

APPENDIX 1: FPM Model description, Inclusion Criteria and Model Parameters

Included within this appendix are the following:

- A. Model description
- B. Facility Inclusion Criteria
- C. Model Parameters

A. Model Description

Background

The Facilities Planning Model (FPM) is a computer-based supply/demand model, which has been developed by Edinburgh University in conjunction with sportscotland and Sport England since the 1980s. The model is a tool to help to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities in an area. It is currently applicable for use in assessing the provision of sports halls, swimming pools, indoor bowls centres and artificial grass pitches.

Use of FPM

Sport England uses the FPM as one of its principal tools in helping to assess the strategic need for certain community sports facilities. The FPM 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 to determine an adequate level of sports facility provision to meet their local needs;
- helping to identify strategic gaps in the provision of sports facilities; and
- comparing alternative options for planned provision, taking account of changes in demand and supply. This includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities, and the likely impact of population changes on the needs for sports facilities.

Its current use is limited to those sports facility types for which Sport England holds substantial demand data, i.e. swimming pools, sports halls, indoor bowls and artificial grass pitches.

The FPM has been used in the assessment of Lottery funding bids for community facilities, and as a principal planning tool to assist local authorities in planning for the provision of community sports facilities. For example, the FPM was used to help assess the impact of a 50m swimming pool development in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The Council invested

£22 million in the sports and leisure complex around this pool and received funding of £2,025,000 from the London Development Agency and £1,500,000 from Sport England¹.

How the model works

In its simplest form, the model seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport is capable of meeting local demand for that sport, taking into account how far people are prepared to travel to such a facility.

In order to do this, the model compares the number of facilities (supply) within an area, against the demand for that facility (demand) that the local population will produce, similar to other social gravity models.

To do this, the FPM works by converting both demand (in terms of people), and supply (facilities), into a single comparable unit. This unit is 'visits per week in the peak period' (VPWPP). Once converted, demand and supply can be compared.

The FPM uses a set of parameters to define how facilities are used and by whom. These parameters are primarily derived from a combination of data including actual user surveys from a range of sites across the country in areas of good supply, together with participation survey data. These surveys provide core information on the profile of users, such as, the age and gender of users, how often they visit, the distance travelled, duration of stay, and on the facilities themselves, such as, programming, peak times of use, and capacity of facilities.

This survey information is combined with other sources of data to provide a set of model parameters for each facility type. The original core user data for halls and pools comes from the National Halls and Pools survey undertaken in 1996. This data formed the basis for the National Benchmarking Service (NBS). For AGP's, the core data used comes from the user survey of AGP's carried out in 2005/6 jointly with sportscotland.

User survey data from the NBS and other appropriate sources are used to update the models parameters on a regular basis. The parameters are set out at the end of the document, and the range of the main source data used by the model includes;

- National Halls & Pools survey data –Sport England
- Benchmarking Service User Survey data –Sport England
- UK 2000 Time Use Survey - ONS
- General Household Survey - ONS
- Scottish Omnibus Surveys – Sport Scotland
- Active People Survey - Sport England
- STP User Survey - Sport England & sportscotland
- Football participation - The FA
- Young People & Sport in England – Sport England
- Hockey Fixture data - Fixtures Live

¹ Award made in 2007/08 year.

Calculating Demand

This is calculated by applying the user information from the parameters, as referred to above, to the population². This produces the number of visits for that facility that will be demanded by the population. Depending on the age and gender make up of the population, this will affect the number of visits an area will generate. In order to reflect the different population make up of the country, the FPM calculates demand based on the smallest census groupings. These are Output Areas (OA)³. The use of OA's in the calculation of demand ensures that the FPM is able to reflect and portray differences in demand in areas at the most sensitive level based on available census information. Each OA used is given a demand value in VPWPP by the FPM.

Calculating Supply Capacity

A facility's capacity varies depending on its size (i.e. size of pool, hall, pitch number), and how many hours the facility is available for use by the community. The FPM calculates a facility's capacity by applying each of the capacity factors taken from the model parameters, such as the assumptions made as to how many 'visits' can be accommodated by the particular facility at any one time. Each facility is then given a capacity figure in VPWPP. (See parameters in Section C)

Based on travel time information⁴ taken from the user survey, the FPM then calculates how much demand would be met by the particular facility having regard to its capacity and how much demand is within the facility's catchment. The FPM includes an important feature of spatial interaction. This feature takes account of the location and capacity of all the facilities, having regard to their location and the size of demand and assesses whether the facilities are in the right place to meet the demand.

It is important to note that the FPM does not simply add up the total demand within an area, and compare that to the total supply within the same area. This approach would not take account of the spatial aspect of supply against demand in a particular area. For example, if an area had a total demand for 5 facilities, and there were currently 6 facilities within the area, it would be too simplistic to conclude that there was an over supply of 1 facility, as this approach would not take account of whether the 5 facilities are in the correct location for local people to use them within that area. It might be that all the facilities were in one part of the borough, leaving other areas under provided. An assessment of this kind would not reflect the true picture of provision. The FPM is able to assess supply and demand within an area based on the needs of the population within that area.

² For example, it is estimated that 7.72% of 16-24 year old males will demand to use a AGP, 1.67 times a week. This calculation is done separately for the 12 age/gender groupings.

³ Census Output Areas (OA) are the smallest grouping of census population data, and provides the population information on which the FPM's demand parameters are applied. A demand figure can then be calculated for each OA based on the population profile. There are over 175,400 OA's across England & Wales. An OA has a target value of 125 households (300 people) per OA.

⁴ To reflect the fact that as distance to a facility increases, fewer visits are made, the FPM uses a travel time distance decay curve, where the majority of users travel up to 20 minutes. The FPM also takes account of the road network when calculating travel times. Car ownership levels, taken from Census data, are also taken into account when calculating how people will travel to facilities.

In making calculations as to supply and demand, visits made to sports facilities are not artificially restricted or calculated by reference to administrative boundaries, such as local authority areas. Users are generally expected to use their closest facility. The FPM reflects this through analysing the location of demand against the location of facilities, allowing for cross boundary movement of visits. For example, if a facility is on the boundary of a local authority, users will generally be expected to come from the population living close to the facility, but who may be in an adjoining authority

Calculating capacity of Sports Hall – Hall Space in Courts (HSC)

The capacity of sports halls is calculated in the same way as described above with each sports hall site having a capacity in VPWPP. In order for this capacity to be meaningful, these visits are converted into the equivalent of main hall courts, and referred to as 'Hall Space in Courts' (HSC). This "court" figure is often mistakenly read as being the same as the number of 'marked courts' at the sports halls that are in the Active Places data, but it is not the same. There will usually be a difference between this figure and the number of 'marked courts' that is in Active Places.

The reason for this, is that the HSC is the 'court' equivalent of the all the main and ancillary halls capacities, this is calculated based on hall size (area), and whether it's the main hall, or a secondary (ancillary) hall. This gives a more accurate reflection of the overall capacity of the halls than simply using the 'marked court' figure. This is due to two reasons:

1. In calculating capacity of halls, the model uses a different 'At-One-Time' (AOT) parameter for main halls and for ancillary halls. Ancillary halls have a great AOT capacity than main halls. See below.
2. Marked Courts can sometimes not properly reflect the size of the actual main hall. For example, a hall may be marked out with 4 courts, when it has space for 5 courts. As the model uses the 'courts' as a unit of size, it is important that the hall's capacity is included as a 5 'court unit' rather than a 4 'court unit'

The model calculates the capacity of the sports hall as 'visits per week in the peak period' (VPWPP), it then uses this unit of capacity to compare with the demand, which is also calculated as VPWPP. It is often difficult to visualise how much hall space is when expressed as vpwpp. To make things more meaningful this capacity in VPWPP is converted back into 'main hall court equivalents', and is called in the output table 'Hall Space in Courts'.

Facility Attractiveness – for halls and pools only

Not all facilities are the same and users will find certain facilities more attractive to use than others. The model attempts to reflect this by introducing an attractiveness weighting factor, which effects the way visits are distributed between facilities. Attractiveness however, is

very subjective. Currently weightings are only used for hall and pool modelling, with a similar approach for AGP's is being developed.

Attractiveness weightings are based on the following:

1. Age/refurbishment weighting – pools & halls - the older a facility is, the less attractive it will be to users. It is recognised that this is a general assumption and that there may be examples where older facilities are more attractive than newly built ones due to excellent local management, programming and sports development. Additionally, the date of any significant refurbishment is also included within the weighting factor; however, the attractiveness is set lower than a new build of the same year. It is assumed that a refurbishment that is older than 20 years will have a minimal impact on the facilities attractiveness. The information on year built/refurbished is taken from Active Places. A graduated curve is used to allocate the attractiveness weighting by year. This curve levels off at around 1920 with a 20% weighting. The refurbishment weighting is slightly lower than the new built year equivalent.

2. Management & ownership weighting – halls only - due to the large number of halls being provided by the education sector, an assumption is made that in general, these halls will not provide as balanced a program than halls run by LA's, trusts, etc, with school halls more likely to be used by teams and groups through block booking. A less balanced programme is assumed to be less attractive to a general, pay & play user, than a standard local authority leisure centre sports hall, with a wider range of activities on offer.

To reflect this, two weightings curves are used for education and non-education halls, a high weighted curve, and a lower weighted curve;

- High weighted curve - includes Non education management - better balanced programme, more attractive.
 - Lower weighted curve - includes Educational owned & managed halls, less attractive.
3. Commercial facilities – halls and pools - whilst there are relatively few sports halls provided by the commercial sector, an additional weighing factor is incorporated within the model to reflect the cost element often associated with commercial facilities. For each population output area the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score is used to limit whether people will use commercial facilities. The assumption is that the higher the IMD score (less affluence) the less likely the population of the OA would choose to go to a commercial facility.

Comfort Factor – halls

As part of the modelling process, each facility is given a maximum number of visits it can accommodate, based on its size, the number of hours it's available for community use and the 'at one time capacity' figure (pools =1user /6m² , halls = 5 users /court). This is gives each facility a "theoretical capacity".

If the facilities were full to their theoretical capacity then there would simply not be the space to undertake the activity comfortably. In addition, there is a need to take account of a range of activities taking place which have different numbers of users, for example, aqua aerobics will have significantly more participants, than lane swimming sessions. Additionally, there may be times and sessions that, whilst being within the peak period, are less busy and so will have fewer users.

To account of these factors the notion of a 'comfort factor' is applied within the model. For swimming pools, 70% and for sports halls 80% of its theoretical capacity is considered as being the limit where the facility starts to become uncomfortably busy. (Currently, the comfort factor is NOT applied to AGP's due to the fact they are predominantly used by teams, which have a set number of players and so the notion of having 'less busy' pitch is not applicable.)

The comfort factor is used in two ways;

1. Utilised Capacity - How well used is a facility? 'Utilised capacity' figures for facilities are often seen as being very low, 50-60%, however, this needs to be put into context with 70-80% comfort factor levels for pools and halls. The closer utilised capacity gets to the comfort factor level, the busier the facilities are becoming. You should not aim to have facilities operating at 100% of their theoretical capacity, as this would mean that every session throughout the peak period would be being used to its maximum capacity. This would be both unrealistic in operational terms and unattractive to users.
2. Adequately meeting Unmet Demand – the comfort factor is also used to increase the amount of facilities that are needed to comfortably meet the unmet demand. If this comfort factor is not added, then any facilities provided will be operating at its maximum theoretical capacity, which is not desirable as a set out above.

Utilised Capacity (used capacity)

Following on from Comfort Factor section, here is more guidance on Utilised Capacity.

Utilised capacity refers to how much of facilities theoretical capacity is being used. This can, at first, appear to be unrealistically low, with area figures being in the 50-60% region. England figure for Feb 2008 Pools was only 57.6%.

Without any further explanation, it would appear that facilities are half empty. The key point is not to see a facilities theoretical maximum capacity (100%) as being an optimum

position. This, in practise, would mean that a facility would need to be completely full every hour it was open in the peak period. This would be both unrealistic from an operational perspective and undesirable from a users perspective, as the facility would completely full.

For examples:

A 25m, 4 lane pool has Theoretical capacity of 2260 per week, during 52 hour peak period.

	4-5pm	5-6pm	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm	Total Visits for the evening
Theoretical max capacity	44	44	44	44	44	44	264
Actual Usage	8	30	35	50	15	5	143

Usage of a pool will vary throughout the evening, with some sessions being busier than others though programming, such as, an aqua-aerobics session between 7-8pm, lane swimming between 8-9pm. Other sessions will be quieter, such as between 9-10pm. This pattern of use would give a total of 143 swims taking place. However, the pool's maximum capacity is 264 visits throughout the evening. In this instance the pools utilised capacity for the evening would be 54%.

As a guide, 70% utilised capacity is used to indicate that pools are becoming busy, and 80% for sports halls.

Travel times Catchments

The model use travel times to define facility catchments. These travel times have been derived through national survey work, and so are based on actual travel patterns of users. With the exception of London where DoT travel speeds are used for Inner & Outer London Boroughs, these travel times are used across the country and so do not pick up on any regional differences, of example, longer travel times for remoter rural communities.

The model includes three different modes of travel, by car, public transport & walking. Car access is also taken into account, in areas of lower access to a car, the model reduces the number of visits made by car, and increases those made on foot.

Overall, surveys have shown that the majority of visits made to swimming pools, sports halls and AGP's are made by car, with a significant minority of visits to pools and sports halls being made on foot.

Facility	Car	Walking	Public transport
Swimming Pool	70.0%	19.0%	11.0%
Sports Hall	75.0%	16.0%	9.0%
AGP	89.0%	9.0%	2.0%

Combined	87.1%	10.7%	2.1%
Football	95.4%	2.6%	1.9%
Hockey			

The model includes a distance decay function; where the further a user is from a facility, the less likely they will travel. The set out below is the survey data with the % of visits made within each of the travel times, which shows that almost 90% of all visits, both car borne or walking, are made within 20 minutes. Hence, 20 minutes is often used as a rule of thumb for catchments for sports halls and pools.

Minutes	Sport halls		Swimming Pools	
	Car	Walk	Car	Walk
0-10	62%	61%	58%	57%
10-20	29%	26%	32%	31%
20-40	8%	11%	9%	11%

For AGP's, there is a similar pattern to halls and pools, with Hockey users observed as travelling slightly further (89% travel up to 30 minutes). Therefore, a 20 minute travel time can also be used for 'combined' and 'football', and 30 minutes for hockey.

Artificial Grass Pitches						
Minutes	Combined		Football		Hockey	
	Car	Walk	Car	Walk	Car	Walk
0-10	28%	38%	30%	32%	21%	60%
10-20	57%	48%	61%	50%	42%	40%
20-40	14%	12%	9%	15%	31%	0%

NOTE: These are approximate figures, and should only used as a guide.

B. Inclusion Criteria used within analysis

Swimming Pools

The following inclusion criteria were used for this analysis;

- Include all Operational Indoor Pools available for community use i.e. pay and play, membership, Sports Club/Community Association
- Exclude all pools not available for community use i.e. private use
- Exclude all outdoor pools i.e. Lidos
- Exclude all pools where the main pool is less than 20 meters OR is less than 160 square meters.⁵
- Include all 'planned', 'under construction, and 'temporarily closed' facilities where identified.
- Where opening times are missing, availability has been included based on similar facility types.
- Where the year built is missing assume date 1975⁶.

Facilities in Wales and the Scottish Borders included, as supplied by sportscotland and Sports Council for Wales. All facilities weighted 75% due to no data on age of facilities.

Sports Halls

The following inclusion criteria were used for this analysis;

- Include all Operational Sports Halls available for community use i.e. pay and play, membership, Sports Club/Community Association
- Exclude all Halls not available for community use i.e. private use
- Exclude all Halls where the main hall is less than 3 Courts in size
- Where opening times are missing, availability has been included based on similar facility types.
- Where the year built is missing assume date 1975⁷.

Facilities in Wales and the Scottish Borders included, as supplied by sportscotland and Sports Council for Wales. All facilities weighted 75% due to no data on age of facilities.

Artificial Grass Pitch

The following inclusion criteria were used for this analysis:

- Include all outdoor, full size AGP's with a surface type of sand based, water based or rubber crumb – varied by sport specific runs.
- Include all Operational Pitches available for community use i.e. pay and play, membership, Sports Club/Community Association
- Exclude all Pitches not available for community use i.e. private use
- Minimum pitch dimension taken from Active Places – 75m x45m.
- Non floodlit pitches exclude from all runs after 1700 on any day.
- Excludes all indoor pitches.
- Excludes 5-a-side commercial football centres and small sided 'pens'.
- Excludes MUGA's, redgra, ash, marked out tarmac areas, etc.
- Carpet types included:

⁵ 160m is equivalent to a 20m x 8m pool. This assumption will exclude very small pools, such as plunge pools and hotel pools.

⁶ Choosing a date in the mid '70s ensures that the facility is included, whilst not overestimating its impact within the run.

⁷ Choosing a date in the mid '70s ensures that the facility is included, whilst not overestimating its impact within the run.

- Combined Run – all carpet types, using the sport run criteria below.
- Hockey Run – all water based weekend/weekday, all sand based weekend only.
- Football Run – all rubber crumb weekend/weekday, sand based weekday.

C. Model Parameters used in the Analysis

Pool Parameters

At one Time Capacity	0.16667 per square metre = 1 person per 6 square meters																											
Catchments	<p>Car: 20 minutes Walking: 1.6 km Public transport: 20 minutes at about half the speed of a car</p> <p>NOTE: Catchment times are indicative, within the context of a distance decay function of the model.</p>																											
Duration	60 minutes for tanks and leisure pools																											
Participation	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>0 - 15</th> <th>16 - 24</th> <th>25 - 39</th> <th>40 - 59</th> <th>60-79</th> <th>80+</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>13.23</td> <td>7.91</td> <td>9.41</td> <td>8.31</td> <td>4.85</td> <td>2.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>12.72</td> <td>15.41</td> <td>16.19</td> <td>12.84</td> <td>7.65</td> <td>1.87</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							Age	0 - 15	16 - 24	25 - 39	40 - 59	60-79	80+	Male	13.23	7.91	9.41	8.31	4.85	2.18	Female	12.72	15.41	16.19	12.84	7.65	1.87
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Female	0.95	0.98	0.88	1.00	1.10	1.19																						
Peak Period	<p>Weekday: 12:00 to 13:30, 16:00 to 22.00 Saturday: 09:00 to 16:00 Sunday: 09:00 to 16:30</p> <p>Total: 52 Hours</p>																											
Percentage in Peak Period	63%																											

Note: March 2012 - Pools parameters amended, Halls parameters reviewed but not changed

Halls parameters

At one Time Capacity	20 users per 4-court hall, 8 per 144 sq m of ancillary hall.																										
Catchments	<p>Car: 20 minutes Walking: 1.6 km Public transport: 20 minutes at about half the speed of a car</p> <p>NOTE: Catchment times are indicative, within the context of a distance decay function of the model.</p>																										
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Male	0.85	0.88	0.88	0.90	0.92	1.10																					
Female	0.99	0.85	1.03	0.90	1.02	1.27																					
Peak Period	<p>Weekday: 17:00 to 22:00 Saturday: 09:30 to 17:30 Sunday: 09:00 to 14:30, 17:00 to 19:30</p> <p>Total: 40.5 hours</p>																										
Percentage in Peak Period	60%																										

AGP Parameters -Combined

	Parameter	Comments																					
Participation -% of age band	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>0-15</th> <th>16-24</th> <th>25-34</th> <th>35-44</th> <th>45-54</th> <th>55+</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>3.37</td> <td>7.72</td> <td>4.93</td> <td>2.71</td> <td>1.26</td> <td>0.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>3.16</td> <td>2.70</td> <td>0.94</td> <td>0.46</td> <td>0.18</td> <td>0.07</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		0-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+	Male	3.37	7.72	4.93	2.71	1.26	0.17	Female	3.16	2.70	0.94	0.46	0.18	0.07	
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Male	1.81	1.67	1.27	1.06	1.07	0.97																	
Female	1.02	1.45	1.34	1.31	1.21	1.32																	
Peak Period	Monday-Thursday = 17.00 – 21.00 Friday = 17.00 – 19.00 Saturday = 9.00 – 17.00 Sunday = 9.00 – 17.00 Total Peak Hours per week = 34 hrs Total number of slots = 26 slots Percentage of demand in peak period = 85%	Mon-Friday = 1 hr slots to reflect mixed use of activities –training, 5/7 a side & Informal matches Weekend = 2 hrs slots to reflect formal matches.																					
Duration	Monday - Friday = 1 hr Saturday & Sunday = 2 hrs																						
At one time capacity	30 players per slot Mon to Fri; 25 players per slot Sat & Sun 30 X 18slots = 540 visits 25 X 8slots = 200 visits Total = 740 visits per week in the peak period	Saturday and Sunday capacity to reflect dominance of formal 11-side matches i.e. lower capacity																					
Catchments	<u>Overall catchment for all users</u> 82% travelling 20 minutes or less during week – within a distance decay function of the model <u>Users by travel mode</u> 81% Car borne 15% Walk 4% Public Transport NOTE: Catchment times are indicative, within the context of a distance decay function of the model. See note on Travel Time Catchments in Appendix.																						

APPENDIX 2: National Planning Policy Framework (2012) Extract

1. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), published in March 2012 brought in a fundamental change to the strategic planning system. The NPPF retains the statutory status of the development plan as the starting point for decision making, and the fact that proposed development which accords with the Local Plan is generally expected to be approved. The Framework is however much simpler than the previous planning policy framework and the more detailed policy documents, for example the set of Planning Policy Guidance Notes, have been dropped. This includes the Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 on Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation of 2002, which had been the main policy guidance up to the release of the new NPPF.
2. Each local planning authority is now expected to produce a Local Plan which can be reviewed in whole or in part to respond flexibly to changing circumstances. The Local Plan sets the strategic priorities for the area which specifically includes leisure development and “the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities” (para 156). Additional development documents are only to be used where they are clearly justified, such as where they help applicants to make successful applications or to aid infrastructure delivery.
3. The policies in the LDF are required to follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development, and should be based on an adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence base, including in relation to; housing, business, infrastructure, minerals, defence, environment (historic, health and well-being), public safety from major accidents, ensuring viability and deliverability (Paras 158 – 177). The Sport and Active Communities Strategy will form one part of this evidence base. Authorities are also able to use evidence already produced which was initiated to underpin the emerging (or existing) local plan policies.
4. Local planning authorities are encouraged to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, particularly in relation to the strategic priorities set out in Para 156 of the NPPF, which includes specific reference to leisure and to community infrastructure. This report therefore takes into consideration the duty to co-operate and so the cross-border implications of sport and recreation provision.
5. The policies within the new NPPF which related specifically to leisure, sport and recreation are set out below.

Para 70

To deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:

- Plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as sports venues...) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;
- Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs;
- Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community; and
- Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.

Para 73

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. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.

Para 74

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

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

Para 81

Once Green Belts have been defined, local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land.

Para 89

A local planning authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in Green Belt. Exceptions to this are:

.....

- provision of appropriate facilities for outdoor sport, outdoor recreation and for cemeteries, as long as it preserves the openness of the Green Belt and does not conflict with the purposes of including land within it;

.....

Para 171

Local planning authorities should work with public health leads and health organisations to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population (such as for sports, recreation and places of worship), including expected future changes, and any information about relevant barriers to improving health and well-being.

6. A key issue within the Local Plan for Milton Keynes will be how the new housing developments can contribute towards the facilities and services needed for the new population. The NPPF gives general guidance on planning obligations.

Para 204

Planning obligations are expected to only be applied where they meet all of the following tests:

- necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
 - directly related to the development; and
 - fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
7. There are also some additional policies relating to playing fields, such as the ability of local communities to identify a playing field as Local Green Space, on which new development can be prevented.
 8. Overall in relation to sport and recreation, the new NPPF has retained a similar approach to the previous guidance, and in particular the themes underpinning PPG17. The most significant change is the greater protection afforded to all sports facilities which was previously only applicable to playing fields under the new Para 74. Milton Keynes' approach to sport and recreation provision set down in its current policies are largely in line with the new NPPF.

APPENDIX 3: Community Asset Transfer List of Sites

ANNEX B MK COUNCIL COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

KEY:

Phase 1 consideration - for Freehold consideration

Phase 2 consideration - strategic /borough-wide significance/retention/outsourced management

Not for sale - commercial properties

Out of Scope - for example, under contract / currently in long-term lease/ Freeholds owned by other organisations

Under Review - for example, as part of a Council review e.g. Libraries or being considered by Cabinet

Asset Name	Parish	Factors Affecting Transferability	Asset Type	Post Code
Lakes Estate Community Centre	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford	out of scope	Community Centre	MK2 3HQ
Sycamore Hall	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford	out of scope	Community Centre	MK2 3RR
Warwick Road Activity Centre	Bletchley (West)	out of scope	Community Centre	MK3 6AG
Bradwell Common Community Centre	Bradwell	out of scope	Community Centre	MK13 8DY
Haversham Social & Community Centre	Haversham Cum Little Linford	out of scope	Community Centre	MK19 7AN
New Bradwell Community Centre	New Bradwell	out of scope	Community Centre	MK13 0DA
Old Bath House, Wolverton Meeting Place	Wolverton & Greenleys	out of scope	Community Centre	MK12 5RL
Coffee Hall Community Annexe	Woughton	out of scope	Community Centre	MK6 5EG
Duncombe Street Community House	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK2 2LX
George Street Community Centre	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK2 2NR
Chepstow Drive Community Centre	Bletchley (West)	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK3 5NG
Frank Moran Centre	Bletchley (West)	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK3 6PA
West Bletchley Community Centre	Bletchley (West)	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK3 6BH

Green Park Community Centre	Newport Pagnell	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK16 0PX
River Valley Meeting Place	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK4 2AS
Shenley Brook End Community Centre	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK5 7HH
Simpson Village Hall	Simpson	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK6 3AD
Bradville Hall	Stantonbury	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK13 7AY
Britten Grove Meeting Place	Walton	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre	MK7 8QU
Greenleys Meeting Place	Wolverton & Greenleys	Phase 1 consideration	Community centre	MK12 6AU
City Discovery Centre / Bradwell Abbey	Bradwell Abbey	Phase 2 consideration	Community Centre	MK13 9AP
Centrecom Meeting Place	CMK	Phase 2 consideration	Community Centre	MK9 3BJ
Heronsbrook Meeting Place	Walton	Phase 2 consideration	Community Centre	MK7 7ED
Millmead Hall	Wolverton & Greenleys	Phase 2 consideration	Community Centre	MK12 5TN
Whaddon Way Day Centre	Bletchley (West)	under review	Community Centre	MK3 7JR
Jonathans Youth Centre	Woughton	Phase 2 consideration	Community Centre - Youth	MK6 5DR
Monkston Community Centre & Sports Ground	Kents Hill & Monkston	Phase 1 consideration	Community Centre and Sports Ground	MK10 9EA
Abbeyhill Golf Course	Bradwell Abbey	out of scope	Golf and Club House	MK2 3QP
Mount Farm Balancing Lake	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford	under review	Lake	MK1
Bletchley Leisure Centre	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford	out of scope	Leisure Centre	MK2 2HQ
Oakgrove Leisure Centre	Broughton & Milton	Phase 1 consideration	Leisure Centre	MK10 9JQ

	Keynes			
Shenley Leisure Centre	Shenley Church End	out of scope	Leisure Centre	MK5 6HF
Woughton Leisure Centre	Woughton	Phase 2 consideration	Leisure Centre	MK6 5EJ
Rivers ACE Centre	Bletchley (West)	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK3 7BB
Heelands Meeting Place	Bradwell	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK13 7LW
Two Mile Ash Community Annexe	Bradwell Abbey	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK8 8LH
Springfield Meeting Place	Campbell Park	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK6 3JH
Woolstone Meeting Place	Campbell Park	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK15 0AJ
Conniburrow Meeting Place/Sports Ground	Great Linford	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK14 7DX
Giffard Park Community Annexe	Great Linford	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK14 6PY
Westcroft Meeting Place	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK4 4DB
Crownhill Meeting Place/Sports Ground	Shenley Church End	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK8 0AS
Galley Hill Community Annex	Stony Stratford	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK11 1PE
Netherfield Meeting Place	Woughton	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK16 0HB
Tinkers Bridge Meeting Place	Woughton	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK6 3DD
Great Holm Meeting Place	Loughton	out of scope	Meeting Place	MK8 9AY
Furzton (South) Meeting Place	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Phase 1 consideration	Meeting Place	MK4 1DS
Shenley Lodge Meeting Place	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Phase 1 consideration	Meeting Place	MK5 7DE
Bancroft Meeting Place	Stantonbury	Phase 1 consideration	Meeting Place	MK13 0QB
Olney Community Annexe	Olney	Phase 1 consideration	Meeting Place	MK46 4EF

Eaglestone Meeting Place/Activity Centre	Woughton	Phase 2 consideration	Meeting Place	MK6 5BZ
Stacey Bushes Meeting Place	Bradwell Abbey	under review	Meeting Place	MK12 6HX
Downs Barn Pavilion /Sports Ground	Great Linford	Phase 1 consideration	Meeting Place (Sports)	MK14 7QP
Caldecotte Outdoor Education / George Amey Centre	Walton	out of scope	Outdoor Activity Centre	MK6 3AG
Rickley Park Sports Ground	Bletchley (West)	Phase 1 consideration	Park/Sports Ground	MK3
Monkston Park Pavilion	Kents Hill & Monkston	out of scope	Pavilion	MK10 9PN
Tattenhoe Pavilion	Shenley Brook End	Phase 1 consideration	Pavilion	MK4 3EQ
Westcroft Pavilion	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	out of scope	Pavilion	MK4 4GB
Medbourne Pavilion	Shenley Church End	Phase 1 consideration	Pavilion	MK5 6LS
Wavendon Gate Pavilion & Cricket Ground	Walton	Phase 1 consideration	Pavilion	MK7 7RZ
Willen Road Sports Ground	Newport Pagnell	Phase 2 consideration	Pavilion and Sports Ground	MK16 0DE
Great Linford Pavilion & Sports Ground (Marsh Drive)	Great Linford	Phase 1 consideration	Pavilion and Sports Ground	MK14 5AX
Loughton Sports Pavilion	Loughton	Phase 1 consideration	Pavilion and Sports Ground	MK5 8DL
Toombes Field Sports Ground	Stony Stratford	Phase 1 consideration	Recreation Ground	MK11
British Legion Club, Ousebank	Newport Pagnell	Phase 2 consideration	Sports & Social Club	MK16 8AP
Denbigh Hall Sports and Social Club	Bletchley (West)	Phase 1 consideration	Sports and Social Club	MK3 6PU
Fishermead Trinity Centre	Campbell Park	Phase 2 consideration	Sports and Social Club	MK6 2LA
Brownswood Sports Ground	Walton	Phase 1 consideration	Sports Area	MK7 8DX
Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground Derwent Drive	Bletchley (West)	out of scope	Sports Ground	MK3

Hodge Lea Sports Ground	Bradwell Abbey	out of scope	Sports Ground	MK12 6JE
Kents Hill Sports Ground	Kents Hill & Monkston	out of scope	Sports Ground	MK7 6HQ
New Bradwell Sports Ground	New Bradwell	out of scope	Sports Ground	MK13 9AR
Emerson Valley Sports Ground	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	out of scope	Sports Ground	MK4 2DN
Furzton Sports Ground	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	out of scope	Sports Ground	MK4 1HD
Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Walton	out of scope	Sports Ground	MK7 7DE
Heelands Sports Ground	Bradwell	Phase 1 consideration	Sports Ground	MK13
Fishermead Sports Ground (no building)	Campbell Park	Phase 1 consideration	Sports Ground	MK6
Willen Pavilion/Willen Village Sports Ground	Campbell Park	Phase 1 consideration	Sports Ground	MK15 9JP
Woolstone Sports Ground	Campbell Park	Phase 1 consideration	Sports Ground	MK15
Manor Fields Sports Ground	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford	Phase 2 consideration	Sports Ground	MK2 2HX
Stables (Riding Stables - Peartree Bridge)	Woughton	Phase 2 consideration	Stables	MK6 3EJ
The Pavilion, Woughton on the Green	Woughton	Phase 1 consideration	Pavilion and Sports Ground	MK6 3EA
Middleton Pool	Newport Pagnell	Phase 2 consideration	Swimming Pool	MK16 9BG
Wolverton Pool & Watling Way	Wolverton & Greenleys	out of scope	Swimming Pool	MK11 1PA
Newport Pagnell Youth Club, Wolverton Road	Newport Pagnell	out of scope	Youth Centre	MK16 8HX
Bletchley Youth Centre	Bletchley (West)	Phase 1 consideration	Youth Centre	MK3 7BE
Olney Youth Centre, East Street	Olney	Phase 1 consideration	Youth Centre	MK46 4DH
Mathiesen Youth Centre	Stantonbury	Phase 1 consideration	Youth Centre	MK13 7AG

Source: MKC website, accessed 20/02/2014

APPENDIX 4: Community Asset Transfer Action Plan



COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER PROGRAMME 2012/14 ACTION PLAN

(subject to change)

Service Area / Year	Number of sites (potential transfers)	Parish	Proposal / Description	Address/Post Code
2012 / 13 (YEAR 1)	Pilot (5)			
	1	Newport Town Council	Green Park Community Centre	Green Park Drive MK16 0PX
	1	Stony Stratford	Stony Stratford Library	5-7 Church Street MK11 1BD
	1	Simpson	Simpson Village Hall	Simpson Road MK6 3AD
	1	West Bletchley	Frank Moran Centre	Melrose Avenue MK3 6PA
	1	Great Linford	Downs Barn Pavilion & Sports Grounds	Pannier Place MK14 7QP
2012 / 13 (YEAR 1)	Tranche 1 (5)			
	1	West Bletchley	Rickley Park SG	Shenley Road MK3
	1	Great Linford	Loriner Place Depot	Loriner Place MK14
	1	Stantonbury	Crosslands Depot	Crosslands MK14
	1	Campbell Park	Fishermead SG	MK6
1	Bletchley & Fenny	Duncombe Street CC	39 Duncombe Street MK2 2LX	
TOTAL	10			

Service Area/Year	No. of sites (potential transfers)	Parish	Proposal / Description	Address/Post Code
2012 / 13 YEAR 1	Tranche 2 (5)			
	1	West Bletchley	West Bletchley CC	3 Porchester Close MK3 6BH
	1	Stantonbury	Bancroft MP	Hadrians Drive MK13 0PJ
	1	Loughton	Loughton Sports Pav & SG	Linceslade Grove MK5 8DL
	1	Great Linford	Great Linford Pavilion & SG	Marsh Drive MK14 5AX
	1	Campbell Park	Woolstone SG	Mill Lane MK15 0AJ
2012 / 13 (YEAR 1)	Tranche 3 (5)			
	1	Loughton	Great Holm CC	87 Kensington Drive MK8 9AY
	1	Walton	Wavendon Gate Pav & SG	Isaacson Drive MK7 7RZ
	1	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Shenley Brook End CC	Egerton Gate MK5 7HH
	1	West Bletchley	Denbigh Hall Sports & Social Club	Melrose Avenue MK3 6PU
	1	Campbell Park	Willen Pav Willen village SG	28 Portland Drive MK15 9JP
TOTAL	20			

Service Area	Number of sites (potential transfers)	Parish	Proposal / Description	Address/Post Code
2013/14 YEAR 2	Tranche 4 (5)			
	1	Stony Stratford	Toombes Field SG	Stony Stratford MK11
	1	Walton	Brownswood SG	Elgar Grove MK7 8DX
	1	Bletchley & Fenny	George Street CC	13 George Street MK2 2NR
	1	Stantonbury	Bradville Hall	Mercers Drive MK13 7AY
	1	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Shenley Lodge MP	Faraday Drive MK5 7DE
2013/14 YEAR 2	Tranche 5 (5)			
	1	Olney	Olney Centre	High Street Olney MK46 4EF
	1	Wolverton	Recreation Ground	Western Road MK12
	1	Kents Hill & Monkston	Monkston CC & SG	St Bartholomews MK10 9EA
	1	West Bletchley	Chepstow Drive Community Centre	107 Chepstow Drive MK3 5NG
	1	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	River Valley MP	6 Whitehorse Drive MK4 2AS
TOTAL	30			

Service Area	Number of sites (potential transfers)	Parish	Proposal / Description	Address/Post Code
2013/14	Tranche 6 (4)			
YEAR 2	1	Broughton & Milton Keynes	Oakgrove Leisure Centre	Venturer Gate MK10 9JQ
Public sessions:	1	Shenley Church End	Medbourne Community Sports Pavilion	Pascal Drive MK5 6LS
July 2013	1	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Holborn Crescent MK4 3EQ
	1	Old Woughton Parish Council	The Pavilion, Woughton on the Green	Newport Road MK6 3EA
TOTAL	34			

2013/14	Tranche 7 (5)			
YEAR 2	1	Newport Pagnell	Middleton Pool & Willen Road SG	Newport Road
Public sessions estimated Oct 013	1	Bletchley & Fenny	Fenny Chapel	Manor Road MK2
	1	Walton	Britten Grove MP	76 Holst Crescent MK7 8QU
	1	Olney	Olney Youth Centre	East Street MK46 4DH
	1	Woughton	Netherfield MP	Farnborough, Netherfield MK6 4JB
TOTAL	39			

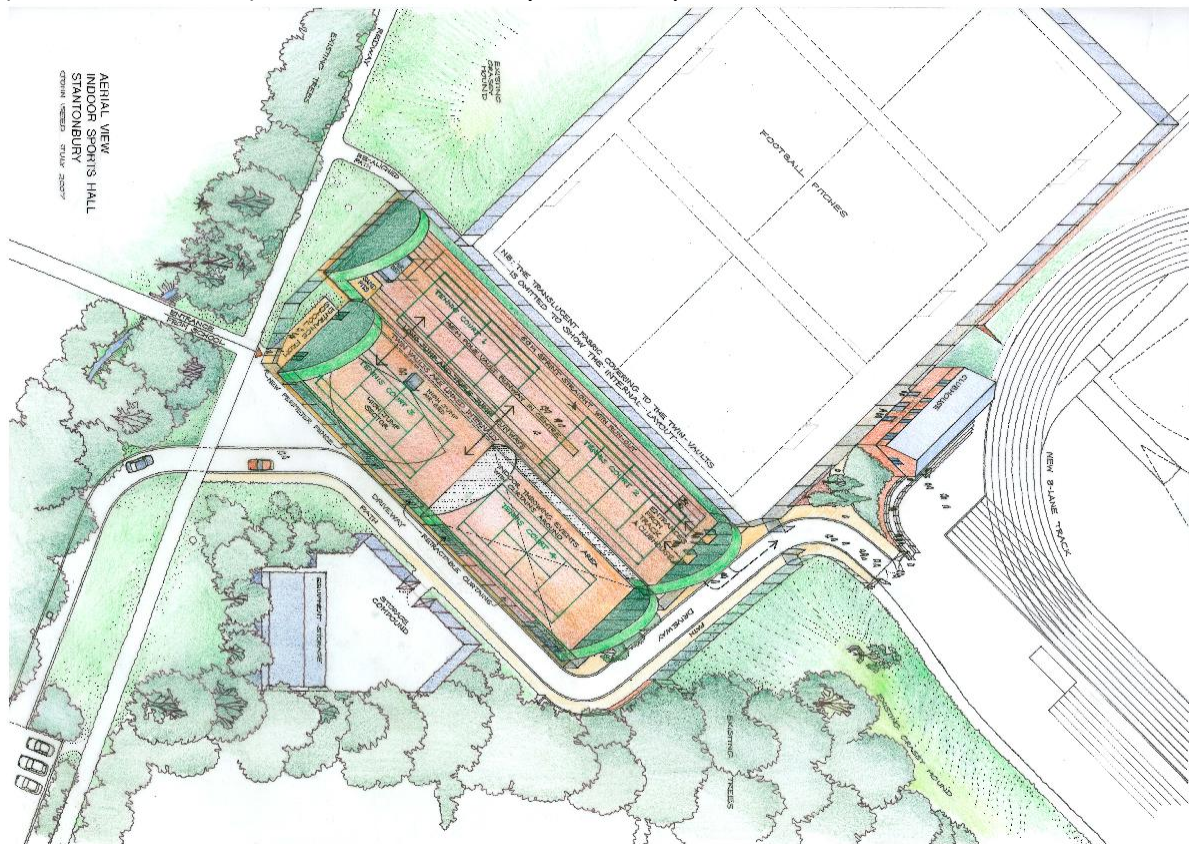
2013/14	Tranche 8 (5)			
YEAR 2	1	Wolverton	Greenleys MP	Ardwell Lane MK12 6AU
Public sessions estimated Dec 2013	1	Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe	Furzton South MP	1 Blackmoor Gate MK4 1DS
	1	Stony Stratford	Watling Way Centre	Galley Hill MK11 1PA
	1	Woughton	Coffee Hall Community Annex & Open Space – click on link here	60 Garraways MK6 5EG /
	1	Stantonbury	Mathieson Youth Centre	Mathieson Road MK13 7AG
TOTAL	44			

APPENDIX 5: Stantonbury Indoor Athletics Training Proposal

Greg Rutherford Indoor Centre

Case for the new indoor centre by Marshall Milton Keynes Athletic Club

When Greg Rutherford won his Long-Jump Gold Medal at the 2012 Olympic Games, there were many discussions as to a suitable legacy to mark this achievement, in addition to the Gold Pillar Box. We at Marshall Milton Keynes AC (MMKAC), where Greg has been a member since the age of 11, believe that a suitable legacy, shared between MMKAC, Stantonbury Campus, and the wider community, would be a 2600m² indoor centre at the Campus currently occupied by five tennis courts. The new facility could be used for tennis (four indoor courts), netball and a variety of other sports.



The site is close to the Marshall Milton Keynes Clubhouse, so there is no need for additional toilets or changing rooms, allowing the building to be achieved a cost of approximately £700k. It would be a low cost, low maintenance building, where the only running costs would be for lighting/staffing. MMKAC has offered to manage/part manage the building on behalf of the community, using volunteers, ensuring that the building is used efficiently and effectively, significantly reducing the running costs. The fact that the building can easily be divided into four quarters allows more than one sport to take place at the same time giving a flexibility that many existing indoor centres do not possess.

For athletics, there would be a 60m straight (with a 25m run-off) for sprints and hurdles training, facilities for all the jumps, and an area for throwers to train indoors. MMKAC has been working with disability groups for many years. The new indoor centre would provide a safe environment for these groups to train all year round. The centre can also be used by endurance athletes for warming up, flexibility and technical drills before training runs around the Milton Keynes Redways and for cooling down and stretching after running.

Other local running clubs (David Lloyd Redway Runners, Olney and MK Lakeside Runners) that use the track on an occasional basis would also benefit from the new facility. MMKAC has committed £50k of its own funds and this has been matched by the Campus. Extensive discussions have been held with Sport England, who have encouraged the Campus to apply for funding under their Inspired Facilities Fund (between £150k and £500k). Between £200k and £300k additional funding is required to complete the construction of this facility.

Background

Marshall Milton Keynes AC began life as Wolverton Athletics and Cycling Club in 1885. It changed its name to Milton Keynes AC in 1975 with the advent of the new town of Milton Keynes, and to Marshall Milton Keynes AC in 2006 to celebrate the life and patronage of Jim Marshall, whose world-renowned Bletchley-based company, Marshall Amplification Ltd, continues to sponsor the club.

The club has between 700 and 800 members whose ages range between 9 and 80, with roughly 40% of the members being female. There is also a Saturday morning club for 5-8 year olds that is thriving, and a satellite club at Stowe School, Buckingham, that goes from strength to strength. The Club's Management Committee has been responsible for managing the track since 1993, and has been responsible for grounds maintenance since 1998. In 2005 a £450k clubhouse was built alongside the track, using £50k raised by the club (including £35k sponsorship by Jim Marshall) and a Lottery Grant awarded to Milton Keynes Council. In 2008 the track was refurbished and extended to eight lanes in a £400k project, which included £50k raised by the Club, £100k of UK Athletics CARP Funding, and a significant contribution by Milton Keynes Council. The Club was awarded the title "Club of the Year" by UK Athletics in 2005 and again in 2006.

The Club takes part in a wide range of competitions on the track, roads and country and has had significant achievements in all age groups and all disciplines. For example, its Senior Women will compete in Division 2 of the UK Women's League in 2014, having been promoted as Division 3 Champions. In Cross Country, competing in the Chiltern League, against well over 30 other the clubs, MMKAC has won the overall title in 13 of the last 16 years, and has been runner up on the other three occasions. In Sportshall the Bucks U11 Team competed in the South of England Regional Final. MMKAC had 11 of the 12 girls who won their competition and 11 of the 12 boys who were third in theirs. In 2012 the MMKAC Men and Women's Veteran teams were both victorious in the Eastern Veterans' Track and Field Final. The achievements of its members are recorded on its website (<http://www.mkac.org.uk>), and in its full-colour 24-32-page newsletter, published five times a year.

Over the past five years, seven of its members have represented Great Britain at major international games – Greg Rutherford (Long Jump – World Championships and Olympic Games), Craig Pickering (100m and 4x100m – World Championships and Olympic Games), Mervyn Luckwell (Javelin – World Championships and Olympic Games), Chris Clarke (200m/400m/4x400m - World Championships and World Junior Championships), Joey Duck (100m, 200m and 4x100m – European U20 and U23 Championships), Kadi-Ann Thomas (100m, 200m and 4x100m – European U20 and U23 Championships) and Thomas Green (Club & Discus – IWAS World Junior Championships, narrowly missing selection for the 2012 Paralympic Games). It is significant that all of these athletes have remained with MMKAC throughout their careers, thanks to sponsorship from Marshall Amplification Ltd, that has allowed the Club to assist its elite athletes in meeting some of their expenses.

The club hosts a variety of track meetings during the year, including five open meetings, to ensure that every member has access to appropriate competition. It takes part in League competition for U15s, U20s, Seniors and Veterans. On the roads it hosts the Milton Keynes Festival of Running (which attracted more than 5000 entries in 2013 for the Half Marathon, 10k and 5k fun runs), the South of England Men's 12-stage and Women's 6-stage Road Relays (since 1998), the Milton Keynes 10k and the Wolverton 5 (now in its 49th year). In 2013 Campbell Park was used to host the Beds and Bucks County Cross Country Championships, and a Chiltern Cross Country League Match (where over 1000 runners are expected to compete).

The new indoor centre could be used for competitions during the winter (including sportshall for the younger age groups and for specialist sprints, hurdles, throws and jumps competitions for the older groups). In the summer months, when the weather is too wet or windy, events such as high jump and pole vault sometimes have to be abandoned. Clubs with indoor facilities can move these events indoors enabling athletes, who have often travelled some distance to compete, to take part in their specialist events whatever the weather.

Greg Rutherford can often be seen training at Stantonbury during the summer months, but during the winter he has to travel to Lee Valley on a regular basis. The Greg Rutherford Indoor Centre would greatly enhance his options for winter (and summer) training in the lead up to the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games and the London World Championships in 2017. Marshall Milton Keynes Athletic Club is a major player in athletics in all its forms. It desperately needs the Greg Rutherford Indoor Centre, so that its facilities match that reputation.

Milton Keynes has some fantastic facilities for other sports and entertainment etc., but athletics facilities are very poor in comparison. Milton Keynes should be a centre of excellence for athletics, and not be losing out to Bedford (and other clubs). It should be leading the way, not falling badly behind.

Mick Bromilow

Chair, Marshall Milton Keynes AC

29 November 2013

Detailed arguments from some of the main groups within the club

With a club as large and diverse as Marshall Milton Keynes Athletic Club, the new Greg Rutherford Indoor Centre would be used in a variety of ways to achieve excellence and promote growth. A number of coaches have made contributions indicating how the new centre would. Their contributions are given below.

Saturday Morning sessions for 5-8 year olds (Gordon Fallow)

Four years ago, due to popular demand, the Club started a Saturday Morning session for children who were too young to join the club. I have been assisted by a number of (mostly) female athletes, as Young Leaders and Assistant Coaches. The numbers have increased steadily, with more than 40 attending on a regular basis. It is likely that a second group will start in 2014 to cope with the demand. In the summer months the sessions are held on the track. During the winter months the group has moved indoors – to Oakgrove in 2012/13 and to Bletchley Leisure Centre in 2013/14 – due to the lack of suitable facilities at Stantonbury. The new indoor centre would enable these sessions to be held at Stantonbury in a safe environment in all weathers, in both summer and winter.

The Under 11s Tiger Group (Gordon Fallow and Rick Townsend)

There are strong squads of U11s at both Stantonbury and Buckingham, who take part in Open Meetings at Stantonbury during the summer and in Sportshall competitions during the winter. This group, in particular, mushroomed after the 2012 Olympics with more than 90 attending each week. More than a year later the demand is very strong. It is clear that sportshall is an excellent introduction to athletics, and many more schools would take part if there were suitable facilities available on a regular basis. The layout of the new indoor centre would be ideal for staging sportshall training and competitions, using parts of the building.

MMKAC has been working with Milton Keynes Council for some years on providing Startrack Holiday schemes for Under 11s, Under 13s and U15s, and now operates independently of the Council to provide these Startrack sessions. Around 50-60 youngsters attend these sessions, although the numbers are lower during the winter months. The new indoor centre would encourage many more to take part in Startrack if they can be guaranteed that the sessions can be held whatever the weather.

The Under 13s and Under 15s Youth Development Programme and Athletics 365 (David Millett and Sharon Edghill)

MMKAC has one of the strongest reputations in the country for its club youth development programme. When England Athletics undertook its filming for coach development in a scheme called Athletics 365 MMKAC was one of two clubs mainly used for this initiative, because of the strength of our practice in this area.

To place this in context the enclosed link includes both a picture featuring club athletes and explains in more detail the Athletics 365 programme itself:

<http://www.englandathletics.org/page.asp?section=1167§ionTitle=Athletics+365>

The value of Athletics 365 is that: it is a framework that encourages wider participation; focuses on multi-skills; is supportive to youngsters interested in a variety of sports; all by providing a base of supporting movement skills and conditioning. In common with martial arts it allows for a path of progression through levels of competence in defined skills. This has helped us serve athletes with disability, athletes of a wide variety of competence, and is pivotal in our commitment to inclusion.

Given the high skill component, and low coach: athlete ratio (1:12) this sort of delivery is far more suited to indoor delivery. We learned from previous experience that moving this segment of training indoors helped improve winter participation levels by a multiple of 3 to 4.

In common with other clubs with strong youth programmes we have faced a strong increase in demand during the last 15 months. Unlike most of these we have been able to accommodate this without creating a waiting list. This has been achieved by: expanding the number of sessions; restricting athletes to just one of these sessions a week; recruiting and expanding coach support; hiring courts at new facilities; acquiring supporting resources. We can continue in this vein but the most limiting constraint is access to suitable indoor facilities at times convenient to potential users. We believe we could progressively move towards doubling current participation (we have some 100 athletes on the register) on current trends with better availability.

The Athletics 365 scheme has nine levels of competence and the table below captures the progress in attainment of athletes in the two years we have been formally assessing:

Highest Level of Attainment	Oct 2012	Oct 2013
2	12	23
3	21	40
4	1	10

It is also noticeable that athletes who get as far as beginning to attain these levels, and obtain recognition through certificates, are far more likely to stay in active sport. Of the athletes who feature in the above table as at Oct 2012, the level of retention 12 month's later is in the high 90%.

Based on current progress the range of attainment will continue to expand and rise at least two further levels in the next 12 months. Access to this level of attainment could be expanded and accelerated by readier access to indoor facilities.

In order to help athletes improve skill levels in more demanding events, during the winter we have to hire facilities in Brunel University once a month to provide an environment suitable for training. Whilst this works well a journey of an hour plus creates a barrier to youngsters with: weekend jobs, heavy study commitments or unable to make a contribution to the travel expenses (although the club does seek to subsidise known cases of hardship). The most significant seam of development in the past 12 months has been to combine these multi-skills principles with endurance for a significant minority of younger athletes who have an interest in this event group. Again, with improved access to indoor facilities, where indoor skills work and conditioning could be combined with outdoor running, this programme could be materially expanded.

Under 17s and Under 20s (Jim Bennett and Chris Watts)

This is the group in which specialist coaching is most needed and where the successful transition to the senior ranks requires careful handling. It is also the group which traditionally experiences significant drop-out, due to pressure of exams and a desire for a less rigorous social life. MMKAC has a very successful squad of U17s and U20s which gained promotion to the Midland Premier Division of the National Youth Development League for 2014. It is unfortunate that these athletes currently have to travel to Bedford, Eton, Lee Valley or Uxbridge to find suitable indoor facilities during the winter months, when the travelling time would be better spent studying. These groups, above all others, would benefit from having local facilities that would allow them to manage their time more effectively.

The Milton Keynes College Athletics Academy (Kyle Bennett)

The indoor facility can be used by the Milton Keynes College Athletes Academy in the following ways:

1. To encourage current students of the College to take up athletics as they will have the opportunity to train in the new facility and would see this as an exciting opportunity.
2. To attract athletes from around the area to join the college and continue their athletics as they will have the opportunity to use the facilities in the winter and this will benefit their training tremendously. At the moment we have had some athletes look into the possibility of attending MK College but were put off by the lack of training opportunities and the better facilities they can get elsewhere.

3. To keep talented MMKAC athletes from leaving the city to find suitable facilities elsewhere as, at the moment they are leaving the city and local area to attend colleges where they have better facilities. Attending MK College and using these facilities would give them the opportunity to continue their focus on athletics without leaving the city.

It would benefit the athletes I work with, as we could:

1. stop having to travel to Lee Valley (in North London) every fortnight for indoor training as we would use this facility. At the moment the athletes and I have to leave at around 8.30am and we do not return until 1pm. An indoor facility in Milton Keynes would mean we can train in a shorter time frame and with less expense.

2. stop having to do the majority of our winter training outside in conditions that sometimes are not safe, especially when it is snowing, raining or very windy. The facility could enable every athlete at MK to train in a much safer environment and more effectively which, in turn, will produce greater results for MMKAC and MK College athletes.

3. run competitions at the indoor centre, which will, in turn, promote our city so more athletes can see the benefits of competing for MMKAC.

Senior Athletes (Mike Leonard)

Presently our sprinters have no facility locally to run indoors. Sprinting is performed most effectively when muscles are warm and therefore running outside can compromise this performance. Athletes do have to travel to indoor centres such as Lee Valley, Brunel, Eton, Bedford and Loughborough on occasions. Youngsters today are put off by having to train in cold and/or wet conditions. Many other activities are available to them and given the choice of staying outside sprinting or an indoor activity they will often choose the latter.

A further aspect of this is that the risk of injury outside in the cold is higher and if athletes do get injured their motivation to continue to participate can be affected. Whilst seniors may be more used to training in cold and wet conditions here again attracting new participants would be enhanced by being able to utilise an indoor facility by being able to perform better qualitatively.

Therefore I think that in both the initial attraction of new participants and their retention, an indoor facility would greatly help these aspects.

Veteran Athletes (Jan Lawson)

Although our Veterans have been successful, we know we have lost athletes to other clubs (mostly Bedford) because they can provide indoor facilities and we don't. This means that some sprinters, hurdlers or jumpers, and to some extent throwers as well, go to other tracks to train as it is too cold/wet in winter to train for specialist events outside. They often then leave Marshall Milton Keynes and join Bedford.

We have seen over the years that the more successful we become, the more members we attract. Older athletes in particular need to keep warm in order to minimise injuries, as injuries are usually what causes older athletes to give up.

Some of the parents of current young athletes have taken up the sport again. Many more would do so, if they felt they could train out of the elements in the winter, as it is very off-

putting when you first start and have to take things slowly to be battling the elements as well.

All the events that involve techniques are much easier to work at indoors out of the wind and cold, i.e. doing sprint starts or high jump., etc. This would greatly benefit all our Veteran athletes, especially those who compete at higher than club level. Their success again encourages other veterans to 'give it a go'.

In the same way that we lose athletes to other clubs that have indoor facilities, we would attract more athletes to train at Milton Keynes and could therefore probably gain new members from other clubs or further afield.

Veteran athletes (if not retired) are often short of training time, so having better facilities available at Milton Keynes would be of great benefit.

Coach Mentoring and Coach Development (Kyle Bennett, David Millett, Chris Watts, Jack Kee, Jim Bennett and Mike Leonard)

The club has six coach mentors appointed by England Athletics (out of the eight for the whole of Buckinghamshire), giving advice and help to other Buckinghamshire coaches within their discipline. Two of these coaches also mentor at the national level. The club runs a lot of workshops in the winter. Most of these workshops have had to be theory-based as the weather conditions often precludes practical sessions. The indoor facility, together with the clubhouse, could enable better mentoring and could be used as a central base for workshops in the area.

Disability athletics (Rick Townsend and Lesley Byrne)

MMKAC has been running sessions for Disability Groups for many years and runs a weekly session on Tuesdays, outdoors during the summer months, but in a sportshall during the winter. These are dedicated to those with special needs. There have also been athletics days, organised by MMKAC for the Special Schools in Milton Keynes. The indoor facility would allow these sessions continue throughout the year.

“Slated Row Special School would like to use the new indoor facility as our students all have additional needs which mean the elements can put them off. This would help them progress and improve their basic skills as well as extend them and give them an experience of sand to jump into etc.

The Disability Club which runs on a Tuesday evening is attended by several of our youngsters where they use the sportshall and have to pay per badminton court depending on how numbers are. The club could expand with a better facility and keep the older students actively involved training each week.”

Satellite club at Stowe School (Fiona Darling-Glinski)

Stowe School opened a new track in 2010. MMKAC has opened a satellite club at the site which uses the track during the summer months and a sportshall nearby, during the winter months. Around 50 youngsters take part in the weekly sessions with many of them joining the club. During the early years, Athletics 365 is used to guide the coaching sessions for the development of these athletes. However, as they get older they will travel to Stantonbury for more specialist coaching. This works well when the specialist coaches are available and the facilities are suitable. The club can provide specialist coaching in all areas, but the athletes will be much more inclined to make the journey if the specialist facilities are available, whatever the weather. The new indoor centre would fulfil this requirement and encourage many more to make the trip to Milton Keynes.

Endurance athletes (Diane Baldwin)

Between 50 and 150 runners meet at the track gates on Tuesdays to go for a run lasting between 60 and 90 minutes. Fewer meet at the side of the track on Thursdays (there are alternative training sessions at other starting points on Thursdays). Other groups (Olney Runners, David Lloyd Redway Runners and MK Lakeside Runners) use the track on Mondays and Wednesdays.

It is important that endurance athletes of all abilities not only run but also do strength, flexibility and stretching exercises on a regular basis in order to create good running form and most important to help prevent injury. Having access to an indoor facility would allow road runners (and others) the opportunity to attend appropriate assessment and training sessions to help them develop into much more 'balanced runners', less prone to injury. Two years ago, during the colder months, road runners were able to share an indoor hall with a group of our younger endurance athletes. This allowed me to run weekly strength and conditioning training sessions lasting 60-90 minutes in order to help athletes reduce the risk of injury and also improve their performance. The sessions were designed to develop core strength; improve whole body and joint stability; increase mobility of joints; introduce drills and movement skills to improve running efficiency and postural integrity. Many road runners need the support of a coach helping to develop an appropriate strength & conditioning programme. Most are encouraged to do non-running training in group sessions.

Mo Farah told the Guardian: "I was weaker before. All the core stuff, all the weights? I couldn't lift anything. I used to just run and do a bit of core but I never did specific non-running stuff. That has been the difference for sure." Athletes of all standards need access to indoor facilities in order to do non-running complementary training for core; strength; stability; flexibility; injury prevention. (<http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/the-running-blog/2013/jun/20/workouts-for-runners-basic-strength-training>)

Warming up before running is extremely important. Having an indoor facility, especially during colder wet weather, would allow a sheltered place for road runners to meet before the main training sessions for an adequate 'inclusive' warm up for athletes of all abilities making them more prepared and less likely to cause injury when the training session becomes more intense

The NHS website about staying fit and healthy suggests that 'performing stretching exercises after a run will help cool down gradually, improve flexibility and prevent injury. The majority of our runners rarely cool down adequately and few road runners stretch after the main training sessions especially in colder weather where it is not appropriate to be outdoors stretching (even when wearing additional layers of clothing). Especially in poor weather and when it is cold an indoor facility would allow everyone a safe place to meet after a run and cool down gradually including doing supervised stretching.

(<http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/c25k/pages/how-to-stretch-after-a-run.aspx>)

Should any runners suffer an injury then having the indoor facility would allow coaches/athletes to organise alternative rehabilitation (cross) training sessions alongside main training sessions.

APPENDIX 6: MIDDLETON POOL EXTENSION PROPOSAL

