

A Sport and Active Recreation Facility Strategy for Bristol 2018-2023



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Foreword

Sport and physical activity are a huge part of many people's everyday lives. They play a significant role in many of our own experiences: as participants, volunteers and supporters, often developing life-long loyalties, habits and a sense of community. For me, getting into Boxing at an early age developed my confidence and the lessons it instilled in me were a significant intervention in my life. For others it might have been participation in team sports which taught skills of co-operation, or maybe endurance events which built mental resilience and independence. Sport provides all of us with the opportunity to develop skills and abilities which help us achieve our potential.

My ambition for sport in Bristol focuses on growing participation, bringing major sporting events to the city and developing elite sports. A good facility infrastructure is essential in these aims. Raising participation and making sport and physical activity accessible for all, bringing more national and world class sports events to the City, supporting talent pathways through to elite performance and coaching people to achieve their full potential; these too are all underpinned by the provision of quality facilities.

One of the challenges we face in addressing physical inactivity is reducing the stark health inequalities which exist between different parts of our city and improving the life chances for all. The availability, accessibility and quality of sufficient sports facilities is important for the city in terms of encouraging participation in sport and physical activity now, and for general health and well-being and in the future.

Bristol's population is projected to grow and the Council is under increasing pressure to deliver more cost effective and efficient services. For sports facility provision this will mean working more closely with the multitude of providers in the sector to ensure the city's facility provision meets current and future demand and that as many facilities as possible, regardless of ownership, are accessible and available for community use. Therefore I am grateful to all the key partners and stakeholders including clubs, schools and sports organisations which contributed towards this strategy, enabling the City to set out a clear priority action plan for enhancing and developing new sports provision.

I am pleased to present this new Bristol Built Sports Facility Strategy which is a review of the City's strategic sports provision; undertaken in accordance with Sport England's methodology and guidelines.



Marvin Rees

Mayor of Bristol

Executive Summary

Background

The Bristol Sport & Active Recreation Facility Strategy has been in development since 2013. The need for a new strategy was identified in the Bristol: Sport4Life strategy (2013-2018) and after some initial setbacks there is now new impetus and focus on sport in the city. Bristol was a European City for Sport in 2017 and the Mayor hosted three sports events aimed at bringing key partners together. Following consultation with partners there are some exciting facility opportunities planned that could create something unique for the city.

Aims and objectives of the strategy

The main aims of the strategy are to identify the needs and priorities for sports facilities in Bristol, to **protect, enhance and provide** facility provision to meet these needs and establish clear strategic priorities and actions for sport and active recreation facility provision.

Vision

Sports and physical activity facilities in Bristol will be inspirational, internationally recognised, of high quality and will underpin the drive to make the City a place where opportunity to be physically active is locally accessible and affordable to all.

Key findings

Large projects	
Major facility proposals	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Swimming pools: additional provision required in central/east of the city.2. Multi-court sports halls /small sports arenas: a network of participation/performance centres located across the City.
Professional clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bristol Rovers are looking to renovate or build new stadium.• Bristol Sport is looking to develop training ground and indoor AGP at Ashton Vale.
Further & Higher Education	UWE, University of Bristol and SGS College have respective facility plans.
Community centres / projects	There are plans to enhance facilities in community led developments including The Greenway Centre, The Park Knowle and Ambition Lawrence Weston.
Sport specific facilities	
Athletics	There is no need for an additional athletics facility in Bristol. Priority should be given to ensuring the long term sustainability of the Whitehall track and improving accessibility/availability issues at both Whitehall and SGS tracks.
Indoor Bowls	The EIBA at present do not feel there is a demand for any further Indoor

	Bowls sites in the LA area.
Outdoor Bowls	There is a need to review the sustainability of existing greens.
Squash	England Squash need to undertake feasibility on enhanced and/or new provision to meet growing population demand.
Indoor Tennis	The University of Bristol have proposals to enhance the indoor tennis offer at Coombe Dingle. Redland Green Club have plans for two covered courts.
Outdoor Tennis	There is an opportunity to enhance existing courts in areas of the city with low participation rates. Project underway to encourage the use of existing publicly accessible stock and to increase informal play but with LTA fob access.
Golf	Provision at Ashton Court could be improved as could disabled access at all courses.
Gymnastics	There is no need for further specialist gymnastic centres. Priority is to enhance existing provision.
Health & Fitness	Additional provision of centres is needed to meet the Core City average. Enhancements are required in the quality and supervision of some centres.
Multi Use Games Areas	Increased provision is required (if the desire is to provide equitable access to MUGAS), particularly in the north west of the city.
Cycling / Wheels Parks	British Cycling support the development of a closed road circuit, the refurbishment/development of two BMX tracks and the creation of a further two new BMX tracks.
Water Sports	NGB's want to ensure facilities for water sports meet their requirements-particularly around disability access.
Dance / Exercise Studios	Bristol has an above average supply of studio space. Further work is required to identify any programming issues with the multiple users of this space.
Climbing walls	Bristol has a unique situation in that it's 6 climbing walls are complemented by an outdoor crag (the Avon Gorge) within the city.
Boxing facilities	Whitchurch ABA will require a new home when Action Indoor Sports closes.
Delivery	
Partnership working	Establish a proactive partnership of key stakeholders to come together as a Core Implementation Group, reporting to the Mayor's City Office.
Addressing equality of provision	Levels of sports facility provision are not the same across the city. To make sport "accessible to all" this inequality of provision needs to be addressed.
Investment	A city wide partnership is essential to agree priorities and pool resources to attract maximum investment into the city.

Introduction and background

A strategy for sport and active recreation 2013-2018 - Bristol: Sport4Life

Bristol City Council, Sport England and key partners worked together in 2012/2013 to produce a new strategy for Sport and Active Recreation for the city named “Bristol: Sport4Life”.

An Attractive City

One of the themes of the Sport4Life strategy is “An Attractive City”. This is defined as:

“A city with a high-quality and strategically-planned facilities infrastructure for sport and active recreation, where places and spaces encourage activity and are accessible and attractive to all.”

The aims and priority outcomes of “An Attractive City”

Aims

- Provide a good range of strategically planned, high quality, welcoming and accessible places and spaces, making it easy for people to participate in sport and active recreation.
- Ensure land use for sport and active recreation is encouraged, protected and sustainable, recognised in planning policies and benefits from development contributions.
- Actively encourage investment in the sport and active recreation infrastructure from the private and not-for-profit sectors.
- Ensure a comprehensive facilities infrastructure is in place to cater for the needs of athletes and enable the hosting of major sporting events and competitions.
- Provide a network of safe walking and cycling routes which encourage people to incorporate active travel and active recreation into their everyday lives.

Priority outcomes

- The new Built Sports Facilities and Playing Pitch Strategies for Bristol are successfully delivered.
- An increase in the % of people who are satisfied with leisure facilities / services.
- An increase in the number of quality accredited facilities for sport and active recreation in Bristol.
- Increased funding for sport and active recreation facilities in Bristol through the Community Infrastructure Levy and other planning gains.

- An annual increase in investment in sport and active recreation facilities in Bristol.
- The walking and cycling strategies for Bristol are successfully implemented.

Delivery of Bristol: Sport4Life

The consultation process for the Sport4life strategy led to the recommendation of the setting up of a new independent “Bristol Sports Partnership” (Active Bristol) to agree the associated action plans and facilitate their delivery and to help drive sport forward in the City.

The new draft Sport Facilities Strategy for the city was developed in 2013-14. Sport England guidance was followed to assess the needs and opportunities for sport and active recreation facilities in the city. The draft strategy and action plan was produced to go alongside the assessment of need document and Active Bristol had the responsibility of completing the strategy process to full adoption by all partners.

The challenge in Bristol and the next stage

The Active Bristol Partnership had a few notable successes. These included attracting the cycling Tour of Britain to the city and securing the title of European City of Sport for 2017 but for multiple reasons failed to progress the draft Sports Facility Strategy and to set itself up as an independent body. The partnership ended in late 2016.

In May 2016 a new Mayor was elected in Bristol- Marvin Rees. The new Mayor took the decision that the city council would take a leadership role in moving sport in Bristol forward. This process is underway and is being driven through the Mayor’s City Office during Bristol’s year as the European City of Sport.

Completing a sport facility strategy for Bristol

In late 2016 Sport England and Bristol City Council agreed that it was important for the sport facility strategy work carried out in 2013/14 to be reviewed and updated to reflect the time elapsed since the initial document was drafted. During the intervening period, significant national and local change had occurred. Both the Government (in 2015) and Sport England (2016) have published new strategies. These signal substantial amendments in national priorities and, in the case of Sport England, the direction of associated funding streams, with a particular new emphasis on tackling inactivity.

Another significant change is the re-structure of Bristol City Council. The level of human and fiscal resource allocated to and through the Sport and Leisure Division has been reduced and it has been re-located within Bristol City Council’s Public Health Directorate. Although

the Sport and Leisure function is not directly funded by public health, the new structure does present considerable opportunity to better align the sport facility work with wider public physical, mental and social health agendas and strategies.

Bristol City Council, supported by Sport England, commissioned specialist sport and leisure consultancy, Knight Kavanagh and Page (KKP) in January 2017. It was asked to, where feasible and making use of the background work undertaken, to re-engage with key players in the city and produce an updated consultation document to reflect the current position, new local and national agendas and the contemporary views of key partners.

This strategy has therefore, been produced based upon the work carried out in 2013/14 plus extensive consultation with a range of key partners and stakeholders held between January and March 2017. Its focus is to provide clear direction to all partners in Bristol and its surrounding areas so that together they can maximise the use of existing facilities and plan and deliver the range of high profile and community based sport and leisure facilities that Bristol requires.

Strategic context

Bristol City Council's Corporate Strategy 2018-2023 is clear about the fact that the City faces a major financial challenge. By the end of 2023 the council will have had to save over £300 million in the preceding 12 years. Referencing the rapidly growing population it cites the pressure created by increased demand for key services such as social care, transport and education and the squeeze placed upon it as a result of reduced Government funding.

It means that change in the way that the council runs key services is essential and that the council must think differently about its role. There is an identified need to work with partners and the electorate "to reduce the need for services in positive ways which empower people to live successful, independent lives as part of their community."

The Corporate Strategy goes on to say that Bristol has "a cultural and sporting history to be proud of and its contemporary cultural and sporting life is a core contributor to the ongoing success of the city and in making Bristol a better place to live."

It makes the commitment to **'Keep Bristol a leading cultural city, helping make culture, sport and play accessible to all.'** It highlights that the council will directly provide some services but is also open to ideas in respect of enabling other people (and agencies) to run events and encourage partners and community groups. It confirms the council role in promoting opportunity, attracting funding and protecting investment in culture. The vision for the city set out in this strategy sets out Bristol's sports facility priorities for the next five years, which in turn will contribute to the Mayors One City Plan.

The Bristol context

Comprehensive information on Bristol's demography, ethnicity, economy, population and sporting profile is covered in the Assessment of Needs and Opportunities and also the Portfolio of Evidence document that supports the Bristol: Sport4Life strategy.

Scope of this strategy

This strategy does not cover every element of the “Attractive City” theme from Bristol: Sport4Life. Instead it focusses on conventional specialist indoor and outdoor built sports facilities. This is not to discount the important role played by areas like parks, cycle-ways and the natural environment such as the Avon Gorge in delivering opportunities for sport and active recreation. However, such provision serves many other functions in addition to sport, so their appropriate levels of provision cannot be assessed on the basis of sport and active recreation need alone.

The range of sports facilities covered includes:

- Sports halls
- Swimming pools
- Athletics tracks
- Indoor and outdoor bowls
- Squash courts
- Indoor and outdoor tennis
- Golf courses
- Gymnastics centres
- Health and fitness suites
- Multi-use games areas (MUGAs)
- Cycling facilities and wheel parks
- Watersports centres of all types
- Dance / exercise studios
- Climbing walls
- Boxing facilities

This strategy does not include artificial grass pitches as they are covered by the Bristol Playing Pitch Strategy, along with all other grass pitch provision. It also focuses, in the main, on community sports facilities rather than elite level stadia.

Key drivers, aims and objectives

Key drivers

The key drivers for developing this strategy include:

1. There have been major changes in the city over the past ten to fifteen years including significant investment in new sports facilities, particularly swimming pools. The education landscape has changed considerably through Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and the emergence of school academies independent of the Local Education Authority. The professional club sector is also becoming increasingly ambitious to play a wider community role and the HE and FE sector has an increasing interest in sport. There is a need to review the impact of these changes and whether there are any remaining gaps in provision.
2. National Planning Policy has changed. There is a need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy with robust and up to date evidence of need.
3. The council is one of many facility providers in an increasingly mixed economy in Bristol and although it has a major role to fulfil both in enabling and delivery, it is not in a position to deliver and provide for all types and levels of sport. The financial backdrop for the city council to provide facilities is more and more challenging. Further challenges and opportunities are also emerging for sport in the shape of the new local authority role in public health and through the elected mayor system for the city.
4. Bristol and the surrounding area population is increasing at a higher rate than most other parts of the country. The anticipated population growth will create increasing demand on sports facilities. There is a need to ensure that sports facility infrastructure is secured to meet this increased demand.
5. Levels of sports facility provision are not the same across the city. To make sport “accessible to all” this inequality of provision needs to be addressed.
6. Bristol, as one of the eight “core cities”, is seen as an important area for sport development in the South West region by Sport England and many National Governing Bodies.
7. The need to have a clear, evidenced based strategy to help secure funding.
8. The need to prioritise capital and revenue investment in the city.
9. The need to inform the assessment of planning applications.

Aims

The main aims of the strategy are to identify the needs and priorities for sustainable sports facilities in Bristol and to **protect, enhance and provide** facility provision to meet these needs.

The strategy will set out a clear action plan for future provision which will aim to:

- Address inequalities in levels of provision with a focus on areas of deprivation.
- Positively influence investment decisions and other support by key stakeholders, including NGBs, within and outside the city.
- Attract investment in sport and active recreation facilities through the planning system.
- Maximise the opportunity to develop sport and physical activity facilities aligned to an emphasis on getting the inactive active and retaining those who already participate.
- Maximise the opportunity to engage with other services and where possible create multi agency hubs via the co-location of services.
- Better integrate collaborative work with education to ensure that when new schools with indoor sports facilities are created or improvements to sports facilities in existing schools are implemented – this is accompanied by a comprehensive, practical, enforceable community use agreement.
- Work with existing schools in all sectors to increase the practical availability of their sport and physical activity facilities for community use.
- Use investment in existing and/or development of new facilities as a rationale for requiring BCC's leisure management contractors, schools and other partners to do more to ensure that their facilities accommodate community sport and physical activity.
- Increase the level of funding for sport and active recreation facilities in Bristol obtained via CIL and other planning gain.

Objectives

The objectives of this strategy are:

- Utilise the Assessment of Needs and Opportunities document and the 2017 consultation process to establish clear strategic priorities and actions for sport and active recreation facility provision in Bristol.
- Create an effective sport and active recreation facility steering group to
 - a. agree and implement the strategy
 - b. develop, manage and implement a deliverable prioritised action plan
 - c. keep the assessment of need data up to date
- Ensure that the strategy and underlying evidence base is used to inform BCC planning policy and planning decisions.
- Secure investment in sport and active recreation facilities through available funding opportunities.

Vision

Building on the above drivers, aims and objectives and the 2017 consultation, the vision for the Bristol Sport and Active Recreation Facility Strategy (2017-2022) is:

Sports and physical activity facilities in Bristol will be inspirational, internationally recognised, of high quality and will underpin the drive to make the City a place where opportunity to be physically active is locally accessible and affordable to all.

How this vision can be delivered is explored in the sections below.

Methodology

This strategy has been written utilising Sport England's "Assessment of Needs and Opportunities Guidance" (see Appendix 1) to ensure a comprehensive overview of Bristol's sport facilities has been developed. A needs assessment has been undertaken in consultation with Clubs, NGB's and Sport England, to establish the quantity, quality, availability and accessibility of all the relevant sport facilities across Bristol (regardless of ownership) in order to fully understand and help evidence the strategic need for provision.

The majority of this assessment work was carried out in 2013/14 and it has been subsequently updated in 2017 where significant change has occurred. In addition to this assessment update, a full consultation update was undertaken with key partners in early 2017 (see Appendix 2).

Key findings and recommendations

The table below summarises the situation in 2013/14 for each identified facility type using the Sport England “Assessment of Need and Opportunities Guidance” and it’s “protect, enhance and provide” approach to strategic facility provision. Also included are any relevant findings from the 2017 consultation exercise.

The full 2013/14 table is in Appendix 4 and should be read in conjunction with the Bristol Assessment of Needs and Opportunities document.

Facility type	Protect/Enhance/Provide (2013/14)	2017 update following consultation
Sports halls	<p>All existing sports halls with community use should be protected or, if subject to development, a replacement built that will serve the same catchment. The priorities for enhancing existing halls should be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Address the quality issues identified (i.e. disability access) ▪ Make improvements to open up access to school based sports halls not currently in use by the community. <p>As the population increases, consideration should be given to providing additional sports halls. Proposals should only be supported where sufficient unmet demand can be demonstrated to sustain the facility without subsidy, and the new provision will not impact on the viability of existing halls in the area.</p> <p>Any new halls should be built to the new Sport England standard of 34.5m x 20m.</p>	<p>Despite an identified “adequate” level of supply of sports hall space, the 2017 consultation identified a current undersupply due to accessibility issues. This adds to the 2013/14 identified need for more supply in the future.</p> <p>Options for one potential way of meeting this demand are explored in the “Major facility proposals” section below.</p> <p>The sport facility development at Lockleaze/Bonnington Walk includes a four court sports hall in the proposed second phase of the development.</p>
Swimming pools	<p>Priority should be given to meeting need for additional provision in the east of the City. This will also meet need associated with projected population growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhancing Easton Pool should be considered as financial resources allow. ▪ Enhancements to disabled access to pools on school sites should also be 	<p>Swimming pool provision in Bristol, while technically adequate to cater for the City’s needs, is dependent upon a number of facilities that are either approaching or have already passed the</p>

	<p>prioritised.</p> <p>No further investment should be made in enhancing older pools sites - e.g. Jubilee - that are nearing the end of their lifespan.</p>	<p>expiry date for their useful life.</p> <p>Options for future swimming provision are explored in the “Major facility proposals” section below.</p>
Athletic tracks	<p>The Whitehall Athletics Arena should be protected for community, school and club use.</p> <p>There is no need for an additional athletics facility in Bristol. Priority should be given to a development programme of grass roots running based on the Run Together initiative and the development of appropriate routes in local parks and along existing and future LCWIP schemes.</p> <p>In the long term a site could be identified to provide an indoor training venue.</p>	<p>Long term maintenance issues and replacement plans need to be addressed at Whitehall.</p> <p>Community access may be improved at both Whitehall and SGS.</p>
Indoor bowls centres	<p>The Bowls Development Alliance identifies WESPORT as a CSP with which it wants to work, to grow the sport particularly amongst the 55+ and 16+ age groups and with those with a disability. This latter priority emphasises the need for enhanced access to facilities for people with disabilities. (The needs of the projected new population should be first addressed through outdoor greens).</p>	<p>The EIBA considers that the current site at Ashton Vale is sufficient for both the current and projected population of the City.</p> <p>The previous comments about the BDA/Wesport are no longer applicable.</p>
Outdoor bowling greens	<p>Priority should be given to enhancing accessibility to existing greens particularly in respect of disabled players. Given projected population growth, there may be a need for new provision but proposals should only be supported where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sufficient unmet demand is established to sustain the green without subsidy. ▪ Provision of the new green will not impact on the sustainability of existing greens in the area. 	<p>A review of all BCC funded outdoor bowling provision is required to assess the longer term sustainability of clubs in light of local authority budget pressures.</p>
Indoor tennis centres	<p>Additional provision to the east side of the city may be required to meet future demand from population growth.</p>	<p>The University of Bristol has plans to enhance it's indoor tennis and sports provision at Coombe Dingle.</p>

		This is included in the "Major facility proposals" section below.
Outdoor tennis courts	No additional facilities are required. Priority should be given to making better use of existing facilities to enhance tennis participation via a grass roots development programme.	Project underway to encourage the use of existing publicly accessible stock and to increase informal play but with LTA fob access.
Squash courts	Priority should be given to protecting and enhancing accessibility to existing courts particularly in respect of disabled players. With projected population growth, there may be a need for new provision but proposals should only be supported where <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sufficient unmet demand is established to sustain the courts without subsidy ▪ Provision of new courts will not impact on the sustainability of existing squash facilities in the area. 	Redland Green Club have plans for competition standard facilities at their club.
Golf Courses	Given the land required for golf and the current level of provision there is no requirement for additional facilities in Bristol. Priority should be given to enhancing overall standards at Ashton Court and disability access at all courses.	This 2013/14 recommendation remains unchanged.
Gymnastic Centres	There is no need for further specialist gymnastic centres.	This 2013/14 recommendation remains unchanged but there is a clear need to enhance some aspects of the older facilities.
Health & Fitness Centres	Additional provision of centres is needed to meet the Core City average. Enhancements are required in the quality and supervision of some centres.	Increased health and fitness provision and ensuring this is accessible to all is explored further in the "Major facility proposals" section below.
Water-sport Centres	Priority should be given to the development/ enhancement of facilities in line with the requirements of the various governing bodies. Disability access should be improved at the majority of venues.	This 2013/14 recommendation remains unchanged.

Multi-Use Games Areas	Increased provision is required (if the desire is to provide equitable access to MUGAS), particularly in the north west of the city, to increase access to informal sports facilities.	Maintain existing and create new (double-sized) facilities as part of educational or planning-based (CIL) opportunities.
Cycling / Wheels parks	Significant improvement in provision of the quantity and quality of facilities will be required in cycling facilities if the City Council's aspirations for Bristol to be a major cycling centre are to be realised. Several existing facilities have considerable room for enhancement . Clearer development pathways would be beneficial.	Underpinning the City's cycling status, develop a (2km) closed road tarmac circuit. Develop four BMX tracks and associated clubs at pre-identified locations.
Dance / Exercise Studios	Not assessed in 2014.	Priority should be given to a programming review to identify any issues with the multiple users of these spaces.
Climbing walls	Not assessed in 2014.	Priority should be given to facilitating any new climbing wall proposals and supporting improvements in outdoor climbing provision.
Boxing facilities	Not assessed in 2014.	Whitchurch ABA will need support to find a new facility base.

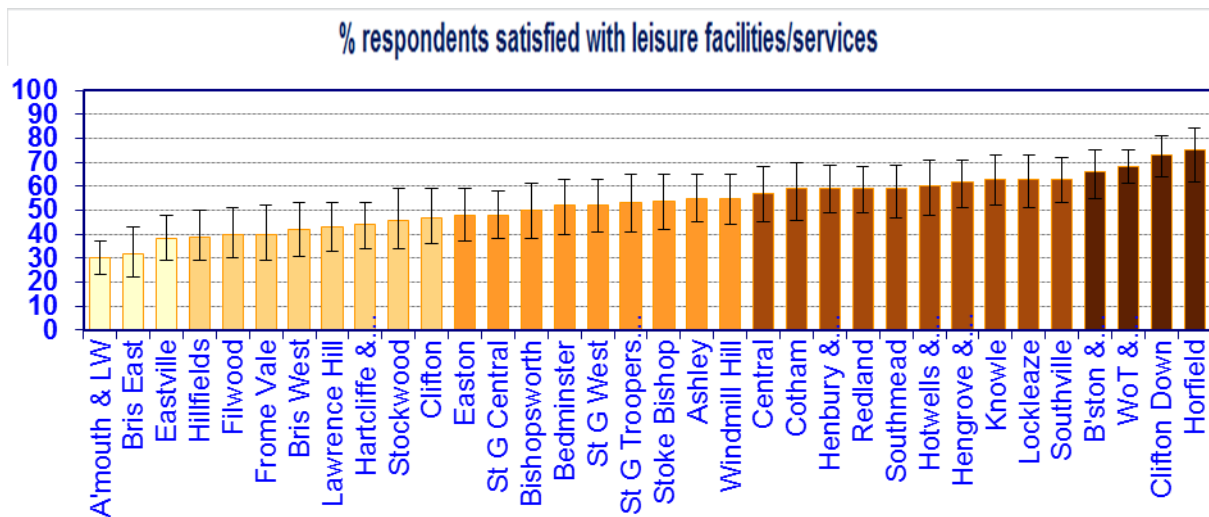
Other proposals and initiatives identified in the 2017 consultation

Description/site	Potential project(s)	Lead organisations
Ashton Vale Development	Training ground for professional sport, plus indoor 3G pitch.	Bristol Sport
University/College Developments	UWE, University of Bristol and SGS plans. University of Bristol: Coombe Dingle expansion and facility at new Temple Quarter campus.	Relevant Institutions

Community-based developments	Enhancement (and support for enhancement) of existing community sport facilities and encouragement of community-led asset management initiatives in the future.	Greenway Centre (BS10) The Park, Knowle West (BS4) Ambition Lawrence Weston (BS11)
Community sport hub	Ball court / mini-arena for basketball, volleyball, handball, netball, football.	Bristol Storm, Bristol Rovers Community Trust and development partners
Project Ardagh	Renovation of outdoor tennis courts, bowls facilities and pavilion.	Ardagh Community Trust (ACT), BCC
Lockleaze/Bonnington Walk- Phase two	Proposed addition to phase one development; a sports hall, health & fitness suite and squash courts.	Lockleaze Sport Trust
Redland Green Club	Plans for a covered multi-sport area providing up to 3 covered external tennis courts; a larger gym; exercise studio; spin studio competition squash court with permanent spectator seating.	Redland Green Club, LTA, England Squash, Run England (support for Great Western Runners and social day time runs using club as base)

Equality of facility provision

The Bristol Quality of Life Survey shows a significant difference in levels of satisfaction with sports facilities across the city.



The BCC Corporate Strategy makes the commitment that Bristol 'will be a leading cultural city, making culture and sport accessible to all'. Therefore there is a need to consider equality of provision throughout this strategy and to prioritise projects that may improve the situation.

Major facility proposals

Notwithstanding the need to continuously consider all sports and all facility proposals, the work to date has identified a need in Bristol for two types of major facility developments:

1. Swimming pool provision
2. Multi-court sports halls / small sports arenas

Swimming pool provision

Swimming pool provision in Bristol, while technically adequate to cater for the City's needs, is dependent upon a number of facilities that are either approaching or have already passed the expiry date for their useful life.

It is proposed that the City develops new/enhanced pool provision in East / Central Bristol. This could either be as part of a redeveloped Easton Leisure Centre or at another, as yet unidentified, location. The feasibility of this should be assessed in tandem with the evaluation of the potential development of multi-court sports halls.

This should also be assessed in conjunction with the need to progress other broader swimming pool related objectives. For Jubilee this includes determining if at the end of the existing contract in 2022 a sustainable delivery model can be developed or, depending on the new/enhanced pool provision mentioned above, alternative options are considered.

Multi-court sports halls

Arising from the 2017 consultation work are both a demand for more indoor sport space and also several proposals / potential developments that could meet that demand.

These proposals could develop in to the provision of a network of high quality participation/performance centres/multi-court sports halls (located across the City) that accommodate comprehensive community use, attract national or bigger events, enable franchises to be won, and raise the inspiration and profile of sport.

Whilst the scope of this strategy work is focussed on community facilities, most partners, feel that such a network will not only fulfil the basic aims of confirming Bristol as a true UK and European City of Sport but will also, if designed appropriately and if part of a co-ordinated facility planning and usage structure, help to relieve pressure on existing facilities and create additional capacity within them.

Multi-court halls refer to sports halls/spaces that are larger than the usual 4 or 5 badminton court sports halls. A multi-court hall may be as large as 8, 10, 12 or 15 badminton courts in size.

Multi-court halls facility proposals and opportunities

Lead organisation / location	Proposal
Bristol Sport South East Bristol	<p>An indoor arena with (up to) 3,000 seats set up primarily to cater for home competitive matches for Bristol Flyers Basketball Club but also suitable to accommodate events likely to attract this scale of audience across a range of other sports including, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vitality Netball Superleague• AJ Bell National Badminton League• Boxing <p>This will be located at Ashton Gate and will be designed and managed so that it can function in a flexible form but primarily as an arena venue. Alongside this a second 'mini-arena' adjacent or possibly attached to this with a minimum of a triple court (three basketball) hall.</p> <p>From a basketball (and England Basketball) perspective, the ideal for this would be a set up akin to that of the National Basketball Performance Centre in Manchester which comprises a central show court just marked out for basketball with two other courts marked out for basketball and netball.</p> <p>The Manchester centre also has bleacher seats enabling it to be set up to</p>

	accommodate basketball matches and tournaments which attract smaller crowds.
<p>Secondary schools / New Academies</p> <p>North, central and south locations</p>	<p>At present, three schools are at various stages of planning/development and are scheduled to be located at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North of the City: on a site yet to be determined, close to the City centre; west of the M32. • East of the City: near the Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone. • South of the City: yet to be determined. <p>There may be an opportunity to “piggy back” on the development of these schools, adding significant value to the sport facilities at the schools by building double court halls that are available for community use.</p>
<p>University of Bristol / Coombe Dingle</p> <p>North East Bristol</p>	<p>The University of Bristol has plans to significantly enhance the indoor tennis and sports provision at Coombe Dingle. The new development is likely to see provision for several indoor sports (alongside tennis) and include a double court or larger.</p>
<p>The Park Centre (Knowle West)</p> <p>South Bristol</p>	<p>The Park have plans to redevelop their indoor sports and exercise provision that will see new provision including a sports hall, exercise studio, health and fitness suite and football changing rooms and club room.</p> <p>This large site has potential to accommodate a double court sports hall.</p>
<p>Bristol Storm & Development Partners</p> <p>North Bristol</p>	<p>Bristol Storm and development partners have plans to develop a ball court / mini-arena for basketball, volleyball, handball, netball, community and education programme delivery.</p>
<p>There are aspirations for a 4 court sports hall to be added to the Lockleaze/Bonnington Walk sport facility development (North Bristol). This has the potential to be a larger facility and should therefore be considered alongside the above potential developments.</p>	
<p>There is already a multi-court sports hall at City Academy (Central Bristol) that could form part of this proposed network of facilities.</p>	

Opportunities: schools

There is an opportunity to negotiate with the Education Funding Agency and the 'sponsoring agencies' leading on development of the new secondary schools, to add capital in order to expand the scale of sports halls to the double court specification. Further considerations include:

- Changing/ancillary accommodation could be designed to ensure that venues operate on a basis that is safe, secure and fully separate from the school, minimising risk and cost.
- To ensure cost effectiveness and affordability, each venue should be appropriately located on the 'periphery' of its school/academy site and designed to allow it to operate on the basis of the lowest possible level of paid supervision; i.e. that an agreed network of clubs, leagues and coaches would be able to gain access via a form of centrally managed entry management system.
- All usage and hire could be managed on a cashless basis; with venues pre-programmed to accommodate the combination of clubs/leagues.
- The system could be based upon the payment of a fixed annual guaranteed hire fee to the school/academy.

Opportunities: existing leisure centre sports halls

Should sports hall / indoor sports provision significantly increase in the city, there may be an opportunity to consider changes in provision at current local authority owned leisure sites. Sites such as Easton Leisure Centre, Horfield Leisure Centre and Kingsdown Sports Centre all have 4 or 5 badminton court sports halls. This significant indoor space could be re-shaped to allow provision of activities that increase revenue or new facilities that provide other key community services:

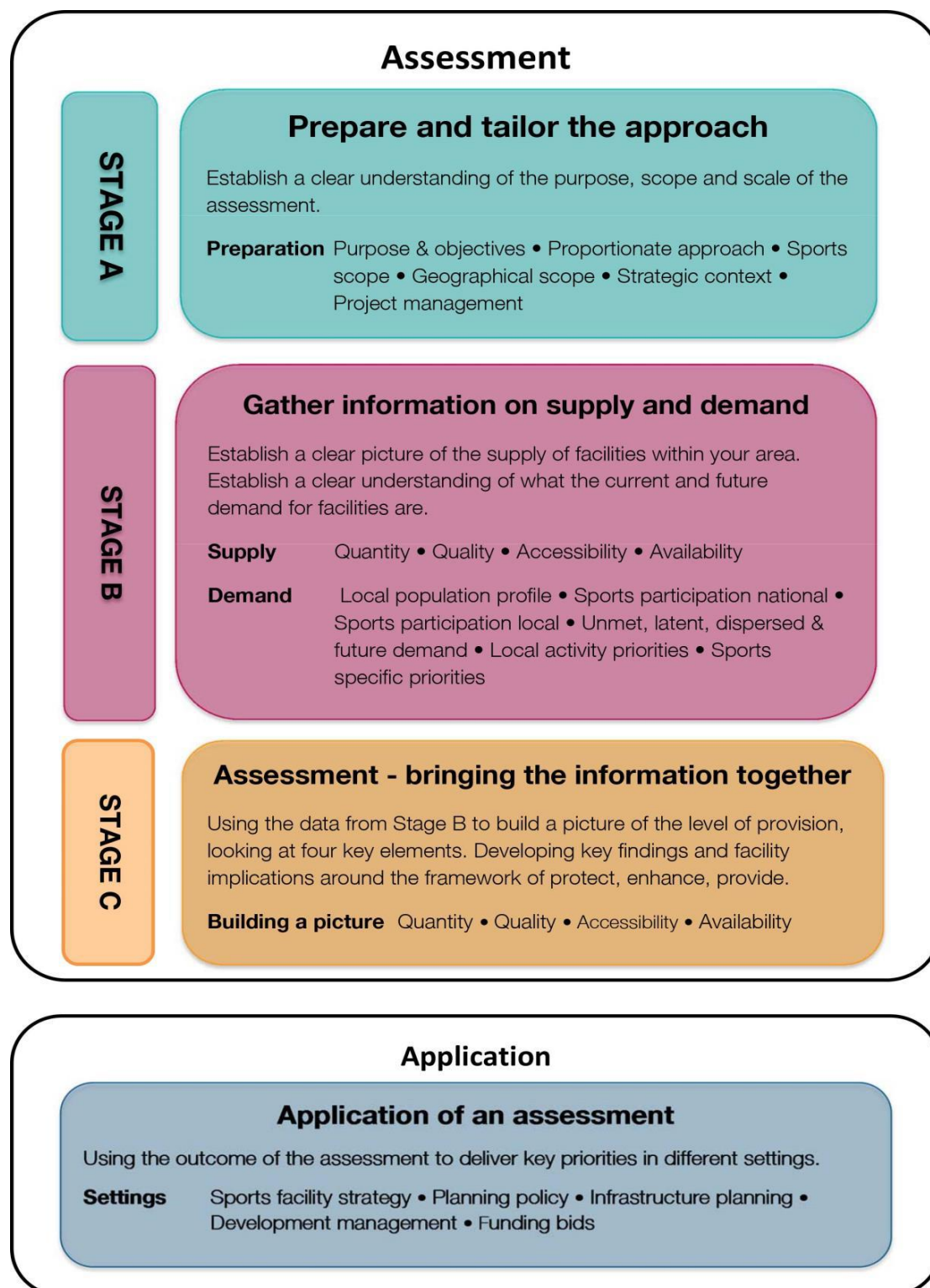
- Many leisure centres in the UK have been re-allocating squash court and sports hall space to accommodate a greater health and fitness offer. Larger gyms and additional studio space are in demand and have the potential to create significant revenue streams for operators. This in turn may allow a greater programme of concessionary provision targeted at key health populations.
- With the council's Sport & Leisure function now being part of public health, there is an opportunity to better align the sport facility work with wider public physical, mental and social health agendas. One potential practical way of doing this is to consider the co-location of community facilities such as GP surgeries, children's nurseries, chemists, libraries and/or community centres in to these leisure facilities.

Appendix

APPENDIX 1: Methodology

Sport England methodology for developing a Sport Facility Strategy

<https://www.sportengland.org/media/3599/20140722-anog-published.pdf>



APPENDIX 2: KKP 2017 consultation summary

Scope of 2017 consultation

Consultation was undertaken by KKP leisure consultants between January 3rd and March 31st 2017. It encompassed:

- A review of facilities planning work previously undertaken.
- An assessment of the current strategic drivers and context for Bristol and its residents, including its status as the European City of Sport 2017.
- An assessment of available information about and perceptions of the quality, distribution and programming of facilities in the area.
- Ascertaining the views of facility owners/operators to identify their sports and active recreation needs and opportunities.
- Ascertaining the views of NGBs, key stakeholders, major sports clubs/bodies in respect of their ambitions for their sports and related programmes and facilities in the City.
- Gauging the views and potential contribution of key strategic players including the new mayor.
- An evaluation of the opportunity for new, innovative and/or enhanced provision across the area – linked to potential developments at Ashton Gate, the new secondary schools proposed in the city and the ambitions of the University of Bristol.
- Consideration of options to leverage potential private sector funding.
- Consideration of mechanisms that might enable existing (and new) sport and physical activity opportunities to be made more accessible to a wider cross section of the Bristol population as per key City policy drivers.

For a list of the individuals and organisations consulted, see Appendix 3.

Overview of consultation

There is a fundamental will to preserve, enhance and develop “space for sport” in Bristol's future strategic planning. The 2013/14 facility strategy work provides a basic framework against which delivery can be assessed, and the key aims and objectives outlined in this work have not changed or been fundamentally challenged by any partner or stakeholder during the 2017 consultation. It should however be noted that some additions have been made to the aims (listed above) of this strategy based on this latest consultation.

Strategy commentary is informed by an understanding of the community sport and physical activity sector in Bristol and the general ambition of consultees to see innovative solutions applied to meeting the needs of the City's communities.

Current Mayoral priority themes with respect to sport and active leisure, the essence of which is broadly shared by partners/consultees, are captured within the following three phrases, namely:

- Participation, access and inclusivity
- Development of talent pathways and elite sport
- Bringing national and international sporting events to Bristol

Bristol is relatively well provided for in terms of facilities identified as part of the traditional modelling (Needs Assessment) approach. This applies both in terms of current and projected demand and takes account of population growth up to 2026.

This sport facility strategy thus needs to do more than simply identify existing gaps and give priority to actions that may address them. Bristol has a growing population, needs to build thousands of new homes (with thousands more being built in adjacent areas) and is already investing in and planning ambitious new infrastructure: roads, bus routes, rail and cycling/walking connectivity. New townships will emerge and new community structures will arise as a result, overlying a situation where there is already clear demarcation between north, south and central Bristol. There would appear to be options to take advantage (and leverage) available private and multi-sector funding and investment and a political appetite to make a 'step change' in pursuance of the corporate objectives identified.

As the European City of Sport in 2017, with one third of its population already defined as "active" there is a desire to build upon and open up what is already available and to ensure that sport, physical activity and active living is better epitomised than in any other UK city. On this basis, it is proposed not to rely solely on models of predicted behaviour and facility planning because these are not, reportedly, meeting the needs of the population in the way that the City aspires to. It is also the case that developments and pressures related to, for example, housing, transport, planning, health, economy and education, are moving at a pace that necessitates an approach that will get the City 'ahead of the curve' rather than trying to keep up.

As a consequence, while Bristol is statistically reasonably well provided for in terms of swimming pool water, sports halls and fitness (even in the context of some of the facility modelling work that looks ahead to 2026), the reality, as perceived by the majority of consultees, is that in terms of practical accessibility, fitness for multi-purpose use and stated future ambitions, Bristol's current facility stock does not match contemporary need.

Key facility observations and suggestions

The observations set out below broadly reflect the majority of current opinion:

- Firstly, in terms of the nature of required facilities, the provision of a network of high quality participation/performance centres/multi-court sports halls (judiciously located across the City) that accommodate comprehensive community use, attract national or bigger events, enable franchises to be won, and raise the inspiration and profile of sport, has near universal support.
- The scope of this strategy work is focussed on community facilities, but most partners, feel that such a network will not only fulfil the basic aims of confirming Bristol as a true UK and European City of Sport but will also, if designed appropriately and if part of a co-ordinated facility planning and usage structure, help to relieve pressure on existing facilities and create additional capacity within them.
- The identified need for three new secondary schools, their likely location and the opportunity to cost effectively ‘piggyback’ facility development at them mark immediate opportunities in this respect.
- In terms of the “protect, enhance and provide” model used in the 2013/14 work (see below ANOG table) nearly all of the most recent feedback is about enhancement and additional provision, with protection being seen as a “given”. There remains, however, challenging decisions to be made about certain dated facilities and the continuing need for subsidy by the local authority.
- A positive factor is that, in times of austerity and cuts, Bristol appears to be well-placed, in respect of a variety of potential private and public investment streams, to create and fund the facilities that it aspires to. In order to maximise such potential however, it is important that the array of committed, passionate and multi-sector partners/stakeholders recognise and optimise their role(s) collaboratively. In some circumstances the major contribution in terms of realising ambition may not be direct co-funding as much as less direct actions such as land provision, relevant consents and mutual support.
- There is a practical desire to be innovative, whether in the form of “pop-up” pools or by looking afresh at buildings that may not have been specifically designed for a particular purpose but which nonetheless might be adapted to meet specific needs. Pop-up pools are not long-term solutions and we would have concerns in respect of capital or revenue funding being devoted to them at the expense of securing longer-term solutions (such as, for example, new or enhanced swimming pool provision to address the current pressure and projected shortfall in pool space in Bristol).

- There is a need to further appraise the accessibility of Bristol's sports facilities in order to make them not only fully accessible and inclusive in the statutory sense, but also in terms of their attractiveness, inclusivity and affordability for the traditionally inactive. This is linked to a need to recognise and address the different pressures on facility space.
- There are good examples of busy and varied publicly funded centres providing for the full range of such uses (e.g., Horfield Leisure Centre). There may, particularly if the proposed sports halls network noted above is developed (even in part) be an opportunity for further innovation in respect of the presently available flexible spaces in 'mainstream' leisure centres to extend the reach of the City offer to its less advantaged residents, without disrupting existing commercial models and commitments to reduce the level of revenue subsidy.
- Arising from the previous point, there is a clear opportunity to further and more closely align public sector leisure provision with the public health agenda, as well as wider education, social, transport, economic development and environmental strategies. The relocation of Sport and Leisure into the city council's Public Health Directorate is an opportunity to embed this link.
- It is clear that Bristol is not an island. It is intrinsically linked with the surrounding authorities; in particular South Gloucestershire; housing development, schools plans and many other ongoing projects on both sides of the border will intrinsically affect and impact people resident in both areas.
- One such example is the Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood development (approximately 5,700 new dwellings, 50 hectares of new employment land, open spaces, schools and community facilities to be developed over the next 10 to 15 years) on land adjoining the Bristol city boundary. This will clearly have an important and significant impact on future demand and supply of sports facilities. It is therefore essential that the Bristol strategy is aligned and updated in tandem with those of its neighbours.

Recommendations from KKP

1. Positive leadership and partnership

A proactive partnership approach is fundamental to successful strategy implementation and delivery. What is proposed is a strategy for the City and while Bristol City Council is a, if not the, key driver, it is anticipated that the level of investment in the City, the funding leveraged and the impact on participation will be optimised if proposals are genuinely (as opposed to just 'presentationally') partnership-based. This means, in many instances, a degree of compromise and the (re)building of trust between the agencies involved; as well as them accepting responsibility for different aspects of implementation.

A partnership approach is essential to the City making best use of the assets and resources available to drive development of sport and physical activity. The proposals set out in this document takes account of the views of a range of agencies and, as the implementation phases gather speed, will require further input from them.

The Active Bristol model appears to have foundered as a consequence of lack of clarity over leadership and ultimate responsibility for delivery. It is therefore suggested that, in the context of taking this strategy forward, ultimate responsibility for delivery for any particular project lies with *each appropriate partner* but that this approach must ensure that other partners contribute to (and are set to gain from) their support for said lead partners.

Partner representatives should be in regular dialogue. It is, thus, proposed that a core implementation group (IG) chaired by (or reporting directly to) the mayor should be formed to ensure that the relevant access to advice, support and decision-making is facilitated. It is recommended that the IG is proactive in terms of its operation and links closely with the strategic City Office initiative that has been instigated by the Mayor's Office.

2. Shared Information

A direct result of Recommendation 1 is the opportunity to share relevant information quickly and in a timely manner. This is of value to partner organisations for a variety of reasons. An IG's terms of reference should be to co-ordinate (via a lead partner such as BCC or commissioned support) the sharing of information about the stage(s) of development of any and all major projects ensuring that economies of scale are achieved, unnecessary duplication avoided and optimum value obtained from the effort and funding invested.

3. Shared business models

This strategy does not address in detail how proposals and recommendations will be funded. A combination of sources and solutions will be required to deliver the vision and ambitions of the strategy. These may include:

- City Council and partner reserves
- Public health and education budgets
- Government Grants
- Sport England grants
- Contractor funds: SLM, Parkwood etc.
- Planning gain: S.106, CIL, etc.
- Prudential borrowing
- Commercial sponsors
- Charitable trusts
- Participant funding
- Professional sports funding bodies (e.g., Premier League, AELTC)
- Third party borrowing
- Capital receipts from land disposal
- PFI (and related finance schemes)
- Local/overseas benefactors and investors
- Pension funds and similar investors
- Capitalisation of revenue savings
- Capitalisation of in-kind contributions
- Tourism
- Local taxes (e.g. vehicle pollution tax, parking fines)
- National taxes (e.g. Sugar Tax)
- Local societies (e.g. Merchant Venturers)

To pursue some of the more ambitious projects and achieve the City's desired social outcomes, there is a requirement to consider joint business models which recognise and factor in how higher income generating activity can cross subsidise other introductory and ongoing interventions with the inactive or economically challenged, thus helping to address health inequalities. The recommended genuine partnership approach should maximise opportunity to mix and match funding options that would not otherwise be available to organisations working individually.

APPENDIX 3: 2017 Consultees

Agency	Name
Bristol Sport Foundation	Martin Griffiths
Everybody Active	Gary Teagle
University of Bristol	Matt Birch
Wesport	Steve Nelson
British Cycling	Brian Johnston
Sport England	Nick Lockwood
Lawn Tennis Association	Colin Corline
Badminton England	Lee Ward
Bristol Jets (Badminton)	Ian Gorham
Access Sport	Mark Hardie Julia Williams (Inclusivity & Disability)
WISE Campus, SSG	Simon Panes
University of the West of England	Alex Isaac Bill Marshall
Bristol Rovers Foundation	Adam Tutton
Bristol City Foundation	Dan White
Bristol Storm & Community Sport	Steve Brocklehurst
Bristol Sport Foundation	Ben Breeze
Mayor's Office	Kevin Slocombe
South Bristol Sports Centre	Ben Ferris
South Gloucestershire Council	Rob Stirzaker
England Basketball	Stewart Kellett Peter Griffiths
Bristol City Council	Councillor Fi Hance
Bristol City Council (Public Health)	Sally Hogg
Bristol City Council (Sport & Physical Activity Development Manager)	Guy Fishbourne
Bristol City Council (Sport Strategy Officer)	Craig Hyslop
Bristol City Council (Education)	Ian Bell
Bristol City Council (Sport Development Officer)	Darron Hamilton
Bristol City Council (Transport)	Jodi Savickas
Community of Purpose	Amy Kington
Various sports representatives (at mayoral sports seminar)	Includes athletics, rugby and other sports

APPENDIX 4: Summary of assessment of needs and opportunities- 2013/14

Facility	Quantity	Quality	Accessibility	Availability management & Usage	Recommended action: Protect, Enhance, Provide
Sports halls	<p>Bristol has 34 sports halls of at least 27m x 17m with community access.</p> <p>This is an adequate level of hall supply to meet the demands of the current resident population.</p> <p>None of the relevant sports governing bodies report that participation is curtailed by a lack of provision.</p> <p>Additional supply will be needed to meet projected growth in the population to 2026. Bringing existing halls on school sites into more community use may be sufficient but this will need to be kept under review.</p>	<p>Provision is generally of a high quality although the quality of changing rooms does not match that of playing areas in many sports hall venues.</p> <p>Most halls were built to the old 4 court standard of 33m x 18m.</p> <p>All halls offer facilities for a range of indoor sports.</p> <p>None specialise in only one or two activities.</p>	<p>Action is required to improve access for people with disabilities particularly in older facilities.</p> <p>There is a good geographical spread of sports halls across the city.</p>	<p>Site visits showed that good quality management systems are in place.</p> <p>All sports halls in the City Council's leisure centres offer a range of activities with badminton and five a side football predominant.</p> <p>The majority of badminton and basketball clubs are based in school halls.</p> <p>Availability for specific sports would be improved by a more strategic approach to programming and co-ordination between venues where this is financially viable.</p> <p>e.g. England Table Tennis is seeking a new home for the Ping Pong Parlour.</p>	<p>All existing sports halls with community use should be protected or, if subject to development, a replacement built that will serve the same catchment.</p> <p>Priorities for enhancing existing halls are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) to address the quality issues identified in the sports hall audits (i.e. disability access) ii) to make improvements to open up access to school based sports halls not currently in use by the community. <p>As the population increases, consideration should be given to providing additional sports halls.</p> <p>Proposals only to be supported where sufficient unmet demand is demonstrated to sustain the facility without subsidy, and new provision will not impact on the viability of existing halls in the area.</p> <p>Any new halls should be built to the new Sport England standard of 34.5m x 20m.</p>
Pools	<p>Bristol has 15 indoor swimming pool venues (with a pool of at least 20m x 8m) with community access.</p> <p>If new provision in East Bristol is completed, the city will have adequate pool provision to meet the needs of the current population.</p> <p>The ASA has not identified any further shortfall.</p>	<p>Pool quality is variable; five of 15 are rated as below average.</p>	<p>Although overall access is good, many residents in the east of the city have further to travel to swim.</p> <p>Hence there is a need for additional provision in east Bristol.</p>	<p>Site visits showed that good quality management systems are in place.</p> <p>Public pools offer a wide range of activities including casual swimming, club sessions and swimming lessons.</p> <p>Private and school pool programmes are more</p>	<p>Priority should be given to providing the additional provision that is required in the east of the city. This will also allow the needs of the projected population growth to be met.</p> <p>Enhancing the Easton Pool should also be considered as financial resources allow.</p> <p>Enhancements to disabled access to pools on school sites should also be prioritised.</p>

	Bristol will be reasonably future-proofed in terms of supply to meet population growth projected if the East Bristol Pool is completed. An expansion of Easton LC would help to ensure future demand at peak times can be accommodated.		Disability access needs improvement particularly on school sites. Parking can be an issue at Easton LC.	restricted. However, there is no strategic approach to programming and no co-ordination between venues. The ASA wishes to work with the City Council and other pool providers to develop an aquatics strategy for the city.	No further investment should be made in enhancing the older pools sites - e.g. Jubilee - that are nearing the end of their lifespan.
Athletics tracks	There is a single 6 lane synthetic surface track serving the city with an 8 lane track just outside the boundary at SGS College. England Athletics sees no need for additional track provision.	The track at Whitehall Athletics Arena is fairly new and in good condition.	Provision in the city & S. Gloucestershire means that all Bristol residents live within reasonable travel times of an athletics track. Disability access is good. Parking is limited and the venue is not on a main bus route.	There is a management presence at the arena at appropriate times. Access is available on both a club and pay and play basis.	Protect Whitehall Athletics Arena for community/school/ club use. Notwithstanding projected population growth there, there is no need for an additional athletics facility in Bristol. Priority should be given to a development programme of grass roots running based on the Run Together initiative and developing routes in local parks and along LCWIP routes. In the long term a site could be identified to provide an indoor training venue.
Indoor bowls centres	There is a single centre serving the city at the City and County of Bristol IBC. The EIBA sees no need for additional indoor facilities.	The facilities at this venue are of a high standard. Disability access is rated as excellent. Club has achieved "Disability Kitemark" see Club	The fact of a single venue means that residents in the south of the city have more easy access than others. Although there is other provision in the surrounding	Site visits showed a good management presence at the City and County of Bristol Centre. The centre offers league and internal competitions with some encouragement for beginners.	The Bowls Development Alliance has identified WESPORT as a County Sport Partnership with whom it wants to work, to grow the sport particularly amongst the 55+ and 16+ age groups and with those with a disability. This latter priority emphasises the need for enhanced access to facilities for people with disabilities. The needs of the new indoor participants

		website and "Disability page" - http://www.bristolindoorbowls.org.uk/disability-bowls/	areas: North – Thornbury South – Purnell West – Clevedon and Nailsea		will firstly be satisfied by the existing Indoor Bowls site within the Local Authority area. Depending on their location within the LA area, they may also wish to visit one of the four Affiliated Clubs in adjoining LA areas.
Outdoor bowling greens	There are 25 outdoor bowling greens across the city. The view of the Bowls Development Alliance is that this is a good level of provision. The Alliance suggests that additional facilities will be needed to meet the needs at a local level of the projected additional population	With one exception the quality of greens is good. The quality of changing rooms and ancillary facilities is less good with disability access being poor in several cases.	There is an even geographic spread of across the city. All residents live within a 15 minute drive of an outdoor green but there are some gaps in the 10 minute walk time catchment. The accessibility rating for many greens is poor. Action is required to address this.	Most greens are owned and managed directly by vol. clubs. Management standards vary greatly. Few have development programmes and promotion is "word of mouth" based. Closer links between clubs, the NGB and the Bowls Alliance's development programmes should be encouraged. Activities centre around club sessions, league and internal competitions	Priority should be given to enhancing accessibility to existing greens particularly in respect of disabled players. With projected population growth, there may be a need for new provision but proposals should only be supported where i) sufficient unmet demand is established to sustain the green without subsidy ii) provision of the new green will not impact on the sustainability of existing greens in the area.
Squash courts	Bristol has above average provision for squash compared to other Core Cities. England Squash sees no need for additional facilities. It has identified Bristol as a priority area for development based on the 'Big Hit' scheme. The key priority is better use of existing facilities.	Quality is variable with 2 of the 10 clubs being rated below average, 3 as average and 5 being rated as excellent.	All of Bristol lies within a 15 minute drive of a squash club. Disability access is very limited.	Management standards are generally good. Public courts offer pay and play in addition to coaching and league competitions. Private clubs have more restricted access but offer higher standards of competition. Priority should be given to linking to the "Big Hit" programme.	Priority should be given to protecting and enhancing accessibility to existing courts particularly in respect of disabled players. With projected population growth, there may be a need for new provision but proposals should only be supported where i) sufficient unmet demand is established to sustain the courts without subsidy ii) provision of the new courts will not impact on the sustainability of existing squash facilities in the area.

Indoor tennis centres	Bristol has three indoor tennis facilities. Together these provide access which in terms of population per court is above average for the Core Cities. The LTA sees this as a good level of provision.	All indoor tennis centres in Bristol are of a high standard. Where weaknesses exist they are in disability access.	Access is skewed to the west of the city. Some east residents are a 30+ minute drive from a centre - this is mitigated by provision in neighbouring areas.	All three centres have high standards of management and offer a range of casual, coaching and competitive play.	Additional provision to the east side of the city may be required to meet future demand from population growth.
Outdoor tennis courts	Bristol has the largest number (183) of outdoor courts of Core Cities. Many of these have been built recently on school sites. The LTA regards this as a very good level of provision but wishes to see more pro-active development taking place. Discussion is under-way between BCC and LTA. Most England Netball clubs play on outdoor facilities which are combined tennis & netball courts. It sees a good level of provision at present	Most courts have good quality surfaces and fences. Where floodlights are installed they are of a uniformly high standard. Three sites have poor quality surfaces. Disability access is the weakest aspect of provision.	There is good geographical access to outdoor courts across the city. The entire city is within a 15 minute drive of an outdoor court but there are gaps in the 10 minute walk catchment. Interestingly, the highest concentration of outdoor courts lies close to the indoor centres.	Management of sites varies from simple open access policies for most public courts to the well managed approach of private clubs. Clubs offer casual access, coaching, league and competitive play. Some coaching is available on public courts. Schools in general do not promote use of courts. Most netball clubs are based at outdoor courts at school sites.	No additional facilities are required. Priority should be given to making better use of existing facilities to enhance tennis participation via a grass roots development programme.
Golf courses	There are 3 private golf clubs and one public golf centre in Bristol. This is a similar level of provision to Liverpool, Newcastle and Birmingham. There is significant provision in the neighbouring areas.	Private clubs are of good quality. Ashton Court is below average but offers good "grass roots" participation opportunity. Disability access is rated average or worse at all venues	All Bristol residents live within a 20 drive of a golf course. In addition, there is a good level of provision in neighbouring areas.	Ashton Court is a Par 3 pay and play facility. The private clubs are 18 hole courses. They do allow some limited access for non-members. The private clubs offer a range of golf lessons, internal and external competitions.	Given the land required for golf and the current level of provision there is no requirement for additional facilities in Bristol. Priority should be given to enhancing overall standards at Ashton Court and disability access at all courses.

Gymnastics centres	There are three indoor gymnastics centres in Bristol. BG comments that this is a good level of provision. Its priority is to support the work of clubs and improve sustainability. It sees a need for a specialist trampoline centre in the City.	The quality of the gymnastics halls is good in all three centres. However, both changing and disability access at two sites need considerable improvement.	The two older centres are located in the centre of Bristol. The newer facility is close to the southern boundary. Access is, therefore problematic for some areas.	All clubs offer a range of coaching and competition in artistic and rhythmic gymnastics. Some trampolining is also available.	There is no need for further specialist gymnastic centres.
Health & fitness centres	Bristol has the lowest number of health and fitness facilities of all core cities. This and our consultations points to a degree of latent demand. Three of the dominant market segments in Bristol are those more likely to use gyms.	Customer expectations for H&F are generally high. Quality of facilities of Bristol is lower than might be expected, perhaps reflecting the lower level of provision. Overall disability access is slightly above average but some centres are rated as poor.	Centres are concentrated in the centre of the city with little provision in the Stoke Bishop and Avonmouth area. There is also little provision in the north east.	Most centres are well managed with good levels of supervision and guidance. Some smaller gyms however need improvement. The “offer” varies for a modest range of equipment to a wide range of CV and resistance stations and a wide programme of classes and tuition.	Additional provision of centres is needed to meet the Core City average. Enhancements are required in the quality and supervision of some centres.
Multi-use games areas	There is a network of 19 MUGAs across the city allowing open access for informal sport mostly amongst young people.	Quality is above average with generally good disability access.	There is an uneven spread of MUGAs as they are strategically placed in areas of deprivation. Some neighbourhoods have no provision. The NW of the City is particularly badly served. In large areas of the city young people have no provision within	MUGAs are generally well maintained by the City Council who manage the majority of them, allowing young people in any area to use them at will.	Increased provision is required (if the desire is to provide equitable access to MUGAs), particularly in the north west of the city, to increase access to informal sports facilities.

			a 10-minute walk of home.		
Cycling	<p>There are 10 cycling facilities in Bristol. British Cycling is working with the City Council to develop a long term cycling partnership. This is linked to the city's status as a Cycling City and the joint objective of making Bristol a centre for cycling in Britain. This will be achieved through a programme of grass roots development and prestige events.</p> <p>BC sees a need for an improved range of facilities to support this development scheme. These include an outdoor velodrome, a closed road circuit and a competitive BMX track. These are in addition to the network of local facilities listed.</p>	Several facilities are of low quality. Little attention appears to be given to disability access.	There is an uneven distribution of cycles centres with some neighbourhood areas having no provision. The north west of Bristol is particularly badly served with, for example, Stoke Bishop having no access to a cycle centre within a 15 minute ride	There appears to be little linkage between the facilities and the more formal sports disciplines of cycling.	<p>Significant improvement in provision of the quantity and quality of facilities will be required in cycling facilities if the City Council's aspirations for Bristol to be a major cycling centre are to be realised.</p> <p>Several existing facilities have considerable room for enhancement. Clearer development pathways would be beneficial.</p>
Water-sport centres	<p>There are six water sport centres in Bristol covering rowing, canoeing, sailing and cruising.</p> <p>British Rowing is preparing a development plan in partnership with BCC. It has no immediate additional facility needs; its emphasis is on coaching and grass roots development.</p> <p>Canoe England wishes to develop a Canoe Polo venue</p>	<p>The quality of club premises is highly variable.</p> <p>One venue has good disability access, the other five are rated as poor.</p>	Water sport facilities are, by definition, located only where there is access to suitable water space. Hence there is an uneven spread across the city.	Safety management and tuition is generally of a good standard as required by statute and the national governing bodies.	<p>Priority should be given to the development/enhancement of facilities in line with the requirements of the various governing bodies.</p> <p>Disability access should be improved at the majority of venues.</p>

	in Bristol Docks with associated storage and access ramps. It is also looking to develop a network of access points along the length of the River Avon above Bristol.				
Studios (added in 2017)	There are 60 studios in Bristol. These are used for a variety of activities including dance, exercise classes and martial arts. 29 of these are in private health clubs. 22 are in schools/HE/FE. 9 are in community/ leisure centres.	A full quality assessment has not been carried out. However the majority of facilities are known to be of good quality.	No specific assessment has been undertaken but it is highly likely to reflect the issues in sports halls and health & fitness centres.	The 29 studios in private health clubs are not bookable by community clubs. Further work is required to identify any programming issues with the multiple users of these spaces.	Priority should be given to a programming review to identify any issues with the multiple users of these spaces.
Climbing walls (added in 2017)	The four main climbing walls in Bristol are all run by private operators. One company owns two of the walls (The Climbing Academy and Undercover Rock) and the others are owned independently. Undercover Rock was, for almost 20 years, the only wall in the City.	All current privately-run facilities are either very new or are undergoing investment or both. Investment needs to continue episodically to meet the growth in demand and the segmentation of climbing activities.	All the main walls are considered reasonably accessible but are not without the limitations found in busy cities (poor parking and congestion at peak travel times).	The three newer walls have been developed over the past 10 years and have both met and stimulated demand as the sport has become more popular.	It is thought that there may be scope for the development of a new private facility in the South-East of the city, which might help address some issues of social deprivation and engagement in physical activity in that area. There is still scope for new small school and council run walls which would introduce more people to the sport. The wall at Hengrove Leisure centre is a good example of how this could work.

Boxing facilities (added in 2017)	There are six boxing facilities in Bristol where the main clubs are based.	Facilities are generally of a good standard with perhaps the exception of Barton Hill ABC which needs some updating.	The facilities are reasonably well spread across the city. However there is no club based in the west of the city.	Clubs generally have good availability to their members on most nights of the week.	Whitchurch ABA will be in need of new base due to the closure of Action Indoor Sports. The NGB highlights the number of clubs who lease or rent their premises as being a potential problem for long term sustainability.
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