



SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL ASSESSING NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDOOR LEISURE FACILITIES

REPORT: MARCH 2020

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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INTRODUCTION

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) was appointed by Sunderland City Council (SCC) to undertake an assessment of need, encompassing a range of facilities which will underpin, inform and lead to the production of Strategic Needs Assessment.

The study takes account of local, city-wide and, as relevant, regional supply of/demand for relevant facilities and how they might be expected to interact with and complement the wider economic regeneration of the area. In order to ascertain the best fit, a needs assessment is being undertaken encompassing a range of facilities including:

- ◀ (Traditional) swimming pools
- ◀ Sports halls
- ◀ Health & fitness (plus studios)
- ◀ Squash
- ◀ Indoor bowls
- ◀ Indoor tennis
- ◀ Velodrome

This report produces a needs assessment which assesses the supply and demand in respect of the agreed facilities with a view to identifying whether what is in place, in the Sunderland area and elsewhere, is sufficient to meet current and future demand. In so doing, it considers the need/justification for changing the basis of use of, or closing, existing facilities.

In order to evaluate this, it is necessary to take account of the current and future local population context (including health and participation data). In respect of certain proposed amenities, this is applied on a sub-regional and regional basis. Further, we take account of local and regional strategies which apply to Sunderland especially those related to economic regeneration, health, wellbeing and physical activity.

This document will help SCC to determine future provision of sports facilities to serve both the existing and proposed communities across Sunderland up to 2033.

**STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT
INDOOR SPORT**

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NEEDS ASSESSMENT

SECTION 1: CONTEXT

1.1: Introduction

This is the Needs Assessment for indoor sports halls, swimming pools and health and fitness facilities across the authority. It provides a detailed assessment of current provision identifying need (demand) and gaps (deficiencies in provision). Figure 2.1 below identifies the key settlements in, and transport routes in and through, Sunderland.

Figure 1.1: Sunderland with main roads and main settlements/ towns



Sunderland is a city and metropolitan borough in Tyne and Wear, in North East England. Named after its largest settlement, Sunderland it covers a far larger area which includes the towns of Hetton-le-Hole, Houghton-le-Spring, and Washington, as well as a range of suburban villages.

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Sunderland is divided by the River Wear which passes through the middle of the city in a deeply incised valley, part of which is known as the Hylton Gorge. The three road bridges connecting the north and south portions of the city are the Queen Alexandra Bridge at Pallion, the Wearmouth Bridge just to the north of the city centre and most recently the Northern Spire Bridge between Castletown and Pallion. To the west of the city, the Hylton Viaduct carries the A19 dual-carriageway over the Wear. Most of the main suburbs are situated towards the west of the city centre with 70% of its population living south of the river and 30% on the north. The Authority extends to the seafront at Hendon and Ryhope in the south and Seaburn in the north.

1.2: Scope of the project

The report provides detail as to what exists in Sunderland, its condition, location, availability and overall quality. It considers demand for facilities based on population distribution, planned growth and taking into consideration health and economic deprivation. In delivering this report KKP has:

- ◀ Individually audited identified sports halls (conventional i.e. three plus court halls), swimming pools (minimum size 160m²), health and fitness facilities (including, within reason, dance studios),
- ◀ Analysed supply and demand to identify facility gaps and opportunities for improved provision.
- ◀ Sought to ensure that delivery of leisure facilities is undertaken with full reference to the corporate strategies of the Council and other relevant strategic influences.
- ◀ Identified areas of good practice and opportunities for improved service in order to drive up participation levels.

This evidence-based report provides a quantitative and qualitative audit-based assessment of the facilities identified above. It is a robust, up-to-date assessment of need for the identified sports and community facilities and identifies opportunities for new, enhanced and rationalised provision. Specific deficiencies and surpluses are identified to inform the provision required. The specific objectives of this audit and assessment are to:

- ◀ Explain how facility needs relate to sports development programmes and changes in how sports are played.
- ◀ Highlight deficiencies in quantity, quality and/or accessibility of provision for sports facilities.
- ◀ Identify surpluses in quantity of provision for sports facilities.
- ◀ Show the spatial distribution of unmet need.
- ◀ Set out any potential rationalisation having regard to surplus capacity, areas of demand, site quality.
- ◀ Identify which facilities should be protected, recommending the protection of sites identified as critical to individual sports development and community need.
- ◀ Identify which facilities should be enhanced recommending immediate action on sites critical to individual sports development and community need.
- ◀ Recommend appropriate locations for new provision to meet existing deficiencies and identify priority locations for future provision.

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The specific tasks addressed within the study include:

- ◀ A review of relevant Council strategies, plans, reports, corporate objectives.
- ◀ A review of the local, regional and national strategic context.
- ◀ Analysis of the demographics of the local population at present and in the future (2033).
- ◀ Audit of indoor facilities provided by public, private, voluntary and education sectors.
- ◀ Consideration of potential participation rates and modelling of likely demand.
- ◀ Supply and demand analysis.
- ◀ Analysis of the balance between supply of, and demand for, sports facilities plus identification of potential under and over-provision.
- ◀ Identification of key issues to address in the future provision of indoor sports facilities.

1.3 Report structure

The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) in a report entitled '*Strategic Planning: Effective Co-operation for Planning Across Boundaries (2015)*' puts the case for strategic planning based on six general principles:

- ◀ Have focus.
- ◀ Be genuinely strategic.
- ◀ Be spatial.
- ◀ Be collaborative.
- ◀ Have strong leadership and
- ◀ Be accountable to local electorates.

In the preparation of this report, KKP has paid due regard to these strategic principles and it is, as a consequence, structured as follows:

Needs Assessment

- ◀ Section 1- context
- ◀ Section 2- background
- ◀ Section 3 - description of methodology employed to assess indoor provision.
- ◀ Section 4 - assessment of sports hall provision.
- ◀ Section 5 - assessment of swimming pool provision.
- ◀ Section 6 - assessment of health and fitness provision.
- ◀ Section 7 - assessment of squash provision.
- ◀ Section 8 – assessment of indoor tennis provision
- ◀ Section 9 – assessment of indoor bowls provision
- ◀ Section 10 – assessment of cycling

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SECTION 2: BACKGROUND

2.1: National context

Sport England aims to ensure positive planning for sport, enabling the right facilities to be provided in the right places, based on up to date assessment of needs for all levels of sport and all sectors of the community. This assessment report has been produced for SCC applying the principles and tools identified in the Sport England Guide Assessing Needs and Opportunities for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities (ANOG).

Figure 2.2: ANOG model



As illustrated, Sport England regards an assessment of need as core to the planning for sporting provision. This report reviews indoor and built sporting facility needs in Sunderland City and provides a basis for future strategic planning.

‘Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation’

This Government strategy for sport was released in December 2015. It confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and it will help the sector to deliver fundamental outcomes: physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing, individual development, social and community development and economic development. It has identified the following outputs.

- ◀ Maximising international and domestic sporting success and the impact of major events.
- ◀ More people from every background regularly and meaningfully taking part in sport and physical activity, volunteering and experiencing live sport.
- ◀ A more productive, sustainable and responsible sport sector.

It further identifies the following actions will need to occur that:

- ◀ Meet the needs of the elite and professional system and deliver successful major sporting events.
- ◀ Meet the needs of the customer and enable them to engage in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Strengthen the sport sector and make it more effective and resilient.

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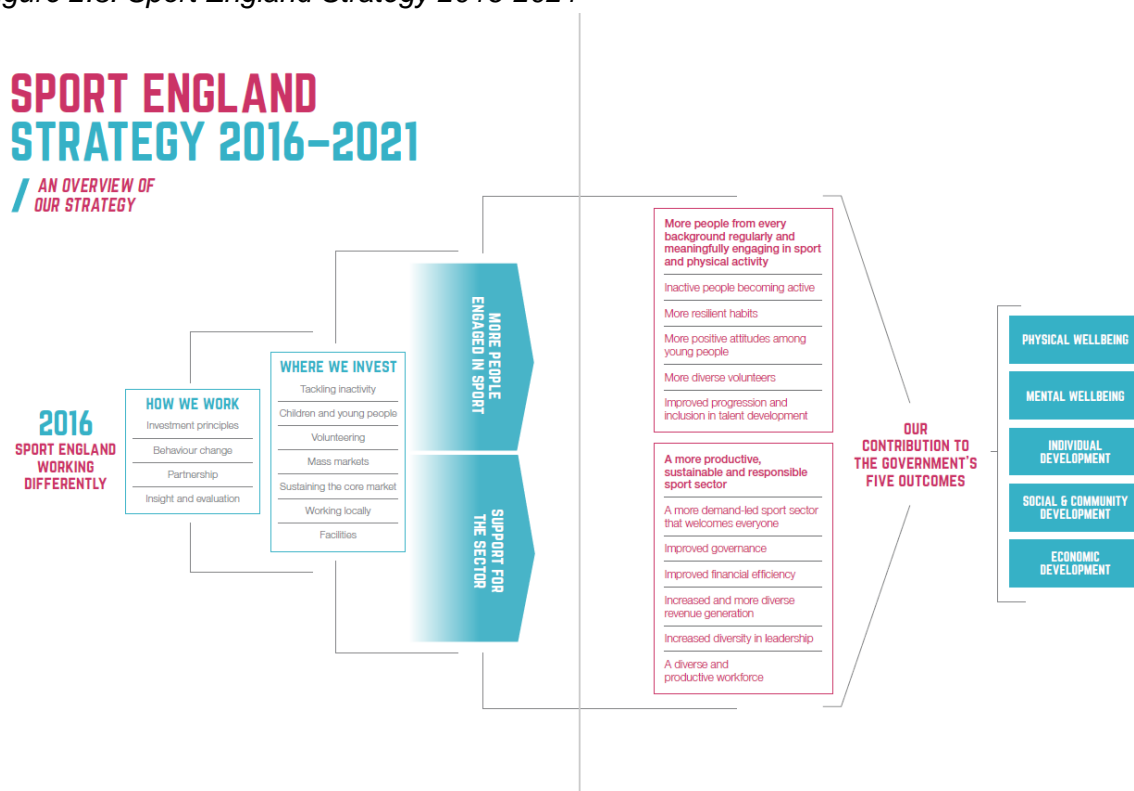
Sport England: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)

In its strategy, Sport England has identified that it will invest in:

- ◀ Tackling inactivity.
- ◀ Children and young people.
- ◀ Volunteering – a dual benefit.
- ◀ Taking sport and activity into the mass market.
- ◀ Supporting sport's core market.
- ◀ Local delivery.
- ◀ Facilities.

These seven investment programmes are underpinned by a Workforce Strategy and Coaching Plan.

Figure 2.3: Sport England Strategy 2016-2021



Sport England is looking to invest in projects, programmes and individuals that make sure everybody can experience the many benefits of sport and activity. Its seven investment principles include:

- ◀ Ensuring a clear line of sight to the objectives in Sporting Future, thereby making a wider impact on people's lives in terms of physical and mental wellbeing, individual, social, community and economic development, rather than simply driving numbers.
- ◀ Prioritising currently under-represented demographic groups: including women, older people, disabled people and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.
- ◀ Using the behaviour change model to guide decisions focusing on three main challenges: tackling inactivity, creating regular activity habits and helping those with a habit to stay that way.

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- ◀ Getting maximum value from all its resources which may mean contributing advice and insight or broker a collaboration rather than a cash injection.
- ◀ Expanding the supply chain, wanting to strike a balance between 'bankers' and 'innovators' to make sure it is investing in projects that deliver the outcomes while still investing in other areas that test new approaches.
- ◀ Reviewing its investment portfolio regularly, it could invest more in anything going particularly well and stop investment if a project is failing and cannot be rescue.
- ◀ Encouraging increased efficiency by encouraging the sport and activity sector to diversify its funding from both private and other public sector sources.

Sport England’s Strategic Facilities Fund is not a stand-alone funding stream, it is part of a portfolio of support and tools designed to strategically support the sector (local authority provision in particular). It has been re-positioned within Sport England’s new strategy in order to help the sector to be effective in its investment decision making. Creating a focus and vision on local outcomes, informed by customer insight and delivering interventions (capital and revenue) which effect behaviour change in the target audience and ultimately outcome delivery. The ‘Strategic Outcomes Model’ (Figure 2.4) illustrates the process which Sport England would expect a local authority to follow as part of a local strategic planning process in partnership with key stakeholders and other sectors.

Figure 2.4 Sport England’s Strategic Outcomes Model (vision)

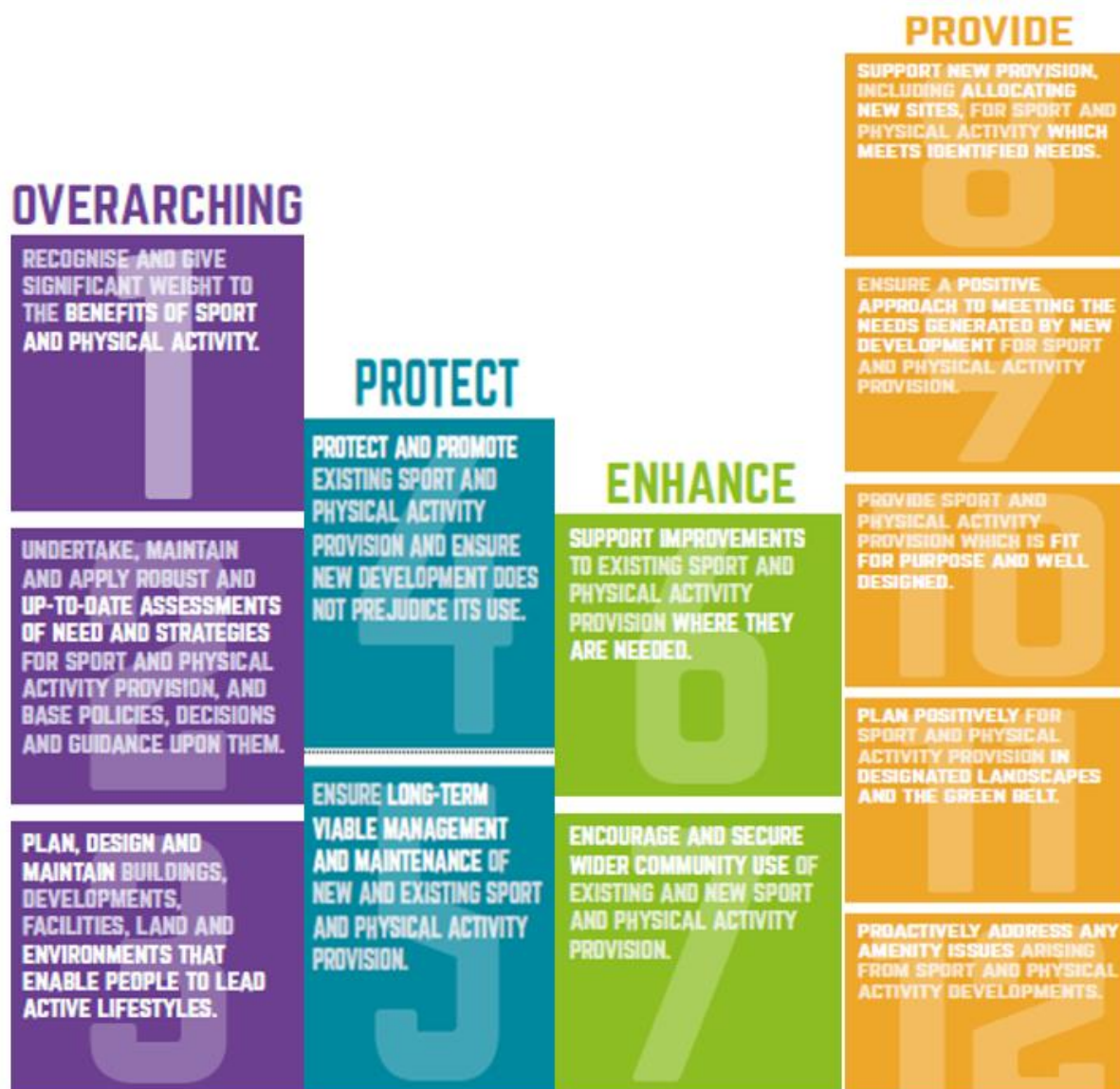


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Planning for sport guidance 2019

This focuses on 12 principles which seek to help the planning system provide opportunities for all to take part in sport and physical activity. The guidance reflects the importance the Government, and its National Planning Policy Framework, places on the need for the planning system to enable and support healthy lifestyles.

Figure 2.5: Sport England's 12 Planning Principles



Revised National Planning Policy Framework 2018

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how the changes are to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities. It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies the need to focus on three themes of economic, social, environmentally sustainable development:

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A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making, the NPPF states that local plans should meet objectively assessed needs. It is clear about sport's role delivering sustainable communities through promoting health and well-being. Sport England, working within the provisions of the NPPF, wishes to see local planning policy protect, enhance and provide for sports facilities based on robust and up-to-date assessments of need, as well as helping to realise the wider benefits that participation in sport can bring.

The *promoting healthy communities* theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust, up-to-date assessment of need for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs, quantitative/qualitative deficiencies and surpluses should be identified and used to inform provision requirements in an area.

Economic value of sport to the nation

Sport, leisure, recreation and culture are all important economic drivers. In November 2015, sport and sport-related activity contributed £20.3 billion to the English economy (this is the latest data available). The contribution to employment is even greater with sport and sport-related activity estimated to support over 450,000 full-time equivalent jobs. Volunteering in sport, and the health benefits derived, also have an impact on the economy. The estimated economic value of sport-related volunteering is £6.9 billion. The annual value of health benefits from people taking part in sport is estimated at £21 billion.

Benefits of sport include the well-being/happiness of individuals taking part, improved health and education, reduced youth crime, environmental benefits, regeneration and community development, and to the individual and wider society through volunteering. Consumption of sport benefits includes the well-being/happiness of spectators and the national pride/feel good factor derived from sporting success/achievement.

Participation in sport contributes to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly among young people. It also has a net impact on the environment; where, for example, more people walk, and cycle, emissions and congestion can reduce. In summary, it can provide a range of economic and health benefits to Sunderland and its population as well as helping to provide jobs and opportunities to spectate and participate in physical activity.

Public Health England: Everybody Active, Everyday

In October 2014, Public Health England (PHE) produced its plan to tackle low activity levels across the country. Along with making the case for physical activity, this identifies four areas where measures need to be taken at a national and local level:

- ◀ *Active society*: creating a social movement, shifting social norms so that physical activity becomes a routine part of daily life.
- ◀ *Moving professionals*: activating networks of expertise. Making every contact with the health sector count to push the 'active' message and to deliver the message through other sectors including education, sports and leisure, transport and planning.
- ◀ *Active environments*: creating the right spaces. Making available and accessible appropriate environments that encourage people to be active every day.
- ◀ *Moving at scale*: scaling up interventions that make us active. Maximising existing assets that enable communities to be active.

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Investment in school sport

The Government 2013 Primary PE and Sport Premium fund of £150 million per annum provided two years of investment in school sport. Supported by the Government's Education, Health and DCMS departments, funds went directly to primary school head teachers for them to spend on sport. Its four objectives were to:

- ◀ Improve the quality of existing PE teaching through continuing professional learning in PE for generalists, so that all primary pupils improve their health, skills and physical literacy and have a broader exposure to a range of sports.
- ◀ Increase participation levels in competitive sports and healthy activity of pupils and maintain these into adolescence.
- ◀ Increase the quality of initial teacher training in PE and sport, and to promote PE specialisation in primary level workforce.
- ◀ Ensure that schools understand and value the benefits of high-quality PE and sport, including its use as a tool for whole school improvement.

In 2017, the amount allocated doubled and Government ministers have confirmed that funding from a tax on sugary soft drinks will continue to be ring-fenced for school sports until 2020.

Evaluation of this investment has highlighted the need for clearer guidance to schools on how best to use this resource and the importance of good specialist PE knowledge for teachers of the subject. While this may cease in its present form Sport England is, in its Strategy, committed both to further investment in young people and to improving the skills of secondary school teachers, particularly in respect of physical literacy.

Summary of national context

Engaging all residents in physical activity is a high priority. It is acknowledged that regular sport and recreational activity plays a key role in facilitating improved health and wellbeing. Sport and physical activity also contribute significantly to the national and local economy. Ensuring an adequate supply of suitable facilities to meet local need is a requirement of the planning system in line with national policy recommendations.

2.2: Local context

Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033

The Sunderland Local Plan aims to establish a policy framework that guides and shapes development but is not seen as prescriptive. It sets the parameters for this to be achieved and encourages and supports development in coming forward. It ensures that Sunderland is a city that is open for business and growth: providing jobs and prosperity for local people; delivering housing to meet the needs and aspirations of all of its communities; and tackling health local inequalities and deprivation whilst protecting its important natural and historic environmental assets. Once adopted, the Local Plan will be the starting point for the consideration of planning applications for the development and use of land within the city.

Because of its historical development, the city has a polycentric development pattern which focuses on a number of settlements (Sunderland, Washington, Hetton-le-Hole, Houghton-le-Spring and others). This polycentric development, combined with the decline of traditional industries and development of the A19 and A1 as the main arterial connections, meant that more recent development has been focused away from the 'urban core'.

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Instead, it has focused on out-of-centre industrial locations and business parks such as Doxford International, Nissan, Washington, Rainton Bridge, and the north bank of the Wear.

Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) June 2018

This document was prepared to support delivery of the Local Plan's Core Strategy and Development Plan (CSDP). Providing housing and employment opportunities is not sufficient to create sustainable communities; there is a need to provide the necessary supporting "infrastructure". The CSDP provides the policies to set the framework for the provision of infrastructure; the IDP describes Sunderland's infrastructure requirements, setting down:

- ◀ What is required.
- ◀ When it is required.
- ◀ The likely cost.
- ◀ How it will be funded.

The IDP summarises current indoor sports facilities as follows:

- ◀ The city's indoor sports facilities provide venues for a variety of sports. There is a mix of provision across the city including public and private facilities.
- ◀ In 2004 the Council adopted the Leisure Facilities Plan and "Active City – Sunderland's Sport and Physical Activity Strategy".
- ◀ Since 2004 the Council together with funders has invested over £70m of capital resource in new and replacement sport and leisure facilities to contribute to meeting the objectives of improving health outcomes by encouraging and supporting increased participation in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ This level of investment has resulted in the provision of affordable access for residents and an attractive, modern portfolio of leisure stock.
- ◀ A Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) for indoor sports was completed in 2015. This report called 'Built Leisure and Sports Assessment Report 2015' identifies current surpluses or deficiencies of facilities within Sunderland, opportunities for re-location and makes suggestions on new provision required, for the following types of facilities:
 - ✓ Sports halls
 - ✓ Indoor bowls
 - ✓ Indoor tennis
 - ✓ Squash courts
 - ✓ Health and fitness studios
- ◀ The SNA provided a series of strategic recommendations designed to help improve the health of residents of Sunderland. It is used for sport facility planning and to support applications for external funding.
- ◀ The report notes the substantial number of privately provided facilities but stresses the importance of the eight public (Council owned) leisure facilities in the City and that they need to continue to offer affordable access to the wider local community.
- ◀ Since publication of the 2015 SNA, the Seaburn Centre and the Bunnyhill Wellness Centre closed 2017 and 2019 respectively. However, the Beacon of Light facility opened in September 2018 including a 12-court hall, which has mitigated the loss of the 8-badminton court venue at Seaburn.
- ◀ The City Council has no current plans for capital bids to provide new or additional leisure facilities.

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Sunderland's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The vision for Sunderland's Health and Wellbeing Board is to have the: *Best possible health and wellbeing for Sunderlandby which it means a city where everyone is as healthy as they can be, people live longer, enjoy a good standard of wellbeing and it sees a reduction in health inequalities.*

The following strategic objectives describe how Sunderland will achieve its vision for health and wellbeing. It is understood that detailed action plans will be developed for each and that those plans utilise one or more of the assets and apply all of the stated design principles.

Table 2.1: Strategic objectives and related principles

Strategic objective		Principles
1.	Promoting understanding between communities and organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increasing awareness of the services and support available to people in their community and assisting them to access these. ◀ Services are responsive to community needs and assets, becoming co-produced where possible.
2	Ensuring that children and young people have the best start in life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Encouraging parents and carers of children to access early years opportunities ◀ Supporting children and families throughout the whole of a child's journey, including the transition into adulthood.
3	Supporting and motivating everyone to take responsibility for their health and that of others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increasing emotional health and resilience of individuals, families and communities. ◀ Frontline workers, volunteers and community leaders becoming aware of the main social determinants of health as well as the risks and opportunities and when and how services can be accessed ◀ Supporting people to make sustainable changes throughout their lives that will improve their health, utilising new technologies and methods of engagement with communities ◀ People (including young people) are aware of the importance of accessing long-acting health protecting interventions such as immunisation and screening and early presentation following the development of signs and symptoms of ill-health ◀ Making the healthy choice the easier choice.
4	Supporting everyone to contribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Understanding the health barriers to employment and training, and supporting people to overcome them ◀ Working together to get people fit for work ◀ Working with local businesses to ensure a healthy workforce ◀ Supporting those who don't work to contribute in other ways
5	Supporting people with long-term conditions and their carers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Supporting self-management of long-term conditions ◀ Providing excellent integrated services to support those with long-term conditions and their carers ◀ Supporting a good death for everyone.
6	Supporting individuals and their families to recover from ill-health and crisis:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Supporting individuals and families to have emotional resilience and control over their life ◀ Providing excellent integrated services to support people to recover from ill health and crisis ◀ Winning the trust of individuals and families who require support.

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Tyne and Wear Sport Strategy 2018-2021

Tyne and Wear Sport is one of 43 active partnerships across the country. Its role is to provide strategic leadership and operational support to those who plan and deliver sport and physical activity in Tyne & Wear. Consequently, its purpose is one of offering guidance, information, insight and expertise to achieve a fundamental and sustained increase in the number of people participating in sport and physical activity. It is particularly focused on helping under-represented groups, who have higher levels of inactivity, to become and remain active and provide support to those who run sport and physical activity.

Its vision is: *Lifelong enjoyment, fulfilment and wellbeing through sport and physical activity.*

Its mission statement is: *To increase the quantity, improve the quality and widen access to sport and physical activity to improve lives in Tyne & Wear.*

The headline target of this strategy is that by 2021 fewer than one in four (25%) of Tyne and Wear's adult population will be inactive.

Tyne and Wear Sport: Tackling inactivity 2018-2021

The main aims of the strategy are to:

- ◀ Provide strategic direction to reduce levels of physical inactivity across Tyne & Wear and encourage the development of local action plans
- ◀ Promote and encourage partnership work between organisations to ensure the effective and efficient use of resources
- ◀ Identify a number of key priorities that will help to reduce levels of inactivity across the sub-region
- ◀ Raise the profile of physical activity and the significant health and social benefits that an active lifestyle can provide
- ◀ Encourage increased investment in physical activity - increase the quantity and quality of physical activity opportunities for people living, working and/or studying in Tyne & Wear.

It can be surmised that there is a focused, sustained collaborative effort from all organisations with an interest in, and the potential to benefit from, reducing levels of inactivity and a consensus that this would make a significant difference to the lives of people in Tyne & Wear. It is essential that these organisations work together to provide increased and better opportunities for children and adults to take part in attractive, accessible and affordable forms of physical activity. This will help to reduce levels of inactivity and encourage many more people to develop a long-term active and healthy lifestyle.

Sunderland City Plan 2019-2030

The priority for the City is for '*More people to be physically active... by 2022-23*'. The document also supports the following health related priorities:

- ◀ 100% of schools signed up to Active Charter.
- ◀ £20m investment in sports facilities.
- ◀ Reduction in the misuse of alcohol across all age groups.
- ◀ Reduction in smoking in the city.
- ◀ Sunderland recognised as a centre of excellence in sport.

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In terms of strategic planning to encourage more people to be physically active, the Active Sunderland Board has developed a delivery plan to contribute to the 2022-23 objective. Table 2.2 shows the Board's key outcomes and actions.

Table 2.2: Active Sunderland Board Delivery Plan

Outcome	Action	Resident impact
Empowering communities	Support and enable communities to look at informal opportunities to be active and support communities, so that they can help to grow the numbers of residents being active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increased participation levels in sport and physical activity ◀ Reduced inactivity levels ◀ Communities will have more opportunities to be active and build capacity ◀ Communities will have financial support to be more sustainable ◀ Opportunities will be made available for those in most need
Active environments	Make it easier for people to be active outdoors through their everyday activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increased participation levels in sport and physical activity ◀ Reduced inactivity levels ◀ More opportunities to be active in localities and outdoor spaces ◀ To get more people more active, impacting the greatest number of people
Active schools	Ensure that students and families are provided with a positive experience and the best opportunities within and beyond the curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increased participation levels in sport and physical activity ◀ Reduced inactivity levels ◀ Good community focused schools with links to local clubs ◀ More residents and young people will have the opportunity to acquire basic sports skills and improve physical literacy ◀ Sunderland's active children will perform better in school
Ensure that Sunderland has good quality sport/leisure facilities	Ensuring swimming pools, sports halls and wellness centres complement the needs of residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increased participation levels in sport and physical activity ◀ Reduced inactivity levels ◀ Understand resident needs and future proof leisure facilities for city residents
Active workforces and workplaces	Ensure opportunities and policies are in place to enable the workforce to be active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increased participation levels in sport and physical activity ◀ Reduced inactivity levels ◀ Inspire resident workforce to be active ◀ Child and adult obesity will be reduced ◀ Reduction in smoking in the city
Supporting individuals	Ensure opportunity is in place for those who may need more assistance in accessing good quality opportunities to be active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increased participation levels in sport and physical activity ◀ Reduced inactivity levels ◀ Provide opportunities to volunteer ◀ Specifically target residents who have barriers to access leisure facilities

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Summary of local context

SCC has a long history of investing in its leisure facilities and an understanding of the positive impact that sport and physical activity can have on the local population. It remains committed to improving the health and wellbeing of its residents. It underpins this commitment in its Corporate and Local plans alongside recognition of the importance of working in partnership with other agencies to deliver opportunity across the City.

2.3 Demographic profile

The following is an overview of Sunderland based on data taken from nationally recognised sources (sources identified throughout). It reflects the most up to date information presently available although it should be noted that new data is published regularly, often at different intervals.

Population and distribution - The total population of the City of Sunderland is 277,147 (2018 MYE) with more females (142,126) than males (135,291). The population profile of Sunderland varies slightly from that of the North East in that 11.5% are aged 15-24 years old compared to 12.2% in the North East. In addition, 7.3% of the population is aged 25-29 years in Sunderland compared with 6.7% in the North East.

Ethnicity (Data source: 2011 census of population, ONS) - In broad terms, Sunderland's ethnic composition does not reflect that of England as a whole. According to the 2011 Census of population, the largest proportion (95.9%) of the local population classified their ethnicity as White; substantially more than the comparative England rate of 85.4%. The next largest population group (by self-classification) is Asian, at 2.7% which is markedly lower than the national equivalent (7.8%).

Crime (Data source: 2017 Recorded Crime, Home Office) - During the 12 months to December 2018 the rate for recorded crimes per 1,000 persons in the borough was 120.0; this is markedly higher than the equivalent rate for England and Wales (83.0). Crime rates have risen since December 2016, by around 6.2% for Sunderland and 2.5% for England and Wales.

Deprivation (Data source: 2015 indices of deprivation, DCLG) - Relative to other parts of the country Sunderland experiences higher levels of deprivation; over half of the City's population (53.6%) falls within the areas covered by the country's three most deprived cohorts compared to the national proportion of c.30%. Conversely, 12.6% live in the three least deprived groupings in the country, this also compares to a 'norm' of c.30%.

Table 2.3: Index of multiple deprivation for Sunderland

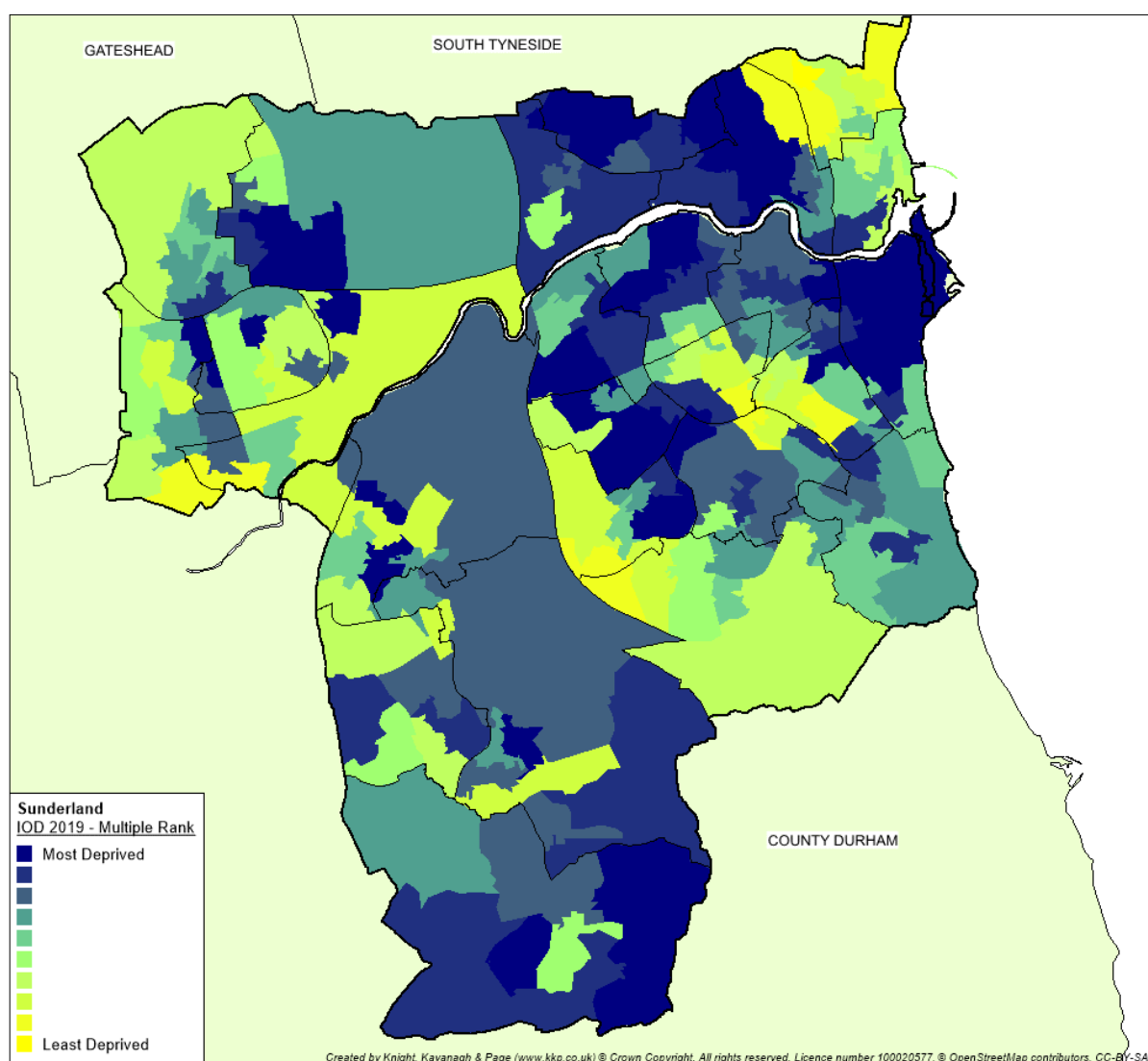
IMD cumulative norm		Multiple deprivation			Health deprivation		
		Population in band	Percent of population		Population in band	Percent of population	
Most deprived	10.0	62,090	22.4%	22.4%	90,901	32.8%	32.8%
	20.0	50,382	18.2%	40.6%	57,653	20.8%	53.7%
	30.0	35,839	12.9%	53.6%	58,106	21.0%	74.7%
	40.0	33,695	12.2%	65.8%	33,368	12.1%	86.7%
	50.0	24,910	9.0%	74.7%	20,525	7.4%	94.1%
	60.0	13,208	4.8%	79.5%	16,260	5.9%	100.0%
	70.0	21,797	7.9%	87.4%	0	0.0%	100.0%
	80.0	23,417	8.5%	95.9%	0	0.0%	100.0%

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Least deprived	90.0	10,344	3.7%	99.6%	0	0.0%	100.0%
	100.0	1,131	0.4%	100.0%	0	0.0%	100.0%

A similar pattern, to that seen for multiple deprivation, is seen in relation to health- yet more so. Three quarters of Sunderland's population (74.7%) falls within the areas covered by the three most deprived cohorts (national proportion: c.30%. Conversely, none live in the three least deprived groupings.

Figure 2.6: Index of multiple deprivation for Sunderland



Health data (Data sources: ONS births and deaths, NCMP¹ and NOO²) - In keeping with patterns seen alongside low levels of health deprivation, life expectancy in Sunderland is lower than the national figure; the male rate is 77.3 compared to 79.6 years; whilst the female equivalent is 80.8 compared to 83.2 nationally.³

¹ National Child Measurement Program

² National Obesity Observatory

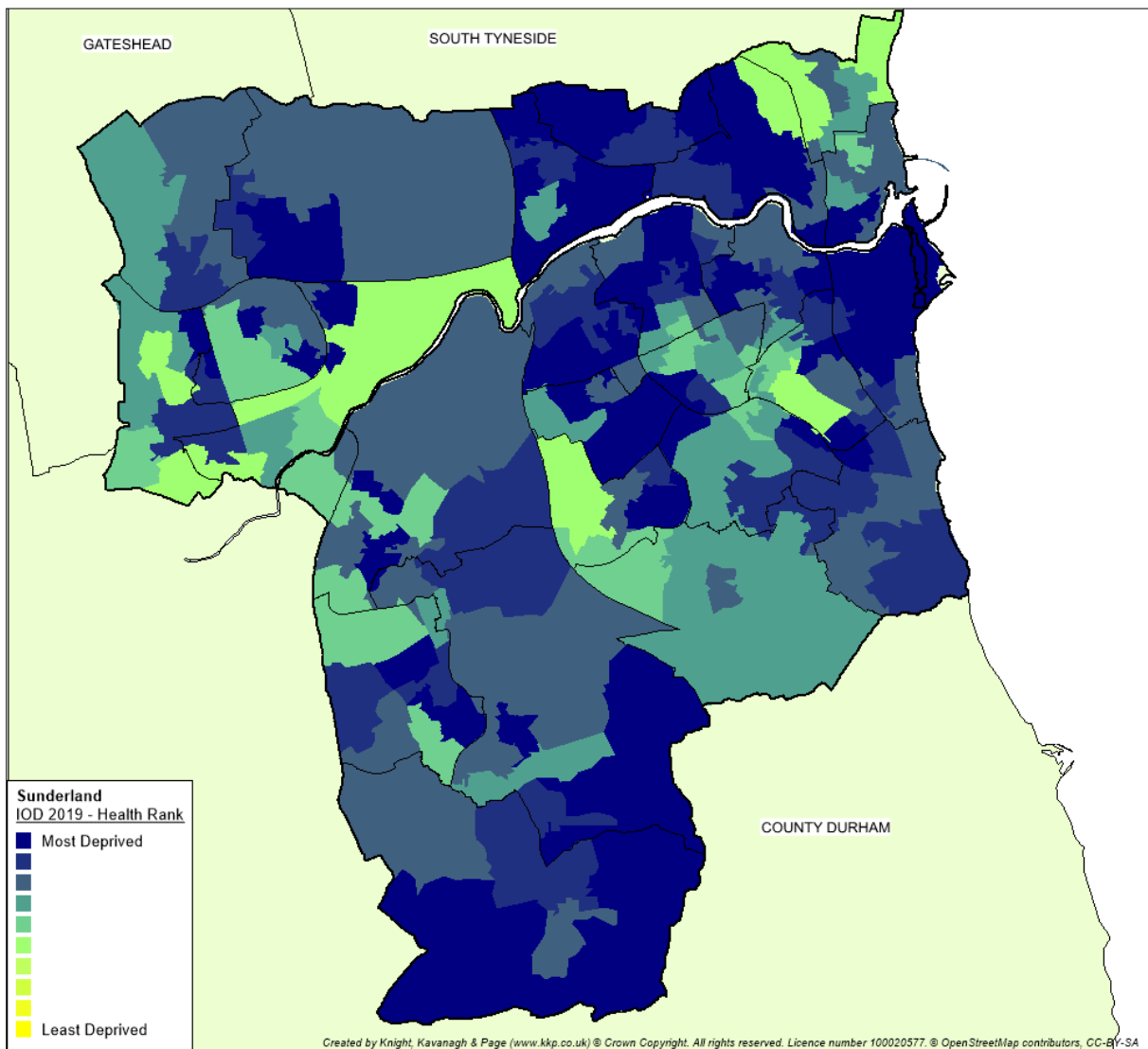
³ Office of National Statistics: Life Expectancy at Birth by local areas in the United Kingdom, 2013.

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Income and benefits dependency (Data source: NOMIS (2017) - The median figure for full-time earnings (2019) in Sunderland is £25,844; the comparative rate for the North East is £27,617 (+6.9%) and for Great Britain: £30,524 (+18.1%). In October 2019 there were 8,570 people in Sunderland claiming out of work benefits; this represents an increase of 39.7% when compared to October 2014 (6,135).

Weight and obesity - Obesity is widely recognised to be associated with health problems such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer. At a national level, the resulting NHS costs attributable to overweight and obesity⁴ are projected to reach £9.7 billion by 2050, with wider costs to society estimated to reach £49.9 billion per year. These factors combine to make the prevention of obesity a major public health challenge. Both adult and child obesity rates in Sunderland are above national rates. Adult obesity rates are above regional rates but obesity in children is below regional rates.

Figure 2.7: Index of health deprivation for Sunderland

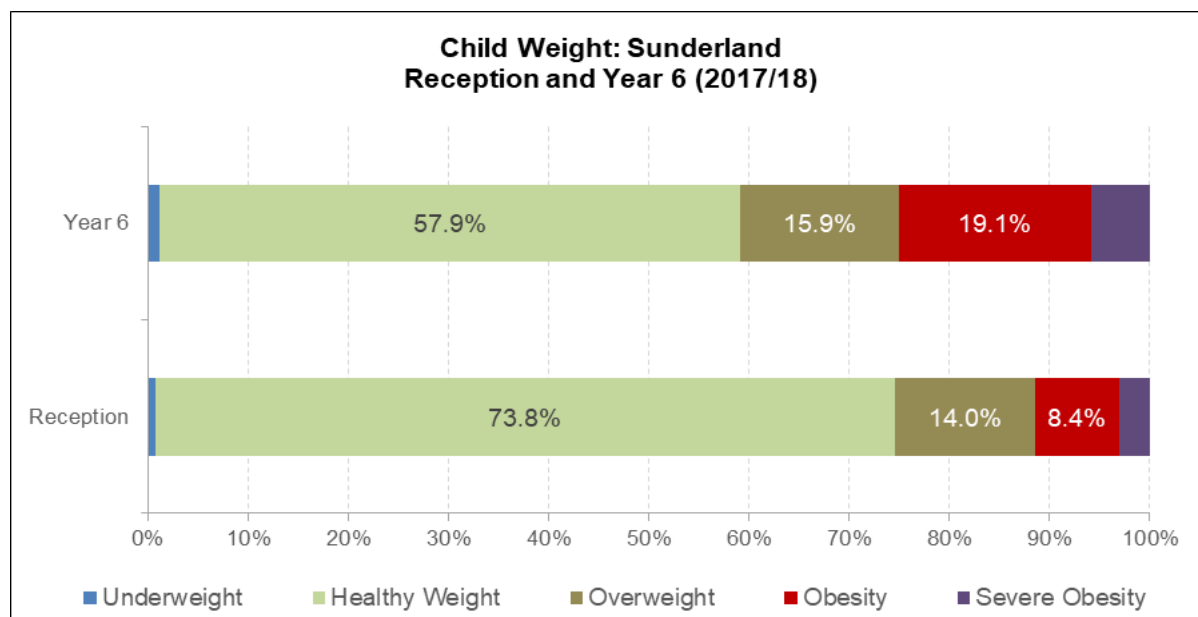


⁴ Adult Weight Data was released in June 2015 for 2012-2014. The child data is for the period 2015-2016

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In common with many other areas, obesity rates increase significantly between the ages of 4 and 11. Just over one in nine (11.4%) in Sunderland are obese in their Reception Year at school and 14.0% are overweight; by Year 6 these figures have risen to a quarter (25.0%) being obese and 15.9% being overweight. In total by Year 6 four in ten (40.9%) are either overweight or obese.

Figure 2.8: Child weight int reception and year 6

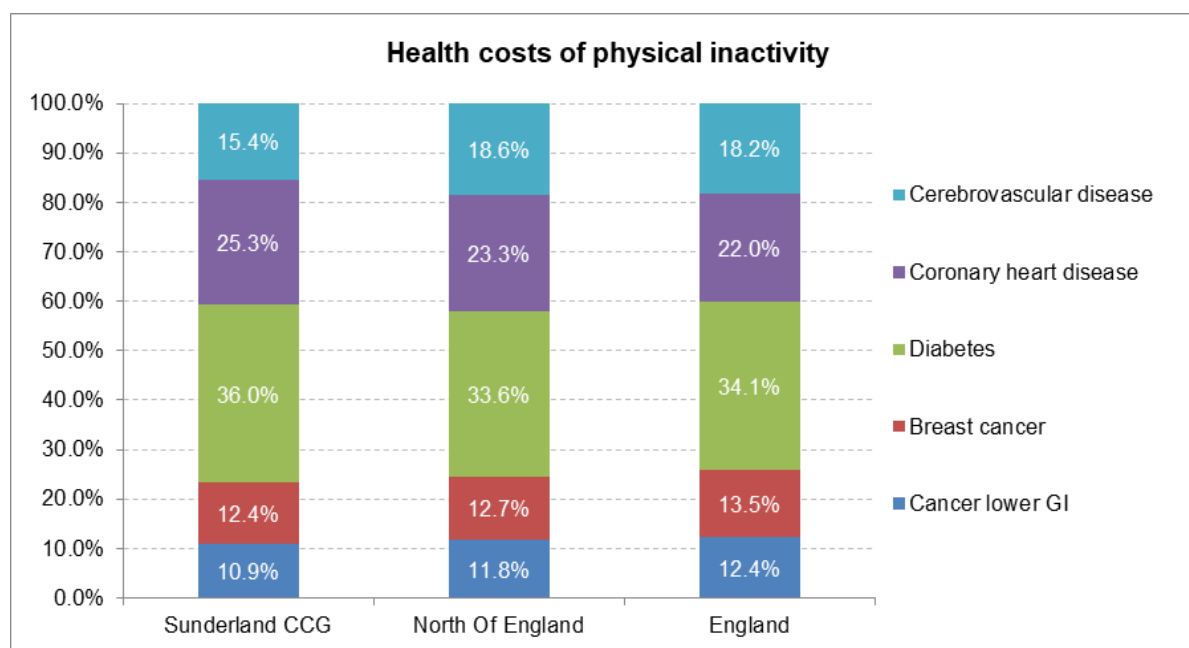


Health costs of physical inactivity

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) Promotion Research Group has reviewed the costs of avoidable ill health that it considers to be attributable to physical inactivity. Initially produced for the DoH report Be Active Be Healthy (2009) the data has subsequently been reworked for Sport England and updated in 2014/15 by Public Health England. Illnesses that the BHF research relates to include cancers such as bowel cancer, breast cancer, type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease and cerebrovascular disease e.g., stroke. The data indicates a similar breakdown between these illnesses regionally and nationally.

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Figure 2.9: Health costs of physical inactivity



The annual cost to the NHS of physical inactivity for the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) within which Sunderland falls is estimated at £2,943,397. When compared to regional and national costs per 100,000, the costs for the CCG (£1,039,559) are 27.2% above the national average (£817,274) and 17.6% above the regional average (£883,672).

It should also be noted that in addition to NHS related costs there are also significant costs to industry in terms of days of productivity lost due to back pain etc. These have also been costed in CBI reports and are of similar magnitude to those incurred by the NHS.

Economic impact and value (Data source: Sport England 2015)

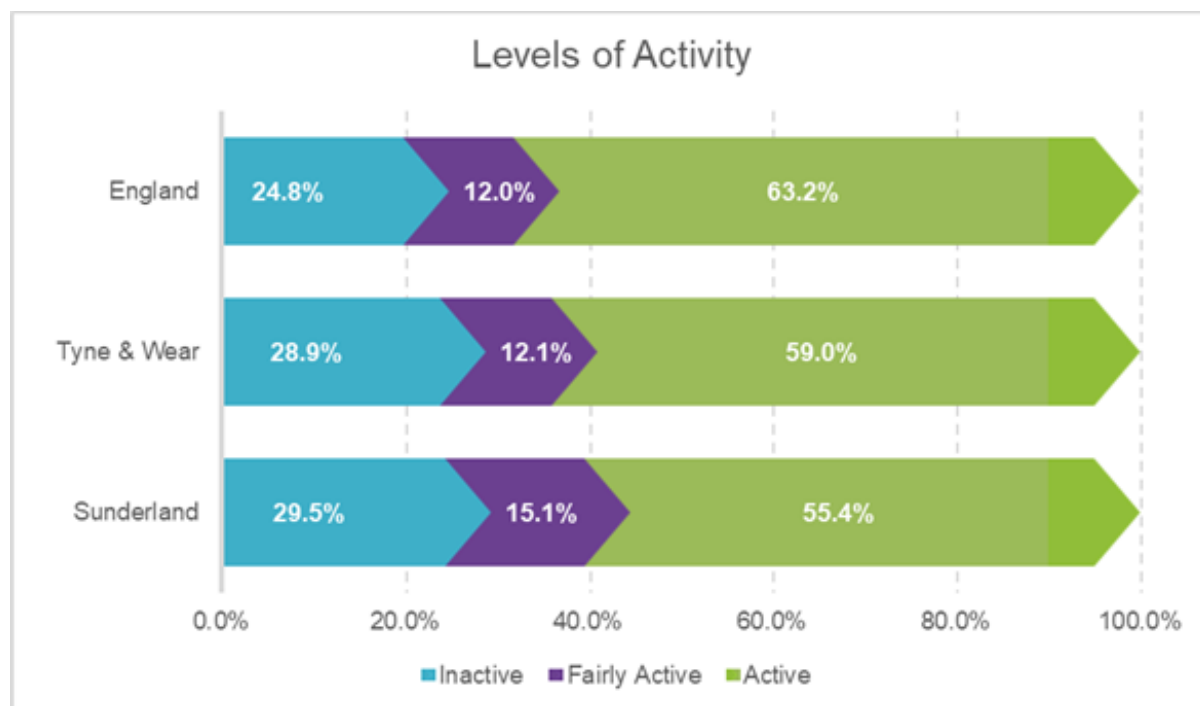
Sport England's economic impact model (which encompasses participation, purchasing of sportswear, gambling, volunteering, attending events, etc.) shows an overall local impact in Sunderland of £24.5 (£17.3m participation, £7.2m non-participation related). This is well above the national average of £20.3 million.

Active Lives

Sport England's Active Lives Survey (ALS) May 18/19, is based on 16+ year olds taking part in walking, cycling, fitness, dance and other sporting activity. As identified in Figure 2.10 the percentage of the population considered to be inactive in Sunderland is 29.5% is slightly higher than the regional (28.9%) but significantly higher than the national averages (24.8%). Levels of identified activity in Sunderland offers a clearer picture in that it has fewer active people (55.4%) than the national (63.2%) and regional (59.0%) averages.

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Figure 2.10: Levels of activity and inactivity



The latest ALS data available for 14/15 year olds is Nov 16/17. This identifies that the percentage of the population considered to be inactive in Sunderland is exceptionally high 28.9% in comparison with the North East (15.3%) and nationally (9.2%). Levels of identified activity in Sunderland also suggest less activity in Sunderland in that it has fewer active children and young people (64.6%) than the national (82.4%) and regional (73.9%) averages.

The most popular sports

A further aspect of the Active Lives Survey is that it makes it possible to identify the top five sports within Sunderland. As with many other areas, structured programme classes and athletics are among the most popular activities and are known to cut across age groups and gender; in Sunderland around 1 in 6 adults go to structured programme classes, on average, at least once a month. The next most popular activity is athletics which 12.3% of adults do on a relatively regular basis.

Table 5: Most popular sports in Sunderland (Source: SE Active Lives Survey Nov 16/17)

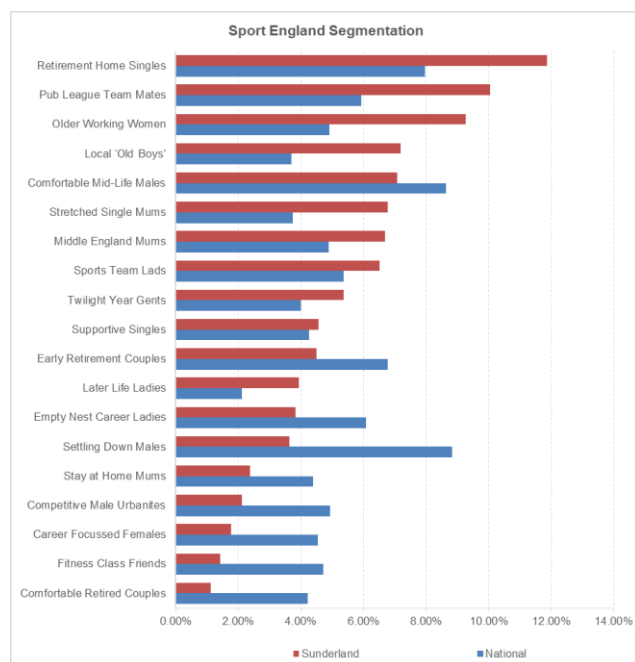
Sport	Sunderland		North East		England	
	No. (000s)	Rate	No. (000s)	Rate	No. (000s)	Rate
Structured Programme Class	37,800	16.4%	369,200	17.0%	7,938,000	17.7%
Athletics	28,200	12.3%	327,900	15.1%	7,266,300	16.2%
Cycling	26,500	11.5%	305,100	14.1%	7,498,900	16.8%
Fitness	25,800	11.2%	283,500	13.1%	5,727,600	12.8%
Swimming	19,900	8.7%	174,100	8.0%	4,651,100	10.4%

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Sporting segmentation (Data source: Market segmentation, Sport England)

Sport England classifies the adult population via a series of 19 market segments which provide an insight into the sporting behaviours of individuals throughout the country. These cover a wide range of characteristics, from gender and age to the sports that people take part in, other interests, the newspapers that they read *etc.*

Figure 2.11: SE segmentation of Sunderland compared to England



The segmentation profile for Sunderland indicates 'Retirement Home Singles' to be the largest segment of the adult population at 11.87% (26,402) compared to a national average of 7.97%. This is closely followed by 'Pub League Team Mates' (10.05%) and 'Older Working Women' (9.26%). At the other end of the spectrum, there are fewest 'Comfortable Retired Couples' with only 1.12% (similar in percentage to the national average), 'Fitness Class Friends' (1.42%) and 'Career Focussed Females' (1.76%). Knowing which segments are most dominant in the local population is important as it can help direct provision and programming.

Segmentation also enables partners to make tailored interventions, communicate effectively with target market(s) and better understand participation in the context of life stage and lifecycles.

Mosaic (Data source: 2018 Mosaic analysis, Experian)

This consumer segmentation product classifies all 25.2 million households into 15 groups, 66 household types and 238 segments. The top five Mosaic classifications in Sunderland compared to the country as a whole are shown below. They represent almost two thirds (66.5%) of the population (national equivalent rate: 36.8%). The two largest segments are 'Municipal Challenge' (at 19.1%) and Vintage Value (at 18%).

Table 2.4: Mosaic – main population segments in Sunderland

Mosaic group description	Sunderland		National %
	#	%	
1 - Municipal Challenge	54,553	19.1%	5.0%
2 - Vintage Value	51,469	18.0%	3.4%
3 - Family Basics	29,490	10.3%	9.8%
4 - Transient Renters	27,400	9.6%	5.9%
5- Suburban Stability	26,951	9.4%	12.6%

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Figure 2.12: Distribution of Mosaic segments in Sunderland

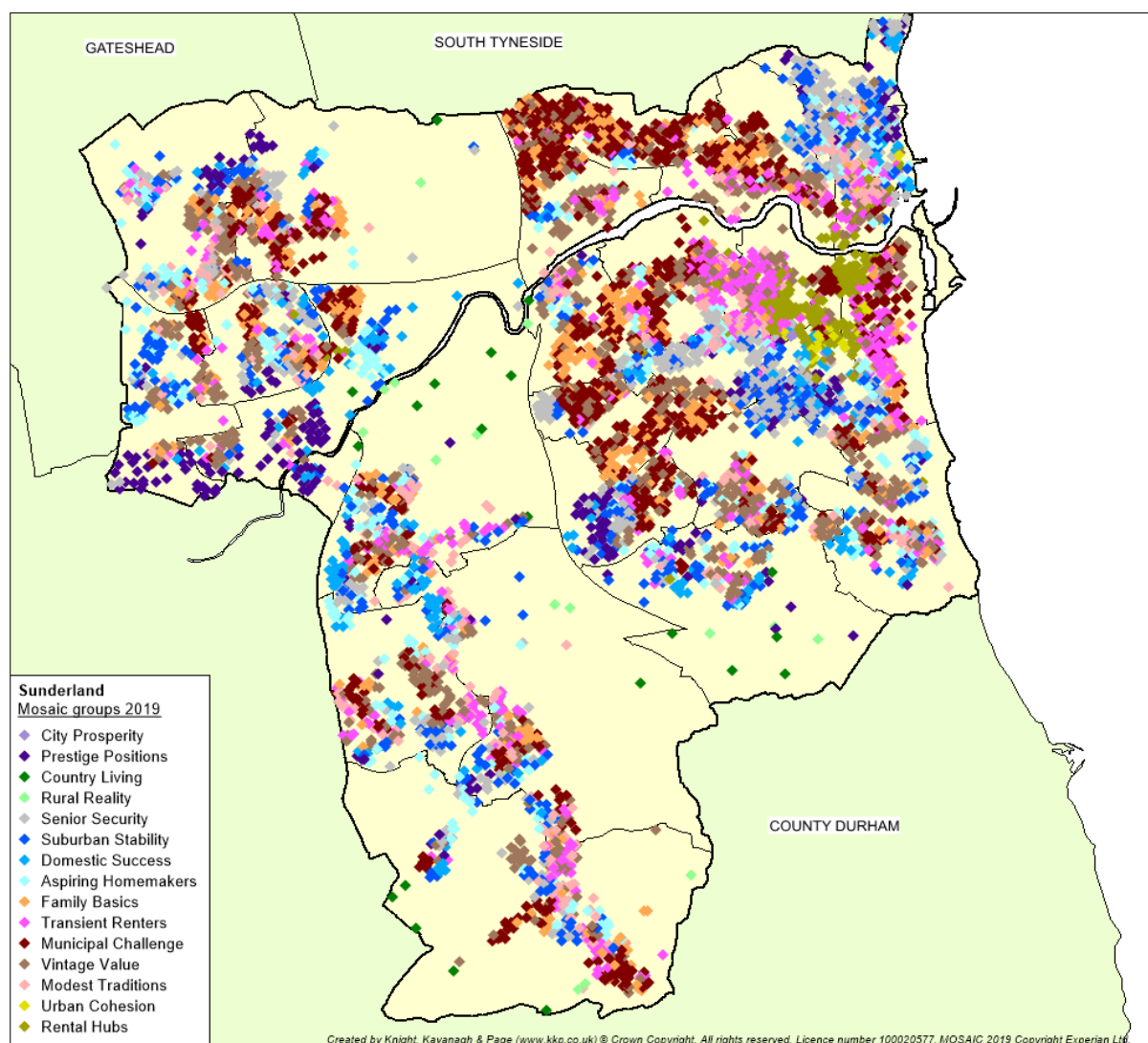


Table 2.5: Dominant Mosaic profiles in Sunderland

Municipal Challenge		Long-term social renters living in low-value multi-storey flats in urban locations, or small terraces on outlying estates. These are challenged neighbourhoods with limited employment options and correspondingly low household incomes.
Vintage Value		Elderly people who mostly live alone, either in social or private housing, often built with the elderly in mind. Levels of independence vary, but with health needs growing and incomes declining, many require an increasing amount of support.
Family Basics		Families with children who have limited budgets and can struggle to make ends meet. Their homes are low cost and are often found in areas with fewer employment options.

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Population projections

The most recent ONS projections indicate that there will be a rise of 0.8% in Sunderland's population (+2,322) over the 17 years from 2016 to 2033. Over this extended timeframe there will be fluctuations across the majority of age groups. Some key points for Sunderland are outlined below:

- ◀ A notable point is the progressive fall in the number of 45-54 year olds, falling by -7,677 (-19.1%) over the first half of the projection (to 2024).
- ◀ There is also a predicted decline in the number of 16-24 year olds, -8.8% in the first period (-2,788) followed by a further smaller decline of -1.9% (-593) in the second period.
- ◀ There is a continuous rise in the numbers of persons aged 65+ by +13.5% (+7,101) in the first period and by +31.4% (+16,472) between 2016 and 2033. This age group represented 18.9% of Sunderland's population in 2016 and is projected to be 24.6% of the total by 2033.

Figure 2.13: Sunderland - ONS projected population (2016 to 2033)

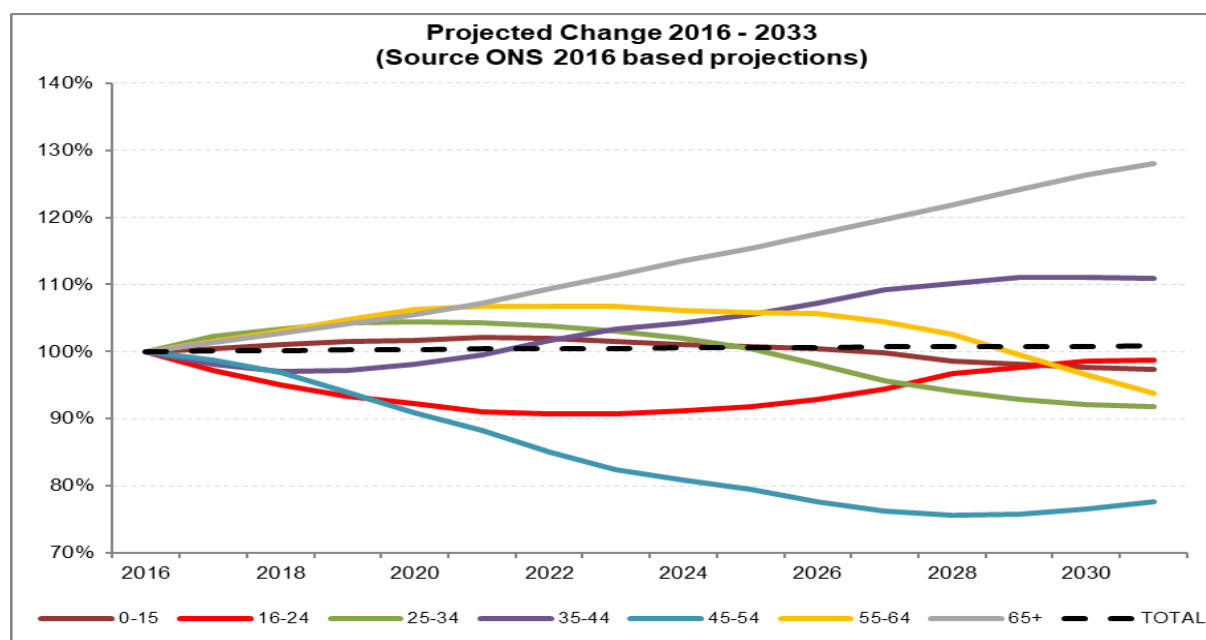


Table 2.6: Sunderland - ONS projected population (2016 to 2033)

Age (years)	Number			Age structure %			Change 2016 – 2033		
	2016	2024	2033	2016	2024	2033	2016	2024	2033
0-15	48,258	48,776	46,623	17.4%	17.5%	16.7%	100.0%	101.1%	96.6%
16-24	31,864	29,076	31,271	11.5%	10.4%	11.2%	100.0%	91.2%	98.1%
25-34	36,151	36,869	33,365	13.0%	13.2%	11.9%	100.0%	102.0%	92.3%
35-44	31,941	33,328	35,113	11.5%	12.0%	12.6%	100.0%	104.3%	109.9%
45-54	40,131	32,454	32,268	14.5%	11.6%	11.5%	100.0%	80.9%	80.4%
55-64	36,524	38,756	32,078	13.2%	13.9%	11.5%	100.0%	106.1%	87.8%
65+	52,438	59,539	68,910	18.9%	21.4%	24.6%	100.0%	113.5%	131.4%
Total	277,307	278,797	279,629	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.5%	100.8%

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Housebuilding and policy

In order to meet identified development needs, the development strategy of SCC sets out the scale and distribution of new development for the plan period up to 2033.

As required by the NPPF, this Plan must define the overall level of growth over the plan period (2015 to 2033), based on the requirement to meet the City's objectively assessed needs (OAN). Determining the OAN for housing has been assisted by the SHMA17. The SHMA identifies the OAN for housing in Sunderland to be an average of 745 net additional dwellings per annum (dpa) each year. This equates to a total housing requirement of at least 13,410 net additional dwellings over the Plan period. The 13,410 net dwellings figure are not a ceiling, but rather the level of growth needed and anticipated to take place over the Plan period.

The Experian jobs growth forecast, utilised for the demographic modelling work within this Plan, assumes a total of 7,200 net additional workforce jobs being created in Sunderland over the plan period. This economic forecast is considered to be realistic as over the past 18 years (1997-2015) 9,630 new jobs have been created in the City.

It is also important that this Plan directs the growth in both employment and housing supply to locations best suited and most attractive to the market, whilst ensuring none of these are overburdened by development, or that certain locations are not starved of growth. As set out in the Sunderland today chapter of the development strategy, the city has experienced a disproportionate distribution of housing development over recent years. The housing distribution is such that the majority of the housing land is located in South Sunderland (43%) and Coalfield (30%) sub-areas.

In part, this has been as a consequence of the lack of available housing sites in the northern part of the city, which can be largely attributed to the presence of the Tyne and Wear Green Belt, which places a significant constraint on the supply of suitable development land. Subsequently, locations such as Washington and Springwell Village have experienced limited development over a number of years. The broad distribution of housing is set out in Table 2.7 overleaf.

The spatial strategy allocates eight Housing Growth Areas (HGAs) (Policies SS2, SS4 and SS7) and amends the Green Belt boundary (as defined on the Policies Map). These HGAs will be able to deliver approximately 930 new homes during the Plan period. These sites range in size from 30 homes to 400 homes and are considered to be the most appropriate and suitable locations for the future expansion of the Existing Urban Area

Table 2.7: Sunderland – Housing distribution projections

Sub area	Distribution percentage
North Sunderland	12%
Urban core	7%
South Sunderland	43%
Coalfield	30%
Washington	9%

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Summary of demographic profile and projection implications

There is only a slight projected increase in the size of the population in the City over the Plan period. The only age group expected to rise significantly in number/proportion is the over 65's. There is, however, a proposal to increase housing in specific areas of the City, as identified in the SCC's Development Strategy.

As a consequence, there is not expected to be a major increase in the number of people wishing to take part in sport and physical activity (potential customers of leisure facilities) due to population growth. Any growth will need to emanate from increasing levels of physical activity in the current population. A key issue will, therefore, be more to do with how the ageing population chooses to use its leisure time and an uplift of demand in the specific areas where major house building is planned.

The importance of ensuring that the proportion of the population which is currently active remains so and that more of the presently inactive become active (sustaining and improving the general health of the local population) will become increasingly relevant. Indoor and built facilities, and programmes of activity therein, need to be capable of adapting to any changing demands and needs associated with demographic change.

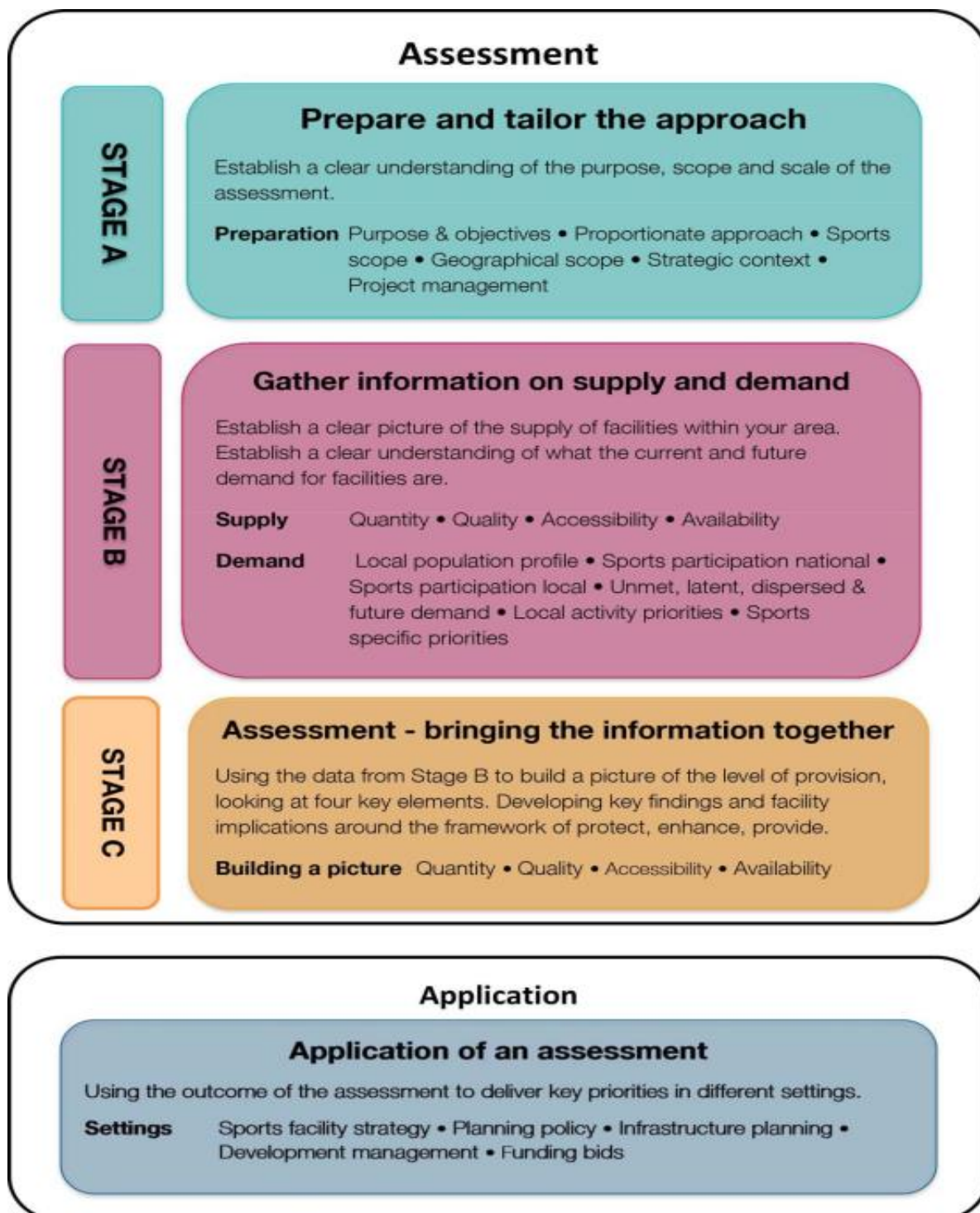
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SECTION 3: INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES ASSESSMENT APPROACH

3.1: Methodology

The assessment of provision is based on the Sport England Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities.

Figure 3.1: Recommended approach



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This provides a recommended approach to undertaking a robust assessment of need for indoor and outdoor sports facilities. It has primarily been produced to help (local authorities) meet the requirements of the Government's NPPF, which states that:

'Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.' (NPPF, Paragraph 96).

Provision assessment involves analysis of quality, quantity, accessibility and availability for the identified facility types (e.g. sports halls and swimming pools). Each venue is considered on a 'like for like' basis within its own facility type, to enable it to be assessed for adequacy.

Demand background, data and consultation is variable, depending upon the level of consultation garnered. In some instances, national data is available whilst in others, it has been possible to drill down and get some very detailed local information. This is evident within the demand section.

The report considers the distribution of and interrelationship between facility types in the Borough and provides a clear indication of areas of high demand. It will identify where there is potential to provide improved and/or additional facilities to meet this demand and to, where appropriate, protect or rationalise the current stock.

Updating information versus new information

ANOG clearly states that local authorities should not need to undertake a comprehensive assessment more frequently than every five years for the majority of facility types. However, any assessment should be regularly looking at short term changes in the supply and demand information and issues. If there is no evidence of any appropriate review and subsequent update being undertaken within five years of an assessment being completed Sport England would not consider the assessment to be up-to-date. After this time it would be difficult to justify that the assessment and information on which it is based is sufficiently robust.

SCC published its needs assessment of all major indoor facilities, apart from swimming pools in December 2015. It has undertaken a light touch annual review of its facilities with its leisure operator (Everyone Active). Consequently, this leisure needs assessment will update the findings of sports halls and health and fitness facilities, whilst undertaking a full ANOG compliant review of swimming pools across the City.

3.2: Site visits

Active Places Power is used to provide baseline data to identify facilities in the study area. Where possible, assessments were undertaken in the presence of facility staff. This tends to add value as it enables access to be gained to more areas within venues and more detailed *in-situ* discussion of issues such as customer perspectives, quality, maintenance etc. Where possible it adds value to the audit (which is a 'snapshot' visit) enhancing the accuracy of insight gathered about the general user experience.

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Site visits to key indoor facilities, those operated by other partners and the voluntary sector have been undertaken. Via the audit and via informal interviews with facility managers this report identifies 'relevance' and 'condition' and describes (e.g.):

- ◀ Facility and scale.
- ◀ Usage/local market.
- ◀ Ownership, management and access arrangements (plus, where available, facility owner aspirations).
- ◀ Management, programming, catchments, user groups, gaps.
- ◀ Location (urban/rural), access and accessibility.
- ◀ Condition, maintenance, existing improvement plans, facility 'investment status' (lifespan in the short, medium and long term).
- ◀ Existing/ planned adjacent facilities.

The assessment form utilised captures quantity and quality data on a site by site basis and feeds directly into the main database allowing information to be stored and analysed. Quality assessments undertaken are rated in the following categories. These ratings are applied throughout the report, regardless of facility type.

Table 3.1: Quality ratings of indoor sports facilities using ANOG

Quality rating	Description
Good	Facility is assessed as being new or recently invested, up to date, well maintained, clean and well-presented and generally no older than ten years. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are new or relatively new with little if any wear and tear. The facility is well lit with a modern feel. Ancillary facilities are welcoming, new or well maintained, fit for purpose, modern and attractive to use.
Above average	Facility is in reasonable condition and is well maintained and presented. May be older but it is fit for purpose and safe. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are in an acceptable condition but may show some signs of wear and tear. Ancillary facilities are good quality, but potentially showing signs of age and some wear and tear.
Below average	Facility is older and showing signs of age and poor quality. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are showing signs of wear and tear. The facility is usable, but quality could be improved. The facility is not as attractive to customers and does not meet current expectations. Ancillary facilities are deteriorating, reasonable quality, but usable.
Poor	The facility is old and outdated. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are aged, worn and/or damaged. The facility is barely usable and at times may have to be taken out of commission. The facility is unattractive to customers and does not meet basic expectations. Ancillary facilities are low quality and unattractive to use.

Ratings are based on non-technical visual assessments. These consider facility age and condition. Surfaces, tiles and walls, line markings and safety equipment are considered and problem areas such as mould, damage, leaks etc. are noted. Condition of fixtures, fittings and equipment is recorded. Maintenance and facility 'wear and tear' is considered as is compliant with the Equality Act, although this is not studied in detail for the purposes of this report. When all data is collated, key facility elements receive an overall quality rating.

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Catchment areas

Applying catchments areas for different provision types enables identification of areas currently not served by existing indoor sports facilities. It is recognised that these can vary from person to person, day to day, hour to hour. This problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchment', defined as the distance travelled by around 75-80% of users (used in the Sport England Facilities Planning Model - FPM). Sport England data indicates that most people will travel up to 20 minutes to access sports facilities.

This, coupled with KKP's experience of working with leisure facilities and use of local data enables identification of catchment areas for sports facilities as follows in table 3.2:

It is understood that village halls and community centres generally cater for a much more local population. With that in mind, catchment areas for village halls are identified as 800m which is considered to reflect a 10-minute walk time.

Table 3.2: Facility catchment areas

Facility type	Identified catchment area by urban/rural
Sports halls	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive
Swimming pools	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive
Health and fitness	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive

3.3: Facilities Planning Model overview

The FPM helps to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities. It has been developed as a means of:

- ◀ Assessing requirements for different types of community sports facilities on a local, regional or national scale.
- ◀ Helping local authorities determine an adequate level of sports facility provision to meet local need.
- ◀ Testing 'what if' scenarios with regard to provision and changes in demand, this includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities and the impact population changes may have on need for sports facilities.

In its simplest form the model seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport are capable of meeting local demand considering how far people are prepared to travel to a facility (using the integrated transport network). To estimate the level of sports facility provision in an area, the model compares the number of facilities (supply) with the demand for that facility (demand) that the local population will generate. The Model is prescriptive and not predictive in that it does not provide precise estimates of the use of proposed facilities. Rather, it prescribes an appropriate level of provision for any defined area in relation to demand and which reflects national expectations and policies.

The FPM is used to test scenarios by predicting the impact of creating a new facility or closing an existing venue, to the overall level of facility provision. It can also take account and model the impact of changes in population, for example, from major housing development. For this assessment, we have used FPM data from two Facilities Planning Model Reports prepared

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by Sport England for Sunderland City Council in February 2020 on the Provision of Swimming Pools and Sports Halls.

3.4: Sports hall sizes

Sport England has updated the Building Bulletin 98 which refers to a minimum size of a 4-court hall as 18m (width) x 33m (length) x 7.6m (height). Since 2012 Sport England and NGBs consider these dimensions to be unsuitable as they do not allow the recommended court sizes for different sports and limits teaching/coaching and flexibility of use.

The individual spatial requirements of sports such as netball, handball, hockey and korfbal that exceed the minimum requirements for 4-badminton courts are critical - extra space will be required both on the width and the length. The updated 4-court hall module suggests nominal dimensions of 34.5m (length) x 20.0m (width) x 7.5m (height) and a larger 5 court hall module with nominal dimensions of 40.6m (length) x 21.35m (width) x 7.5 m (height) being the minimum sizes for multi-sport projects, depending on the range of sports to be accommodated Table 3.3 identifies the required area in square metres for the relevant number of courts.

Table 3.3: Sports hall sizes

Number of courts	Range (area m ²)	Number of courts	Range (area m ²)
0	0 - 180m ²	7	1012 - 1120m ²
1	180 - 225m ²	8	1120 - 1381m ²
2	225 - 459m ²	9	1381 - 1520m ²
3	459 - 544m ²	10	1520 - 1734m ²
4	544 - 759m ²	11	1734 - 1772m ²
5	759 - 867m ²	12	1772 - 2071m ²
6	867 - 1012m ²		

Many older sports halls were constructed to the Building Bulletin 98 specification and are, therefore, likely to restrict some required run-offs, restricting the programmes that can be offered within sports halls

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SECTION 4: SPORTS HALLS

Indoor multi-purpose sports halls are one of the prime sports facilities for community sport. They provide venues suitable to allow a range of sport and recreational activities to be played. The standard methodology for measuring sports halls is the number of badminton courts contained within the floor area.

Sports halls are generally considered to be of greatest value if they are of at least 3+ badminton court size with sufficient height to allow games such as badminton to be played. It should be noted, however, that a 4-court sports hall provides greater flexibility as it can accommodate major indoor team sports such as football (5-a-side and training), basketball and netball. It also has sufficient length to accommodate indoor cricket nets and indoor athletics; as such they tend to offer greater sports development flexibility than the 3-court counterpart.

Larger halls, for example those with six or eight courts, can accommodate higher level training and/or competition as well as meeting day to day need. They may also provide an option for more than one pitch/court increasing flexibility for both training and competition and hosting of indoor central venue leagues for sports such as netball. This assessment considers all 3+ court facilities in Sunderland. Halls that function as specialist venues, such as dance studios are excluded.

4.1: Supply

In compliance with ANOG and as identified above, the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of sports halls was undertaken and completed in December 2015. This section considers any significant changes to the previous study of 3+badminton court halls.

Quantity

Figure 4.1 illustrates all the sports halls in Sunderland City irrespective of size. There are 168 badminton courts across 52 sites. Data is taken from Sport England Active Places Power November 2019.

Sites with halls of two or fewer badminton courts in size, while often appropriate for mat sports, exercise to music and similar provision, are inevitably limited relative to the range and scale of recreational and sporting activity that larger halls can enable. Some venues have more than one activity/sports hall on site.

Table 4.1: Supply of all sports halls in Sunderland

Map ID	Site name	Cts	Map ID	Site name	Cts
1	Aasports Sunderland	3	105	Nissan Sports & Leisure Complex	3
2	Academy 360	4	113	Oxclose Community Academy	0
2*	Academy 360	0	113	Oxclose Community Academy	4
4	Argyle House School	2	115	Pennywell Community Centre	3
11	Barnwell Academy	3	123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	4
12	Beacon of Light #	12	124	Red House Academy	4
16	Biddick Academy	4	125	Redby Community Centre	0
16	Biddick Academy	1	128	Rickleton Primary School	2
25	Castle View Sports Centre	4	134	Sandhill Sports Centre	3

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Map ID	Site name	Cts	Map ID	Site name	Cts
25	Castle View Sports Centre	0	134	Sandhill Sports Centre	4
31	Dame Dorothy Primary School	1	135	Sans Street Community Centre	3
32	David Lloyd (Sunderland)	4	142	Silksworth Community Centre	1
34	Dubmire Junior School	1	150	Southmoor Academy	1
37	Easington Lane Community	0	150	Southmoor Academy	1
37	Easington Lane Community	0	151	Southwick Community Primary	2
39	Easington Lane Primary School	1	155	St Aidans Parish Centre	1
48	Farringdon Community Academy	5	156	St Aidens Catholic Academy	4
48	Farringdon Community Academy	1	159	St Anthonys Catholic Girls Academy	1
56	George Washington Primary	0	159	St Anthonys Catholic Girls Academy	1
56	George Washington Primary	0	159	St Anthonys Catholic Girls Academy	4
63	Grindon Hall Christian School	3	160	St Chads Church Hall	0
64	Grindon Young Peoples Centre	3	162	St Gabriels Church & Community	0
64	Grindon Young Peoples Centre	0	166*	St Robert of Newminster School	4
64	Grindon Young Peoples Centre	0	166	St Robert of Newminster School	1
70	Hetton Comprehensive School	4	168	Sunderland College (Bede Campus)	1
76	Highfield Community Primary	2	168*	Sunderland College (Bede Campus)	3
82	Houghton Sports Centre	4	176	The Venerable Bede C of E Academy	3
82	Houghton Sports Centre	0	181	Thornhill School	1
84	Hylton Castle Primary School	0	181	Thornhill School	1
88	Kepier Academy	1	181	Thornhill School	4
88	Kepier Academy	5	182	Trinity Academy Newbridge	4
91	Lambton Street Youth Community	3	185	University of Sunderland City Space	6
98	Mill Hill Primary School	2	189*	Washington Academy	4
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports	8	191	Washington Leisure Centre	4
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports	1	196	West Community Centre	1
102	New Silksworth Independent Methodist Church	1	200	Bethany City Church	2
Total		168			

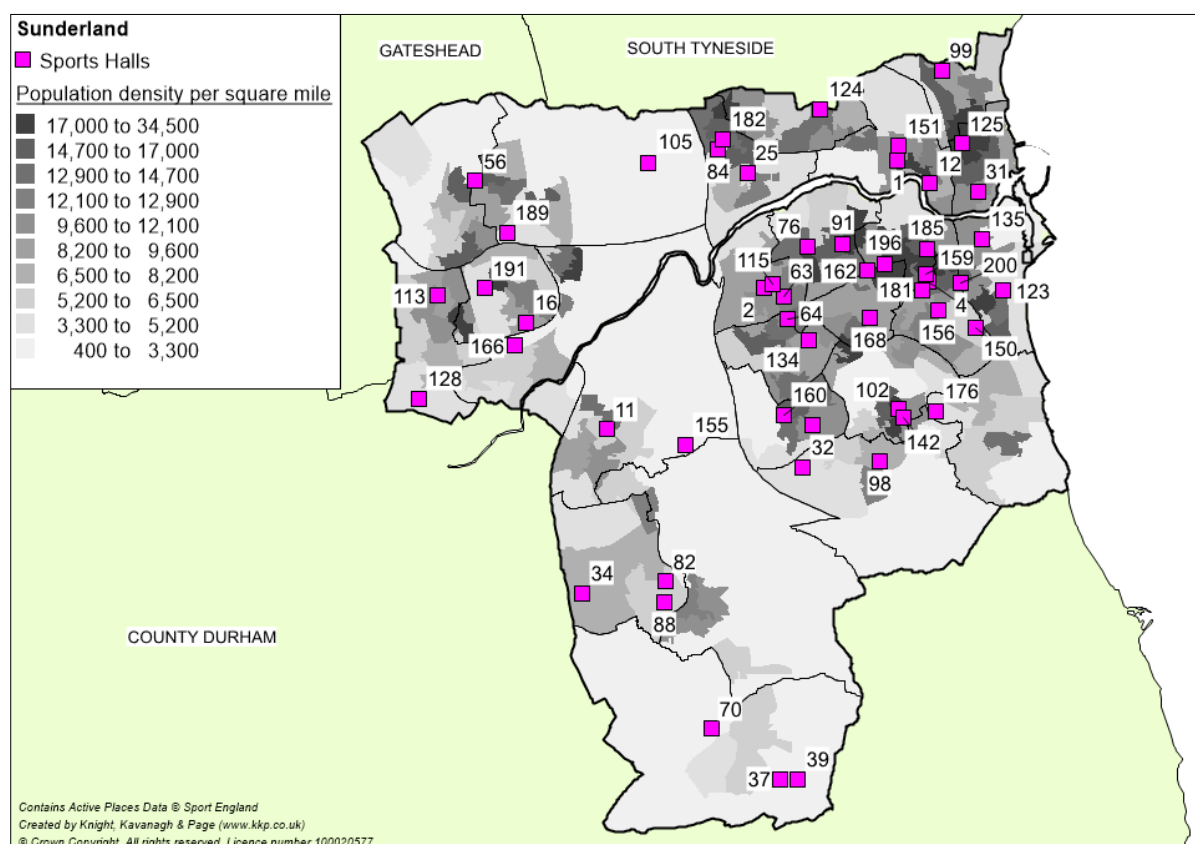
As of November 2019, there are 33 sports halls with 3+ badminton court halls (a total of 137 courts). They are located in the more densely populated areas of the City. They include:

- ◀ Eleven 3-court halls
- ◀ Seventeen 4-court halls
- ◀ Two 5-court halls
- ◀ One 6-court hall
- ◀ One 8-court hall
- ◀ One 12-court hall

(# The Beacon of Light is classed as a 12-court hall as opposed to three 4 court halls).

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Figure 4.1 Supply of all sports halls in Sunderland



4.2: Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM) supply findings

The FPM National Run Report (February 2020) notes the following:

- ✦ There are 37 individual sports halls (of varying sizes) located on 26 sites within Sunderland.
- ✦ This is a total supply of sports halls (in badminton courts) of 146 courts; of which 95 are available in the weekly peak period for community use (known as the effective supply). The peak period is weekday evenings (up to 5 hours per day) and weekend days (up to 7 hours per weekend day). The reason for the difference between the total supply of badminton courts and the effective supply, is because of the variable hours of access for community use at the sports halls located on education sites.
- ✦ Based on a measure of number of badminton courts available for community use per 10,000 population, Sunderland has 5.2. This is the second highest supply based on this measure, after South Tyneside which has 5.3 per 10,000 population. The lowest supply in the region is in Gateshead with 4.0 per 10,000 population.
- ✦ The North East Region and England wide average are both 4.2 badminton courts per 10,000 population.
- ✦ Provision of sports hall space across Sunderland is above three of the neighbouring local authorities, the North East Region and the England wide average.
- ✦ Public leisure centre sites represent 11.5% of the total number of sports hall sites in Sunderland.
- ✦ Sixteen sports hall sites are owned by educational institutions, schools, colleges or higher education. These represent 61.5% of the total number of sports hall sites in Sunderland.

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- ◀ Nine education sports hall sites have a 4-badminton court size sports hall and two education sites have a 3 badminton court main hall.
- ◀ Education sports halls have different hours of access for community use, and outside of education use. Some schools and colleges proactively manage venues for wider community use, predominantly by sports clubs and community groups'. Other schools and colleges let their sports halls on a responsive basis to sports clubs or community groups, for a term or even shorter irregular lettings.
- ◀ The variable education policy and hours for community use of the school and college venues, is the reason why the total supply of sports halls is 146 badminton courts, and the supply available for community use, is 95 badminton courts, in the weekly peak period. In effect, an aggregate total of 51 badminton courts across education sites is unavailable for community use; this represents 35% of the total badminton court supply in Sunderland
- ◀ There are two commercial sports halls sites, the Beacon of Light (2018), which is the most recent sports hall site to open in Sunderland and is the largest with 12 badminton courts, the David Lloyd Centre (1998) is a 4 badminton court size sports hall.

There appears to be a discrepancy in the findings of the audit and Sport England's FPM. This is explained by the fact that the audit (in compliance with Sport England's ANOG methodology) is concerned with sports halls which have 3+ courts and takes account of availability for analysis purposes.

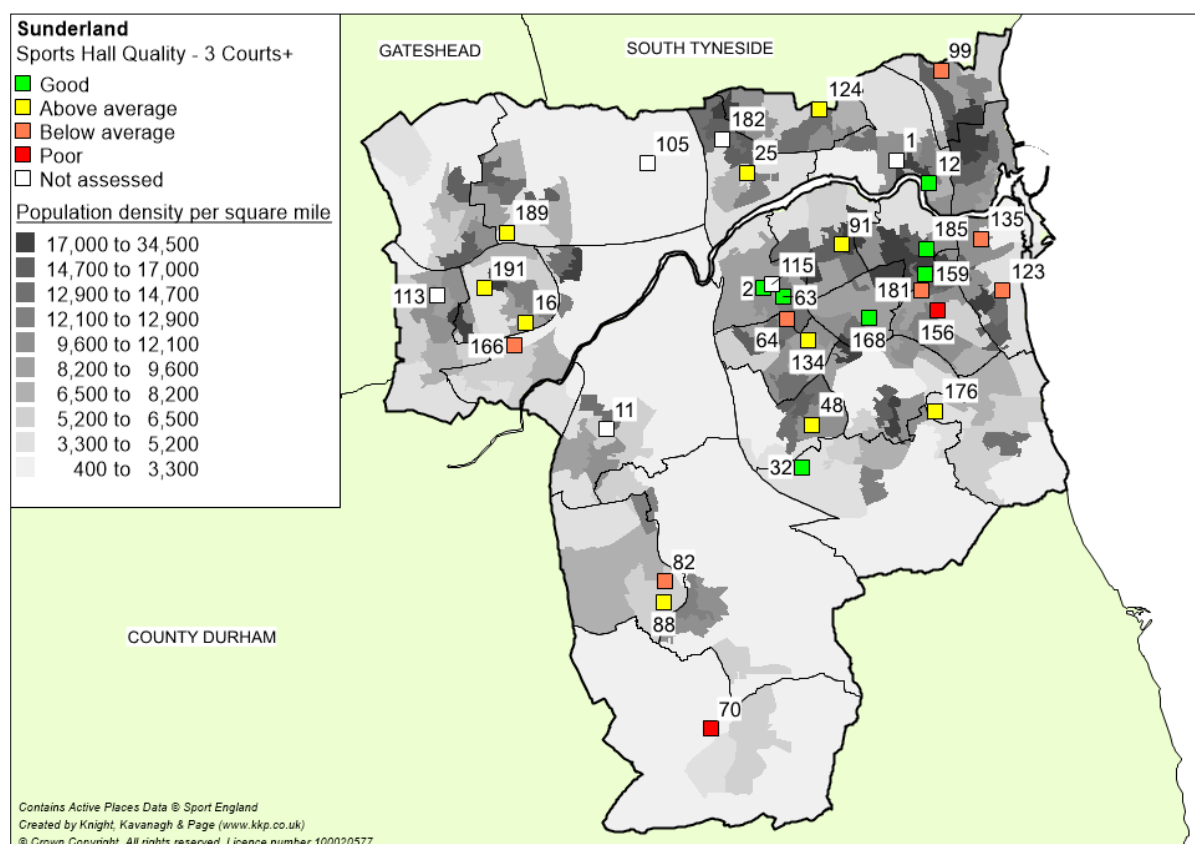
Quality

In complying with Sport England's ANOG methodology, a quality assessment was carried out at all (available sites) which are of 3+ courts (as they are far more flexible in accommodating a variety of sports). The results are set out overleaf in Figure 4.2 and Table 4.2. Where access was not gained, information from the 2016 Leisure Assessment was used (in compliance with ANOG). Of the 33 sites with 3+ court sports halls, it was not possible to assess six. The audit found:

- ◀ The Nissan site was 2 courts in size and is for private use only.
- ◀ Trinity Academy is a special school catering for children with special educational needs and is currently not used for community use. It is unlikely to do so in the future.
- ◀ The 3-court hall at Aasports is used for trampoline and gymnastics rather than traditional sports hall activities.
- ◀ The 3-court hall at Sandhill Sports Centre is identified as not adhering to Sport England Active Places Power criteria.
- ◀ Access was not gained to Barnwell Academy, Oxclose Community Centre nor Pennywell Community Centre. It is, however, understood, that the sports centre at Oxclose was refurbished in 2010 so is likely to be in above average condition.
- ◀ St Anthony's Girls Academy has a new 4-court hall (opened 2018). The School confirms that there is no community use of this sports hall.
- ◀ The Venerable Bede Church of England School sports hall is private use only.
- ◀ Hetton Comprehensive School opened its new 4 court hall in 2016 so (in terms of quality rating goes from poor to good.
- ◀ David Lloyd is a registered membership club and does not offer community availability on a pay and play basis.
- ◀ Grindon Hall Christian School was recently renamed Christ's College.

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Figure 4.2: Sports halls – 3 court plus by condition



(The quality assessment was carried out in November 2019. Where access was not obtained, data from the sports and leisure assessment 2016 was used).

Much of the sports hall stock has either been refurbished or rebuilt since 2000. In addition, the Beacon of Light opened in 2018 and the new 4-court sports hall at Hetton Comprehensive School opened in 2016.

The result is that Sunderland has eight sports halls identified as good, 11 - above average, seven - below average and one in poor condition (St Aidens Catholic Academy). The remaining facilities have not been assessed. In most instances the quality of changing facilities reflects that of the sports halls and only one changing room is identified as poor; the one at Grindon Young People's Centre.

Table 4.2: 3+ courts hall with condition and indication of levels of community use

Map ID	Site name	Courts	CU	Assessment condition	
				Court	Changing
1	AAASports Sunderland	3	Yes	Not assessed	Not assessed
2*	Academy 360	4	Yes	Good	Good
11	Barnwell Academy	3	Yes	Not assessed	Not assessed
12	Beacon of Light	12	Yes	Good	Good
16*	Biddick Academy	4	Yes	Above	Good
25	Castle View Sports Centre	4	Yes	Above	Below average
32	David Lloyd (Sunderland)	4	Yes	Good	Good

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Map ID	Site name	Courts	CU	Assessment condition	
				Court	Changing
48	Farrington Community Academy	5	Yes	Above	Above average
63*	Grindon Hall Christian School	3	No	Good	Good
64*	Grindon Young Peoples Centre	3	Yes	Below	Poor
70*	Hetton Comprehensive School	4	Yes	Good	Below average
82	Houghton Sports Centre	4	Yes	Below	Above average
88*	Kepier Academy	5	Yes	Above	Above average
91*	Lambton Street Youth Community	3	Yes	Above	Above average
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports	8	Yes	Below	Below average
105	Nissan Sports & Leisure Complex	3	No	Not assessed	Not assessed
113	Oxclose Community Academy	4	Yes	Not assessed	Not assessed
115	Pennywell Community Centre	3	Yes	Not assessed	Not assessed
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	4	Yes	Below	Above average
124*	Red House Academy	4	Yes	Above	Good
134	Sandhill Sports Centre	3	Yes	Above	Above average
134	Sandhill Sports Centre	4	Yes	Above	Above average
135*	Sans Street Community Centre	3	Yes	Below	No facility
156*	St Aidens Catholic Academy	4	Yes	Poor	Below average
159	St Anthony's Catholic Girls Academy	4	No	Good	Good
166*	St Robert of Newminster School	4	Yes	Below	Above average
168*	Sunderland College (Bede Campus)	3	No	Good	Good
176*	The Venerable Bede C of E Academy	3	No	Above	Above average
181	Thornhill School	4	Yes	Below	Below average
182	Trinity Academy Newbridge	4	No	Not assessed	Not assessed
185*	University of Sunderland City Space	6	Yes	Good	Good
189*	Washington Academy	4	Yes	Above	Good
191	Washington Leisure Centre	4	Yes	Above	Above average
Total		137			

*community association

Sites shaded in grey differed in size when audited as mentioned above

Whilst acknowledging that sports halls which are smaller than 3 courts or which are designated as offering private access do accommodate some community use, the level is limited. David Lloyd has a membership fee to join with monthly payments of over £66.00. This renders the facility unavailable to a large number of people in Sunderland, although it is acknowledged that it does serve a specific market segment and adds to the mixed economy of facilities.

Taking out the three facilities (Nissan Sport and Leisure, Sandhill Sports Centre and AAASports) which do not correspond with use, Table 4.3 identifies the management arrangements at the different size halls in Sunderland.

Management and ownership of sports halls

The 16 sports hall sites owned by educational institutions, schools, colleges or higher education represent 61.5% of the total number of sports hall sites in Sunderland. Everyone Active manage public leisure centres sites on behalf of SCC; the Beacon of Light (12 court hall) is operated by a Trust and David Lloyd is run commercially.

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The largest education sports hall site is Monkwearmouth Academy sports hall (opened 1975 and modernised in 2012), which has an 8-court sports hall, plus an activity hall. The next largest education sports hall is the 6-court size sports hall at the University of Sunderland City Space (2009).

There are 5-court sports halls, located at Farrington Community Academy (opened 1985 and modernised in 2014) and Kepier Academy (opened 1993 and modernised in 2011). Nine education sports hall sites have a 4-court sports hall and two have a 3-court main hall. The size of a 4 badminton court sports hall varies. Four education sites have main sports halls with dimensions of 34.5m x 20m (Hetton Comprehensive School – opened 2016; Oxclose Community Academy – opened 1974 and modernised in 2010; St Aidens Catholic Academy – opened 1960 and modernised in 2003 and Washington Academy - opened in 2009).

As noted above, Everyone Active operates three sports hall on behalf of SCC. The influence of the Council is, therefore, limited. The majority of indoor sports halls are managed in-house by schools and academies. Some only operate in term times. This means that public and community access can be more restricted and potential for joint work more inconsistent.

When availability to the community is taken into consideration, there are 23 sports halls available offering 104 courts available for community use. These are identified in Table 4.3 alongside the main sports and physical activities offered.

Table 4.3: Community use of sports halls in Sunderland

Community use hours	ID	Site	Total courts	Main sports played	Year built	
1 - 40	16	2	Academy 360 (Term time access only)	4	Majority use; football	2009
	17.5	166	St Robert of Newminster School	4	Badminton, basketball, cricket, volleyball	1972
	20	124	Red House Academy	4	All football	2002
	20	156	St Aidens Catholic Academy	4	Football, rugby, basketball, badminton	1960
	20	189	Washington Academy (Secondary School)	4	All football	2009
	22.5	99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports Centre	8	Football, basketball, badminton	1975
	24	48	Farrington Community Academy	5	Basketball, cricket, badminton, Futsal	1985
	25	88	Kepier Academy	5	Football, athletics, archery, cricket	1993
	35.75	113	Oxclose Community Academy	4	Badminton, basketball, table tennis	1974
	36	16	Biddick Academy	4	Basketball, badminton	1985
	36	70	Hetton Comprehensive School	4	Football, gymnastics, badminton, rugby, cricket	2016
	36	181	Thornhill School	4	Football, cricket, basketball, rugby	2006
	38	134	Sandhill Sports Centre	4	Badminton, zumba, gymnastics table tennis, football, walking football, cheerleading, karate	2002

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Community use hours	ID	Site	Total courts	Main sports played	Year built	
40+	46	25	Castle View Sports Centre	4	Football, badminton, roller skating	1997
	60	135	Sans Street Community Centre	3	Mainly Football	1969
	62.25	64	Grindon Young Peoples Centre	3	Limited to dance and gymnastics	1966
	77	91	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub	3	Boxing, football, circuits	2002
	77	115	Pennywell Community Centre	3	Trampoline	1981
	81	12	Beacon of Light	12	Netball, futsal, indoor cricket, basketball, badminton events	2018
	86	82	Houghton Sports Centre	4	Football, archery, badminton, gymnastics, parties	1984
	87.5	123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	4	Football, badminton, athletics, gymnastics, trampoline	2001
	95.5	191	Washington Leisure Centre	4	Trampoline, gymnastics, football, badminton, taekwondo, roller skating	2015
	97	185	University of Sunderland City Space	6	Football, futsal, netball, volleyball	2009

Football remains a popular indoor activity despite the recent (2019/20) development of Sunderland Football Hub (Park Life) facilities in the City. Everyone Active, which manages sports halls on behalf of SCC indicate that it accommodates young children's football only indoors with older groups expected to use 3G pitches where possible. There is a broad range of facilities on offer in a wide range of venues.

Trampoline is strong in the city with extended activity at Washington Leisure Centre and Pennywell Community Centre. There is also a range of recreational and higher-level gymnastics. Archery is growing and has extended into two facilities in recent years. Walking football, futsal and walking netball are increasingly popular daytime activities reportedly drawing in harder to reach groups.

The Beacon of Light has seen netball gain significant traction in the City once again. A two-year community use agreement (CUA) between England Netball and the Foundation of Light Trust ensures a significant volume of activity at the venue, ranging from central venue leagues for local clubs to Super League netball. The four partners involved include Wearside Wildcats, North Durham Netball League, North East Association and England Netball. It is fair to describe netball as an 'anchor tenant'.

Consultation also indicates that the Beacon of Light is reportedly at c. 80.0%-85.0% capacity during peak times and operating at c.55.0% during off peak times. This usage level is further lifted by the Foundation of Light School located at the site. It is a high-quality facility which also lends itself to events. An important issue, of which management is aware, is the extent to which events can negatively affect and interrupt regular participation.

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Block bookings are a key feature at most of the indoor sports halls. Washington Leisure Centre suggests that futsal is growing, however consultation also identified that the key age group of 11-15 year olds is really difficult to attract to any facility, unless they are already part of a club.

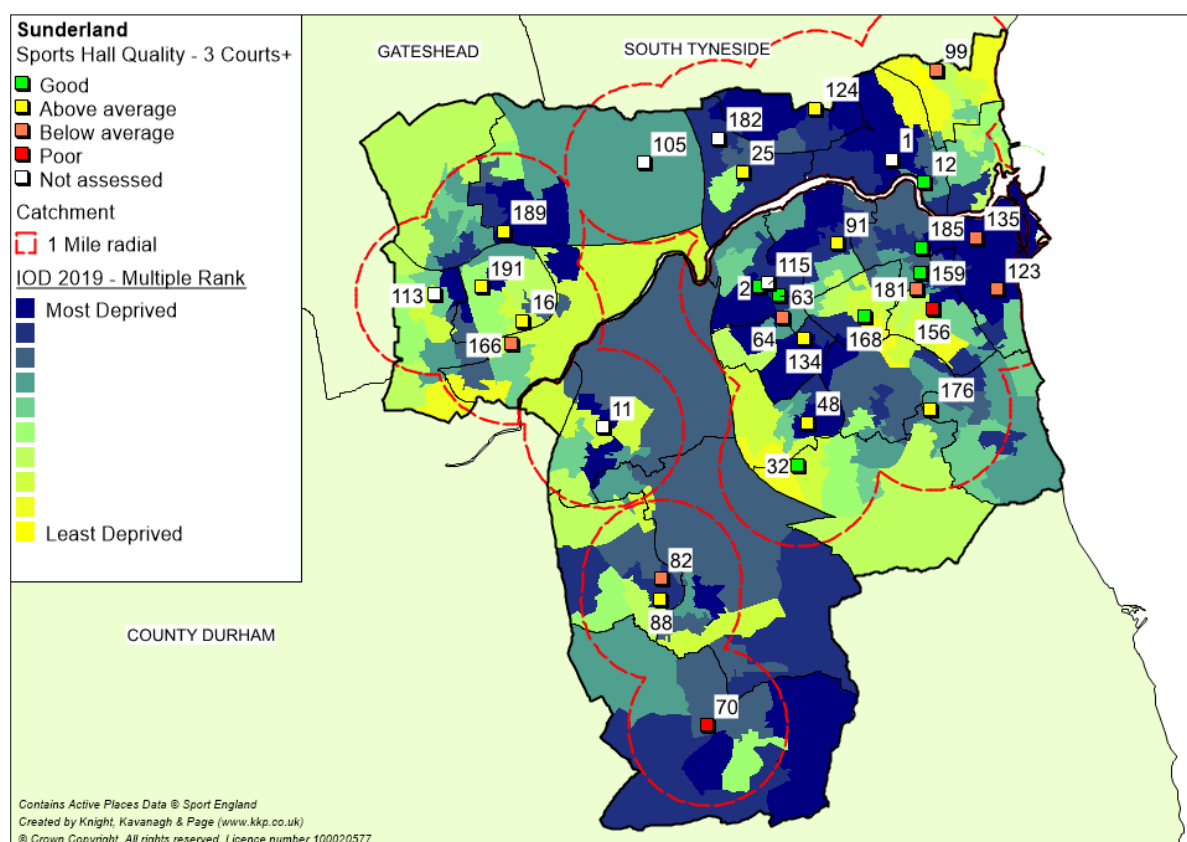
Accessibility

Sports hall accessibility is influenced by how far people are willing and able to travel to and from them. Appropriate walk and drive-time catchments are applied to facilities to determine accessibility of facilities to different communities. The normal acceptable (industry) standard is a 20-minute walk time (one-mile radial catchment) for an urban area and a 20-minute drive time for a rural area. Sport England's FPM identifies that:

- ◀ 33.8% of Sunderland's resident population do not have access to a car, (2011 Census).
- ◀ 65% of visits to sports halls in Sunderland are made by car (up to 20 minutes' drive time), 23% of all visits to sports halls are by walking (20 minutes/1-mile catchment area), and 12% of visits are by public transport (20 minutes catchment area).
- ◀ More than one in three sports hall visits is achieved via people utilising a combination of walking and public transport.

Analysis of mapping data indicates that 90.8% of the population resides within a 20 minutes' walk of a sports hall and 9.2% thus live outside of this catchment. Figure 4.3 shows that the areas of higher population are generally within a catchment of a main sports hall.

Figure 4.3: All 3+ courts by condition on IMD with 1 mile walk time



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Table 4.4: IMD 2019 populations: Sunderland 3 Courts+ (including private use), 1 mile radial

IMD 2019 10% bands	Sunderland		Sports halls – 3 courts+ (including private use) catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	62,090	22.4%	59,931	21.7%	2,159	0.8%
10.1 - 20	50,382	18.2%	45,976	16.6%	4,406	1.6%
20.1 - 30	35,839	12.9%	33,462	12.1%	2,377	0.9%
30.1 - 40	33,695	12.2%	29,802	10.8%	3,893	1.4%
40.1 - 50	24,910	9.0%	23,356	8.4%	1,554	0.6%
50.1 - 60	13,208	4.8%	12,141	4.4%	1,067	0.4%
60.1 - 70	21,797	7.9%	14,417	5.2%	7,380	2.7%
70.1 - 80	23,417	8.5%	21,439	7.7%	1,978	0.7%
80.1 - 90	10,344	3.7%	9,610	3.5%	734	0.3%
90.1 - 100	1,131	0.4%	1,131	0.4%	0	0.0%
Total	276,813	100.0%	251,265	90.8%	25,548	9.2%

There is an increase of up to 13.2% living outside the 20 minutes' walk time when taking into consideration those facilities which offer community availability. The data also indicates that 53.5% of the Sunderland population live in the most deprived (0 - 30% IMD) wards.

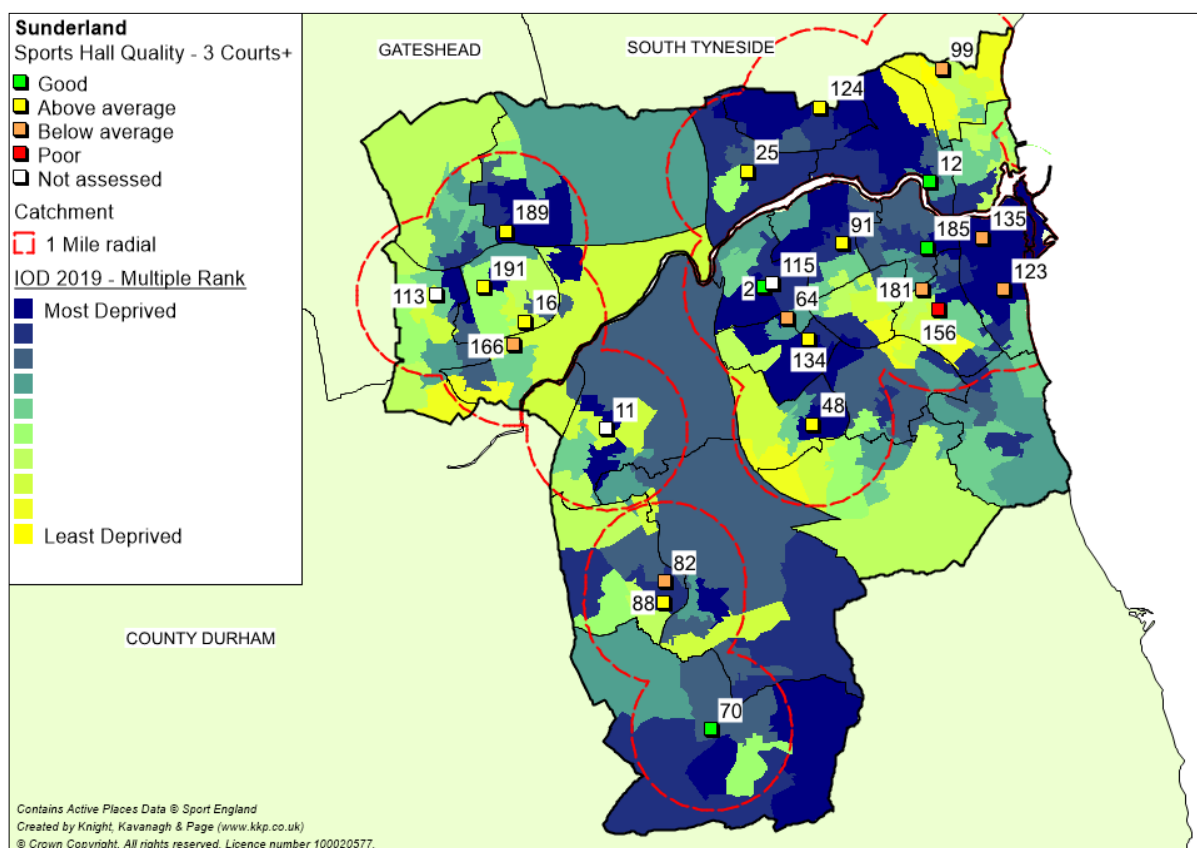
Over 90.0% of this population lives within one mile of a community available sports hall. This suggests that (all other things being equal) the City's facilities are located in areas where they are very accessible to the local community. All Sunderland's resident population is located within 20 minutes' drive time of a community available sports hall.

Table 4.5: Accessibility of community available sports halls in Sunderland

IMD 2019 10% bands	Sunderland		Sports halls – 3 courts+ (including private use) catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	62,090	22.4%	59,764	21.6%	2,326	0.8%
10.1 - 20	50,382	18.2%	43,897	15.9%	6,485	2.3%
20.1 - 30	35,839	12.9%	28,446	10.3%	7,393	2.7%
30.1 - 40	33,695	12.2%	26,225	9.5%	7,470	2.7%
40.1 - 50	24,910	9.0%	20,655	7.5%	4,255	1.5%
50.1 - 60	13,208	4.8%	11,586	4.2%	1,622	0.6%
60.1 - 70	21,797	7.9%	14,011	5.1%	7,786	2.8%
70.1 - 80	23,417	8.5%	21,339	7.7%	2,078	0.8%
80.1 - 90	10,344	3.7%	9,609	3.5%	735	0.3%
90.1 - 100	1,131	0.4%	1,131	0.4%	0	0.0%
Total	276,813	100.0%	236,663	85.5%	40,150	14.5%

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Figure 4.4: Accessibility of community available sports halls in Sunderland (23 halls)



When taking account of community available 3+court sports halls, 14.5% of the population live further than one mile away from them (as opposed to 9.2% of all facilities identified above). Coverage in areas of higher deprivation is similar; 47.8% live within one mile of a community available facility as opposed to 50.4% who live within one mile of all 3+ courts. Accessibility is influenced by facilities located outside the Authority boundary. Figure 4.4 and Table 4.6 identify those located within two miles of the border for analysis purposes

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Figure 4.5: 3+ court sports halls in Sunderland and 4 court+ within 2 mile radial catchment

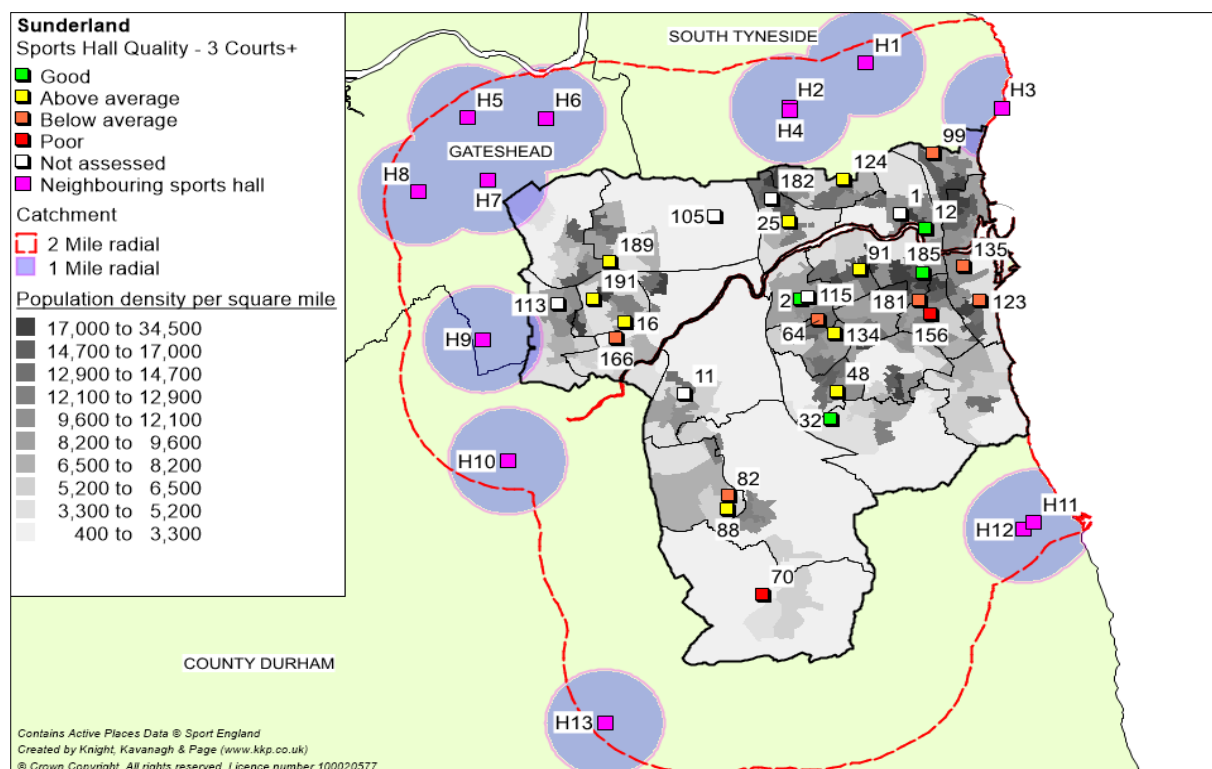


Table 4.6: 4 Court sports halls within 2 miles of the City of Sunderland boundary

Map ID	Site name	Courts	Access type	Local authority
H1	South Shields School	4	Sports Club / CA	South Tyneside
H2	Boldon Community Association	4	Pay and Play	South Tyneside
H3	Whitburn C of E Academy	4	Sports Club / CA	South Tyneside
H4	Boldon School	4	Sports Club / CA	South Tyneside
H5	Elgin Centre	3	Pay and Play	Gateshead
H6	Heworth Grange Comprehensive School	4 x 2	Sports Club / CA	Gateshead
H7	Cardinal Hume Catholic School	4	Sports Club / CA	Gateshead
H8	Joseph Swan Academy	4	Sports Club / CA	Gateshead
H9	Birtley Leisure Centre	4	Pay and Play	Gateshead
H10	Park View School (Church Chare)	6	Sports Club / CA	County Durham
H11	Seaham Youth Centre	3	Sports Club / CA	County Durham
H12	Seaham Leisure Centre	4	Pay and Play	County Durham
H13	Belmont Community School	4	Sports Club / CA	County Durham

Source: Active Places Power 23/01/2020

NB: Sports Club / CA = Sports Club / Community Association

For the most part, Figure 4.4 indicates that the facilities located on the outskirts of SCC are not accessible using the 20 minutes' walk time radial catchment model for Sunderland residents. There are, however, 13 facilities within 2 miles, of which four offer pay and play opportunity and are likely to service some Authority residents.

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Summary of supply

There are 52 sites with 168 courts with at least one badminton court in Sunderland; of these 33 have three courts or more with a total of 137 courts. It is identified that 23 sports halls are community available offering 104 courts. There are 12 court, 8 court and 6 court facilities available allowing a wide variety of indoor sports to be played within the City. The remainder comprise four and three court halls.

The FPM concludes that there is sufficient sports hall space to accommodate all current demand and that halls are generally in areas of higher population density ensuring that satisfied demand is extremely high. This concurs with the audit which identifies that sports halls are also located in areas of higher deprivation. The quality of the stock has improved within the past three to four years with the Beacon of Light, Hetton Comprehensive School and St Anthony's School amongst the new stock. The Seaburn Centre, which was an 8-court hall in poor condition has now closed, leaving people in the north east of the City with a little further to travel.

The volume of community use varies throughout the City. Many facilities are dominated by indoor football, which reduces time available for the development of other sports. Twenty of the sports hall are situated on education sites, a large proportion of the current stock. Much of the time offered for community use on education sites is generally available in term time only and, in many instances, ceases during exam periods also. Further, only two facilities suggest that they are available to extend community use time.

4.3 Demand

As identified above the percentage of the population considered to be inactive in Sunderland is 29.5% slightly higher than the regional (28.5%) but higher than the national (24.8%) average. Levels of identified activity in Sunderland offer a clearer picture in that Sunderland has fewer active people (55.4%) than national (63.2%) and regional (59.0%) averages.

Facilities Planning Model

This is based on calculated demand as outlined below; data is once again taken from the February 2020 National Run of the Sport England FPM Sunderland Profile Report. It finds that:

- ◀ The population of Sunderland in 2019 generates a demand for 77.5 badminton courts in the weekly peak period. This compares to a supply of 95.1 badminton courts available. So, the Sunderland supply exceeds demand by 17 badminton courts (rounded).
- ◀ However, as set out in the supply findings, the total supply is 146 badminton courts, and which exceeds demand by 68.5 badminton courts, in the weekly peak period.
- ◀ In 2019 Sunderland satisfied demand for sports halls is 92.4% of the total demand (which is very high). Satisfied demand is the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the sports halls from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a sports hall
- ◀ Retained demand measures how much of the Sunderland satisfied demand is met at sports halls in the city. This is based on the catchment area of the city's sports halls and residents using the sports hall nearest to where they live. Retained demand is 84% of the total 92% Sunderland satisfied demand for sports halls.

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- ◀ The location and catchment areas of sports halls in Sunderland correlated closely with the location of local demand.
- ◀ The residual of satisfied demand after retained demand is exported demand. Again, based on Sunderland residents using the nearest venue to where they live, and which is a sports hall in a neighbouring authority. Sunderland exports 16% of its satisfied demand for sports halls.
- ◀ Total unmet demand is 7.6% of the total demand; this equates to just fewer than six badminton courts. Of the total unmet demand, only 2.5% relates to lack of sports hall capacity - 97.5% is unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a sports hall.
- ◀ There is no cluster location of high unmet demand that warrants considering increasing the provision of sports halls, to improve accessibility for residents.
- ◀ Used capacity is an estimated measure of usage and throughput at sports halls and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. The FPM is designed to include a 'comfort factor', beyond which, the venues are too full. Sport England sets the comfort level at 80% of capacity used at peak times (weekday evenings and weekend days).
- ◀ Sunderland sports halls, as a city-wide average, are estimated to be operating at 59.4% of used capacity in the weekly peak period week day evenings (up to 5 hours per day) and weekend days (up to 7 hours per weekend day).
- ◀ Findings for individual sports hall vary considerably from the city-wide average, for several reasons including the facts that public leisure centres have:
 - ◀ The highest accessibility for sports club and public use
 - ◀ Time available for day use, which is not possible at education venues during term time
 - ◀ Operators which actively promote hall sports and physical activity participation and use programmes which reflect the activities and times at which customers wish to participate.
 - ◀ For all these reasons, public leisure centres draw effect, and the used capacity findings are higher than the Sunderland average; estimated at: 81% - Houghton Sports Centre, 91% - Raich Carter Sports Centre; and 100% - Washington Leisure Centre
- ◀ The used capacity of a sports hall does depend on the hours available for community use. Self-evidently a sports hall on an education site which is only available for a few hours a week, and with an irregular pattern of club use, is very different from a public leisure centre sports hall with a full programme of use. An education venue with only a few hours of community use, can very quickly establish a high used capacity. The estimated used capacity for the education venues ranges from 31% at Monkwearmouth Academy Sports centre (but see the fifth point) to 100% at Barnwell Academy.
- ◀ The level of used capacity at education sports halls, also reflects the policy of each school/college on community use. Some schools and colleges actively promote community use, whilst other education venues let the sports halls, to requests for lets from sports clubs or community groups on a term, or, even shorter periods.
- ◀ It is important to consider the size of the sports hall as well as the percentage figure when looking at used capacity. Monkwearmouth Academy sports hall has an estimated used capacity of 31% in the weekly peak period but it has an eight court main hall, plus an activity hall. So it can accommodate much more use than (for example) the 100% of used capacity at the three badminton court sports hall at Barnwell Academy.

NGB and club consultation

Archery

Houghton Archers: This established club, founded in 2012, currently has 70 members ranging from eight to 80 in age. It uses two indoor ranges at Houghton Sports Complex and Houghton Kepier School. In addition, it has recently secured access to an outdoor venue at Houghton Sports and Social Club, so is keen to increase participation as a direct result.

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The Club has an affiliation with Sunderland University and a strong coaching infrastructure with three county coaches, a level 2 coach and candidate and three level 1 coaches. It aspires to continuously increase the number of coaches in order to help as many members play for fun as well as competing in competitions.

It also caters for people with access needs having a visually impaired archer who competes in the blind veteran's category, a member who has had a heart transplant who competes in the British Transplant Games as well as an amputee who does wheelchair archery.

The Club indicates that its two indoor venues are in good condition with the slight caveat that it would prefer improved lighting at Kepier School to increase brightness. It owns its own equipment (purchased in 2013), some of which is in need of renewal.

Badminton

The Badminton England National Facilities Strategy (2020-2025) has recently been refreshed. Strategy objectives all match and reflect the ambitions set out in the 2017-2024 Discover Badminton Strategy. The vision is 'that everyone in England should have access to a badminton court that enables them to play at the right level - for them'. The overall statistics for badminton in Sunderland are that there are:

- ◀ 229,713 adults (16+).
- ◀ 14,116 aged 11-15 (juniors).
- ◀ Four affiliated clubs with 75 affiliated members.
- ◀ Projected adult population in 2030 will increase by 2,652 (1.15%).
- ◀ Projected junior population in 2030 will increase by 1,125 (7.97%).

Badminton participation statistics indicate that:

- ◀ 0.44% of adults (35.93% male and 64.07% female) have played badminton at least twice in the last 28 days⁵. This equates to **1,000 regular adult players**.
- ◀ 6.00%⁶ of juniors⁵ have played badminton at least twice in the last 28 days. This equates to **847 regular junior players**.
- ◀ It is estimated that 2.83% of adults have played badminton at least once in the last 12 months. This equates to **5,500 occasional adult players**⁷ (2.39% latent demand).

Demand for badminton is estimated as follows:

- ◀ The presumption is that **regular adult players** play once per week for one hour and that their average need is for 3 adults per court. This equates to a weekly requirement for **334 court hours** (current demand).
- ◀ The presumption is that **regular junior players** play once per week for 45 minutes and that their average need is for 4 players per court. This equates to a weekly requirement for **159 court hours** (current demand).
- ◀ The presumption is that **occasional adult players** play four times per annum for one hour and that their average need is for 3 adults per court. This requires **142 court hours** (latent demand).
- ◀ To service all badminton demand there is a need for **635 court hours** per week.

⁵ ALS states that people that have participated at least twice in the last 28 days. For modelling purposes, it is assumed that they participate every week

⁶ ALS states that 6.0% of juniors nationally (14-15 year olds) have played at least twice in the last 28 days. For modelling purposes this has been extended to include 11-13 year olds.

⁷ Occasional players equates to all players minus regular players

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- ◀ Projected increase in regular demand in 2030 is **17 court hours**.

Supply of badminton courts is identified as follows:

- ◀ There are 31 (3+court) sports halls containing 131 courts in Sunderland.
- ◀ Four halls are for private use only; thus 118 courts are available for badminton.
- ◀ The total number of court hours per week (3+ court sports halls) available in Sunderland during stated peak time is **3,429⁸**
- ◀ 83.90%⁹ of badminton courts in Sunderland meet the Badminton England quality threshold (above average/good) which equates to **2,815** court hours¹⁰.
- ◀ There is a need for **22.56%** of the **2,815** good quality peak time court hours, available each week, to service current and latent badminton demand.
- ◀ Additional court hours required per week in 2030 are **17**.

The four badminton clubs in the City are City of Sunderland, Oxclose Association, LNER and St Aidan's. St Aidan's Junior Badminton Club lacks facilities for women and girls as the school is boys only. It has links to the national structure and delivers a full and varied programme. The NGB also indicates that there are sufficient badminton coaches available in the North East but will support a new development if it chooses to use the Essential programme, which requires a level 2 coach. BE is more concerned to ensure that it has adequate court time for developmental programmes given the continuing pressure on indoor facilities from other sports, especially football.

Basketball

Basketball England (BBE) is the NGB for the sport in England. Its latest strategy, Transforming Basketball in Britain Together (2016 - 2028) aims to improve basketball from grassroots to GB teams, by adopting a whole sport approach and working closely with the basketball community. To achieve this, a series of key objectives have been identified:

- ◀ Develop successful GB teams.
- ◀ Build high-quality men's and women's leagues and teams.
- ◀ Support talented players, officials and coaches and coach development pathways.
- ◀ Drive increased awareness and profile of the sport.
- ◀ Increase opportunities to play the game at every level.
- ◀ Transform the leadership and culture of the sport.

To increase the opportunities to play the game at every level, BBE is in the process of producing a facilities strategy which aims to create community hubs including, where appropriate, arenas that sit at the heart of communities and are homes for the leading British Basketball League, Women's British Basketball League and community clubs.

The stated intent is that as part of its facilities strategy implementation, BBE will regularly monitor provision in schools, colleges, universities, clubs and at local authority sites and identify any gaps, looking to improve connections between these organisations to increase the availability and affordability of facilities of the right quality.

The 12-court hall at the Beacon of Light has is a good facility for basketball. Four clubs are based in Sunderland; Oxclose, Sunderland City Predators, Biddick Community School and

⁸ Peak time hours are defined as; Monday – Friday 17:00-22:00, Saturday 09:30-17:00, Sunday 09:00-14:30 & 17:00-19:30

⁹ National figure: 75.0%

¹⁰ Assumes that all courts of all standards available during all peak hours.

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Sunderland College. Newcastle Eagles is the closest national league club and it currently engages with the Sunderland Foundation in delivering the Premier League 4 Sport Programme (PL4S). The Eagles will operate the PL4S opportunities for the 14+ age group from Sunderland College, Bolden School and Whitburn in 2015/16. Eagles reports there being limited capacity to grow the sport in Sunderland due to the current lack of sports hall space.

Consultation with Newcastle Eagles suggests that the success of the current PL4S programme means that it is looking to extend the basketball programme, in the first instance to under 12's, 14's and 16's age groups. It will be preferable for this programme to occur on the same evening which will support the new facility to become a centre for basketball development. The Eagles indicates that it has a pool of appropriately qualified coaches and volunteers who will be able to support this development. This will result in the development of a hub club in Sunderland, without any displacement from other facilities in the area. The key issue currently restricting development is the lack of appropriate facilities.

Newcastle Eagles also suggests that this facility will allow it to host both regional events and local basketball camps; this will significantly reduce the amount of travel young people currently have to undertake if they wish to progress in basketball. The collective ethos of the Foundation of Light, the PL4S programme and the development potential within local basketball community (in this case via the Newcastle Eagles programme) indicates that the development of a high quality facility accessible at the right time to local people will significantly support increases in basketball participation across the Sunderland area. Sport England Market segmentation suggests latent demand of 576 people for basketball.

Team Sunderland Basketball has two men's and one women's team competing in the BUCS leagues. It also competes in local leagues as the two Varsity competitions. The University club provides multiple training sessions each week, high level coaching and additional opportunities for those interested in coaching, officiating and media.

Biddick School Community Basketball Club runs youth teams but has no senior sides, whilst Oxclose Basketball Club trains at Oxclose Academy. It does, however, run a senior team.

Netball

England Netball's latest strategy, *Your Game, Your Way*, aims to establish it as a top performing, financially sustainable NGB that promotes 'Netball for Life' and develops more world class athletes. The four key stated priorities are:

- ◀ Grow participation in the game by an average of 10,000 participants per annum.
- ◀ Deliver a 1st class member and participant experience.
- ◀ Establish England as the number one team in the world by winning the World Netball Championships.
- ◀ Lead an effective and progressive infrastructure enabling all involved in the netball experience to collaborate as one team aligned behind one dream.

Netball is currently strong in Sunderland with a community use agreement for regular peak time use at the Beacon of Light. The agreement is with four partners including Wearside Wildcats, North Durham League, North East Netball League and England Netball. The two-year agreement ensures that the Beacon of Light has an anchor tenant and there is an active development plan for netball. Walking Netball and Back2Netball are also offered during the daytime.

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Futsal

Futsal is a game played between two teams of five players each. It is played on a hard court surface delimited by lines where walls or boards are not used. Futsal is also played with a smaller ball with less bounce than a regular football. There three sizes of facility are:

- ◀ Recreational and local competitions (15m x 25m)
- ◀ National league standard (16m x 31m)
- ◀ International competitions (18m x 38m)

There is only one marked out facility in Sunderland - located at the University. This is not available for community use which constrains development in the area, other than for recreational play.

Futsal has seen a significant increase in popularity in the past two years (both nationally and regionally). In 2012-13 there was one men's recreational league (Darlington), six affiliated futsal teams (mens) and approximately eight referees. By 2015, this had risen to six FA Futsal Fives leagues (five run by Durham FA and one female league run by Hartlepool 6th Form College); this includes two senior men's and three youth leagues. A further three leagues are in the process of being established by external partners in 2015-16 (Stockton, Chester le Street and Bishop Auckland).

Consultation with the County FA (2020) indicates that futsal is flourishing in Sunderland and the surrounding area. Durham County FA operates from six venues in the area. The FA has developed a good understanding with the Beacon of Light. Three men's teams operate from the Beacon. In addition, the FA hosts central venue leagues for schools and women's teams at the Beacon. It also operates and under 9's development group (with five teams) at the new facility at Sunderland Bede College. This venue also plays host to the North East Colleges League. Coach development and education takes place at Seaham Leisure Centre which is located just outside of Sunderland.

There is reportedly increasing demand for futsal for all age groups. Durham FA suggests that it would be able to expand leagues and develop more clubs were more venues to become available. Consultation with the FA indicates that the development of the Beacon of Light led to additional activity rather than displacement leagues are operated in 8-10 week blocks and are especially popular during winter months, although there is increasing demand for competition all year round.

Volleyball

Sunderland City Predators Volleyball plays at City Space which is the university facility. Washington Wolves Volleyball has multiple youth teams and is based at St Robert of Newminster School.

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Gymnastics

There are three gymnastics/trampoline clubs in Sunderland; AAA Sports, Tanya's Tumblers and Apollo Trampoline Club. Apollo moved into a purpose-built trampoline hall at Washington Leisure Centre in 2015 and it reports that due to this there has been a recent improvement in the facilities it has available to it. Apollo has approximately 300 members with people travelling from as far away as Carlisle. It also has four satellite centres linked with it and has plans to expand further.

Handball

There is one club based at Sunderland University but the nearest community club is based in Newcastle.

Summary of demand

A wide range of sports clubs and recreational activity is accommodated in sports halls in Sunderland. Over the past four years, there has been an increase in netball and futsal activity. Football remains popular and, even with the development of outdoor 3G pitches, there is still demand for younger players to use indoor facilities. Trampoline and gymnastics are also well catered for, both in Everyone Active managed facilities and privately run clubs, such as AAASports. The development of the 12 court hall at the Beacon of Light, also allows sports to be showcased by holding events and Super League netball, however, Sport England segmentation data suggests that there is latent demand from people who would like to participate in sports hall sports. Futsal in particular indicates that it would like to expand if there was additional capacity.

4.4: Supply and demand analysis

Sport England's FPM indicates that:

- ◀ Sunderland has a very extensive supply of sports halls and based on this 2019 assessment, the supply of sports halls is meeting the Sunderland demand for sports halls.
- ◀ The majority of venues are 4 badminton court size, although the specific dimensions for these varies. As with most local authorities, the majority of sports halls are located on education sites.
- ◀ Access for community use for indoor hall sports, is influenced by the policy and programmes of use at education venues.
- ◀ The average age of sports hall sites is 27 years and of the total of fourteen sports halls opened pre-2000, ten have been modernised – a good record of modernisation albeit for what is an ageing stock.
- ◀ The location and catchment area of the sports halls correlates very well with the location of the Sunderland demand for sports halls. The demand located outside catchment only equates to six badminton courts, set against an available supply for community use of 95 badminton courts and a total supply of 146 badminton courts across Sunderland.

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Conclusion

Sports hall provision across Sunderland has improved considerably over the past few years. Opening of the 12-court hall at the Beacon of Light has seen netball move back into the city with it appearing to flourish. Futsal, basketball and netball are all popular in the City, alongside the more traditional sports of badminton and volleyball. Community available sports halls are generally of a higher than average quality and are fit for purpose. The Beacon of Light and Washington Leisure Centre are full but Raich Carter Sports Centre and many of the facilities at schools and academies are not. Some do not open to the community at all while others are open for reduced hours or specifically during term time only.

The percentage of the population considered to be inactive in Sunderland is commensurate with regional but higher than national averages. Levels of identified activity in Sunderland offers a clearer picture in that it has fewer active people than the national and regional averages.

Significant investment has been made in the general stock of sports halls although several, such as St Aidens High School, still require investment and refurbishment in order for them to appeal to a more discerning leisure market.

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4.5: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Sports halls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	<p>The FPM suggests that there are 37 sports halls located on 26 sites with a total supply of 146 badminton courts. KKP's audit found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 78 sports halls on 52 sites accounting for 168 courts irrespective of size and access ▶ 23 with 3+ courts which are available to the community (104 courts). ▶ 13 within 2-mile boundary of SCC. 	<p>Sports halls are located in all main population centres and in areas of higher deprivation.</p> <p>There is sufficient capacity to cope with increases in demand. Some facilities (i.e. the Beacon of Light) are particularly busy.</p> <p>The variable size of sports halls ensure that a wide variety of sports can be accommodated.</p>
Quality	<p>Of the sports halls assessed, there are eight good quality halls, 11 above average, seven below average and one is poor quality.</p> <p>The majority of halls have had some refurbishment since 2000 so the stock has improved and is therefore more able to accommodate a wider range of activities.</p>	<p>There is a requirement to improve the standard of the eight below average and poor-quality halls and maintain those which are above average.</p> <p>Investment is required in older facilities (in changing rooms and reception areas) to bring facilities up to a standard commensurate with newer facilities in the City.</p>
Accessibility	<p>The whole SCC population lives within 20 minutes' drive of a sports hall.</p> <p>The majority of residents live within one mile of a sports hall, 13.2% do not.</p> <p>Of those living in deprived wards, 53.5% live outwith one mile of a sports hall.</p> <p>Four located within 2 miles of SCC's border offer pay and play opportunity.</p>	<p>The challenge is to ensure that people from areas of higher deprivation use facilities and increase levels of activity.</p> <p>Assessment of who uses the facility and the use of targeted pricing schemes should increase the proportion of use from people in harder to reach groups.</p>
Availability (Management and usage)	<p>Public leisure centre sites represent 11.5% of the total number of sports hall sites in Sunderland. 16 sports halls are owned by educational institutions, schools, colleges or higher education.</p> <p>The proportion in education ownership reduces SCC influence, however:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The majority are available for community use. ▶ There are good examples of strategic development in netball and futsal amongst other sports across the city. 	<p>SCC has limited influence over the programming and pricing of sports halls across the city. Continued development of good relationships via the Active Sunderland Board is key to maintaining influence.</p> <p>Consider how to engage with a wider range of NGBs to develop programmes of activity across the City.</p> <p>Continue to develop opportunities for walking sports (football, netball etc) during the day at non education sites.</p>
Strategic summary	<p>Improve the quality of the below average and poor sports halls.</p> <p>Where possible, work with schools to increase the hours available for community use, especially those with fewer hours available.</p> <p>Retain daytime access to sports halls at the public facilities and work towards increasing daytime access at education sites, where possible.</p> <p>Continue to develop and grow a wide range of indoor sports. Where possible ensure outdoor sports are encouraged to play outdoors.</p> <p>Population growth in Sunderland is projected to be modest over the Local Plan timespan. It is unlikely that demand for facilities will outstrip current supply.</p>	

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SECTION 5: SWIMMING POOLS

A swimming pool is defined as an “enclosed area of water, specifically maintained for all forms of water-based sport and recreation”. It includes indoor and outdoor pools, freeform leisure pools and specific diving tanks used for general swimming, teaching, training and diving. Many small pools are used solely for recreational swimming and will not necessarily need to strictly follow the NGB recommendations. It is, however, generally recommended that standard dimensions are used to allow appropriate levels of competition and training and to help meet safety standards. Relatively few pools need to be designed to full competition standards or include spectator facilities.

Training for competition, low-level synchronised swimming, and water polo can all take place in a 25m pool. With modest spectator seating, pools can also accommodate competitive events in these activities. Diving from boards, advanced synchronised swimming and more advanced sub-aqua training require deeper water. These can all be accommodated in one pool tank, which ideally should be in addition to the main pool. The NGB responsible for diving, swimming, synchronised swimming and water polo in England is Swim England.

5.1: Supply

In compliance with ANOG and as identified above, the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of sports halls was undertaken

Quantity

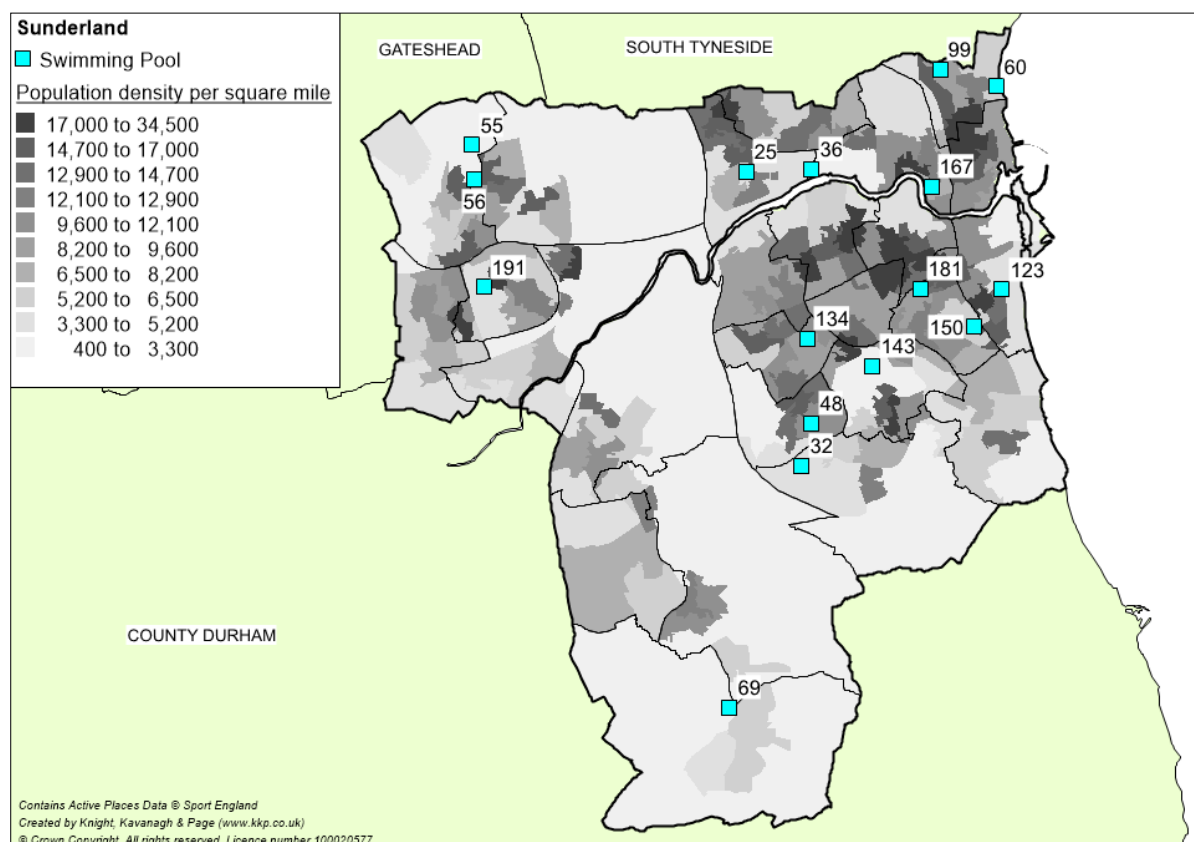
The audit identifies 20 swimming pools across 16 sites. This includes all pools in the SCC area irrespective of size and seasonal access.

Table 5.1: All swimming pools and sites in Sunderland

Map ID	Site name	Facility type	Lanes x length (m)	Area
25	Castle View Sports Centre	Main	4x 20m	160m ²
32	David Lloyd	Main	1x25m	275 m ²
32	David Lloyd	Lido	0x20m	200 m ²
36	DW Sports Fitness	Main	3x18m	180 m ²
48	Farringdon Community Academy	Main	4x20m	160 m ²
55	George Washington Leisure Club	Learner	0x10m	30 m ²
56	George Washington Primary School	Main	4x16m	96 m ²
60	Grand Hotel Sunderland	Main	0x15m	60 m ²
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	Main	5x25m	275 m ²
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	Main	0x16m	112 m ²
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports Centre	Main	3x25m	200 m ²
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	Main	6x25m	300 m ²
134	Sandhill Sports Centre	Main	4x25m	200 m ²
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre	Main	4x25m	250 m ²
150	Southmoor Academy	Main	4x20m	160 m ²
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	Main	10x50m	1,250 m ²
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	Diving	6x25m	312.5 m ²
181	Thornhill School	Main	5x25m	250 m ²
191	Washington Leisure Centre	Main	6x25m	312.5 m ²
191	Washington Leisure Centre	Learner	0x13m	104 m ²

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Figure 5.1 All swimming pools in Sunderland



Barbara Priestman School and Portland School both have small hydro therapy pools that are not included in this assessment

Figure 5.1 illustrates that pools are generally distributed across the more densely populated area. The west and south of the City, known as the Coalfields is less densely populated but is serviced by Hetton Community Pool and Wellness Centre, David Lloyd Centre and Farrington Community Centre. If you live to the north of the Coalfields, Washington Leisure Centre may be the pool of choice.

Quality

As part of the assessment, KKP visited the main swimming pools and completed non-technical visual assessments. This encompasses assessment of changing provision as this can also play a significant role in influencing and attracting users. Quality is assessed as previously described in section 3.2.

Table 5.2: Quality of swimming pools in Sunderland

ID	Site name	Condition	
		Pool	Changing
25	Castle View Sports Centre	Above average	Above average
32	David Lloyd	Good	Good
32	David Lloyd	Good	Good
36	DW Sports Fitness	Above average	Above average

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ID	Site name	Condition	
		Pool	Changing
48	Farringdon Community Academy	Poor	Poor
55	George Washington Leisure Club	Not assessed	Not assessed
56	George Washington Primary School	Not assessed	Not assessed
60	Grand Hotel Sunderland	Not assessed	Not assessed
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	Above average	Above average
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	Above average	Above average
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports Centre	Below average	Below average
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	Above average	Below average
134	Sandhill Sports Centre	Above average	Above average
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre	Above average	Good
150	Southmoor Academy	Below average	Below average
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	Good	Good
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	Good	Good
181	Thornhill School	Below average	Below average
191	Washington Leisure Centre	Above average	Above average
191	Washington Leisure Centre	Above average	Above average

The audit found four good quality swimming pools, nine were above average, three below average, one is poor and three were not assessed. Generally, changing room quality is commensurate with the quality of swimming pools.

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Figure 5.2: Quality of swimming pools in Sunderland

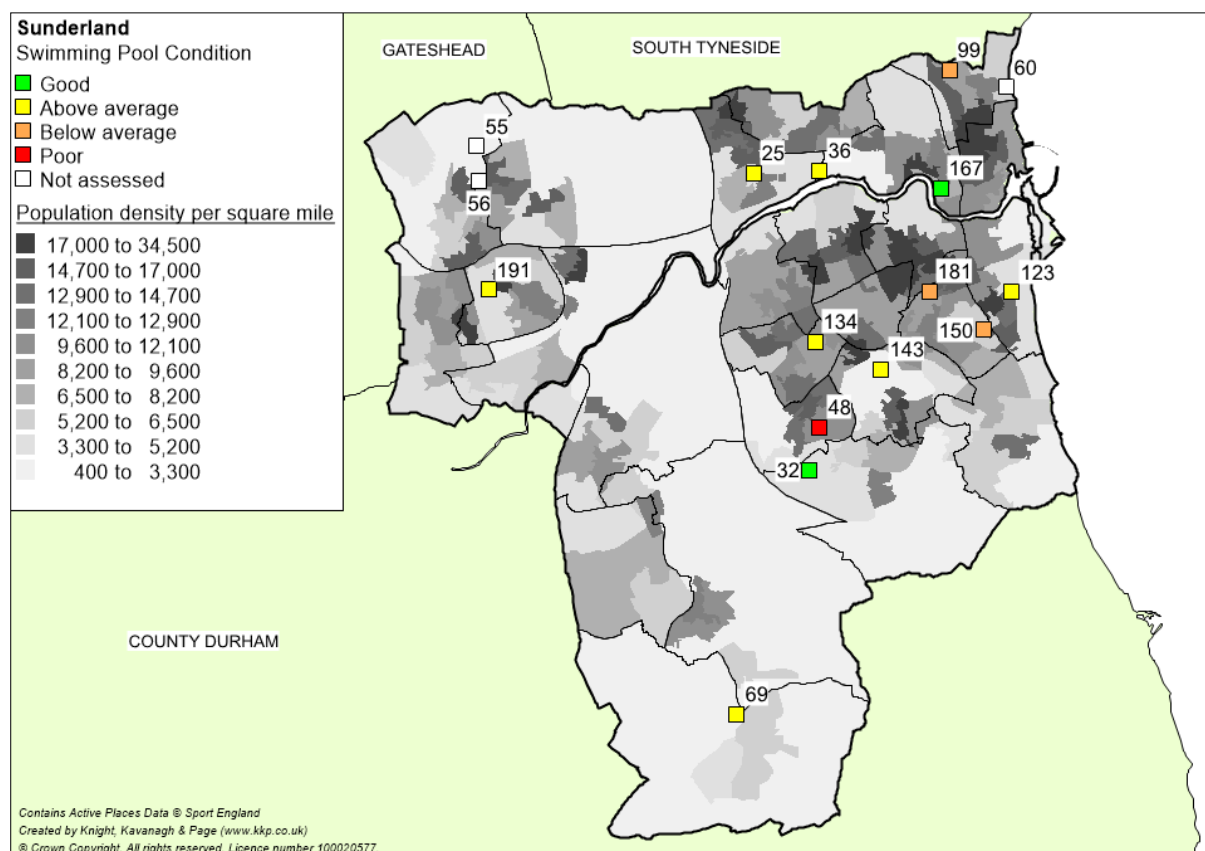


Table 5.3: Age of swimming pools and refurbishment dates

ID	Site name	Year opened	Refurbishment	Age (years) since refurb
25	Castle View Sports Centre	1997		23
32	David Lloyd	1998		22
36	DW Sports Fitness	2011		11
48	Farringdon Community Academy	1975	2014	6
55	George Washington Leisure Club	1983	2011	9
60	Grand Hotel Sunderland	1991	2003	17
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	2010		10
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports Centre	1969	2012	8
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	2001		19
134	Sandhill Sports Centre	2002		18
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre	2010		10
150	Southmoor Academy	1987		33
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	2008	*	Imminent
181	Thornhill School	1965		55*
191	Washington Leisure Centre	2015		5

Table 5.3 indicates that the majority of facilities have had some refurbishment within the last 20 years.

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The audit identifies that Sunderland Aquatic Centre will be closing in April for up to seven months for refurbishment to address long standing issues with the roof. This is the responsibility of SCC as the building owner.

The swimming pool at Thornhill School is the oldest in the area (opened in 1965) and Washington Leisure Centre the newest (opened in 2015).

Farringdon Community Academy Swimming Pool is in poor condition aesthetically, however, consultation indicates that the plant is in good condition and in working order and the water quality is good. Originally a lido, built in 1975, the pool was later covered and has been refurbished as recently as 2014. Investment has, however, been in plant and associated equipment and not the attractiveness of the pool as shown in Figure 5.3 (overleaf). It is a key facility for the school and is well used by the community (local primary schools and swim schools).

Availability of swimming pools

This assessment is mostly concerned with larger pools available for community use (no restrictions to accessing the pool as a result of membership criteria). As such, pools less than 160m² (e.g. 20m x 4 lanes) water space and/or located at private member clubs offer limited value in relation to community use and delivery of outcomes related to health and deprivation. They are, therefore eliminated from the supply evaluation, when regarding accessibility and availability later in this section.

Figure 5.3: Farringdon Community Academy swimming pool



Swimming pool availability differs dependent upon ownership and/or management. Table 5.4 overleaf identifies ownership and management of all swimming pools in Sunderland.

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Table 5.4 Ownership and management of Sunderland swimming pools

Map ID	Site name	Ownership/management type
25	Castle View Sports Centre	School (in house)
32	David Lloyd	Commercial
36	DW Sports Fitness	Commercial
48	Farringdon Community Academy	School (in house)
55	George Washington Leisure Club	Commercial
56	George Washington Primary School	School (in house)
60	Grand Hotel Sunderland	Commercial
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	Local authority (Joint Venture)
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports Centre	School (in house)
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	Local authority (Joint Venture)
134	Sandhill Sports Centre	PFI - commercial
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre	Local authority (Joint Venture)
150	Southmoor Academy	School (in house)
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	Local authority (Joint Venture)
181	Thornhill School	School (in house)
191	Washington Leisure Centre	Local authority (Joint Venture)

The commercially operated facilities identified in Table 5.4 all place some restrictions on community availability of pools either via a requirement for monthly memberships in the case of David Lloyd and DW Fitness or because they are only available to guests, in the case of the Grand Hotel, Sunderland. Whilst acknowledging that these cater for specific market segments, they are not available to all sections of the community due to restrictions identified.

Further, as identified above, pools below 160m² (equivalent to 20m x 4 lanes) are removed from the analysis as they are deemed not to be able to offer a full aquatic range of activities). When considering accessibility, school pools are also removed as access is restricted in most cases (although it is acknowledged that they often accommodate swimming lessons). The pool at Sandhill Sports Centre offers community availability so is retained. Pools removed from the accessibility and availability analysis include:

- ◀ David Lloyd
- ◀ DW Sports Fitness
- ◀ Farringdon Community Academy
- ◀ George Washington Leisure Club
- ◀ George Washington Primary School
- ◀ Grand Hotel Sunderland
- ◀ Monkwearmouth Academy Sports Centre
- ◀ Southmoor Academy
- ◀ Thornhill School

Accessibility

Swimming pool accessibility is influenced by physical (i.e. built environment). Appropriate walk and drive-time catchments are applied to determine accessibility to communities. The normal acceptable standard is a 20-minute walk time (1-mile radial catchment) for an urban area and a 20-minute drive time for a rural area. This enables analysis of the adequacy of coverage and helps to identify areas currently not serviced by existing provision. Table 5.5 and Figure 5.3 illustrate the accessibility of swimming pools in Sunderland.

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Figure 5.3: Community available swimming pools in Sunderland with 20 minutes' walk time

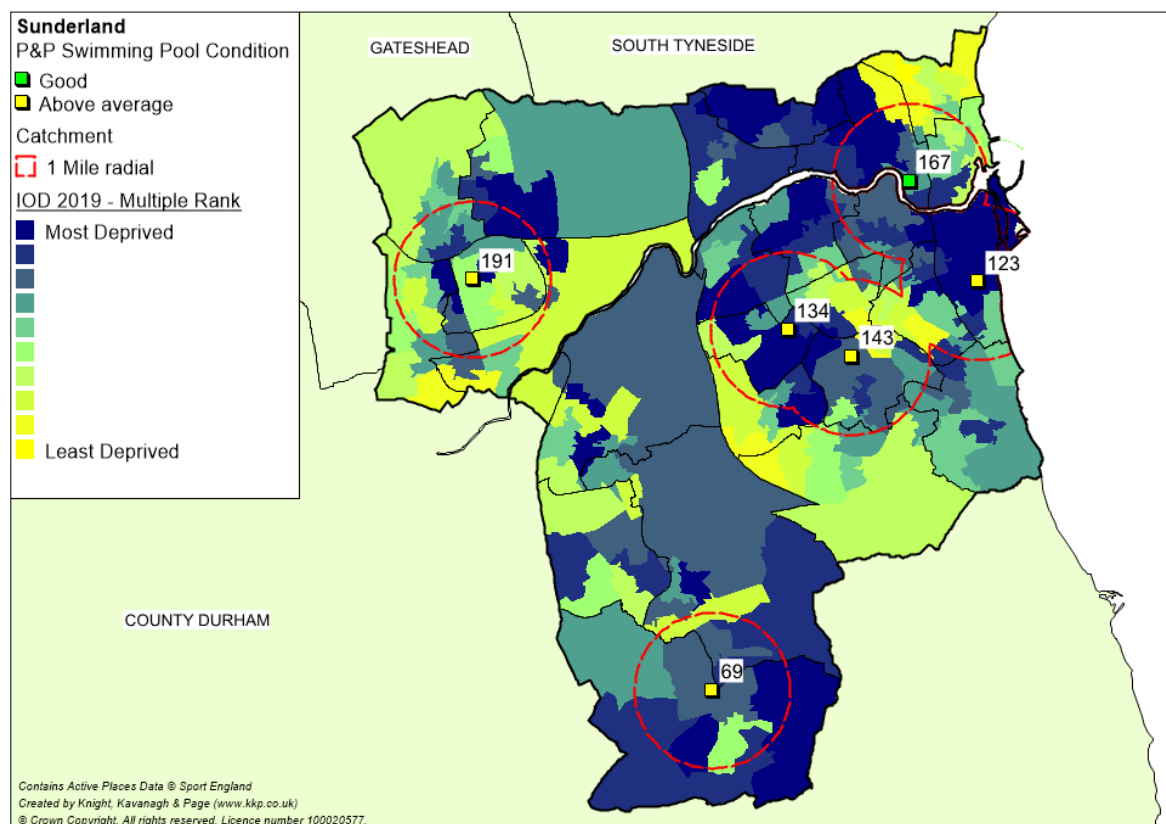


Table 5.5: Accessibility of community available swimming pools in Sunderland

Map ID	Site name
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre
134	Sandhill Sports Centre
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre
191	Washington Leisure Centre

Figure 5.3 and Table 5.6 indicate that 46.0% of the population of Sunderland live within one mile of a community available swimming pool. Table 5.6 also identifies that 53.5% of the Sunderland population lives in areas of higher deprivation (the national average is 30%). Of those people living in areas of higher deprivation (148,311), c.75,500 (c.50.0%) live within 20 minutes' walk of a community available swimming pool.

All residents of Sunderland live within a 20 minutes' drive time of a community available swimming pool.

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Table 5.6: IMD 2019 populations: Sunderland P&P pools, 1 mile radial

IMD 2019 10% bands	Sunderland		Pay & Play pools catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	62,090	22.4%	34,384	12.4%	27,706	10.0%
10.1 - 20	50,382	18.2%	22,520	8.1%	27,862	10.1%
20.1 - 30	35,839	12.9%	18,566	6.7%	17,273	6.2%
30.1 - 40	33,695	12.2%	13,462	4.9%	20,233	7.3%
40.1 - 50	24,910	9.0%	11,282	4.1%	13,628	4.9%
50.1 - 60	13,208	4.8%	4,110	1.5%	9,098	3.3%
60.1 - 70	21,797	7.9%	8,907	3.2%	12,890	4.7%
70.1 - 80	23,417	8.5%	10,465	3.8%	12,952	4.7%
80.1 - 90	10,344	3.7%	3,760	1.4%	6,584	2.4%
90.1 - 100	1,131	0.4%	0	0.0%	1,131	0.4%
Total	276,813	100.0%	127,456	46.0%	149,357	54.0%

Table 5.6: IMD 2019 populations: Sunderland P&P pools, 1 mile radial

IMD 2019 10% bands	Sunderland		Pay & play pools catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	62,090	22.4%	39,688	14.3%	22,402	8.1%
10.1 - 20	50,382	18.2%	31,671	11.4%	18,711	6.8%
20.1 - 30	35,839	12.9%	21,367	7.7%	14,472	5.2%
30.1 - 40	33,695	12.2%	15,162	5.5%	18,533	6.7%
40.1 - 50	24,910	9.0%	11,405	4.1%	13,505	4.9%
50.1 - 60	13,208	4.8%	5,430	2.0%	7,778	2.8%
60.1 - 70	21,797	7.9%	8,907	3.2%	12,890	4.7%
70.1 - 80	23,417	8.5%	10,506	3.8%	12,911	4.7%
80.1 - 90	10,344	3.7%	3,760	1.4%	6,584	2.4%
90.1 - 100	1,131	0.4%	0	0.0%	1,131	0.4%
Total	276,813	100.0%	147,896	53.4%	128,917	46.6%

Facilities in neighbouring authorities

Accessibility is influenced by facilities within easy reach of the Authority. Figure 5.4 and Table 5.7 detail those located within 2 miles of the SCC boundary. Ten pools across 10 sites are identified; all are available to the community. Four sites (MapID 1,3, 5, and 6) are available for pay and play and are likely to be accommodating some of Sunderland's demand.

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Figure 5.4: Swimming pools in (and within 2-mile radial catchment of) Sunderland

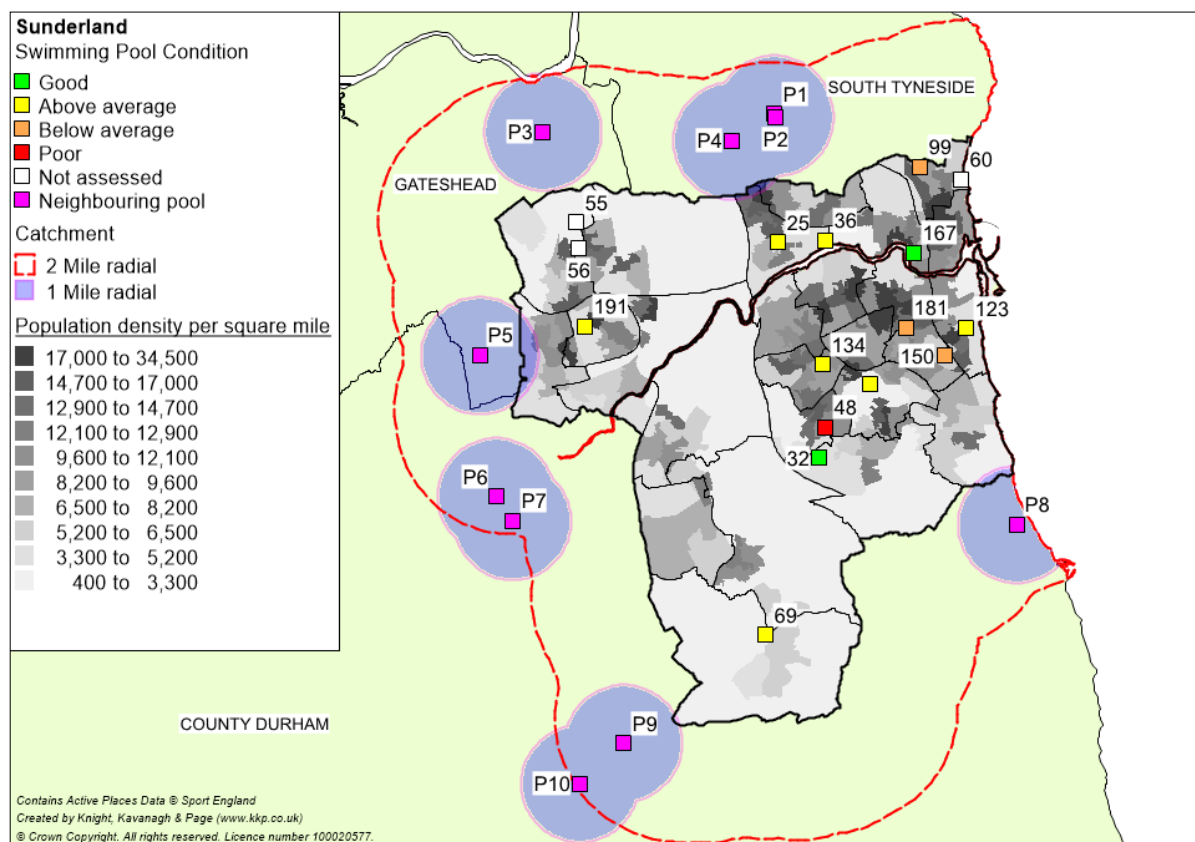


Table 5.8: Swimming pools in neighbouring authorities

ID	Site	Pool type	Access type	Local authority
P1	Boldon Community Association	Main/General	Pay and Play	South Tyneside
P2	Boldon School	Main/General	Sports Club / CA	South Tyneside
P3	Heworth Leisure Centre	Main/General	Pay and Play	Gateshead
P4	Boldon Fitness	Main/General	Reg.Membership	South Tyneside
P5	Birtley Swimming Centre	Main/General	Pay and Play	Gateshead
P6	Chester Le Street LC	Main/General	Pay and Play	County Durham
P7	Bannatyne Health Club	Main/General	Reg. Membership	County Durham
P8	The Serenity Spa-Seaham Hall	Leisure Pool	Reg. Membership	County Durham
P9	Ramside Hall Hotel & Golf Club	Main/General	Reg. Membership	County Durham
P10	Bannatyne Health Club	Main/General	Reg. Membership	County Durham

Future developments

Other than the investment into the roof at Sunderland Aquatics Centre, there are no known swimming pool developments at the time of audit. The work at the Aquatics Centre is expected to start in April 2020 and conclude in November 2020. Swim lessons are likely to be significantly affected. Additional lessons are being put on at other Everyone Active run sites across the City. However, the view is that those children who are swimming to some degree (say at level 6 or 7 of the national swimming programme) are likely to cease lessons.

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On return to a fully open Aquatics Centre, Everyone Active is of the view that it will take some time to rebuild the numbers back up to the current level of c.6,000 swim lessons per week.

In addition, Everyone Active is looking to alleviate the displacement of swimming clubs by opening other facilities up to two hours earlier in the mornings and by adding additional time in the evening. It suggests that it will be able to offer c.40.0% of the time lost at other facilities.

5.2: Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM)

A summary of the Sunderland swimming pool supply findings within the National Run February 2020 suggests that:

- ◀ Sunderland has an extensive and modern supply of public swimming pool sites. Public swimming pool sites represent 38% of the total number of sites but contain 85% of the total water space available for community use in the weekly peak period. The average age of public swimming pool sites is 11 years
- ◀ The largest public leisure centre site is the extensive Sunderland Aquatic Centre (opened in 2008); it has a main 50m x 25m pool with separate diving pool (25m x 13m).
- ◀ Two other public swimming pool sites have two pools: Hetton Community Pool and Wellness Centre (2010) - a main pool (25m x 11m) and a separate teaching/learner pool (16m x 7m); and Washington Leisure Centre (opened 2015) - main pool (25m x 13m) and a teaching/leaner pool (13m x 8m);
- ◀ There are two single pool public sites: Raich Carter Sports Centre (25m x 12m); and Silksworth Community Pool Tennis and Wellness Centre (25m x 10m).
- ◀ The FPM describes the public swimming offer in Sunderland as 'very extensive with swimming activities provided in dedicated pools'. Provision ranges from: learn to swim; casual recreational swimming; lane and aqua aerobics fitness swimming activities; more advanced swimming development programmes through clubs; in dedicated pools. Plus, the Sunderland Aquatic Centre the diving pool can provide for diving and water polo.
- ◀ The single pool sites are also of a scale where the main pool can also provide for all the swimming activities, except diving.
- ◀ The four education pool sites represent quite a high proportion of the total supply of pool sites. Education sites tend to be quite small and range in size from the Castle View Sports Centre (1997), Farringdon Community Academy (1975) and Southmoor Academy (1987) - all 20m x 8m, to Thornhill School (1965) which has a 25m x 10m main pool;
- ◀ Commercial pool sites each have a main pool and range in size from DW Sports Fitness (2011) with an 18m x 10m pool to the David Lloyd Centre (1998) with a 25m x 11m main pool. They operate a more limited programme due to centre membership costs when compared with the public leisure centre swimming pool sites.
- ◀ The average age of all the swimming pool sites in Sunderland is 24 years with SCC's stock being, in general, considerably newer than the education stock.

5.3: Demand

Swim England's latest strategy, *Towards a Nation Swimming: a Strategic Plan for Swimming in England 2017-21*, aims to creating a happier, healthier and more successful nation through swimming. To achieve this, several strategic objectives have been set:

- ◀ Provide strong leadership and be the recognised authority for swimming.
- ◀ Substantially increase the number of people able to swim.
- ◀ Significantly grow the number and diversity of people enjoying and benefitting from regular swimming.

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- ◀ Create a world leading talent system for all disciplines.
- ◀ Deliver a high quality, diverse and motivated workforce within swimming.
- ◀ Strengthening organisational sustainability for future generations.

Consultation with Swim England confirms that in relation to UK wide participation all local authority areas are priority areas but areas with swimming pool water deficit are a greater priority. Swim England confirms the following with regard to Sunderland:

- ◀ There is currently a water surplus of 791 m² in Sunderland (to put this into context, a 25m x 4 lane pool is between 212-250m² of water, depending on lane width).
- ◀ Currently, Sunderland offers good provision of water and is able to offer various swimming options with their range of water facilities.
- ◀ The Sunderland Aquatic Centre is clearly a key facility in the area and should be maintained appropriately to keep the capacity of holding competitive events.
- ◀ Within the area, a number of facilities that offer community use swimming, have reached an age where refurbishment or even replacement could be required. Some have been refurbished during the last 10-15 years but would still require further assessment to ascertain what refurbishment was completed and if any further work is needed.

Swim England is of the opinion that despite the large water surplus, provision should be maintained where possible. It is recommended that the current facilities are maintained rather than looking at new developments. It suggests condition reports be completed (to assess investment needs) for:

- ◀ Castle View Sports Centre.
- ◀ Raich Carter Sports Centre
- ◀ Southmoor Academy.
- ◀ Thornhill School.

Club consultation

City of Sunderland Amateur Swimming Club (COSASC)

COSASC has a membership of almost 200 athletes. It has ambitions to significantly increase the swimming membership to full capacity of 350 members. It reports having good links with SCC swimming academies and its coaching staff provide expertise and support throughout the whole athlete pathway from learn to swim to high performance. There is a strong link with Sunderland University which offers sports scholarships and support to varsity members.

ClT is one of a few clubs in England that enjoys Beacon status i.e. it provides a clear and sustainable integrated pathway for swimmers and divers from the fundamentals stage through to 'training to win. In recent years, the COSASC has:

- ◀ Improved in the Diddy League (Durham and District Junior League).
- ◀ Improved performance at county, regional and national events.
- ◀ Placed swimmers at major International events including the 2009 World Championships, 2009 European Youth Olympic Festival and the 2010 World IPC Championships.
- ◀ Had national successes with both able bodied and disabled swimmers.

It provides opportunities for anyone with an interest in swimming. This includes social events and regular club get-togethers.

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In addition to COSASC, the Aquatics Centre also hosts a diving club, water polo club and triathlon club. On most weekends not given over to galas the programme includes a massive inflatable, designed to draw in the family market. This is also a key feature during school holidays. Events includes galas for local clubs, through to national and international meets. The facility hosted the 2019 World Transplant Games

Sunderland City Dive Team

The City Dive Team currently operates seven squads including:

- ◀ Age group 9-18 yrs
- ◀ Development squad (7-13 yrs)
- ◀ Elite (11-20+ yrs)
- ◀ B group (14-18 yrs)
- ◀ Talent squad (7-11 yrs)
- ◀ Skill group (8-13 yrs)
- ◀ Masters (18yrs+)

Everyone Active operates the scheme and pays the coaches. The Club current has c.35 members (excluding the learn to dive programme). It operates three pool sessions per week and three dry land training sessions (at an alternative indoor venue). The Aquatics Centre does not have crash mats or trampolines so indoor sessions are limited. The Club indicates that pool quality is good but the diving boards are not maintained as well as they might be.

Sunderland City Dive Team accommodates a full range of participants including national lever performers. It is particularly worried about the closure of the pools from April for roof maintenance. It is noted that the elite and higher performing divers will have to use facilities at Harrogate, Leeds and Sheffield if they wish to continue to dive (up to 200 miles round trip). It is understood that some divers will simply take a break and may not return to the sport. In addition, the closure is likely to affect the diving lesson programme and the Club is concerned that it may take up to two years to get back to current levels.

Sunderland Triathlon Club

The Triathlon Club uses a range of venues including the Aquatics Centre, Monkwearmouth Academy (for junior swimming activities) and a scout hut for winter turbo sessions. It also uses Boldon Community Association, South Tyneside for additional strength and conditioning. Although the closure of the pool is likely to impact negatively on the Club, this will be somewhat mitigated by its use of other facilities.

Durham & District Junior league (also known as the Diddy League)

The League is separated into three divisions 1st, 2nd and 3rd and is aimed at children aged between 8 and 12 years of age. Clubs compete with others in the same division; three heats are held in March/April with the final in June/July. In Divisions 2 and 3, if a club wins its final it is promoted up to the next division. The winner of the Division 1 final goes on to represent Durham and District at the National finals. COSASC currently competes in Division 1.

Northumberland & Durham County Championships

These are normally held over two weeks in March. Times are set for these championships and swimmers must prove they have achieved the entry times specified.

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SwimCity Swim School

Owned by GB international swimmer, Jonathan Carlisle, and established in 2016 this offers swimming lessons to children of any ability and any age. It operates on smaller ratios (four children to one swim teacher or six children to two swim teachers in the lower stages and six to one in the higher stages to allow for more personal coaching and instruction. Operating seven days a week, it uses a number of school swimming pools in the area including:

- ◀ Monkwearmouth Academy
- ◀ Sandhill View Academy
- ◀ Castle View School
- ◀ Southmoor Academy

Consultation identifies that 900 young people are currently on the programme with capacity for up to 1,000. Capacity is currently determined by access to swimming pools. A key challenge for SwimCity is meeting demand as it reports high retention rates and a pathway for 16+ years to become swim teachers.

Sandhill Academy is full to capacity and operates six days per week. The Swim school reports latent demand across the area for daytime lessons, however, it cannot access school sites during the daytime.

SwimCity has ambitions to own its own swimming pool in the future, however it recognises that it has only been established for four years and has seen rapid growth in this time. It also expressed a strong view that primary schools should be given more funding and allocate more time to learning to swim. Recent evidence indicates that an increasingly number of pupils have not learnt to swim (anecdotally, one primary school had only five pupils out of 32 children who could actually swim).

5.4: FPM summary of swimming pools

- ◀ Sunderland has an extensive and modern supply of public swimming pool sites. These represent 38% of the total number of sites, but contain 85% of the total water space available for community use in the weekly peak period. The average age of the public swimming pool sites is 11 years
- ◀ The location of the public swimming pool sites provides good accessibility for Sunderland residents. There are clusters of very small amounts of unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a swimming pool, with the largest cluster in the Mount Pleasant/ Penshaw area, where it totals between 10 - 15 sq metres of water.
- ◀ The key finding is the draw and attraction of the public leisure centre swimming pool sites and an estimated used capacity at peak times, being above the Sport England benchmark. This is, a swimming pool being comfortably full at 70% of pool capacity used in the weekly peak period.
- ◀ Overall, there is sufficient swimming capacity at the thirteen swimming pool sites to meet the Sunderland demand in this assessment. The education and commercial pool sites, however, have more limited accessibility and do not provide a realistic alternative to the public swimming pool site for the full range of swimming activities.
- ◀ Should some education pool sites close there could be a slight shift to the public leisure centres to meet this displaced demand. Based on this one-year assessment, the public leisure centres can absorb this demand but it will make public swimming pool sites even more full at peak times.

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5.5: Summary of key facts and issues

In summary, the above consultation and analysis would indicate that the City of Sunderland is in the following position with regards to its swimming pool provision:

Facility type	Swimming pools	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are 20 swimming pools across 16 sites in the wider Sunderland area. Swim England reports a (positive) supply demand balance of 791 m ² (in context, a 25m x 4 lane pool is between 212-250m ² of water, depending on lane width).	There is no requirement for additional swimming pool provision.
Quality	Four swimming pool are good quality, nine are above average, three below average and one is rated poor (Farringdon Academy). Three pools were not assessed as part of the audit. The majority have had some investment/ were built in the last 20 years. Sunderland Aquatic Centre is to be closed for seven months to have work carried out on the roof. Changing room quality is commensurate with pool quality.	There is a requirement to ensure that facilities are at the very least maintained. Some school pools do require investment to improve their quality. Farringdon Community Academy is poor quality and requires investment.
Accessibility	The whole Sunderland population resides within 20 minutes' drive time of a swimming pool. Over half (53.4%) of the population lives within a one mile walk of a swimming pool. Of those living in areas of higher deprivation, 62.5% are within one mile of a swimming pool. There are ten swimming pools within two miles of the SCC boundary.	Swimming pools are well located; over half the population has access to a pool within one-mile walk. This is particularly important to those living in areas of higher deprivation.
Availability (Management and usage)	Of the 20 pools in the area, seven are of significant size and offer pay and play opportunity. A range of clubs and swimming lessons is provided at Authority pools. Some education sites also have swim schools operating from them.	
Summary	There is a need to maintain and improve the quality of Farringdon Community Academy and the below average swimming pools in the area. (Monkwearmouth Academy, Southmoor Academy and Thornhill School). There is a requirement to ensure those people living in areas of higher deprivation are able to access a facility. Closure of the Aquatics Centre for c.7 months will impact negatively on swim participation, swim lessons and swim club development. It is highly likely that current levels of participation will not be re-achieved immediately after re-opening. It remains to be seen as to how the closure will affect the swimming club. There is a need to coordinate planning for national and international events to ensure that the profile of the Aquatics Centre remains high and continues to contribute to economic activity within the City. Population growth in Sunderland is projected to be fairly modest over the timespan of the Local Plan. Consequently, it is unlikely that demand for additional facilities will outstrip current supply.	

SECTION 6: HEALTH AND FITNESS SUITES

For the purposes of assessment health and fitness suites are normally defined as venues with 20 stations or more. A station is a piece of static fitness equipment; larger health and fitness centres with more stations are generally able to make a more attractive offer to both members and casual users.

They can provide a valuable way to assist people of all ages, ethnicities and abilities to introduce physical exercise into their daily lives with the obvious concomitant benefits to health, fitness and wellbeing.

The current state of the UK fitness industry is complex with a variety of providers including the private sector (ranging from low cost operators to the high-end market), trusts, schools and local authority operators. Within the UK private fitness market has continued to grow steadily over the last 12 months with an estimated increase of 2% in the number of members, 4.6% in the number of facilities and 2.9% in market value. The growth however is lower than last year; which saw increases of over 5% in both members and market value.

According to the State of the UK Fitness Industry Report (2018) there are now 7,038 fitness facilities in the UK, up from 6,728 last year. Total industry membership is up 2% to 9.9 million which means that one in seven people in the UK is a member of a gym. The total market value is estimated at £4.9 billion, up 2.9% on 2017. The UK penetration rate is at 14.9%, the same as the previous year.

A total of 275 new public and private fitness facilities opened in the last 12 months, up from 272 in 2017. Pure Gym and GLL have strengthened their positions as the UK's leading private and public operators (by number of gyms and members). Pure Gym has become the first operator to reach 200 clubs and passed the one-million-member mark earlier in 2018. GLL, with 194 gyms, is also likely to break the 200 milestone within the next year. (There are no figures available to indicate the number of gyms which have closed).

6.1: Supply

Quantity

As is illustrated in Table 6.1 and Figure 6.1 overleaf, there are 36 health and fitness gyms in Sunderland with 2,295 stations. Generally, health and fitness gyms are located in more densely populated areas. There are fewer facilities in the South of the City.

Fitness facilities containing fewer than 20 stations are generally not considered within the assessment although they can be available and service small sections of the community; where this is considered to be the case they are included. In general, however, they are discounted because of their scale.

When those with fewer than 20 stations are excluded (as identified in Figure 6.2 and Table 6.2), the number of available health and fitness suites available in Sunderland reduces to 25, and the number of stations to 2,126.

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Figure 6.1: All health and fitness facilities in Sunderland on population density

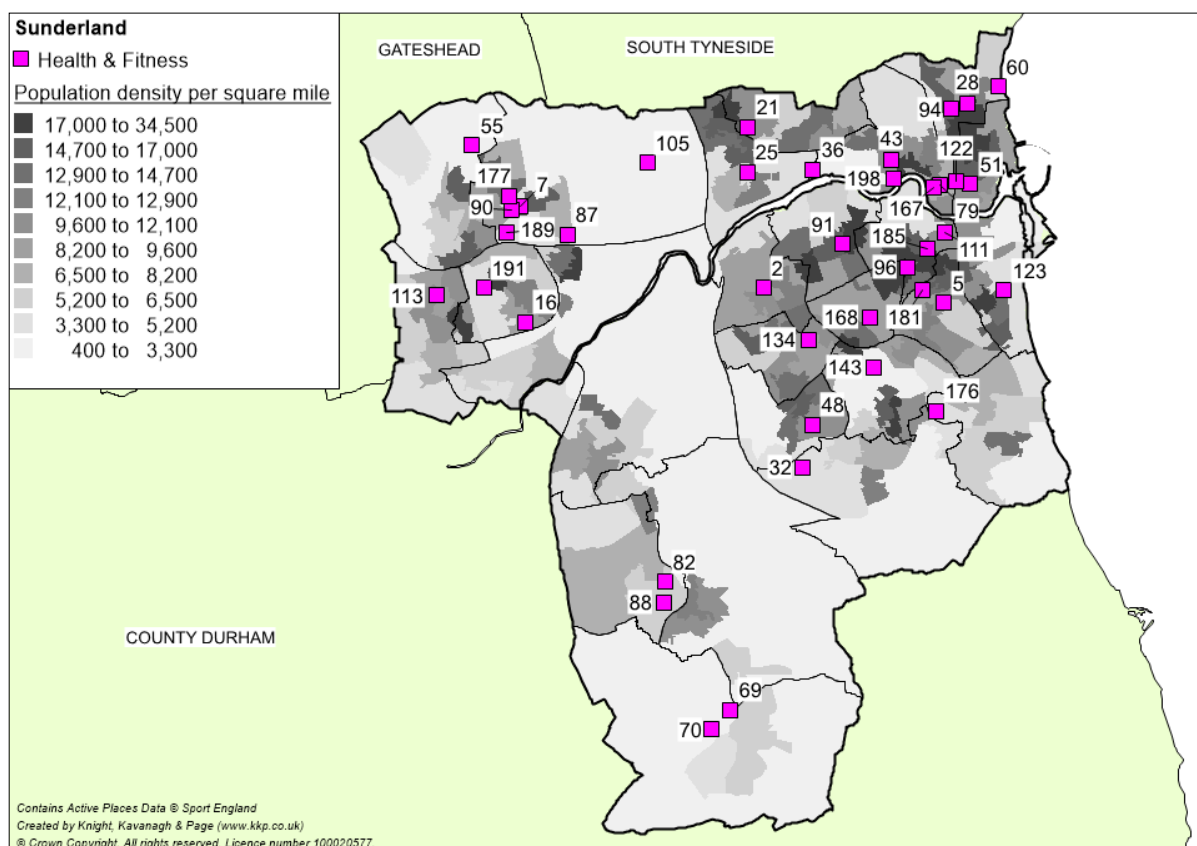


Table 6.1 All health and fitness facilities in Sunderland

ID	Site name	Stns	ID	Site name	Stns
2	Academy 360	17	94	Marine House Gym 80	130
7	Atlas Gym	37	96	Mayfair Health Club	80
16*	Biddick Academy	26	105	Nissan Sports & Leisure Complex	29
25	Castle View Sports Centre	24	111	Olympia Fitness & Beauty Centre	60
28	Club Zest Ladies Leisure	34	122	Pure Gym (Sunderland)	220
32	David Lloyd (Sunderland)	95	123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	50
36	DW Sports Fitness (Sunderland)	100	134	Sandhill Sports Centre	14
43	Elite Health and Fitness	57	143	Silksworth Community Pool,	100
48	Farringdon Community Academy	30	167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	123
51	Fitness 2000	20	168	Sunderland Coll. (Bede Campus)	16
55	George Washington Leisure Club	22	176*	The Venerable Bede Academy	12
60	Grand Hotel Sunderland	15	177*	Washington Millennium Centre	34
69	Hetton Community Pool	40	181	Thornhill School	13
79	Hilton Garden Inn Sunderland	20	185*	Uni of Sunderland City Space	80
82	Houghton Sports Centre	45	185	Uni of Sunderland City Space	7
87	JD Gyms (Washington)	200	189	Washington Academy	9
90	LadyB Fitness	39	191*	Washington Leisure Centre	80
91*	Lambton Street Y&C Hub	17	198	Xercise4Less (Sunderland)	400
Total			2,295		

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Figure 6.2: Health and fitness facilities with 20+ stations on population density

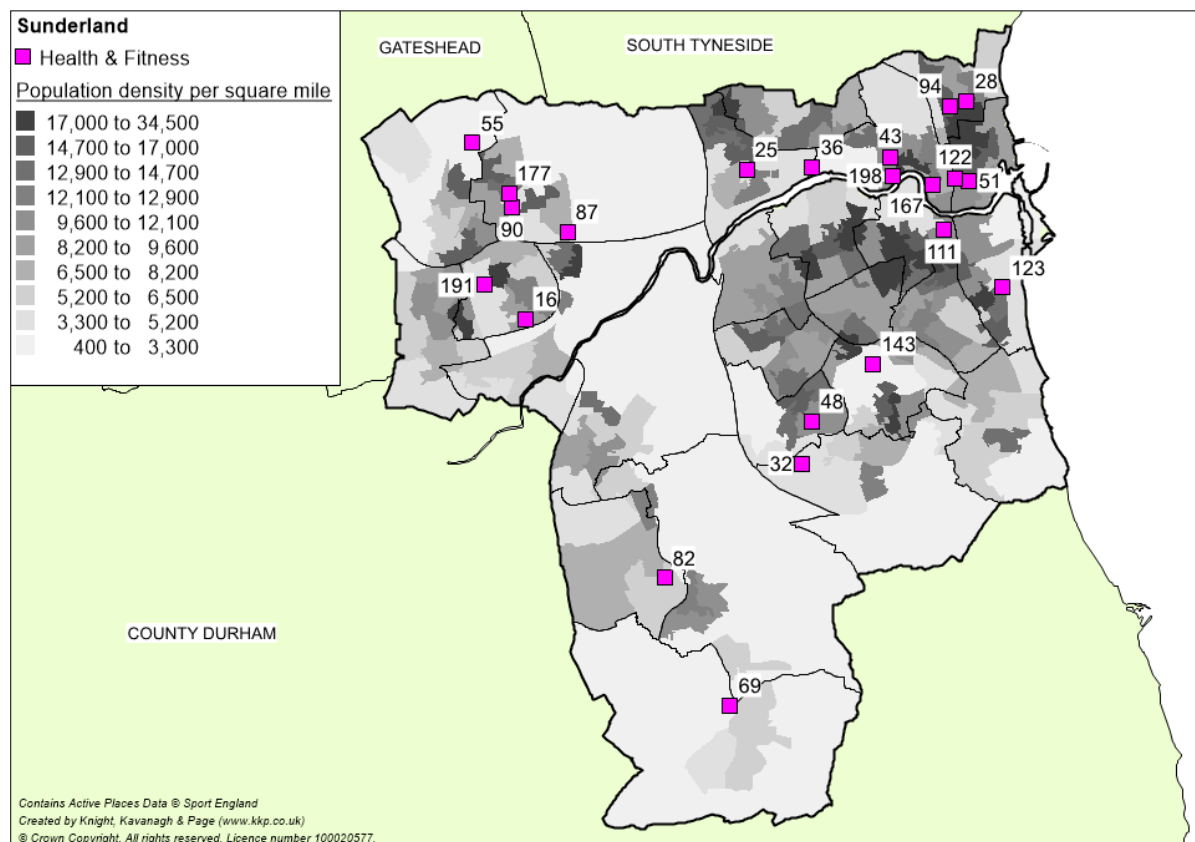


Table 6.2: All health and fitness gyms 20+ stations in Sunderland

ID	Site name	Stns	ID	Site name	Stns
7	Atlas Gym	37	90	LadyB Fitness	39
16	Biddick Academy	26	94	Marine House Gym 80	130
25	Castle View Sports Centre	24	96	Mayfair Health Club	80
28	Club Zest Ladies Leisure	34	111	Olympia Fitness & Beauty Centre	60
32	David Lloyd (Sunderland)	95	122	Pure Gym (Sunderland)	220
36	DW Sports Fitness	100	123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	50
43	Elite Health & Fitness	57	143	Silksworth Community Pool,	100
48	Farringdon Comm. Academy	30	167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	123
51	Fitness 2000	20	177	Washington Millennium Centre	34
55	George Washington Leisure Club	22	191	Washington Leisure Centre	80
69	Hetton Community Pool	40	185	Uni of Sunderland City Space	80
82	Houghton Sports Centre	45	198	Xercise4Less (Sunderland)	400
87	JD Gyms (Washington)	200			
Total			2,126		

There are seven health and fitness gyms with more than 100 stations, the largest is Xercise4less (Sunderland) with 400 stations. It has 1,273 stations; this equates to 60% of the total supply.

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Quality

Community available health and fitness sites received a non-technical quality assessment. These apply the methodology as described in section 3.2. Of the 25 facilities, three are rated good, 10 above average, two below average and none are poor. Ten facilities were not assessed. It is generally accepted that commercial operators which charge a monthly fee (and in some cases a joining fee) have facilities of, at least, above average quality.

Figure 6.3: Health & fitness facilities with 20+ stations on population density by condition

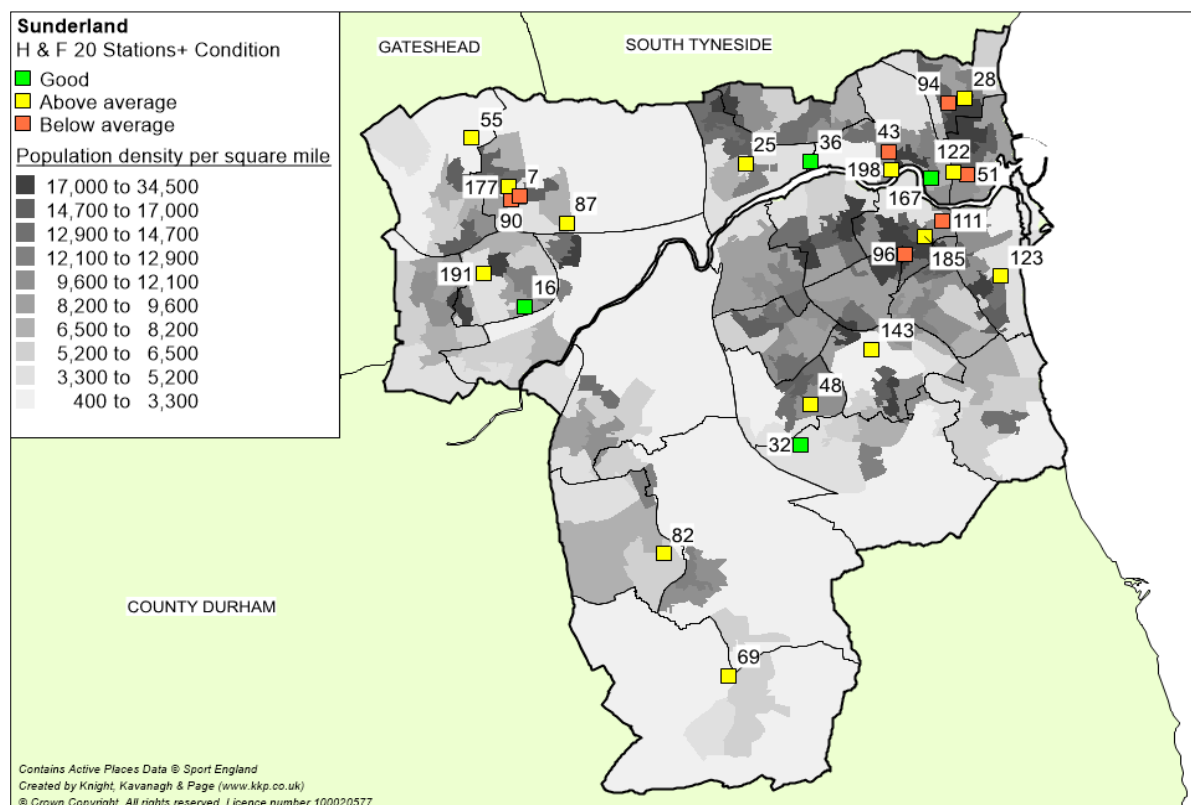


Table 6.3: Health & fitness suites with 20+ stations on population density by condition

Map ID	Site name	Stations	Condition
7	Atlas Gym	37	Below average
16	Biddick Academy	26	Good
25	Castle View Sports Centre	24	Above average
28	Club Zest Ladies Leisure (Sunderland)	34	Above average
32	David Lloyd (Sunderland)	95	Good
36	DW Sports Fitness (Sunderland)	100	Good
43	Elite Health and Fitness	57	Below average
48	Farringdon Community Academy	30	Above average
51	Fitness 2000	20	Below average
55	George Washington Leisure Club	22	Above average
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	40	Above average
82	Houghton Sports Centre	45	Above average

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Map ID	Site name	Stations	Condition
87	JD Gyms (Washington)	200	Above average
90	LadyB Fitness	39	Below average
94	Marine House Gym 80	130	Below average
96	Mayfair Health Club	80	Below average
111	Olympia Fitness & Beauty Centre	60	Below average
122	Pure Gym (Sunderland)	220	Above average
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	50	Above average
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre	100	Above average
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	123	Good
177	The Washington Millennium Centre	34	Above average
185	The University of Sunderland City Space	80	Above average
191	Washington Leisure Centre	80	Above average
198	Xercise4Less (Sunderland)	400	Above average

Accessibility

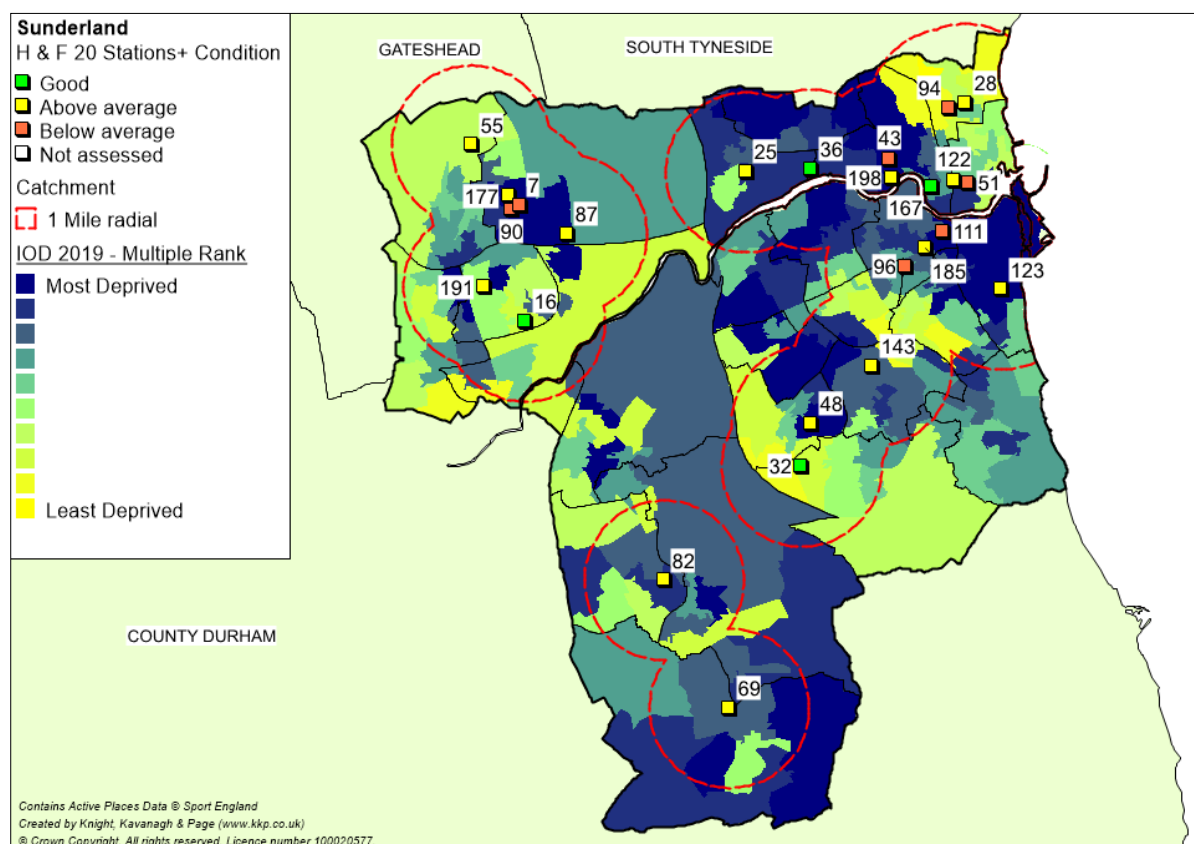
The Sport England classification of access type defines registered membership use facilities as being publicly available. For health and fitness suites, this generally means a monthly membership fee which can vary considerably. Private operators do not have a contractual obligation to, for example, offer exercise referral nor do they necessarily actively target hard to reach groups. It is also acknowledged that some memberships are considered expensive while others are cheaper than those offered by public sector managed venues. There is little doubt that private operators can take pressure off the more available public facilities. As with swimming pools and sports halls, appropriate walk and drive-time accessibility standards are applied to health and fitness suites to determine provision deficiencies or surpluses. The normal acceptable standard is a 20-minute walk time for urban areas.

Table 6.4: Health and fitness gyms with 20 minutes walk time catchment on IMD 2019

IMD 2019 10% bands	Sunderland		Health & Fitness – 20 stations+ catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	62,090	22.4%	49,568	17.9%	12,522	4.5%
10.1 - 20	50,382	18.2%	38,135	13.8%	12,247	4.4%
20.1 - 30	35,839	12.9%	31,130	11.2%	4,709	1.7%
30.1 - 40	33,695	12.2%	22,209	8.0%	11,486	4.1%
40.1 - 50	24,910	9.0%	17,101	6.2%	7,809	2.8%
50.1 - 60	13,208	4.8%	11,493	4.2%	1,715	0.6%
60.1 - 70	21,797	7.9%	14,808	5.3%	6,989	2.5%
70.1 - 80	23,417	8.5%	18,511	6.7%	4,906	1.8%
80.1 - 90	10,344	3.7%	8,915	3.2%	1,429	0.5%
90.1 - 100	1,131	0.4%	1,131	0.4%	0	0.0%
Total	276,813	100.0%	213,001	76.9%	63,812	23.1%

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Figure 6.4: Health and fitness suites with 20 minutes' walk time catchment on IMD



Most (77%) of Sunderland's population is within a 20 minutes' walk time of a fitness facility with 20+ stations with the whole population living within 20 minutes' drive time. Consequently, just under one quarter (23.1%) of the population is likely to need to use a car or public transport to access health and fitness facilities. It is noted that Sunderland has seen an increase in the number of smaller private gym facilities and low budget gyms opening over the past five years.

Availability and programming

Health and fitness availability differs dependent upon ownership/management. Facilities that the audit identified as private use only are:

- ◀ Nissan Sports & Leisure Complex (29 stations) – available to employees only.
- ◀ Hilton Garden Inn (20 stations) – available to hotel guests only.
- ◀ Biddick Academy (26 stations)

When availability of swimming pools is taken into consideration, accessibility to the facilities changes as shown in Table 6.5 and Figure 6.5. Three quarters (75.5%) of the population resides within one mile of a community available health and fitness facility. Of those living in areas of higher deprivation, 80% (42.8% of the 53.5%) of the population resides within one mile.

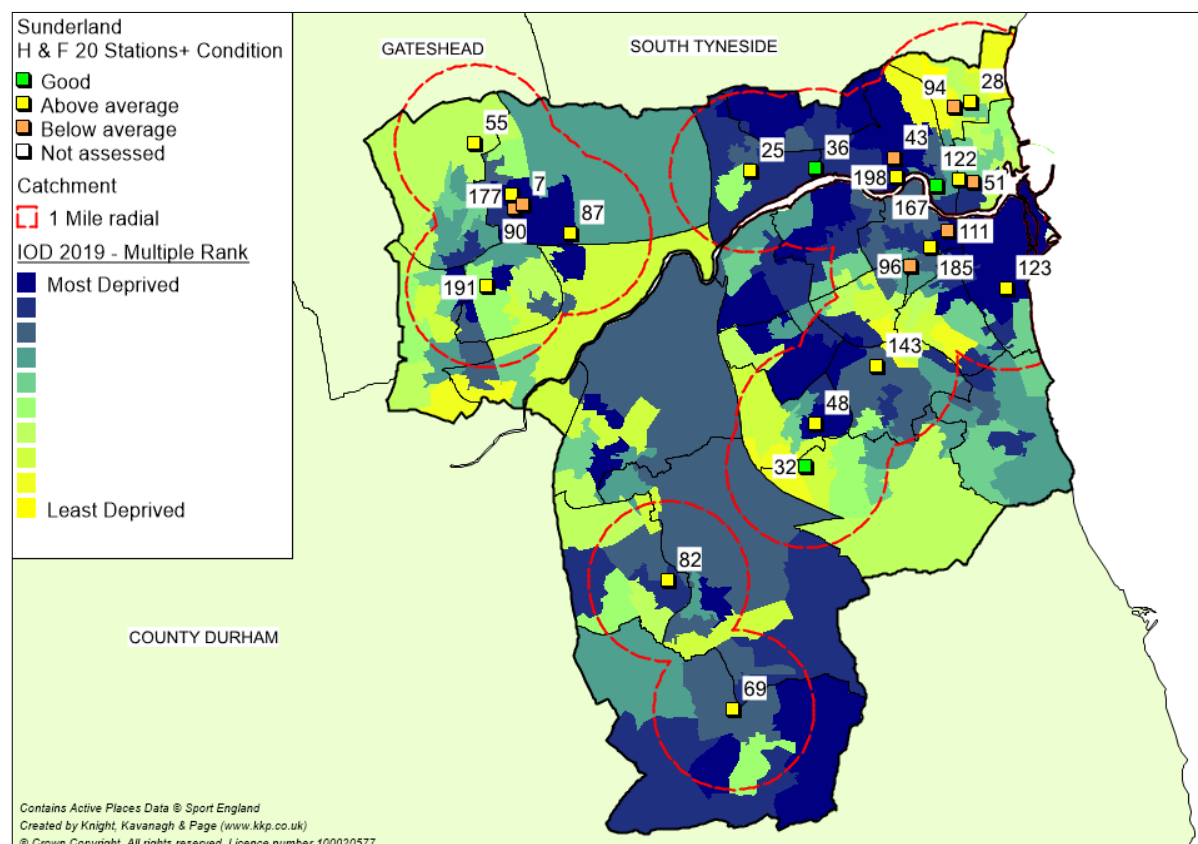
The Sport England classification of access type defines registered membership use facilities as being publicly available. For health and fitness suites, this generally means a monthly membership fee which can vary considerably.

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Table 6.5: Community available fitness gyms: 20 minute walk time catchment (IMD 2019)

IMD 2019 10% bands	Sunderland		Health & Fitness – 20 stations+ excl. private use catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	62,090	22.4%	49,568	17.9%	12,522	4.5%
10.1 - 20	50,382	18.2%	38,135	13.8%	12,247	4.4%
20.1 - 30	35,839	12.9%	30,591	11.1%	5,248	1.9%
30.1 - 40	33,695	12.2%	22,186	8.0%	11,509	4.2%
40.1 - 50	24,910	9.0%	16,096	5.8%	8,814	3.2%
50.1 - 60	13,208	4.8%	11,493	4.2%	1,715	0.6%
60.1 - 70	21,797	7.9%	14,808	5.3%	6,989	2.5%
70.1 - 80	23,417	8.5%	16,404	5.9%	7,013	2.5%
80.1 - 90	10,344	3.7%	8,666	3.1%	1,678	0.6%
90.1 - 100	1,131	0.4%	1,131	0.4%	0	0.0%
Total	276,813	100.0%	209,078	75.5%	67,735	24.5%

Figure 6.5: Community available fitness gyms:20 minutes walk time catchment (IMD 2019)



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Table 6.6: Pricing structure of health and fitness facilities in Sunderland

Site name	Pay & play	Monthly	12 months direct debit	Annual	Notes
Atlas gym					No pricing info. available
Castle View Sports Centre	£3.00		£10.00 (x 12 months)	£120.00	
Club Zest Ladies Leisure (Sunderland)	£4.00	£40.25			
David Lloyd (Sunderland)		£63.00 £77.00			£50.00 signing on fee; Platinum package- no signing on fee
DW Sports Fitness		£32.00	£32.00 (x 12 months)	£384.00	
Elite Health and Fitness	£3.00	£15.00			
Farrington Community Academy	£3.50				No permanent or monthly contracts available
Fitness 2000		£20.00			
George Washington Leisure Club		£36.00* pcm (joining fee £51.00)	£360* annual fee (joining fee £15.00)	£360.00 (£15.00 joining fee)	
Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	£5.60		£36.00* per month (plus joining fee £51.00)	£360.00 (£15.00 joining fee)	
Houghton Sports Centre			£36.00* per month (plus joining fee £51.00)	£360.00 (£15.00 joining fee)	
JD Gyms (Washington)		No contract: £25.00	£19.99	£300.00	
LadyB Fitness	£4.00				Long-term contracts available; prices not listed.
Marine House Gym 80					No pricing on the website, sent a message. Awaiting response
Mayfair Health Club					No pricing information available
Olympia Fitness & Beauty Centre		£20.50			Includes classes and sauna in the price

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Site name	Pay & play	Monthly	12 months direct debit	Annual	Notes
Pure Gym (Sunderland)	£5.99	£10.99 a month + £10.00 joining fee			
Raich Carter Sports Centre	£5.60		£36.00* per month (plus joining fee £51.00)	£360.00 with £15.00 joining fee	
Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre	£5.60		£36.00* per month (plus joining fee £51.00)	£360.00 with £15.00 joining fee	
Sunderland Aquatic Centre	£5.60		£36.00* per month (plus joining fee £51.00)	£360.00 with £15.00 joining fee	
The Washington Millennium Centre	£2.70 £1.80 (concessionary)	Monthly Fee £20.00			Induction: £5.00
The University of Sunderland City Space		£20.00		£200.00	£55.00 for 3 months
Washington Leisure Centre	£5.60		£36.00* per month (plus joining fee £51.00)	£360.00 with £15.00 joining fee	
Xercise4Less (Sunderland)	5 day pass free	£16.99 p/m (no joining fee)			

The cost of pay and play usage varies from £3.00 at Elite Health and Fitness and £3.50 at Farrington Community Academy. Monthly fees at public leisure centres at £36.000 per month and the 'Platinum package' at David Lloyd costs £77 pcm. The cheapest monthly membership available to the general public is at Elite Health and Fitness at £15.00 per month.

Neighbouring facilities

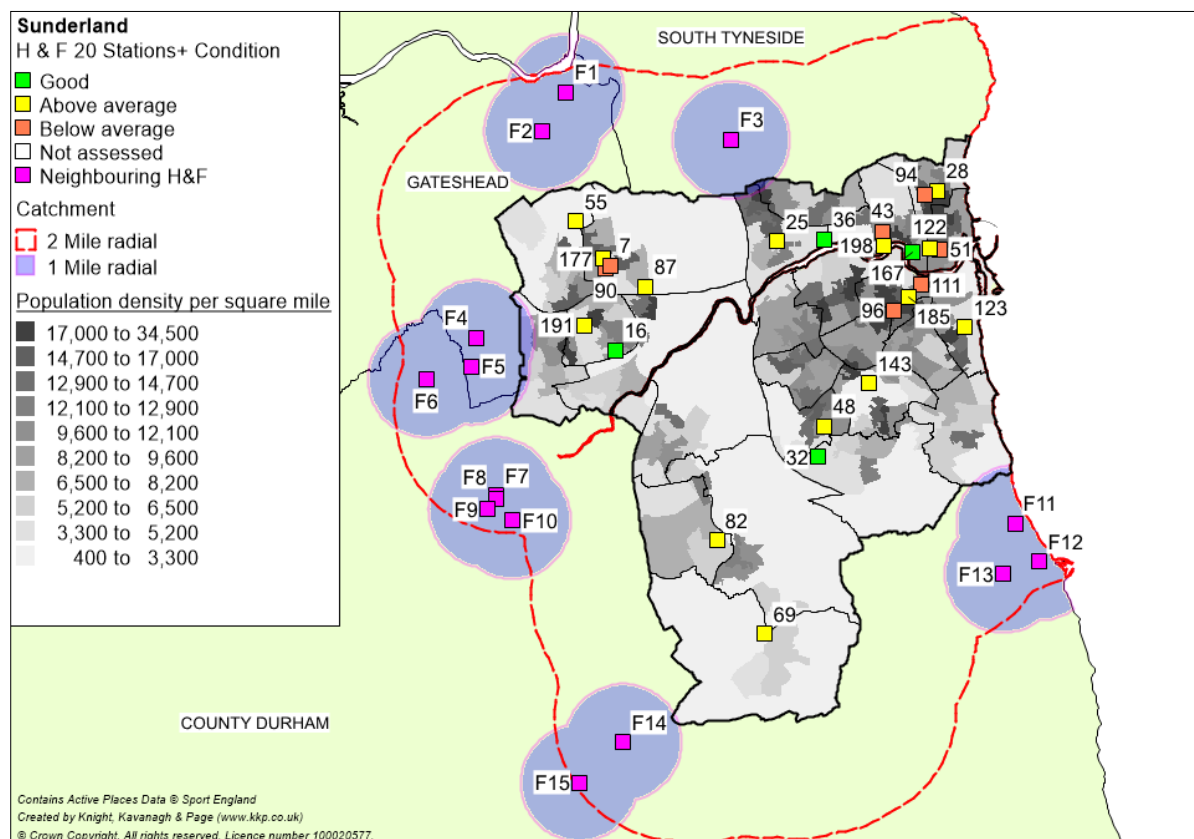
As with swimming and use of sports halls, users of health and fitness facilities are not constrained to using facilities within their own authority, consequently those with two miles of the border are considered within the report. Fifteen health and fitness facilities are located within two miles of the SCC boundary, four in Gateshead one in South Tyneside and ten in County Durham. It is likely that they will serve the more rural communities in the south of the City, in particular. Seven allow pay and play availability with the remainder requiring registered membership.

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Table 6.7: Health and fitness (20+ stations) within two miles of SCC LA boundary

ID	Active Places site name	Stations	Access type	Local authority
F1	Powerhouse Gym	68	Pay and Play	Gateshead
F2	Heworth Leisure Centre	40	Pay and Play	Gateshead
F3	Boldon Fitness	29	Registered Membership	South Tyneside
F4	Body PWR Fitness Centre	50	Registered Membership	Gateshead
F5	Birtley Leisure Centre	100	Registered Membership	Gateshead
F6	Ouston Community Centre	20	Pay and Play	County Durham
F7	Chester Le Street LC	45	Pay and Play	County Durham
F8	Park View Community Centre	35	Pay and Play	County Durham
F9	Peak Body Gym	53	Registered Membership	County Durham
F10	Bannatyne Health Club	140	Registered Membership	County Durham
F11	The Serenity Spa At	26	Registered Membership	County Durham
F12	Bruces Gym	70	Pay and Play	County Durham
F13	Seaham Leisure Centre	46	Pay and Play	County Durham
F14	Ramside Hall Hotel & GC	56	Registered Membership	County Durham
F15	Bannatyne Health Club	85	Registered Membership	County Durham
Total		863		

Figure 6.6: Health & fitness facilities in Sunderland & within 2 miles of SCC boundary (Source: Active Places Power 30/04/2019)



SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL

LEISURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Future developments

No health and fitness gym developments, of which we were made aware, are planned in the area at the time of audit. It is recognised that well run health and fitness facilities with studios can support the financial viability of other elements such as swimming pools and in many instances are used to cross subsidise such facilities.

6.2: Demand

The GP referral scheme is led by the NHS and facilitated by Everyone Active at its different sites. The exit strategy; Pathways to Health (where Everyone Active runs two sessions) is held at Houghton, The Aquatic Centre, Silksworth & Washington. This was launched in November 2019 and attracts approximately ten people per session with an aim is to keep people who referred within the system with a view to ensuring that they continue to exercise; increasing the chance that they will improve their health.

Health and fitness via exercising in a gym or class environment is a highly popular form of exercise, appealing to men and women across a range of age groups. To identify the adequacy of provision quantity a demand calculation based upon the assumption that 'UK penetration rates' will increase slightly in the future is applied. Population increases are also factored in to enable a calculation of whether current supply will meet future demand.

Table 6.8: UK penetration rates; health/fitness in Sunderland (ONS Data)

	Curent (2016)	Future (2033)
Adult population (16+ years)	229,049	233,006
UK penetration rate	15%	16%
Number of potential members	34,357	37,281
Number of visits per week (1.75/member)	60,125	65,242
% of visits in peak time	65	65
No. of visits in peak time (equated to no. of stations required i.e. no. of visits/39 weeks*65%)	1,002	1,087
Number of stations (with comfort factor applied)	1,503	1,631

The model identifies 1.75 visits per week by members and 65% usage during 39 weeks of the year. (All figures rounded up/down)

Based upon UK penetration rates there is a current need for 1,002 stations across Sunderland. This is expected to grow to 1,087 by 2033; taking account of a comfort factor (particularly at peak times).

When comparing the number of community available stations currently available (2,100) and accounting for the comfort factor, the market appears to have a positive supply demand balance to service the adult population based on the calculations above. Projecting forwards to 2033, if the 50% comfort factor is applied and the predicted penetration rate of 16% is applied a positive balance remains of c.440 stations.

It is not uncommon for the private sector to identify niche markets and fill them with health and fitness stations. The key issue is that while some of these may be budget operators this does not necessarily make them available to harder to reach groups and people from areas of (relative) disadvantage (as cost is only one factor which may hinder usage).

Supply and demand analysis

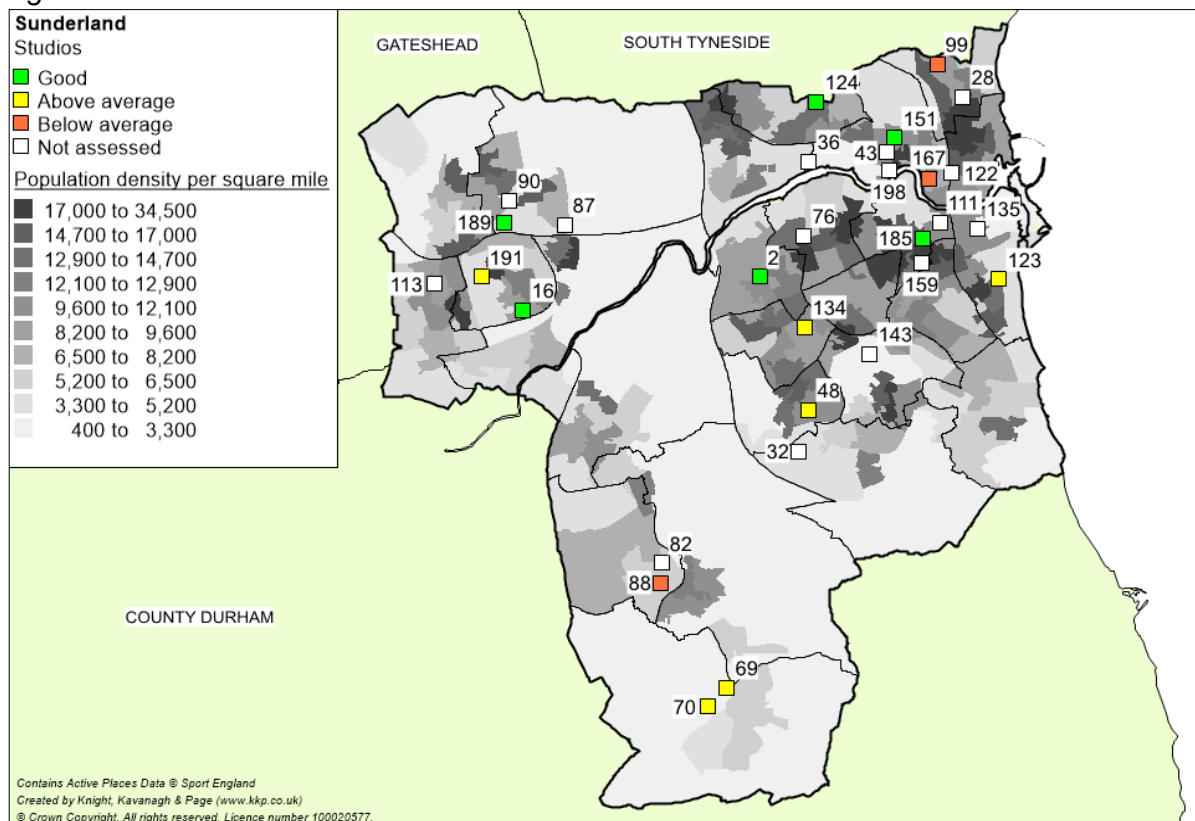
As noted earlier, health and fitness facilities are an important facet of leisure provision and have been a successful addition to sports centres over the past three decades. Income derived can help to offset the cost/underpin the viability of other aspects of leisure provision, especially swimming and targeted physical activity programmes such as Exercise on Referral. Having a good quality swimming pool as part of an exercise on referral offer adds value to the programme and has the potential for the Council to develop its own niche area.

For Sunderland the challenge is to provide opportunity for people from areas of higher deprivation who are less likely to be able to afford or choose to access health and fitness opportunity and do not have transport to access facilities particularly during the evening when public transport is limited. There is a requirement to monitor the supply of health and fitness provision to ensure market saturation does not occur and facilities do not become unviable.

6.3: Dance studios

Dance studios are an important element of the wider health, fitness and conditioning market. They vary in size, shape, quality of environment, access to sprung wooden floors and quality of ancillary facilities. There has been an increase in the number of people accessing fitness classes as identified in increased UK penetration rates. Activity types offered also vary from low impact classes such as Pilates and yoga to dance, step, boxercise and Zumba. It is worth noting that dance classes/clubs are key users of studio spaces throughout the country. The audit identifies 43 studios, 24 of which were subject to a non-technical assessment. Eight were found to be good quality, nine above average, seven below average and none are poor 19 were not assessed.

Figure 6.7: Dance studios in SCC



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Table 6.9: Sunderland studios

Map ID	Site name	Access	Condition
2	Academy 360	Pay and Play	Good
2	Academy 360	Pay and Play	Good
16	Biddick Academy	Sports Club / CA	Good
28	Club Zest Ladies Leisure	Registered Membership	Not assessed
28	Club Zest Ladies Leisure	Registered Membership	Not assessed
32	David Lloyd	Registered Membership	Not assessed
36	DW Sports Fitness	Registered Membership	Not assessed
36	DW Sports Fitness	Registered Membership	Not assessed
43	Elite Health and Fitness	Registered Membership	Not assessed
48	Farringdon Community Academy	Sports Club / CA	Above average
48	Farringdon Community Academy	Sports Club / CA	Above average
69	Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre	Registered Membership	Above average
70	Hetton Comprehensive School	Sports Club / CA	Above average
76	Highfield Community Primary School	Sports Club / CA	Not assessed
82	Houghton Sports Centre	Pay and Play	Above average
82	Houghton Sports Centre	Pay and Play	Below average
82	Houghton Sports Centre	Pay and Play	Above average
87	JD Gyms	Pay and Play	Not assessed
87	JD Gyms	Pay and Play	Not assessed
88	Kepier Academy	Sports Club / CA	Below average
90	Ladyb Fitness	Registered Membership	Not assessed
99	Monkwearmouth Academy Sports Centre	Sports Club / CA	Below average
111	Olympia Fitness & Beauty Centre	Registered Membership	Not assessed
113	Oxclose Community Academy	Sports Club / CA	Not assessed
113	Oxclose Community Academy	Sports Club / CA	Not assessed
122	Pure Gym	Pay and Play	Not assessed
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	Pay and Play	Below average
123	Raich Carter Sports Centre	Pay and Play	Above average
124	Red House Academy	Sports Club / CA	Good
134	Sandhill Sports Centre	Registered Membership	Above average
135	Sans Street Community Centre	Sports Club / CA	Not assessed
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre x 2	Pay and Play	Below average
151	Southwick Community Primary School	Private	Good
159	St Anthonys Catholic Girls Academy	Private	Not assessed
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	Registered Membership	Below average
167	Sunderland Aquatic Centre	Registered Membership	Below average
185	University of Sunderland City Space	Sports Club / CA	Good
185	University of Sunderland City Space	Sports Club / CA	Good
189	Washington Academy	Sports Club / CA	Good
191	Washington Leisure Centre	Registered Membership	Above average
191	Washington Leisure Centre	Registered Membership	Above average
198	Xercise4less	Registered Membership	Not assessed

SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL LEISURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Future development

There are no known health and fitness facility developments at the time of audit.

6.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Health & fitness	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are 25 health and fitness facilities which have 20+ stations. Seven are significant with 100+ stations. Modelled supply and demand indicate sufficient supply now and in 2033. In addition, there are 43 dance studios.	Health and fitness facilities are found in all the major conurbations in Sunderland.
Quality	Generally, health and fitness facilities are in good and above average condition. Only two are considered to be below average and none are identified as poor.	There is a need to maintain quality and where possible improve the condition of the average/below average rated gyms/studios;
Accessibility	All main population areas have health and fitness facilities. Over 75% of the population lives within one mile of a health and fitness facility. All Sunderland residents live within 20 minutes' drive of a health and fitness centre and dance studio facility. Of those living in areas of higher deprivation, 80% live within one mile of a facility. There are 15 health and fitness gyms within two miles of the SCC border.	There is a need to ensure that harder to reach groups and people with specific health needs can access facilities.
Availability (Management and usage)	The majority of health and fitness facilities require a membership to access. A wide range of memberships is available, some of which require a signing on fee. There are private use only facilities with 20+ stations.	The key need is to ensure health and fitness facilities cater fully for the full range of different market segments within the Sunderland community.
Strategic Summary	The market for health and fitness is still growing nationally with different market segments utilising different types of facility. The importance of the financial contribution that health and fitness provision can make to the viability of (and to enable) other publicly accessible facilities as swimming pools needs to be taken into account. Health and fitness facilities along with dance studio space have the potential to increase physical activity in the wider population and are doing in the case of the current Exercise on Referral programmes on offer in Sunderland. Population growth in Sunderland is projected to be fairly modest over the timespan of the Local Plan. Consequently, it is unlikely that demand for additional facilities will outstrip current supply.	

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SECTION 7: SQUASH

Squash, having experienced challenging times, is now on a new strategic path, implementing a rebrand and undergoing a major restructure. England Squash has achieved core strategic goals agreed with Sport England one of which was to arrest the decline in participation. It is committed to supporting the traditional infrastructure of county associations, clubs, coaches and officials to grow the game through key programmes (e.g. Squash101) and campaigns (e.g. Squash Girls Can) but will need to apportion resources in a significantly different manner.

Table 7.1: England Squash Strategic aims:

Element	Aim
Governance	Adhere to the highest standards of organisational governance.
Membership	Provide a membership model that caters to and provides benefits for anyone interested in playing and coaching squash irrespective of their ability.
Programmes	Enabling and supporting partners to be at the forefront of adult and player recruitment and retention.
Talent & high performance	Provide a support and development programme that identifies, develops and delivers world leading individuals and teams.
Commercial	Create a diversified and effective revenue model that minimises risk and reduces dependency on funding.

Enhancing Squash (2017-2021) outlines the vision, principles and strategic pillars for England Squash. Its vision is *to make squash the #1 racket sport in England*. Its Mission is to create a thriving squash community by redefining and enhancing the experience for players, coaches, officials and volunteers - enabling England Squash to sustain the sport, maximise revenue potential and develop world leading teams and individuals. The 2017-2021 strategy aims to:

- ◀ Continue to build a model sport NGB that enables participation and enjoyment of squash whilst delivering a robust talent pathway and successful performance programme.
- ◀ Deliver a membership scheme that caters to/encourages players/coaches at all levels.
- ◀ Form a progressive organisation with an enhanced international reputation.

7.1 Supply

The three squash facilities in Sunderland have a combined total of eight courts, three glass backed. In general, facilities are either above average or good. Consultation with managers indicates a relatively steady demand for squash but there is no requirement for additional facilities as there is spare capacity at existing facilities even at peak times.

Table 7.1: Squash courts in Sunderland

ID	Site name	Courts			Condition
		Normal	Glass backed	Total	
5	Ashbrooke Sports Club	3	0	0	Not assessed
32	David Lloyd	0	3	3	Good
191	Washington Leisure Centre	0	2	2	Above average

The whole Sunderland's population resides within 20 minutes' drive of a squash court. A further 18 sites (41 courts) are located within 20 minutes' drive of Sunderland town centre.

SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL LEISURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 7.1: Squash courts in Sunderland and neighbouring authorities- 20 mins drive time

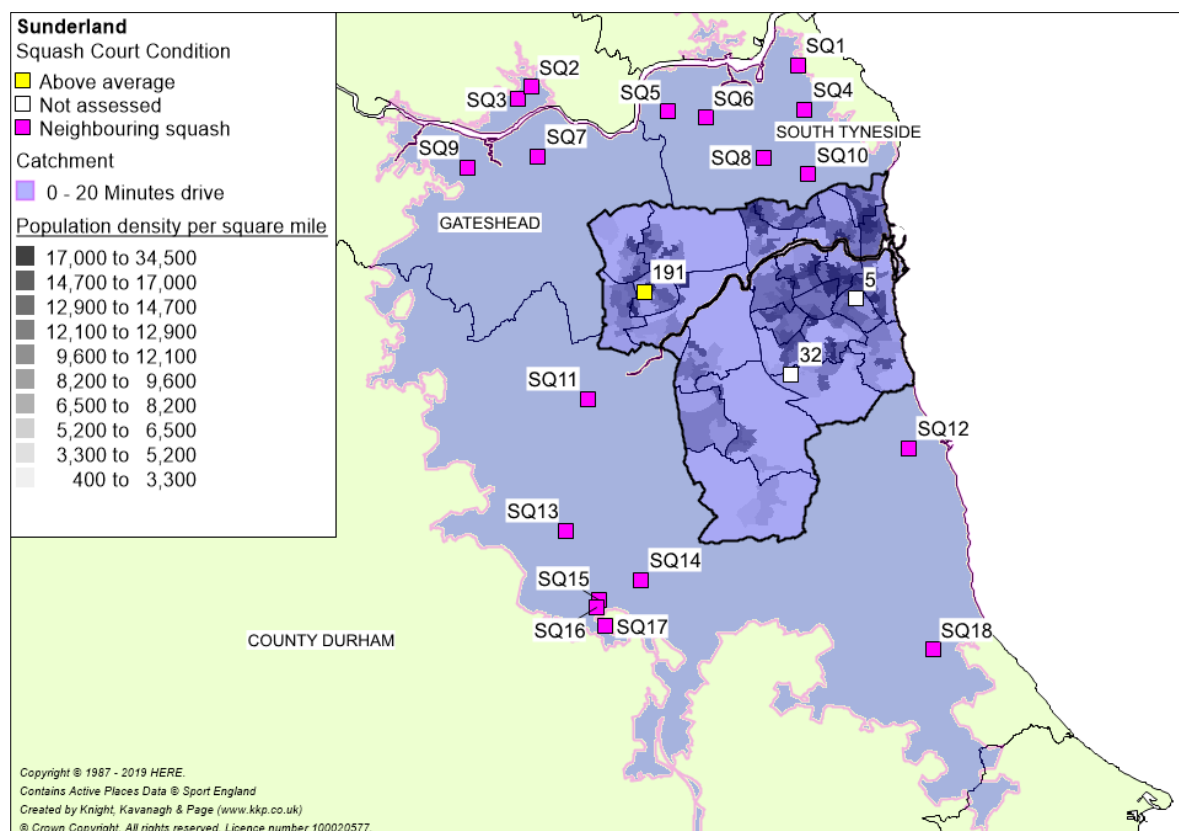


Table 7.3: Squash facilities within 2 miles of the local authority boundary

Map ID	Site name	Courts	Access type	Local authority
SQ1	South Shields and Westoe Club	2	Sports Club / CA	South Tyneside
SQ2	Northumbria University	3	Pay and Play	Newcastle upon Tyne
SQ3	Eldon Leisure Centre	4	Pay and Play	Newcastle upon Tyne
SQ4	Temple Park Centre	3	Pay and Play	South Tyneside
SQ5	Clegwell Community Hub	3	Sports Club / CA	South Tyneside
SQ6	Primrose Community	2	Pay and Play	South Tyneside
SQ7	Gateshead Leisure Centre	1	Pay and Play	Gateshead
SQ8	Boldon Community Ass.	2	Pay and Play	South Tyneside
SQ9	Dunston Leisure Centre	3	Pay and Play	Gateshead
SQ10	Boldon Cricket and Squash Club	4	Sports Club / CA	South Tyneside
SQ11	Chester Le Street LC	2	Pay and Play	County Durham
SQ12	Seaham Leisure Centre	1	Registered	County Durham
SQ13	Abbey Leisure Centre	2	Pay and Play	County Durham
SQ14	Bannatyne Health Club	3	Registered	County Durham
SQ15	College of St Hild and St Bede	1	Sports Club / CA	County Durham
SQ16	The Racecourse	2	Pay and Play	County Durham
SQ17	Durham University	2	Pay and Play	County Durham
SQ18	Peterlee Leisure Centre	1	Pay and Play	County Durham

Source: Active Places Power 07/02/2020. Sports Club / CA = Sports Club / Community Association use

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Future developments

At the time of the audit, there were no future plans to increase the supply of squash facilities in the area.

7.2: Demand

Nationally, the number of people participating in squash in England from decreased from 425,000 in 2016 to 315,300 in 2019, a decrease of approximately a quarter. Reasons for this are varied but underuse at some squash courts has contributed to a number local authorities converting them into other facilities, including soft play, climbing walls, studios, health and fitness etc. In some instances, this has contributed to a further decline.

Sunderland Squash Club runs four teams in the Northumbria Leagues and has a junior academy. It is based at Ashbrooke Sports Club. The courts at Washington Leisure Centre are used regularly for recreational play but there is no additional demand for more court time.

7.3: Summary

Facility type	Squash	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are three squash facilities in Sunderland with eight courts.	
Quality	They are generally of above average quality.	There is a need to maintain quality and where possible improve the courts.
Accessibility	All of Sunderland's population lives within 20 minutes' drive time of squash courts located in Sunderland.	
Availability (Management and usage)	Facilities are relatively well used. They have capacity to increase both daytime and peak use.	
Strategic Summary	Squash is holding its own in Sunderland, albeit on the basis of a limited supply of courts, but there is a need to ensure that it is supported. This can be undertaken by ensuring that courts remain in above average or good condition, promotion of the sport and supporting development of both coaches and volunteers to ensure future growth. Population growth in Sunderland is projected to be fairly modest over the timespan of the Local Plan. Consequently, it is unlikely that demand for additional facilities will outstrip current supply.	

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SECTION 8: INDOOR TENNIS

8.1: Supply

There are two indoor tennis facilities in Sunderland, within relatively close proximity to one another. David Lloyd is a commercially operated facility with eight indoor courts. It is a popular facility which requires a membership fee to use. Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis and Wellness Centre also has eight indoor courts. It is well maintained with facilities which are in above average condition.

Figure 8.1: Indoor tennis facilities in Sunderland with 30 minutes' drive time

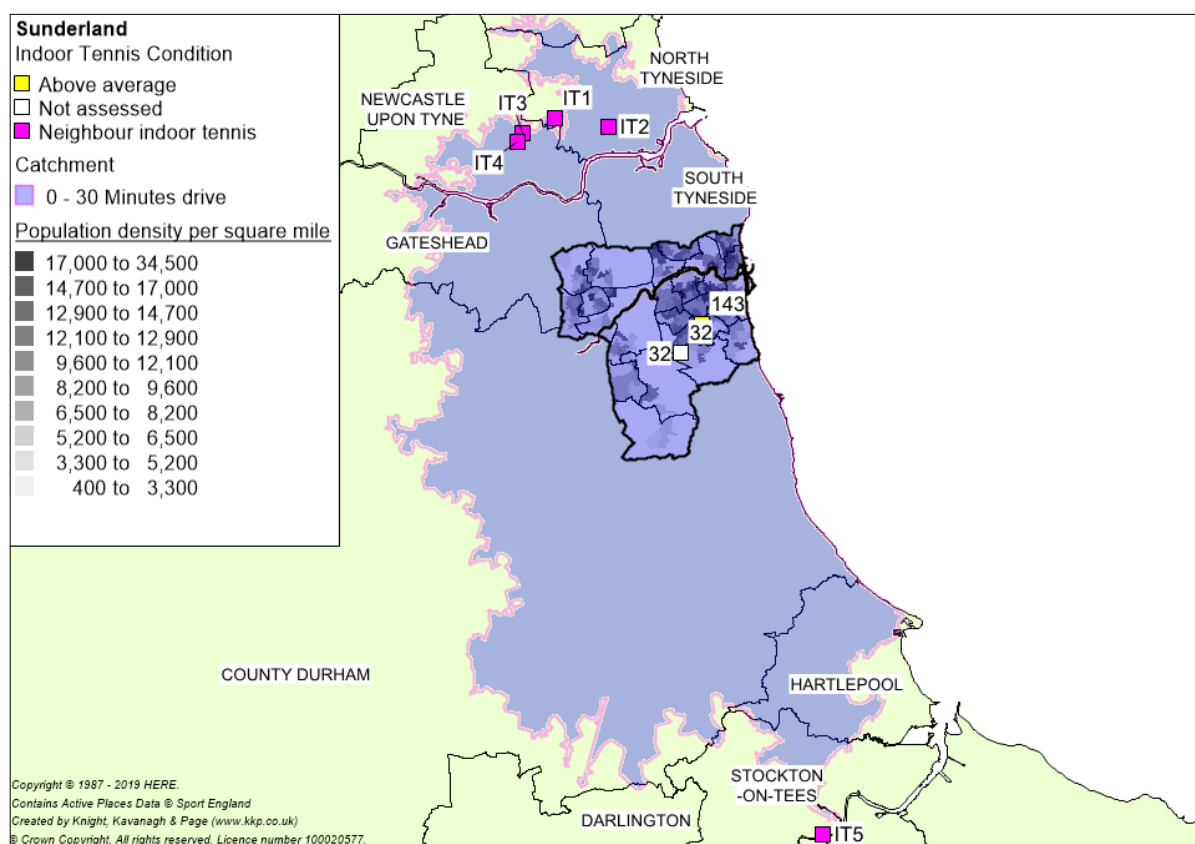


Table 8.1: Sunderland's indoor tennis facilities

Map ID	Site name	Courts	Access	Condition
32	David Lloyd	8	Registered Membership	Good
143	Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis & Wellness Centre	8	Pay and Play	Above average

All Sunderland's residents live within 30 minutes' drive time of an indoor tennis facility. There are an additional five indoor tennis facilities with 22 courts 30 minutes' drive of Sunderland town centre.

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Table 8.2: Indoor tennis facilities in neighbouring authorities

Map ID	Site name	Cts	Access type	Local authority
IT1	Blue Flames Sporting Club	3	Pay and Play	North Tyneside
IT2	Churchill Community College	4	Pay and Play	North Tyneside
IT3	David Lloyd Club (Newcastle)	5	Reg. Membership	Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
IT4	The Northumberland Club	3	Reg. Membership	Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
IT5	David Lloyd Club (Teesside)	7	Reg. Membership	Stockton-on-Tees

8.2: Demand

The David Lloyd facility reports that it is extremely busy, especially over weekends although it has capacity at peak times. Likewise, the facility at Silksworth also has capacity

8.3: Summary

Facility type	Tennis	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are two indoor tennis centres with 16 courts in Sunderland. There are a further five sites (22 courts) within 30 minutes's drive time of Sunderland City Centre.	They are located to the south of Sunderland City Centre.
Quality	David Lloyd remains in good condition, whilst the facility at Silksworth is considered to be above average.	Continued maintenance and investment are required to maintain quality.
Accessibility	Indoor tennis is accessible to all Sunderland residents with access to a car.	
Availability (Management & usage)	The David Lloyd Centre has membership restrictions, whilst Silksworth offers both pay and play and membership opportunities. Silksworth offers tennis coaching as well as hosting events and a tennis club. The Tennis Club uses both indoor and outdoor courts and is reputedly 'stuck in its ways'. Efforts have been made to contact the Club but as they without eliciting a response. The facility has capacity to increase tennis use.	Increase coaching workforce to support any increases in provision.
Strategic Summary	The facility at Silksworth has capacity to increase participation. Management is keen to work with the tenant resident club and to look at varying programmes and activities to help drive tennis development. Population growth in Sunderland is projected to be fairly modest over the timespan of the Local Plan. Consequently, it is unlikely that demand for additional facilities will outstrip current supply.	

SECTION 9: INDOOR BOWLS

The five forms of bowls that are played indoors that require a different venue are flat/level green, crown green, long mat, short mat and carpet mat. Each format of the game requires a different technical specification for their indoor facility.

Indoor flat / level green bowls is played on a purpose-built indoor green which complies with the Laws of the sport of Bowls. The NGB is EIBA (English Indoor Bowling Association). It requires a standard bowling green; a flat area 31-40 metres long divided into playing areas called rinks. The number of these varies, depending on the width of the green.

Crown Green bowls requires a standard crown green, artificial grass (carpeted) area of approximately 38m square which is crowned i.e. higher in the centre than round the perimeter. Indoor crown greens are relatively rare – substantially less common than those provided for flat green bowls. The NGB is the British Crown Green Bowling Association.

Carpet bowls is played on a rectangular carpet (45 x 6 feet) that is rolled out. It can be accommodated in any indoor space large enough to accommodate the mats which come in different lengths. It tends to be played at a recreational level. The NGB is the English Carpet Bowls Association.

Short mat bowls is typically played in sports halls, parish council rooms, outdoor bowls club pavilions; on indoor flat green bowls club greens. The NGB is the English Short Mat Bowling Association. Long mat bowls is played on a rolled carpet typically laid on a sports hall floor. There are no ditches in this game. It is typically found in areas of low flat-green supply and/or where Crown Green bowls is played outdoors. There is no NGB for this version of the game.

An indoor bowling centre typically comprises a single flat green with a number of rinks and ancillary accommodation such as changing rooms, lounge/bar, viewing area, kitchen, office/meeting rooms and stores plus designated car parking. The size of ancillary accommodation varies according to the number of rinks available. A successful indoor bowls centre requires a combination of the right location, design, and financial and general management. Sport England¹¹ guidelines on catchment for indoor bowls centres are set out to be interpreted in the light of local circumstances:

Assume the majority of users live locally and not travel more than 30 minutes.

Assume that 90% of users will travel by car, with the remainder by foot.

As a guide, calculate demand on the basis of one rink per 14,000-17,000 total population.

The number of rinks required can be related to the estimated number of members, assume 80-100 members per rink.

The stated priorities of EIBA are:

- ◀ Recruitment of participants.
- ◀ Retention of participants.
- ◀ Clubs obtaining “Clubmark Accreditation”.
- ◀ Retention and improvement of facilities.
- ◀ New indoor facilities in areas of low-supply and high-demand.

¹¹ Sport England Design Guidance Note Indoor Bowls 2005

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EIBA Outline Plan 2017 - 2021

The EIBA plan is focused on: *recruit and retain 45+* and *recruit and retain 70+*. Both markets require growth. The idea is that people aged 45+ need new versions/formats of the game to play and the 70+ will wish to continue with current formats. Its focus areas are:

- ◀ Facilities: build, improve, retain.
- ◀ Youth and the family.
- ◀ Women – increase participation and retention.
- ◀ Disability.
- ◀ Competitions.
- ◀ Internationals.
- ◀ Promotion.
- ◀ Commercial partnerships.

The “Recruit and Retain Strategy” is to concentrate on encouraging and supporting clubs to increase participation and improve the experience of all participants. Its objectives include:

Growing participation across the adult population in local communities. Targeted work to increase female participation.

Growing participation in the 12-18 age range as part of the EIBA Development Pathway.

The provision of an excellent sporting experience for new and existing participants.

A growth in Indoor Bowls participation by people who have disabilities.

Running alongside this is the Sport England funded development work provided jointly by the Indoor NGB (EIBA); Outdoor NGB (Bowls England) and the “Bowls Development Alliance” (BDA). Each NGB has two directors on the Board of BDA.

The Sport England funding for the 2017-2021 period, focuses on the delivery of:

- ◀ **Club Development Programme:** supports clubs across the country where they have identified greatest need.
- ◀ **Play Bowls Package Scheme:** supports clubs with their recruitment.
- ◀ **Coach Bowls:** providing qualifications for coaches and developing the best tutor workforce to deliver these qualifications across the whole sport including BE, EIBA, British Crown Green BA and English Short Mat BA
- ◀ **Facilities:** providing funding support for BE and EIBA to research the facility requirements of their clubs.

Alongside these core objectives the BDA works with key partners on:

- ◀ **Safeguarding:** ensuring the sport is safe for everyone to play by working across all five National Governing Bodies (NGBs) [BE, EIBA, British Crown Green BA, English Short Mat BA and English Bowling Federation] to have policies and processes in place. Training is also available to support the network of Club Safeguarding Officers.
- ◀ **Disability:** the BDA works in partnership with Disability Bowls England, Activity Alliance, BE and the EIBA to ensure everyone regardless of disability can access the sport of bowls.
- ◀ **Women Can:** the BDA are driving a campaign alongside BE and the EIBA to encourage more women to play bowls, coach bowls and volunteer in bowls.
- ◀ **Equality & Diversity:** the BDA, BE and the EIBA are all striving to ensure the sport of bowls is as diverse as it can be.

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9.1: Supply

There is one indoor bowls facility in Sunderland; at Houghton Sports Centre. It has six rinks in an above average condition and is used for both winter and summer leagues. Summer leagues are not as well attended as those run in the winter but run, nonetheless. There are a further nine indoor bowls facilities within 30 minutes' drive of Houghton. All Sunderland residents live within 30 minutes' drive time of an indoor bowls hall.

Figure 9.1: Indoor bowls facilities in and within 30 minutes' drive of Sunderland

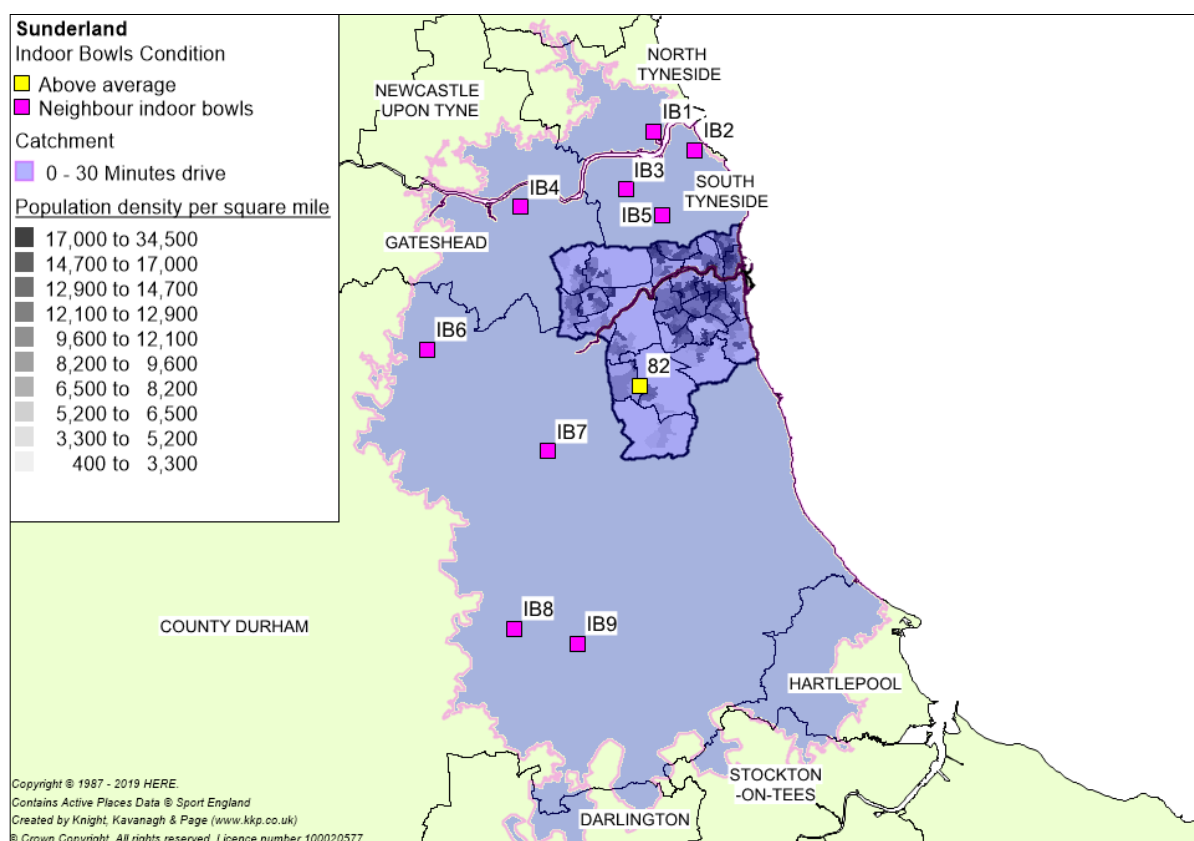


Table 9.2: Indoor bowls facilities in Sunderland and within 30 minute drivetime catchment

ID	Site	Rinks	Access type	Local authority
IB1	Parks Leisure Centre	8	Sports Club / CA	North Tyneside
IB2	South Shields Indoor Bowls Club	8	Reg. Membership	South Tyneside
IB3	Primrose Community Association	2	Pay and Play	South Tyneside
IB4	Gateshead Indoor Bowls Club	8	Sports Club / CA	Gateshead
IB5	Boldon Community Association	3	Pay and Play	South Tyneside
IB6	Stanley Indoor Bowls Club	8	Pay and Play	County Durham
IB7	Durham Indoor Bowls Club	8	Pay and Play	County Durham
IB8	Spennymoor Indoor Bowls Club	3	Sports Club / CA	County Durham
IB9	Ferryhill Sports & Education	4	Pay and Play	County Durham

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The additional nine sites have 52 indoor rinks. Availability ranges from pay and play (five sites) to sports club/community association (three sites) to one registered membership facility (South Shields Indoor Bowls Club).

Quality

The audit and non technical assessment identified the indoor bowling rink at Houghton Sports Centre to be in above average condition. Management did not indicate the need for major maintenance or investment into the facility in the near future, to maintain the quality.

Accessibility

Figure 8.1 identifies a further six indoor bowling facilities within 30 minutes of Houghton with facilities located to the north, west and south of the local authority. The 30min drive time combined with the current indoor bowls facility at Houghton indicates that Sunderland does not require an additional indoor bowls facility.

Availability

Management indicates that the facility is very busy during the winter months. Summer months are quieter, but Houghton Sports Centre does offer a summer league and social bowling ensuring that indoor bowling is available throughout the year.

9.2: Demand

Consultation

The club is relatively strong and able to host summer and winter leagues. It has not been directly consulted. Consultation with Everyone Active confirmed it has received no requests for carpet or short mat bowls across the city suggesting that latent demand is being met.

9.3: Summary

Facility type	Indoor bowls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There is one indoor bowls facility in Sunderland with a total of six rinks.	
Quality	It is above average in quality and there are no outstanding maintenance issues required for the next few years.	There is a need to maintain the quality of the facility by regular investment.
Accessibility	The whole City population lives within 30 minutes' drive of an indoor bowls facility. It is part of a wider sport and leisure offer at which car parking and other ancillary facilities are more than adequate.	
Availability (Management and usage)	All facilities are available during the day and in the evening. It is not necessary to be a member of a club to access indoor bowls facility.	Maintain programme and pricing structure to ensure that indoor bowls remains a viable activity/sport for an ageing population.
Strategic Summary	No additional demand for indoor bowls is identified. The population of Sunderland is ageing and bowls, is generally considered to cater well for older people. There is a requirement to actively market the activity and continue to increase participation to ensure that Houghton Indoor Bowls Club remains successful.	

SECTION 10: CYCLING

10.1: Introduction

British Cycling is the NGB body for all forms of cycling. It oversees six sporting disciplines, each with its own dedicated facility type:

- ◀ Track cycling – Velodrome
- ◀ Road cycling – Closed Road Circuits
- ◀ Mountain Bike – Trails
- ◀ BMX – Race/Pump tracks
- ◀ Cycle Speedway – Cycle speedway tracks
- ◀ Cyclocross – non-dedicated, non-permanent venues.

British Cycling aids in the development of all six formats, helping to safeguard those that wish to participate in a competitive and compelling environment. The stated vision of the Middlesbrough Cycling Strategy 2012 is: “More people cycling, more often, and more safely”. Strategy objectives are to:

- ◀ Develop a seamless hierarchy of cycle routes, allowing cyclists to access all parts of the Borough.
- ◀ Develop and implement a robust planning and design process to deliver cycle friendly infrastructure as an integral part of the Borough’s transport network.
- ◀ Further develop and implement a suite of ‘soft’ measures including travel awareness and training.
- ◀ Increase the number of cycling trips through a campaign of awareness and education.
- ◀ Provide a safe, efficient and well-maintained cycling network.
- ◀ Reduce both the actual, and perceived dangers to cyclists.
- ◀ Provide more, and better cycle facilities, to remove theft as a barrier to cycling as a transport mode choice.
- ◀ Provide for the needs of cyclists at all stages of the land use planning and development control processes.
- ◀ Ensure that we adopt hierarchies of users and infrastructure, prioritising the travel choices available to promote sustainable modes of travel within Middlesbrough.
- ◀ Promote and encourage cycling as a recreational tool, and a means to improving the health of the population of Middlesbrough via the work undertaken through the Healthy Towns initiative into the future.
- ◀ Continue the promotion of cycling and health benefits through partnership work with the local NHS Trust and community stakeholders.
- ◀ Promote cycling as a sport via sign posting to the work conducted by the sports development team within MC, Middlesbrough Cycle Circuit, and British Cycling.
- ◀ Work effectively with existing partner organisations and seek out positive working relationships with others to progress the cycling potential within Middlesbrough.

Background

According to Mintel the total bicycle market in the UK is estimated to be worth £1.5 billion. The UK market has been growing by around 5% per year for the past few years and further growth is anticipated. The total market for the sale of new bicycles in the UK is estimated to be worth £800 million [source: Halfords plc]. The two key related markets in the UK are the sales of bicycle parts and accessories (worth £750 million) and cycle repair (£100 million)

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In the context of retail distribution, the UK cycling market is fragmented. There are an estimated 2,500 bike shops in the UK. Other than Halfords and a small number of chain retailers such as Decathlon and Evans, the majority of the market is represented by independents although recent reports suggest that the number of small independent bicycle retailers may be falling.

Opportunities for market growth in the bicycle market are positively affected by factors like:

- ◀ Participation levels in the UK are presently lower than in many other European countries. Despite the recent increased popularity of the sport, the number of bikes sold in the UK has remained broadly flat.
- ◀ Level of female participation are, relative to other nations, low. Recent data suggests that, in the UK, women account for up to 27% of cycle journeys compared to 55% in Denmark and the Netherlands.
- ◀ The health and wellbeing benefits associated with cycling are well known and publicised. Government (and major cities/regions are funding cycling infrastructure investment.
- ◀ The growing electric ("e-bike") segment is making cycling more accessible to both commuters and older generations
- ◀ Existing customers spending more as they increase the amount they use their bikes.

Cycling in Sunderland

Opened in 1994 and combining sections of the National Cycle Route 7,14, 71 and 72; C2C runs from Whitehaven or Workington the west coast of Cumbria, and then crosses the Lake District and the Pennines in the north of England by using a variety of both on and off-road trails, ending on the north-east coast in Tyne and Wear at Sunderland or Tynemouth. Sustrans states that it is the UK's most popular challenge cycle route. It is designed for the whole range of cyclists, from families to cycling club riders. Although a challenge with some hard climbs, the highest point being over 609m (1,998 ft) the C2C is completed by an average of between 12,800 and 15,000 cyclists every year

The W2W coast to coast cycle route which was inspired by the original Sea to Sea Cycle Route (C2C), passes through a variety of countryside, towns and villages and places of interest along the way. It stretches between Walney Island, just outside Barrow-in-Furness on Cumbria's Irish Sea coast, and Wearmouth in Sunderland (152 miles) or, Whitby (179 miles) both on the North Sea coast.

Both of the above suggest that recreational cycling in Sunderland is strong and attracts visitors/tourists to the area.

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10.2: Supply

Figure 10.1: Cycling facilities within 60minutes' drive of Sunderland City Centre

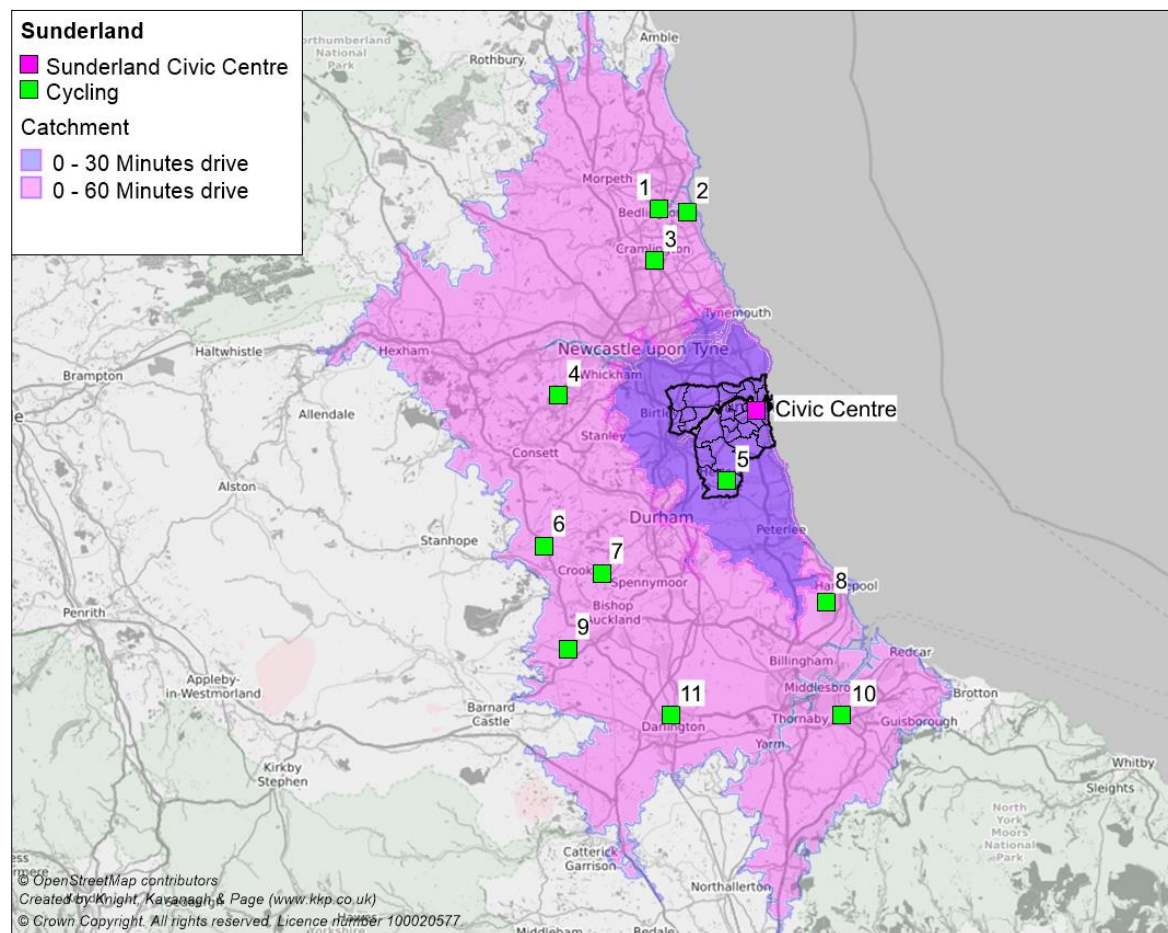


Table 10.1: Cycling facilities within 60 minutes' drive of Sunderland Town Centre

ID	Site name	Facility Type	Location
1	Gallagher Park	Mountain Bike - Trails	Bedlington
1	Gallagher Park	BMX - Race Track	Bedlington
2	Blyth Morpeth Road Primary Academy	BMX - Pump Track	Blyth
3	Sporting Club Cramlington	Cycle Speedway - Track	Cramlington
4	Chopwell Wood	Mountain Bike - Trails	Chopwell
5	Hetton Lyons Country Park	BMX - Pump Track	Houghton Le Spring
6	Tow Law BMX Track	BMX - Pump Track	Bishop Auckland
7	Spectrum Leisure Complex	BMX - Pump Track	Crook
8	Summerhill Country Park	BMX - Race Track	Hartlepool
9	Randolph Social Welfare Ground	BMX - Pump Track	Evenwood
10	Middlesbrough Sports Village	Road – CRC	Middlesbrough
10	Middlesbrough Sports Village	Outdoor Velodrome	Middlesbrough
11	North Park	BMX - Pump Track	Darlington

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As identified in Figure 10.1 and Table 10.1 there are 11 separate cycling facilities located on nine sites within 60 minutes' drive time of Sunderland city centre. They include mountain bike trails, BMX pump tracks (the most popular), a close road circuit and an outdoor velodrome. Many are free of charge as they are located in country parks or as part of a wider outdoor offer.

10.3: Demand

Demand for a sport which many people regard as recreation and they are able to undertake without specialist facilities is difficult to quantify. The latest Sport England's Active Lives Survey (Nov 16/17) identifies that cycling is the third most popular activity undertaken by adults in Sunderland (behind structure programme classes and athletics but ahead of fitness and swimming). The percentage taking part (11.5%) is, however, smaller than regional (14.1%) and national (16.8%) participation levels. The area has several clubs and organised cycling activities including:

Sunderland Clarion Cycling Club- is a well-established club based in Sunderland with c.70 members. It has a long tradition of sport and leisure cycling, which it continues to offer. Activities include:

- ◀ Sunday club rides for all levels
- ◀ Saturday rides for entry levels
- ◀ Training rides – to support riders to improve speed and technique.

Various start positions are used including the coast road at Ryhope.

Bike Belles Wear Moving project - was launched to get more women cycling, with its first ride of the year attracting 20 riders for a six-mile journey along the Roker coast. The project is delivered by Sustrans on behalf of Sunderland Public Health and encourages women across Wearside to enjoy cycling as part of everyday journeys.

St Peter's Cycle and Sports Hub has attracted local and national attention since its launch, from Cycling UK and the University of Sunderland. It is funded by Sunderland City Council's 'Go Smarter' scheme in partnership with Public Health, and run by staff and volunteers from Sunderland Community Action Group (SCAG). Launched in November 2019 on a stretch of the city's riverside and national C2C cycling route, the community facility is next to the National Glass Centre. It provides a focal point for leisure, recreational and social activities for all ages and abilities including access to affordable hire of a range of bikes and advice on cycle routes and maintenance.

Cycling UK is in the process of training staff and volunteers to get even more supported led rides running. It, reportedly, attracts 30-40 regular visitors each week. People use the facility to either hire a bike and/or get some help and advice on maintenance and cycle routes or get involved in some of the regular sporting and leisure activities organised. The University of Sunderland plans to increase its support and involvement with the scheme.

Hetton Country Park host ladies cycling group rides every Saturday at 12 noon. In addition, in January 2018 Hetton Lyons Country Park hosted the HSBC UK/ National Cyclo-Cross Championships. The event was streamed live on British Cycling's website and Facebook Page. The coverage commenced with the under-23 women's championship race and culminated with the elite men's championship race.

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In addition to the above, SCC has secured funding to improve routes for cyclists and pedestrians across the City. As part of the Transforming Cities fund (Tranche 1) SCC has been awarded £1.435 million. The fund encourages councils to improve and introduce more choices for sustainable, environmentally-friendly travel. The grant award, along with £400,000 council match funding, is linked to four main corridors across Sunderland. The works will take place at:

- ◀ Essen Way 940m- provides a link between existing cycle facilities at Leechmere Road and Premier Road including direct linkage to National Cycle Routes 1 and 70 (W2W - Walney to Wear & Whitby).
- ◀ Colliery Lane (B1285) 2,875m This connects Hetton (Four Lane Ends) to Murton including linkage to National Cycle Route 1.
- ◀ Ferryboat Lane: 1,100m- This connects cycleways previously delivered in 2013/14 under the Regional Growth Fund to National Cycle Route 7 (C2C - Whitehaven to Roker). It will complete the connection between National Cycle Route 7, South Tyneside, Washington and the employment zones around Nissan including the International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP).
- ◀ Ryhope Road: 3,800m (delivered in two sections – the southern section connects Ryhope Village (National Cycle Route 1) to Grangetown. The northern section completes this link connecting Grangetown to the city centre.

10.3: Supply and demand analysis

The information above suggest that demand for cycling is growing both as a leisure activity and sport. There are no purpose-built facilities in the area but with the development of additional cycle routes, access to country parks and the current road use, there would appear to be little demand for a built cycling facility.

There was a suggestion, during consultation, that Sunderland would benefit from the development of a velodrome. A stand alone 460m outdoor velodrome with the relevant changing and toilet facilities will cost c. £3.26m (Q3 2019). This is without the construction of a tunnel which affords participants and volunteers the opportunity to get to the middle of the circuit, without having to stop riders. The tunnel itself is likely to cost an additional £1.5 assuming that the ground conditions are favourable. It is not recommended that a facility such as this be considered given the proximity of the facility in Middlesbrough.

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10.4: Summary

Facility type	Indoor bowls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	Hetton Lyons Country Park is the only identified cycling facility in Sunderland. Although there are road cycle routes as part of the wider road network.	
Quality	It is understood that the facility must be high quality given that it was chosen as the venue for National Cyclo Cross Championships in 2018.	
Accessibility	There are 10 cycling facilities within 60 minutes' drive of Sunderland.	
Availability (Management and usage)	All facilities are available during the day and in the evening and most are free to use. The majority of facilities are BMX pump tracks.	
Strategic Summary	Although a velodrome was mentioned in passing during consultation, there does not appear to be any sustained demand for such a facility. The level of participation for cycling, in general, does not warrant such a facility. The investment for such a facility is estimated at c. £4.7m.	