



Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

FINAL – November 2023 V3



Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Contents

1	Executive Summary	1
2	Introduction	7
3	Strategy and Policy Alignment	8
4	National Governing Body Consultation and Sports Club Consultation	30
5	Assessment of Current and Future Supply Richmond-upon-Thames Built Indoor Sports Assessment	37
6	Conclusions from the Assessment	67
7	Recommendations	71
	Disclaimer	75

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Supplementary Planning Document Old Deer Park	76
Appendix 2 - Sport England Facility Planning Model Sports Halls	77
Appendix 3 - Sport England Facility Planning Model Swimming Pools	78
Appendix 4 - Health and Fitness Supply and Demand Model	79

Figures

Figure 1: Key Strategic Context	8
Figure 2: Sport England Strategic Outcomes Planning Guidance	9
Figure 3: Sport England's Active Design guidance ten Principles	10
Figure 4: An example of Active environments	12
Figure 5: NPPF Social Objective	14
Figure 6: NPPF Outline paragraphs 98 and 99	14
Figure 7: Outline of Key Strategic Local Strategies and Plans	20

Tables

Table 1: Population projections Richmond upon Thames (GLA – Based Housing Led – Population Projections)	17
Table 2: Richmond-upon-Thames projected ethnic make up	17
Table 3: Policies and Information from the Richmond-upon-Thames Current Local Plan 2018 – 2033 (Adopted 2018 and March 2020)	22
Table 4: National Governing Bodies Considerations	30
Table 5: Sport Richmond and Richmond Sports Club Considerations	34
Table 6: Current Supply of Sports Halls (Main) Providing Community Use (Pay and Play /Sports Club Use)	38
Table 7: Private Use Main Sports Halls Richmond-upon-Thames	39
Table 8: Activity Halls Richmond-upon-Thames	39
Table 9: Summary of the Quality Assessment of Richmond-upon-Thames Sports Hall Facilities	41
Table 10: Swimming Pool Supply Richmond-upon-Thames	48
Table 11: Summary Qualitative Assessments- Swimming Pools	50
Table 12: Supply of Health and Fitness Facilities offering 20 fitness stations + Richmond-upon-Thames	56
Table 13:	67

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Maps

Map 1:	Location of Richmond-upon-Thames in relation to neighbouring boroughs	16
Map 2:	Population density Richmond-upon-Thames	18
Map 3:	Sports Hall sites Richmond-upon-Thames	40
Map 4:	Activity Hall sites in Richmond-upon-Thames	41
Map 5:	Sports Halls (20 mins drive time) Including Neighboring Local Authority Sports Halls	42
Map 6:	Location of Richmond-upon-Thames Community Spaces and Activity Halls	43
Map 7:	Location of Swimming Pools across Richmond-upon-Thames	49
Map 8:	Richmond-upon-Thames Swimming Pools (and Neighbouring Local Authority Pools 20-minute Drive Time)	52
Map 9:	Richmond-upon-Thames Health and Fitness Facilities	57
Map 10:	Richmond-upon-Thames Health and Fitness Facilities 20-minute drive time	58
Map 11:	Location of Studios across Richmond-upon-Thames	60
Map 12:	Studios 20-minute drive time	61
Map 13:	Indoor Bowls Facilities Richmond-upon-Thames	63
Map 14:	Indoor Tennis Facility Provision in Neighbouring Local authorities to Richmond-upon-Thames	64
Map 15:	Heat Map of Participation for Gymnastics Richmond-upon-Thames	66

Version No.	Date	Comment	Completed by
1	15 th November 2022	Draft structure for client comment	L Forsyth & P Barefoot
2	30 th November 2022	Draft Version 2 including updated GLA Led population Projections	L Forsyth & P Barefoot
3	6 th January 2023	Following detailed client comment	L Forsyth & P Barefoot

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1. This is an assessment for Indoor Built Sports Facilities, for the Richmond-upon-Thames Council. The purpose of this assessment is to identify unmet needs and priorities for Richmond-upon-Thames, which incorporates key findings. It is a long-term view to 2033 and makes recommendations to inform decisions on future facility investments to meet the needs of Richmond-upon-Thames.
- 1.2. The assessment will form part of the evidence base for providing sports facilities or the redevelopment or refurbishment of existing facilities and will be referenced as a basis for securing external investment, either from developer contributions, government grants and other sources. It will ensure that as and when funding is available, investment decisions affecting the local sports infrastructure of Richmond-upon-Thames are co-ordinated and planned by the Council and its partners, with reference to strategic need and the needs assessment work included in this document.
- 1.3. The assessment has been prepared in accordance with Sport England's guidelines (Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance July 2014).
- 1.4. The scope of the assessment includes analysis of provision for the following facility types across Richmond-upon-Thames, in line with the geographical area covered by the Local Plan:
 - Swimming
 - Sports Halls
 - Health and Fitness (fitness suites and studios)
 - Indoor Bowls
 - Indoor Tennis
 - Gymnastics/Trampolining
 - Martial Arts
 - Squash
- 1.5. The Indoor Built Facility Assessment provides an analysis of sports facilities across the study area, leading to a comprehensive set of recommendations for the future development of facilities, in line with the needs of local residents.
- 1.6. Recommended facility planning tools have been applied, including Sport England's Active Places, Active Lives, and Active People data alongside consultation with relevant stakeholders. The assessment is also informed by analysis of the results of Sport England Facility Planning Model for Sports Halls (2019) and Swimming Pools (2019) for Richmond-upon-Thames Council. These reports were commissioned specifically for this purpose.
- 1.7. The Facility Planning 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 that provide three badminton courts and above and provide play and pay community use or sports club community use. It excludes smaller sports halls and those that are for private use only. The swimming pool FPM assesses the provision of swimming pools larger than 160 m² (4 lanes and above), indoor/covered swimming pools that provide play and pay community use or water-based club usage. The FPM excludes outdoor pools, which means Pools in the Park lido is excluded from the assessment.
- 1.8. Whilst analysing the Sport England Facility Planning Models for Sports Halls and Swimming Pools it is clear that the models exclude the following - new sports hall facilities at Sir Richard Reynold's and Turing House School, sports halls with planning permission at Harrodian School and Richmond-upon-Thames School and the proposed swimming pool and sports hall at Radnor House School. This assessment for Indoor Built Sports Facilities takes these facilities into consideration.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 1.9. The population data used by Sport England Facility Planning Models for Richmond-upon-Thames is 197,800. The total projected population for 2033 is 197,199 (Source DATARICH GLA Housing Led Population Projections), which is a slight decrease. As there is no increase in population there is no need to apply the Sport England Sports Facility Calculator Tool to identify additional population demand for sports halls or swimming pools. There is an estimated theoretical **exceeded supply of 10 badminton courts by 2033. The current unmet demand of 59 sq. m of swimming pool water space is quite small and would not be seen as financially viable to build a pool.**
- 1.10. The **key finding for sports halls are that the majority of the sports halls are owned by educational institutions and have variable access arrangements for community use.** Any reduction in community use at these venues, will impact on pay and play and sports club use. Continued secure access for community use at the education sites is of most importance to the Council. It is important, so as to maintain supply/access for community use.
- 1.11. The **sports halls** are estimated to be very busy at peak times, **but do not offer weekly daytime access** and consideration should be given in the context of changes in the role sports halls play in providing for activities other than hall sports, such as exercise classes and martial arts.
- 1.12. There may be a need for more flexible spaces in terms of dimensions, floor space and different surfaces so as to accommodate a wider range of activities and provision of daytime activity programmes.
- 1.13. In addition, **there are no sports halls with swimming pools on the same site owned by Richmond-upon-Thames Council and there are no sports hall facilities available for daytime use that would meet the physical activity needs of older people, shift workers, parents and toddlers.**
- 1.14. Consultation has identified that Richmond Volleyball Club would like an 8-badminton court sports hall for volleyball match play and training. It is understood that the basketball club has similar requirements as Richmond Volleyball Club and would like a **8-court sports hall.** Netball has the same demand.
- 1.15. It must be recognised that the recommendations and actions cannot be delivered by the Council alone. The Council is only one stakeholder and has limited resources. All partners involved in sports provision, whether public, private or voluntary will need to work together to take the strategy through to implementation.
- 1.16. The **key finding for swimming pools is the age of the stock.** The average age of the swimming pool sites in 2019, is 35 years. (This excludes the Lensbury at Teddington Lock pool site, which opened in 1920). The most recent pool site to open in the Borough, was Virgin Active at Twickenham, which opened in 2009.
- 1.17. The Pools on the Park pool site opened in 1966 and was modernised in 2009 and 2016, Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre opened in 1976. **So, the key topic is about modernisation of the public swimming pool sites, or, possibly re-provision, based on the age and condition of the current pool sites.**
- 1.18. Sport England sets out through the Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance a framework for the production of the strategy and these are to **protect, enhance and provide** sports facilities, as follows:
- Protect:** To provide evidence to inform policy and specifically to support Site Allocations and Development Management Policies which will protect sports facilities and their use by the community, irrespective of ownership.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Enhance: To ensure that sports facilities are effectively managed and maintained and that best uses are made of existing resources - whether facilities, expertise and/or personnel to improve and enhance existing provision – particularly in the light of pressure on local authority budgets.

Provide: To provide evidence to help secure external funding for new facilities and enhancements through grant aid and also potentially through Community Infrastructure Levy (if on the Regulation 123 List) and Section 106 agreements. Sport England and local authorities can then use the strategies developed and the guidance provided in making key planning decisions regarding facility developments in the area and to support or protect against loss in relation (refused planning application) to planning applications brought forward by developers.

- 1.19. The recommendations have been developed to address a number of strategic priorities, the needs identified for each facility type and consider protect enhance and provide.

Key recommendations from the report are provided below:

Recommendation 1:

The existing levels of community accessible (including pay and play) sports hall, and swimming pool provision in the Borough are retained as a minimum.

(PROTECT)

Recommendation 2:

New education sports hall or swimming pool developments must be subject to **formal Community Use Agreements** as a condition of planning.

The council should revisit and strengthen existing Community Use Agreements initially and periodically.

(PROVIDE & PROTECT).

Recommendation 3:

Consideration should be given to the **provision of sports hall daytime use** to increase participation for the community that can access daytime provision but may struggle to access facilities in the evenings and at weekends, either through new or replacement sports hall provision.

When considering the above there is a **need to consider the Sport Club and National Governing Body consultation and a desire for access to an 8-court sports hall** for match play and training particularly for Volleyball and Netball.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 4:

There is a need for Richmond-upon-Thames Council and partners to **plan now for the refurbishment of its sports halls on an on-going basis.**

The Council should consider the centres as a whole to ensure they remain relevant in the future and increase total participation. Investment needs to be considered for customer critical areas and for new, innovative facility areas to promote physical activity, improve health and well-being and which complement the sports facilities.

This is to ensure that the Council can continue to provide good quality facilities and respond to local health and wellbeing priorities and deliver increased opportunities for participation in physical activity and sport for clubs and the community.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 5:

Pools on the Park and Teddington Pools - Carry out a feasibility and business case to establish the facility mix for a **new replacement or a high spec refurbishment of Pools on the Park and at the same time a high spec refurbishment of Teddington Pools.**

The Pools on the Park feasibility work will need to consider:

- The Grade 11 listed elements of Pools on the Park and what can be achieved
- In the outdoor pool creating a 25 metres length (with a boom) and assess the possible water circulation issues with this option.
- Consider the pros and cons of covering or providing a retractable roof, for the outdoor pool.
- Pros and Cons for turning the outdoor pool into a 50m pool. Which could provide 2 x 25 metre pools.
- Consideration should be given to providing external showers, toilets and changing facilities to allow the pool to operate all year.
- The stepped access at the shallow end of the Outdoor Pool needs to be considered as this hinders swimming clubs from training in the pool.
- Decarbonisation projects to reduce carbon emissions

(PROVIDE AND ENHANCE)

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Recommendation 6:

Provision of a relevant fitness offer (to include gym and studios) to be reviewed on a site-by-site basis, considering; local public and private competition, other day time access to dry-side facilities, current performance of facilities, opportunities to deliver health programmes.

Before any decisions are made to reduce, increase or replace health and fitness facilities at council-managed leisure facilities, the full business case should consider current and future revenue and capital projections and tests the facilities viability.

The Council to consider relevant outdoor-spaces for managed fitness facilities, activities and programmes.

(PROVIDE AND PROTECT)

Recommendation 7:

Barnes Squash club have identified a need for **Padel facilities**. The club should be directed towards the Lawn Tennis Association to seek funding opportunities for this provision.

(PROVIDE & ENHANCE)

Recommendation 8:

Dialogue is established with the Lawn Tennis Association about provision of Community Indoor Tennis facilities within Richmond-upon-Thames to identify if there are any possible tennis club led opportunities for a community indoor tennis facility or alternatively consider covering existing Council owned tennis courts.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 9:

Dialogue is established with Richmond Gymnastics Association and British Gymnastics to further explore the potential of facilitating club-led development of additional gymnastics facilities.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 10:

Protect all indoor sports halls with 3+ courts and swimming pools over 20m length and 160 sq m of water space within the new local plan. This is to ensure against the loss of strategically valuable sports facilities that are available for community use or could contribute to meeting future community needs, unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.

(PROTECT)

Recommendation 11:

Where appropriate, Richmond-upon-Thames Council and its partners seek to secure developer contributions from strategic developments that could contribute towards the development of leisure facilities and spaces.

The Council should develop a detailed approach to securing developer contributions to support the emerging local plan e.g. through a Planning Obligations SPD.

Sport England's CIL & Planning Obligations Advice Note (or the future Developer Contributions guidance that will supersede it)

<https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/community-infrastructure-levy-and-planning-obligations-advice-note-nov-2018.pdf?PmR9OYIbVat6HfqmmvtKurJ6o1M3d4Z>

provides a step-by-step guide to assist the Council to use the findings of the strategy to secure financial contribution from developers.

The use of Sport England's Sports Facility Calculator should specifically be referenced with assisting to identify demand for and financial contributions from new housing development towards halls and pools.

(PROVIDE AND PROTECT)

2 Introduction

- 2.1 This is an assessment for Indoor Built Sports Facilities, for the Richmond-upon-Thames Council. The purpose of this assessment and action plan is to identify unmet needs and priorities for Richmond-upon-Thames, which incorporates key findings. It is a long-term view to 2033 and makes recommendations to inform decisions on future facility investments to meet the needs of Richmond-upon-Thames.
- 2.2 The assessment will form part of the evidence base for providing sports facilities or the redevelopment of existing facilities and will be referenced as a basis for securing external investment, either from developer contributions, government grants and other sources. It will ensure that as and when funding is available, investment decisions affecting the local sports infrastructure of Richmond-upon-Thames are co-ordinated and planned by the Council and its partners, with reference to strategic need and the needs assessment work included in this document.
- 2.3 The assessment has been prepared in accordance with Sport England's guidelines (Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance July 2014).
- 2.4 Recommended facility planning tools have been applied, including Sport England's Active Places, Active Lives, and Active People data alongside consultation with relevant stakeholders. The assessment is also informed by analysis of the results of Sport England Facility Planning Model for Sports Halls (2019) and Swimming Pools (2019). These reports were commissioned specifically for this purpose.
- 2.5 It must be recognised that the recommendations cannot be delivered by the Council alone. The Council is only one stakeholder and has limited resources. All partners involved in sports provision, whether public, private or voluntary will need to work together to take the recommendations through to implementation. The relevant stakeholders have been identified in the assessment, and include:
- Richmond-upon-Thames Council;
 - Schools, Colleges and Universities;
 - Sports clubs;
 - Facility operators;
 - National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs); and
 - Other commercial providers.
- 2.6 The recommendations have been developed to address a number of strategic priorities and the needs identified for each facility type.

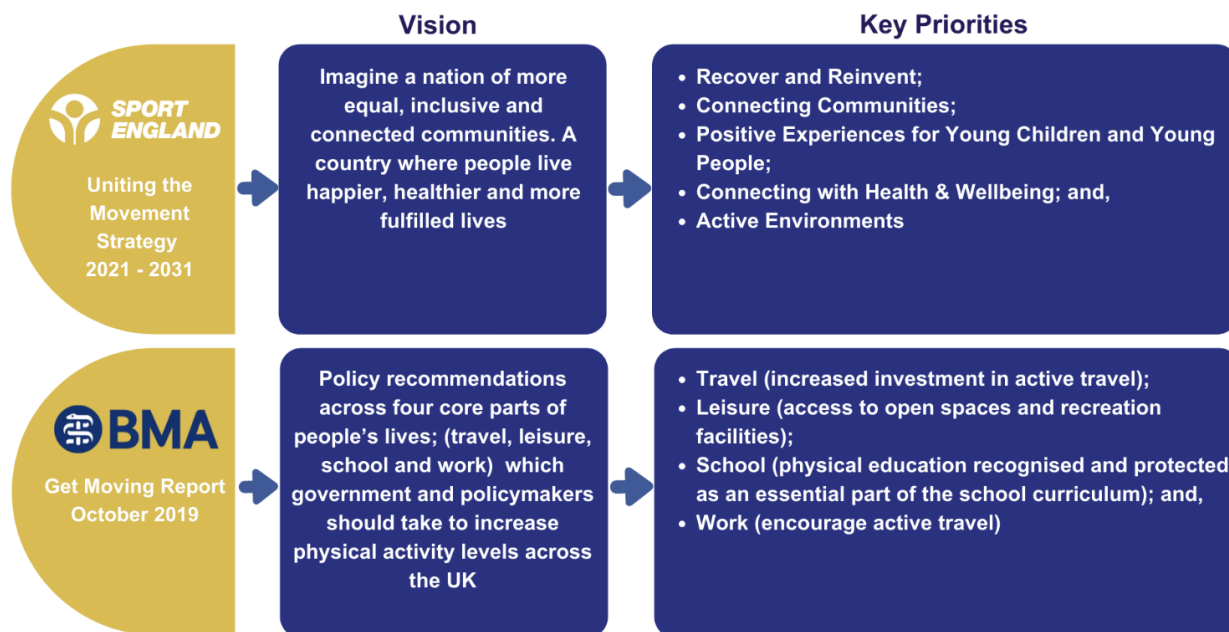
3 Strategy and Policy Alignment

- 3.1 There are a number of key national and local strategies and policies which inform and influence the development of indoor sport-built facility strategies. The main national documents are summarised below. These national policies inform the approach to current and future provision of sports facilities, linked to health improvement, increased participation, and the appropriate levels of provision of facilities to meet local needs. From a planning perspective, the national agenda makes the link between national planning policy, a Local Plan and population growth at local level, and the need to plan for increased demands for infrastructure and provision, linked to Sport England’s ‘protect, enhance and provide’.
- 3.2 In December 2015 the Government published *Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation*. This set a bold and ambitious direction for sport policy and looks beyond simple participation to how sport changes lives and becomes a force for social good. At the heart of this strategy are five outcomes:
- Physical Wellbeing;
 - Mental Wellbeing;
 - Individual Development;
 - Social & Community Development; and,
 - Economic Development.
- 3.3 A summary of the key strategies and their respective strategy outcomes/KPIs, such as Sport England, Public Health England (PHE), Department of Transport and the British Medical Association (BMA) are outlined below.

Figure 1: National Key Strategic Context



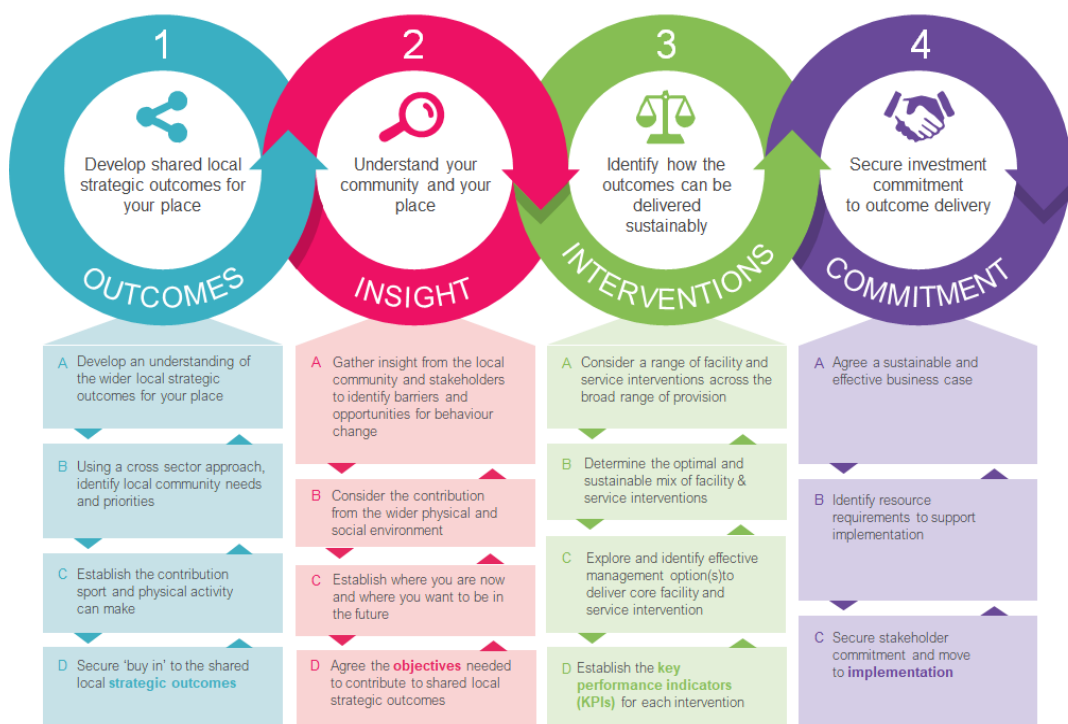
Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment



Sport England Strategic Outcomes Planning Guidance

- 3.4 Having a clear, strategic and sustainable approach to sport and physical activity is essential to making effective investment into provision – both facilities and services. Creating a focus and vision on local outcomes, informed by customer insight and delivering interventions (capital and revenue) that affect behaviour change in the target audience, which will ultimately deliver local outcomes for a place.
- 3.5 Sport England recognises that partners will require support to achieve their vision. The “Strategic Outcomes Planning Guidance” (see Figure 2 below) provides a robust and consistent approach in establishing local need and achieving the best return on the use of resources.

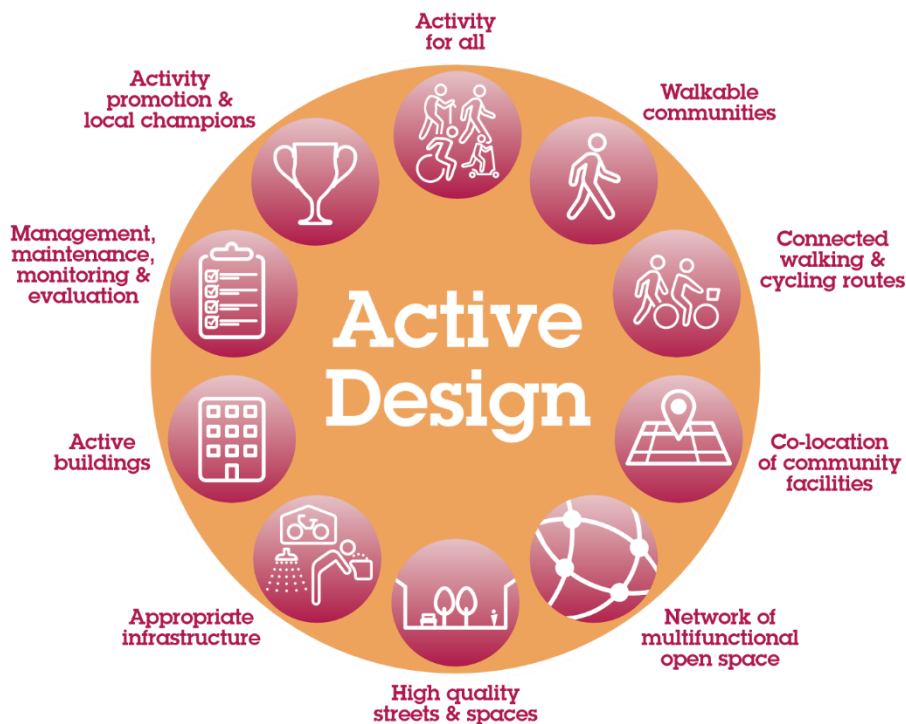
Figure 2: Sport England Strategic Outcomes Planning Guidance



Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 3.6 All local authorities will have some or most of this work in place but this cannot be a 'one size fits all' approach. This guidance seeks to provide key principles to support the process and signpost where additional help or advice can be found at whatever stage a local authority is at, for example, at the beginning of a commissioning cycle, changes in political administration or considering the need for new facilities or service delivery.
- 3.7 This guidance is a forerunner to Sport England's Leisure Services Delivery Guidance document (formerly Sport England's Procurement Toolkit) which supports a local authority looking to implement its strategic approach.
- 3.8 It should help shape that important investment so it delivers against the local outcomes identified.
- 3.9 Capital interventions that are identified through the 'Strategic Outcomes Planning Guidance' may include projects that are closely aligned with the key criteria of Sport England's Strategic Facilities Fund and could then be considered for funding by Sport England.
- 3.10 Sport England provides a number of best practice tools and guidance for Planning for Sport, these include:
- Sport England's Active Design guidance soon to be superseded by Active Environments, developed in partnership with Public Health England, <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design> provides ten principles to inspire and inform the design and layout of cities, towns, villages, neighbourhoods, buildings, streets and open spaces to promote participation in sport, physical activity and active lifestyles.
 - The ten principles are shown in the diagram below:

Figure 3: Sport England's Active Design guidance ten Principles

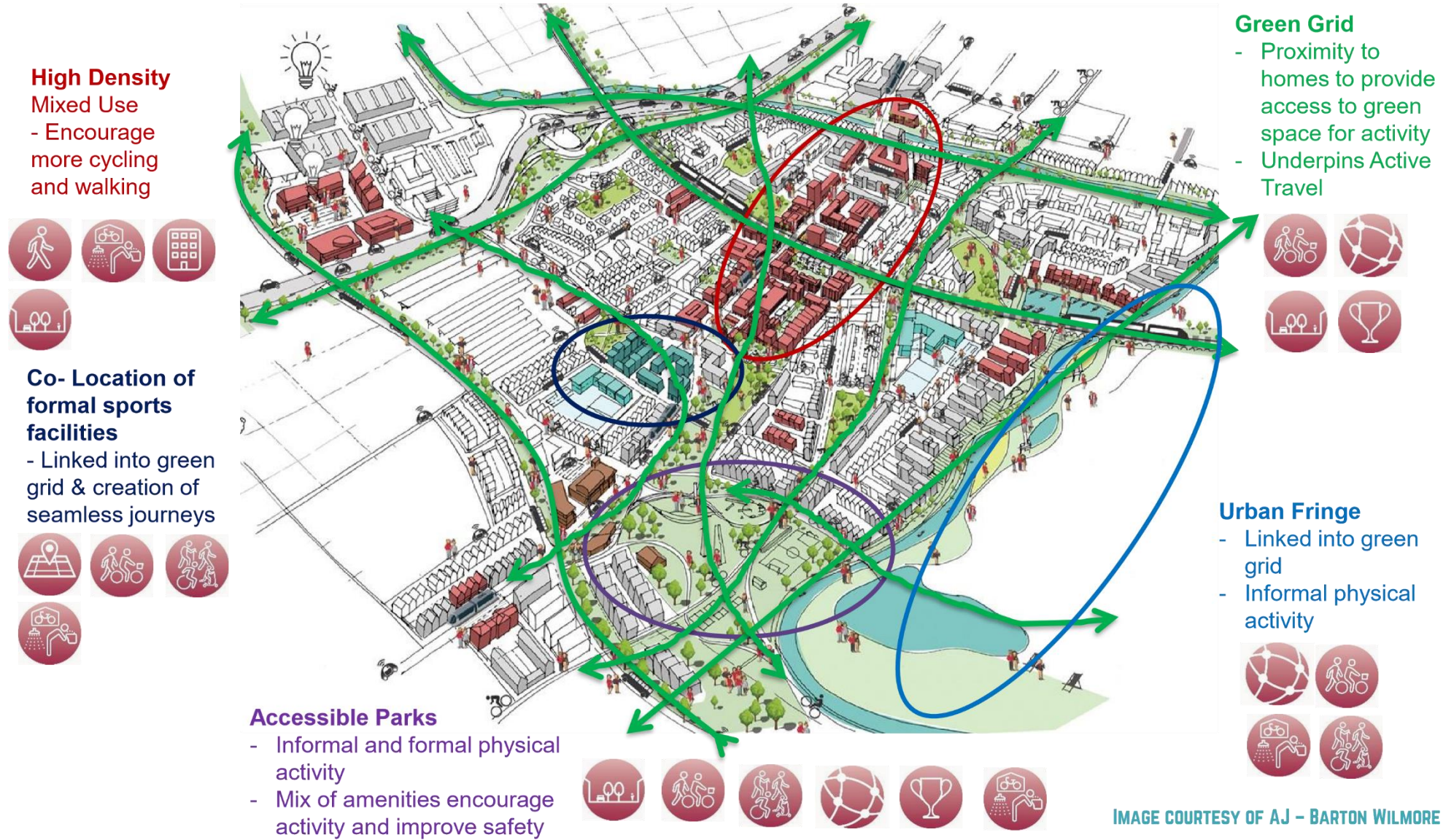


Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- The environment where people choose to be active can be any place or space. How these spaces are designed and connect together to provide a coherent environment really matters. Place based thinking around a strategically planned physical environment can in itself encourage physical activity. In creating Active Environments there is a need to consider both the Physical and Social/Activation. An example of Active Environments is shown below:

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Figure 4: An example of Active environments



Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- Sport England's Design and Cost Guidance for sports and leisure facilities. <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/>
- Sport England Affordable Models. Sport England have developed standard facility types for sports halls, community swimming pools and sports centres that consider design, cost, procurement and facility operation. The result of this journey has been the establishment of 'affordable' benchmark designs for:
 - Sports halls (previous terminology of 4 and 5 badminton court size to new NGB requirements).
 - Community swimming pools (4,5,6 and 8 lane requirements).
 - Sports centres (wet and dry including sports halls, swimming pools and health and fitness).
 - Affordable sports centres with 50m swimming pools.
- Assessing needs and opportunities guidance. Guidance on how to undertake an assessment of needs and opportunities for sporting provision. <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/assessing-needs-and-opportunities-guidance/>
- The Sport England Sports Facility Calculator (SFC) was created to help local planning authorities quantify how much additional demand for the key community sports facilities (swimming pools, sports halls and artificial grass pitches and indoor bowls facilities), is generated by populations of new growth, development and regeneration areas. The Sports Facility Calculator can be accessed via the Active Places Power website <https://www.activeplacespower.com/> and then access reports.

3.11 Sport England is a statutory consultee on all planning applications that affect sports facilities. Sport England aims to improve the quality, access and management of sports facilities as well as investing in new facilities to meet unmet demand. Sport England requires local authorities to have an up-to-date assessment of sports facility needs and an associated strategy including a recommendation that the evidence base is reviewed every five years. This strategy contributes to that requirement.

3.12 Sport England sets out through the Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance a framework for the production of the strategy and these are to protect, enhance and provide sports facilities, as follows:

Protect: To provide evidence to inform policy and specifically to support Site Allocations and Development Management Policies which will protect sports facilities and their use by the community, irrespective of ownership.

Enhance: To ensure that sports facilities are effectively managed and maintained and that best uses are made of existing resources - whether facilities, expertise and/or personnel to improve and enhance existing provision – particularly in the light of pressure on local authority budgets.

Provide: To provide evidence to help secure external funding for new facilities and enhancements through grant aid and also potentially through Community Infrastructure Levy (if on the Regulation 123 List) and Section 106 agreements. Sport England and local authorities can then use the strategies developed and the guidance provided in making key planning decisions regarding facility developments in the area and to support or protect against loss in relation (refused planning application) to planning applications brought forward by developers.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

3.1. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Revised February 2019

- 3.1.1. The National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. The NPPF has a key focus in achieving sustainable development and states that the overarching social objective of the planning system is:

Figure 5: NPPF Social Objective

“to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities....by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities health, social and cultural wellbeing.”

- 3.1.2. Paragraphs 98 and 99 of the NPPF outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities:

Figure 6: NPPF Outline paragraphs 98 and 99

Paragraph 98: “Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and wellbeing of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) 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.”

Paragraph 99: “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 benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.”

3.2. London Plan (2016)

- 3.2.1. The London Plan (2016), consolidated with alterations since 2011, is the overall strategic plan for London and it sets out a fully integrated economic, environmental, transport and social framework for the development of the capital. It forms part of the development plan for Greater London. London Boroughs' local plans need to be in 'general conformity' with the London Plan, and its policies guide decisions on planning applications in London. Note that a draft new London Plan is being prepared and anticipated to be published early 2020.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

3.3. London Sport

3.3.1. London Sport has a strategy to make London the world's Most Active City.

3.3.2. The vision is that everyone in London, regardless of age, background or ability, feels able to take part in sport or activity. We seek to increase the number of people who engage in sport and activity, not for its own sake but for the wider benefits it can bring, in terms of physical and mental wellbeing and individual, community and economic development.

“Vision – To Make London the Most Physically Active City in The World”

3.3.3. The 2021 strategy has a number of goals:

1. Increase physical activity levels among less active adults reducing inequalities and inactivity,
2. Give all young Londoners the best opportunity to form a positive physical activity habit for life,
3. Improve policy systems and investment to support active lives,
4. Use tech, data and digital communications to support Londoners to get and stay active.
5. Support grassroots organisations by making structures simpler and more effective,
6. Lead the way in bringing organisations together to create, develop, test, champion and scale innovative ways of supporting active lives,
7. Ensure evidence, data, and high-quality insight inform the development of policy and practice of supporting active lives.

3.4. National and London Strategic Priorities Summary

There are opportunities for Richmond-upon-Thames indoor built sport and physical activity facilities and services to help meet the following national and London wide outcomes and objectives:

- Improving the active infrastructure and by changing the use of an underutilised space; making best use of investment and securing more.
- Developing physical confidence and competence from the earliest age by providing opportunities for children of all ages to be active through sport and physical activity.
- Encourage and enabling inactive people to be more active, by introducing new activities aimed at fun and recreation rather than just traditional sport; and
- Supporting wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical activity and sport - increasing participation in physical activity will contribute to improved health and wellbeing.

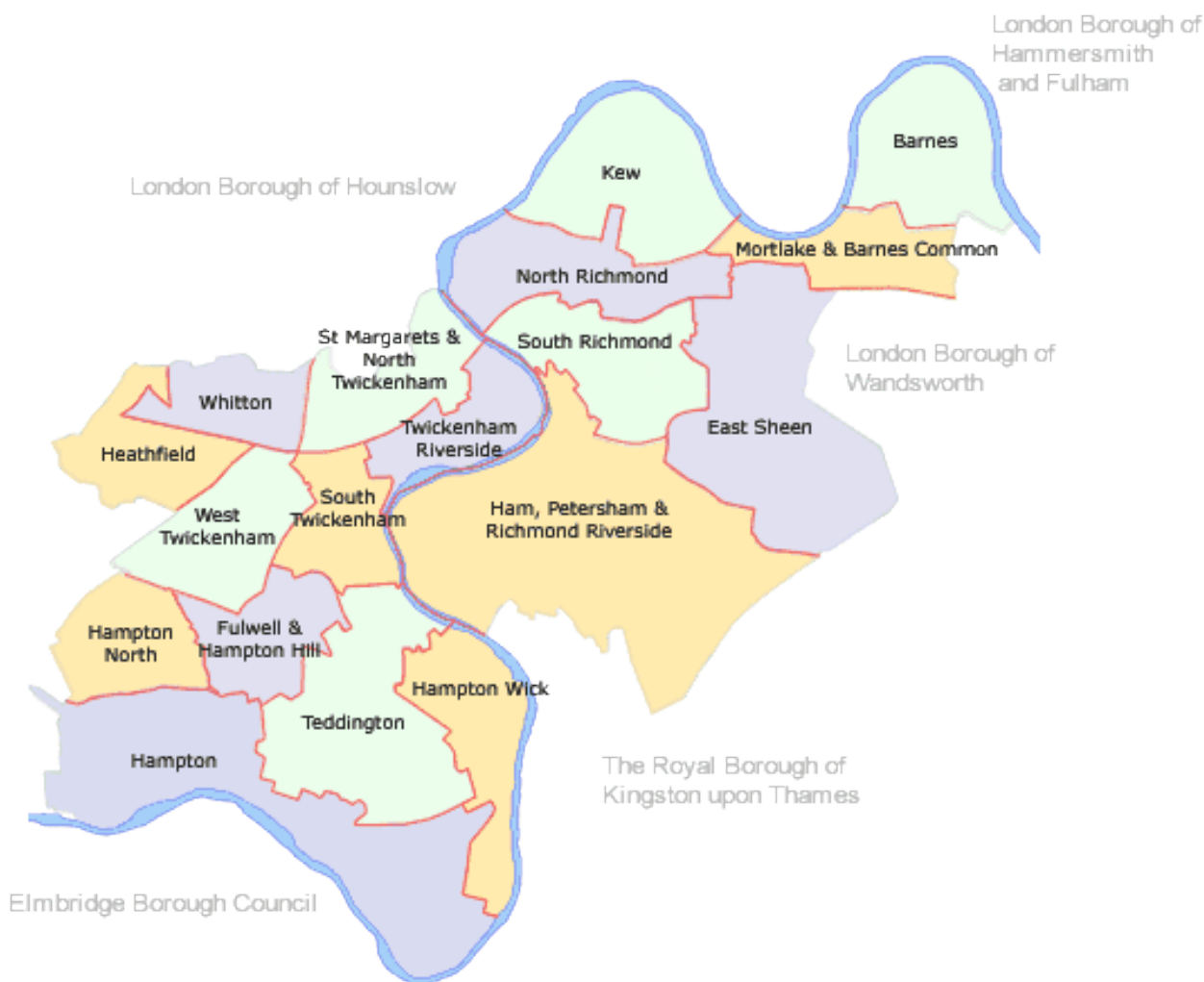
3.5. Local Context

3.5.1. The London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames is in south-west London and forms part of Outer London and is the only London borough on both sides of the River Thames. The main town centre is Richmond and there are four district centres at Twickenham, Teddington, East Sheen and Whitton. Richmond is becoming increasingly diverse and includes people who live, work, visit the borough and use services. Richmond-upon-Thames has the fifth lowest population density of all London boroughs.

3.5.2. The surrounding boroughs are the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham in the North-East, The London Borough of Hounslow to the North-West, the London Borough of Wandsworth to the South-East, the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames to the South and the Borough of Elmbridge to the South-West.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 1: Location of Richmond-upon-Thames in relation to neighbouring boroughs



- 3.5.3. London Heathrow Airport is located a short distance west, in the London Borough of Hillingdon, the borough is well served by many Transport for London Bus routes. Richmond station is a National Rail station in Richmond on the Waterloo to Reading and North London lines. Richmond-upon-Thames isn't very well served by the London Underground compared with other boroughs in West London. Two stations, served by the District Line, are located towards the borough's north-eastern end: Richmond and Kew Gardens station. Both are also served by London Overground trains on the North London line, which connects Richmond with inner North London before terminating in Stratford. The southwestern end of the district, encompassing areas such as Twickenham are served instead by suburban railway services.
- 3.5.4. The other stations are Barnes; Barnes Bridge; Fulwell; Hampton; Hampton Wick; Mortlake; North Sheen; St Margaret's; Strawberry Hill; Teddington; Twickenham and Whitton.

3.6. Population and Demographics

- 3.6.1. The ONS mid-year 2020 population estimate for Richmond-upon-Thames for 2020 is 198,141.
- 3.6.2. The total projected population for 2033 the end of the Local Plan period is 197,199.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

3.6.3. The following table provides the population projections for Richmond-upon-Thames up until 2040.

Table 1: Population projections Richmond upon Thames (GLA – Based Housing Led – Population Projections)

Year	Richmond-upon-Thames
2020	198,141
2025	198,052
2030	197,544
2033 (Local Plan End)	197,199
2035	197,033
2040	196,781

3.6.4. The table below provides the projected ethnic make-up of Richmond-upon-Thames.

Table 2: Richmond-upon-Thames projected ethnic make up ¹

	Richmond-upon-Thames		London	
	Count	%	Count	%
Arab	1,543	0.8	146,572	1.6
Bangladeshi	1,001	0.5	263,556	2.9
Black African	1,964	1	669,217	7.3
Black Caribbean	1,112	0.6	346,086	3.8
Chinese	1,888	0.9	158,737	1.7
Indian	6,158	3.1	654,653	7.1
Other Asian	6,483	3.2	518,236	5.6
Other Black	329	0.2	214,057	2.3
Other Ethnic Group	2,181	1.1	224,729	2.4
Other Mixed	2,325	1.2	167,217	1.8
Other White	30,420	15.1	1,457,978	15.8
Pakistani	1,819	0.9	281,377	3.1
White & Asian	3,349	1.7	132,736	1.4
White & Black African	940	0.5	86,605	0.9
White & Black Caribbean	1,515	0.8	141,984	1.5
White - British	132,869	65.9	3,552,634	38.6
White - Irish	5,815	2.9	146,572	1.6

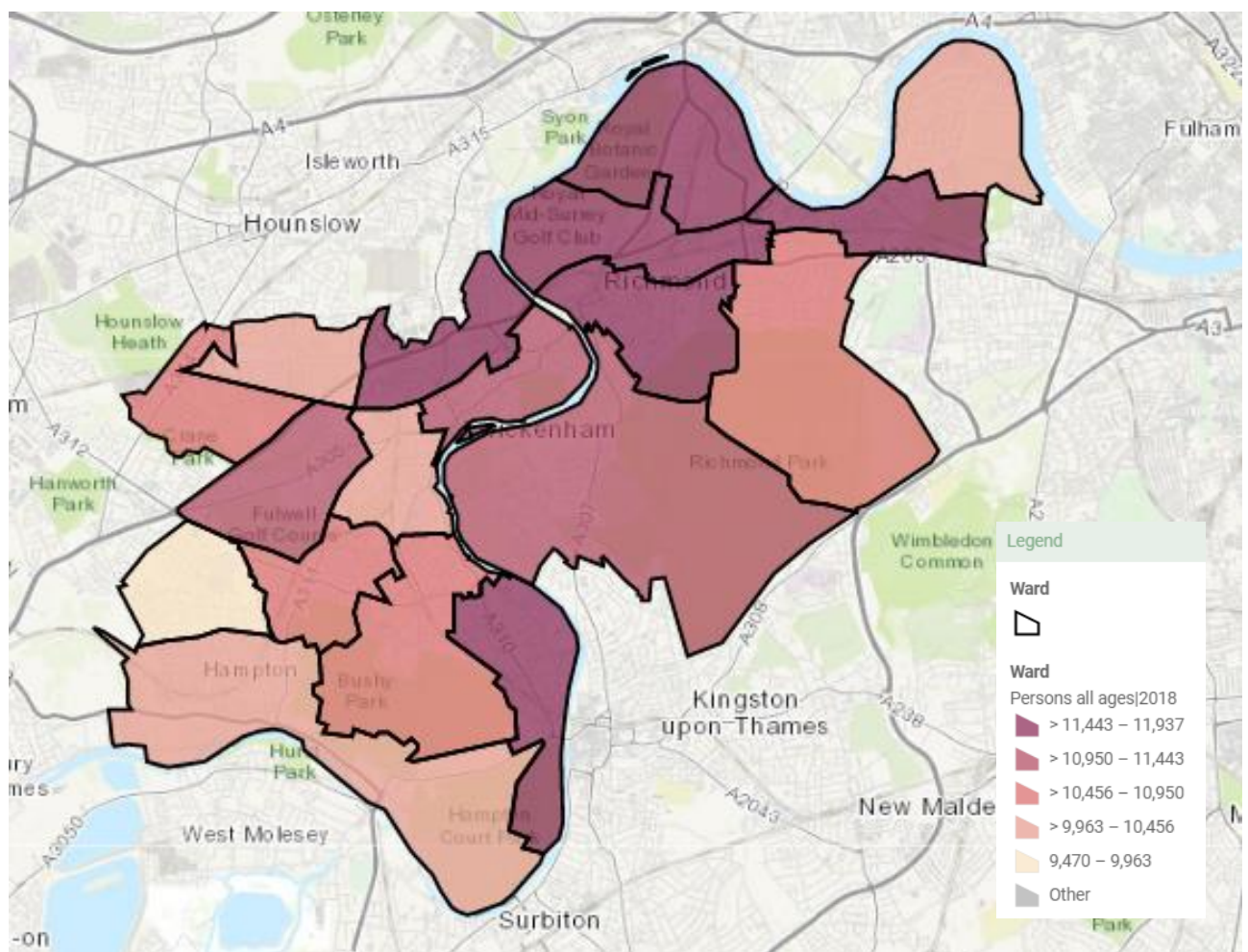
3.6.5. Richmond-upon-Thames has the fifth lowest population density of all London boroughs. 32% of all people living in Richmond-upon-Thames are aged between 35-54 years. Overall, Richmond-upon-Thames is known to be a prosperous and wealthy borough with a predominantly affluent population. However, there are also areas of deprivation.

3.6.6. Regarding health inequalities, life expectancy is 5.8 years lower for men and 3.3 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Richmond-upon-Thames than in the least deprived areas. (Richmond-upon-Thames Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2017-18, 2017)

¹ Source: DATARICH

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 2: Population density Richmond-upon-Thames



3.7. Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2019

- 3.7.1. Richmond-upon-Thames is ranked within the 10% least deprived Local Authorities (LAs) in England 2019. This is the same as it was in 2015 and is the least deprived London Borough in 2019 and 2015.
- 3.7.2. Richmond-upon-Thames is the least deprived local authority in England for Education, Skills and Training. In London, Richmond-upon-Thames ranks as the least deprived area within the Barriers to Housing & Services; Education Skills and Training, Employment and Health Deprivation and Disability domains.
- 3.7.3. In line with many other London boroughs, Richmond's Living Environment and Crime domain rankings were amongst its most deprived. Between 2015 and 2019, Richmond was ranked as relatively more deprived in London for the Crime domain.
- 3.7.4. Similarly, to 2015, no Richmond LSOAs were ranked amongst the 10% most deprived in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD).
- 3.7.5. Between 2015 and 2019, a third of Richmond LSOAs were ranked as relatively less deprived (moving up IMD deciles), meaning that almost 90% of LSOAs in Richmond fall within the 50% least deprived nationally.
- 3.7.6. Richmond's more deprived LSOAs are dispersed throughout the borough but those that are ranked as relatively more deprived since 2015 (moving down IMD deciles) tend to be in the north of the borough.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 3.7.7. The LSOA that ranked amongst the 10% most deprived in London was in Hampton North.
- 3.7.8. South Twickenham had no LSOAs that ranked amongst the 50% most deprived nationally, regionally and locally on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). Nationally and regionally there were more wards with no areas amongst the 50% most deprived.
- 3.7.9. All LSOAs in Heathfield were amongst the 50% most deprived locally on the IMD. Hampton North also had a high proportion of LSOAs amongst the most deprived nationally and regionally.
- 3.7.10. At the regional level, North Richmond had the most LSOAs ranked as relatively more deprived (moving down deprivation deciles) in the Income (71%) and Employment (57%) domains between 2015 and 2019.
- 3.7.11. Regionally and locally, 100% of LSOAs in North Richmond moved into a more deprived decile for Crime.
- 3.7.12. Locally and nationally, Twickenham Riverside had the most LSOAs moving up into a less deprived decile.

3.8. Health Profile – 2019

- 3.8.1. The health of people in Richmond-upon-Thames is generally better than the England average. Richmond-upon-Thames is one of the 20% least deprived districts/unitary authorities in England, however 8.5% (2,795) of children live in low-income families. Life expectancy for both men and women is higher than the England average.
- 3.8.2. Life expectancy is 7.9 years lower for men and 3.6 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Richmond-upon-Thames than in the least deprived areas.
- 3.8.3. In Year 6, 11.4% (211) of children are classified as obese, better than the average for England. The rate for alcohol-specific hospital admissions among those under 18 is 31. This represents 14 admissions per year. Levels of teenage pregnancy, GCSE attainment (average attainment 8 score) and smoking in pregnancy are better than the England average.
- 3.8.4. The rate for alcohol-related harm hospital admissions is 474, better than the average for England. This represents 837 admissions per year. The rate for self-harm hospital admissions is 129, better than the average for England. This represents 225 admissions per year. Estimated levels of excess weight in adults (aged 18+), smoking prevalence in adults (aged 18+) and physically active adults (aged 19+) are better than the England average.
- 3.8.5. The rates of killed and seriously injured on roads and new cases of tuberculosis are better than the England average. The rate of new sexually transmitted infections is worse than the England average. The rates of violent crime (hospital admissions for violence), excess winter deaths, under 75 mortality rates from cardiovascular diseases and under 75 mortality rates from cancer are better than the England average.

3.9. Sport England's Active Lives Survey Adult - November 2020/21 Data

- 3.9.1. Sport England figures (2021) show that nearly two thirds (64.5%) of Londoners are meeting the Chief Medical Officers (CMO) guidelines of at least 150 minutes of physical activity every week.
- 3.9.2. The **percentage** of people considered fairly active – completing 30-149 minutes per week – in London rose to 62.4% from 62.3% the previous year. While the number of inactive Londoners fell from 11.3% to 11.2%.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

3.9.3. The levels of physical activity among LB Richmond-upon-Thames resident adults for 2020 – 2021 are shown below. The data has been provided by Sport England using a small area estimation technique – modelling down from a National Survey (the Active Lives Survey (2019) to Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) based on the local demographic characteristics of the local population.

3.9.4. In 2020 – 2021 72.2% of LB Richmond-upon-Thames resident adults undertook at least 150 minutes per week 0.2% higher than the previous year. 18.5% of residents 2020 – 2021 are inactive slightly lower than the previous year 19.1%.

3.9.5. This shows a slight rise in those participating in physical activity and a decrease in the physically inactive.

3.9.6. Physical activity follows the guidelines set by the Chief Medical Officer and are defined below:

- Physically active: undertaking at least 150 minutes per week in the past month excluding gardening
- Physically inactive: undertaking less than 30 minutes in the past month excluding gardening

3.10. Sport England’s Active Lives children and Young People in School Years 1 - 11 November 2019/20 Data

3.10.1. In 2019 – 2020 52.8% of LB Richmond-upon-Thames children and young people in school years 1 – 11 undertook at least 60 minutes activity per week compared to London 41.8%, and 17.6% of children and young people in school years 1 – 11 in 2019 – 2020 are less active (less than an average of 30 minutes a day) compared to London 34.1%.

3.11. Council Strategies and Priorities

3.11.1. There are a number of documents, plans and strategies to review within Richmond-upon-Thames. By identifying the direct and indirect references to sport, physical activity and leisure it will enable a whole systems approach.

3.11.2. The figure overleaf outlines the key strategic documents and plans within Richmond-upon-Thames, which leisure services have a responsibility to contribute towards.

Figure 7: Outline of Key Strategic Local Strategies and Plans



Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 3.11.3. The core strategic message running through these strategies is the requirement to ensure the borough is accessible for all. The Corporate Plan 2018 – 2022 under ‘A borough for Everyone’ identifies the need to drive up the % of young people (under 16) taking part in an average of 60 minutes or more sport and physical activity and review current school community use agreements by Autumn 2019. Sharing the review findings with planning to allow for future planning and policy development.
- 3.11.4. The Joint strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2021 pulls together information about local health and social care needs, and is a vital tool to help plan future services. The JSNA can be found https://richmond.gov.uk/services/wellbeing_and_lifestyle/public_health_publications/jsna
- 3.11.5. The Joint Health and Well-being Strategy focuses on the prevention and joined-up services throughout people’s lives, to enable all residents to start well, live well and age well.
- 3.11.6. A key purpose of existing Local Plan policy is to address the increasing health inequalities and wider factors which impact on health and well-being. The role of planning is crucial in creating environments that enhance health and well-being, albeit that planning is part of the solution. The Council is fortunate that approximately 40% of the borough’s land area is publicly accessible. 28% of residents use outdoor space for exercise and health reasons, which is the second highest in London. Planning can help to improve access to these unique and valuable facilities and increase participation in sport and physical activity for all sections of the population (as also set out under the theme of new social and community infrastructure).
- 3.11.7. The strategies promote healthy lifestyles in a cross-cutting theme with links to several policies in the Local Plan, to other Council strategies and those produced by the Mayor of London – to make London the most Physically Active City in the World.
- 3.11.8. Culture Richmond 2021 – 2031 has a vision “that by 2031 Richmond will have an ambitious, innovative and sustainable cultural offer which offers more opportunities to more people and fosters lifelong access to culture for all”.
- 3.11.9. Central to the Culture Richmond vision are 5 key priorities:
1. We Pursue Excellence - We want to raise the bar to stretch ambition and nurture a cultural sector which challenges and takes risks and provide residents and visitors with an original, relevant and inspiring cultural offer.
 2. We are Responsive - We will find better ways for culture to support the borough’s public health prevention and promotion strategies, community mental health and tackle health inequalities.
 3. We commit to Inclusivity - We are committed to improving equality and giving a voice specifically to our residents and communities who don’t currently feel they are being served by facilitating a much more diverse and accessible cultural offer.
 4. We Empower - We will empower, enable and inspire all those who live in, work in and visit Richmond by building a sustainable, resilient and innovative cultural sector which will help to attract new investment and partnerships, provide opportunities for employment, skills & talent development and foster a lifelong interest in culture.
 5. We Make Space and Place - We will advocate for Richmond as a place locally, nationally and internationally, broadening Richmond’s distinctive identity and building a more responsible and sustainable borough
- 3.11.10. Richmond Public Health Physical Activity Plan 2021 – 2031 has an aim: “For physical activity to become a way of life, improving the health and wellbeing of people either at risk of, or most affected by health inequalities”. The objectives are:
- To increase the number of knowledgeable, motivated, and skilled residents who are creating regular physical activity habits and sticking with them
 - To create opportunities to be physically active for inactive families and groups of people faced with health inequalities
 - To support the delivery of the prevention aims of council Strategies through physical activity - (1) Culture Richmond (2021-31), (2) Climate Emergency strategy, (3) Health and Care Plans

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- To create equitable access for all residents to engage in physical activity
- To support council aims to becoming carbon neutral and the Greenest London Borough by 2030.

3.11.11. The Healthy Eating Weight and Nutrition Plan 2022 – 2026 purpose is to create a healthy eating and nutrition agenda that promotes a healthy weight and lifestyle and contributes to tackling health inequalities in the borough.

3.11.12. The aim of the Active Travel Strategy is for more trips to be undertaken to, from and within the Borough by walking and cycling, as both standalone trips and as part of longer trips involving public transport.

3.11.13. This aim is supported by the following objectives:

- Support local walking and cycling trips through pavement improvements, the introduction of low-traffic neighbourhoods, improved crossings, contra-flow cycling, cycle parking and public realm improvements, using the Healthy Streets Approach
- Create a high-quality core cycle network connecting popular destinations
- Make improvements to clean-air walking and cycling routes away from roads, including paths through parks, towpaths and other public rights of way
- Improve awareness of local walking, cycling and running routes through maps and branding

3.11.14. The Children and Young Peoples Plan 2017 – 2022 sets out the direction and goals for the Council and its strategic partners, covering all services for children and young people up to the age of 19, and up to the age of 25 for care leavers and young people with learning disabilities.

3.11.15. The Council's Local Plan will, together with the London Plan, comprise the development plan for the borough. The Local Plan sets out the Council's spatial vision, strategy and policies to deliver the strategy, guiding change over the plan period 2018 - 2033.

3.11.16. Richmond-upon-Thames Council are currently undertaking a full review of the Local Plan. The review will provide a new Local Plan that sets out policies and guidance for the development of the borough over the next 15 – 20 years.

3.11.17. Table 3 below provides information from the current Richmond-upon-Thames Local Plan documents and Supplementary Planning documents, which set out an overall strategy to guide development across the Council until 2033.

Table 3: Policies and Information from the Richmond-upon-Thames Current Local Plan 2018 – 2033 (Adopted 2018 and March 2020)

<p>Richmond-upon-Thames Local Plan 2018-2033 (Adopted 2018 and March 2020)</p>	<p>The Council's vision for the borough is:</p> <p>Our vision for the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames over the next 15 years is to build on the success of maintaining and enhancing the borough's villages, its unique character and developing a strong and varied sense of place, in partnership with local communities and other key stakeholders:</p> <p>“PROTECTING LOCAL CHARACTER</p> <p>Villages and historic environment</p> <p>G The borough's villages and their special and distinctive characters will have been protected, with each being unique, recognisable and important to the community and to the character of the borough as a whole. They will continue to maintain and enhance their distinctiveness in terms of the community, facilities and local character. Heritage assets including listed buildings and Conservation Areas, historic parks as well as Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew World Heritage Site, which contribute so significantly to the character of this borough, will have been protected and enhanced.</p> <p>Residential quality of life</p> <p>Richmond borough will be the best place in London to live as a result of the quality of the built environment which considers the health and wellbeing of local residents and the high-quality design of new development that respects and enhances its distinctive character.</p>
---	---

The amenity of residents and local neighbourhoods will have been protected and action taken on environmental issues and pollution. The quiet and peaceful nature of the borough, alongside its breathtakingly beautiful parks and open spaces, will continue to ensure that all Richmond borough residents cherish their local area as a place to live.

Natural environment, open spaces and the borough's rivers

The outstanding natural environment and green infrastructure network, including the borough's parks and open spaces, biodiversity and habitats as well as the unique environment of the borough's rivers and their corridors will have been protected and enhanced where possible. Residents will continue to highly value and cherish the borough's exceptional environmental quality.

A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Sustainable growth and transport

The borough's main centres will have accommodated the majority of higher density and larger scale developments, thus enabling people to walk to shops and services or use public transport. New development will be of exceptional design quality and will have respected the borough's environmental capacity and constraints through the optimisation of land. Development opportunities outside of the main centres will have been realised and well-integrated within existing communities, the environment and infrastructure. Local communities will enjoy the new village heart in Mortlake and residents will have access to a choice of new and improved homes in Ham Close.

Whilst cars will still be a significant part of our future, the borough's improved transport network and interchanges will encourage many residents as well as those who work and visit the borough to make journeys using high quality public transport and walking and cycling routes. The built environment, spaces and public realm will be attractive and pleasant, and residents will have increasingly adopted active and healthy lifestyles and enjoy the borough's cycling and walking networks.

The borough and its interrelationship with Greater London and the South East

The borough will continue to relate in a sustainable way to Greater London and the South East in terms of providing homes, jobs, shops and services. Local communities and residents from neighbouring and other London boroughs as well as the wider region will enjoy the borough's exceptional parks, open spaces and recreational and cultural opportunities. The borough's reputation and role in providing the green lung for south west London will be recognised and cherished in Greater London and beyond. The borough will continue to be an attractive and inviting place, and visitors will come to the borough to enjoy the many tourist attractions, including the unique, historic and cultural assets that are connected by the River Thames.

A sustainable and smart borough

The Council will have played its part in minimising vulnerability of people and property to a changing climate, including mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change and supporting the move towards zero carbon. The borough will be a place where innovation and Smart City technology is harnessed to enable innovative digital and communications infrastructure, enabling businesses to respond to customer demand, and to support the borough on its path to becoming smarter.

MEETING PEOPLE'S NEEDS

Facilities to meet needs

Residents will have a choice of new homes, including affordable homes, as well as the infrastructure required to support their daily needs.

They will have access to a range of exceptional educational and training facilities, including a choice of schools and nurseries, community and healthcare facilities, shops and services as well as employment and recreational activities. Residents will have benefited from local training and employment opportunities, and they will continue to enjoy the strong sense of community and inclusiveness as well as social interaction and cohesion.

The borough's centres

The borough's centres, including the main centres as well as local and neighbourhood centres and parades, will continue to perform well and flourish. Central Richmond will continue to thrive and a new and improved station will provide a welcoming and pleasant environment for all those that live, work and visit the borough. Twickenham, including the station and surrounding area as well as the riverside, will have been rejuvenated and developed into a flourishing and vibrant business and cultural centre. Whitton, Teddington and East Sheen will have maintained and enhanced their role in providing shops, services and employment opportunities for local communities.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

	<p>Jobs and the local economy</p> <p>The borough's local economy will be successful. Jobs will be readily available and there will be a choice of employment opportunities as the borough's Key Office Areas as well as the industrial land and business parks will have been protected from encroaching residential development. Employment space will have supported new business start-ups and enabled businesses to grow.</p> <p>There will continue to be a high proportion and variety of small local businesses, offering local jobs, and further opportunities for residents to set up their own enterprise.”</p> <p>“Policy LP 31 Public Open Space, Play Space, Sport and Recreation.</p> <p>Public Open Space, children's and young people's play facilities as well as formal and informal sports grounds and playing fields will be protected, and where possible enhanced. Improvements of existing facilities and spaces, including their openness and character and their accessibility and linkages, will be encouraged.</p> <p>New open spaces, play facilities and formal and informal land for sport and recreation should be linked to the wider Green Infrastructure network as they play an important role in creating social cohesion, encouraging and promoting healthier and more active lifestyles.</p> <p>Impacts on existing provision. The Council will require all major development proposals in the borough to meet the Public Open Space, play space, and playing fields and ancillary sport facilities needs arising out of the development by requiring the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Open Space: applicants should provide an analysis of existing open space provision in line with the Council's accessibility standards for travel to open spaces. Where there is inadequate existing provision and limited access to such facilities, publicly accessible facilities will be expected on site to mitigate the impacts of the new development on existing provision. 2. Play space: applicants should provide a play and child occupancy assessment to determine whether the proposal will lead to an estimated child occupancy of ten children or more, by using the Council's child yield calculator as set out in the Planning Obligations SPD. In addition, an assessment of existing play facilities within the surrounding area will be required. Where the assessment demonstrates an estimated child occupancy of ten children or more, the development proposal should make appropriate and adequate provision of dedicated on-site play space by following the London Plan benchmark standard of 10sqm per child. The Council will seek to integrate new major development within existing village areas and neighbourhoods. Therefore, new dedicated on-site play space should be made publicly accessible. 3. Playing fields and sport facilities: applicants should assess the need and feasibility for on-site provision of new playing fields and ancillary sport facilities in line with the borough's Playing Pitch Strategy. 4. Where on-site provision of Public Open Space, play space or new playing fields and ancillary facilities is not feasible or practicable, the Council will expect existing surrounding facilities and spaces to be improved and made more accessible to the users and occupiers of the new development through, for example, improved walking and cycling links or enhancements of play space or existing playing fields and associated sport facilities. Financial contributions will be required to either fund off-site provision, or improvements and enhancements of existing facilities, including access arrangements, to mitigate the impacts of new development.”
<p>Local Plan 2018 – 2033 (Adopted 2018 and March 2020).</p> <p>Specific References to Indoor Sport</p>	<p>“Where practicable, social infrastructure and community facilities should be provided in multi-use, flexible and adaptable buildings or co-located with other social infrastructure uses which can increase public access and help to minimise capital or revenue costs to community groups. Multi-use means, for example, that a school uses the school and playing fields during the school day, during term time and the facilities are available for use by the community outside school hours i.e. evenings, weekends and during school holidays. Community use could be individuals, sports and arts clubs, voluntary sector groups or private groups, and can range from informal/occasional bookings through to planned, professional activity. Multi-use already exists in many forms within the borough.</p> <p>The Council will encourage and promote the multi-use of premises, including in independent and free schools and other private or commercial facilities for sports and community purposes, subject to appropriate management arrangements and community use agreements. The combined impact of multi-use facilities needs to be taken into account, including shared parking, hours of use, and the impact these may have on the character and amenity of the area, the living conditions of local residents, as well as consideration as to how flexible spaces will be used e.g. sufficient storage for different users and security considerations.</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

	<p>The Council's Indoor Sports Facility Needs Assessment highlights the need for new facilities within the borough. Where possible and feasible, such provision should be provided on-site in line with the Council's Indoor Sports Facility Needs Assessment."</p>
<p>St Mary's University</p>	<p>"There is a need to improve and upgrade the existing facilities at St Mary's University as well as a need to provide additional educational floorspace, student residential accommodation and other associated facilities.</p> <p>The Council will support and work with St Mary's University to ensure it remains a highly regarded, competitive and viable higher education facility in the future and to assist in meeting the future educational needs of students.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that this is a constrained site, with the majority of land not built on designated as Metropolitan Open Land.</p> <p>There are also listed buildings, Buildings of Townscape Merit as well as sports playing fields. Any development proposal has to take account of the highly significant heritage assets and respect the special and unique location and setting of St Mary's University, including the Grade I listed Chapel, the adjoining Grade I listed building (Strawberry Hill House) and the associated Historic Park and Garden (II) as well as the high quality Edwardian villas within the Waldegrave Park Conservation Area.</p> <p>The existing playing fields and sports facilities should be retained and/or re-provided, and if necessary, replacement facilities will have to be provided on or off site.</p> <p>The Council will work with the University on a Masterplan and/or site development brief (SPD) for the longer term upgrading of their sites (main campus at Strawberry Hill and Teddington Lock) to meet the demand for additional teaching, sport and student residential accommodation, taking account of existing site constraints and with the aim to improve and enhance the Metropolitan Open Land, including views and vistas.</p> <p>Design objectives and general guidance relating to the local character of the area, which any redevelopment proposal should have regard to, is also set out within the Strawberry Hill Village Planning Guidance SPD, and where relevant within the Masterplan / site development brief.</p>
<p>"SA 9 Richmond upon Thames College, Twickenham</p>	<p>There is a clear identified need for a new campus for education and enterprise, including in particular a new secondary school.</p> <p>A comprehensive redevelopment scheme is supported on this site, providing for a variety of educational needs in the borough, together with associated supporting residential development.</p> <p>Multi-use is sought for the educational and sports facilities, in line with other policies in this Plan.</p> <p>The Council will work closely with partners, including Transport for London and Harlequins Rugby Football Club, to ensure the development does not lead to harmful impacts on the local road network.</p> <p>Any development proposal is required to protect and, where possible, enhance, the River Crane corridor.</p> <p>Design objectives and general guidance relating to the local character of the area, which any redevelopment proposal should have regard to, is also set out in the Twickenham Village Planning Guidance SPD.</p> <p>Redevelopment to provide a new replacement college, science / technology / engineering / maths centre, technical hub (B1), a new secondary school and special education needs school, sports centre as well as residential including affordable housing. Protection and upgrading of the playing field to the south of the college, including the installation of a new artificial grass (3G) playing pitch."</p>
<p>SA 10 The Stoop (Harlequins Rugby Football Club), Twickenham</p>	<p>There is a need to retain, and where possible enhance, the continued use of this site as a sports ground.</p> <p>The Council will work in partnership with Harlequins RFC to understand the potential need for associated new facilities, such as a new north stand, indoor leisure (gym/training facilities), business uses or potentially a hotel.</p> <p>Any additional uses need to be complementary to the main use of the site as a sports ground; new uses should therefore be associated with, and not detract from, the main sports use of this site.</p> <p>Multi-use is sought for the sports and associated facilities, in line with other policies in this Plan.</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

	<p>The Council will work closely with partners, including Transport for London and Harlequins RFC, to ensure the development does not lead to harmful impacts on the local road network.</p> <p>Any development proposal is required to protect and, where possible, enhance, the River Crane corridor as well as the Duke of Northumberland River, as well as the setting of the Rosecroft Conservation Area.</p> <p>The Council is committed to working in partnership with Harlequins RFC to develop a Masterplan, which should set out the long-term strategy for development of this site. • Design objectives and general guidance relating to the local character of the area, which any redevelopment proposal should have regard to, is also set out in the Twickenham Village Planning Guidance SPD.”</p>
<p>“SA 11 Twickenham Stadium, Twickenham</p>	<p>There is a need to retain, and where possible enhance, this nationally important sporting venue with its associated facilities to ensure it remains a world class standard of facilities and visitor experience.</p> <p>The Council will work in partnership with the Rugby Football Union (RFU) to understand the potential need for associated new and complementary facilities such as a hotel, leisure centre, training facilities as well as hospitality and conference facilities. The applicant will have to demonstrate that additional facilities do not lead to harmful impacts on the vitality and viability of Twickenham centre.</p> <p>Multi-use is sought for the sports and associated facilities, in line with other policies in this Plan.</p> <p>There is a general need for new office floorspace in the borough and in the event of an area of the site being declared surplus to requirements, the opportunity to provide for employment floorspace, such as offices or a business park, should be firstly explored. A mixed-use scheme, which may include residential including affordable housing, may also be considered appropriate provided that other sporting and associated uses, including employment, have been fully investigated and that the mixed / residential use is compatible with the main use of the site, i.e. a national stadium, also taking into account the presence of the existing sewerage treatment works to the north of the site and residential amenity.</p> <p>There is a need to retain sufficient parking, particularly for coaches, servicing facilities and space for spectators and related services. Any further development should not lead to harmful impacts on parking, congestion and the wider local road network.</p> <p>Any development proposal is required to protect and, where possible, enhance, the Duke of Northumberland River, including access to it, and the associated Metropolitan Open Land.</p> <p>The Council is committed to working in partnership with the RFU to develop a Masterplan, which should set out the long-term strategy for development of this site. Design objectives and general guidance relating to the local character of the area, which any redevelopment proposal should have regard to, is also set out in the Twickenham Village Planning Guidance SPD.”</p>
<p>“SA 14 Kneller Hall, Whitton</p>	<p>Public Consultation – Pre-Planning Application 2022</p> <p>Kneller Hall, the ‘home of military music’, is currently occupied by the Royal Military School of Music. The MoD announced the release of Kneller Hall on 18 January 2016. This was confirmed in the document 'A Better Defence Estate', Nov 2016, where it was stated that there was an intention to release Kneller Hall for disposal in 2020.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that conversion or potential redevelopment for residential uses may be needed to support the protection and restoration of the listed building. The provision of residential uses (including affordable housing), will need to respect the site’s setting within the historic core of Whitton and ensure that any proposal integrates well within the existing surrounding area and existing Whitton community.</p> <p>It is expected that this site will provide some employment uses (B uses), including lower cost units suitable for small businesses, the voluntary sector, creative industries and scientific and technical businesses including green technology. Other employment generating uses, such as a hotel, may also be supported.</p> <p>Dukes Education purchased Kneller Hall from the MoD in 2021. Radnor House is an independent selective co-education day school which is currently located at Pope’s Villa, 1.6 miles south-east of Kneller Hall.</p> <p>The school is currently at full capacity. The school is heavily oversubscribed. A shortage of space also means that Radnor House is restricted in the curriculum and bespoke facilities it can offer students, and students are forced to travel off site for sporting activities. The development of a new senior school at Kneller Hall will enable the existing pupils in Year 7 and above to move to the Kneller Hall site. There will be improved facilities for existing students and further growth to offer more spaces for additional students. The new school will be called Kneller Hall School</p> <p>Dukes Education propose to establish a new senior school within the listed Kneller Hall building and the wider Kneller Hall site. The proposals include the restoration of the existing listed and curtilage listed buildings, and the development of new buildings on the site.</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

	<p>Social infrastructure and community use, such as leisure, sport and health uses, should be incorporated and the need for such facilities should be fully explored.</p> <p>It is expected that the existing playing fields will be retained and where possible upgraded, such as with ancillary facilities, including changing provided to support the use of the playing fields, provided that any existing ecological benefits and the openness and character of the Metropolitan Open Land is retained and, where possible enhanced.</p> <p>Any redevelopment proposal for the whole site will require the restoration and enhancement of the existing Grade II listed building (Kneller Hall). The reuse of this historic building offers an excellent opportunity to ensure the site incorporates and promotes a cultural and historic legacy of the 'home of military music'. Any development should be sensitive to the significance of the historic building and respond positively to the setting of the listed building.</p> <p>Parts of the site are designated as Metropolitan Open Land and development in this area would not be acceptable. There is an expectation that any redevelopment proposal improves the character and openness of the Metropolitan Open Land.</p> <p>Any scheme will need to ensure that the site establishes a positive relationship with the surrounding area. This should also include increased permeability for pedestrians and cyclists through the site.</p> <p>A Masterplan / site development brief will be prepared in conjunction with the Council and in cooperation with local communities. This will guide future development and land uses for this site, and determine the appropriate scale, form and design of development, ensuring that the scheme also contributes to the vitality and viability of Whitton as a whole.</p> <p>Design objectives and general guidance relating to the local character of the area, which the redevelopment of this site should have regard to, is set out in the Whitton and Heathfield Village Planning Guidance SPD."</p>	<p>When the school initially opens it will have circa 500 pupils. Kneller Hall will grow annually, with a capacity for up to 1,000 pupils.</p> <p>It is envisaged any planning application will involve a sports hall and indoor swimming pool. There is a proposal to provide a draft Community use agreement with the planning application.</p>
<p>"SA 22 Pools on the Park and surroundings, Old Deer Park, Richmond</p>	<p>The Council's Indoor Sports Facility Needs Assessment states that there is a concern regarding the ageing stock on this site and this facility needs substantial works and upgrading.</p> <p>A particular concern raised in the Assessment is the cost of maintaining and running the facility due to its age. Furthermore, the future population growth of the borough will place further pressure on capacity.</p> <p>The Indoor Sports Facility Needs Assessment also suggests that ideally the building should be rebuilt to offer residents a modern swimming experience. In addition, the gym facilities require investment to match the standards in other membership facilities.</p>	<p>Old Deer Park Supplementary Planning Document – February 2018</p> <p>The Pools on the Park complex is a Grade II Listed Building with landscaped amenity areas adjacent to the outdoor pool, both of which form an integral part of the complex, and therefore are of significance in terms of its role in providing the setting to the Listed Building.</p> <p>A detailed analysis of the Significance of the Pools on the Park complex, and areas where there may be capacity to change in the future without causing material harm to that significance has been undertaken to support the development of this SPD.</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

	<p>As part of the existing pools complex is listed as Grade II and the site lies within a Grade I Historic Park and Garden and Conservation Area as well as within the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew World Heritage Site buffer zone, any proposals will be considered within the context of these designations.</p> <p>The significance of the listed status of the Pools complex needs to be understood to inform any scheme on this site and to ensure it respects this significance.</p> <p>Comments in relation to the Pools on the Park site were received in relation to consultations undertaken by the Council in 2015 in relation to the Village Plans including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Pools are seen as a valued asset in the community; • the complex looks 'tired' and is seen as unattractive by some local residents; • the internal layout is poorly configured and impacts on the attractiveness of the facilities for members; the changing rooms and toddler paddling pool need upgrading; and • some residents questioned the Listed status of the building – its design was not considered suitable for its location having a harsh concrete and rigid office block appearance. <p>A Supplementary Planning Document for Old Deer Park has been produced by the Council Appendix 1.</p>	<p>The main pool hall, spectator seating and café area form the critical areas of significance, together with the outdoor pool and viewing deck.</p> <p>The analysis of the complex in historic terms has identified a number of areas that have capacity for change as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entrance foyer • The changing rooms • The studio areas • The first floor gym facilities <p>Consequently, there are potential opportunities to undertake improvements within these areas in order to provide a modern, quality swimming and wider leisure offer for local residents, including an identified need for studio space, to provide for a facility which is efficient and viable in the long term, resulting in a significant public benefit. In developing any proposals the principles and objectives identified in the Statement of Significance: 'Richmond Public Baths, Old Deer Park, Richmond' document need to be fully considered and proposals justified within this context and having had regard to the other heritage assets pertaining to the Park.</p> <p>A review of these areas could allow for improved access, including an enhanced reception area to the swimming pools.</p> <p>Any works requiring Listed Building Consent would need to be clearly justified. However, the 'Statement of Significance' report provides a clear starting point, including in relation to the setting of the Listed Building. Any development proposals would also be subject to a detailed assessment of their impact on the character and appearance of the Historic Park and Garden and Conservation Area designations.</p>
<p>“SA 24 Stag Brewery, Lower Richmond Road, Mortlake</p>	<p>The Council has produced and adopted a development brief in 2011 for this site, which sets out the vision for redevelopment and provides further guidance on the site's characteristics, constraints, land use and development opportunities. Any proposed development should have due regard to the adopted brief.</p> <p>The brewery operations on this site have ceased at the end of 2015; the site has been marketed and sold.</p> <p>There is a need to create a new village heart and centre for Mortlake, which should add to the viability and vitality of this area, for both existing as well as new communities.</p> <p>There is a clear need for a new 6-form of entry secondary school, plus a sixth form, in this area, as set out in the Council's School Place Planning Strategy. Therefore, the Council expects any redevelopment proposal to allow for the provision of this school.</p> <p>Whilst this site is not located within a main centre, it falls within the Mortlake Area of Mixed Use.</p> <p>Therefore, it is expected that this site will provide a substantial mix of employment uses (B uses), including lower cost units suitable for small businesses, creative industries and scientific and technical businesses including green technology. Other employment generating uses will also be supported.</p> <p>Retail and other commercial uses, such as cafés and restaurants, will add to the vibrancy of the new centre as well as contributing to the provision of important local employment opportunities.</p> <p>Incorporating a mix of uses, including social infrastructure and community as well as leisure, sport and health uses, and attractive frontages should contribute to creating an inviting and vibrant new centre.</p> <p>The provision of residential uses (including affordable housing), will ensure that the new village heart becomes a vibrant centre for new communities.</p>	

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

	<p>The site is within an Archaeological Priority Area and partially within the Mortlake Conservation Area. The existing Buildings of Townscape Merit should be retained; the reuse of these historic buildings offers an excellent opportunity to ensure the site incorporates and promotes a cultural and historic legacy, for example by providing an on-site museum. Any development should respond positively to the Conservation Area, including the setting of the listed buildings (Grade II) to the north of the site.</p> <p>The site is very close to an Air Quality Focus Area. Therefore, strict mitigation measures will be required, both to mitigate any effect on current receptors and highways and on future receptors within the proposed development, particularly for sensitive receptors, such as pupils at the secondary school.</p> <p>The Council will support the comprehensive redevelopment of this site. An appropriate mix of uses, particularly at ground floor levels, should deliver a new village heart and centre for Mortlake. The provision of an on-site new 6-form entry secondary school, plus sixth form, will be required. Appropriate uses, in addition to educational, include residential (including affordable housing), employment (B uses), commercial such as retail and other employment generating uses, health facilities, community and social infrastructure facilities (such as a museum), river-related uses as well as sport and leisure uses, including the retention and/or re-provision and upgrading of the playing field.</p> <p>The Council will expect the provision of high-quality open spaces and public realm, including links through the site to integrate the development into the surrounding area as well as a new publicly accessible green space link to the riverside.</p>
--	--

3.12. Summary of Strategic Context

- 3.12.1. The well-being of residents in Richmond-upon-Thames is of strategic importance, and very much includes the improved 'health' of residents. The wider value of participation in physical activity, active recreation, and sport is recognised across a range of strategic policy areas, including health, regeneration and education.
- 3.12.2. Strategic alignment with the national and local strategies above will help to further engage partners and secure support for development opportunities and the sustainability of the overall sport and physical activity facility stock and programmes in the future.
- 3.12.3. The overall improvement to sport and physical activity facilities and programmes for Richmond-upon-Thames has the potential to support the wide range of health, and community development work that is currently being developed and can assist directly in bringing about a sustained increase in sport and physical activity participation leading in the long term to improved health and well-being of Richmond-upon-Thames Council local communities.

4 National Governing Body Consultation and Sports Club Consultation

4.1. National governing body Consultation

4.1.1. The National Governing Bodies and the responses received to consultation are provided in the table below:

Table 4: National Governing Bodies Considerations

National Governing Bodies	Conclusions / Considerations
<p>England Volleyball</p>	<p>Across the country there is a lack of indoor venues for volleyball, often this is limited by the lack of equipment, such as posts, nets and anchor points. Secondly, covid-19 has made this worse.</p> <p>There is a need for enough venues to allow all local clubs to play, we do not want venue availability to be an issue that prevents play.</p> <p>The key clubs in Richmond upon Thames for Volleyball England are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richmond Volleyball Club <p>Indoor Volleyball Venues - various as listed Season - from Sept through Mid-April</p> <p>Indoor Venues – Richmond upon Thames weekly use</p> <p>German School -Petersham - 3 courts - 30 hrs girls Christs School - Richmond - 1 court - 16.5 hours boys Grey Court School - Ham 1 court - 2 hrs girls RUTC - Richmond - 1 court - 2 hrs. girls Teddington Sport Centre - 1 court 4 hrs</p> <p>Indoor Venues Out of Borough weekly use Lampton School - Hounslow - 1 court - 9 hours boys Brentford Leisure Centre - Ealing - 2 courts - 8 hours boys Kingston Arena - Kingston - 2 courts - 16 hrs girls + 16.5 boys total = 32.5hrs</p> <p>Total hours per week = 104 hours or training per week</p> <p>Average hours of Indoor Match play required</p> <p>Men/boys and 4 Women/girls league teams which play an average of 8 home matches per season resulting in a total of 64 total home matches played over a potential 24 weekends.</p> <p>Each match is allocated 3 hours for a 5-set match therefor we need 192 hours of Match play court time circa 8 - 10 hours per week avg. Kingston Arena is the only facility able to provide the infrastructure (2 courts) needed to host matches at the moment.</p> <p>Beach Volleyball Venue - only Teddington Season - mid-April to end of August Hours used - current SLA is for 2,000 hours per year which are always utilised mainly during the season with off season only during the day on weekends due to no lighting or cover.</p> <p>Richmond volleyball club are currently providing grass volleyball at Pools in the Park.</p> <p>The future needs are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) An indoor venue with at least 2 to 4 courts with access every evening and weekend. (A 2 - court hall would require an 8- badminton court hall). 2) A new outdoor beach facility with a minimum of 4 courts (ideally 6) with lighting and the ability to cover via a bubble enclosure in the winter. Size requirements would be approximately that of 3 tennis courts.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

National Governing Bodies	Conclusions / Considerations																
British Gymnastics	<p>British Gymnastics Facility Strategy</p> <p>British Gymnastics Facility Development Priorities (for the period 2017 - 2021) outlined are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support increased capacity within gymnastics through clubs, leisure providers and other delivery providers • Guide funding investment through the United Kingdom from British Gymnastics, Home Country Sports Councils, Local Authorities and other potential funders. • Maintain and improve the quality of facilities and equipment within existing delivery partners.] • Develop insight, understanding and direction of how Facility Developments can contribute towards other BG Strategic Priorities. <p>British Gymnastics has no financial capital investment available; however, the facility development team is available to support, develop and guide clubs, leisure providers and other partners to help achieve their facility requirements.</p> <p>Participation in gymnastics is increasing rapidly. British Gymnastics membership reached 390,500 in 2017 has been increasing at about 12% per year over 2013-17. The emphasis for 2017 – 2021 will be using gymnastics as a foundation sport for 5- to 11-year-olds.</p> <p>Across Richmond upon Thames there is a demand for more gymnastics opportunities and Richmond Gymnastics Club reports a large waiting list.</p> <p>Nationally the total number of people estimated to be on waiting lists for gymnastics is 1 million (Freshminds Latent Demand Research, 2017). Furthermore, this research also shows that a further 1.9 million would like to participate but are not currently, not on a waiting list. A key part of BG’s strategy to increase participation is to support clubs moving into their own dedicated facility, offering more time and space for classes.</p> <p>There is a definite trend for gymnastics clubs to move into their own dedicated facilities. Approximately 30 clubs moved into their own spaces last year and BG expects this trend to continue, and an increased number of clubs move their activities to dedicated spaces/facilities. There is limited provision of access to facilities within Richmond upon Thames with clubs having waiting lists restricting access to gymnastic activities due to the lack of time within both dedicated and non-dedicated facilities.</p> <p>at their dedicated facility.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="411 1335 1484 1644"> <thead> <tr> <th>Richmond Clubs</th> <th>BG Comments</th> <th>Members</th> <th>Waiting List</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ace of Clubs</td> <td></td> <td>18</td> <td>0 space for new members</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maria Stolbovas RG</td> <td></td> <td>44</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Richmond</td> <td>Completed an extension and looking at a further one – Also looked to re-locate to Barn Elms</td> <td>1987</td> <td>300</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Richmond Clubs	BG Comments	Members	Waiting List	Ace of Clubs		18	0 space for new members	Maria Stolbovas RG		44	12	Richmond	Completed an extension and looking at a further one – Also looked to re-locate to Barn Elms	1987	300
Richmond Clubs	BG Comments	Members	Waiting List														
Ace of Clubs		18	0 space for new members														
Maria Stolbovas RG		44	12														
Richmond	Completed an extension and looking at a further one – Also looked to re-locate to Barn Elms	1987	300														
England Judo	No Response																
England Squash	<p>England Squash Strategy – Our 2017-21 strategy provides an overview of our business aims. It states that our mission is to create a thriving squash community by redefining and enhancing the squash experience for players, coaches, officials and volunteers, through the development of a technology-based model that enables us to sustain the sport, maximize revenue potential and develop world leading teams and individuals. We understand that facilities are paramount to our game’s continued growth and we will work with court providers to enhance their squash offer, improve the experience for players and help us to grow our influence so we can better support those who play.</p> <p>Performance Strategy – Our performance strategy again focuses on a player and coach centric approach that is developed through a lean and impactful programme, driven by a Coach Community that is inspired, supported and well equipped to deliver quality player environments and a positive, progressive and accessible experience. We will require numerous facilities across the country to deliver our performance programmes.</p>																

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

National Governing Bodies	Conclusions / Considerations
	<p>These facilities will need to be the best in their class and located in strategically beneficial locations.</p> <p>Commercial Strategy – Our commercial strategy aims to enhance our membership proposition whilst developing our intellectual and event rights portfolio to identify and deliver revenue opportunities that reduce administration and risk exposure.</p> <p>We will require local facilities to put these events in place and work closely with leisure providers, local authorities and facility managers to enhance our membership offer and increase the uptake in membership.</p> <p>Participation in squash has declined over previous years but is now defined by Sport England insight as stable. We are expecting a further set of positive results in future Active Lives surveys, where the most recent results identified c.400,000 fortnightly squash participants.</p> <p>Moveable wall technology provides the answer to ensuring squash is included in plans for new facilities. It provides flexible spaces for multi-sport use, but also ensures our sport can continue to be offered.</p> <p>There is a national requirement of 1 court per 10,000 people. For LB Richmond upon Thames this equates to 20 squash courts. There are 18 courts in Richmond upon Thames and these courts should be protected for future use.</p>
<p>Swim England Facilities Team & Swim England London Region</p>	<p>Our priorities for Richmond upon Thames are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient pool stock to enable the sport to grow and develop. • Provide access to sustainable facilities for all aquatic activities • To increase the diversity of participants within aquatics • Increase the diversity of the aquatic workforce in the borough • To develop a strong and effective talent pathway that supports diversity and enables athletes to reach their full potential • Ensure all children are competent and safe in the water and achieve the National Curriculum Standard in Swimming by the age of 11 years old. <p>The Swim England National report is based on the Sport England Facilities Planning Model data and the list of swimming pools in the borough includes all water provision such as private health clubs and school facilities.</p> <p>The local swimming club/s would not necessarily be given access to a number of these facilities and therefore the response regarding sufficient supply of indoor facilities from a Swim England London and key Swimming Clubs will differ from this report as we do not feel it is a true reflection of the current water time/space that our key clubs can and are able to access.</p> <p>There is a need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment into refurbishment of existing facilities in the borough • Investment into new facility development projects • Funding opportunities to support training and development of the diverse workforce • Good working relationship and understanding of the sports strategic priorities and needs between all key stakeholders. (Teddington SC, the Local Authority, Facility Operators)A well-balanced pool programme offers across all the facilities in the borough which provides opportunities for growth and development of aquatics. <p>Swimming Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teddington SC – Competitive Swimming, • Teddington Masters - Masters Swimming • Teddington Torpedo's – Disability Swimming • Barnes Swimming Club • Richmond Swimming Club <p>Looking at the stock of facilities, the majority have reached an age where we would expect refurbishment works to be required. For this reason, a priority would be to assess the condition of ageing facilities and whether the ongoing refurbishment works in the future would be better served by a facility replacement.</p>
<p>England Table Tennis</p>	<p>No Response</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

National Governing Bodies	Conclusions / Considerations
England Netball	<p>Indoor priorities are leagues, club training facilities and community programmes. At the current time there are not enough Netball courts and not enough venues offering 2 or more courts. There is a need for more indoor courts so clubs can access in the winter season.</p>
England Indoor Bowls Association	<p>There are Two “Active” sites shown as being within the LA area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMBRIDGE PARK, Twickenham TW1 2PG – 4 rinks Indoor/Outdoor • RICHMOND, TW9 1XS – 6 rinks Indoor <p>The analysis of Clubs in adjoining Local Areas shows that for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge Park – there are 3 clubs located within the “30-minute drivetime limit” (King George Field, Egham and Hounslow), plus Paddington (35 minutes) • Richmond – there are 4 Clubs located within the “30-minute drivetime limit” (Paddington, King George Field, Egham and Hounslow) <p>As such, even with the projected Increase in the older population, we consider that the TWO existing clubs alongside the 4 other “adjoining” Indoor Clubs, there will be sufficient Indoor Bowls sites for our Sport over the next 12 years.</p> <p>Market analysis</p> <p>When you have determined the general location for your facility the catchment area should be defined and assessed. The following guidelines on catchment for indoor bowls centres must be interpreted in the light of local circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assume the majority of users will live locally and not travel more than 20 minutes • Assume 90% of users will travel by car, with the remainder by foot. • As a guide, demand is calculated as one rink per 14,000-17,000 of total population • A six-rink green, therefore, is required for a population of 85,000-100,000. This will be dependent upon the population profile of your area. To help you identify the population profile of your area, contact the EIBA • The number of rinks required can be related to the estimated number of members: assume 80-100 members per rink • We are currently reviewing the “Market Analysis” guidance as we feel that additional criteria/parameters are now appropriate: • Travel time – consider an extension to 30 minutes. We anticipate that there will be regional variations, depending upon the current provision of Indoor Bowls sites • Means of travel – we consider that the provision of “public transport” will be relevant in some parts of the country – especially the rural areas • Members per rink ratio – this figure is still relevant, but we also need to factor in “spare rink capacity” for each session played, bearing in mind that then older population is not keen on travelling in the dark. • This review is being undertaken alongside a full review of the Design Guidance with Sport England.
Lawn Tennis Association	<p>To establish target locations for future community indoor tennis centres, we modelled data from existing successful CITC’s. This helped to identify the demographic type, volume and catchment size of a successful CITC. This modelling was applied across England, Scotland and Wales to establish the areas of potential demand.</p> <p>The key metrics established are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A target location must demonstrate a minimum threshold population of 70,000 within a 20-minute drive time of a target location. Of this population, at least 12,500 must identify as having an interest in playing tennis. Please note this drive time extends to 30 minutes for rural areas. • Filtered for competition within the catchment in order to prioritise the addressing of indoor tennis provision gaps. <p>Richmond has been identified as a potential area in South West Greater London as a potential location for provision of a community indoor tennis centre.</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

4.2. Sports Club Consultation

4.2.1. Sports clubs have been consulted along with Sport Richmond. Sport Richmond is an organisation that brings together indoor and outdoor sports clubs across Richmond upon Thames and provides information and advice as well as some small amounts of grant funding.

Table 5: Sport Richmond and Richmond Sports Club Considerations

Sport Richmond and Sports Clubs	Considerations
Sport Richmond (part of a Sport Richmond meeting)	<p>Identified key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The clubs face a raft of issues at present from inflationary rents and utility bills to a shortage of coaches and volunteers. • High participation rates across Richmond but no provision of a sports hall and swimming pool on the same site. • Heavy reliance on school sports hall facilities with no daytime access which impacts on voluntary sector work such as Age Concern and RISE use of such facilities during the day. Ageing population requires day time use up to 4.00pm, • Community Use Agreements need to be bolstered and provided. Christ School good example of a community use agreement. Waldergrave Girls School has CUA but not been signed, Sir Richard Reynolds doesn't have a CUA. Needs to include Council pricing strategy which is good. • 2 small indoor swimming training tanks been completed Barnes Home Guard Sheen 20m tank partnership between Home Guard and Swimway (Private Swimming tuition company) Also Sheen Mount School 16m outdoor pool converted to indoor pool partnership school and Swimway. • Good provision St Marys University and Lensbury. • German School excellent sports hall no community use agreement • Could Imperial College site be built on for indoor sports? • Richmond upon Thames College revised planning application for 8 court sports hall requires Section 106 CUA. • Harrodian School has planning permission for sports and cultural centre – 4 badminton court sports hall needs a CUA. • Probably best suited site for indoor sports hall and swimming pool is Pools on the Park. Would be a challenge for planning but only front of pools in the park is listed. Would need a temporary cover over the outdoor pool. Perhaps the sports voluntary sector could team up with LA on site to provide a sporting hub at Old Deer Park. Council's Property arm would have to deal with Crown Estates on leasing the Old Deer Park site.
Twickenham Tigers FC	<p>The indoor facilities available in the Borough are inadequate and expensive. We would snap up affordably priced indoor sports halls for winter training but we are priced out due to high demand for limited space.</p> <p>Prices are exorbitant at a time when lots of families are finding it hard to pay bills. Schools not recognising value of community sports clubs. We have to go to Sunbury for facilities as everything local is fully booked. Prices also going crazy due to high demand. Cannot increase participation as no winter training facilities available.</p>
HCC Badminton Club	<p>We use Hampton High School Sports Hall which is standard quality. The sports halls across the borough are fine as council run services, but not specialised for badminton or have social facilities.</p> <p>There is a lack of storage, social areas, and a purpose-built badminton facility (like the Dome in Hounslow)</p> <p>We have only just got back to playing after 2 years of pandemic - there was no obvious reason why the school sports hall was shut for so long. This has damaged our membership - we picked up a few new ones but lost old members</p>
Teddington Badminton Club	<p>We use Teddington School Sports Hall. The floors are dirty and there is poor ventilation. We also lose the use of the sports hall when the school has exams which interferes with our training and match play needs.</p>
Richmond Gymnastics Association	<p>We have a purpose-built gymnasium with wonderful equipment- just not big enough for the number of gymnasts. Also desperately need a new heating and cooling system as the heating has broken.</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Sport Richmond and Sports Clubs	Considerations
	<p>We need additional purpose-built centres with equipment at other points around the Borough to meet our waiting list.</p> <p>The cost of hiring other facilities to provide classes for gymnasts around the Borough is increasing which is causing concern. We also only have smaller amounts of equipment that can be used at these centres. This is why having another centre of our own would be advantageous.</p> <p>Due to the cost-of-living crisis we are finding that parents are not registering or bringing younger siblings to classes.</p>
<p>Teddington Swimming Club</p>	<p>The two main pools in the borough are Pools on park built in 60's and old. Teddington 1970's and end of life must be approaching.</p> <p>Despite the age of Teddington Pools it is a nice swimming pool but the club does not have enough access. We need more time in pools. We could offer more training for children to progress but we are dictated by the amount of lane time we get.</p> <p>We use Teddington Pool, Pools in Park and hire lanes at Hanworth, Aldershot, (50m lane training) & Hurst swimming pools, as we cannot get enough time for all our members. We also have to swim very early and very late, which is not always great for the younger swimmers. Finishing a session at 9.15pm, shower change and get home and then up again at 5.30am for a 6am swim session.</p> <p>We need access to dry land training and weights possible open water swimming</p>
<p>Richmond Sub Aqua Club</p>	<p>We use Pools in the Park we need storage and pool space and we get both.</p>
<p>Twickenham and Brunswick Boxing Club</p>	<p>Good facility but equipment needs updating. The club requires a new boxing ring.</p>
<p>Cambridge Park Bowls Club</p>	<p>We are a private members club with good facilities that are better than other indoor bowl facilities. We will need to carry out repairs on an ongoing basis</p> <p>We are working hard to introduce a junior academy</p>
<p>Kingston Trampoline Academy</p>	<p>We were previously in Richmond at Grey Court School. We ran club sessions and an after-school club for school students and allowed the school to use our trampolines during PE for GCSE/A-Level students.</p> <p>New headteacher/financial manager didn't know of our school arrangements and tried to sell our own equipment to ourselves and other parties. Due to this experience we left.</p> <p>We now use Arena Health Club Kingston College. We have to set up 13 trampolines plus all the safety matting taking 1 hour each time with 5+ people. We need a dedicated facility.</p> <p>Venues have no storage space for trampolines and all the safety matting. As mentioned, it takes 30-60 minutes to set up and set down depending on number trampolines so you need at least 4 trampolines to break even. For this a 4-hour booking is needed as minimum which is hard to find. Schools/venues then want to charge for the storage space. We have to use the Chessington School foyer as there is no room for us in the sports hall. We are trying to open a venue in Elmbridge using an EBC venue but residents are against us as they can't seem to distinguish between a gymnastics trampoline club and a trampoline park with no amount of trying. We have a good number of members from Richmond as we are across the bridge in Kingston and provide the coaches, judge and gymnasts for the London Youth Games.</p>
<p>Richmond Caledonian Society (Dance)</p>	<p>Our facility at the Oddfellows Hall is good, but we could do with a semi sprung floor.</p>
<p>Barnes Squash Club</p>	<p>The squash courts are poor quality and are very old and cold during s the winter month due to poor heating / insulation.</p> <p>We have strong interest in the game "padel tennis" but no facilities to play.</p>

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Sport Richmond and Sports Clubs	Considerations
	<p>Our courts need to be rebuilt, we do not have the funds or the ability to borrow. We cannot expand as our facilities are poor.</p>
<p>Richmond Volleyball Club</p>	<p>Richmond Volleyball Club is the most successful club in the UK over the past 10 years winning 20 Gold Medals, 5 Silver and 10 Bronze medals in the Junior Girls and Boys U18, U16 and U15 categories.</p> <p>Last season the club swept all National Titles in all of the Girls and Boys underage categories and our Men's team also won the National Title making it 7 Golds for Richmond. No other club has achieved this level of success in the UK!</p> <p>Functioning as a not-for-profit organisation, Richmond has 4 Divisions (Men's, Women's, Beach and Community) with members from age 7 - 70 we regularly are training 400 - 500 players per week from beginners to advanced. We currently have 15 players who play for England.</p> <p>Two former Richmond players won Bronze in Beach Volleyball at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham and 50% of the players who represent England in the U22, U20 and U18 Beach Championships are from the club.</p> <p>The long and short of it is that not only have we had explosive growth in the last 5 years, we are also producing champions and podium finishes locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Volleyball Summary of Club needs:</p> <p>We do not have a permanent "home venue" for indoor volleyball and we have outgrown the beach facility at Teddington. We are forced to search outside of the borough to find suitable venues as we have exhausted all possibilities within the borough. This places a large transport burden on the parents, players and coaches.</p> <p>Currently without Kingston Arena or the German School we would cease to function. We are also regularly subject to closures in all of our venues due to student exams, school functions etc. further limiting our ability to train and severely restricting our ability to grow.</p> <p>Our waiting list to train and play for junior girls, boys and adults is in the 100's of players for indoor. Similarly, with access to only the 3 beach courts in Teddington (which have no lights or cover), we also have a large waiting list which severely restricts our ability to expand our beach programme.</p> <p>Ideally, our needs are this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) An indoor venue with at least 2 to 4 courts with access every evening and weekend. 2) A new outdoor beach facility with a minimum of 4 courts (ideally 6) with lighting and the ability to cover via a bubble enclosure in the winter. Size requirements would be approximately that of 3 tennis courts.

5 Assessment of Current and Future Supply Richmond-upon-Thames Built Indoor Sports Assessment

5.1. Sports Halls – Current Supply and Demand

- 5.1.1. The sports hall supply and activity hall information for Richmond-upon-Thames has been taken from Active Places Power (Sport England) and additional research.
- 5.1.2. There are two main tools used to inform the assessment of supply and demand, as well as the current facility audit, and the demand information gathered through the consultation. The tools are Sport England's Facility Planning Model (FPM) for Sports Halls and Swimming Pools and secondly the Sport England Facility Calculator is used to estimate future need of facilities from population growth.
- 5.1.3. The limitations and reason for use are identified below.

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 1980's.

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 that provide 3 badminton courts and above and provide play and pay community use or sports club community use. It excludes smaller sports halls and those that are private use, The swimming pool FPM assesses the provision of swimming pools larger than 160 m² (4 lanes and above), indoor/covered swimming pools that provide pay and play community use or water-based club usage. The FPM excludes outdoor pools, that means Pools in the Park lido is excluded from the assessment.

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 and indoor bowls.

The purpose of the report is to provide Richmond-upon-Thames Council with an updated evidence base for sports halls and swimming pools, which the Council can use to inform their strategic planning for the future provision of these facility types.

The full Sport England Facility Planning Model Report for Sports Halls is provided at **Appendix 2. The Sports Hall FPM is only captures 3 badminton court sports halls and above** and the Sport England Facility Planning Model Report for Swimming pools is provided at **Appendix 3.**

The Sports Facility Calculator (SFC)

The Sports Facility Calculator (SFC) provides a quantitative estimate of future need, but unlike the FPM the SFC model analysis does not identify specific locations for future provision.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

That needs to be informed by the nature and location of future housing development (where locations are known), local geography and accessibility, and, critically, the location of existing facilities. This is because future demand may have the potential to be addressed through facility extension, or refurbishment, as well as new locations. However, in the absence of any other future demand calculator, the SFC provides an indicator of the level of future provision needed. The SFC can be applied to the same facilities as those modelled in the FPM.

- 5.1.4. The current sports hall provision providing community use e.g. pay and play and or sports club use across Richmond-upon-Thames (3 courts + for main sports halls) is provided in table 6 below.
- 5.1.5. The community use main sports halls provide for 66 courts over 15 sites. The newest Sir Richard Reynold School sports hall was opened in the autumn 2019.
- 5.1.6. When considering the refurbishment that has been undertaken on sports halls. The average age for the community use sports hall sites in 2020 is 20 years.
- 5.1.7. Five of the main sports halls are operated by the Local Authority. The remaining 8 main sports halls are either operated by schools, Further Education or Higher Education.

Table 6: Current Supply of Sports Halls (Main) Providing Community Use (Pay and Play /Sports Club Use)

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of Courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	
Christ's School	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2004		Education
Grey Court School	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1975		Education
Hampton School	Main	33 x 27	891	6	1985		Education
Hampton Sport and Fitness Centre	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1999	2016	Local Authority
Hampton Youth Project	Main	27 x 18	486	3	1970		Local Authority
Orleans Park School	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1973		Education
Richmond Upon Thames College	Main	33 x 19	627	4	1985	2006	Further Education
Shene Sports & Fitness Centre	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1985	2007	Local Authority
Sir Richard Reynolds Sports Centre	Main	36 x 18	648	4	2019		Education
St Marys University	Main	49 x 37	1813	6	1995		Higher Education
St Marys University	Main	35 x 27	945	6			Higher Education
St Pauls School	Main	34 x 27	932	6	1968	2005	Education
Teddington Sports Centre	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2010	2014	Local Authority
Waldegrave School	Main	27 x 18	486	3	2014		Education
Whitton Sports & Fitness Centre	Main	36 x 18	648	4	1992	2014	Local Authority

- 5.1.8. There are additional sports halls in Richmond-upon-Thames these have been assessed by Sport England for Facility Planning Purposes as Private Use and not available for pay and play and sports club usage. However, the German School has an arrangement with Richmond Volleyball Club for usage, but there is no formal community use agreement in place. These are provided in table 7 below. There are 3 sites providing 15 badminton courts that only provide for private use. These 3 sites are all Education sites.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Table 7: Private Use Main Sports Halls Richmond-upon-Thames

Site Name	Facility Sub Type	No of Courts	Use
German School	Main	5	Private Use
Lady Eleanor Hollis School	Main	6	Private Use
St James Primary School	Main	4	Private Use - Membership

5.1.9. There are a number of activity halls identified within the sports facility audit some of the activity halls also provide badminton courts and some do not. Activity halls are shown in table 8 below. Although the activity halls are not of a size to provide for the full range of sports that a main sports hall can offer. These facilities, if of the correct size, can provide for additional badminton courts.

5.1.10. Activity halls across Richmond-upon-Thames provide 13 badminton courts that can be used by sports clubs.

Table 8: Activity Halls Richmond-upon-Thames

Site Name	Facility Sub Type	No of Courts	Use
Clarendon School	Activity Hall	1	Education
David Lloyd Club (Hampton)	Activity Hall	2	Membership use only
Hampton Sport and Fitness Centre	Activity Hall	2	Local Authority
Kew Community Centre	Activity Hall	1	Community Organisation
Kew Community Centre (second hall)	Activity Hall	0	Community Organisation
St Pauls School	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club usage
Stanley Primary School	Activity Hall	1	Education
Stanley Primary School (Second Hall)	Activity Hall	1	Education
The Swedish School	Activity Hall	2	Education
Twickenham Brunswick Club for Young People	Activity Hall	0	Trust
Waldegrave School	Activity Hall	1	Education
YMCA Whitehouse	Activity Hall	0	Education

5.1.11. The public leisure centres that offer pay and play are:

- Hampton Sports and Fitness Centre (opened in 1999 and modernised in 2016) it has one main hall of 4 badminton courts;
- Shene Sports and Fitness Centre (opened in 1985 and modernised in 2007), it has one main hall of 4 badminton courts;
- Teddington Sports Centre (opened in 2010 and modernised in 2014) and it has a main hall of 34m x 20m and provides a 4-badminton court main sports hall;
- Whitton Sports and Fitness Centre (opened in 1992 and modernised in 2014), it has a 4 - badminton court main hall.

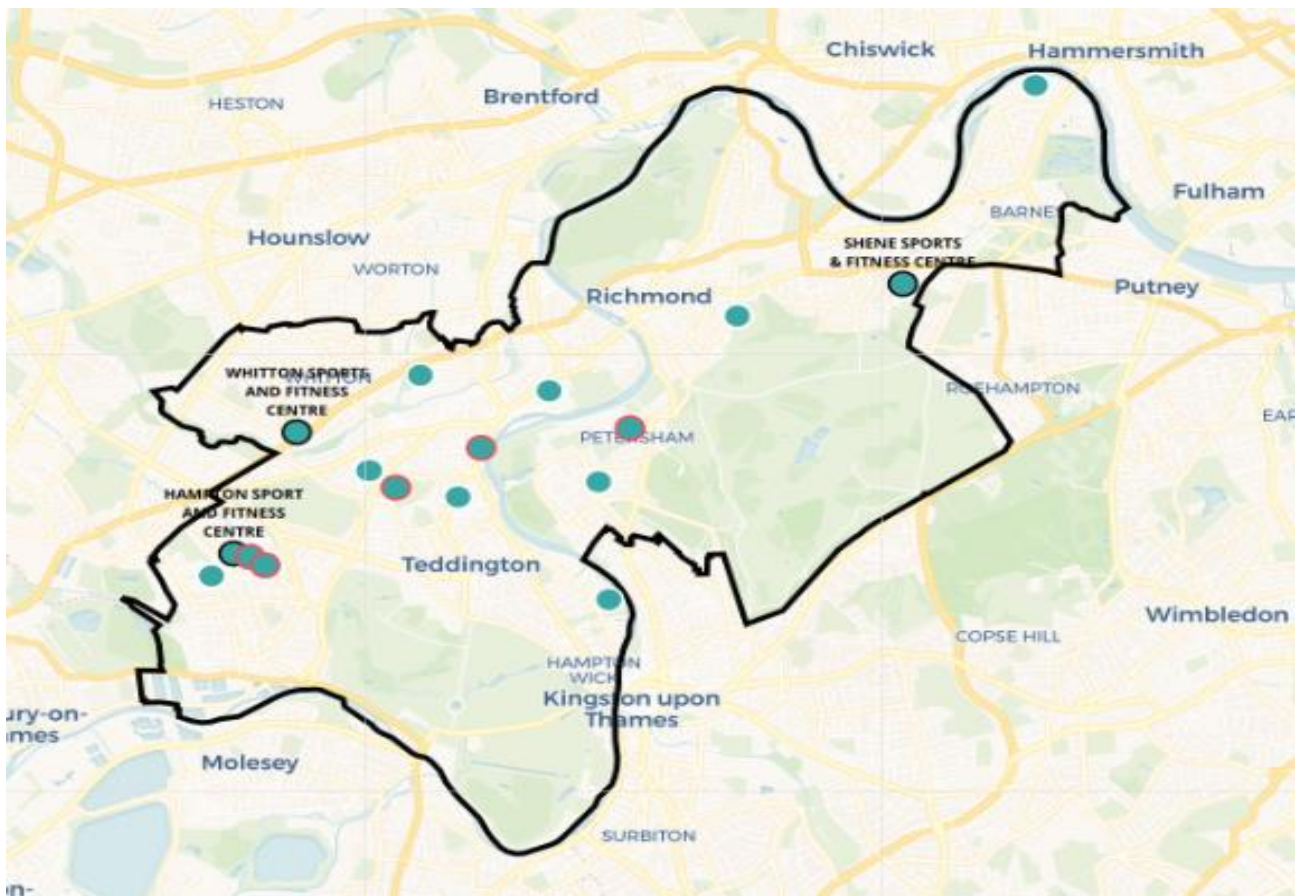
5.1.12. All of the public leisure centres are single sports hall sites. Their size does mean they can accommodate the full range of indoor hall sports at the community level of activity.

5.1.13. The education sports hall sites are extensive in scale and 3 sites offer 6 badminton court halls with St Mary's University providing 2 x 6 badminton court halls.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.1.14. Some schools and colleges proactively manage the venues for wider community use, which is predominantly for sports club and community group use. Other schools and colleges let their sports halls on a responsive basis, on a term or even shorter irregular lettings basis, and again to sports clubs or community groups.
- 5.1.15. Consultation with Sport Richmond has highlighted Christs School as a good example of provision through a Community Use Agreement. However, there are concerns regarding Community Use Agreements at Waldegrave School and Sir Richard's Reynolds Catholic School. Although planning approval stipulated Community Use Agreements, it is believed these are not in place and therefore sports clubs using these facilities have no security of tenure.

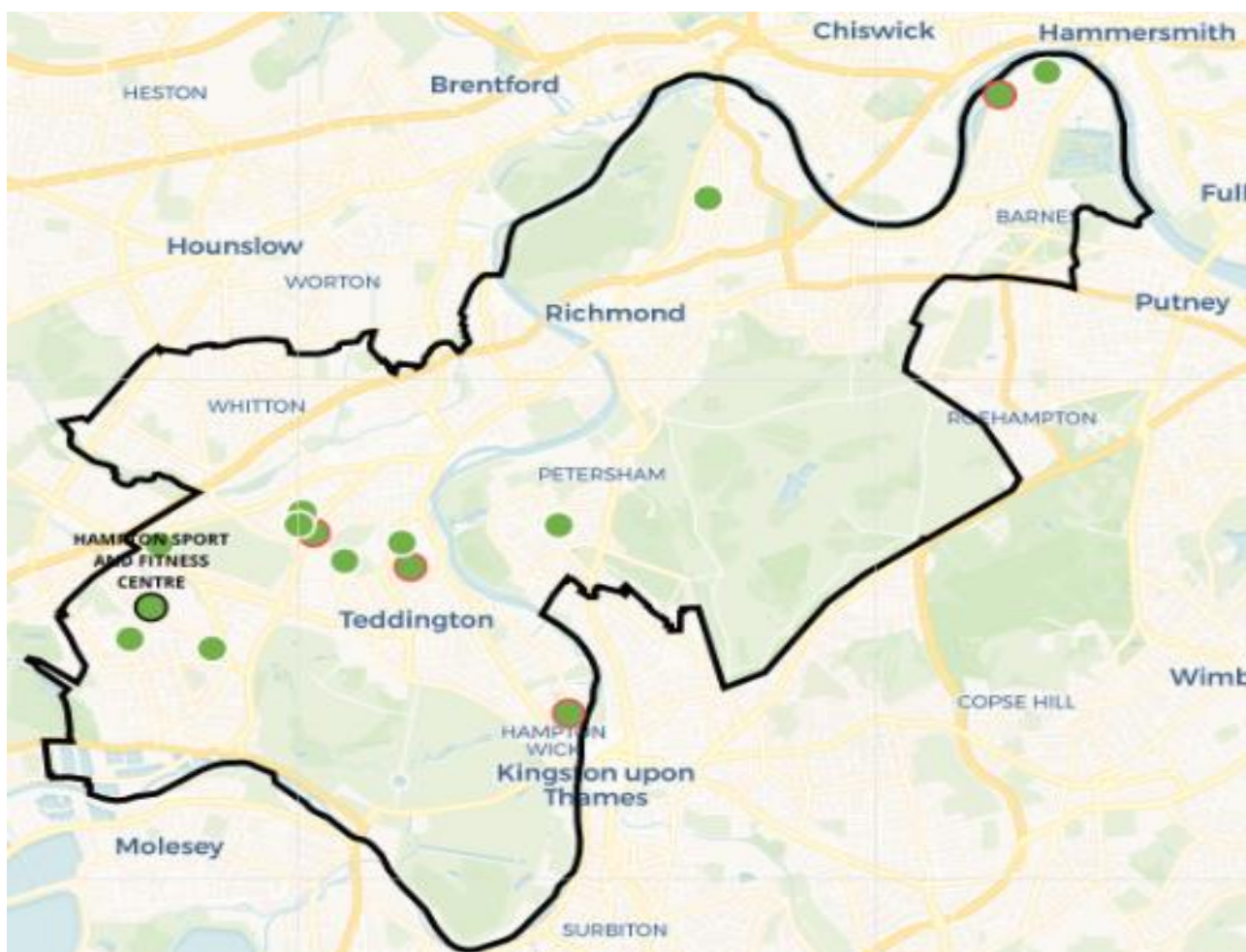
Map 3: Sports Hall sites Richmond-upon-Thames



- 5.1.16. The location of the activity halls identified in table 9 above are shown in Map 4 below.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 4: Activity Hall sites in Richmond-upon-Thames



5.1.17. A visual quality site visit has been undertaken for the council's public facilities. (September 2019). Other facilities in the borough were visited but it was not possible to get access to all the education facilities, nor the private facilities. The German School, Lady Eleanor Holles both private facilities provide good quality facilities.

Table 9: Summary of the Quality Assessment of Richmond-upon-Thames Sports Hall Facilities

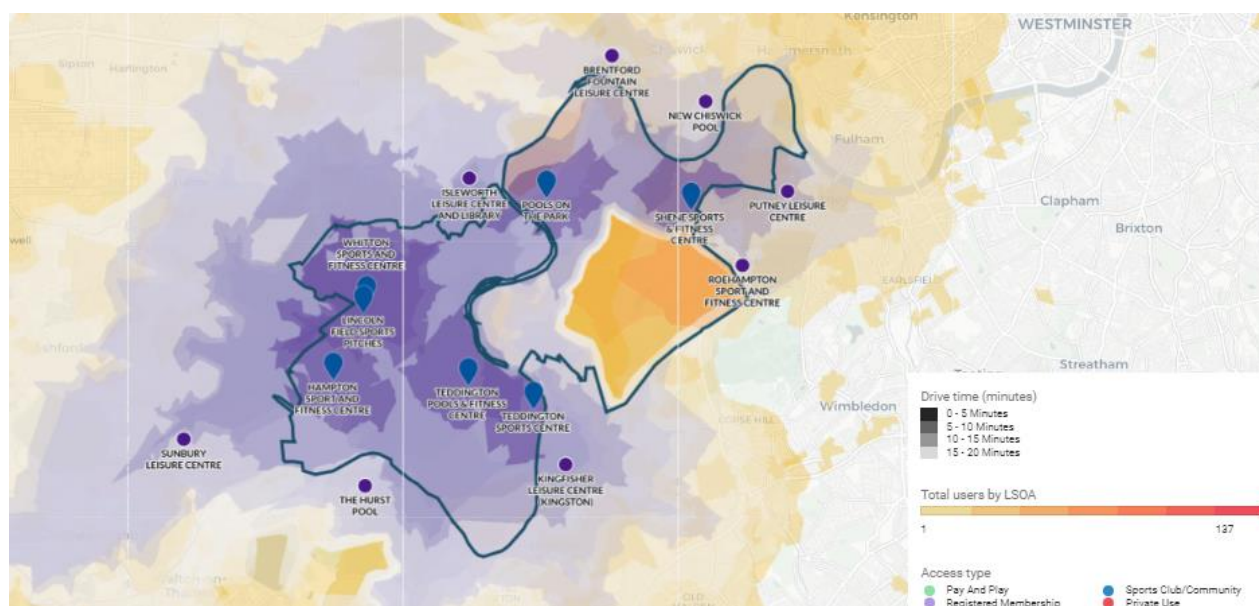
Facility Name	Quality Score Good, Standard or Poor	Commentary
Hampton Sports and Fitness Centre	Standard	Built 1999 modernised 2016. Facility within 15 minutes walking distance – Hampton Railway Station. Adjacent to Hampton High School. Fitness area is quite small, staff very helpful, sports hall standard 4 courts (Wooden sprung floor), studio used for spinning but can be used as a small theatre area. Opening hours are evening and weekends term time. School holidays extended daytime opening.
Shene Sports and Fitness Centre	Standard	Built in 1985 and modernised in 2007 Fitness and studios 2015. Adjacent to Richmond Park Academy School. A 4-court main hall, fairly standard condition, gym is relatively small but a good selection of equipment. Dance studio and spin studio upgraded 2015 provides for spinning and other activity classes. Opening hours are evening and weekends term time. School holidays extended daytime opening.
Teddington Sports Centre	Good	Built in 2010 modernised in 2014. Adjacent to Teddington School.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Facility Name	Quality Score Good, Standard or Poor	Commentary
		Sports hall available from 6.00pm Monday – Friday and weekends from 9.00am term time and extended hours during the school holidays. Squash courts available from 4.00pm (LED lighting) but with limited changing. 2 studios (1 Dance studio). No fitness gym facilities.
Whitton Sports and Fitness Centre	Good	Built in 1992 and modernised 2014. Small compact fitness gym, 4 court sports hall and dance studio.

- 5.1.18. The LB Richmond-upon-Thames Council sports hall facilities are generally in a good condition. The average age of sports halls after considering refurbishment is 7 years. The average age span of a public sports facility is 35 – 40 years.
- 5.1.19. The activity halls vary in age from the year 1900 (Kew community Centre) – the year 2000 Stanley Park Primary School.
- 5.1.20. Map 5 below shows the geographic distribution of the strategic size pay and play community access sports halls in Richmond-upon-Thames, with a catchment area for each of 20 minutes' drive time. (20-minute drivetime (private car)). The 20-minute drive time catchment area of the existing pay and play community sports halls cover the Richmond-upon-Thames Borough area and beyond into neighbouring local authority areas. The 20-minute catchment areas overlap.

Map 5: Sports Halls (20 mins drive time) Including Neighbouring Local Authority Sports Halls

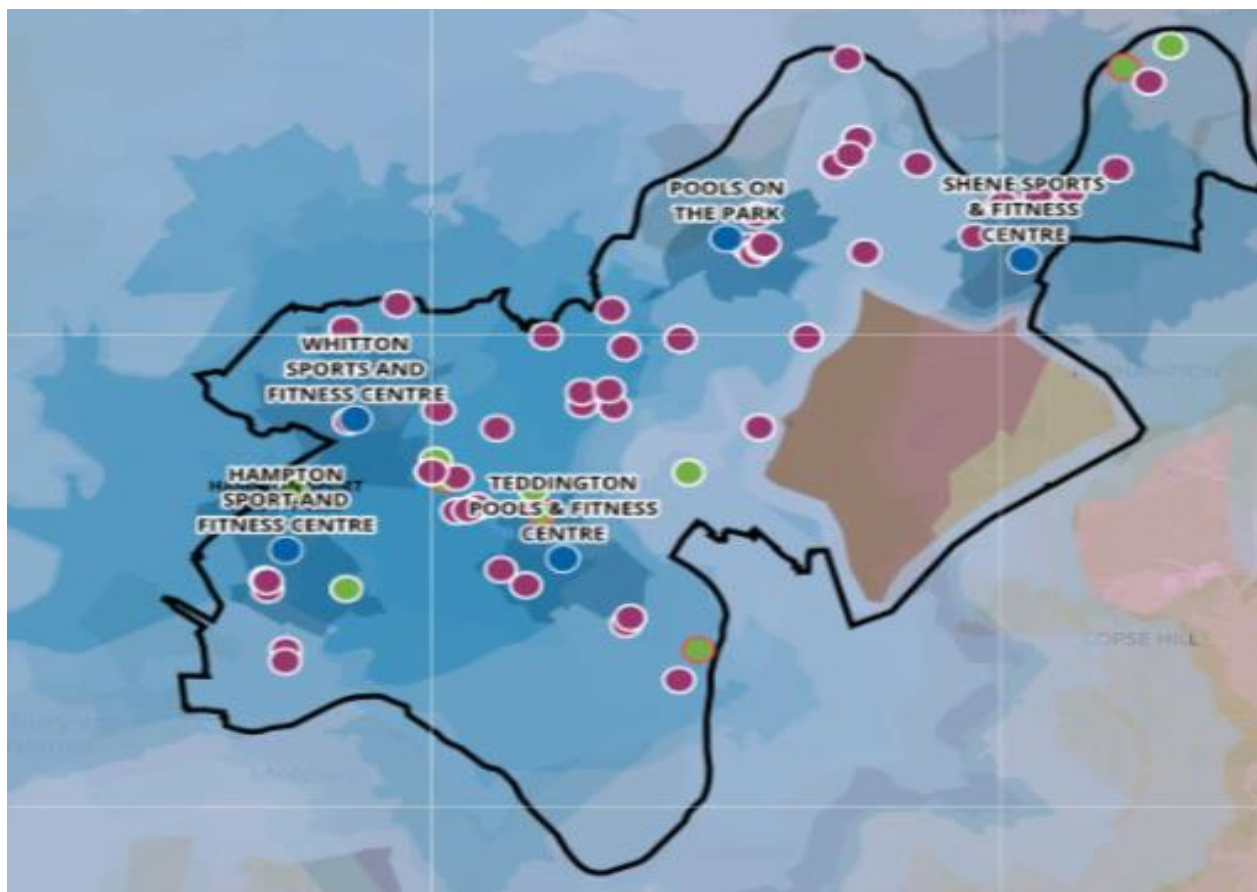


- 5.1.21. 23.6% of the resident Richmond-upon-Thames population do not have access to a car (Source 2011 Census). This figure is lower than the England wide average of 25.8%.
- 5.1.22. The percentage of the population without access to a car is important, because it influences travel patterns to sports halls. If there is a high percentage of the population without access to a car, then more visits to sports halls are by foot or public transport.
- 5.1.23. The findings for Richmond-upon-Thames from the Sport England Facilities Planning model for sports halls are that 75% of visits to sports halls are by car (up to 20 minutes' drive time), 17% of all visits to sports halls are by walking (20 minutes/1-mile catchment area) and 8% of visits are by public transport (20 minutes catchment area). So around four out of ten visits to sports halls are by a combination of walking and public transport.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.1.24. It is therefore important to ensure that access is available to sports halls by foot and public transport. Education based sports halls do not provide community use in the daytime, it is important that those that do provide good access (are open for long hours and are affordable) to optimise opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity. The issue for Richmond-upon-Thames Council is the lack of sports hall facilities available during the day Monday – Friday during term time.
- 5.1.25. Activity halls attract far more local use, given that many of them are used for a wide range of activities, including sport and physical activity, arts, community, meetings, lunches, playgroups, events. Many are not marked out as badminton courts so provide informal multi-purpose space which can be used for a wide range of community activities.
- 5.1.26. Access to informal community centre halls is important to ensure access to physical activity opportunities when there are fewer formal facilities available and these can be available for activity during the day but do not provide the formal sports hall offerings due to size of the facilities.
- 5.1.27. There is therefore an important role for the existing community centre informal hall space across Richmond-upon-Thames, in providing physical activity opportunities for specific ethnic/religious communities who may choose not to access formal sports facilities. Such facilities provide for example, keep fit, martial arts, dance, table tennis, Zumba, yoga and pilates.
- 5.1.28. Richmond upon Thames Council are providing a purpose-built martial arts facility in Twickenham. The facility will be home to Bu Sen Martial Arts. The facility will provide a single storey flat roofed building with accommodation providing 2 Dojo areas of 14m x 14m. A fitness suite, reception, office, changing facilities, WCs and refreshments area.
- 5.1.29. The facility will provide a replacement facility for the martial arts club. There will be a need for other martial arts groups and clubs to continue to use community-based facilities as they currently are.

Map 6: Location of Richmond-upon-Thames Community Spaces and Activity Halls



Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.1.30. The Sport England Facility Planning Model report sets out an assessment of the 2019 situation regarding sports hall supply, based on a 2018 population of 197,800. The Facility Planning model has not picked up the new Sir Richard Reynolds 4 court sports hall as it was not built at the time and was not included on Sport England's Active Places Power database at January 2018 on which the Facility Planning Model national run was based and is not picked up in the Sport England Active Places Power Sports Halls data dated November 2022.
- 5.1.31. The Council's Planning Committee approved the sports and cultural centre at Harrodian School in January 2021, subject to a legal agreement. While this permission has not been finalised as the community use agreement is still in development, there is commitment by the school to build this facility. The Harrodian School sports hall will be a 4 - court sports hall.
- 5.1.32. Richmond upon Thames School has planning permission for an additional 4 court sports hall to be built on site.
- 5.1.33. Turing House School has a 3-court badminton sports hall that opened in 2021. A community use agreement is currently being agreed.
- 5.1.34. The MoD has sold Knellor Hall to Dukes Education. There are plans for a new school to open on site in 2023. The School will be called Radnor House School. Although a planning application has not been submitted. The proposal is the school will provide a 4-court sports hall and indoor swimming pool and that a draft community use agreement will be submitted with a planning application.
- 5.1.35. The FPM identifies a number of findings below, however, these findings exclude the following - Sir Richard Reynolds sports hall and Turing House School sports hall, sports halls with planning permission at Harrodian School and Richmond upon Thames School and the proposed sports hall at Radnor House School.
- 5.1.36. The FPM found that 91% of the total demand for sports halls from Richmond-upon-Thames is being satisfied/met. The satisfied demand is demand for Richmond-upon-Thames Borough residents.
- 5.1.37. The FPM finding is that 64% of the Richmond-upon-Thames 91% total satisfied demand is retained within the Borough. In short, the location and catchment area of the sports hall sites in the Borough are reasonably well located to the location of the Richmond-upon-Thames demand for sports halls. The nearest sports hall for nearly six out of ten visits to a sports hall by a Richmond-upon-Thames resident is a venue located in the Borough.
- 5.1.38. The residual of satisfied demand is the export of the Richmond-upon-Thames demand. Again, this is based on Richmond-upon-Thames residents using the nearest venue to where they live, and this is a sports hall in a neighbouring authority. The finding is that Richmond-upon-Thames is exporting 35% of its satisfied demand for sports halls and this is met in neighbouring authorities. The data does not identify how much demand is exported to which authority; it only provides the total exported demand.
- 5.1.39. The exported demand equates to 3,979 visits in the weekly peak period and the Richmond-upon-Thames retained demand is equivalent to 7,289 visits in the weekly peak period.
- 5.1.40. The unmet demand definition has two parts to it - demand for sports halls which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall and is then classified as unmet demand.
- 5.1.41. The Richmond-upon-Thames total unmet demand is 8.7% of total demand for sports halls and this equates to 5 badminton courts (4.9 badminton courts rounded up).

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.1.42. Of the total unmet demand, 44.5% is from definition two - unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a sports hall and 55.5% from lack of sports hall capacity (reviewed under the used capacity heading).
- 5.1.43. Unmet demand located outside catchment almost always exists and this is because it is not possible to get complete spatial coverage, whereby all areas of an authority are inside the catchment area of a sports hall.
- 5.1.44. Unmet demand outside catchment exists in Richmond-upon-Thames and it equates to 2.5 badminton courts of the total unmet demand of 5 badminton courts across the Borough. It is not a large scale of unmet demand located outside catchment. Due to the provision of new and planned sports halls the FPM unmet demand is likely to have changed and reduced.
- 5.1.45. The FPM has not found a specific locality that has a cluster of high unmet demand.
- 5.1.46. Used capacity is a measure of usage at sports halls and estimates how well used / how full facilities are. The facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor', beyond which the venues are too full. For sports halls Sport England sets the comfort level at 80% of capacity used at peak times. Above this level the time taken to change the sports hall for different activities starts to impinge on the activity time itself. Also, the changing and circulation areas become overcrowded and can discourage participation.
- 5.1.47. The used capacity finding is that Richmond-upon-Thames sports halls (in the FPM audit) are estimated to be operating at 99% of used capacity in the weekly peak period weekday evenings (up to 5 hours per day) and weekend days (up to 7 hours per weekend day).
- 5.1.48. These findings are based on the Richmond-upon-Thames demand for sports halls exceeding supply. When this finding occurs, the model tries to re-distribute demand that would still like to access the venue but cannot do so because it is full. The demand is re-distributed to other sports halls in the same catchment area. This is an iterative process and carries on until there is no more capacity at any sports hall site to meet the demand. The demand that remains unallocated is known as "demand re-distributed after initial allocation" and is expressed in visits per week in the weekly peak period. The minus figure is the demand in visits that would like to access the sports hall but cannot do so.
- 5.1.49. The highest demand that cannot access a sports hall are at the public leisure centres: 367 visits at the Shene Sports and Fitness Centres (which equates to between 1 – 2 badminton courts); Teddington Sports Centre 352 visits (same value between 1 – 2 badminton courts); and Hampton Sports and Fitness Centre 286 visits (equates to just over 1 badminton court).
- 5.1.50. The catchment area for these centres will overlap and the model is setting out the findings, after it has tried to allocate demand across the catchment areas. Not all of this unallocated demand is from Richmond Borough residents, it is based on the catchment area of each sports hall site and so across local authority boundaries.
- 5.1.51. The most likely explanation for the public leisure centres findings is: (1) they provide for the full range of indoor hall sports; (2) they are accessible for pay and play recreational use as well as for sports club use; (3) they have longer opening hours than the education venues and can provide for public use during the term time day (4) that are proactively managed to develop and increase participation in indoor sports and exercise activities. For all these reasons public leisure centre sports halls have a draw effect over sports halls on education sites, where only some and maybe none of these features prevail.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

5.2. Sports Hall Supply and Demand Analysis – The Findings

The Sport England Facility Planning model identified that Richmond-upon-Thames has an unmet demand for 5 badminton courts (4.9 badminton courts rounded up).

The FPM has not taken into consideration new and planned sports hall facilities at Sir Richard Reynolds, Harrodian Scholl, Turin house School, Richmond-upon-Thames School and a possible sports hall at Radnor House School (Knellor Hall), The table below shows that these facilities equate to 15 courts nearly 4 x 4 court sports halls.

Sports Hall Requirements	Sports Hall	No. Badminton Courts
Sports Halls built since 2019 Current Facility Planning Model National Run	Richard Reynolds (Built 2019)	4 courts
	Harrodian School (Planning Permission Granted working up Community Use Agreement)	4 courts
	Turin House School Built 2021 (finalising community use agreement)	3 courts
	Richmond upon Thames School	4 courts
	Radnor House School - Planning Application (22/3004/FUL Decision due 20 th January 2023) submitted 4 court sports Hall restricted use 18.00 – 20.30 Mon – Fri and Saturday and Sunday 09.00 – 13.00 and school holidays 10 weeks per year 09.00 – 16.00	4 courts
Total Badminton Courts not accounted for in FPM		15 courts
2019 Current Facility Planning Model Unmet Demand	Number of courts required to meet current demand	5 courts
Population demand 2033	Slight decrease in population by 2033 no need to provide additional facilities	0 courts
Exceeded Supply of Badminton Court Sports Halls Currently and in 2033		10 courts

Theoretically supply exceeds demand currently and in the future to 2033. However, although the FPM considers that the school sports halls are not open during the day it has not considered the new sports halls above and consultation has identified that there are extended periods of unavailability during exams.

There is a continuing need to modernise the older sports hall stock.

At Richmond Athletic Association, the rugby club has aspirations to develop an indoor multi-sport facility, as do the Barn Elms Trust at their site. Any development by Richmond Athletic association would have to consider Old Deer Park SPD.

The majority of the sports halls are owned by educational institutions and have variable access arrangements for community use. Any reduction in community use at these venues, will impact on pay and play and sports club use. Continued secure access for community use at the education sites is of most importance to the Council. It is important, so as to maintain supply/access for community use.

The sports halls are estimated to be very busy at peak times. **The sports halls do not offer weekly daytime access and consideration should be given in the context of changes in the role sports halls play in providing for activities other than hall sports, such as exercise classes and martial arts.** There may be a need for more flexible spaces in terms of dimensions, floor space and different surfaces so as to accommodate a wider range of activities and provision of daytime activity programmes.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

In addition, there are no sports halls with swimming pools on the same site owned by Richmond-upon-Thames Council.

Housing development and population growth in Richmond-upon-Thames will increase demand for sports hall provision. By using the Sport England Sports Facility Calculator, it is possible to estimate overall future demand for provision of sports halls.

The population data used for the Sport England FPM for Richmond-upon-Thames for 2018 is 197,800. The total projected population for 2033 is 197,199 (Source DATARICH GLA Housing-Led Population Projections). This is a slight decrease.

As there is no increase in population, there is no need to apply the Sport England Sports Facility Calculator to identify additional population demand and need for sports halls. There is an estimated exceeded supply of 10 badminton courts by 2033.

The average age for the sports hall sites is 20 years and four of the fifteen sports hall sites have opened post 2000. The oldest sports hall is St Pauls School sports hall which opened in 1968. The most recent sports hall is the Sir Richard Reynolds School sports hall which opened in 2019, followed by Waldegrave School sports hall, which opened in 2014. Of the ten sports hall sites which opened pre-2000, five have been modernised. There is a continuing need to modernise the older sports hall stock. Richmond upon Thames College Sports Hall is about to be replaced with a new 4 court sports hall and an additional 4 court sports hall on site.

At Richmond Athletic Association, the rugby club has plans to develop an indoor multi-sport facility, as do the Barn Elms Trust at their site.

The majority of the sports halls are owned by educational institutions and have variable access arrangements for community use. Any reduction in community use at these venues, will impact on pay and play and sports club use. Continued secure access for community use at the education sites is of most importance to the Council. It is important, so as to maintain supply/access for community use.

The sports halls are estimated to be very busy at peak times. The sports halls do not offer weekly daytime access and consideration should be given in the context of changes in the role sports halls play in providing for activities other than hall sports, such as exercise classes and martial arts.

There may be a need for more flexible spaces in terms of dimensions, floor space and different surfaces so as to accommodate a wider range of activities and provision of daytime activity programmes.

In addition, there are no sports halls with swimming pools on the same site owned by Richmond-upon-Thames Council and there are no sports hall facilities available for day time use that would meet the physical activity needs of older people, shift workers, parents and toddlers.

Richmond Volleyball Club would like a 2-court sports hall for volleyball match play and training. Although Knights Basketball Club emailed and enquired about information required from the consultation, they have not responded. However, it is understood that the basketball club has similar requirements as Richmond Volleyball Club and would like a 2-court sports hall. Netball has the same demand.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

5.3. Swimming Pools – Current Supply and Demand

- 5.3.1. There were 11 individual pools on 8 swimming pool sites in Richmond-upon-Thames in 2019. The total supply of water space available for community use in the weekly peak period was 2,024 sq. metres of water. (Note: for context a 25m x 4 lane pool is between 210 and 250 sq. metres of water, depending on lane width). As previously stated the Sport England Facility Planning Model excludes pools that are for private use, outdoor or too small e.g. under 20m in length. The pools excluded for being too small include: Collis Primary School, Nuffield Health (Twickenham), Royal Ballet School (White Lodge), Sheen Mount Primary School and Sir Richard Cofe Primary School. Other pools excluded as they are outdoor include Pools in the Park, Hampton Heated Open Air Pool and the Harrodian School.
- 5.3.2. Two of the 8 swimming pool sites are public swimming pools sites, Pools on the Park (opened in 1966 and was modernised in 2009), and Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre (opened in 1976). Both of these pool sites have a main pool which is a 25m x 12m 6 lane pool at The Teddington Pools and fitness Centre and a 33m x 12m pool at Pools on the Park. Both pool sites have separate teaching/learner pool, which is 12m x 6m of water at Pools on the Park and 12m x 6m of water at the Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre.
- 5.3.3. The scale and configuration of these pool sites is extensive and they can provide for the full range of swimming activities of: learn to swim; recreational public pay and swim; lane and fitness swimming; fun and family-based activities; and swimming development through clubs.
- 5.3.4. There are two pool sites located at independent schools, the Lady Eleanor Holles School pool (opened in 1974 and modernised in 2017), which has a 25m x 6 lane pool and the St Pauls School pool (opened in 1968 and was modernised in 2005), which has a 25m x 4 lane pool.
- 5.3.5. The policy towards community use of sports facilities is determined by the school or college. Some state schools develop a proactive approach to community use and let the pool for swimming club use and possibly learn to swim programmes. They do not usually provide for public swimming unless the site is a joint use site with a partnership between the school and the local authority.
- 5.3.6. Independent schools tend to focus on extra-curricular use of sports facilities by school clubs, partner schools and organisations associated with the school. There is limited access for use by wider community groups or local swimming clubs.
- 5.3.7. There are four commercial swimming pools sites, Richmond HarSPA (opened in 1995 and modernised in 2019), it has a 20m x 4 lane pool; David Lloyd Club (Hampton) (opened in 2004) and it has a 25m x 4 lane pool; Lensbury at Teddington Lock (opened in 1920 and modernised in 2016) has a 25m x 4 lane main pool and a separate 50 sq. m teaching/learner pool. Finally, there is Virgin Active (Twickenham) pool site (opened in 2009) and which has 20m x 4 lane pool.
- 5.3.8. Commercial pools are available for the centre membership to do recreational swimming. Some commercial pool sites also operate a swim school. The Lensbury at Teddington Lock pool has a wider programme of use, with a swim school and some use by Governing Bodies of Sport and swimming clubs.
- 5.3.9. The average age of the swimming pool sites in 2019 is 35 years, this excludes the Lensbury at Teddington Lock pool site, which opened in 1920.

Table 10: Swimming Pool Supply Richmond-upon-Thames

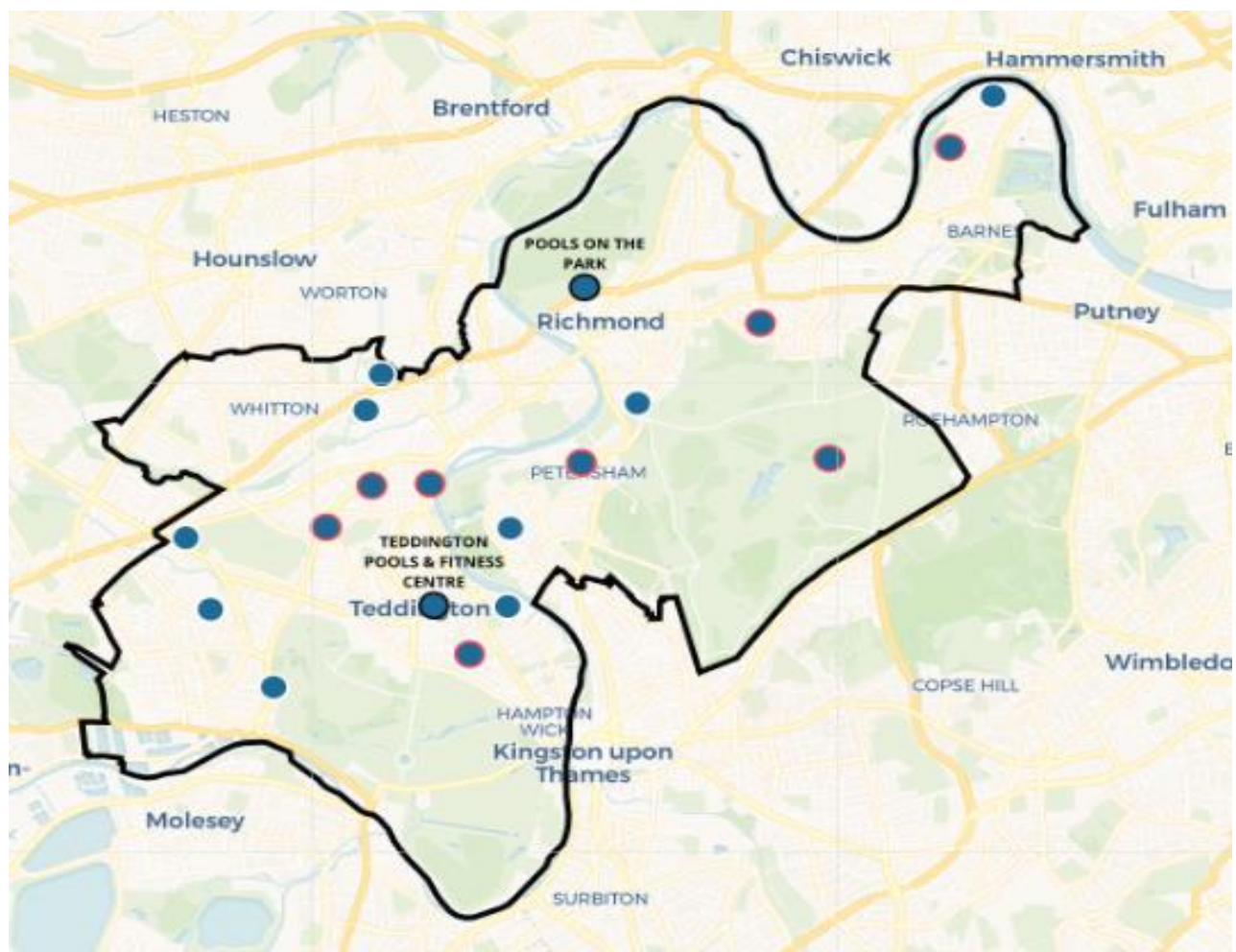
Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb
Richmond HarSPA	Main/General	20 x 8	160	1995	2019

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb
David Lloyd Club (Hampton)	Main/General	25 x 10	250	2004	
Lady Eleanor Holles School	Main/General	25 x 13	325	1974	2017
Lensbury At Teddington Lock	Main/General	25 x 10	250	1920	2016
Lensbury At Teddington Lock	Learner/Teaching/Training	10 x 5	50		
Pools on The Park	Main/General	33 x 13	425	1966	2009
Pools on The Park	Learner/Teaching/Training	12 x 8	96		
St Pauls School	Main/General	25 x 10	250	1968	2005
Teddington Pools & Fitness Centre	Main/General	25 x 13	325	1976	
Teddington Pools & Fitness Centre	Learner/Teaching/Training/Hydrotherapy	13 x 8	104		
Virgin Active Classic (The Twickenham Club)	Main/General	20 x 8	160	2009	

5.3.10. The location of swimming pool sites across Richmond-upon-Thames are shown in Map 7.

Map 7: Location of Swimming Pools across Richmond-upon-Thames



Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

5.3.11. Quality assessments have been undertaken on Richmond-upon-Thames Council pools. These are shown in table 11 below.

Table 11: Summary Qualitative Assessments- Swimming Pools

Facility	Overall Quantitative Good, Standard or Poor	Qualitative Score for Swimming Pool	Need for Investment - Overall Facility
Pools on the Park	Poor	<p>Built in 1966, refurbished in 2009 to a good standard. 33m x 13m 6 lane main pool and a 12m x 8m teaching learner pool. There is an outdoor lido the same size as the indoor main pool.</p> <p>Grade 11 listed building. Pools on the Park is recognised by Historic England as illustrating "the more ambitious use of glazed curtain walling and emphasis on providing large banks of spectator seating".</p> <p>Main pool and learner pool were very busy. Starting to show its age, Will require major refurbishment or new build but will have to take into consideration the Grade 11 listed elements of the building.</p> <p>The reception, gym and studio were refurbished in 2016</p> <p>The fitness gym on the first floor is not easily accessible for disabled people (no lift).</p> <p>The health suite has closed and been removed</p> <p>There are 2 studios.</p> <p>The air handling in the fitness suite and dance studio may require attention.</p> <p>Richmond Sub Aqua Club responded to consultation and consider the facilities to be standard. They require a pool and storage and they have both at the pool.</p> <p>Teddington Swimming Club responded to consultation and identified that they use the Pools on the Park as well as Teddington Swimming Pool but have to use swimming pools outside the Local Authority due to lack of suitable pool time and space.</p>	Need to identify Refurbishment/ rebuild requirements for next 5 – 10 years.
Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre	Standard	<p>25m x 13m main pool and a separate teaching/learner pool of 13m x 8m. built in 1976. Hydrotherapy pool 9.5m x 5m deck level pool, fitness suite, spin studio and a second studio.</p> <p>Building beginning to look tired. Teddington Swimming Club rated the facility as standard.</p> <p>Plant room maintenance and refurbishment has been ongoing.</p>	Need to identify refurbishment requirements for next 5 – 10 years.

5.3.12. Richmond-upon-Thames Council have produced a Supplementary Planning Document for Old Deer Park. Pools on the Park is one of a number of sports and recreation facilities within Old Deer Park.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

5.3.13. The supplementary Planning Document states the following:

- **Pools on the Park**

- The Pools on the Park complex is a Grade II Listed Building with landscaped amenity areas adjacent to the outdoor pool, both of which form an integral part of the complex, and therefore are of significance in terms of its role in providing the setting to the Listed Building.
- A detailed analysis of the Significance of the Pools on the Park complex, and areas where there may be capacity to change in the future without causing material harm to that significance has been undertaken.
- The **main pool hall, spectator seating and café** area form the **critical areas of significance**, together with the **outdoor pool and viewing deck**. It is also clear from the responses received in respect of the November 2016 consultation that this part of the complex is the most valued by users in respect of its current provision, form and layout.

5.3.14. The analysis of the complex, in historic terms, has identified a number of areas that have capacity for change as follows:

- entrance foyer;
- changing rooms;
- studio areas; and
- first-floor gym facilities.

5.3.15. Consequently, there are potential opportunities to undertake improvements within these areas in order to provide a modern, quality swimming and wider leisure offer for local residents, including an identified need for studio space, to provide for a facility which is efficient and viable in the long term, resulting in a significant public benefit. In developing any proposals, the principles and objectives identified in the Statement of Significance: 'Richmond Public Baths, Old Deer Park, Richmond' document needs to be fully considered and proposals justified within this context and having had regard to the other heritage assets pertaining to the Park.

5.3.16. A review of these areas could allow for improved access, including an enhanced reception area to the swimming pool to provide for separate access points for school children and other users, an issue which was identified by a range of stakeholders. This would allow for an increase in capacity and better flow into, and around the building. The viewing platform could be enhanced, and the existing café could be improved and potentially opened to the public.

5.3.17. It could also allow for improvements to access into and around the building for those with mobility impairments, as well as environmental sustainability benefits.

5.3.18. Any works requiring Listed Building Consent would need to be clearly justified. However, the 'Statement of Significance' report provides a clear starting point, including in relation to the setting of the Listed Building.

5.3.19. Any development proposals would also be subject to a detailed assessment of their impact on the character and appearance of the Historic Park and Garden and Conservation Area designations.

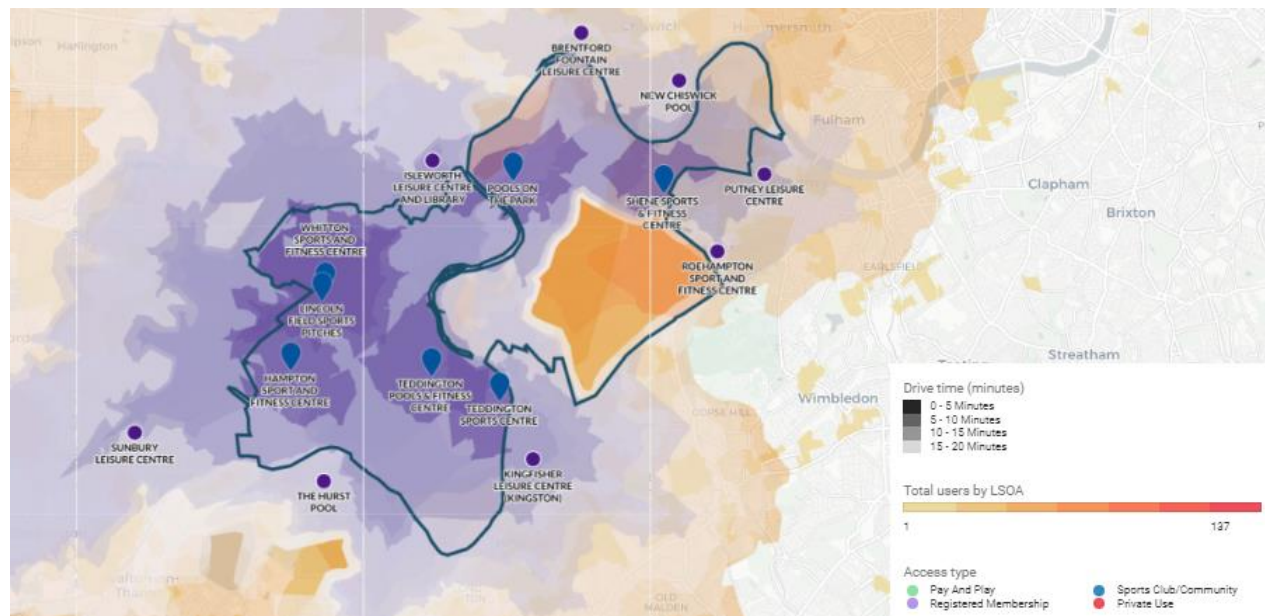
5.3.20. It is clear that any improvements to Pools on the Park will have to undergo a detailed assessment to meet the above considerations.

5.3.21. Richmond-upon-Thames Council will have to make decisions on refurbishment or consideration of a new swimming pool to meet the needs of residents in the future. The cost of maintaining Pools in the Park and Teddington Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre will increase with age of the buildings and plant. **It is important to identify refurbishment costs for the next 5 – 10 years and compare with a business case for new provision.**

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

5.3.22. Given the locations of swimming pools throughout the borough, the majority of residents in Richmond-upon-Thames are within the 20-minute drive time catchment of a swimming pool. Map 8 shows the highlighted 20-minute catchment areas and this crosses the borough boundary to neighbouring authorities.

Map 8: Richmond-upon-Thames Swimming Pools (and Neighbouring Local Authority Pools 20-minute Drive Time)



5.3.23. 23.6% of Richmond-upon-Thames residents do not have access to a car (Source Census 2011). It is therefore important to ensure that pools are as accessible as possible to those walking or using public transport. As a guide, Sport England recommend that catchment areas should be 10-minute walk time, and/or a 20-minute drivetime (private car). Clearly it is not possible to provide a swimming pool within 10 minutes' walk time of all residents.

5.3.24. Public leisure centre sites are accessible for both public and swimming club use. The opening hours are the most extensive of any swimming pool site and the centres are available for public use during the day, unlike education pool sites. Public leisure centres are proactively managed to encourage and support swimming participation and increase physical activity. Finally, as a public leisure centre, there is not the requirement to pay a monthly membership fee to access the swimming pools, as there is at commercial sites. All these factors contribute to there being a “draw effect” to the public leisure centre pools and why they have a higher estimated used capacity than other non-public pool sites.

5.3.25. The Sport England Facility Planning Model report sets out an assessment of the current situation regarding swimming pool supply, based on a 2018 population of 197,989.

5.3.26. The Sport England Facility Planning Model excludes facilities that are; for private use, too small, closed, or open-air pools including lidos. (Pools in the Park outdoor pool is therefore excluded from the FPM.) The following facilities were deemed to fall under too small. However, the three swimming pools below do hire their pools to organisations providing private swimming lessons.

- The Nuffield Health (formerly known as the Twickenham and Wellness Centre) at the Stoop offer swimming lessons for adults and children.
- The Mall School has a 20m pool in Twickenham Private swimming lesson provider Puddle Ducks use the pool for private lessons on Friday mornings 9.30am – 12 noon and Springboard Swimmers use the pool for lessons on Mondays 3.30pm – 6.30pm.
- St Richards Primary School has a 3-lane pool in Richmond and is used by Springboard Swimmers for private lessons Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursdays and Fridays 3.30pm – 7pm, Saturdays: 8.30am – 5.30pm and Sundays: 11am – 4pm;

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.3.27. The 3 swimming pools above are too small to offer the full community use. They do however, assist in meeting swimming teaching demand in the borough.
- 5.3.28. In addition to the above pools, there are 3 new small pools constructed since the FPM was undertaken. Swimway operate swimming lessons from these small pools in East Sheen. All 3 pools provide limited community use other than private teaching. These small pools are located at Barnes Home Guard Association East Sheen (20m x 2 lane pool). Gordon Avenue East Sheen (Private house 12m pool) and East Sheen Mount School (16m pool conversion of an outdoor pool).
- 5.3.29. First Swim operate a private swimming pool in Queens Road Twickenham for parent and toddler swimming lessons.
- 5.3.30. The FPM identifies that the Pools on the Park has an estimated used capacity of 69% in the weekly peak period and it is 68% at the Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre. So, well above the Borough wide average, and very close to the Sport England benchmark pools full comfort level of 70% of pool capacity used at peak times
- 5.3.31. The FPM states the Richmond-upon-Thames's supply is 12 sq. metres of water space per 1,000 population in 2018.
- 5.3.32. The FPM identifies that Richmond-upon-Thames has the second lowest provision of water space compared to Elmbridge, Kingston upon Thames and London Borough of Hounslow. Based on the above measure, which excludes outdoor pool provision. Kingston upon Thames has the lowest supply at 7 sq. metres of water per 1,000 population and Elmbridge the highest, at 22 sq. metres of water per 1,000 population. The mid-range appears to be 15 sq. metres of water per 1,000 population, which is the supply in Hounslow.
- 5.3.33. The London Region average is 11 sq. metres of water per 1,000 population and for England wide it is 12 sq. metres of water per 1,000 population in 2018. So, the provision in Richmond-upon-Thames is lower than most of the neighbouring local authorities, but just above the London Region average, and on a par with the England wide average.
- 5.3.34. A very high 97.3% of the total demand for swimming from Richmond-upon-Thames residents is satisfied demand. This means this level of total demand for swimming is located inside the catchment area of a pool (pools located both inside and outside the authority) and the pools have enough capacity to accommodate this level of total demand.
- 5.3.35. A subset of satisfied demand is retained demand, and this is based on the catchment area of the Borough's swimming pool sites and Richmond-upon-Thames residents using the nearest pool to where they live.
- 5.3.36. Some 47% of the total 97.3% of the Richmond-upon-Thames satisfied demand is retained demand and this is quite low. There are a cluster of pools located close to the Richmond Borough boundary in Brentford, Putney, Kingston and East/West Molesey. It is likely that for many Richmond Borough residents, these pools are the nearest pool sites to where they live.
- 5.3.37. The modelling assumption is that residents use the nearest pool to where they live. Sport England research does support this modelling assumption. However, increasingly there are other factors which influence which pools residents chose to use. The quality of the swimming pool offers and the pool site condition, plus other facilities on the same site, such as a gym and these are all of increasing importance. Residents may travel further to swim in a pool that provides a more all-round offer, and not simply chose to swim in the nearest pool to where they live.
- 5.3.38. The residual of satisfied demand, after retained demand, is exported demand. The finding is that 53.6% of the Richmond-upon-Thames satisfied demand for swimming is met outside the authority.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.3.39. The unmet demand definition has two parts to it – unmet demand because (1) there is too much demand for any particular swimming pool within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any pool and is then classified as unmet demand.
- 5.3.40. The Richmond-upon-Thames total unmet demand is 2.7% of total demand and this equates to 59 sq. metres of water, so a very low total. Of this total, 99.4% is from the second definition, unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a pool and 0.6% from lack of swimming pool capacity.
- 5.3.41. Unmet demand from lack of access, is by people who do not have access to a car and live outside the walk to or public transport catchment area of a pool, this represents 91.17% of the total 99.4% unmet demand outside catchment.
- 5.3.42. Unmet demand from residents who do not have access to a car and either walk to pools or use public transport will always exist. This is because it is not possible to get complete spatial coverage, whereby all areas are inside catchment, especially when the walking catchment area of swimming pools is small at 20 minutes/1 mile. This applies even in London, where there is an extensive supply of pools and a very extensive public transport network.
- 5.3.43. The key point is not that unmet demand outside catchment exists, but the scale, which is more important if the unmet demand is clustered enough to consider further pool provision, so as to improve accessibility for residents.
- 5.3.44. The Richmond-upon-Thames total unmet demand of just 59 sq. metres of water is an insufficient level of unmet demand to consider increasing pool provision so as to improve accessibility for residents. It would require at least 160 sq. metres of water (a 20m x 4 lane pool) and for this to be clustered in one location. This amount of water space is a viable amount to consider further swimming pool provision, to improve access.
- 5.3.45. There are proposals for a new indoor swimming pool at Radnor House (Knellor Hall). A planning application has been submitted and proposes a six lane 26 m swimming pool with a community use agreement in place for use before and after school use.

5.4. Swimming Pool Supply and Demand Analysis – The Findings

The Sport England Facility Planning model identified that Richmond-upon-Thames has an unmet demand of 59 sq. metres of water space, so a very low total and is an insufficient level to increase swimming pool water.

The findings also have to be placed in the longer-term context of projected population growth and the scale and location of residential development across the Borough. The scale of these changes will influence future demand for swimming pools and options for changing swimming pool provision.

By using the Sport England Sports Facility Calculator, it is possible to estimate overall future demand for provision of swimming pool water space.

The population data used for the Sport England FPM for Richmond-upon-Thames for 2018 is 197,800. The total projected population for 2033 is 197,199 (Source DATARICH GLA Housing-Led Population Projections). This is a slight decrease.

As there is a slight decrease in population there is no need to apply population increases to the Sport England Sports Facility Calculator and there is no need for additional water space by 2033 to meet population projected demand.

The current 59 Sq. m of unmet demand is quite small and would not be seen as financially viable to build a pool providing this low sq. m of water space.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

The key topic which emerges for the strategic planning of swimming pools, is the age of the swimming pool stock. The average age of the swimming pool sites in 2019, is 35 years. (This excludes the Lensbury at Teddington Lock pool site, which opened in 1920). The most recent pool site to open in the Borough, was Virgin Active at Twickenham, which opened in 2009.

The Pools on the Park pool site opened in 1966 and was modernised in 2009 and 2016, Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre opened in 1976. So, the key topic is about modernisation of the public swimming pool sites, or, possibly re-provision, based on the age and condition of the current pool sites.

The current swimming pool locations and their catchment areas are well located to meet the demand for swimming pools. However, Teddington Swimming Club have stated they have to go out of the Local Authority area to access swimming pool time to meet the clubs needs for water space.

There is also unsatisfied demand for pool time for club and competitive training, public swimming time, casual swimming and a very high demand for children's swimming lessons. With a rising younger population, demand is likely to rise. Increasing interest in Triathlon is also driving demand for swimming training and access to pools for triathlon club training. The challenge is particularly pertinent at Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre and Pools on the Park; both sites have low attractiveness ratings which will decrease without significant investment.

This is a one-year assessment set of findings from the Sport England data which has to be put into a wider context. With the estimated projection of additional water space being 59 Sq. m (current unmet demand) of water space in 2033. **This could be met with a redesigned Pool on the Parks possibly enclosing the outdoor pool (425 Sq. m)** or alternatively this could be met if an indoor swimming pool was built at Radnor House School (Knellor Hall) and a formal community use agreement was in place.

5.5. Health and Fitness Facilities

- 5.5.1. A fitness station is a piece of static fitness equipment; health and fitness centres, with over 20 stations are generally able to make a more attractive offer to both members and pay and play users.
- 5.5.2. The UK Fitness Industry report 2022 is the first time the report has been published since 2019.
- 5.5.3. Researchers found the market to be in remarkably good shape considering the disruptions of the pandemic, with overall results showing some key metrics to be running at the same levels as 2018 and some at 2019 levels, when the industry was having a 'golden moment', with record results in all areas. However, consultation with Richmond upon Thames Officers identifies that in house fitness facilities are not following the national trend and are not back to pre-pandemic use.
- 5.5.4. Memberships decreased by 4.7 per cent from 10.4 million in 2019 to 9.9m (9,890,985) in 2022 and market value was down by 4.3 per cent from £5.1 billion in 2019.
- 5.5.5. In 2019, the market value of the sector had increased by 4.2 per cent from the previous State of the Fitness Industry Report (2018), so the industry's present status takes us back to around 2018 value levels.
- 5.5.6. The penetration rate dropped back one percentage point to 14.6 per cent after passing the 15 per cent barrier for the first time back in 2019.
- 5.5.7. The supply analysis taken from Sport England Active Power database of fitness facilities identifies that, overall, there are 16 health and fitness suites providing 20 fitness stations or more out of a total of 29 fitness facilities identified in the audit.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.5.8. The 16 health and fitness centres with 20 stations or more provide a total of 1,246 fitness stations.
- 5.5.9. All fitness suite facilities require some form of payment/membership payment before use, and an induction is required.
- 5.5.10. There is a significant amount of fitness suite provision in Richmond-upon-Thames. Two of the 20 fitness facilities providing 20 stations or more are provided by Richmond-upon-Thames Council - Pools on the Park and Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre.
- 5.5.11. Three Richmond-upon-Thames Council fitness facilities provide under 20 stations, these are Hampton Sports and fitness Centre, Shene Sports and Fitness Centre and Whitton Sports and Fitness Centre. In Richmond-upon-Thames the only pay and play facilities are the fitness facilities in council ownership and the Aspire Centre. The remainder offer registered membership.
- 5.5.12. The supply of health and fitness facilities offering more than 20 fitness stations in Richmond-upon-Thames (Sport England Active Places Power November 2022) are shown in the table below.

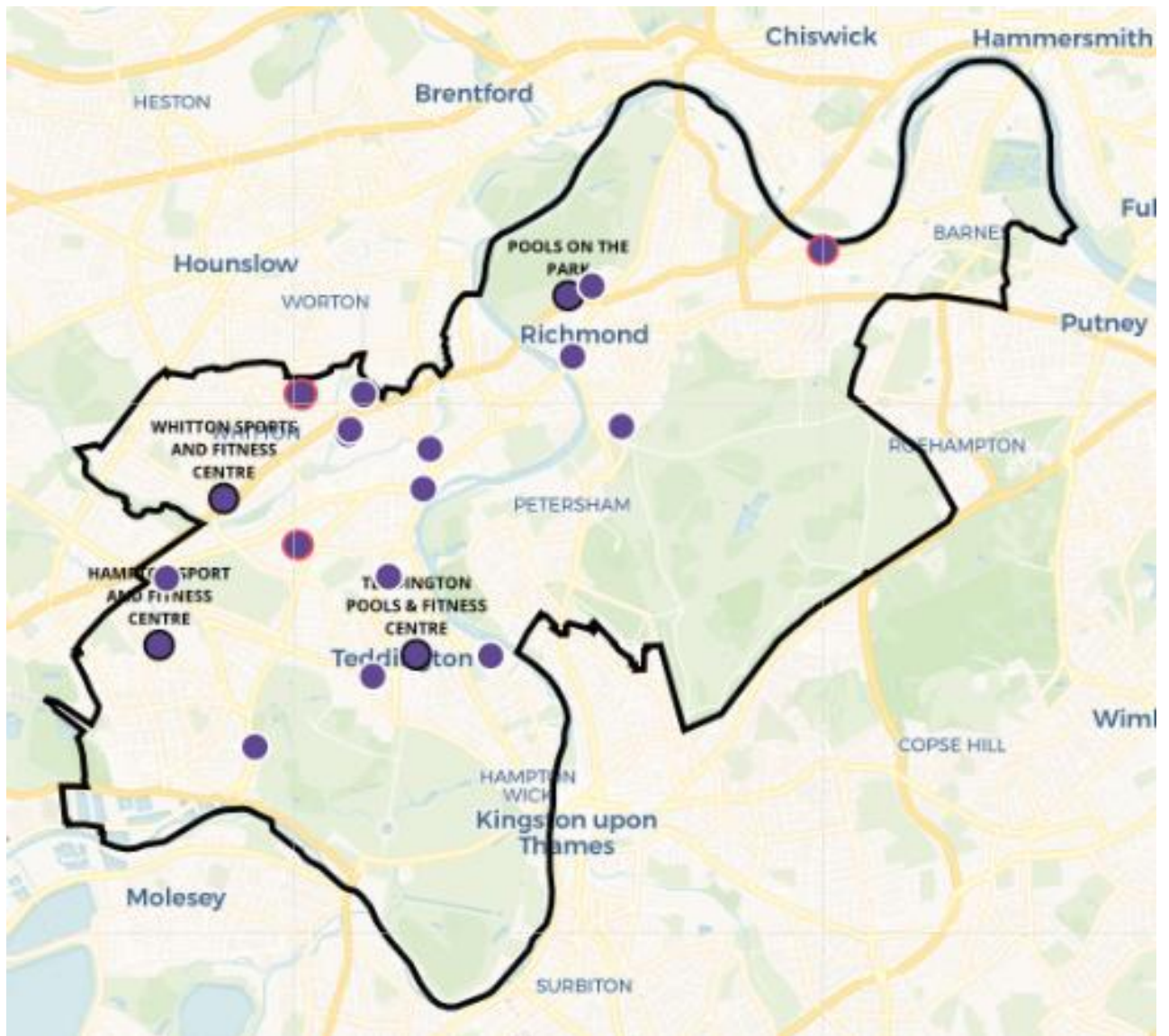
Table 12: Supply of Health and Fitness Facilities offering 20 fitness stations + Richmond-upon-Thames (Source: Sport England Active places Power)

Facility	No. of Stations
Anytime Fitness (Twickenham)	30
Better Gym (London Teddington)	77
David Lloyd Club (Hampton)	138
Escape Fitness	20
Lensbury At Teddington Lock	77
Nuffield Health (Twickenham)	90
Pools on The Park	50
Pure Gym (East Sheen)	220
Pure Gym (Twickenham)	220
Richmond Athletic Ground	50
Richmond HARSPA	45
Richmond Hill Health Club	80
Richmond Upon Thames College	20
St Marys University	33
Teddington Pools & Fitness Centre	46
Virgin Active Classic (The Twickenham Club)	80
Total Fitness Stations	1246

- 5.5.13. Richmond-upon-Thames fitness facility locations are provided in Map 9 overleaf.

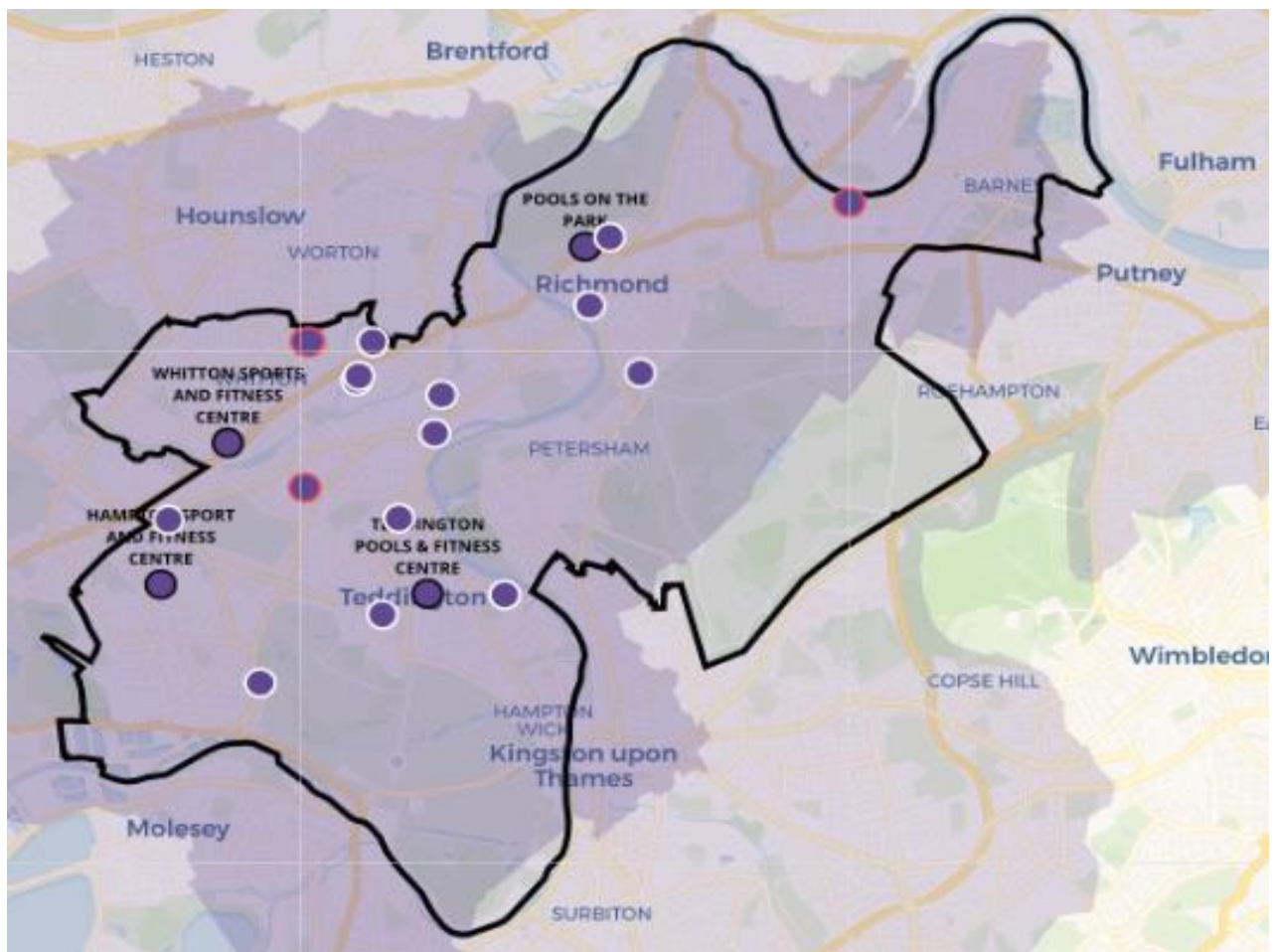
Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 9: Richmond-upon-Thames Health and Fitness Facilities



Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 10: Richmond-upon-Thames Health and Fitness Facilities 20-minute drive time



- 5.5.14. Map 10 above shows that Richmond-upon-Thames residents have access to health and fitness facilities within a 20-minute drive time.
- 5.5.15. The supply and demand model for health and fitness Appendix 4 is based on the premise that for the supply to be sufficient, it must be large enough to cater for the maximum demand at any one time. Maximum demand is described as the demand during a peak hour session.
- 5.5.16. The health and fitness model identifies the population in Richmond-upon-Thames over the age of 15 and then applies the 2022 state of UK Health and Fitness Industry report membership penetration rate of 14.6%, to estimate the number of the population over 15 (Age limit for use of facilities) that participates in using health and fitness gyms. The estimate for Richmond-upon-Thames is 23,049 persons participate. The model then assumes that each participant participates 1.5 times per week. This provides an overall number of visits of 34,574. These visits are then multiplied by the number of visits in peak time and the model assumes 65% of visits are in peak time. The estimate for the number of visits in peak time is 22,473. This estimate is then divided by the number of peak time hours per week (34) to give the number of fitness stations required.
- 5.5.17. The health and fitness model in Richmond-upon-Thames estimates a need for 661 fitness stations at peak time of demand. The number of fitness stations in health and fitness facilities in Richmond-upon-Thames that provide over 20 stations equated to 1.246 in 2022. The health and fitness model assumes an oversupply of 585 fitness stations in 2022.
- 5.5.18. The population over the age of 15 in Richmond-upon-Thames is expected to grow by 2030. The estimated demand in 2030 is for 988 fitness stations. The current estimated oversupply will be sufficient to meet the future needs. There will be an estimated surplus of 258 fitness stations. This is dependent on membership penetration rates growing by 0.5% per year.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.5.19. The above is a theoretical analysis using population data for those aged over 15 and the national penetration rate. Development of future health and fitness facilities should always be based upon a robust business case.
- 5.5.20. **Hampton Pool is seeking planning permission currently to redevelop the existing facilities and car park including the extension of the main building to incorporate extended changing facilities, construction of a new building to incorporate a gym, 2 studios and plant room and redevelopment of the roof of the main building to accommodate a refurbished café. However, the planning application does not currently meet all the requirements of the London Plan.**
- 5.5.21. Changes to the Planning Use Classes Order for England came into effect on 1 September 2020. The changes included a new “Class E” which captures the former Class A1, A2, A3, B1 and certain Class D1 and D2 uses into a single Commercial Use Class. Fitness Gyms are now within Class E. Change of use within Class E do not require planning permission, because they are not development (s55(2)(f) TCPA 1990), providing that there are no restrictions in planning conditions or s106 obligations which prevent this. These changes are a response to the difficulties faced by town centres which have been exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic, and give businesses more flexibility in how they use their premises. **This is important as may lead to a growth in health and fitness facilities without the need for planning permission.**

5.6. Health and Fitness Suites – The Findings

There is a current **oversupply of 585 fitness stations** and the future demand in 2030 can be met from the current supply. This is dependent on the penetration rate of memberships for health and fitness facilities across all public, commercial, sports club and education facilities with 20 stations or more.

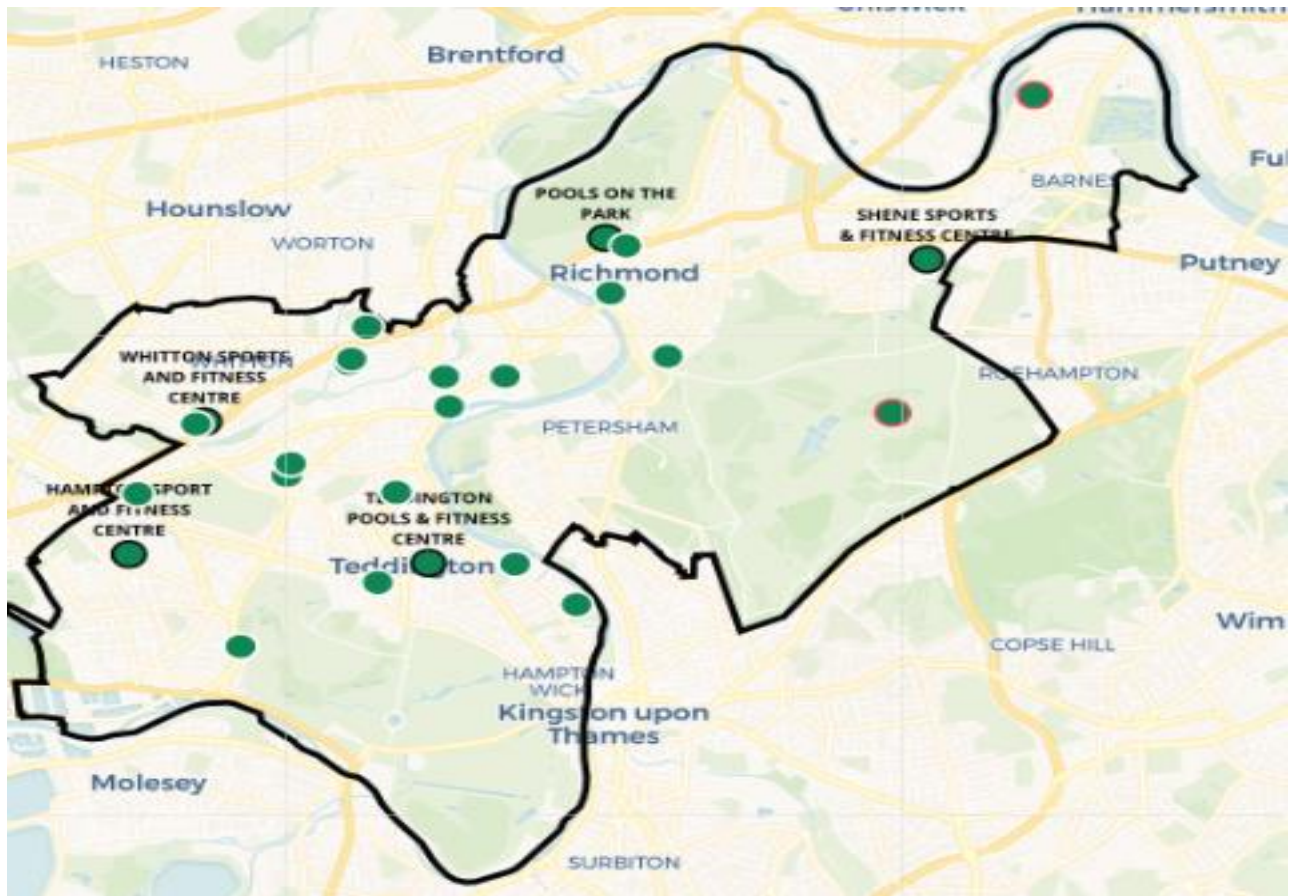
Any new facility particularly owned by the council or managed on the council’s behalf should undertake a business case to ensure its viability.

5.7. Studios

- 5.7.1. Health and fitness suites tend to focus on group exercise such as spin, aerobics, dance, Thai chi and yoga.
- 5.7.2. There is currently a national growing market for boutique fitness studios that are generally viewed as a small gym 800 – 3500 square feet that focuses on group exercise and specialises in one or two fitness areas. It is anticipated that Richmond-upon-Thames will be following the national trend with boutique studios popping up across the borough.
- 5.7.3. There are 24 sites providing 49 studios across Richmond-upon-Thames offering pay and play, registered membership or sports club use. 2 studios are only for private use -The Harrodian School and Royal Ballet School (White Lodge).
- 5.7.4. The location of studios is shown in Map 11.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

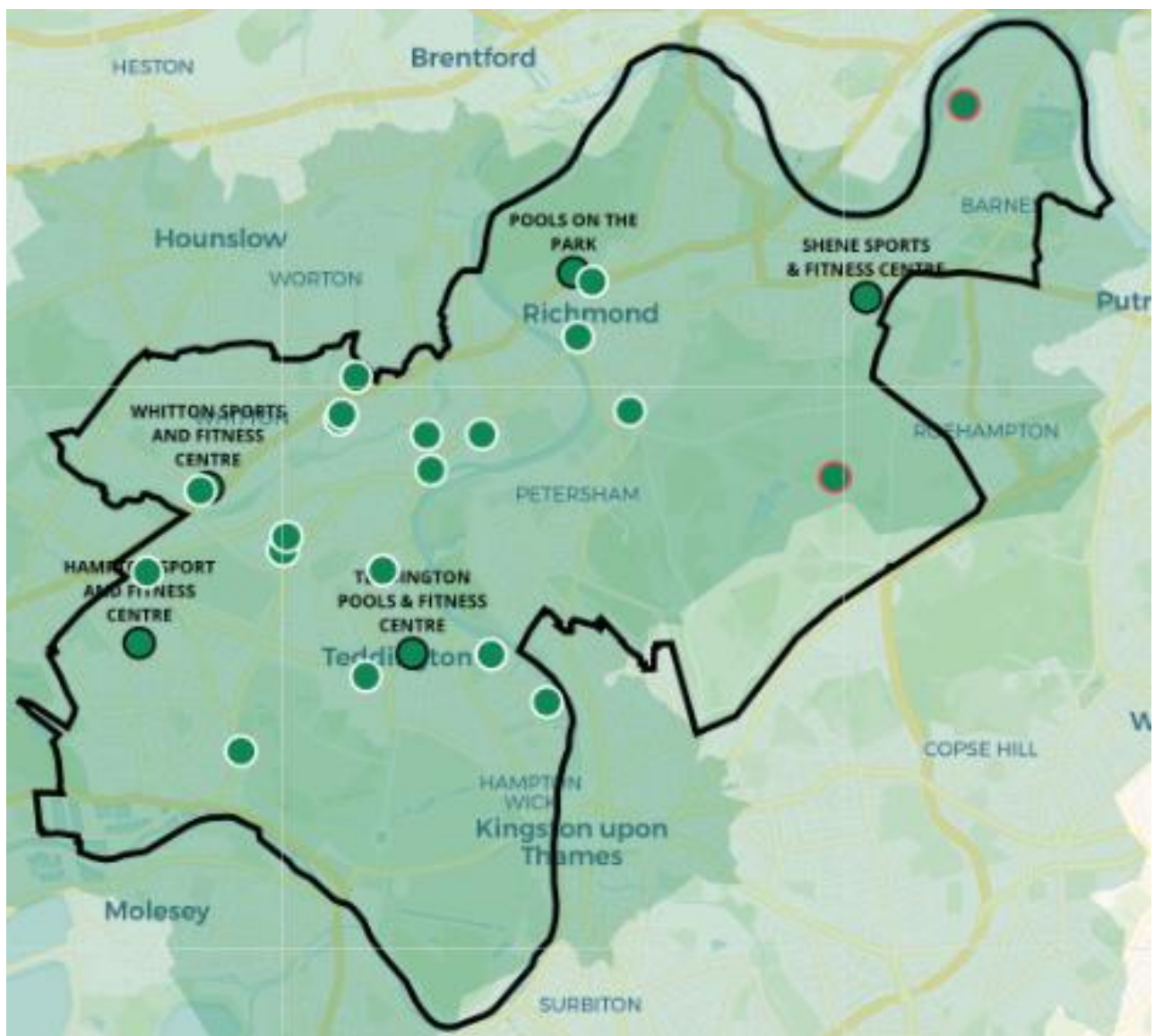
Map 11: Location of Studios across Richmond-upon-Thames



- 5.7.5. The 20-minute drive time for studios is shown in Map 12 below. All Richmond-upon-Thames residents have access to a studio within a 20-minute drive time. The 20-minute catchment is shown in pale green below.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 12: Studios 20-minute drive time



5.8. Studio – Findings

There is no specific methodology for assessing the current and future need for studios. The trend is that they are growing in need. The demand is around health and fitness classes and in this instance, they should be considered within new builds to ensure sports hall activities are not occupied by fitness classes and sports halls can provide space for the groups and clubs that require the size of the hall e.g. basketball, volleyball and netball etc.

5.9. Squash Courts

- 5.9.1. There are 8 sites providing 18 squash courts. Teddington Sports Centre is the only facility providing 2 public pay and play squash courts across Richmond-upon-Thames. St Pauls School has 3 squash courts that are private use only.
- 5.9.2. Old Deer Park Partnership and Sheen Lawn Tennis and Squash Club provide 2 courts each for sports club use.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 5.9.3. Barnes Sports Club 2 courts, David Lloyd (Hampton) 2 courts, Lensbury at Teddington Lock 2 courts and Nuffield Health (Twickenham) 3 courts offer registered membership.
- 5.9.4. Barnes Squash Club responded to the consultation stating that the club has 105 members. However, the courts are in poor condition. There is a strong interest in Padel, but no facilities are available. The Club has no funds to rebuild the courts or the ability to be able to borrow funds and therefore no way of increasing membership. The Club should consider applying for grants for padel courts through the LTA.
- 5.9.5. Increasingly, squash courts are provided through squash clubs/multi-sport clubs, as opposed to local authority facilities. This reflects the fact that participation in the sport has stabilised from its massive growth in the 1970's, and there is less demand for community access squash courts.
- 5.9.6. England Squash uses a ratio of 1 court per 10,000 population. The current population is 197,800, and the total projected population for 2030 is 214,103 (Source DATARICH). There are 18 squash courts across Richmond upon Thames.

5.10. Squash Court – Findings

England Squash has a ratio of 1 court per 10,000 population. There are 18 courts across Richmond upon Thames. The current population requires 19 courts and the future 2030 population requires 20 courts based on this ratio.

Competitive squash is predominantly now played in clubs, from a club facility; demand for community access squash courts has reduced in recent years. Participation is still growing however, but through the club base where juniors can be supported and coached from an early age.

No demand has been identified for additional squash courts in Richmond-upon-Thames. Barnes Squash club would like to rebuild their facilities and introduce Padel Tennis but do not have the funds to achieve this.

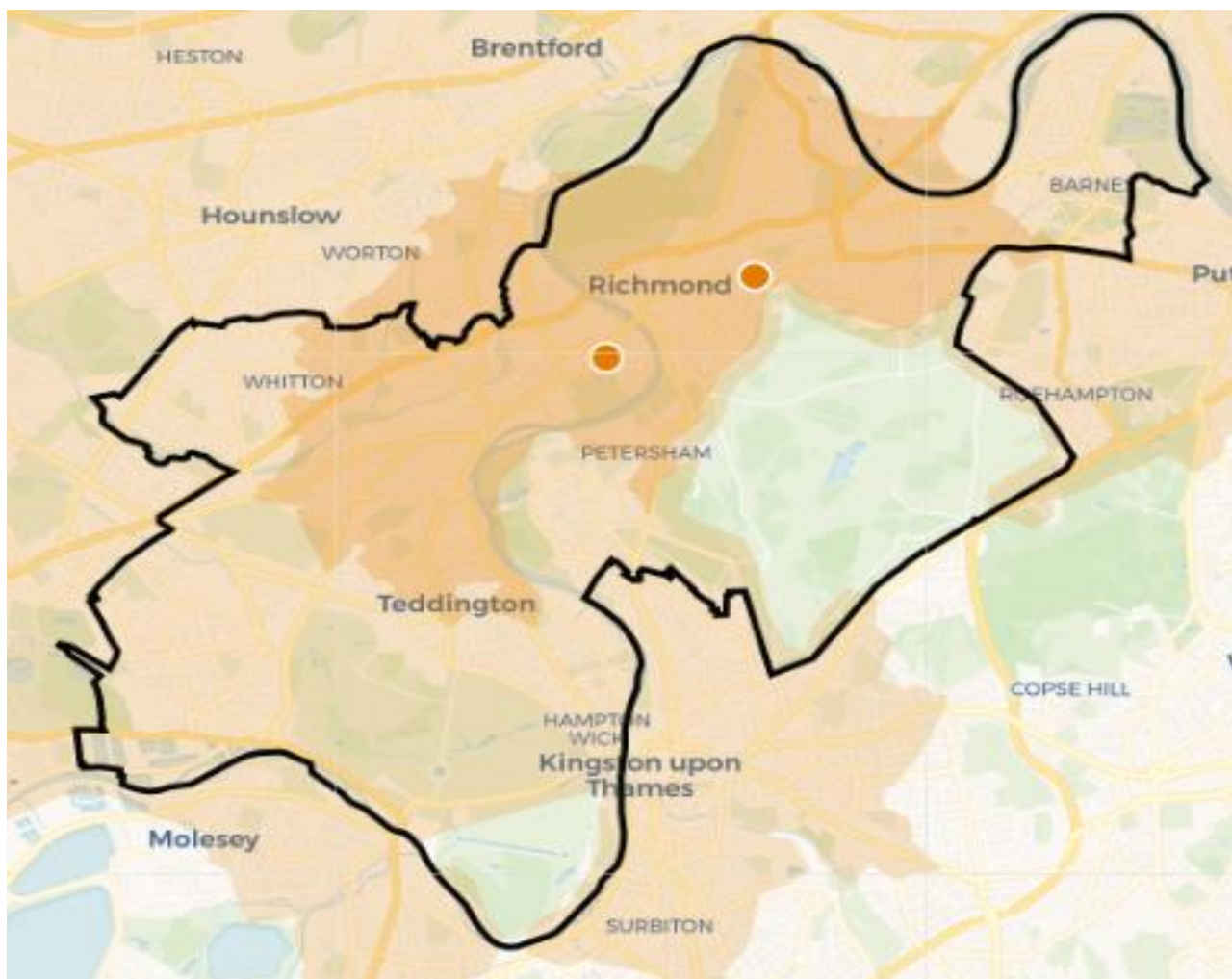
The existing squash courts should be protected to meet the needs of squash currently and in the future.

5.11. Indoor Bowls

- 5.11.1. An indoor bowls facility comprises a number of indoor rinks (usually a minimum of 3 rinks). Indoor Bowls is a more specialist sport and tends to be used by bowlers who play outside in the summer, to practise and compete during the winter months.
- 5.11.2. There are 2 formal full-size indoor bowls facilities in Richmond-upon-Thames.
- 5.11.3. Cambridge Park Indoor Bowls Club was built in 1967 adjacent to outdoor bowls facilities. The indoor facility has 4 rinks. Changing room refurbishments and new lockers were carried out in 2019. The club also operates a replacement carpet rink fund.
- 5.11.4. Richmond Indoor Bowls Club was established in 1934 and has six rinks. The indoor carpet has recently been replaced and have refurbished changing rooms.
- 5.11.5. These facilities are shown in Map 13.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 13: Indoor Bowls Facilities Richmond-upon-Thames



5.12. Indoor Bowls – Findings

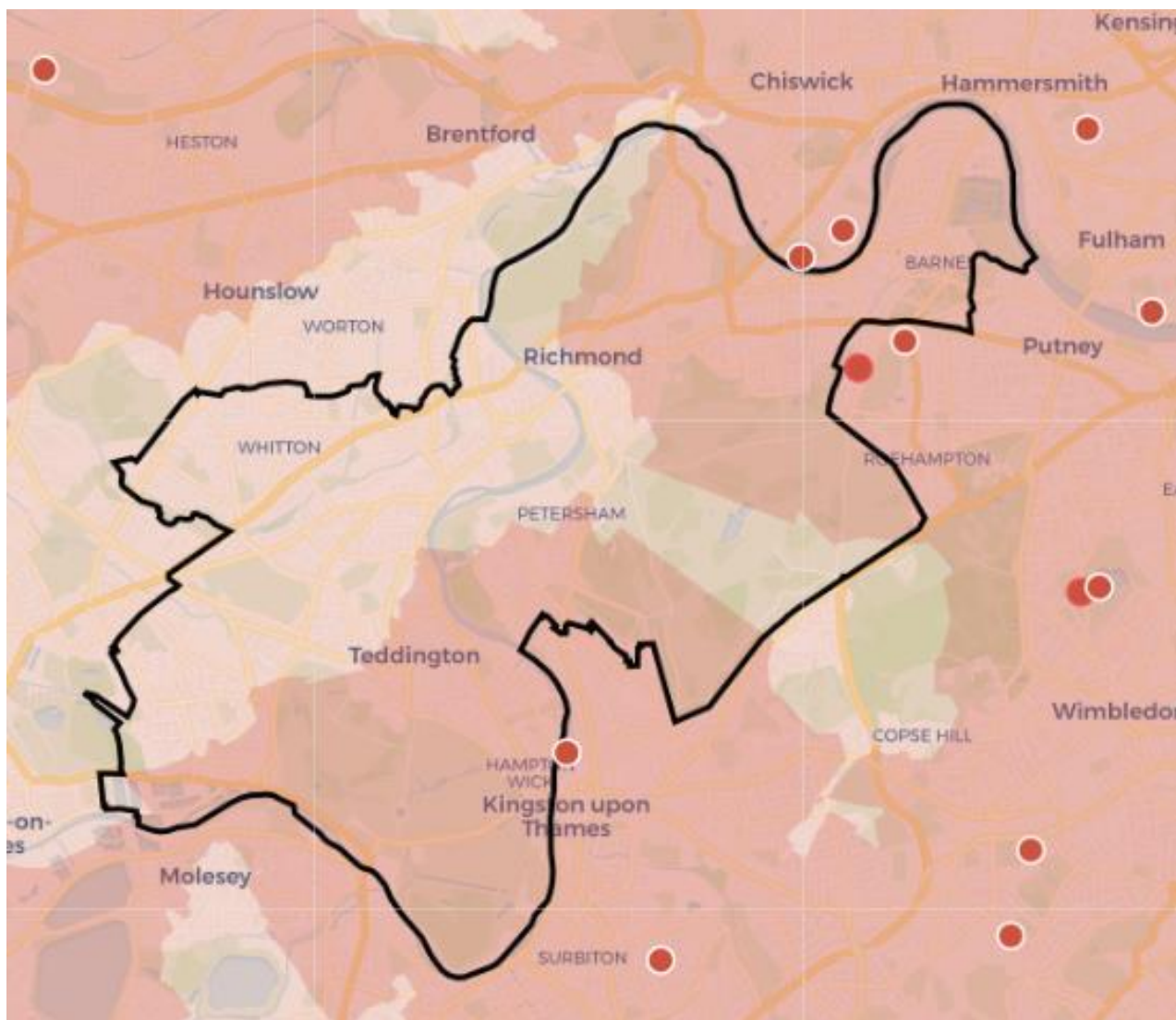
The England Indoor Bowls Association National Governing is happy that with the projection that the older population will increase in Richmond-upon-Thames, and as the Sport of Indoor Bowls is popular with the “older population” the provision of the 2 existing indoor bowls facilities provides sufficient indoor bowls rinks within Richmond-upon-Thames for at least the next 12 years.

5.13. Indoor Tennis

- 5.13.1. Indoor tennis courts are considered because they are a completely different facility from outdoor tennis courts, which, unless club courts, tend to be used for recreational tennis. Indoor courts are significantly more expensive to use, and therefore tend to provide for those who are already tennis participants, or who wish to learn to play tennis and can afford private or group coaching.
- 5.13.2. There are no indoor tennis court facilities in Richmond-upon-Thames identified by Sport England’s Active Places Power audit. However, there are 3 indoor tennis courts at St Mary’s University sports hall. Sport England class this facility as a sports hall and not a purpose built tennis facility. This is mainly due to the other additional sports other than tennis that can be played over the 3 tennis courts. There are numerous indoor tennis facilities in surrounding Local authorities these are shown in Map 14 overleaf.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 14: Indoor Tennis Facility Provision in Neighbouring Local authorities to Richmond-upon-Thames



5.13.3. The Lawn Tennis Association has modelled data from existing successful Community Indoor Tennis Centres. This has helped to identify the demographic type, volume and catchment size of a successful Community Indoor Tennis Centre. This modelling was applied across England, Scotland and Wales to establish the areas of potential demand.

5.13.4. The key metrics established are:

- A target location must demonstrate a minimum threshold population of 70,000 within a 20-minute drive time of a target location. Of this population, at least 12,500 must identify as having an interest in playing tennis. Please note this drive time extends to 30 minutes for rural areas.
- Filtered for competition within the catchment in order to prioritise the addressing of indoor tennis provision gaps.

5.13.5. This methodology has enabled the Lawn Tennis Association to identify 72 target locations for new indoor tennis venues in England.

5.13.6. **Richmond-upon-Thames has been identified as a possible suitable location for a community indoor tennis facility by the LTA.**

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

5.14. Indoor Tennis – Findings

The Lawn Tennis Association consider that Richmond-upon-Thames is an area that they would like to consider for an indoor community Tennis Centre. This would have to be linked with an existing Tennis Club. There may be opportunities to cover existing courts with bubbles as opposed to providing a new indoor tennis centre. There may be an opportunity behind Pools in the Park and this may link to the Playing Pitch Strategy of outdoor tennis courts.

5.15. Gymnastics and Trampolining

5.15.1 There are 4 gymnastics clubs affiliated to British Gymnastics across Richmond-upon-Thames:

- Ace of Clubs – trampoline club have 18 members based at Waldegrave School.
- Maria Stolbovas Rhythmic Gymnastics club – 44 members and 12 on waiting list based at Lady Eleanor Holles School.
- Richmond Gymnastics Association - 1987 members and 4,000 waiting list prior to the pandemic and reduced now to 300. Based at Richmond Gymnastics Association Centre and use other satellite centres across Richmond-upon-Thames
- SIMM Splitz Gymnastics Club – 402 members. Based at St Mary's University

5.15.2 British Gymnastics have been consulted and are working with Richmond Gymnastics Association who have already completed an extension to their own facility and are now looking at an additional facility. **British Gymnastics are currently assisting the Richmond Gymnastics Association with a London Marathon Charitable Trust grant application.** Richmond Gymnastics Association responded to the consultation and have stated that their current purpose-built facility is not large enough and that they either require a significant extension to their existing facility or a second larger facility. **They have also considered re-locating to Barn Elms.** Richmond Gymnastics Association also run satellite centres **and they have major issues with schools cancelling lessons, or not allowing them to run their full programme which negatively impacts the children that attend sessions there.**

5.15.3 British Gymnastics has supplied a heat map, (map 15) showing gymnastics participation in Richmond-upon-Thames. The warmer colours show the high participation areas and the cooler colours less participation.

5.15.4 Gymnastics classes are also provided at Whitton sports and Fitness Centre, Shene Sports and Fitness Centre, Teddington Sports Centre and Hampton Sports and Fitness Centre. Trampoline classes and inclusive classes are also provided for at Whitton Sports and Fitness Centre.

5.15.5 Kingston Trampoline Club who has a number of Richmond upon Thames residents as members are looking for a dedicated facility in the borough.

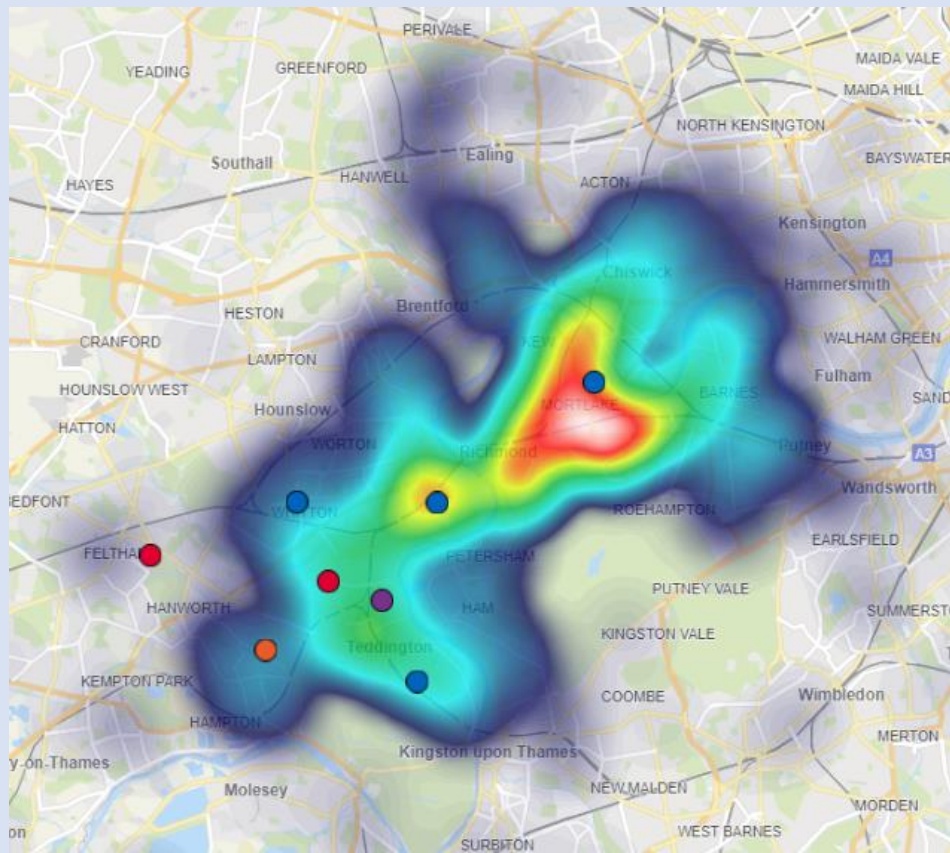
5.16. Gymnastics and Trampolining – Findings

British Gymnastics are currently assisting Richmond Gymnastics Association with a funding bid for a grant to look at additional premises for the Association. The Association has a waiting list of 300 and requires additional premises.

Dedicated provision enables clubs to deal with their waiting lists and expand their operations – as a general rule, clubs experience a 50% growth within a year of relocating. The main element of income for gymnastics is recreational gymnastics for young people which is also an attraction for leisure operators in terms of their key goal of increasing income generation.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Map 15: Heat Map of Participation for Gymnastics Richmond-upon-Thames



The heat map identifies that the red area is where most gymnastics participation takes place in Richmond upon Thames. Participation falls moving into yellow, then green, light blue and dark blue.

6 Conclusions from the Assessment

6.1. Sports Halls

6.1.1 The Sport England Facility Planning model identified that Richmond-upon-Thames currently has an unmet demand for 5 badminton courts (4.9 badminton courts rounded up). The FPM has not taken into consideration new and planned sports hall facilities at Sir Richard Reynolds, Harrodian School, Turin House School, Richmond upon Thames School and a possible sports hall at Radnor House School (Knellor Hall). The table below shows that these facilities equate to 15 courts nearly 4 x 4 court sports halls.

Table 13:

Sports Hall Requirements	Sports Hall	No. Badminton Courts
Sports Halls built since 2019 Current Facility Planning Model National Run	Richard Reynolds (Built 2019)	4 courts
	Harrodian School (Planning Permission Granted working up Community Use Agreement)	4 courts
	Turin House School Built 2021 (finalising community use agreement)	3 courts
	Richmond upon Thames School	4 courts
	Radnor House School - Planning Application (22/3004/FUL Decision due 20 th January 2023) submitted 4 court sports Hall restricted use 18.00 – 20.30 Mon – Fri and Saturday and Sunday 09.00 – 13.00 and school holidays 10 weeks per year 09.00 – 16.00	4 courts
Total Badminton Courts not accounted for in FPM		15 courts
2019 Current Facility Planning Model Unmet Demand	Number of courts required to meet current demand	5 courts
Population demand 2033	Slight decrease in population by 2033 no need to provide additional facilities	0 courts
Exceeded Supply of Badminton Court Sports Halls Currently and in 2033		10 courts

6.1.2 Theoretically supply exceeds demand currently and in the future to 2033. However, although the FPM considers that the school sports halls are not open during the day it has not considered the new sports halls above and consultation has identified that there are extended periods of unavailability during exams.

6.1.3 There is a continuing need to modernise the older sports hall stock.

6.1.4 At Richmond Athletic Association, the rugby club has aspirations to develop an indoor multi-sport facility, as do the Barn Elms Trust at their site. Any development by Richmond Athletic association would have to consider Old Deer Park SPD.

6.1.5 **The majority of the sports halls are owned by educational institutions and have variable access arrangements for community use.** Any reduction in community use at these venues, will impact on pay and play and sports club use. Continued secure access for community use at the education sites is of most importance to the Council. It is important, so as to maintain supply/access for community use.

6.1.6 The sports halls are estimated to be very busy at peak times. **The sports halls do not offer weekly daytime access and consideration should be given in the context of changes in the role sports halls play in providing for activities other than hall sports, such as exercise classes and martial arts.**

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 6.1.7 There may be a need for more flexible spaces in terms of dimensions, floor space and different surfaces so as to accommodate a wider range of activities and provision of daytime activity programmes.
- 6.1.8 **In addition, there are no sports halls with swimming pools on the same site owned by Richmond-upon-Thames Council.**
- 6.1.9 **Richmond Volleyball Club would like a 2-court sports hall for volleyball match play and training.** Although Knights Basketball Club emailed and enquired about information required from the consultation, they have not responded. **However, it is understood that the basketball club has similar requirements as Richmond Volleyball Club and would like a 2-court sports hall. Netball has the same demand.**

6.2. Swimming Pools

- 6.2.1. The Sport England Facility Planning model identified that Richmond-upon-Thames has an unmet demand of 59 sq. metres of water space, so a very low total and is an insufficient level to increase swimming pool water.
- 6.2.2. The development of a 25m x 6 lane swimming pool at Radnor House School may well allow Teddington Swimming Club additional or replacement swimming pool time. The proposed community use agreement will allow usage Monday – Friday 18.00 – 20.30, Saturday and Sunday 09.00 – 13.00 and early morning swimming times before school usage Monday Friday to provide for elite swimming squads.
- 6.2.3. **There is no need to provide additional water space to meet population projections to 2033.**
- 6.2.4. The key topic which emerges for the strategic planning of swimming pools, is the age of the swimming pool stock. The average age of the swimming pool sites in 2019, is 35 years. (This excludes the Lensbury at Teddington Lock pool site, which opened in 1920). The most recent pool site to open in the Borough, was Virgin Active at Twickenham, which opened in 2009.
- 6.2.5. The Pools on the Park pool site opened in 1966 and was modernised in 2009, Teddington Pools and Fitness **Centre** opened in 1976. **So, the key topic is about modernisation of the public swimming pool sites, or, possibly re-provision, based on the age and condition of the current pool sites.**
- 6.2.6. **The current swimming pool locations and their catchment areas are well located to meet the demand for swimming pools.** However, Teddington Swimming club have stated they have to go out of the Local Authority area to access swimming pool time to meet the clubs needs for water space. This is possibly due to the club needing to access additional 25m and 50m water space. Pools in the Park is not of a suitable length at 33m. this may well be over come with the proposed development of an indoor swimming pool at Radnor house School. The school and swimming club have been discussing club use of the proposed swimming pool.
- 6.2.7. There is also unsatisfied demand for pool time for club and competitive training, public swimming time, casual swimming, and a very high demand for children’s swimming lessons. With a rising younger population, demand is likely to rise. Increasing interest in Triathlon is also driving demand for swimming training and access to pools for triathlon club training. **The challenge is particularly pertinent at Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre and Pools on the Park; both sites have low attractiveness ratings which will decrease without significant investment.**
- 6.2.8. It is possible to undertake a Sport England local bespoke facility planning model assessment, for Richmond-upon-Thames, which includes any projected changes and model specific options for changing the swimming pool supply. This could be closing an existing pool and providing a new pool at the same or new site and with a different configuration. Such an assessment would build in the projected changes in population.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

6.3. Health and Fitness Suites

- 6.3.1. **There is a current oversupply of 585 fitness stations and the future demand in 2030 can be met from the current supply** This is dependent on the penetration rate of memberships for health and fitness facilities across all public, commercial, sports club and education facilities with 20 stations or more.
- 6.3.2. **Before** any decisions are made to increase, reduce or replace health and fitness facilities at Richmond upon Thames Council run leisure facilities. There is a need for a full business case that considers current and future revenue and capital projections and tests the facilities viability.
- 6.3.3. Any new facility particularly owned by the council or managed on the council's behalf should undertake a business case to ensure its viability.

6.4. Studio – Findings

- 6.4.1. There is no specific methodology for assessing the current and future need for studios. **The trend is that they are growing in need.** The demand is around health and fitness classes and, in this instance, they should be considered within new builds to ensure sports hall activities are not occupied by fitness classes and sports halls can provide space for the groups and clubs that require the size of the hall e.g. basketball, volleyball and netball etc. Studios can also double up as dojos for martial arts etc.

6.5. Squash Courts

- 6.5.1. England Squash has a ratio of 1 court per 10,000 population. There are 18 courts across Richmond upon Thames. The current population requires 19 courts and the future 2030 population requires 20 courts based on this ratio.
- 6.5.2. Competitive squash is predominantly now played in clubs, from a club facility; demand for community access squash courts has reduced in recent years. Participation is still growing however, but through the club base where juniors can be supported and coached from an early age.
- 6.5.3. **No demand has been identified for additional squash courts in Richmond-upon-Thames.** Barnes Squash club would like to rebuild their facilities and introduce Padel Tennis but do not have the funds to achieve this.
- 6.5.4. The existing squash courts should be protected to meet the needs of squash currently and in the future.

6.6. Indoor Bowls

- 6.6.1. England indoor Bowls Association considers that the provision of the 2 existing indoor bowls facilities **provide sufficient indoor bowls rinks within Richmond-upon-Thames.**

6.7. Indoor Tennis

- 6.7.1. The Lawn Tennis Association consider that Richmond-upon-Thames is an area that they would like to consider for an Indoor Community Tennis Centre. This would have to be linked with an existing Tennis Club.

6.8. Gymnastics and Trampolining

- 6.8.1. British Gymnastics are currently assisting Richmond Gymnastics Association with a funding bid for a grant to look at additional premises for the Association within the Borough. The Association has a waiting list of 300 and requires additional premises.

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

- 6.8.2. Dedicated provision enables clubs to deal with their waiting lists and expand their operations – as a general rule clubs experience a 50% growth within a year of relocating. The main element of income for gymnastics is recreational gymnastics for young people which is also an attraction for leisure operators in terms of their key goal of increasing income generation.

7 Recommendations

7.1. Key recommendations from the report are provided below:

Recommendation 1:

The existing levels of community accessible (including pay and play) sports hall, and swimming pool provision in the Borough are retained as a minimum.

(PROTECT)

Recommendation 2:

New education sports hall or swimming pool developments must be subject to **formal Community Use Agreements** as a condition of planning.

The council should revisit and strengthen existing Community Use Agreements initially and periodically.

(PROVIDE & PROTECT).

Recommendation 3:

Consideration should be given to the **provision of sports hall daytime use** to increase participation for the community that can access daytime provision but may struggle to access facilities in the evenings and at weekends, either through new or replacement sports hall provision.

When considering the above there is a **need to consider the Sport Club and National Governing Body consultation and a desire for access to an 8-court sports hall** for match play and training particularly for Volleyball and Netball.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 4:

There is a need for Richmond-upon-Thames Council and partners to **plan now for the refurbishment of its sports halls on an on-going basis.**

The Council should consider the centre as a whole to ensure it remains relevant in the future and increase total participation. Investment needs to be considered for customer critical areas and for new, innovative facility areas to promote physical activity, improve health and well-being and which complement the sports facilities.

This is to ensure that the Council can continue to provide good quality facilities and respond to local health and wellbeing priorities and deliver increased opportunities for participation in physical activity and sport for clubs and the community.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 5:

Pools on the Park and Teddington Pools - Carry out a feasibility and business case to establish the facility mix for a **new replacement or a high spec refurbishment of Pools on the Park and at the same time a high spec refurbishment of Teddington Pools.**

The Pools on the Park feasibility work will need to consider:

- The Grade 11 listed elements of Pools on the Park and what can be achieved
- In the outdoor pool creating a 25 metres length (with a boom) and assess the possible water circulation issues with this option.
- Consider the pros and cons of covering or providing a retractable roof, for the outdoor pool.
- Pros and Cons for turning the outdoor pool into a 50m pool. Which could provide 2 x 25 metre pools.
- Consideration should be given to providing external showers, toilets and changing facilities to allow the pool to operate all year.
- The stepped access at the shallow end of the Outdoor Pool needs to be considered as this stops swimming clubs from training in the pool.
- Decarbonisation projects to reduce carbon emissions

(PROVIDE AND ENHANCE)

Recommendation 6:

Provision of a relevant fitness offer (to include gym and studios) to be reviewed on a site-by-site basis, considering; local public and private competition, other day time access to dry-side facilities, current performance of facilities, opportunities to deliver health programmes.

Before any decisions are made to reduce, increase or replace health and fitness facilities at council-managed leisure facilities, the full business case should consider current and future revenue and capital projections and tests the facilities viability.

The Council to consider relevant outdoor-spaces for managed fitness facilities, activities and programmes.

(PROVIDE AND PROTECT)

Recommendation 7:

Barnes Squash club have identified a need for **Padel facilities**. The club should be directed towards the Lawn Tennis Association to seek funding opportunities for this provision.

(PROVIDE & ENHANCE)

Recommendation 8:

Dialogue is established with the Lawn Tennis Association about provision of Community Indoor Tennis facilities within Richmond-upon-Thames to identify if there are any possible tennis club led opportunities for a community indoor tennis facility or alternatively consider covering existing Council owned tennis courts.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 9:

Dialogue is established with Richmond Gymnastics Association and British Gymnastics to further explore the potential of facilitating club-led development of additional gymnastics facilities.

(PROVIDE)

Recommendation 10:

Protect all indoor sports halls with 3+ courts and swimming pools over 20m length and 160 sq m of water space within the new local plan. This is to ensure against the loss of strategically valuable sports facilities that are available for community use or could contribute to meeting future community needs, unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.

(PROTECT)

Recommendation 11:

Where appropriate, Richmond-upon-Thames Council and its partners seek to secure developer contributions from strategic developments that could contribute towards the development of leisure facilities and spaces.

The Council should develop a detailed approach to securing developer contributions to support the emerging local plan e.g. through a Planning Obligations SPD.

Sport England's CIL & Planning Obligations Advice Note (or the future Developer Contributions guidance that will supersede it)

<https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/community-infrastructure-levy-and-planning-obligations-advice-note-nov-2018.pdf?PmR9OYIbVat6HfqmmvtKurJ6o1M3d4Z>

provides a step by step guide to assist the Council to use the findings of the strategy to secure financial contribution from developers.

The use of Sport England's Sports Facility Calculator should specifically be referenced with assisting to identify demand for and financial contributions towards halls and pools.

(PROVIDE AND PROTECT)

Richmond-upon-Thames - Indoor Built Sports Facility Assessment

Disclaimer

Although the information in this report has been prepared in good faith, with the best intentions, on the basis of professional research and information made available to us at the time of the study, it is not possible to guarantee the financial estimates or forecasts contained within this report.

Max Associates cannot be held liable to any party for any direct or indirect losses, financial or otherwise, associated with any information provided within this report. We have relied in a number of areas on information provided by the client and have not undertaken additional independent verification of this data.

Appendix 1 - Supplementary Planning Document Old Deer Park

Appendix 2 - Sport England Facility Planning Model Sports Halls

Appendix 3 - Sport England Facility Planning Model Swimming Pools

Appendix 4 - Health and Fitness Supply and Demand Model