included "YSP by virtue of its long length and large capacity tank provides a different type of swimming and water sport environment to any other pool in York, or the immediate region. It caters for the needs of a broad range of user groups including a group that couldn't be accommodated in any other pool in York. Water polo canoeists require a large pitch for tournaments/galas. Due to its size, YSP is also ideal for fitness training /lane swimming for the more serious swimming public/sports people including clubs such as YCBC. It also provides the necessary space for the elderly, disabled, chronically sick & injured to swim without the fear of being knocked, kicked or hindered. This is virtually impossible in small pools".

4.26
The new pool at St Peter's school has a community use agreement which ensures community access to the facilities outside the school's hours. These community hours are being used by York City Baths Club, community groups and local schools. Again this agreement has been widely welcomed.

4.27
The majority of the comments received were in relation to access to affordable pool space to deliver the key elements of York's aquatics development plan. This document has been written by the ASA and the city's aquatics forum to develop a progressive pathway for aquatics activity. Energise, Yearsley and the Sports Village pools are working with the aquatics group and making space available to deliver the vision in the document.

Conclusions

4.28
The above analysis indicates that York has a mix of pool types catering for a broad mix of aquatics activities. The analysis has highlighted a number of conclusions about current and future provision of swimming in the City of York.

4.29
The supply and demand balance shows that the city has a surplus of approximately 932m2 of pool space above the minimum required to meet demand. However any future changes in facility provision must be considered in the context of all of the findings of this document. Future provision must continue to offer sufficient provision to cater for the growth in population and to offer the best mix of facilities to support the full range of aquatics activity in appropriate locations.

4.30
There is a need to ensure that the current pool stock is well maintained and managed to continue to offer the high level of provision that York currently enjoys.

4.31
Many of the city's pools are located on school sites. Through joint sports and planning policy, City of York Council must ensure that community groups, clubs and swim schools are getting the benefit of the community hours available at school pools. There may also be scope to increase the available pool time by increasing the hours that some school pools are available to the public.

4.32
There are a number of pools in commercial fitness facilities, where opportunities arise, partners should work with these sites to get access for the broader community, e.g. for targeted programmes, lessons etc.

4.33
There is a need to modernise ancillary and changing facilities at New Earswick swimming pool and the leisure offer at Waterworld. Projects to refurbish and updated these facilities should be supported.

4.34
Major housing developments must be made to contribute to the provision of community facilities including swimming pools. Where population growth is planned, which is outside pool catchment areas, contributions towards appropriately located swimming provision should be made.

Section 5: Sports Halls

Current Provision

5.1
An extensive audit of facilities, using Sport England's Active Places tool, City of York Council databases and partners' local knowledge has shown that the city currently has 61 sports halls on 46 sites which are a mix of school, local authority, higher education and community club sites. For the purposes of assessing the adequacy of current provision only facilities which provide a main sports hall, of 3 or more courts, and any ancillary halls (rather than gymnasium or single court hall only) have been included in the supply and demand analysis.

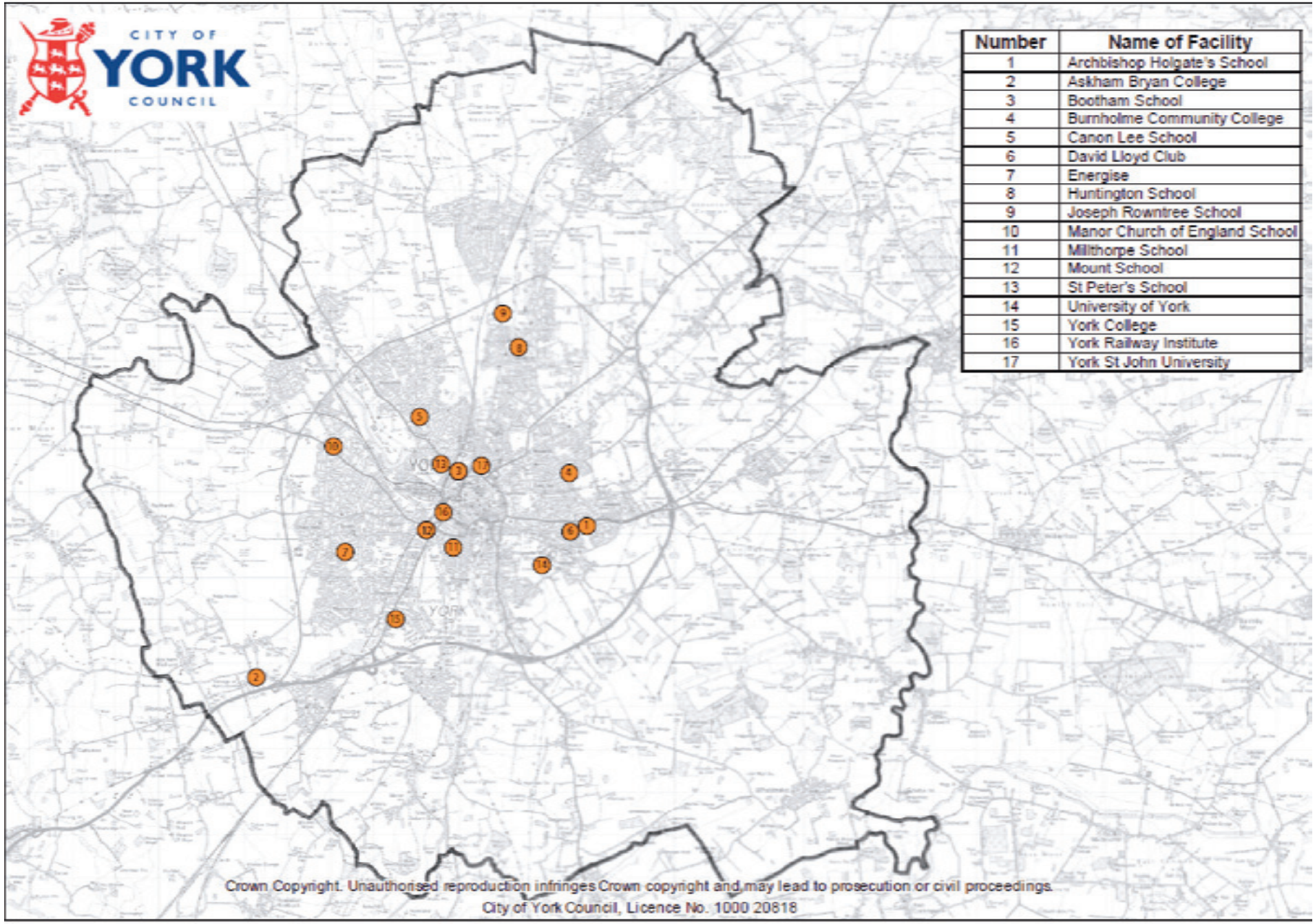
5.2
There are many more, smaller or single court halls across the city, including village and community halls, many of these are in primary schools and used for P.E., dining and school and community events. There is some community access to these facilities but they are rarely used for organised sport outside school hours, therefore they have not been included in the analysis below.

5.3
The table to the right shows all of the halls that have been included in the analysis. The map overleaf shows the locations of the halls.

5.4
Provision in York is predominantly on education sites with 21 of the 24 halls sites listed above being at educational establishments. As a result the provision is spread fairly evenly across the city. Superimposing a 20 minute walking time catchment for all halls there are however areas of the city that fall outside the catchment of any of the city's halls. These are the large villages to the north of the city including Haxby, Wigginton and Strensall, the Fulford area and a small area in Acomb ward.

5.5
In the short term there are no projects currently being delivered which will have an impact on the provision of Sports Halls in the city. However York St John University the University of York and Fulford School are developing projects to create additional indoor sports space. The closure of Burnholme school in 2014 means that the future of the sports hall on that site is not secure. These projects will be discussed in more detail later in this section.

Name of Facility	Hall capacity on site, in number of courts.	Accessibility	Year Built/ refurbished
Archbishop Holgates school	3	Dual use/ club use	2002
Archbishop Holgates School	1	Dual use/ club use	2002
Askham Bryan College	3	Dual use/ club use	1995
Bootham school	4	Dual use/ club use	1999
Burnholme Community College	4	Dual use/ club use	1995
Burnholme Community College	1	Dual use/ club use	1995
Cannon Lee School	4	Dual use/ club use	2006
David Lloyd Club	3	Membership with community access agreement	2003
Energise	6	Public	2010
Huntington School	4	Dual use/ club use	2000
Huntington School	1	Dual use/ club use	2000
Joseph Rowntree School	4	Dual use/ club use	2010
Manor School	4	Dual use/ club use	2009
Millthorpe School	4	Dual use/ club use	1985
Millthorpe School	1	Dual use/ club use	1985
Mount school	4	Dual use/ club use	2000
St Peter's School	4	Dual use/ club use	1985
St Peter's School	3	Dual use/ club use	1985
St Peter's School	1	Dual use/ club use	1985
University of York	11	Membership & Public	1986
University of York	4	Membership & Public	1986
York College	6	Dual use/ club use	2007
York Railway Institute	9	Community club	1884/ 2003
York St John University.	3	Dual use/ club use	2003



Number	Name of Facility
1	Archbishop Holgate's School
2	Askham Bryan College
3	Bootham School
4	Burnholme Community College
5	Canon Lee School
6	David Lloyd Club
7	Energise
8	Huntington School
9	Joseph Rowntree School
10	Manor Church of England School
11	Millthorpe School
12	Mount School
13	St Peter's School
14	University of York
15	York College
16	York Railway Institute
17	York St John University

Facilities Planning Model Analysis

5.6
Sport England has undertaken an analysis of the FPM data for York's sports halls based on the facilities registered in the national facilities audit. These match the list of halls in the table below.

	York	National	Yorkshire region
Number of sports halls	24	5598	603
Number of sports hall sites	17	4000	402
Supply of publicly available hall space in courts (scaled with hours available in peak period)	75	16853	1733
Courts per 10,000 population	4.6	4.01	4.07
Demand in courts (with comfort factor included)	60	14998	1534
% of demand satisfied	94%	91%	90%
Unmet demand (expressed in court numbers.	4	1353	149

5.7
York has 4.6 courts per 10,000 in the population. This is higher than the national and regional level and similar to other Local Authorities, that the Office of National Statistics consider to be comparable to York.

5.8
The network and distribution of halls means users in York are more able to reach provision on foot or by public transport than the national and regional averages.

5.9
With the comfort factor applied (assuming 80% maximum utilization) and taking in to account the distribution of facilities, court space in York satisfies 94% of demand. This is higher than the national figure of 91% and the regional figure of 90%.

5.10
Sport England's basic statistical analysis indicates a crude supply/demand surplus of 15 badminton courts in the city. However taking into account availability during peak hours, capacity and accessibility and quality there is unmet demand for an additional 4 courts. Mapping the unmet demand indicates that this is fairly evenly spread across the city.

Quality and Accessibility

5.11
The age, quality and accessibility of the sports halls in the city vary considerably. Most of the school sites are only available outside school hours and operate predominantly on a block booking basis, which is appropriate for community clubs but does not offer facilities for casual activities. These sites generally have car parking and some disabled access provision. Changing and ancillary facilities on school sites are generally basic.

5.12
The main hall at the Railway institute (RI) is in an old engine shed adjacent to the railway station. This is the largest sports hall in the city and is home to a number of community clubs, has extensive use by local schools, is used by Badminton England for regional competitions and is a historic landmark in the city. The facilities are not purpose built for sport and there is scope for changing, lighting and access improvements. The RI facilities are close to a potential area for extensive development in the city (York Central). As part of any plans for York Central it will be important to secure the long term future of the site and for the Council and NGBs to support the Institute to respond to the current and future needs of participants.

5.13
Approximately 25% of households in the city are home to someone with a long term limiting disability. There is a need to ensure general access to all facilities but there is also a need to address the specific demand for specialist disability sports provision. The city has many disability sports clubs, including multi sports, goal ball, indoor bowls (addressed in more detail in Section 7), wheelchair basketball, football and boccia. These activities take place across the city, including York St John University, University of York and Energise. There are 2 permanent boccia courts marked out on the sports hall floor at Energise, other venues use temporary markings.

5.14
The City currently has 92 courts but when availability during peak hours is factored in this is reduced to 75 courts. The analysis above identifies unmet demand for a further four courts. Increasing available hours during peak periods of the existing facilities may be sufficient to meet this unmet demand as it is evenly spread across the city.

Future Issues

5.15

Crude calculations substituting the current population for the population estimates for 2030 in the FPM indicate an anticipated growth in demand of approximately 7 courts. How this affects the unmet demand for provision will be dependant on the location of residential development in the city, but it is clear that added pressure will be put on the existing facilities. The localised impact of major new residential developments will need to be reviewed as part of the planning process.

5.16

Looking forward there are a number of key issues affecting sports development and sports halls in York. These include:

- Fulford School currently has no sports hall. P.E. takes place in a small activity hall, outdoors, or senior pupils occasionally walk to the University of York's sports facilities. The school and community have plans to deliver a combined school and community sports hall when the funding becomes available. This is dependant on an increase in the local population through the development of housing in the Germany Beck area.
- As part of the development of the University of York's Heslington East campus, the University have a requirement to address the need for indoor sports provision and provide up to a 12 court hall. The completion of the Campus is likely to take up to 20 years. This presents an opportunity for the University and city partners to plan a facility that best meets the growing needs of the city.
- Burnholme Community College is closing in Summer 2014. The future of the site has not yet been determined. It is important that the publicly accessible sports hall is retained. The loss of this hall would leave a large area to the East of the city centre outside the catchment area of any sports halls. This site may also present opportunities to increase the opening hours of the sports hall, and improve broader community access.
- York St John University acquired the former Nestle sports facilities on Haxby Rd in 2012. Their 4 phased masterplan for major and ambitious facility development includes site improvements and temporary changing in the completed phase 1and the development of two new AGPs in phase 2. Future phases will include modern imaginatively designed, indoor sports hall space.
- City of York Council is in the process of procuring a developer for the new Community stadium and an operator for this and the other council owned sports facilities. This may present opportunities to develop new sports hall space with spectator provision as part of a review of the city's facilities mix.

Consultation

5.17
This document was subject to a six week public consultation period as part of the Local Plan Preferred Options consultation. Comments received about sports halls as part of this exercise have been reflected, where appropriate in this section and in the action plan at Section 11.

5.18
Schools comments have highlighted that the city has two schools without sports halls. Both walk to their nearest community facility. All Saints school uses the RI, while Fulford school pupils walk the University of York.

5.19
Community clubs are not fully aware that there are community use agreements at a number of school and commercial facilities across the city. Many clubs also commented on the difficulty of booking school facilities, the need to make termly bookings and to pay block invoices.

5.20
Badminton England have committed to supporting a project to protect and shape the future of the Railway Institute facilities. They are keen to maintain their relationship with the city and with the RI site in particular. York is identified in Badminton England's whole sport plan as a priority one area for England.

5.21
Basketball, hockey and badminton clubs all commented on the lack of spectator provision at any of the city's sports halls. This limits the city's capacity to hold competitions and to showcase the sports.

5.22
England Basketball commented that in York, the majority of halls either don't have basketball provision or are single court halls. The university appear to have the only multi court hall suitable for 1 or more basketball courts. The single court halls are suitable for their participation programmes, Ball Again, IM Basketball and Satellite Clubs but would not be suitable for their national league club/premier senior competitions. Badminton England does not consider York as a priority for capital investment for 2014-17.

5.23
Officers from City of York Council's Sport and Active Leisure team are part of the team who are working with Fulford School to develop plans for a school and community sports hall. They consider this to be a unique opportunity to benefit from developer investment in sport and to create a modern multi functional sports hall that would address the city's unmet demand for sports hall space. The team are also working with Badminton England, the RI and council development teams to address the long term future of the RI in the city centre. Officers from this team are also working with community partners to shape the short and longer term future of the Burnholme Community College site.

Community Halls

5.24
There are many multi functional community centres and halls and village halls across the city. These provide much valued and used community space for a wide range of activities. They are managed by a wide range of organisations, but primarily by community and voluntary sector groups. These halls provide space for parties, arts groups, youth activities, nurseries and fitness and dance sessions. In general these venues do not cater directly for formal sports activities and therefore they have been excluded from this analysis. However the value of retaining these halls is reflected in the community facilities section of the emerging Local Plan.

Conclusions

5.25
There is a small shortage of sports hall provision in the city of up to 4 courts, which is likely to grow to approximately 11 courts by 2030. A higher than average proportion of the demand for sports hall space is satisfied by the facilities in York.

5.26
In order to cater for the current demand and plan for the future growth there is a need to protect and enhance the existing facilities. Projects to improve community access and ancillary facilities on school sites should be supported. This should include the retention and expansion of provision at the sports hall at Burnholme Community College

5.27
There is opportunity to capitalise on the city's reputation for accessible high quality disability sport and a need to continually improve the city's provision, by creating specialist disability sport venues, including permanent markings for boccia and new age curling.

5.28
To raise the profile of indoor sports in the city and create opportunities for income generation through spectator revenue, projects to develop new sports hall facilities should include analysis of the potential to incorporate spectator provision. This should be done in consultation with local community clubs, and the relevant NGBs.

5.29
Support should be given to a project to develop a sports hall for the Fulford community on the Fulford school site.

5.30
There is a need for partners to work together to safeguard the future of the indoor sports facilities at the RI. A primary issue will be to ensure that the potential York Central commercial and residential development does not lead to an overall loss of sports facilities. In addition work must be undertaken to secure the site for long term sports use. Once these tasks are complete there should be a programme of refurbishment and modernisation to meet the needs of future participants.

5.31
The requirement to provide indoor sports hall space should be included in all major residential developments in the future. Provision should be required at a rate to maintain the current level of provision per 10,000 (4.6 courts).

Section 6: Artificial Grass Pitches

Current Provision

6.1

An assessment of Sport England's Active Places data and club and partner consultation has identified that the city currently has 9 Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) on 9 separate sites. Two other sites in the city have 5 a side pens which are hired on a commercial basis. Two additional pitches are being developed on Haxby Rd. In addition there is a two thirds sized 3G pitch on the Burnholme Community College site. A further two community clubs have recently resurfaced poor quality Multi Use Games Areas with artificial grass surfaces to provide all weather training facilities for their teams and others to hire. This audit of provision includes all full sized artificial grass surfaces including sand based and 3G surfaces.

Adequacy of Current Provision

6.2

The table below lists the AGPs in the city that have been considered in the pitch supply and demand analysis. The map overleaf shows the locations of the pitches.

6.3

The pitches at York College and York Sports Village are 3G surfaces specifically for football use. All of the others are sand based surfaces most suitable for Hockey, but used for football and rugby training and multi sport P.E. teaching.

Name of Facility	Dimensions	Date of construction/ refurbishment	Facility Capacity in visits per week in the peak period
Canon Lee School	100 x 60m	2011	740
Energise	102 x 65m	1995/ 2005	740
Huntington School	100 x 60m	1999/ 2010	628
Manor Church of England School	100 x 60m	2009	740
St Peter's School	100 x 60m	2009	100
University of York	93 x 58m	1996/ 2004	740
York College	105 x 71m	2007	715
York Sports Village	100 x 60m	2012	740
York St John University	100 x 60m	1999	740

6.4
The pitch at St Peter's School has no floodlighting and therefore is unable to offer access during many of the peak hours of demand, but does have a community use agreement offering access during holidays and outside school hours.

6.5
The map below shows a relatively even distribution of publicly accessible artificial grass pitches across the city. Overlaying a 20 minute walking time catchment for each facility shows that Haxby, Wigginton, Strensall and Fulford all fall outside the catchment areas of all pitches. A small area of Heworth Without also falls outside a pitch catchment area, however this area is served by a three quarter sized community 3G pitch at Burnholme Community College.

Facilities Planning Model Analysis

6.6
Sport England has undertaken an analysis of the FPM data for York's AGPs based on the facilities registered in the national facilities audit. These match the list of pitches in the table above.

6.7
York's population is estimated to generate demand for 5,240 AGP visits per week in the peak period. It would take just over 7.1 AGPs operating at full capacity over the peak hours to meet this level of demand, if York residents had 'perfect mobility' (that is travel was not problematic in terms of access, cost and time). However there is not perfect mobility in York, one in five of the population is without access to a car, and they are reliant on AGPs being within walking distance or being served by public transport.

6.8
When availability during the peak hours is factored in to pitch supply, York is considered to have a supply of 8 AGPs. This indicates that supply of AGPs is sufficient to meet current demand. However there are still small pockets of unmet demand for facilities. The location of York's AGPs (relative to the location of demand) and the hours of operation during the peak periods combine to mean that 99.1% of AGP demand is satisfied by supply. This is significantly higher than the national and regional figures of 79.9% and 72% respectively and places York second highest for AGP provision in the country.

	York	National	Yorkshire region
Number of pitches	9	1799	148
Supply of publicly available pitches (scaled with hours available)	7.9	1435.7	124.6
Pitches per 10,000	0.45	0.34	0.27
Pitch demand in pitch equivalents	7.1	1679.8	176.3
Level of satisfied demand	99.1%	79.9%	72%

Quality and Accessibility

6.9
The majority of the AGP facilities in the city are in good condition and easily accessible. The oldest pitch is the one at York St John University, where the surface was laid in 1999 and is approaching the end of its useful life.

6.10
The pitches at Energise, Huntington School, York College, University of York, York Sports Village and Manor School all have purpose built changing facilities to serve the pitches. York St John University has a temporary changing facility to serve the pitch. Cannon Lee and St Peter's schools' pitches are both served by school changing facilities. Parking provision on most sites is good, with some restrictions on capacity and access to parking on the York St John University site.

6.11
All of the sand based pitches serve a similar market, predominantly hockey matches and training, with some football and rugby training, with 5-a –side football bookings as an income generator. Pricing and booking arrangements are similar across all sites.

6.12
There is no specific Hockey development or training venue. England Hockey provided some grant funding for the resurfacing of Huntington School pitch, and this venue hosts junior hockey camps and training. However City of York Hockey Club play matches and train across the city wherever there is availability. The club are keen to develop a water based hockey pitch and a dedicated club facility but in the absence of available funding or a suitable site they have supported the development of the pitch at Manor School, Cannon Lee, and the resurfacing of the pitch at Huntington School. The replacement pitch at the University of York is also a sand dressed pitch prioritising hockey usage.

6.13
Only two of the pitches are 3G (football specific) surfaces. A ratio of five pitches to two in favour of sand based does not reflect the number of teams of each of the sports in the city. Active York's playing pitch strategy identifies the shortage of dedicated mini and junior football pitches, the need for new 9v9 pitches to meet the new FA requirements and the difficulty clubs have in accessing floodlit training facilities. Additional 3G facilities may be one way to address many of these shortages.

Projections

6.14
Population growth over the next 10 years will increase the demand for facilities to 8.1 pitches. This will leave the city with a small shortage in provision unless another pitch is developed.

6.15
York St John University are now developing two new AGPs on the former Nestle sports fields on Haxby Rd. One pitch will be a 3G, the other a sand dressed surface. The information above and the responses to the club and NGB consultation (details below) have indicated that there is, or will shortly be a demand for an additional 3G pitch (or the equivalent of one additional pitch during peak periods). The project is being developed in partnership with community clubs, and City of York

Council sport and active leisure officers. This project has been stimulated by the high internal demand for these pitches for student sport, including training and competition. This is in addition to demand for teaching space on degree programmes in sport and exercise science and related subjects. These facilities will also offer the opportunity for extensive sports development programmes and the capacity and quality to draw in new participants. Following the opening of these pitches it is likely that the existing York st John pitch users will be relocated to the new pitches.

Consultation

6.16
This document was subject to a 6 week consultation as part of the Local Plan Preferred Options consultation. Comments and issues raised through this process are reflected here and in the action plan at Section 11 of this Strategy.

6.17
City of York Hockey Club have highlighted their desire to have a home match and training base for their club. They currently hire AGPs across the city for matches and training for their teams (they have over 40 teams across all age ranges). The club has no specific home base (besides a club house which has no match or training facilities on site) which leads to problems with player and volunteer retention in addition to very high facility hire costs. The club have been working for a number of years to try to find a new base where they can develop a hockey development centre (with one water based pitch and one sand dressed pitch) and a club base.

6.18
The FA commented that: the FA's supply and demand model highlights the need for 6.5 full size or equivalent 3G AGP's to meet the demand for football in York. It is the FA's ambition to provide sufficient 3G pitches to allow every affiliated team the opportunity to train for one hour per week on a 3G pitch as well as having a partnership agreement in place for each Charter Standard Community club to be a key partner with a 3G provider. Investment into 3G pitches is very high on our agenda and a significant amount of our investment is being targeted at new build and refurbishing existing AGP's to support the key objectives within the FA's Facilities Strategy. Sand based AGP's are of limited value to football and the strategy for delivering the shortfall of 3G pitches can be met by a combination of new builds and refurbishing existing sand based facilities to address the current bias within York. The FA's current proposals are that football demand can be met by;

- York College- retain the full size 3G.
- University of York - retain the full size 3G
- York St John's University- develop a new full size 3G
- Burnholme- retain the current Mini Soccer size 3G
- Manor School- FA to offer to help finance the resurfacing of the existing full size pitch if management arrangements can be put in place to accommodate the Hockey club on the remaining sand based pitches at St johns, York University, Canon Lee, Energise and Huntington.
- Dunnington Sports Club- develop a Mini Soccer size 3G on the clubs site.
- Hopgrove Playing Fields- resurface the existing MUGA

6.19
Many community clubs commented on the need to use AGPs for training due to the poor quality of many grass pitches, which can be prone to flooding, and the lack of flood lit grass pitches in the city. They also sited the high cost of AGP hire as a barrier to this use. Clubs are also finding difficulties in booking casual or one off sessions on AGPs and are being limited to termly or seasonal bookings.

Conclusions

6.20
There is a need to protect and enhance the existing pitches to ensure that pitch supply continues to satisfy the demand for AGP facilities.

6.21
Active York and city partners should work with the FA and community clubs to develop additional 3G pitches across the city. These facilities should be directly linked to community clubs and specifically those who have a shortage of grass pitches, as identified in Active York's playing pitch strategy.

6.22
There is a need to ensure that AGPs priced at a rate that does not exclude community club training access. Consideration should be given to encouraging differential pricing to support club training.

6.23
City planners, sports partners and England Hockey should work with City of York Hockey Club to identify opportunities to develop a dedicated hockey match and training venue that doesn't have a negative impact on the other existing facilities. If funding and land issues allow this should include a water based pitch. Where possible this should be delivered in partnership with an existing facility provider, on the same site as an existing sand based pitch. This is to ensure that there is continued use of existing facilities, and that York does not create a situation where supply significantly exceeds demand.

6.24
The provision of pitches needs to be continually monitored: whilst there is a strong network of hockey clubs in York, provision is currently predominantly sand-based and therefore skewed towards hockey's preferences. Where the need arises to replace carpets, provided the site does not host a hockey club, consideration should be given to rebalancing the stock towards 3G rubber crumb pitches in partnership with the FA.

6.25
Major housing developments being proposed in the city's local plan will significantly increase demand for AGPs in localised areas. This will be most pronounced in the areas near Huntington, Clifton Moor and to the South East of the A64. Provision for community facilities including AGPs should be a requirement of these major developments and there should be a requirement to maintain provision at its current level of 0.45 pitches per 10,000 in the population.

Section 7: Indoor Bowls

Current Provision

7.1
The city currently has two indoor bowls facilities, one on the west of the city and the other on the north east. Both clubs are located in the heart of major residential areas. Each facility also has meeting, catering and social facilities. Both facilities are operated by voluntary sector community sports clubs.

Adequacy of Current Provision

7.2
We have performed a rough analysis of the relationship between the provision of indoor bowls clubs and demand for these facilities using Sport England's online facilities calculator, found at www.sportengalnd.org

7.3
This analysis has shown that the city population creates a demand for 2.05 indoor bowls centres. It indicates that there is a very small under supply in provision. If the anticipated population for 2030 is used in this calculator, the results indicate that there will be a shortage of 0.4 indoor centres by this time.

7.4
As with the majority of indoor bowls facilities, both of the clubs in York are used more heavily in the winter than in the summer as many bowlers move outside to play in the summer season, and are members of both an indoor club and an outdoor one.

7.5
Both facilities are located on popular and frequently served bus routes, and have a large amount of on site parking. Both sites also have full disability access. Both sites are located within population centres with a high proportion of residents from the 55+ age ranges. The membership of both clubs is predominantly from the 50+ population and many members are social members only.

7.6
Both facilities have live projects to improve the heating, lighting and ventilation of their playing facilities to ensure year round playing comfort but also to control fuel costs and to ensure the long term sustainability of the facilities.

7.7
New Earswick Indoor Bowls Club is the home to the city's disability bowls club and the city's boccia club. In order to provide additional activities for their local community, during the summer season when many players move outside, half of the rinks are covered over with wood panelling to create an indoor sports surface. This is used for boccia, badminton, fitness and dance sessions. This is a valuable facility both for the community and for the club, as it provides the opportunity to attract new participants, new members and additional income.

7.8
York & District Indoor Bowls Club is a partner in the City's joint community initiative to make York a Dementia friendly city. Staff at the centre have been engaged in training programmes and designing activities which target those with recent dementia diagnoses and are designed to keep people active and stimulated for longer.

Consultation

7.9
There has been an increase in the amount of work being done in the city by the Bowls Development Alliance. In response to consultation questions they have identified the need to retain both of the indoor bowls facilities in the city. As they "consider both facilities to be essential for the continuation of the sport in the city".

7.10
The questionnaire response from New Earswick Indoor Bowls Club highlights the club's central role in the community, the range of activities offered and the need to retain and increase club members. The club also highlighted the need for investment in the facilities to ensure its future and its appeal to members. The site is in need of a new playing carpet, as well as improved ventilation/ heating and lighting systems.

7.11
The city's Valuing People Partnership Board have carried out consultation with both adults and young people with learning disabilities to establish the demand for sports (and other leisure) activities. Over a third of respondents wanted to participate in some form of bowling and a fifth wanted to participate in Boccia. Both of these activities are provided specifically for this client group at New Earswick Indoor Bowls Club in partnership with Special Olympics City of York.

Conclusions

7.12
There is a need to protect and enhance both centres to ensure that facility supply continues to satisfy the demand for indoor bowls.

7.13
Projects to enhance the quality and range of facilities at both centres should be supported. In particular support should be given to projects which enhance the offer for those with a long term limiting disability or older people.

7.14
In partnership with the Bowls Alliance, continually monitor the mix and quality of indoor and outdoor bowls facilities to make sure that provision responds to the needs of the community. As the cost of maintaining outdoor courts increases and participation in the outdoor game continues to decrease, consideration may need to be given to increasing the level of indoor provision to retain players and cater for the anticipated population growth.

Section 8: Specialist Indoor Provision

Current Provision

8.1
This section addresses the provision and adequacy of some specialist indoor sports facilities. These include:

- Squash
- Climbing
- Indoor tennis
- Gymnastics
- Health & Fitness

8.2
These sports have been selected following consultation with community clubs, facility providers and City of York Council's sport and active leisure officers.

Adequacy of Current Provision

8.3
The table below gives details of the level of facility provision and demand for some specific indoor sports. This data has been gathered from Sport England's Active Places website, stakeholder consultation and local knowledge and databases held by the City of York Council's sport and active leisure team.

Sport	Facilities	Clubs/ Usage
Squash	Six squash facilities, • Dunnington Sports Association. • York Sports Club • University of York • York Railway Institute • Wigginton Sports Association • David Lloyd Sports Club. There is pay and play access at the York Railway Institute and the University of York courts.	There are 6 major clubs, 1 operating out of each of the facilities. Each club has different sections and age groups playing a range of recreational and competitive games.
Climbing	Two climbing facilities. • Climbing wall and bouldering at Energise. • Bouldering facility at Red Goat. Both facilities offer both pay and play access and membership	There are alpine, mountaineering and climbing clubs in the city, including York Alpine club and University clubs, however most indoor facility usage is individual and recreational. Users of the facilities include beginners receiving tuition, children's parties and experienced individual climbers who climb without supervision.

Sport	Facilities	Clubs/ Usage
Indoor Tennis	One facility with six courts. This is at David Lloyd Sports Club. The site is a commercial, members gym, but has a community access agreement with City of York Council, which allows for some junior, non member access. Planning permission has recently been granted for University of York to erect a tennis dome to cover three of their courts to provide year round tennis opportunities.	The main users of the indoor courts are members of the gym. However through negotiation between the (Lawn Tennis Association) LTA the club and City of York Council, opportunities have been created for a talent pathway programme for young local club players. Local schools are also able to access the courts for coaching sessions.
Gymnastics	One purpose built gymnasium with permanent equipment and fitted trampolines at Heworth Croft. Gymnastics clubs also operate out of other sports halls in the city.	The gymnastics foundation in Heworth is well used by gymnasts of all ages and abilities. There are waiting lists for most of the junior and beginner activities. There are 3 other clubs operating out of school sports halls outside school hours. Two of these clubs have approached City of York Council for assistance in finding a permanent, purpose designed facility.
Health & Fitness/ Gym facilities.	HTh The city has 20 fitness gyms, (17 of which have public access) 6 of these have over 80 stations. The gyms include hotel spas with public membership, commercial fitness facilities and a council run site with pay and play access. The city has 3.7% of the region's gym facilities but 4% of the region's population.	10.8% of the York population participate in gym based health & fitness activities at least once a month. This makes gym based health & fitness the third highest participation sport in York. Most participation is through membership of commercial fitness facilities.

Squash

8.4

Since the decline in squash participation (and the subsequent closure of a number of facilities) in the 1990s, participation has stabilised in the city. Facility provision is spread fairly evenly across the city, with the exception of the north eat of the city which has no access to squash facilities. All of the city's facilities have strong clubs. However many of the courts in the city are becoming dated and some ancillary facilities are in need of modernisation. York and Wigginton squash clubs have recently been awarded money from Sport England's inspired facilities fund to resurface their courts and improve the energy efficiency of the buildings. Dunnington Squash club applied for funding (Winter 2013) from the same programme to refurbish their courts but were unsuccessful. Coaching and development programmes are available at all sites, with casual play actively encouraged at the RI.

Climbing

8.5

The three facilities in the city offer different climbing opportunities on a pay and play basis. The Energise facility has 10 and 13m walls and a bouldering area. The site also has a climbing harness to offer climbing opportunity for those with physical disabilities. The Red Goat centre is a commercial, public access bouldering facility. A new climbing wall has also been opened at Askham Bryan College. A small outdoor youth bouldering facility is also available at Rawcliffe Country Park.

Indoor Tennis

8.6

The city's only indoor tennis provision is in a commercial leisure club. The facilities are well used by members and are accessed by a junior development squad (supported by the Lawn and Tennis Association (LTA)) and some local schools. The LTA facility plans set out the ambition to have an indoor tennis facility within 20 minutes drive time of every home. York does not meet this standard but the location of the facility does make it readily accessible from the city centre and the ring road, and it is on a number of bus routes.

8.7

Local tennis clubs are keen to get access to indoor or covered court space. The University of York also has planning approval for an inflatable tennis dome to cover three of their courts. The dome was first used in the spring of 2014 and is intended for use annually throughout the Autum, Winter and Spring. This application was supported by LTA and Fulford and Dunnington tennis clubs who are both to have access to the covered courts. This site is also due to become the home of tennis for people with a visual impairment.

Gymnastics

8.8

The purpose built facilities at York Gymnastics Foundation are well used and popular. Many areas of the building are in their original condition and in need of some modernisation. However the primary issue is the growth in participation which has seen long waiting lists at the YGF and the establishment of a number of other clubs in multi use venues. Equipment

has to be set up and dismantled before and after each session. Provision is also limited to outside school hours as these clubs operate out of school sports halls. These clubs are looking for opportunities to expand their range of activities and hours of operation.

Health & Fitness

8.9
Gym provision and participation is thriving in the city. Facilities range from small facilities in hotels with approximately 20 fitness stations to large scale facilities with 80 or more stations catering for a broad range of users and offering a mixed programme. Many of the facilities are involved in partnership initiatives, including offering running groups and venues for community events. The quality and accessibility of the facilities also varies. Recently a large facility with 200 stations opened offering low cost memberships. This may attract a new group of participants into the market. Two sites offer pay as you go access following an initial induction. All others require users to pay monthly memberships. There are a number of additional small gyms which offer weight training facilities or access for particular communities of users.

8.10
York has 27 facilities offering 1405 stations. Using Sport England's Active Places Power tools we have compared this to our closest comparator authorities Bath and North East Somerset and Warrington which have 34 facilities and 1020 stations and 28 facilities and 1894 stations respectively. The facilities in York are well integrated into the sports networks, with access being made available to school groups, groups supporting those with medical conditions and offering corporate memberships. Many of the fitness facilities also offer fitness classes including spinning and swimming pool space. The gym at Energise has inclusive fitness initiative accreditation and is used by disability groups and the city's GP referral scheme. Opportunities should be taken to extend this accreditation to other facilities in the city and broaden the range of opportunities available to these users.

Consultation

8.11
This document was subject to a 6 week consultation exercise, comments received during this time about specialist indoor facilities have been incorporated, in this section and the action plan at section 11 of this document.

8.12
Dunnington Squash Club responded to the club questionnaire, describing their storage provision as poor, and both changing and spectator facilities as adequate. They also reported that they have future plans to extend the range of facilities on offer and to refurbish their existing facilities.

8.13
Recent consultation with the LTA has helped to identify the need for additional covered court space in the city. Those in the South of the city will be served by the provision at the University of York, but there is no provision for clubs in the north of the city.

8.14
Both Illusions Gymnastics and The Partnership Gymnastics Club are looking to build on their success, in opposite sides of the city, to develop a permanent base, where equipment can be left up and activities can be offered at different times of the day for new groups of participants.

Conclusions

8.15
There is a need to protect and enhance the existing facilities to ensure ongoing opportunities to participate in these sports.

8.16
There is a need for planners and sport partners to support projects to modernise squash facilities. Projects should include improvements to ancillary facilities, lighting, court surfaces and building energy efficiency.

8.17
There are three modern climbing facilities which offer public access and respond to market forces.

8.18
There is demand for covered tennis courts from local clubs and coaches to allow year round participation. The University of York should be supported to deliver their tennis project during 2013.

8.19
The York Gymnastics foundation is well used and popular. There is a demand for additional specialist gymnastics provision in the city. The feasibility of developing a new facility should be explored with British Gymnastics and the clubs involved.

8.20
There is high participation in gym based fitness and 27 public gym facilities. Work is needed to establish whether there is unmet demand for new facilities, or barriers to access to existing facilities.

8.21
Opportunities to expand the health and fitness offer to communities who currently participate least including for those with long term medical conditions and those with long term limiting disabilities should be actively pursued.

Section 9: Specialist Outdoor Provision

Current Provision

9.1
This section considers the provision of and the demand for a range of specialist outdoor sports facilities. These include:

- Water sports - including Rowing, Sailing, and Canoeing.
- Cycling - Including mountain biking, track cycling, and BMX facilities,
- Athletics

9.2
The range of facilities being addressed her has been selected in response to National Governing Bodies, club and stakeholder comments. These sports, are all developing, high profile facility projects in the city that it is appropriate to address here.

Adequacy of Current Provision

Water sports

9.3
The city has one community rowing club, two sailing clubs and a canoeing club. Each of these has a facility located on the banks of the river Ouse. The city's two universities also have clubs in each of these sports. Both also have a boat house on the River. St Peter's school also has a boat house and teaches rowing to its pupils and hosts a community club. St Peter's school, with the support of British Rowing are investigating the potential of expanding their boat house to improve the facilities and offer a more extensive coaching programme.

9.4
All of the community clubs are operating at capacity. British success on the water at the 2008 and 2012 Olympics has seen a considerable growth in demand for these sports. The boat houses, changing facilities, slip ways/ water access and storage are dated and in need of expansion or modernisation. The river is one of the best for rowing in the North of England and has the capacity to be developed as a major sport venue for the city. This will call for strong partnership working, vision and creativity.

9.5
York City Rowing Club has been working on a project for a number of years to increase storage capacity, changing and dry training facilities, as well as access to the facilities. British Rowing and City of York Council are working with them to develop a scheme that meets the needs of the club, opens access up to those with a physical disability and helps the facilities withstand the regular flooding that currently affects the site. The club have planning approval for the project but have not yet been able to secure sufficient funding to deliver the project.

9.6
York Canoe Club has a long waiting list for membership. They have plans to offer more junior coaching and to increase membership in all sections but are hampered in their development plans by not having access to their own boat house; they share with a university rowing club. They have recently taken on some storage facilities in Rowntree Park.

9.7
The city's two sailing clubs are operating out of cramped and dated facilities. They are both keen to increase the storage and club capacity of their facilities and improve access. A recent application by Yorkshire Ouse sailing club, supported by the Royal Yachting Association, to Sport England's inspired facilities fund was unsuccessful.

Cycling

9.8
The city is well regarded for its network of on and off road cycle tracks and its record for increasing cycling as a form of transport and recreation. However, until recently there was little specialist sports cycling provision.

9.9
In 2012 a joint project was agreed between British Cycling, City of York Council and the University of York to develop a 1km closed circuit cycle track beside the York Sports Village. The track opened in 2013 and is offering cycle training, accessible cycling, track training and competition. It is essential that the development continues to ensure that the track is accompanied by appropriate storage, club and changing facilities.

9.10
There are two small BMX tracks in play areas in the north and west of the city. There are indoor and outdoor BMX ramps in Rowntree Park, and the Zoo Skate Park. In 2012 a BMX Pump track was developed using lottery funding for young people's provision in a wooded area of Rawcliffe Country Park. This facility is small but well used, predominantly by local young people. City of York Council play, parks and sports staff, have recently agreed plans for the expansion of this track in 2014.

9.11
British Cycling has also recently given support to an outdoor velodrome in the city. This is currently under construction at York sports village and is due to open in July 2014. The recent announcement that the city will host the start of the second day of the Tour-de-France Grand depart in 2014 has increased the interest and enthusiasm in having modern, accessible cycling facilities to provide a sporting legacy. British Cycling and the University of York are continuing to work together to create a modern inclusive home for sports cycling.

9.12
British Cycling have commented that "we have been working closely with the University of York to provide cycle sport facilities in the city, and have already completed a closed road circuit which opened earlier this year. We are currently developing a design for an outdoor 250m velodrome on the same site, and intend to produce mountain bike trails as the third phase of the project".

Athletics

9.13
York currently has the only public synthetic athletics track and competition facility in the county. This facility is at Huntington Stadium. In 2012 outline planning permission was granted for the demolition of Huntington Stadium and the construction of a new community stadium for football and rugby league on the site. Under the terms of this approval the council have an obligation to re-provide the athletics facilities elsewhere in the city prior to the opening of the new stadium.

9.14
The current facilities are in poor condition and have suffered from a lack of maintenance in recent years. Some elements of the facilities no longer meet current competition requirements e.g. long and triple jump pits should be outside the track perimeter, those at Huntington Stadium are within the track. Planning permission has been granted for a new track to be created in partnership with the University of York at the University's sports centre. The plans did not include the provision of any club, spectator or changing facilities. It is essential that these facilities are included in the project to ensure that City of York Athletics Club is able to continue training and competing at their current level, and to continue their development.

Consultation

9.15
This document was subject to a 6 week consultation exercise, comments received during this time about specialist indoor facilities have been incorporated, into the findings and recommendations in this section and in the action plan at section 11.

9.16
York City Rowing Club responded to the club questionnaire to confirm that they have plans to refurbish their facilities and increase their membership. Their building was built in 1952 and is in need of modernisation.

9.17
The response from York St John University Boat Club stressed the vulnerability of the boat house to flooding and the need to design facilities to accommodate this. They also reported that they are putting plans in place for a new boat house.

9.18
St Peter's Boat Club responded to the consultation saying that they are keen to work with city partners to consider ways to provide a larger modern facility. They rated their club's heating, lighting, changing, spectator provision and storage as poor.

9.19
City of York Athletics Club has confirmed that they are a committed partner in the Community Stadium project and are working with the City of York Council and the University of York to ensure that the proposed facilities meet their needs. They have concerns about the quality of the club and spectator facilities but welcome the planned provision of a full eight lane track. They are still working with the partners to confirm the details of their access to the new facilities.

Conclusions

9.20
There is a need to protect and enhance the existing facilities available for each of these specialist outdoor sports.

9.21
There is a clear need from all of the water sport clubs for improved and refurbished facilities. There is a need for partnership working between the clubs, the Universities and the water sport NBGs to develop creative projects to meet the needs of the current users but also to inspire and support new communities of participants.

9.22
There is opportunity to create new sports cycling facilities in the city. Partnership working is needed between British Cycling, the University of York, cycling clubs and those responsible for delivering creative projects as part of the Tour de France legacy programme.

9.23
Work must continue on designing and developing a new synthetic athletics track and throws' facility to ensure that the city can play a key part in delivering a regional athletics development and competition programme, including opportunities to volunteer and spectate in the sport to sustain the city's infrastructure.

Section 10: Key Issues and Recommendations

10.1
This section summarises the key issues for each of the built facility types that have been considered in this document. It then makes recommendation for how planning and sports policy makers can address these issues.

General

	Key Issue	Recommendations
G1	There is a need to protect and enhance the city's built sports facilities stock.	- The city's sport's stakeholders should work together to prioritise and support projects to modernise and refurbish existing facilities. - Built sports facilities should be included in the emerging local plan and be afforded protection. - Where appropriate, planning approval should be given to appropriate projects to refurbish and modernise facilities. - Any planning applications that propose the closure or reduction in facilities must be accompanied by evidence to demonstrate that the facility is surplus to requirements or alternative provision can be made elsewhere. Consultation with the community will be important.
G2	Many of the city's sports facilities are on school sites. It is important to ensure that the best possible recreational value is being made of these sites.	- Projects to improve school changing rooms and community access should be supported. - These facilities should be located and designed so that they can be accessed for community use without compromising the school's security. - Planning policy should ensure that sports facilities developed on school sites are accompanied by an appropriate community use agreement.

	Key Issue	Recommendations
G3	As large scale residential schemes are developed, provision of sports facilities in the area and the priority actions in this strategy should be reviewed to ensure that developer's contributions are being targeted at local community priorities.	- Sports partners should maintain and update the action plan in this strategy. They should be clear on priority projects and the justification behind them. Where applicable the projects should be supported with the use of Section 106 funding. - Planning partners should ensure that developer's contributions are sought for all major developments, and that it is clear to developers that they have an obligation to address the sporting needs of the new residents.
G4	The city enjoys high sports participation rates and a high rate and standard of facility provision. It is important to maintain this balance as the population continues to grow and the demographics of the city continue to shift.	- Sport partners must continue to be involved in planning for public health/ physical activity. The importance of sport for quality of life and the need for it to be included in spatial and service developments must be supported. - Planning policy must ensure that future spatial planning includes the need for sports and physical activity opportunities as a contributor to public health.

Swimming

	Key Issue	Recommendations
S1	Pool supply and demand balance indicate that supply outweighs demand by approximately 943m^2. However all pools are well used and serve different communities of users.	- City of York Council sports officers and Active York partners must ensure that the needs of users are understood and represented in all plans for future facility changes. - Planning policy must ensure that any proposals to reduce the provision must follow a period of consultation and be able to evidence that the water space is surplus to requirements.

	Key Issue	Recommendations
S2	There is a need to ensure that the current pool stock is well maintained. Some modernisation is needed at some school sites, Waterworld and New Earswick pools.	- Sports and swimming stakeholders must work together to identify priority projects to target available funding most effectively. - Any proposal including the refurbishment and modernisation of existing pools should be supported by the Council though the development process..
S3	Many pools are provided as part of commercial fitness facilities. There may be opportunities to work with these facilities to attract new users from target communities	- Active York, public health and City of York Council sports staff should explore opportunities to work with these gyms to run targeted activity sessions to encourage people into physical activity and potentially membership of these sites.

Sports Halls

	Key Issue	Recommendations
SH1	There is a small under supply of sport hall space, equating to approximately a 4 court hall. There is a need to retain and enhance existing sites and seek to opportunities to address the shortage of facilities. Potential exists to do this on the Fulford school site.	- Sports stakeholders must work to ensure that sports halls are protected and enhanced. They must also promote the need to address the facility shortfall and support projects to achieve this. - Planning policy should afford protection to existing facilities, and support projects to address any demonstrable shortages in provision.
SH2	There are a number of disability sports clubs in the city playing in generic sports halls. Any future developments or refurbishments need to specifically address the needs of the disability sports community.	- Sports policy must reflect the needs of disability sport, promoting the provision of appropriate ancillary facilities, and the provision of permanent courts and playing facilities.

	Key Issue	Recommendations
SH3	There are no sports hall facilities with spectator provision in the city, this reduces the potential to showcase sports activities or host sporting events. Consideration should be given to how this can be addressed.	- Sports clubs and NGBs should work together to consider the scale of provision that should be offered and how this can be achieved. - Support through the development process should be given to any appropriate proposals to address the shortage.
SH4	The largest sports hall in the city is at York RI. This facility is dated and is located close to the planned York Central development. There is a need to secure the future of the site for sport and to modernise it to meet the needs of future users.	- Council sports staff and NGBs should promote the need for this large site and work with spatial planners and sports funders to protect its future. - Planning policy must reflect the importance of this site as a built sports facility for the community, which should be taken into account in any development proposals for York Central . Any refurbishment should be in keeping with both the location and the sporting uses of the buildings.

AGPs

	Key Issue	Recommendations
AGP1	The quantity of pitch supply meets the current demand. The current facilities should be protected and enhanced to ensure that this balance is maintained. Over the next ten years population growth will lead to a demand for an additional pitch.	- Sports policy should reflect the need to retain the current quantity of facilities, and refurbish and enhance as required. - Planning policy should afford protection to the existing AGPs.
AGP2	The FA has a policy to ensure that community clubs have access to AGP space for training. They consider that the city requires two more 3G surfaced pitches in the city.	- City sports partners, community clubs and facility providers must work with the FA to develop facilities that respond to the needs of football clubs but do not lead to over provision or a negative impact on other sports.

	Key Issue	Recommendations
AGP3	City of York Hockey Club, are a large successful club with no home base. There is a need to provide a dedicated hockey development centre with appropriately surfaced pitches. This should ideally be on the site of an existing pitch to prevent the over provision of facilities.	- City sports partners must work with City of York Hockey Club and England Hockey to establish a deliverable, affordable project and prioritise its delivery. - Planning officers must work with the club and sports representatives to identify an appropriate site and recommend support for the scheme.

Indoor Bowls

	Key Issue	Recommendations
IB1	Current provision of indoor bowls meets demand. These facilities should be protected and enhanced to maintain this balance.	- Sports partners should work with the clubs to maintain and refurbish existing facilities. There is also a need to support projects to increase and improve the range of facilities and activities on offer at these centres. - The two indoor bowls facilities in the city should be protected within the local plan.
IB2	There is a decline in the outdoor game, as this continues it is important to monitor the relationship between the indoor and outdoor game and consider whether the best way to stop the decline in participation is to provide additional indoor facilities.	- Active York must work with the Bowls Alliance to prioritise facility provision.

Specialist Indoor Sports Facilities

	Key Issue	Recommendations
SQ1	The quantity of squash facilities is sufficient to meet demand but many of the facilities are dated and in need of modernisation and upgrading.	- Planning policy should afford the existing facilities protection and through the development process, support any projects to improve facilities and enhance energy efficiency of the buildings.
CL1	There are two climbing facilities in the city, both of these are open access and respond to market pressures.	- Sports partners should work with both facilities to promote participation and respond to users needs. Where appropriate work should be done to support target groups to access these facilities.
IT1	There is a need for additional covered tennis courts in the city which can be accessed by community tennis clubs.	- Sports partners should work to support projects to develop new covered tennis courts. - Planning officers should work with project developers to identify appropriate sites and develop successful projects.
Gn1	There is a purpose built gymnastics facility in the city that is well used. There are additional clubs who meet in school sports halls but with ambitions for a permanent base.	- Sports partners must work with British Gymnastics and the gymnastics clubs to establish whether a new facility achievable and viable. - Planning officers should input spatial and design advice into this feasibility review.
HF	There is high participation in Health and Fitness and 17 public facilities. Access is limited to members only in all but one facility	- Sports partners should work with the gyms to ensure that they are integrated into sports structures in the city. - Further work is needed to establish whether there is unmet demand for accessible fitness provision.

Specialist Outdoor Sports Facilities

	Key Issue	Recommendations
WS1	There are a number of water sports clubs and facilities in the city. However these are all dated, short of storage space and inaccessible. Support is needed to improve these facilities to enable the clubs to cater for a new community of participants.	- Active York and other sports stakeholders must work with water sports NGBs to develop a prioritised list of deliverable projects. - Planning policy should afford protection to the existing facilities and should reflect the need for modernisation and expansion. Appropriate proposals should be approved that meet the needs of the clubs and new participants.
C1	The city has a high rate of cycling but limited facilities for sports cycling.	- Sports stakeholders must work with British Cycling, to plan and develop an appropriate facility mix to ensure that the city offers a cycling legacy from the Tour-de-France and the 2012 Olympics. - Planning officers should work with facility developers to ensure that the project reflects the need for changing and storage facilities to support the closed circuit cycle loop. Any projects to develop new cycling opportunities should be encouraged where appropriate.
A1	York is the home of the only synthetic running track in the county. The existing track is to close and a new one is to be provided. There is a need to ensure that this facility is provided to a high standard that meets the needs of the city.	- City of York Council sports officers must work with City of York Athletics club and the community stadium project team to ensure that the re-provision of athletics facilities meets the standards required for county level competition, and allows the club appropriate access. - Trough the development of the community stadium, planning officers must recognise that to meet competitive standards the facilities approved for development at the York Sports Village must be accompanied by appropriate changing, club and spectator facilities.

Section 11: Action Plan

Built Sports Facilities Action Plan for York (Working document)

11.1
This 5 year action plan is intended to be a working document which will evolve over time. The plan must be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Reviewing and monitoring the progress of this document will be carried out by Active York. This strategy has a life span of 5 years at most but progress on the action plan will be reviewed on an annual basis.

11.2
The action plan reflects the aims and ambitions of Active York, City of York Council and our community partners. However it is recognised that the success of a number of these actions is dependant on financing, being able to address funding shortfalls and in some cases generating spatial planning and community backing.

Ref	Proposed Action	Lead	Partners	Timescale	Key recommendations to be addressed	Success Measures
A1	Ensure all sports facilities are afforded protection through the planning system and the local plan.	CYC	CYC Sport & Active leisure & Planning	2013	G1, G2, G5, G8, G11, G12, F2 F5, RL2, RU2, B1	Specific reference to the protection of sports facilities within the local plan.
A2	Ensure that the local plan reflects the need to continue to secure developer contributions, to improve the quality and quantity of existing sports facilities.	CYC	CYC Sport & Active Leisure & Planning	2013	G2, G3, WS1, IB1	Reference within the Local Plan that addresses how developer contributions can be secured either through community infrastructure levy or through existing mechanisms.
A3	Create a standard planning condition to be attached to a planning permission to enable the effective use of community use agreements	CYC	CYC Sport & Active Leisure & Planning	2014	G2, G4	Standard planning condition in place and where appropriate community use of new facilities secured in the long term.
A4	Modernise changing and ancillary facilities to ensure that New Earswick pool is able to respond to the needs of its users.	Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust	CYC Sport & Active Leisure & Planning, community swimming clubs,	2013	G1, S1, S2	Project designed, planning approved, funding sourced, project completed, new swimmers using the pool.

Ref	Proposed Action	Lead	Partners	Timescale	Key recommendations to be addressed	Success Measures
A5	Modernise pool and leisure facilities to ensure that the council's swimming facilities meet the needs for future aquatics provision	CYC and Facility operator	Community clubs, ASA, funders	2014 onwards	G1, S1, S20	Facility operator appointed, consultation carried out, projects designed, facilities modernised, facilities being operated in a sustainable way, new aquatics activity being delivered.
A6	Continue to ensure that the quality of the city's pool stock is improved to meet the demand for modern facilities in future years.	CYC Sport & Active Leisure	CYC Planning, CYC facility's operators. Other pool providers.	2015 onwards	G1, S1	Maintain the quality of the city's new facilities, Energise, York Sports Village, St Peter's School. Review the provision of the aged facilities in the city. Establish the need for the same level of provision and plan how the future demand can be met. Develop projects to meet the demand. Source funding to deliver these projects.
A7	Develop accessible, fit for purpose facilities for rowing in the city.	City of York Rowing club, British Rowing. University of York Boat Club	City of York Rowing club, British Rowing, CYC Sport & Active Leisure, St Peter's rowing club, universities boat clubs.	2014	G1, G4, WS1	Establish priority projects. Funding secured for City of York Rowing club project. Project delivered, new facilities available for use, new rowers using the site. Additional projects planned funded and delivered.

Ref	Proposed Action	Lead	Partners	Timescale	Key recommendations to be addressed	Success Measures
A8	Develop accessible, fit for purpose facilities for sailing in the city.	CYC	CYC Sport & Active leisure & Planning	2013	G1, G2, G5, G8, G11, G12, F2 F5, RL2, RU2, B1	Specific reference to the protection of sports facilities within the local plan.
A9	Develop accessible, fit for purpose facilities for canoeing in the city.	Royal Yachting Association, City of York Council sport and planning staff,	2013 onwards	G1, G4, WS1	Prioritise facility projects. Planning approved, funding secured, projects delivered, new facilities provided, increased club membership and sailing participation.	Reference within the Local Plan that addresses how developer contributions can be secured either through community infrastructure levy or through existing mechanisms.
A10	Complete the development of a closed circuit cycle track, and ancillary facilities to provide for training and competition.	University of York	CYC Sport & Active Leisure, British Cycling	2013	C1, G4	All funding in place, planning approved for ancillary facilities, track complete, ancillary facilities complete, facilities open and being used.

Ref	Proposed Action	Lead	Partners	Timescale	Key recommendations to be addressed	Success Measures
A11	Work collaboratively to ensure that the city has an appropriate mix of cycling facilities to provide a sporting legacy from major cycling events.	British Cycling	CYC, North Yorkshire Sport, University of York, University of York St John, Community clubs.	2013	G3, C1, G4	Agree appropriate sites for facilities, agree facility mix, develop project plans, secure funding, develop projects, open facilities, new participants cycling, legacy events hosted.
A12	Complete building refurbishments to ensure that the city is able to offer the current level of indoor bowls provision.	New Earswick Indoor, Bowls Club.	Bowls Development Alliance, CYC sport and Active Leisure staff, Sport England, Joseph Foundation.	2013	G1, IB1	Lease for site agreed, Funding secured, project delivered, facility improvements completed, new opportunities being offered, club membership increased.
A13	Develop a county standard athletics facility, with ancillary and spectator facilities.	CYC	City of York Athletics Club, North Yorkshire Athletics Network, University of York.	2014	G1, G4, A1	Partnership agreement for the delivery of the facilities signed. Planning approved for the ancillary and spectator facilities, all funding in place, track, field and associated facilities completed, facilities open and operational.

Ref	Proposed Action	Lead	Partners	Timescale	Key recommendations to be addressed	Success Measures
A14	Develop a community sports hall to serve the school and people of Fulford	Fulford School/ CYC Adults, Children and Education	CYC Sport & Active Leisure, CYC planning, Fulford Parish Council, Community sports clubs	2015	G2, G3, G4	Funding in place, design agreed by school, community and clubs, Planning approved for sports hall, construction complete, Sport's Hall and associated facilities open and operational.
A15	Ensure appropriate community access is available at existing school, college and private facilities.	Active York partners	CYC Sport & Active Leisure, CYC Adults Children & Education, Schools, York College, Universities.	2014 onwards	G2, G4	Review community access to non public sites. Ensure that community clubs are aware of the opportunities for access.
A16	Investigate the demand for and potential to develop additional purpose built gymnastics facilities in the city.	British Gymnastics	Community gymnastics clubs, Participants, CYC sports, CYC planning.	2014 onwards	G4, Gn1	Identify the need for facilities, identify appropriate facility mix, if needed identify appropriate site and providers, secure funding, develop facilities, increased participation.

Ref	Proposed Action	Lead	Partners	Timescale	Key recommendations to be addressed	Success Measures
A17	Create covered tennis provision to meet the needs of community clubs and tennis development	University of York	LTA, Community Clubs, Tennis Coaches, CYC sports staff	2013	G1, G4, IT1	Procure tennis dome, complete project, courts in use, club access, VI tennis use.
A18	Explore the opportunity of retaining Burnholme Community College Sports Hall for community access following the school's closure.	CYC Property officers	CYC sports officers, Community Clubs	2013/14	G1, G3, G4, SH1, SH2	Contribute to discussions about the future of the site, develop business case and usage plan for retention, establish viability or otherwise.
A19	Develop additional 3G, AGP provision to cater for the growth in demand for floodlit football training.	York St John University	FA, Sport England, CYC sport staff, community football clubs.	2013/14	AGP1, AGP2, G1, G4	Planning approved, funding secured, project delivered, facilities in use, community clubs using pitch, increased participation.
A20	Establish the feasibility of developing a designated hockey development centre and home base for City of York Hockey Club in York	England Hockey & CYHC	AGP facility providers, schools, Sport England, CYC Planning officers, CYC Sport officers	2014	G1, G4, G2, G3, AGP1, AGP3	Facilitate discussions with partners, establish business case and feasibility, England Hockey establish this as a facility priority, suitable site identified, project designed, planning approved, funding secured, project delivered, facilities in use, increased participation.

Active York's current priorities...

Recognising Achievement

Supporting talented and gifted young athletes through the Fund For The Gifted scheme. The Active York Sports Awards, which will include presentations to the Fund For The Gifted recipients, are taking place on 9 April 2014 to recognise the achievements and contributions for sport in York.

The award categories will include: Active Workplace Award, Active School Award, Community Sports Club Award, Award for Student Sports person, Young male sportsperson, Young female sports person, Young disabled sports person, Young club/team, Coach/volunteer Award, Sportsman, Sportswomen, Disabled sportsperson, Young Sports Person of the Year, Sports Person of the Year.
To make a nomination or for more information about the event including sponsorship opportunities please email sportandactiveleisure@york.gov.uk.
Alternatively find us on @just30york or /just30york

Communicating With the City

Promoting Active York's Just 30 campaign with the wider community in York to encourage people to take 30 minutes of gentle exercise every day. The Just 30 message is supported by all City of York Council Sport and Active Leisure team's activities and events.

Supporting Community and Voluntary Sport Organisations

Provide support and guidance in varying issues to the city's sports clubs via the regular community forums.

By engaging with the community sports clubs in the city Active York looks to identify the needs of disabled athletes and young athletes by sharing ideas and information.

Active York is the city's sport and active leisure partnership and is working to encourage people to be more active more often.

Active York's aims are...

- To help make the people of York aware of the health benefits of physical activity.
- To ensure coaching and development opportunities exist for people in York to improve their performance and to enable them to compete at the highest level
- To promote the role that sport and active leisure can play in developing safer, stronger and more culturally-rich communities
- To support the sport and active leisure infrastructure in York to maintain high quality facilities and strong sports clubs for the city.

If you would like this booklet in larger print or in an accessible format (for example in braille, on CD or by email), please call 01904 553377 or email: sportandactiveleisure@york.gov.uk

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

☎ 01904 551550