

Redcar & Cleveland Sports Development

Leisure Needs Assessment

For Redcar & Cleveland
Borough Council



Leisure Needs Assessment for Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

December 2007

Contents

<u>PART 1:</u> CONTEXT, OVERVIEW OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND, STANDARDS, ACTION PLAN	Page 3
<u>PART 2:</u> AREA PROFILES	Page 103
<u>PART 3:</u> POLICY FRAMEWORK and ACTION PLAN	Page 158
<u>PART 4:</u> APPENDICES	Page 191



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PART 1 - CONTEXT, OVERVIEW OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND, STANDARDS.

1. Introduction	Page 4
2. Summary of method	Page 9
3. Policy and stakeholder context	Page 12
4. Existing provision	Page 27
5. Local needs	Page 63
6. The development of draft standards	Page 97

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Context of Study

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council have carried out a number of studies over the last few years related to the supply and provision of leisure and open space facilities. To facilitate the effective planning and management of that provision in the future and to reflect the needs and aspirations of the local community this further study has been commissioned.

The study, as identified in this report, is intended to provide Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council with an open space, sports and recreation needs assessment and audit completed in line with the requirements of “Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG 17) Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation”. It follows the methodology set out in “Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17.

1.2 Aims and Objectives

Specific aims for the study have been to:

- Ensure that the council can plan effectively for sufficient open space, sport and recreation facilities and indoor sports facilities in line with current Government recommendations, Sport England planning resources and the guidance contained in PPG 17 and its companion guide.
- Consult with the community to identify their leisure needs and aspirations.
- Provide a basis for decision making in relation to managing the Council’s assets.

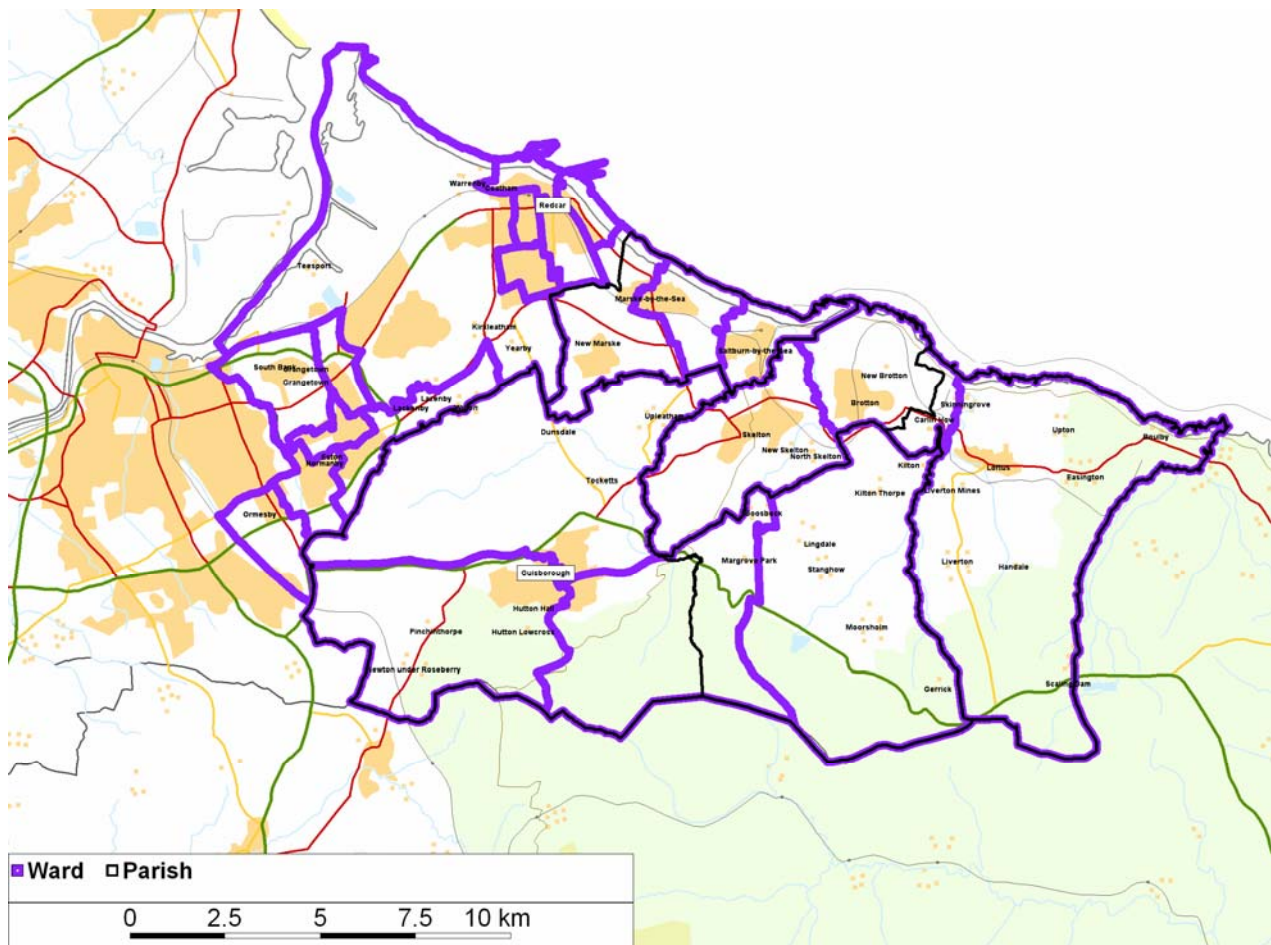
More specifically the objectives of the study have been to use existing studies and, where required, new research to:

- Draw together a borough wide audit of open space, sport and recreational facilities based on the open space typology and core built facilities as set out in PPG17 and its Companion Guide;
- To identify the current accessibility, quality and quantity of provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities within the Borough against relevant standards;
- To assess community attitudes, expectations and vision for future needs;
- To determine the current and future needs for use of open space, sport and recreation facilities in the Borough;
- To identify areas of deficiency or surplus of open space, sport and recreation facilities;
- To provide a set of standards and definitions of open space and other provision;
- To identify and evaluate strategic options and policy implications for the protection, enhancement, relocation of existing sites or provision of new open space, sport and recreational facilities.

It is understood that the primary function of this report is the provision of a framework to enable informed decisions to be made about the supply, location and nature of open space and leisure and recreation facilities. Setting minimum standards for the different forms of open space, leisure and recreation provision on an area by area basis is an integral part of the process.

1.3 Redcar and Cleveland Key Characteristics

Figure 1.1 Redcar and Cleveland Borough: 2,539 hectares, 22 wards, 5 parishes, 139k population



The Borough is characterised by its unique blend of urban and rural environments and by its juxtaposition between the sea and the North Yorks Moors National Park. The area offers unrivalled access to open space and countryside areas but is also contains a number of urban areas that suffer from economic and social deprivation.

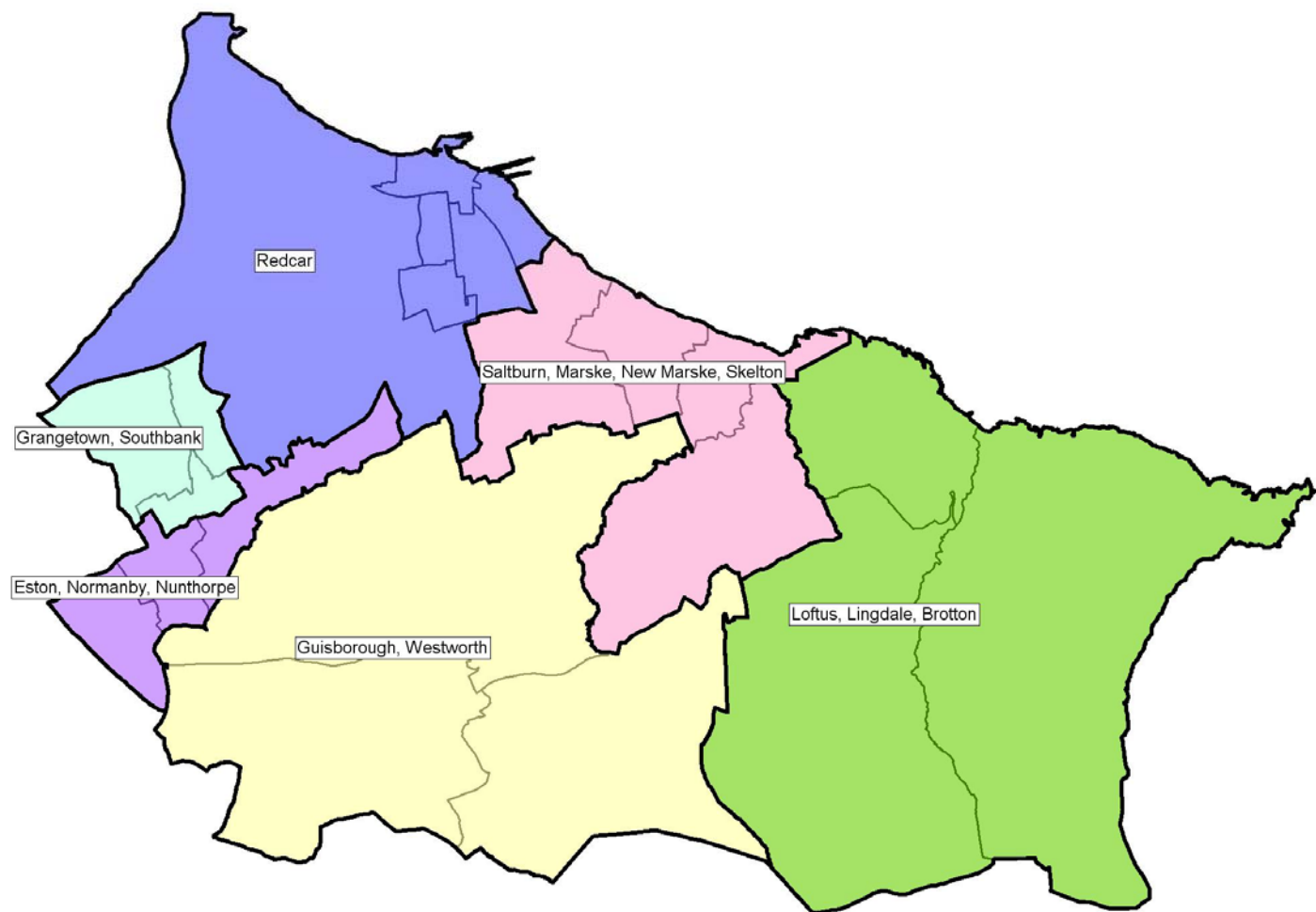
Key facts:

- The Boroughs current population is around 139,000
- Population density is 5.6 persons per hectare compared with 8.2 across the Tees Valley.
- There are 59,400 households in the borough
- By 2021 the overall population will have reduced by around 5% as the area suffers from net outward migration.
- In the next 15 years the proportion of the population over 65 will increase
- The number of young people in the population will decline over the next 15 years by around 15%.
- The average death rates for the borough exceed the national average with some wards significantly higher than average.
- Participation in activity rates are 17.9% which is below the national average of 20.1%.
- Volunteering, at 5.6% is above the national average of 4.8%.
- The Borough is ranked 44th in the 2004 national tables of deprivation it was 32nd in 2000.
- In 2004 the Borough had the 14th highest concentration of deprivation in the country (7th in 2000)
- Over 30% of children in the borough are in families receiving key benefits.
- The Government, Sport England, the Local PCT and the Borough are committed to improving levels of physical activity as a means to improve health and tackle deprivation.
- Ensuring that sufficient appropriate sport, leisure and recreational facilities are available is fundamental to improving choice and opportunity for the community.
- The distribution of leisure facilities is uneven across the borough.
- There are over 500 hectares of public parks and other green spaces.
- The Borough has 64 equipped play areas over 60 full size community football pitches, 6 local nature reserves with 5 more awaiting designation, over 80 allotment areas and more than 20 cemeteries and churchyards.

For area management purposes the Borough is broken down into the 6 Area Environment Committee (AEC) zones, as follows, and these have been used as a basis for carrying out the Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies and have been used for the detailed analysis as part of this study:-

Sub Area	Wards Covered
Redcar (Redcar AEC)	Dormanstown, Coatham, Newcomen, Kirkleatham, West Dyke, Redcar
South Bank (GaTeS AEC)	Teesville, Southbank, Grangetown
Guisborough (Guisborough AEC)	Guisborough, Hutton, Westworth
Saltburn/Skelton (East Cleveland AEC)	Longbeck, St. Germaines, Saltburn, Skelton
Eston (ONE AEC)	Eston, Normanby, Nunthorpe
Loftus (Kilton AEC)	Loftus, Lockwood, Brotton

Figure 1.2: Study sub areas



2.0: Summary of the method used for the study

A copy of the brief for the study is included in the technical Appendices (Appendix 1) which support this document.

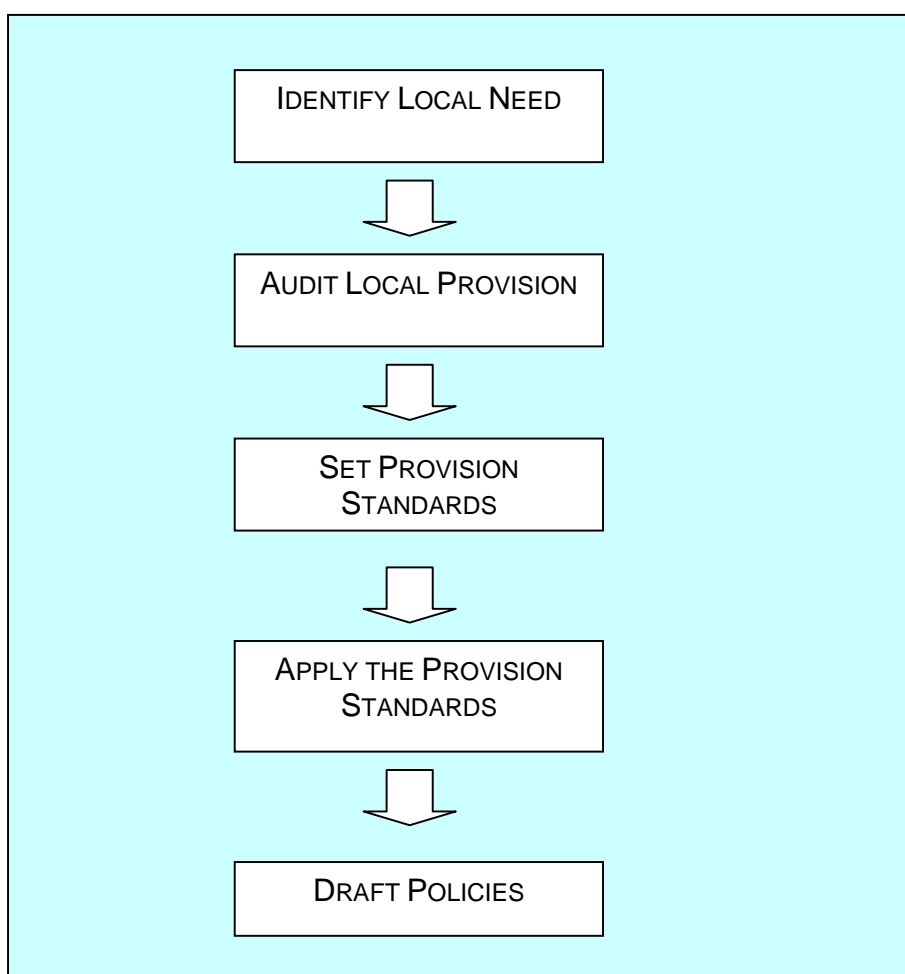
2.1 General methodology for the study

PPG17 places a requirement on local authorities to undertake assessments and audits of open space, sports and recreational facilities in order to:

- identify the needs of the population;
- identify the potential for increased use; and,
- establish an effective strategy for open space/sports/recreational facilities at the local level.

The companion guide to PPG17 recommends an overall approach to this kind of study as summarised below.

Figure 2.1: The study process



Within this overall approach the companion guide suggests a range of methods and techniques that might be adopted in helping the assessment process, and these have been used where considered appropriate to local circumstances and permitted by time and resources. These methods and techniques, where they have been used, are explained at appropriate points in this report.

Both the PPG17 and the companion guide place great emphasis on consulting the local community through the assessment process.

The PPG 17 process has been used as the basis for this study and the following components are contained within the report:

- A description of the methodology used to undertake the assessment.
- A summary of national and local policy of relevance to this assessment, and identify some of the implications.
- An examination of the quantity, distribution and (wherever possible) quality of existing recreation and open space opportunities.
- A review of the results of relevant surveys and consultation into local needs.
- Recommendations, including standards designed to reflect the needs of both existing residents, as well as the likely demands resulting from housing development.

Many of the open space, sport and recreation opportunities that are covered by this report will serve *local needs* and therefore have *local catchments*. Play areas and nearby parks are obvious examples of such opportunities. On the other hand major 'strategic' facilities such as large leisure pools, athletics stadia, country parks etc will also meet the needs of people dispersed over much larger catchments. In between these two extremes there will be facilities that meet the needs of more than one neighbourhood, but not usually the Borough as a whole in terms of regular usage. (The obvious example here will be local grass football pitches).

For the study to embrace these varying needs and opportunities it therefore has to consider provision and need in terms of small, medium and large geographical areas.

Accordingly, detailed area profiles for each of the six 'neighbourhoods' have been produced to assist in the local facility planning process and where necessary account has been taken of facilities in adjoining areas and adjoining boroughs.

2.2 Setting minimum open space standards

The National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) is referred to at various points in this report. The NPFA has recently changed its name to 'Fields in Trust'. As most readers will currently be more familiar with the previous name, it has been decided to retain its use for this report. The NPFA is also reviewing its well known publication "The Six Acre Standard".

The Six Acre Standard provides guidance to local authorities and others on the planning and design of open space for outdoor sport and children's play. For many years the Six Acre Standard has been instrumental in raising awareness of people's need for recreational open space, and its guidance (with or without modification), has been included by many local authorities in development plan documents, including those of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. The government is now advocating that local authorities develop their own standards of provision, based on local research and evidence. This research has now been conducted within the Borough, and has confirmed the continued relevance of the Six Acre Standard as a minimum aspiration in providing for certain kinds of open space in the Borough. However, local evidence also suggests a need for standards to embrace a more diverse range of open space types than reflected in the Six Acre Standard, and to provide a greater emphasis on matters relating to quality and accessibility. Evidence from two viewfinder surveys and from the Audit Commissions data relating to the best value performance indicator BV119 supports the view that people use open space areas for a variety of informal activities but that they are broadly satisfied with the quantity and if not necessarily the quality of provision available.

The Borough Council's existing open space policy already goes some way to achieving this, through using the Six Acre Standard (2.4 hectares per 1000 people) as a foundation, but including an additional 1 acre per 1000 people (0.4 ha) for amenity/informal space.

In addition, the Borough Council's recently adopted Green Space Strategy, promotes guidance in relation to the quality and accessibility of various kinds of open space. This locally justified evolution from the Six Acre Standard is an approach that has been adopted by local authorities elsewhere when undertaking similar exercises of their own.

3.0 Policy and Stakeholder context

For the leisure needs assessment to be successful it needs to relate to relevant national, regional and local policies, strategies and initiatives.

There are a significant number of policies and strategies at all levels that have a direct or indirect bearing on the provision of open space, leisure and recreational facilities and opportunities. Some are obviously more important than others in actually determining locally what is planned and achieved. This report therefore concentrates on the primary policy documents, strategies or initiatives that have a direct influence on leisure needs and delivery issues.

A schedule of plans that relate to the Corporate Plan is given in Appendix 2 together with an overview of national and regional stakeholders.

Part 2 of the Borough's Playing Pitch Strategy also provides a national and local policy context.

3.1 National

A number of National policies and initiatives have an impact on the provision or use of leisure facilities and these include:

- Current planning guidance through PPG 17 and its Companion Volume which sets out the process for the determination of Local Leisure needs and the interpretation of that information into specific local policies.
- The expectation that Local Development Frameworks will take account of the communities current and emerging needs for the provision of open space, sport and recreation opportunities.
- PFI and Building Schools for the future initiatives which have and are continuing to result in the provision of improved sport and recreation facilities within schools, particularly secondary. The new and emerging facilities resulting from these initiatives could have a significant impact on the level and distribution of facility provision within the Borough.
- A national target of getting 70% of the UK population to meet the minimum recommended physical activity levels by 2020 (Game Plan, 2002)
- As part of the governments drive towards integrated children's services (Every child matters) at local level outcomes that include achieving and enjoying personal recreation, the take up of sporting opportunities by 5 to 16 year olds and a range of additional activities including play, sports and outdoor activities.

3.2 Regional

- The Regional Spatial Strategy provides the context for the development of more detailed District wide Local Development Frameworks. Its main focus for the Tees

Valley is the widespread regeneration of the area with particular reference to specific communities.

- A close scrutiny by Sport England of planning applications that have any impact on the availability of sport and recreation facilities and the need for actions to be supported by a full study which follows the principles of PPG17.
- The regional target for improving physical activity levels has been set at an increase of 1% per annum by Sport England at the regional level.

3.3 Local

- **The Community Strategy 2004 – 2021**

Prepared by the Redcar and Cleveland Partnership the Community Strategy sets out the Vision and Priority Actions for the Borough. The Vision is to make Redcar and Cleveland “An attractive place to live, visit, work and invest “. The core Priority actions reflect the national policy framework for improving communities and cover:

- Priority 1- Creating more employment opportunities
- Priority 2 - Tackling crime and the fear of crime
- Priority 3- Investing in children and young people
- Priority 4 - Creating a clean and sustainable environment
- Priority 5 - Improving health and well being
- Priority 6 - Promoting neighbourhood renewal and social inclusion.

The Strategy contains a series of sub priorities which include the following in relation to Leisure and Recreation:-

- Improve the quality of the infrastructure for sports and outdoor activities.
- Helping the development and implementation of a Green Space Strategy and a new Local Development Framework for the Borough.
- Promoting healthy eating and physical activities particularly in deprived communities and among socially excluded groups.
- Tackling inequalities through services that promote healthy lifestyles.

- **The Corporate Plan 2006 – 2009**

This sets out Redcar and Cleveland Borough Councils approach to delivering the Community Strategy and related initiatives and programmes and the table below identifies how the corporate plan is aligned to the Community Strategy Priorities.

The full list of policies and plans encompassed in the plan is given as Appendix 2.

Specific Actions included in the plan relating to leisure are:

- The preparation of a Leisure Needs strategy to inform the Green space Strategy and the LDF.
- Re-procurement of the Management of Leisure Services
- The implementation of Strategies to reduce health inequalities.

Our priorities	Community Strategy challenge or theme
Sustainable Communities and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating more employment opportunities • Creating a clean and sustainable environment
Safer Stronger Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling crime and the fear of crime • Promoting neighbourhood renewal and social inclusion
Healthier Communities	• Improving health and well-being
Older People	• Improving health and well-being
Children & Young People	• Investing in children and young people

Whilst the priorities in the Corporate plan are quite clear the role of Leisure in addressing them is less so. Leisure is a key feature of people's lives and national and regional targets exist for increasing levels of participation in active leisure. It would seem appropriate to give Leisure, sport and active recreation a higher profile within Corporate plans and strategies.

- **The Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan 1999 – 2006**

The Redcar and Cleveland Local plan was adopted in 1999 and remains part of the statutory development plan until it is replaced by documents in the Local Development framework. It contains detailed policies to guide development in the area.

Of particular relevance to this study are the policies contained in the Recreation and Leisure section (pages 84 to 93)

These include acceptance of the 6 acre (2.43ha) standard as the minimum for recreation provision (i.e. The area that should be available per 1000 people with 4-4.5acres (1.6-1.8ha) for playing fields, 1 – 1.25 acres (0.4 – 0.5 ha) for informal open space and 0.5 –

0.75 acres (0.2 – 0.3 ha) for equipped children's play areas.) and the recognition that no areas at present exceeded that standard. It was also noted then that there were shortfalls in some provision as follows:-

Playing fields/Play areas: Guisborough, Marske, Skelton and Saltburn

Informal Open Space: Skelton

Allotments: Redcar.

A number of specific policies are included in the plan to protect existing provision, secure community use of facilities including schools, and ensure adequate provision in new development. For new housing areas of more than 100 dwellings a minimum open space/recreation provision of 0.7 ha per 100 dwellings was adopted.

The detailed policies relevant to this study are included as Appendix 3.

- **The Local Development Framework**

The LDF is a series of documents which will eventually replace the Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan and will provide a spatial planning framework for the Borough for the next 15 to 20 years. The Core Strategy and the related Development Policies document have been submitted to the Secretary of State and made available for consultation. A public examination of the plan took place in January/February of 2007.

Once adopted the LDF documents will form part of the statutory Development Plan for the Borough along with the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North East.

Building sustainable communities in the Borough is the central theme and main focus for the LDF's vision which parallels that of the Community Strategy. The vision includes the following words:

"Communities will have good access to quality jobs, healthcare and education facilities, open space and shops. Residents and visitors alike will be more active and have access to quality sport and recreation facilities."

The supporting Development Policies Document (DPD) includes specific policies relating to development principles and the use of open space. Policy DP2 states that development will be permitted if, amongst other things, it does not result in the unacceptable loss or serious adverse impact on important open spaces or environmental, built or heritage assets which are considered important to the quality of the local environment. More specifically Policy DP13 states that "A proposal that would involve the loss of public or private recreation or amenity open space will only be permitted if:

- There is a proven excess of such provision and the proposed loss will not result in any shortfall over the plan period;

- The loss of amenity open space would not harm the character of the surrounding area;
- Recreational facilities within the open space will be enhanced by the proposed development on an appropriate portion of the open space; or
- The community would gain greater benefit from the developer providing a suitable alternative recreational or amenity open space nearby.”

In relation to both policies applicants are advised to consult the Open Space Standards Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which has still to be prepared. This document will obviously be used to inform the preparation of the Open Space Standards SPD.

Main components of the Core Strategy are the area based Spatial Strategies. These will be referred to, where relevant, in the more detailed area profiles which have been prepared for each of the 6 Area Management zones that can be found in a separate report (Part 2)

• **The Green space Strategy**

This was approved in November 2006 and refers to the range of green areas which are used by the public. It is intended to deliver positive and lasting change to the Borough's stock of green spaces, for the benefit of everyone, over the next 10 years.

The overall vision is for the strategy to “seek to create an attractive sustainable environment that will help to improve the image of Redcar and Cleveland, encourage investment, enhance resident's quality of life and engender local pride in the community.” Three aims for delivery of the vision have been identified.

1. Enhancing Quality – of the Borough's green spaces
2. Meeting needs – of everyone
3. Involving people – in managing and using green spaces

The strategy deals with the following ‘types’ of green space Urban Parks, Amenity areas, Equipped children's play areas, Kick-about areas, Sports pitches, Natural and semi natural spaces, Cemeteries and churchyards, Allotments and Green routes.

The strategy also has links with a number of other strategies and these are identified in Appendix 4.

As part of the preparation of the strategy an extensive consultation exercise was carried out involving survey questionnaires followed up by local youth and community group workshops.

Research was also carried out to look at issues of quantity, quality, accessibility and local standards all of which are key components of a PPG 17 study. This was supplemented by findings of the Biodiversity Audit, the Allotments Survey, the Playing Pitch Assessment and the Overview of Strategic Green Routes.

Around 200 sites were identified for audit purposes and these were inspected to evaluate quality and accessibility.

Key points from the research components of the strategy are included as appendix 5.

Standards

The research has enabled minimum standards of provision to be suggested.

For quality and accessibility these include

1. Everyone should have access to at least one of the following:
 - at least one small green space of up to 1.9ha in size within 5 mins walk and/or
 - a larger green space of at least 2ha within 10 mins walkor
 - a formal urban park of at least 2ha within 20 mins walk
2. Small spaces should be at least 0.1 ha in size and offer a basic range of facilities, they should include areas suitable for younger children's play and provide opportunities for walking and relaxation. Small spaces should be accessible to children without crossing a busy road.
3. Large spaces other than wildlife areas should include all the facilities of small spaces plus the opportunities for older children including kick-about areas.
4. Urban Parks should offer all the facilities above plus ones for popular activities such as bowls and tennis courts. Urban parks should also provide toilet facilities and, where possible, on site parking.
5. In terms of Playing pitches the strategy recommends the adoption of different standards for each of the Area Environmental Committee areas and these are covered in the review of the Playing Pitch Strategy below.

The strategy contains 20 final recommendations and the most relevant to this study from the list given below are numbers 1, 2, 3,6,7,9 and 10.

The Green Space strategy document is supported by a background paper entitled 'Public Green Spaces; Quantity Assessment and Accessibility Audit' This provides a detailed analysis, on a ward basis, and was produced to inform the development of policies for public green space in the Green Space Strategy and Local Development Framework by:

- Assessing the distribution of green spaces at different spatial levels in the borough in accordance with policy guidance.

- Undertaking public consultation regarding the provision of green space and analysing the findings.
- Considering appropriate accessibility standards for green spaces and assessing accessibility in accordance with PPG17 Companion Guidance.

Findings

The main findings of the Assessment are summarised below:

- The provision of green space meets the minimum requirement set out in the adopted local plan but varies across the borough at sub-area, ward and neighbourhood levels.
- The diverse character and setting of the Borough's residential areas, towns and villages presents difficulties in developing appropriate minimum local standards and as such it may be appropriate to have more than one local standard.
- The consultation found that, overall, more respondents were satisfied with the provision of green space (45%) than those that were dissatisfied (25%). There are however variations between wards and for the five different types of space (parks, sports pitches, amenity spaces, 'kick-about' areas and equipped play areas).
- In 19 out of 22 wards, satisfaction levels exceeded dissatisfaction levels.
- Comparison with the audit findings indicated that the level of provision may not be the only factor influencing public opinion on satisfaction levels; issues of quality, recent and potential loss of space to development and the character and wider setting of residential areas may also be significant.
- The accessibility audit showed that most people live within 5 minutes walk of a local space and / or 10 minutes walk of a larger space, based on potential minimum standards.

Recommendations

The assessment also includes the following recommendations:

- The report and the data associated with it are used to inform policies in the Green Space Strategy and LDF and for other relevant policy and decision-making processes¹. As Para 4.20 of the PPG17 Companion Guidance advises,

‘where local provision is regarded as inadequate by local people, it is important to establish why this is the case’. This report has set out and considered these concerns in relation to the quantity of provision and provides a starting point for further consideration.

- The existing quantity standards are reviewed in the LDF to reflect the outcome of the assessment and local circumstances (and the findings of the Sport and Leisure Needs Assessment). This assessment indicates that additional green space will not be required in most areas (excluding new developments, where appropriate), and by extension, that the current standards are adequate. Where further research indicates there is a shortfall, opportunities to address this through improving the access to and the quality and diversity of existing spaces should be explored before seeking to secure additional land.
- Accessibility standards should be introduced through the LDF; further work is required to support this.
- Small public green spaces of less than 0.1 ha. are audited and safeguarded from development, particularly in areas where the provision is below the borough average and current minimum standards and in areas with high residential densities
- Separate standards are developed and adopted for allotments and natural and semi-natural spaces.

Local Issues

Given the wide variations in green space provision, different areas and communities in the borough appear to have different green space priorities and issues and these will be identified as part of the area profiles in Part 2

The Quantity and Accessibility Assessment however also includes a ward by ward indication of the local situation and this is provided in Appendix 6.

Verification of the audit findings.

As part of this study around 50 sites, covering the full range of typologies, were independently inspected to validate the findings of the Greenspace strategy assessment. Apart from a number of variations caused in the main by changing circumstances between inspections, the quality assessments are considered to be clear and consistent. To be effective though regular inspections are required to ensure that quality standards are maintained and that any emerging problems are identified quickly and any necessary remedial action carried out.

Full details of the verification are given in Appendix 7

Playing Pitch Study (An assessment of Playing Pitches in Redcar and Cleveland - 2006)

The study updates one carried out in 2000 and the supply and demand for pitches was carried out using the Sport England Methodology, Towards a Level Playing field. It was carried out on an area basis using the Area Environment Committee areas mentioned previously.

It provides a very detailed and thorough analysis of playing pitch needs and quality and concluded that, in terms of quantity, the Borough has sufficient pitch space to meet current and anticipated future demand with two exceptions:

- The shortage of pitches for junior football in the Redcar area
- The limited availability of pitches for junior rugby in Guisborough.

However the situation in some sub areas is, whilst adequate, more tenuous.

In terms of quality, council owned facilities were generally found to be poorer than those managed privately and there was considered to be significant scope to enhance the quality of some facilities through;

- Improving the quality of pitches;
- Providing secure changing areas;
- Protecting facilities through more effective security measures.

Standards

The study also reviewed the current space standards set in the Local Plan. This adopted the NPFA's 6 acre standard but did not identify the amount to be attributed to different activities, including playing pitches. The six acre standard, as identified previously, breaks down into different components (not fixed) and includes a suggestion that 4.5 acres (1.6 ha) should be allocated for playing pitches. Applying a fixed standard across all areas of the Borough was not found to be appropriate and it was considered that different standards for each of the sub areas might be more realistic. It was concluded that the local plan standard should be re examined with a view to disaggregating pitch sport standards from other open space ones and to adopting a standard lower than the NPFA guidance of 1.2 ha per 1000 population.

The following set of suggested standards has been drawn up for the 6 Area Environment Committee sub areas. These standards have also been included in the Greenspace Strategy

Sub Area	Suggested Standard (ha/00)
Redcar	0.9
Grangetown, South Bank	0.9
Guisborough, Boosbeck	1.0
Saltburn, Marske, New Marske, Skelton	1.0
Eston, Normanby, Ormesby	0.9
Loftus, Lingdale, Brotton	0.8

It was also recognised that developing a set of standards had to be considered in relation to the quality of supply and the management of pitches and related facilities.

Physical Activity Strategy and Action Plan

Compiled by the Langbaurch Primary Care Trust in association with Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council the strategy is aimed at “Moving to Better Health” for everyone who lives or works in the Borough.

Its objectives include:

- Increasing the number of people achieving minimum activity by 1% per year over the next 5 years.
- Supporting the development of a range of opportunities for people to become more physically active.

Sport and Physical Activity Audit in Redcar and Cleveland 2006

The aim of the study was to provide an accurate picture of the current physical activity and sport provision within the Borough including the facilities and opportunities available and the delivery resources. Much of the analysis was carried out on an area by area basis and this information has been used to inform the individual area profiles.

The key issues identified in the audit included:

- the need for a consistent approach towards the utilisation of schools for the promotion and development of community based physical activity.
- the co-ordination of activities and provision in the public and private sector to maximise available potential and avoid duplication and clear promotion of available activities. (as part of leisure needs assessment)
- a clarification of the community’s needs and aspirations in relation to physical activity. (as part of leisure needs assessment)
- the need for a coordinated approach towards sports development. This will be addressed through formation of emerging community sports network.

Schools Sports Provision

In recent years a number of schools in the Borough have been rebuilt and some have been made redundant due to a rationalisation of sites e.g. Rosecroft and De Brus. As part of the new build programme a range of additional sports halls/gyms and outdoor facilities have been added to the Council's overall stock. As part of the new build programme community use agreements have been drawn up to enable the community to gain access to the new facilities out of school hours. Community use agreements are also in place for the four primary schools that have had facilities added through the Space for Sport and the Arts initiative. Further school rebuilding is envisaged as part of the Building Schools for the future programme.

In some instances the community use agreements put in place are working quite well but in others this is not the case. This is a window of opportunity and it is important that after schools sports use is maximised. Sports halls, gyms and outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be regarded alongside other mainstream leisure facilities and form part of the Council's overall portfolio of sports facilities. Through the effective use of Community Use agreements it should be possible to maximise the opportunities for increased participation and activity presented by the provision of an increased range and improved distribution of facilities.

A list of the new school sports facilities provided or planned follows.

- Bydales – new sports hall – PFI
- Gillbrook – new sports hall – PFI
- Ryehills – new sports hall, artificial turf pitch
- St Peter's South Bank – artificial turf pitch
- Freeborough – new sports hall, upgraded sports pitches - New Build
- Sacred Heart – new sports hall, additional outdoor pitches – PFI
- Laurence Jackson Sports College – artificial turf pitch, athletics training track – Sport England grants
- Huntcliffe (2008) – new sports hall – Building Schools for the Future
- Laurence Jackson, Nunthorpe (2011/12) – Building Schools for the Future
- Space for Sport and the Arts facilities – St Peter's, Skelton, Newcomen Redcar, Dormanstown Primary, Redcar, Bankfields Primary

Community Buildings

The Council has an ageing portfolio of 22 community buildings. These range from community centres, some larger community halls (Skelton Civic and James Finnegan) and a small leisure centre (Marske). Another separate stock of around 30 smaller community facilities are managed by Coast and Country Housing Association which are mainly sheltered accommodation buildings and small community centres. Other community buildings include those owned by Parish Councils, Churches etc.

The direct, council owned community facilities are leased to and managed by either management committees or trustees or a combination of both. Skelton Civic Hall is managed and part leased to Skelton and Brotton Parish Council.

Facilities are evenly spread demographically throughout the Borough, although there is a shortage of community facilities in Guisborough. Many of the facilities are vital to the lifeblood of local settlements in both urban and rural areas, although they are even more important in rural areas of the Borough where there is a lack of other leisure/community facilities.

Most of the buildings have a mixed use with few having sufficient space and equipment for sports activities. Many of the halls appear old and run down. The condition of the buildings have been categorised by the Council from "A" to "E" (A the best condition, E the worst) and 13 of the above buildings have been given a "C" status, 5 a "B" status, 1 an "A" status (Skelton Civic Hall).

The backlog maintenance costs with respect to the Council owned stock of community buildings are listed below:

Backlog Maintenance Costs	
Costs	Number
Less than £1,000	2
£1,000 - £5,000	6
£5,001 - £10,000	4
£10,001 - £15,000	5
£15,001 - £20,000	0
Greater than £20000	2
James Finnegan Hall, Eston £291,000	

The average backlog maintenance on the buildings is £7690 and varies from as little as £300 up to £28,500. The total backlog maintenance on these buildings, except Finegans Hall is £153,800. The costs for Finegans Hall alone are £291,000. This presents a major problem building for the Council. The building has a good sized, sprung dance floor/activity area, stage, offices and a unique Wurlitzer organ. However user numbers have declined significantly with now only the dance and weight watchers groups using the facilities on a regular basis. The future of the building is under discussion and attempts are being made to relocate existing users.

Changing landscape of provision

For over 20 years the landscape of provision, particularly of built facilities, has remained relatively unchanged. The PFI School building programme, the emerging Building Schools for the Future initiative and the recent investment in Space for Sport and the Arts has significantly changed the picture.

Rationalisation of schools in East Cleveland has released playing fields that can now be made more widely available for community use and land that can be used for housing. It should be possible to use any income from such development to support the provision of sport and recreation facilities and to address any shortfalls.

The new school at Brotton, together with those recently built through the PFI initiative, have been provided with good sports facilities and, in some instances, all weather pitches and MUGAs. Community use agreements should mean that the new spaces provided are available for the general public at appropriate times.

Such provision needs to be seen in the context of existing built facilities, i.e. leisure centres and sports halls, in order that provision and availability is tailored to actual need.

In Redcar, in particular, recent and planned developments will fundamentally alter the pattern of provision and availability. In theory choice should be increased but in practice, unless usage is properly planned and co-ordinated, provision may well be duplicated leading to under use through over capacity.

In South Bank the planned all weather pitch at St Peters school will add capacity and choice to the existing provision. But with Golden Boy Green and the Eston Sports Academy in close proximity effective co-ordination of use and activity is required.

3.4 The Stakeholders

There is a huge array of agencies and organisations that in some shape or form have an interest in promoting OS,S&R, and all of them can therefore have a bearing on the planning of local open space and recreation opportunities.

The Figure 'Existing Stakeholders' identifies the public, private and voluntary sector stakeholders having some direct or indirect interest in OS,S&R opportunities. It cannot be guaranteed that everyone or everything has been identified, but it does illustrate the complexity of potential arrangements between all parties.

It is almost impossible to plot the precise relationship of each stakeholder to others in the figure. However, a few observations can safely be made.

The stakeholders can generally be broken down into 'Users', 'Providers', 'Funders', and 'Enablers' of OS,S&R opportunities, where:

- 'Users' are basically the participants in OS,S&R, be they individuals or groups.
- 'Providers' can be agencies, organisations and (sometimes) individuals in the public, voluntary and private/commercial sectors largely responsible for establishing and maintaining OS,S&R opportunities.
- 'Funders' are those that provide *financial* support to either create or maintain opportunities, including through grant aid.

- 'Enablers' help in creating and maintaining opportunities either through policy, general nurture and or support including advice on technical issues and sources of funding etc.

Figure 3.1: Existing stakeholders

'Users'	Individuals, groups and clubs
'Providers'	Borough Council (various departments)- schools - youth and play organisations - local clubs and organisations – landowners - commercial providers - countryside organisations.
'Funders'	Central government – Borough Council - The Lottery - governing bodies of sport - charitable trusts and foundations - environmental trusts - Countryside Agency/Natural England – housebuilders – business - Private Finance Initiatives/Private Public Partnerships - voluntary fundraising - other grant sources.
'Enablers'	Borough Council (various departments) – Sport England - National Governing Bodies of Sport - Regional Sports Board – Regional Assembly, Regional Development Agency - Government Office for the Region – Department of Communities and Local Government - Department for Culture - Media and Sport - Department for the Environment - Farming and Agriculture - Home Office - Countryside Agency/Natural England - Environment Agency - Community and Voluntary Forum for the Region – Local Environment Partnership – Local Strategic Partnership

Clearly, some of the stakeholders will fall into more than one category. For example, a club will be a 'User', but potentially also a 'Provider'. The Borough Council may be a 'Provider' in terms of its own facilities, but also a 'Funder', and 'Enabler'. The variety of stakeholders ranges from national/central government level, through regional and sub regional interests, down to local interests.

Recommendations within this study and actions identified in the Action Plan will need to be alert to the legitimate roles of the above interests.

3.5 Key issues

From the overview of national, regional and local policy frameworks a number of significant issues can be identified which have relevance for this study.

- Activity levels are currently below the national average.
- The corporate strategies and plans make only tangential references to sport, recreation and leisure.
- Levels of open space, playing pitch and built facilities generally seem to be adequate at present and for the future but a more detailed consideration of specific local needs ought to be carried out.
- Adequate provision is often dependent on the availability of facilities that are not fully dedicated to community use i.e. schools.
- Clear standards of provision have not yet been fully determined for all activities.
- Much valuable work has already been carried out in the Greenspace strategy, Playing Pitch study and Activity audit.
- Sport, recreation and leisure are not seen as a key priority for support through section 106.

3.6 Role of Playing Pitch Strategy and the Green space Strategy and related audit.

The Playing Pitch and Green space strategies are key components of the Leisure needs Assessment. Both have been produced through extensive consultation and both have been produced within the context of PPG 17 requirements. The quality, quantity and accessibility components of the Green space strategy have been validated and therefore form the basis for a large part of this assessment.

4.0 Existing provision

4.1 General

This section describes overall provision and distribution of open space and other community recreation facilities within the Borough. It should be read in conjunction with the Local Needs Area Profiles in Part 2 which provide more detailed consideration of the adequacy or otherwise of provision of open space within local areas.

4.2 Open space: general note

Generally, this study has looked at the following types of publicly accessible green space:

- Playing pitches
- Urban parks
- Semi Natural and Semi Natural areas
- Playgrounds
- Kickabout areas
- Churchyards and Cemeteries
- Amenity space
- Built facilities
- Other Open Space

These terms are explained at the relevant points in this section that provide an overview of provision for each heading.

These categories generally reflect the typology of open spaces identified in PPG17 with some modifications to suit local circumstances. Although the above are varied in their nature they all generally share a trait of being open to community use in some way, either freely (as in the case of recreation grounds), or on a managed access basis (such as with allotments and some kinds of outdoor sports facility.)

Sites have been identified through desk research by the Borough Council as well as site visits and inspections. A total of 368 qualifying open spaces have been identified within the study area, and assessed. Quality assessments for these sites have been undertaken.

Many residents will rely on access to and use of certain open spaces and built facilities within neighbouring local authorities. It will be important to bear these opportunities in mind, when considering general access to opportunities at the local and strategic level, as council boundaries are not a constraint in this regard.

4.3 Other general comments

In practice it can sometimes be very difficult to differentiate between certain types of open space:

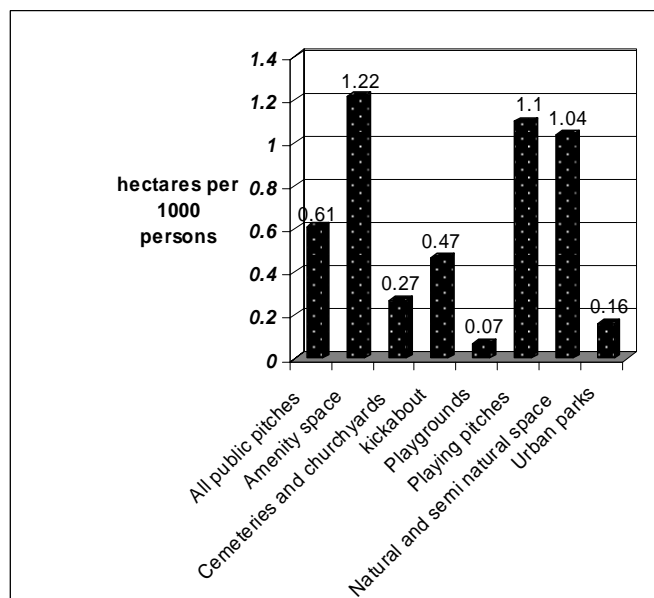
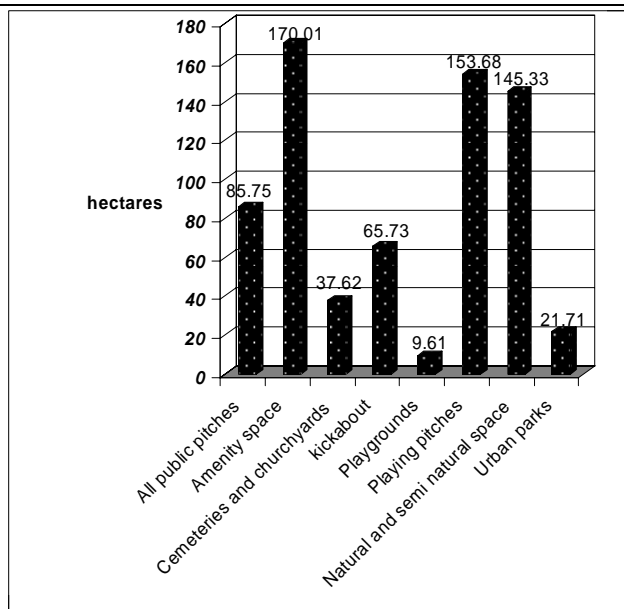
- Some of the larger local spaces may clearly serve more than one of the above functions. For example, a large recreation ground may include children's play facilities, sports pitches, natural areas and more. On the other hand, many large spaces may serve predominantly one function.
- It is often difficult to differentiate between various types of informal recreation space, as local people do not necessarily draw distinction between (for example) a 'recreation ground', a park, and a large area of amenity open space; all are capable of meeting local need for informal activity and enjoyment. This demonstrates the need for flexibility in the perception of and planning for open space, which should have implications for the development and application of new local standards for open space.
- Some of the identified sites have been broken down as appropriate to reflect the above diversity of use. However, some sites have not been broken down as such and they are categorised (and shown on the maps) according to their identified primary use.
- Much of the open space considered in this report is 'free and open to use'. Access is not generally monitored for most sites considered and is often possible from a variety of points and directions. This makes it difficult to quantify with any precision the levels of use of different open spaces. However local consultation has identified clearly the desire of residents to have access to such spaces for informal recreation opportunities.

4.4 Overall open space provision: some general facts and figures

The detailed supply and nature of open space is considered for the individual sub areas in Part 2 of the study. The following figures provide a general indication of overall supply. The figures demonstrate how provision is dominated by informal space such as amenity and natural/semi natural space, but also by playing pitch provision.

Figure 4.1: Total provision in the Borough (hectares) and provision expressed as hectares per 1000 persons

All publicly accessible pitches	Amenity space	Cemeteries and churchyards	kickabout	Playgrounds	All Playing pitches	Natural and semi natural space	Urban parks
85.75ha	170.01ha	37.62ha	65.73ha	9.61ha	153.68ha	145.33ha	21.71ha



4.5 Definitions of forms of open space

The following paragraphs define the various categories of open space considered by this study.

4.5.1 Urban parks

Parks may take on many forms, and can embrace a wide range of functions, including:

- Informal recreation and outdoor sport
- Play space of many kinds (including for sport and children's play)
- Providing attractive walks to work
- Offering landscape and amenity features
- Providing areas for 'events'
- Providing habitats for wildlife.

However, Urban Parks as they have been defined within this study assume more of an ornamental nature.

The identified urban parks include:

- Locke Park -Redcar
- Borough Park – Redcar
- Zetland Park – Redcar

- Valley Gardens – Saltburn
- Valley Gardens - Marske

4.5.2 (Accessible) Natural and Semi Natural Space

For the purpose of this study (Accessible) Natural Green Space covers a variety of spaces including, meadows, river floodplain, woodland, copse all of which share a trait of having natural characteristics and wildlife value, but which are also open to public use and enjoyment. Research elsewhere and (more importantly) the local consultation for this study have identified the value attached to such space for recreation and emotional well-being. A sense of ‘closeness to nature’ with its attendant benefits for people is something that is all too easily lost in urban areas. Accessible Natural Green Spaces should be viewed as important a component of community infrastructure in planning for new development as other forms of open space or ‘built’ recreation facilities. Accessible Natural Green Spaces can make important contributions towards local Biodiversity Action Plan targets and can also raise awareness of biodiversity values and issues.

In Redcar and Cleveland this is particularly important as the area benefits significantly from the relationship of built areas to open natural and open countryside. Accessible natural and semi natural spaces are close to all the main centres of population in the area. This unique opportunity needs to be maintained and enhanced and catered for in any new development.

Some sites will have statutory rights or permissive codes allowing the public to wander in these sites. Others may have defined Rights of Way or permissive routes running through them. For the remainder of sites there may be some access on a managed basis. Although many natural spaces may not be ‘accessible’ in the sense that they cannot be entered and used by the general community, they can be appreciated from a distance, and contribute to visual amenity.

The principal identified areas of accessible natural or semi natural space within the Borough include:

- The Stray
- South Gare
- The Eston Hills
- The North Yorks Moors National Park

Beyond the categories of space defined earlier in this section, there are other ‘linear’ spaces that have not been included within the overall open spaces figures provided at the beginning of this section, but which nevertheless offer (potentially) very important community recreation opportunities eg:

- Eston Normanby Walkway
- Guisborough Branch Railway
- Other disused railways in the Eston area and East Cleveland
- Skinningrove Valley

Walking and cycling are continually identified by national surveys as major recreation activities in their own right, but are also endemic to everyday ‘healthy living’ (such as walking or cycling to work, the shops, or school). As activities they should be

encouraged as a means of making both recreation and utility trips. Green recreational corridors can include:

- The local public Rights of Way network
- Promoted long distance footpaths and cycleways
- Permissive routes.

It is recognised that some of these routes will also serve as utility routes and can be of significant ecological value.

Links between town and countryside are important for accessing the wider rights of way network and quiet lanes, and can help to reduce car usage.

4.5.3 Amenity (Informal) Space

It is quite difficult to offer a practical definition of Amenity Space compared with other types of open space covered by this study. The category is considered to include those spaces open to free and spontaneous use by the public, but neither laid out and or managed for a specific function such as a park, or outdoor sports area; nor managed as a natural or semi-natural habitat. These areas of open space will be of varied size, but are likely to share the following characteristics:

- Unlikely to be physically demarcated by walls or fences.
- Predominantly lain down to (mown) grass.
- Unlikely to have identifiable entrance points (unlike parks).
- Unlikely to have planted flower beds or other formal planted layouts, although they may have shrub and tree planting.
- Generally no other recreational facilities and fixtures (such as play equipment or ball courts), although there may be items such as litter bins and benches.

Examples might include both small and larger amenity spaces in housing estates, and general recreation spaces. They can serve a variety of functions dependent on their size, shape, location and topography. Some may be used for informal recreation activities, whilst others by themselves, or else collectively, contribute to the overall visual amenity of an area. However, as a general rule such spaces will not include highway verges and other incidental open space that cannot be used for recreation.

4.5.4 Playing pitches (public and other)

Playing pitches can include provision for:

- Pitch sports (such as football, cricket, hockey, and rugby)
- Tennis
- Bowls
- Athletics

With the exception of golf, those outdoor sports that tend to require most space to accommodate activity are the various pitch sports, and athletics. The role of Synthetic Turf Pitches is covered later in this section.

Grass pitches remain the surface of choice for most pitch sports at the community level, and it is important to point out that most pitches within the local authority (apart from education provision) tend to be situated on public/council sites.

4.5.5 Play provision for children and young people

It is important at the outset to establish the scope of the audit in terms of this kind of space. Children and young people will play/'hang out' in almost all publicly accessible "space" ranging from the street, town centres and squares, parks, playing fields, "amenity" grassed areas etc as well as the more recognisable play and youth facility areas such as equipped playgrounds, youth shelters, BMX and skateboard parks, Multi-use Games Areas etc. Clearly many of the other types of open space covered by this study will therefore provide informal play opportunities.

To a child, the whole world is a potential playground: where an adult sees a low wall, a railing, kerb or street bench a child might see a mini adventure playground or a challenging skateboard obstacle. Play should not be restricted to designated 'reservations' and planning and urban design principles should reflect these considerations.

The study has recorded the following:

- Equipped playgrounds (both for pre-teens and teens)
- Kickabout areas for informal play and sport that are likely to be used mainly by children and young people.

In practice there will always be some blurring around the edges in terms of younger children using equipment aimed for older persons and vice versa.

4.5.6 Other Open Space

These include allotments, churchyards and cemeteries, golf courses², some large private spaces, amongst other things. These are not open spaces which are of central concern to this study given their specialist and (often) private nature. However, their existence and contribution to the character and amenity of an area needs to be acknowledged. Some of the natural and semi natural areas are overseen and part managed by the council's countryside service who encourage, through events and activities, public access and enjoyment of open space areas.

4.6 Built facilities

For the purpose of this study 'built facilities' include indoor and outdoor venues that exist to a major or significant extent to accommodate sports and recreational activities for the community. At one end of the spectrum the definition can include large leisure centres, but it will also include smaller community venues and village halls that can be used for a variety of recreation and leisure activities.

² Golf courses have been excluded from the general analyses of open space. Because of the extensive tracts they cover relative to their number their inclusion would skew the overall picture of provision so as to be misleading. Usage tends to be heavily managed and requires payment of fees significantly higher than those charged for the use of other active sports spaces included in this study, where charges are known to be made.

In practice a range of facilities can be included:

- Leisure centres (sports halls and swimming pools)
- Synthetic turf pitches
- Small community and village halls.

All the above provide important opportunities for a range of sports and recreation activities, and information from the study suggests that some of the larger facilities have strategic catchments, and tend to be accessed by car/motorised transport. In addition to these there are more specialist facilities for individual sports such as indoor bowls, tennis, skiing, skating, athletics etc. It has been decided to focus primarily on the above 'core' built facilities in terms of detailed analysis and the development of local 'standards' However, other facilities are highlighted in the Area Profiles (considered shortly).

The format of the report deals with each form of core provision in turn, and in each case provides:

- A general description of provision in the Borough, as well as in neighbouring authorities for the larger facilities;
- A general analysis of provision in terms of 'Quantity', 'Quality', and 'Accessibility'; and,

4.6.2 Leisure Centres (Sports Halls and Swimming Pools)

Sports halls host a variety of formal sport and active recreational activities. National research indicates that although they tend to attract use by a quite limited section of the population, such use tends to be regular and frequent. Swimming pools attract both casual and competitive activity, and swimming continues to be one of the most popular leisure pursuits. Larger facilities may attract use from residents living outside the study area and vice versa.

The following Maps locate existing sports halls and swimming pools within and around the Borough. They can be cross referred to accompanying tables. All those facilities identified will have some level of community use, although the extent of use and how it may be encouraged (or discouraged) by formal access arrangements varies. Community access will obviously be greatest in the Councils' supported venues.

The main community provision in terms of sports halls and swimming pools within the study area, are those facilities that are operated by the Council. With regard to swimming pools, the main council provision is located at:

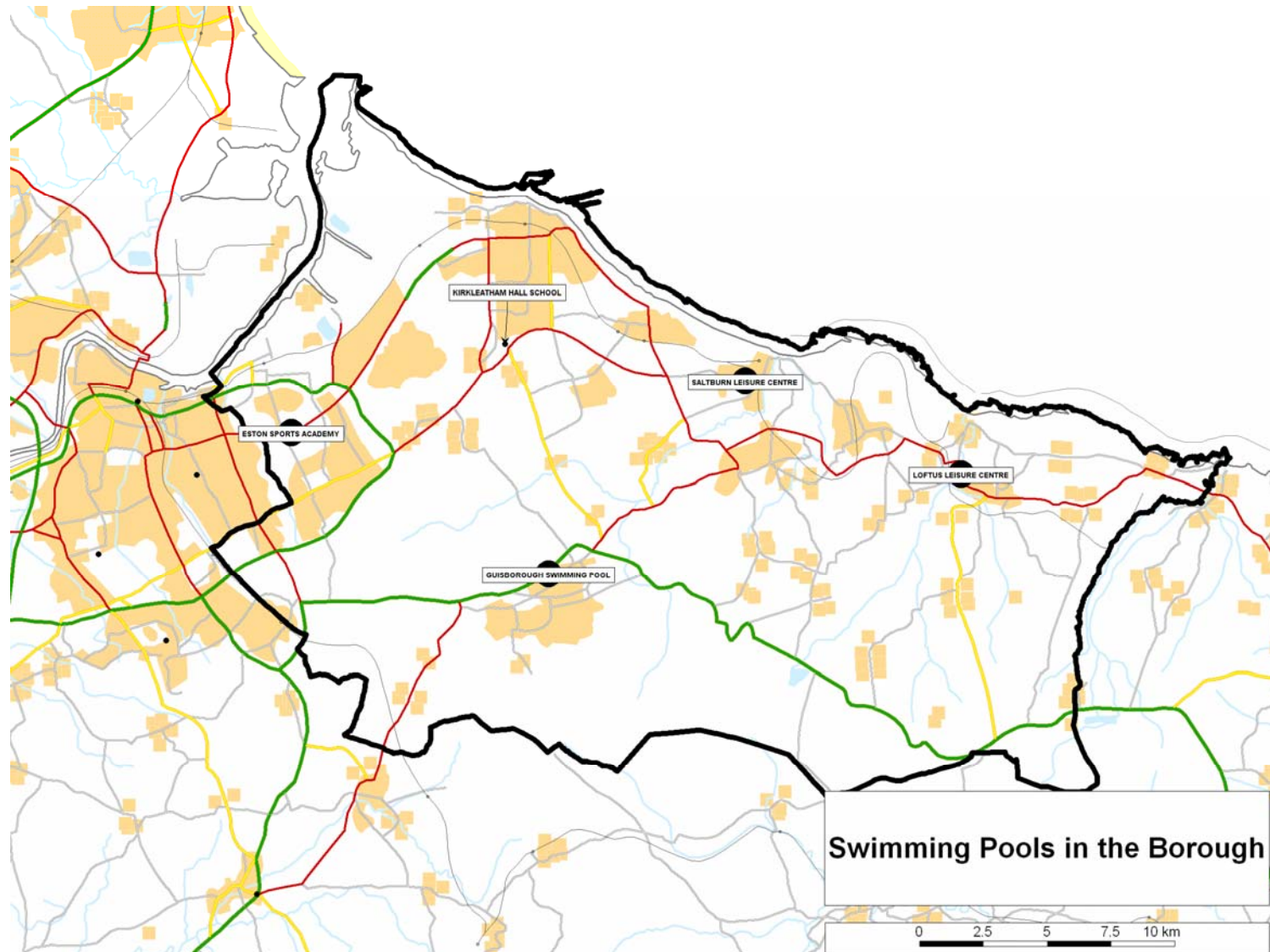
- Eston Sports Academy
- Guisborough Pool
- Loftus Leisure Centre
- Saltburn Leisure Centre

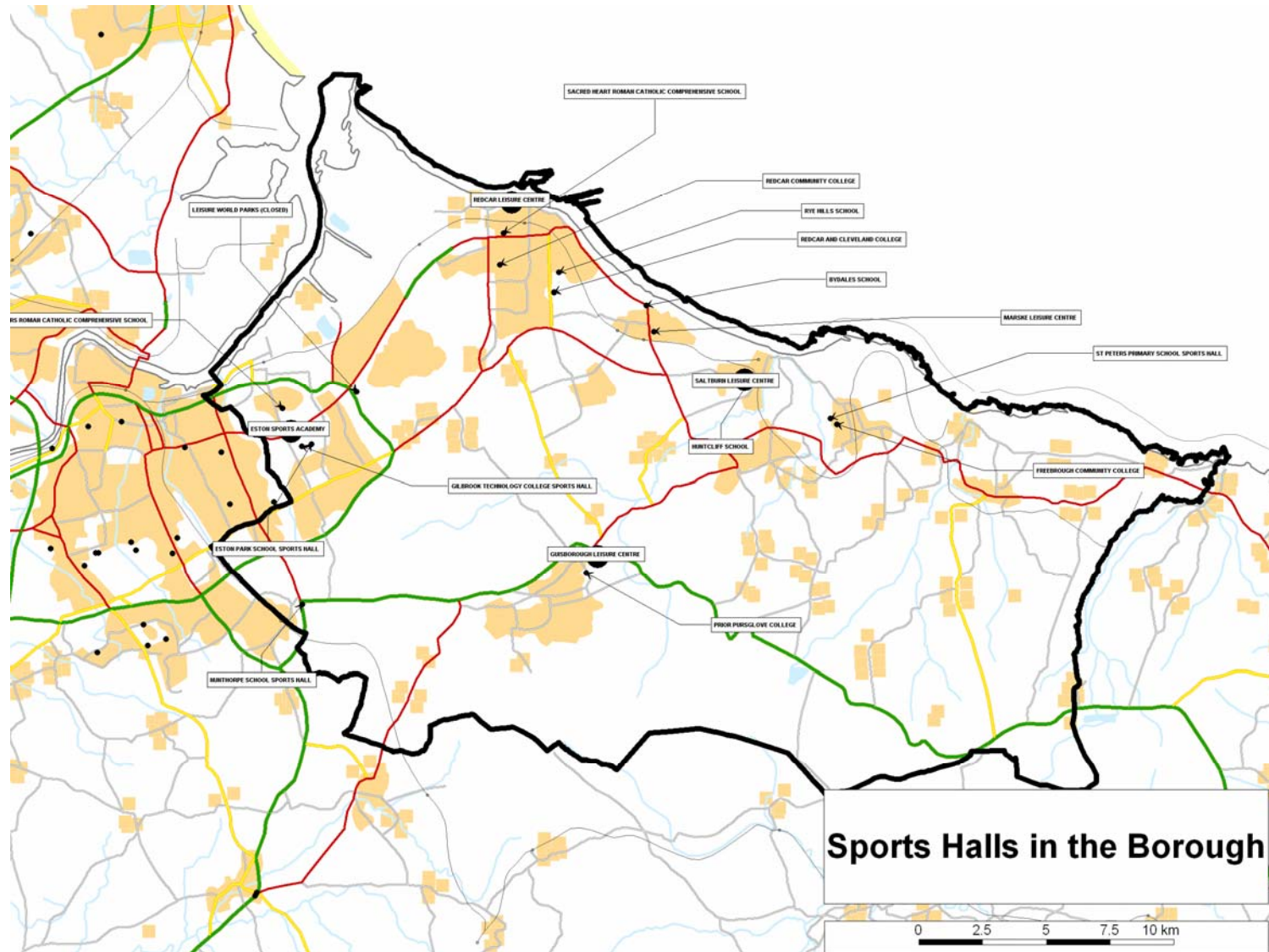
With regard to sports halls, the main council provision is located at:

- Eston Sports Academy
- Saltburn Leisure Centre
- Redcar Leisure Centre
- Guisborough Leisure Centre

Other provision is found on education sites. These include at:

- Laurence Jackson School Guisborough
- Prior Pursglove College Guisborough
- Freeborough School Brotton
- Huntcliffe School Saltburn
- Bydales School Marske
- Rye Hills School Redcar
- Redcar Community College
- St Peters School Redcar
- Former de Brus School Skelton





Previously there have been no widely accepted standards of provision for sports halls or swimming pools, although the latest information from Sport England indicates that 'Active Places Power' uses a sq.m of hallspace / '000 figure (of all hallspace over 180 sq.m), and that this unit of provision should also be used to allow comparison. It is interesting to compare the relative levels of provision in the study area with those for some other local authorities, on an attempted 'like-for-like' basis. This comparison shows that the Borough fares reasonably well in terms of sports halls, but not so well in terms of pools.

Per capita levels of provision

Number of people per 4-court³ pay and play sports halls

LA	Population	No of facilities	Pop per facility
Wint's City	107,303	8	13,413
Salisbury	114,600	7	16,371
South Oxfordshire	128,227	7	18,318
Redcar and Cleveland	139,100	7*	19,800
Horsham	122,100	6	20,350
East Hants	109,354	5	21,871
Guildford	129,741	4	32,435

³ The size of sports halls is often indicated by the number of badminton courts they can accommodate. In terms of strategic planning advice Sport England tend work in terms of sports halls of 4 badminton courts in size. Four such courts side-by-side provide sufficient space for many other activities (including 5-a-side football, basketball, and more). This is not to undervalue the important role that smaller venues play in meeting local needs.

Test Valley	109,735	3	36,578
Waverley	115,592	4	38,530

* actual provision - 2 x 8 court plus 2 x 6 court sports halls = 7 standard sports halls

Number of people per larger (22 metre +, 4-lane pay and play indoor pools)

LA	Population	No of facilities	Pop per facility
Waverley	115,592	5	23,118
Redcar and Cleveland	139,100	4	34,775
Wint's City	107,303	3	35,767
East Hants	109,354	3	36,451
Horsham	122,100	3	40,700
Test Valley	109,735	2	54,867
Salisbury	114,600	2	57,300
South Oxfordshire	128,227	2	64,113
Guildford	129,741	2	64,870

The Sport England 'Active Places Power' database has also been interrogated to identify comparisons with other local authorities, but this time within the ONS 'Nearest Neighbour' groupings. The following figures are for facilities that are identified by the database as being in 'Community use, all ownership type'. They therefore vary greatly in both size and extent of community use, and many (such as those on school sites) will not be 'pay and play'. The figures for Redcar and Cleveland Borough cannot therefore be compared directly with those in the previous two tables. However, the figures once again suggest that the Borough fares reasonably well for sports halls with some element of community use; but not so well for pools on the same basis.

ONS Nearest Neighbour comparison for sports halls and pools

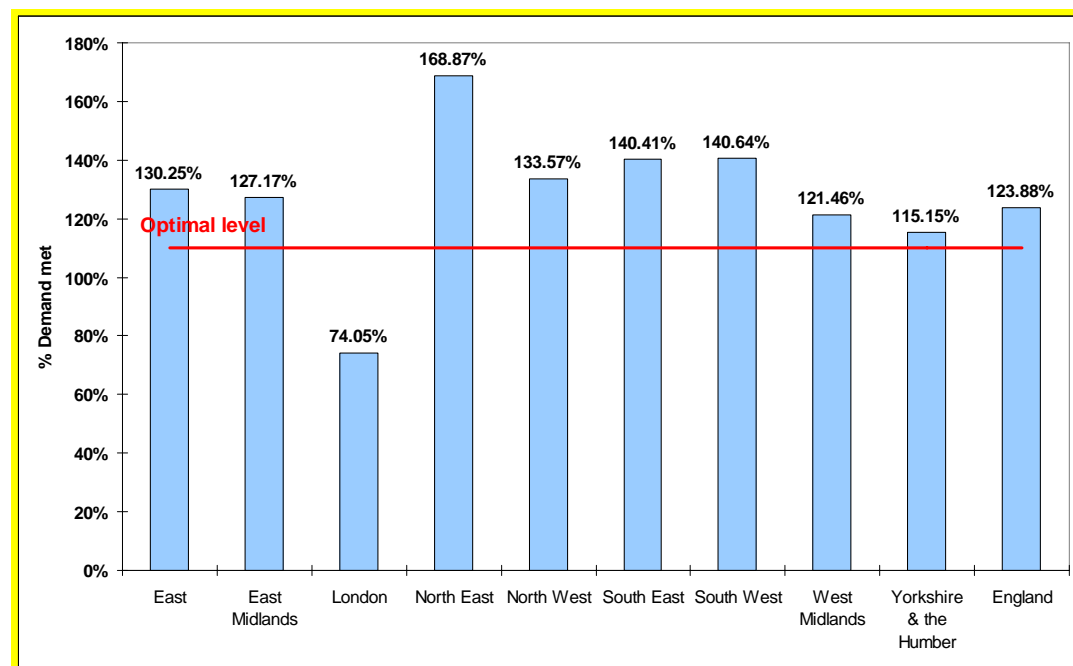
Local Authority	Population	Hall sites	Number of Sports Halls
Redcar and Cleveland	139083	19	26
Local Authorities Considered by ONS to be Similar:			
Barnsley District	218005	23	33
Hartlepool	88652	13	20
Mansfield District	98159	13	15
Doncaster District	286827	31	47

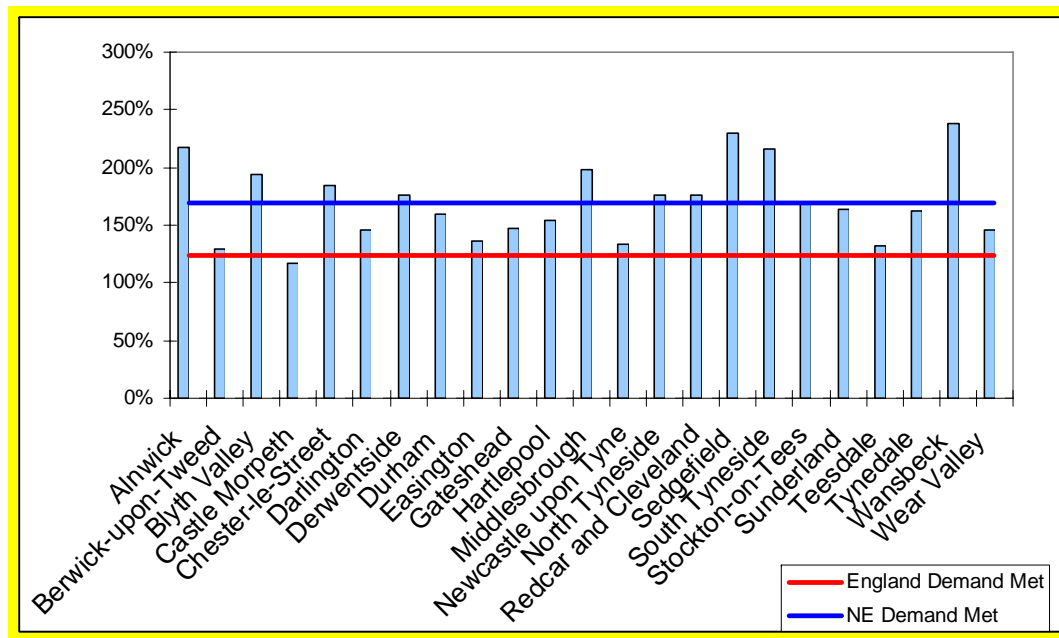
Local Authority	Population	Pool sites	Number of Swimming Pools
Redcar and Cleveland	139083	4	4
Local Authorities Considered by ONS to be Similar:			
Barnsley District	218005	9	10
Hartlepool	88652	11	11
Mansfield District	98159	5	6
Doncaster District	286827	12	12

In terms of comparisons with other parts of the country the North East region (within which the Borough is included), compares well in respect of sports halls, although not so well in terms of swimming pools, as shown by two of the following four figures. In each case the Borough significantly exceeds the 'optimum' level of provision as identified by Sport England through its own analyses of data relating to the demand for and supply of facilities. However, when an inter local authority comparison is made of provision within the North East region it becomes clear that whilst the supply of sports halls is prima facie very good, this is not the case for swimming pools.

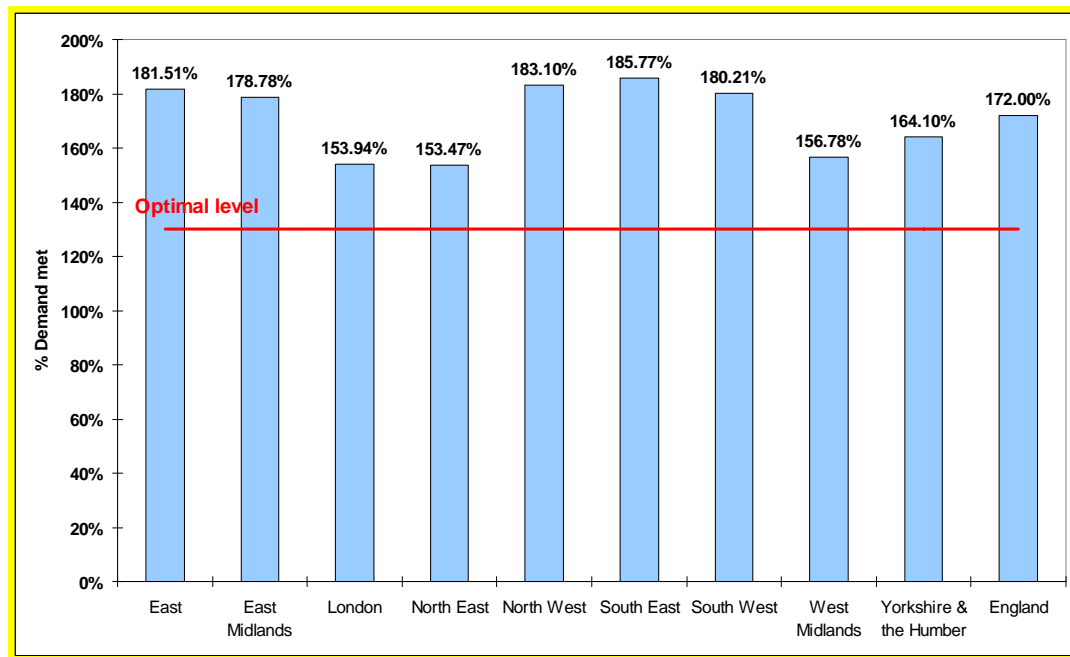
As Section 5 will identify, surveys show swimming to be one of the most popular active recreation pursuits. This finding should have some bearing upon the Borough Council's approach to providing facilities to best meet the needs and interests of local people.

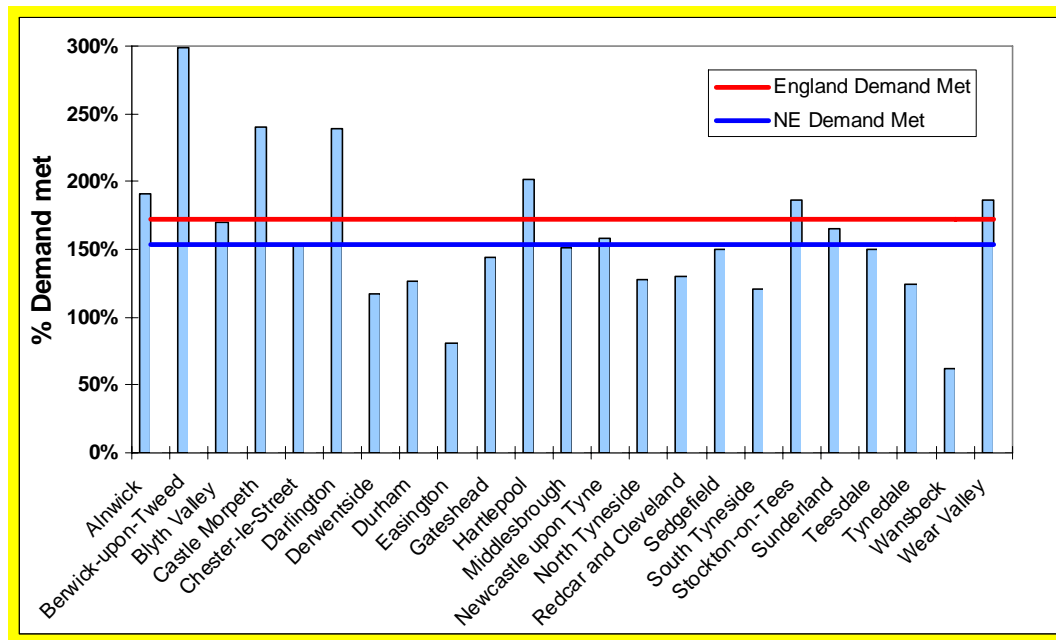
SPORTS HALLS SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE (INTER REGIONAL AND INTER LOCAL AUTHORITY)





POOLS SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE (INTER REGIONAL AND INTER LOCAL AUTHORITY)





This above comparisons do not reveal anything about:

- overall levels of usage of such facilities (i.e. are they used to capacity or not?);
- whether the type of management and provision meets the immediate needs of the community; and,
- whether facilities are physically easy to reach.

Community sports halls and swimming pools in reality embrace a wide range of facilities of all shapes, sizes, ages and which are managed in a variety of ways. Perceptions of 'quality' very much depend upon the particular viewpoint and requirements of the user. For example, in the design of a swimming pool, it is possibly the case that many casual visitors to a swimming pool would prefer to see a leisured form of pool, whereas a competitive or recreational swimmer might prefer a conventional lane pool. For such reasons it can be inappropriate to dwell too much upon the overall technical specification of a particular

facility, in assessing its 'quality', but rather upon the other more general considerations that might impact upon the general public's willingness to use (and return to) a given sports hall or swimming pool.

With this in mind site visits have been made to all the Council controlled sports halls and swimming pools within the study area, with the following being the main impressions drawn.

Eston Sports Academy

Visitor impressions: A large leisure centre that also has Middlesbrough Football Club's Football in the Community facility adjoining it.

The car parking area is divided into 2 sections but is more than adequate even at peak times.

The building has a very modern aspect to it with smoked glass windows, new brickwork and automatic doors at the entrance.

The reception area inside is roomy and open plan with large areas leading off to a café/bar lounge, changing rooms, sports hall and a swimming pool.

The sports hall is modern and well maintained and the swimming pool has a light and airy feel to it but has a rather dated appearance and a poor external aspect.

Redcar Leisure Centre

Visitor impressions: The front of the leisure centre is unattractive and has a rundown aspect to it.

The car park which totally surrounds the building is always full due to non users parking in the bays.

The reception area is small and the cafe area has a dated look.

The sports hall and ancillary facilities are well maintained but the Coatham Bowl entertainments area which has a large stage and dance floor, is dark, bare and uninviting.

Saltburn Leisure Centre

Visitor impressions: The approach to the centre has a secondary school on one side and a cricket club/tennis courts on the other. A large car park is in front of the building that is usually quite full especially at peak times.

A small light and airy reception area greets the visitor and there are ample posters, leaflets regarding the centre's activities, costs etc.

The swimming pool and café area has a slightly dated look to it and the entrance to the sports hall is dark. The sports hall and ancillary facilities however are well maintained and clean.

Guisborough Swimming Pool

Visitor Impressions: Although set alongside playing fields, tennis courts and a football pitch, the approach to the building and car park is uninviting.

The reception area is small and has a confined look to it.

The pool area itself has an extremely aged look to it with a low arched roof structure. The pool areas are well maintained with a light aspect to them due to the clear roof.

Loftus Leisure Centre

Visitor Impressions: An uninviting approach to the building with a small car park but with a large tarmac area in front of the building for buses.

The reception area, café and pool all have an appealing, light and modern feel to them. All the areas are well maintained with a good section for posters and leaflets. The viewing area/café is well positioned for the main pool and learner pool.

The internal parts of the building are the most attractive of those pools which were visited.

The major community sports halls and swimming pools are located within principal settlements. It is reasonable to assume some potential users would happily walk or cycle to these facilities. However, for many there will be reliance on motorised transport.

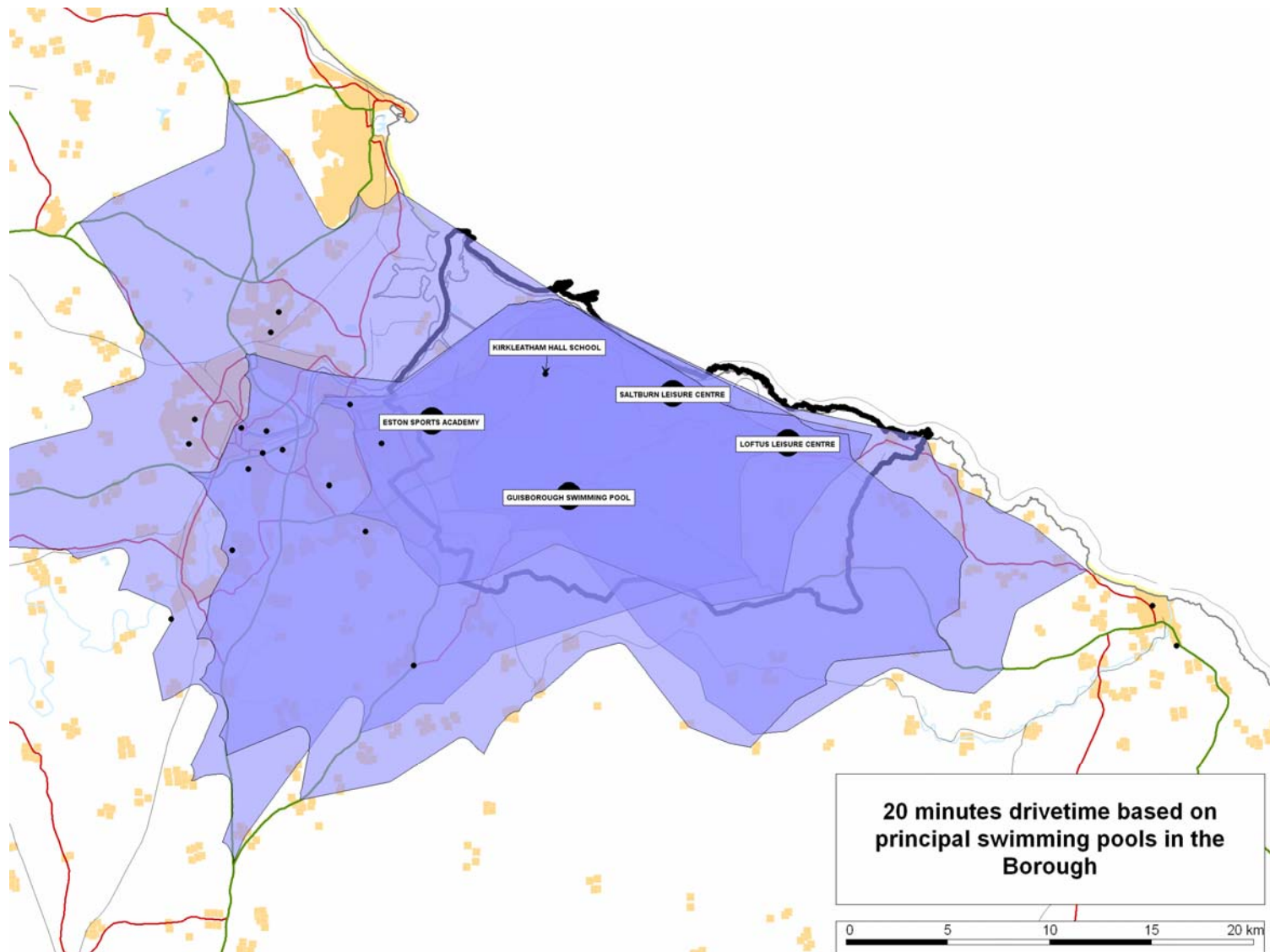
Sport England research findings suggest that people will tend to travel up to 20 minutes to use major sports facilities, with the dominant mode of transport being by car. The evidence from local surveys suggests that most people are also happy to invest this time travelling to access major sports facilities, and generally by car.

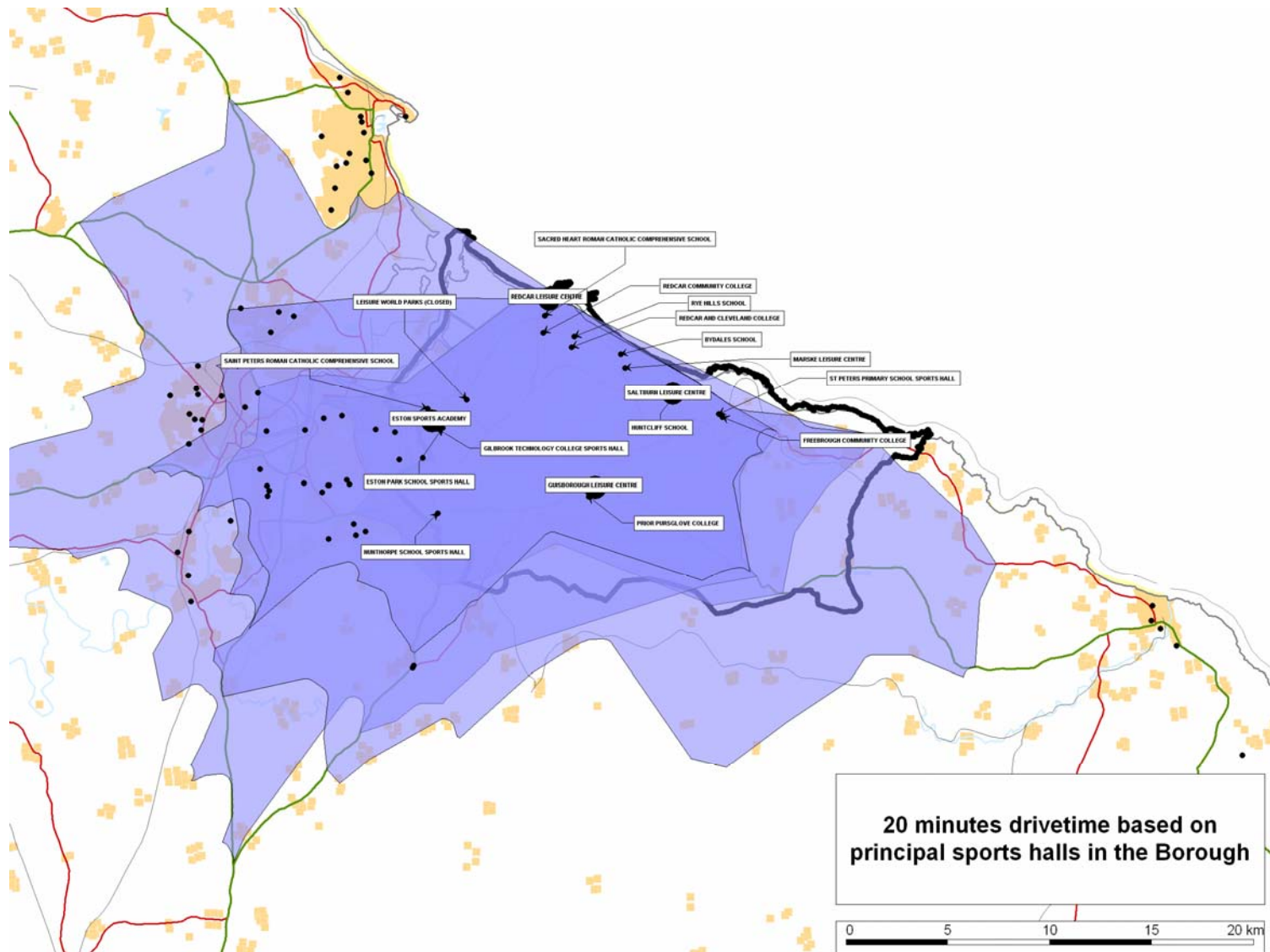
The following maps indicate the accessibility to the study area's main community sports halls and swimming pools based on a 20 minute drive time.

These maps have been generated with software that uses average speeds recommended by the Automobile Association⁴.

4

ROAD TYPE	SPEED (KPH)
UNCLASSIFIED RURAL	48
UNCLASSIFIED URBAN	24
B RURAL	56
B URBAN	32
A RURAL	64
A URBAN	40
A DUAL RURAL	96
A DUAL URBAN	64
PRIMARY RURAL	72
PRIMARY URBAN	48
PRIMARY DUAL RURAL	104
PRIMARY DUAL URBAN	64
MOTORWAY RURAL	112
MOTORWAY URBAN	80





The maps may misrepresent local circumstances in relation to ease of access by road. The average speeds provided by the AA do not take into account problems experienced in travelling at peak time (when most adults would make use such facilities during mid-week).

The maps do suggest there is generally good 'coverage' of the study area in terms of drive time access. In addition there is a need to take into account:

- a) Provision outside the study area.
- b) The value of smaller halls and pools controlled by local councils/trusts and schools etc.

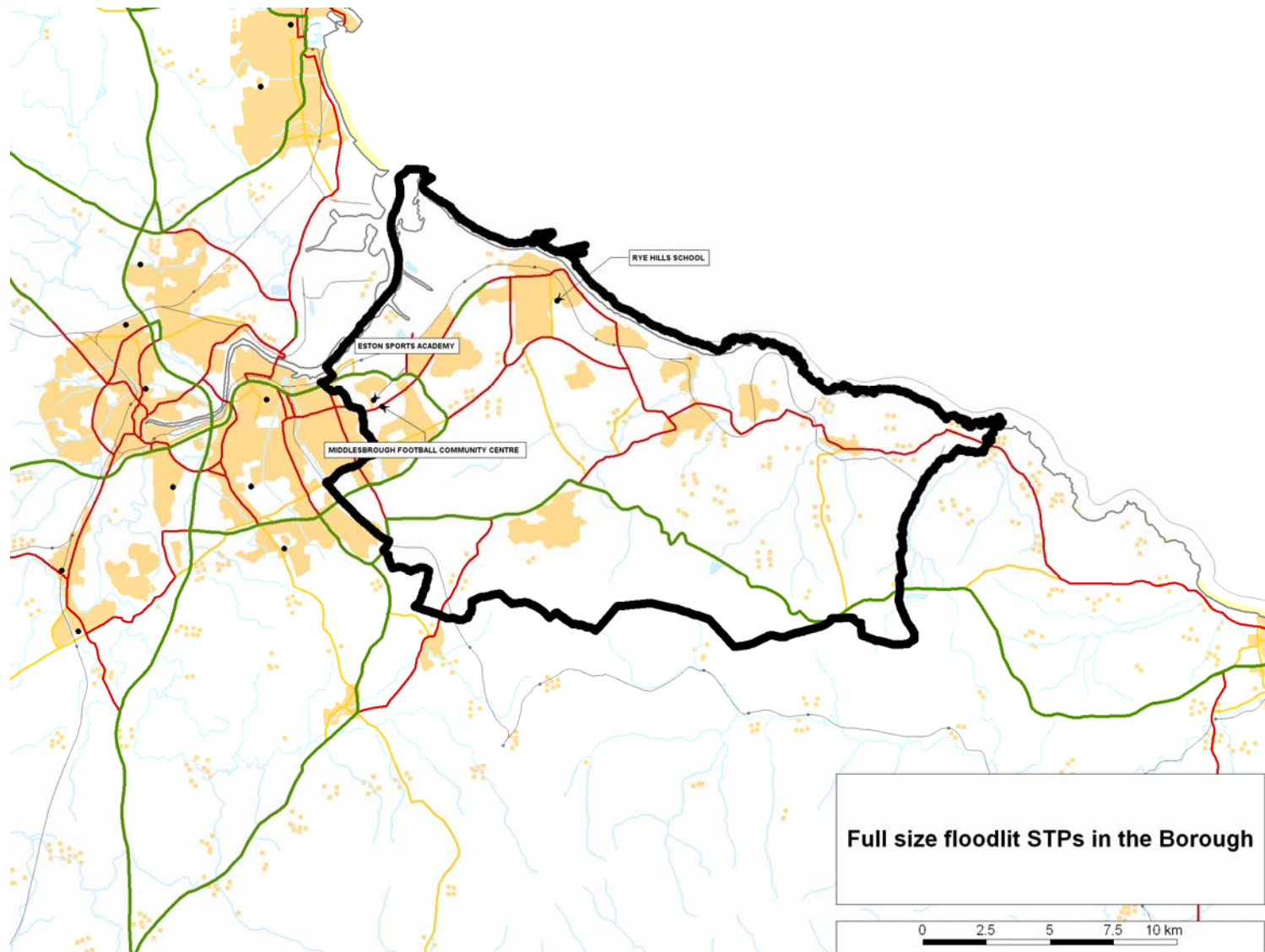
Some residents may, in any event express a preference for using venues outside the study area; a decision that can be influenced by many factors, including:

- Activities provided at given venues
- Size, nature of facilities
- The quality of facilities available
- Cost of use, and practical ease of access.

4.6.3 Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs)

STPs are required for competitive hockey but are also a very important training resource for football and other sports. Recent technological developments have also produced a 'tufted' "3rd Generation" STP that is now accepted by the FA for local competitive play (although this surface is not accepted for competitive hockey).

The following Map shows known full size STPs in the Borough as well as in neighbouring local authorities, which have some degree of community use.



There are no widely accepted standards of provision for full-size STPs, but it is interesting to compare the relative levels of provision in the study area with some other local authorities.

LA	Population	No of facilities	Pop per facility
East Hants	109,354	6	18,225
Waverley	115,592	5	23,118
Horsham	122,100	5	24,420
Wints City	107,303	4	26,825
Guildford	129,741	3	43,247
Test Valley	109,735	2	54,867
Salisbury	114,600	2	57,300
Redcar and Cleveland	139,100	2	69,550
South Oxfordshire	128,227	1	128,227

This coarse comparison suggests that the Borough does not fare well in terms of general levels of provision, and does not reveal anything about:

- overall levels of usage of such facilities (i.e. are they used to capacity or not?);
- whether the type of management and surface meets the immediate needs of the community; and,
- whether facilities are physically easy to reach.

Apart from the facilities shown on the map, there are other, below full-size, facilities at:

- Laurence Jackson School, Guisborough
- Saltburn Leisure Centre.

In addition to the above proposals there are other emerging projects on school sites that will affect the range of available provision and will need, eventually, to be taken into consideration.

The term 'Synthetic Turf Pitch' embraces a range of surface types and technologies that continue to evolve. The original 'Astroturf' (named after where it was first used, in the Houston Astrodome, Texas) was crude and is now most commonly seen as table cover on fruit and veg stalls. These days, different surfaces are now acceptable for competitive hockey and football, as well as being important training media for many sports.

- Sand-based pitches are required for local competitive hockey, and can be used in training for football and other sports;
- Water-based pitches are required for higher standard hockey; and,
- 3rd Generation pitches (that are designed to replicate grass surfaces) are now popular for football, and acceptable for local league play.

One of the key issues affecting the provision of STPs is the choice of surface. Governing bodies have promoted different technologies for each of their sports with the result that a surface valued for one sport is not deemed appropriate by another. For example, a 3rd Generation pitch can be used for competitive football, but not for competitive hockey; there is a reciprocal lack of accommodation with respect to sand-based pitches for competitive full-sided football.

The pursuit of ever refined and bespoke surfaces by sports governing bodies therefore requires thought about the type of activity a new STP is intended to host. The ability to accommodate appropriate pitch dimensions, run off margins, fence surrounds, and floodlighting also greatly influences the overall utility and capacity of a pitch. For example, the dimensions of a hockey pitch are fixed and do not vary between local and international level. Floodlights are essential to enable year round use by all sports, and help with financial viability.

The extent to which local communities can use STPs depends on the nature of the ownership and management regime. 'Pay and Play' facilities (generally run by local authorities) tend to be available both to clubs and informal bookings. However, STPs that are run by clubs and community associations can also be easy to use so long as users are happy to become members. In general terms the mix of 'pay and play' and club-managed facilities found within the study area probably serves the community well, and there is no evidence to the contrary.

Existing demand for use of STPs will be influenced by the following factors:

- Curriculum needs (especially when pitches are located on education sites).
- The needs of local hockey clubs for both training and competition.
- The needs of local football clubs and small-sided leagues for both training and competition.
- The training requirements of other sports, where they exist.

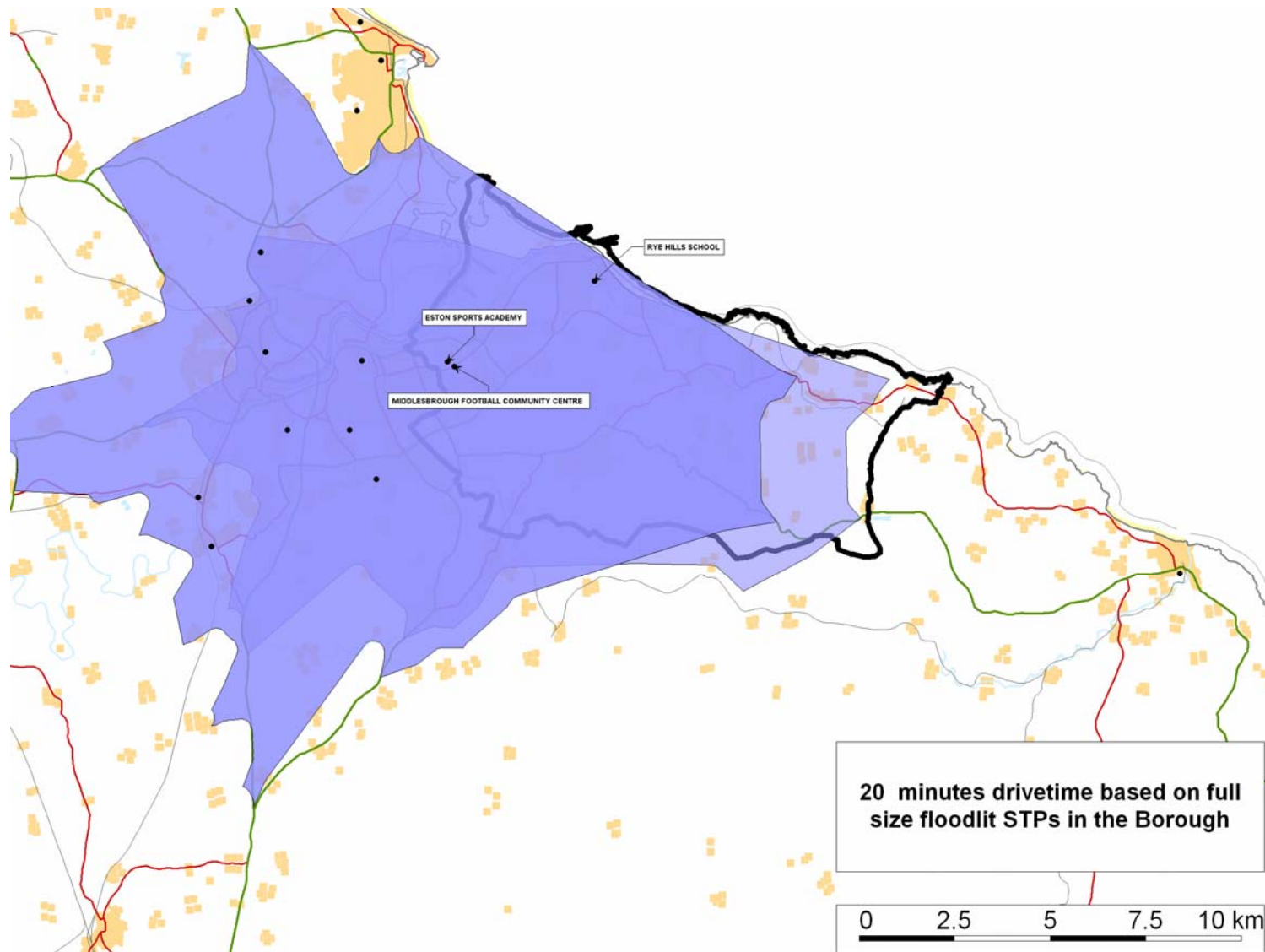
On pitches located on education sites, curricular activity will generally take place during school time, and will not therefore clash heavily with the demands of clubs and other community sport.

The STPs within the Borough are located within principal settlements. It is reasonable to assume some potential users would happily walk or cycle to these facilities. However, for many there will be reliance on motorised transport. Sport England research findings suggest that people will tend to travel up to 20 minutes to use major sports facilities, with the dominant mode of transport being by car. evidence from local surveys suggests that most people are prepared to invest this amount of time to access major sports facilities, and generally by car.

The map shows there is good access, in theory, to an STP within the Borough from most parts. This map has been generated with software that uses average speeds recommended by the Automobile Association⁵.

ROAD TYPE	SPEED (KPH)
UNCLASSIFIED RURAL	48
UNCLASSIFIED URBAN	24
B RURAL	56
B URBAN	32
A RURAL	64
A URBAN	40
A DUAL RURAL	96
A DUAL URBAN	64
PRIMARY RURAL	72
PRIMARY URBAN	48
PRIMARY DUAL RURAL	104
PRIMARY DUAL URBAN	64
MOTORWAY RURAL	112
MOTORWAY URBAN	80

The map may misrepresent local circumstances in relation to ease of access by road. The average speeds provided by the AA do not take into account problems experienced in travelling at peak time (when most adults would make use such facilities during mid-week).



4.6.4 Small Halls and Community Venues

Small halls and community venues (such as village halls and community centres) host a variety of recreation and social/community activities. These venues come in all shapes and sizes, and whilst they may not all be suited to hosting any formal sports activity, they provide important local venues for social contact, meetings, crèches, keep fit and other activities which help to satisfy community needs.

The study has drawn on existing data sources and field work to identify small halls and community venues within the Borough. Many such venues are located in the villages where, in the absence of access to larger leisure centres, they provide the only local, covered recreation provision.

Because of their role as local facilities, such venues are covered in the sub area profiles (see Part 2).

4.7 Area Profiles

Detailed area profiles have been prepared for each of the 6 Area Management zones which draw together much of the available information. The summaries for each area follow and the full profiles can be found in the Part 2 document.

Summary - South Bank, Grangetown (GATES) Area

Population: 20,335		Wards – Grangetown, South Bank, Teesville	
Area: 857 hectares			
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	1 – 25 metre	Eston Sports Academy	
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	1 – 8 court	Eston Sports Academy	
- Secondary schools	1– 4 court, 2-3	Gilbrook, E Park, St Peter’s	
- Private	court	MFC Football in Community	
	2 halls (soccer)		
Availability	90 hours/week	35 hours/week schools	
	ESA		
Fitness/gym facilities	2		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	4		
Youth Centres	1		
Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	0		
- Rugby	0		
- Hockey	1 (ATP)	MFC (also soccer)	
- Golf	0		
- Football			
Council	5 Adult, 1 Jnr, 0		
School	mini		
Private/club	3 Adult, 8 Jnr, 4		
	mini		
	2 Adult		
Play Areas	6		
MUGA’s/Kickabout	3		
Parks	0		
Countryside sites	0		
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>+/-</u>
	<u>Provision</u>	<u>Provision</u>	
- Informal Open Space	27.44	7.76	+19.68
- Playing fields	18.41	19.40	- 0.98
- Children’s play	1.88	5.82	- 3.94
- Teenage provision	17.92	9.70	+8.22
Proportion of open space	7.6%		
Backlog	Eston	Sports	£545,254
Maintenance	Academy		
Issues			

* Motor sport facility at South Bank including speedway, karts, motor bike, car testing etc

Summary - Eston, Normanby, Nunthorpe (ONE) Area

Population: 21,055		Wards – Eston, Normanby, Nunthorpe	
Area: 1,078 hectares			
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	0	Eston LC nearby	
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	0		
- Secondary schools	1	Nunthorpe	
- Private	0		
Fitness/gym facilities	0		
Availability	Nunthorpe School 20 hours/week		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	2		
Youth Centres	1		
Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	2		
- Rugby	0		
- Hockey	0		
- Golf	0		
- Football			
Council	4 Adult, 0 Jnr, 0	Teesdock Park	
School	mini		
Private/club	2 Adult, 8 Jnr, 2		
	mini		
	0		
Play Areas	5	2 Orms, 1 Norm, 1 Bank, 1 Nunth	
MUGA’s/Kickabout	4		
Parks	0		
Countryside sites	1	Flatts Lane	
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>+/-</u>
	<u>Provision</u>	<u>Provision</u>	
- Informal Open Space	21.37	8.21	+ 13.15
- Playing fields	11.17	20.54	- 9.36
- Children’s play	1.98	6.16	- 4.18
- Teenage provision	16.04	10.27	+ 5.77
Proportion of Open Space	4,6%		
Backlog	Maintenance	Finegans Hall	Approx £300,000
Issues			

Summary - Guisborough Area

Population: 19,950		Wards – Hutton, Guisborough, Westworth	
Area: 7,462 hectares			
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	1 – 25 metre		
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	0		
- Secondary schools	2- 6 court, 1-4		
- Private	court 0		
Fitness/gym facilities	2		
Availability	Laurence Jackson 30 hours/week Prior Pursglove 15 hours/week		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	2		
Youth Centres	0		
Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	2		
- Rugby	2		
- Hockey	0		
- Golf	0		
- Football			
Council	4 Adult, 0 Jnr, 1		
School	mini		
Private/club	1 Adult, 7 Jnr, 1 mini 0		
Play Areas	10	4 Guis, 1 Pinch, 1 Duns, 2 BBeck, 1 Char, 1 Marg	
MUGA's/Kickabout	0		
Parks	0		
Countryside sites	1	Pinchinthorpe	
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing</u> <u>Provision</u>	<u>Required</u> <u>Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>
- Informal Open Space	11.68	7.98	+3.70
- Playing fields	7.64	15.96	- 8.32
- Children's play	0.77	5.99	+ 5.22
- Teenage provision	11.43	9.98	+ 1.45
Proportion of Open Space	0.42%		
Backlog	G'bro Pool	£380,860	
Maintenance			
Issues			

Summary - Loftus Area

Population: 16,225		Wards – Lockwood, Brotton, Loftus	
Area: 8,264 hectares			
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	1 – 25 metre	Loftus Leisure Centre	
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	0		
- Secondary schools	1 – 4 court	Freeborough – Brotton site	
- Private	1 small sports hall	Loftus AC	
Availability	Freebrough 24 hours/week		
Fitness/gym facilities	2	Loftus LC, Skinningrove	
Com Centres/Vil Halls	7		
Youth Centres	2		
Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	3		
- Rugby	0		
- Hockey	0		
- Golf	1	Hunley Hall Brotton	
- Football			
Council	4 Adult		
School	6 Jnr, 1 mini		
Private/club	1 Adult		
Play Areas	15	2 Brot, 2 Chow, 1 Skin, 3 Ling, 2 Liv Mines, 3 Loftus, 1 Easing, 1 Moorsholm	
MUGA's/Kickabout	9		
Parks	0		
Countryside sites	0		
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>
- Informal Open Space	7.54	6.49	- 1.10
- Playing fields	13.50	14.60	+ 1.05
- Children's play	1.34	4.87	- 3.52
- Teenage provision	4.60	8.11	- 3.51
Proportion of Open Space	0,32%		
Backlog	Loftus	LC	
Maintenance	£140,264		
Issues			

Summary - Redcar Area

Population: 36,635	Wards – Kirkleatham, Dormanstown, Zetland, West Dyke, Newcomen		
Area: 4,628 hectares			
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	None		
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	1 - 8 Court	RLC	
- Secondary schools	4 – 4 court	Ryehills, S Heart, R&C F Coll, W Red	
- Private	None		
Availability	Redcar LC 90 hours/week		
	Schools use 55 hours/week		
Fitness/gym facilities	3		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	3	Coatham Mem Hall, Larkwood, Kirk'm St	
Youth Centres	2		
Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	2		
- Rugby	3		
- Hockey	1 atp	Ryehills	
- Golf	2		
- Football			
Council	8 adult, 1 jnr		
School	4 adult, 7 jnr, 1 mini		
Private/club	9 adult, 0 jnr, 1 mini		
Play Areas	13		
MUGA's/Kickabout	None		
Parks	3	Locke, Zetland, Borough	
Countryside sites	None		
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>
- Informal Open Space	72.14	14.55	+ 57.60
- Playing fields	23.97	32.73	- 8.76
- Children's play	1.53	10.91	- 9.38
- Teenage provision	14.12	18.18	- 4.06
Proportion of Open Space	2.41%		
Backlog Maintenance	Redcar LC		
Issues	£517,400		

Summary - Saltburn Area

Population: 26,145		Wards – Longbeck, St. Germaines, Saltburn, Skelton	
Area: 3,098 hectares			
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	1 -25 metre	Saltburn Leisure Centre	
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	1–6 court, 1 smll	Saltburn LC, Marske LC	
- Secondary schools	hall	Huntcliffe, Bydales, De Brus YC	
- Private	3 – 3 court		
	0		
Availability	Saltburn LC 90		
	hours/week		
	School use 50		
	hours/week		
Fitness/gym facilities	4		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	3		
Youth Centres	2		
Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	4		
- Rugby	0		
- Hockey	0		
- Golf	1	Saltburn GC	
- Football			
Council	4 Adult		
School	4 Jnr		
Private/club	2 Adult		
Play Areas	11	2 Marske, 3 Skel, 1 Skel Grn, 1 N Skel, 3 Salt, 1 New Marske	
MUGA's/Kickabout	7		
Parks	0		
Countryside sites	1	Saltburn Valley Gardens	
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>+/-</u>
	<u>Provision</u>	<u>Provision</u>	
- Informal Open Space	27.84	10.48	+ 17.38
- Playing fields	11.02	25.53	- 12.51
- Children's play	1.87	7.84	- 5.97
- Teenage provision	0.34	13.07	- 12.74
Proportion of Open Space	1.32%		
Backlog	Saltburn	LC	
Maintenance			
Issues	£780,030		

For the key issues relating to the area profiles and the general conclusions and issues for this study please see the **Part 3 Report**.

5.0 Local needs

5.1 Introduction/Background

This section examines the apparent local need for various types of open space, sports and recreation opportunity. The information presented has been drawn from a range of surveys and analytical techniques. A number of community consultation exercises have been carried out as part of the study and information available from previous surveys has also been included where relevant. The breadth of the consultation reflects the diversity of the study and the need to incorporate views from as wide a cross section of the community as possible.

Questionnaire surveys were carried out with:

- Town and Parish Councils
- Sports Clubs
- Community Groups/Organisations
- 2000 Redcar and Cleveland residents as part of the Council's Viewfinder panel consultation process.

A number of surveys of young people have been carried out recently and we were advised that further surveys would not be appropriate at present. With this in mind, the needs of young people have been drawn from recent, appropriate, consultation exercises.

A comprehensive survey of the issues relating to the Borough's community centres and village halls was undertaken in early 2006 and the findings from this have been used to prepare this report.

Relevant local, sub regional and regional organisations have also been consulted including Sport England (North East), Tees Valley Sport and Tees Valley Leisure.

Representatives of disability groups were consulted through questionnaires as part of the community group/organisations survey.

Council Officers from various sections and departments have also been consulted.

Consultation is a key component of the Leisure Needs Assessment as it provides a local context for the establishment of standards for the different types of leisure activity and helps inform the development of priorities for action.

5.2 Previous (national and Local) Consultation Studies Considered

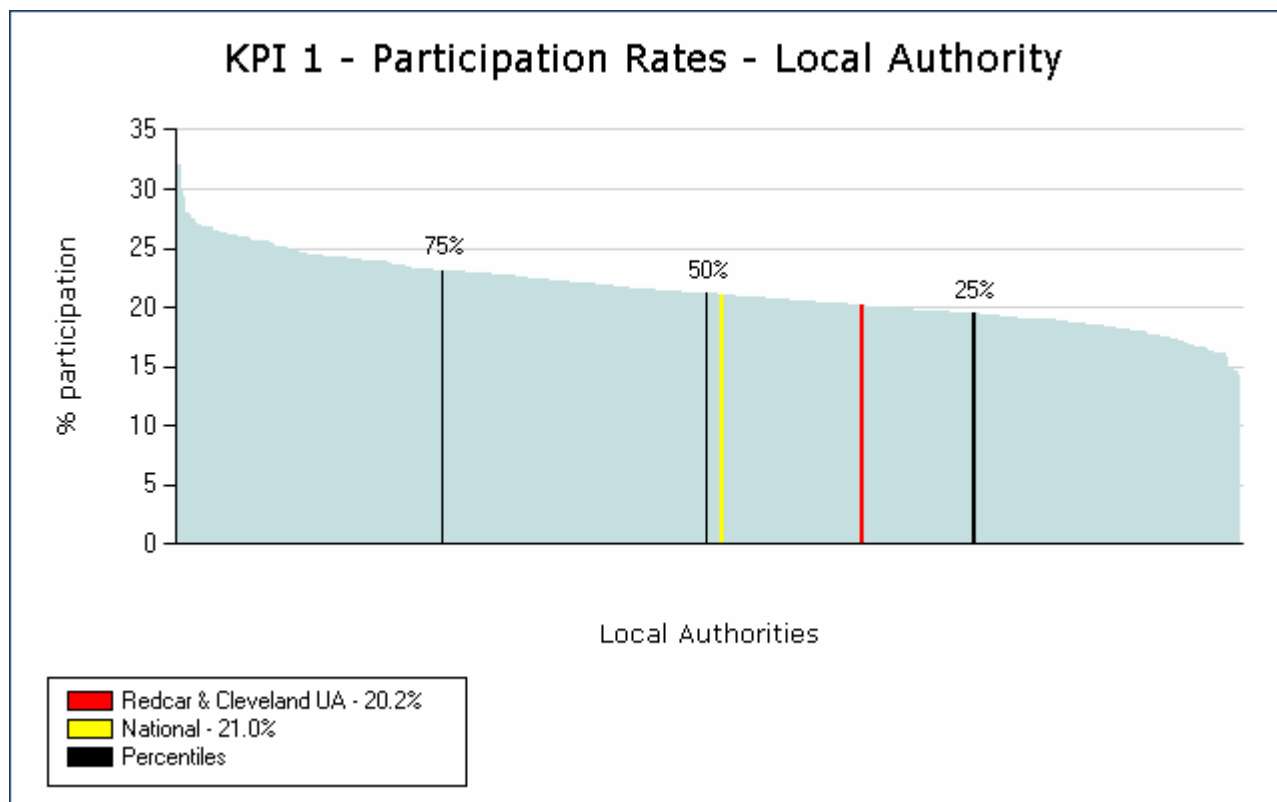
Active People Survey

In 2006, Sport England commissioned MORI to conduct a household survey of over 300,000 people over the age of 16 years throughout England to examine patterns of activity in sports and active recreation. The results of this 'Active People Survey' are sufficiently robust in statistical terms to be examined both at national and local authority level.

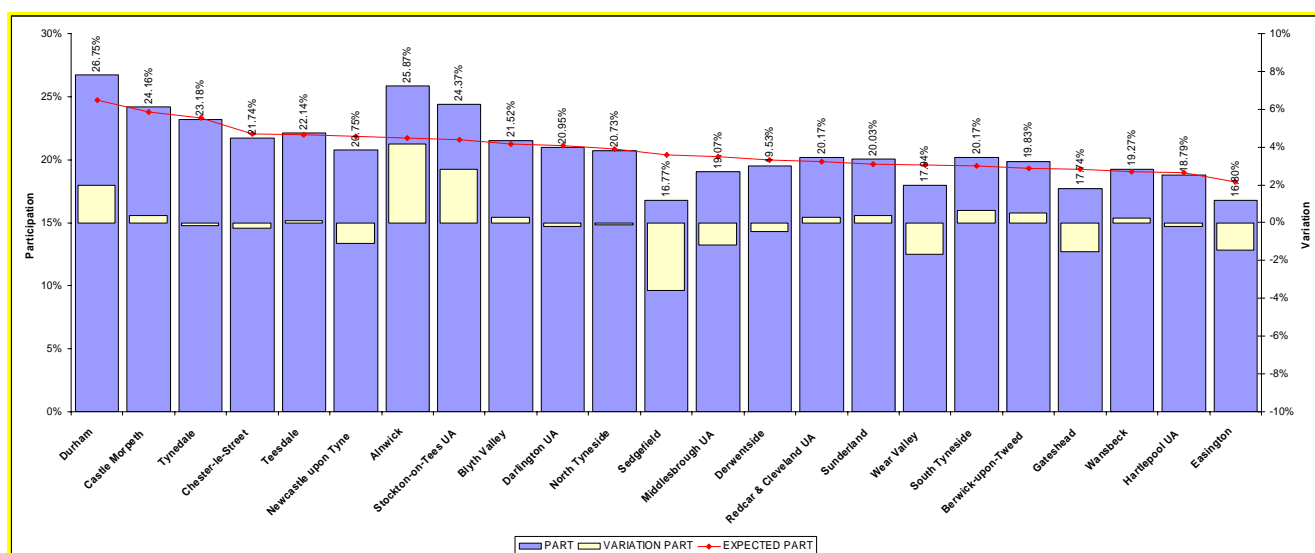
In terms of national findings it was identified that walking is the most popular recreational activity, followed by swimming and going to the gym. Cycling, football, running and jogging, golf, badminton, tennis and aerobics make up the top 10. This general pattern of dominance is largely repeated when responses are analysed for Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. Walking and cycling activity might be for utility as well as recreation trips.

The Survey also provides an opportunity to compare levels and rates of activity within the Borough with the national pattern.

20.2% of people over 16 years took part at least 3 days a week x 30 minutes of moderate participation. This is well below the national average.



However, when compared with the level of participation that might be expected taking into account a wide range of economic and demographic factors such as income, age, profession, and family structure. The Borough Council fares better, as shown when compared with other local authorities in the North East.



The above findings suggest two important points:

- the value of informal outdoor activities such as walking and cycling, that do not rely on 'specialist' facilities in encouraging healthy recreational activity; and,
- that levels of participation will be heavily influenced by a wide range of social, economic and demographic factors.

From this it is probably reasonable to infer that very good ways of encouraging higher levels of physical recreation activity will be through planning and promoting readily accessible and informal activities, for which there are few requirements for specialist equipment or venues.

Amongst other questions the same survey asked about people's satisfaction with sports provision, with answers being related to age, ethnicity and social economic class.

Satisfaction with local sports provision (all adults)	%
All	65.10%
Male	67.10%
Female	63.30%
16 to 34	59.60%
35 to 54	64.00%
55 and over	70.80%
White	65.00%
Non white	71.90%
Limiting disability	69.00%
No limiting disability	64.30%
NS-SEC 1, 1.1, 1.2, 2 (A)	64.30%
NS-SEC 3 (B)	54.80%
NS-SEC 4 (C1)	61.50%
NS-SEC 5,6,7,8 (C2DE)	69.40%

Overall, these levels of satisfaction tend to be slightly lower than the comparable responses at the national level.

5.2.1 Household Survey 2003

In 2003 a survey was conducted using questionnaires covering 2000 households within Redcar and Cleveland designed to elicit the views of local residents regarding sport and recreational facilities throughout the Borough.

The main conclusions from this survey were that:

- Better access to facilities or services nearer home was seen as the most important way of improving use of leisure centres
- There was a general level of disinterest in use/participation to the extent that no changes to facilities or services were deemed likely to encourage any greater use of them.
- The survey indicated there was a fair correlation between awareness of facilities such as leisure centres, parks and playing fields and their perceived “importance”.

5.2.2 Redcar and Cleveland MORI Surveys 2003/04 and 2005

MORI conducted 2 separate surveys in Redcar and Cleveland, one in 2003/04 and the other in 2005. The first survey entitled “Listening to your views” received 1070 responses from 2000 residents and the second, in Oct/Nov 2005 and using face to face interviews, obtained 1507 responses.

Both surveys were aimed at people aged 16+ and asked residents a variety of questions on the quality of life and council services in the Borough.

In relation to this report only those issues that are of significance in assessing local leisure needs have been referred to. Where similar questions have been asked in both surveys comparisons have been made. between the 2 surveys when similar questions have been asked of residents.

Both surveys achieved a response of over 1000 and are considered, therefore, to be statistically representative enough for such comparisons to be made.

The tables below show results from both the MORI surveys and indicate where residents’ views on issues have changed over the time.

Table 5.1: Most Important Issues and Issues Needing Improvement

	% Most Important Issues		% Needs Improving	
	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005
Activities for teenagers	30%	48%	42%	48%
Sports/leisure facilities	16%	40%	24%	25%
Parks/open space facilities	24%	44%	19%	16%
Facilities for young children	22%	47%	29%	29%
(For comparison)				
Affordable decent housing	43%	20%	20%	19%
Low level of crime	79%	74%	63%	38%

Table 5.1 above highlights the fact that activities for teenagers are a high priority to local residents (48%) and that they need to be improved (48%). This issue has become more of a priority since the 2003/04 survey and the 2005 results indicate that in terms of leisure activities for teenagers is seen as one of the most important. In comparison residents views on affordable decent housing has changed significantly over the two surveys and by 2005 50% of people surveyed thought this issue was important and only 19% thought improvement in this area was needed.

Table 5. 2: Residents' Satisfaction with Services

	Very Satisfied		Fairly Satisfied		Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied		Fairly Dissatisfied		Very Dissatisfied		Don't know	
	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005
Sports/leisure facilities	9%	14%	39%	37%	35%	12%	10%	11%	7%	10%	-	16%
Parks/open spaces	13%	12%	46%	53%	22%	12%	13%	12%	5%	6%	-	5%

Table 5.2 compares resident's satisfaction with council services for the 2 surveys. In terms of the leisure needs assessment the surveys indicated that people within the Borough were slightly more satisfied with parks and open spaces than with sports facilities and this view is fairly consistent between the two surveys.

Table 5.3: Improvement in Services

	Better		Worse		Stayed the same		Don't Know	
	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005	2003/04	2005
Activities for teenagers	3%	4%	48%	29%	48%	37%	-	30%
Parks/open spaces	13%	18%	24%	13%	63%	59%	-	10%
Sport/leisure facilities	13%	17%	17%	13%	70%	51%	-	19%

Table 5.3 illustrates the views of residents in terms of whether they thought certain council services had changed (for better or worse or the same) over the 3 years prior to the survey date. up to them being questioned.

2005 MORI Quality of Life Survey – Health and Fitness Issues

The 2005 MORI survey asked residents about issues concerning health and fitness and a summary of the findings follows:

Question 1 How do you rate your physical fitness for your age?

Results: Very Good 19%

Good	36%
Reasonable	30%
Poor	11%
Very Poor	4%

Question 2 How regularly, if at all, do you take 30 minutes of physical activity per day? (examples are walking, cycling, or other sports/recreation activity)

Results:	Every day	31%
	At least 5 days per week	11%
	3 to 4 times per week	20%
	Once or twice a week	17%
	Once or twice a month	3%
	Less often	4%
	Never	13%

Question 3 Do you feel that you take enough exercise?

Results:	Yes	56%
	No	43%
	Don't know	1%

Question 4 What are the reasons that you do not take part in exercise or sport more often?

Results:	Top 7 replies	
	Difficult to find the time	44%
	Home/family commitments	29%
	Health isn't good enough	21%
	Can't be bothered	15%
	Physical disability	15%
	Costs too much	11%
	Need more facilities near home	10%

The results of question 4 indicate that people's current lifestyles prevent them from being more active.

Only 11% of respondents thought that taking part in sport and leisure was too expensive, 10% thought more facilities were needed nearer their home in order to make them participate in sport. These results are similar to those obtained in 2003 from the survey carried out as part of the Best Value Facility Review.

5.2.3 Young People Survey 2003

As part of the 2003 Best Value Facility Review a survey of young people was also carried out and covered 6 senior and 6 primary schools from across the Borough. Each school was sent 30 questionnaires and a response rate of 43% was achieved. The questionnaires were designed to seek the views of young people who did not regularly use sport and recreational services. The findings of this survey also reflected some of the more significant conclusions of the household surveys referred to previously.

The facilities that young people appeared to use most tended to be those that they are likely to be most familiar with i.e. parks, open space, playgrounds, playing fields and school facilities. The responses also suggested there was a considerable lack of awareness of the leisure centres. Factors such as “lack of time” and “no interest” when combined represented the single most important reason for not using sports facilities (in most cases).

A more in depth analysis of the survey can be found in the report – Best Value, Sport and Recreation Facility Review Demand Report November 2003.

5.2.4 Engaging Young People Project 2005/06

In December 2005 a questionnaire was circulated via the Engaging Young People's project to all youth clubs in the Borough as well as schools in Redcar. The main focus of the survey centred on the Coatham Links development in Redcar but certain aspects of the survey looked at more general leisure issues and are relevant to this present study. Over 107 young people responded to the survey and some of the findings are discussed below.

The first question was aimed at finding out what were the main interests of young people especially during their spare time. The top interests were:

- Hanging about with friends 91% - ranked 1st
- Watching TV 90% - ranked 2nd
- Watching sport 85% - ranked 3rd
- Going to the cinema 82% - ranked 4th
- Gaming/computers/internet 78% - ranked 5th

The most popular physical sporting activity was swimming (55% which was ranked 7th). Sport and recreation interests that young people took part in during their spare time were as follows:

- Swimming 55%
- Playing team sports 49%
- Gym/weights/keep fit/aerobics 46%
- Cycling 36%
- Outdoor activities 27%
- Playing individual sports 21%
- Water sports 19%
- Skateboarding 16%
- Beach sports 16%

The second question to young people was “What facilities/activities would make Redcar and Cleveland a better to live or visit?” The most popular responses were:

- Swimming/swimming pool – most popular
- Ice rink/ice skating
- Motor sports/quads/go karts
- Climbing/climbing wall
- More places for young people to socialise
- More activities for young people
- Nightclubs/disco for young people
- Gym for young people

Two questions were included to gauge levels of awareness and interest in the new teenage gym at Eston Sports Centre. From these questions only 16% of respondents had heard of the teenage gym but 70% said they would use such a gym if one were available at a leisure centre near them.

5.2.5 School Sports Facilities Survey 2005/06 – Community Use of School Sports Facilities

Schools in Redcar and Cleveland were sent survey forms by the Extended Schools Section asking them questions about their indoor and outdoor facilities and whether they were currently used by the local community after school hours. The results of this survey could have a major influence on future development particularly with regard to sports halls in areas of the Borough where supply/demand issues are more critical.

Only 1 secondary school in the Borough stated that their facilities were not available for community use (Sacred Heart, Redcar) but all the rest are open to the community from between 10 hours and 30 hours a week. Most of these schools are available on both evenings and weekends. However the schools stated that some of the changing rooms, toilets etc were not adequate for public use (Nunthorpe School in particular). The survey also indicated that disability access in some schools would be a problem particularly for wheelchairs. Gilbrook Technology College stated that public use of sports facilities was an important aspect of integration with the local community but that there were excellent mainstream leisure facilities in the area (Eston Sports Academy).

The Borough has 2 specialist sports colleges at Ryehills and Laurence Jackson, both of which stated that they had a strong commitment to community use.

Freeborough College stated that they are moving into new premises in Brotton and patterns of community use are still emerging.

Booking of facilities was mainly carried out by clubs and teams yearly and/or termly rather than individuals on a pay and play basis.

One school did not reply to the survey.

The results of the survey are summarised in Appendix 8 and also form part of the area profiles.

5.2.6 Playing Pitch Strategy – Consultation with Sports Clubs – Pitch Sports

Football, cricket, rugby and hockey teams were consulted as part of the playing pitch strategy review in early 2006 using a standard methodology to assess the supply of and demand for pitches within the Borough. They were also asked for their views on the quality of the pitches and changing rooms that they used.

The main findings of the survey and the conclusions of the playing pitch strategy review can be found in this report. Where relevant, information from the survey has also been included in the area profiles which form Part 2 of the assessment.

5.3 Sports Clubs (Non Pitch) Consultation Findings

As part of this study a survey of non pitch using sports clubs was carried out to obtain views about the key issues affecting them particularly in relation to the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities within the Borough. Sixty five survey forms were sent out.

The clubs who responded (22) were from a wide cross section of sports and covered most areas of the Borough. A recent audit of local sports provision (May 2006) showed that there was a thriving network of local sports clubs throughout Redcar and Cleveland covering an excellent range of sports.

As only 22 clubs responded to the consultation the results obtained can only realistically be viewed as indicative. The following, though, is a list of the key points identified:

- 90% of clubs stated their membership had either increased or remained static
- 75% of sports club members are male, 25% female
- 52% of sports club members are aged over 41 years old
- Only 10% of sports club members are in the 17 – 24 age range
- 27% of sports club members live within 1 mile of the club base/facility
- 61% of sports club members live more than 3 miles from the club base with 21% living outside Redcar and Cleveland
- 62% of clubs surveyed had a junior section and a similar % have made contact with a local school
- 73% of sports clubs do not own their club base/facility
- 67% of sports clubs would like to expand their activities

Some of the issues raised are positive. It is encouraging, from a sports development perspective, that club membership is increasing and that around 88% of club members live within the Borough. The exception being the specialist sports clubs which draw their membership from a wider catchment area. Around 67% of clubs wish to expand their activities and encouragingly some 60% of clubs have a junior section and the same %age also have contact with a local school.

Less positively 73% of clubs do not own their base/facility but rely on the availability of other facilities to carry out their activities. In addition there seems to be a significant drop out of sports club members in the 17-24 age range but this may be due to the fact that they play their sport in further education or, more likely, that they are lost to sport as other interests take over. Further study is needed in this area.

5.4 Consultation with Governing Bodies of Sport

As part of the Leisure Needs Assessment, 21 Governing Bodies of Sport were sent survey forms in order to obtain their views regarding sports related issues within Redcar and Cleveland. All the main sports were consulted apart from football, as they had been included via the North Riding FA as part of the recent playing pitch strategy update.

Seven Governing Bodies returned survey forms and the main key issues from these is summarised below.

Swimming – ASA

- There are 4 clubs affiliated to the ASA in Redcar and Cleveland, i.e. Eston ASC, Guisborough ASC, Loftus Dolphins ASC and Saltburn and Marske ASC, all of whom access grant aid for training, coaches and officials. These teams compete locally.
- Participation in swimming is deemed to be on the increase but club membership has remained static.
- Participation has risen mainly due to clearer pathways from grass roots level to elite level. There has also been closer working between ASA, local clubs in Redcar and Cleveland and the Local Authority.
- ASA is looking to expand its activities in relation to improving participation within the health context.
- Regional ASA would like Redcar and Cleveland to have provision for maintaining swimming pools within their long term plans. This to consist of refurbishment and replacement of existing stock. This would help the ASA to look at existing funding streams in order to prioritise funding for swimming within the area.

Badminton – Badminton England

- There are 4 clubs affiliated to the Governing Body in Redcar and Cleveland i.e. Marske Seniors, Marske Juniors, Eston Ladies, Nunthorpe School Juniors.
- The only real source of funding for badminton is through the Whole Sport Plan funding scheme.
- Participation in badminton has deemed to have increased in relation to juniors but stayed about the same for seniors. The increased participation at junior level is due to more clubs and coaching sessions.
- Facilities used by badminton clubs in the Borough are Bydales School, Marske, Eston Leisure Centre and Nunthorpe School.
- The main concern of the Governing Body was to obtain fairer distribution of hire times in leisure centres between football and badminton.
- More appropriate wall colours in facilities i.e. light blue/green.

Canoeing – Canoe England

- Although there are no actual canoe clubs based in Redcar and Cleveland, local clubs include Cleveland Canoe Club, Stockton and Thornaby Canoe Club, Tees Kayak Club, Tees Tigers Canoe Club and residents of the Borough take part in these.
- There is only a small amount of official activity within Redcar and Cleveland which is mainly based around the coast at Saltburn (surfing and sea canoeing). The main canoeing activity is based at Tees Whitewater Centre which is a regional/national facility.
- Grant aid for canoeing is via Canoe England and Sport England.
- Participation in canoeing is said to have increased mainly due to the health agenda – through clubs.
- Canoe England would like to see more support for the Tees Whitewater Centre and more support for buildings and facilities at surf venues in Redcar and Cleveland.
- The main concern of Canoe England is gaining access to water particularly on rivers/lakes and improvement in associated facilities i.e. launching, parking, changing, etc.

Cricket – ECB

- There are 7 clubs within Redcar and Cleveland, Guisborough, Marske, Normanby Hall, Redcar, Saltburn, New Marske and Skelton Castle.
- Funding for clubs is mainly through the single investment fund and the ECB interest free loan scheme.
- Participation in cricket has increased mainly through better awareness and improved club/school links.
- The ECB is focussing its plans on the need for better off field practice facilities along with additional changing facilities for women and girls.

Cycling – British Cycling

- The main cycling club throughout Redcar and Cleveland in the Tees area is Cleveland Wheelers.
- Redcar and Cleveland off road centre (South Bank) is used for off road cycling activities.
- British Cycling receives grant aid from UK Sport and Sport England.
- Cycling participation has increased over the last 3 years.
- There has been an increase in the profile of cycling at national/elite levels and the health benefits of cycling are starting to be recognised.
- The main concern of the Governing Body is the lack of suitable traffic free cycling facilities suitable for young people which limits development. This remains a priority for cycling i.e. a velodrome or a traffic free facility e.g. the off road centre.

Table Tennis – ETTA

- There is only 1 club located in the Borough i.e. Saltburn.
- There are no external funding sources for clubs either via the Governing Body or Sport England.
- Participation levels in table tennis have stayed about the same according to the ETTA over the last 3 years.
- Only 1 facility is used for competition purposes within the Borough which is at Saltburn Junior school annex.
- The main concern is the lack of facilities in Redcar and Cleveland and the ETTA would like more use made of school facilities. Also ETTA would like better grant aid in order to fund equipment for table tennis.

Gymnastics – British Gymnastics

- There are 2 popular and renowned clubs in the Borough, i.e. Redcar and Saltburn Gymnastic clubs. Redcar gymnastics club has its own private facility whilst Saltburn Gymnastics is based at Saltburn Leisure Centre.
- There is no grant aid provided to clubs but clubs can apply to technical committees for support for coaching and judging courses, but funding is limited. Clubs can receive £400 on achieving Gym Mark.
- Gymnastics participation has increased over the last 3 years, partly due to an increase in school club links and development of the Gym Mark scheme. There is a huge demand for gymnastics so numbers will continue to rise as long as this demand can be met.
- The main concern of the Governing Body is the current state of the Redcar facility. They are keen to look for alternative premises as the current facility is restricted because of its size and layout. The club currently has one of the highest membership numbers in the region and is keen to expand even further.

Conclusions from Governing Body survey

The main concerns from the Governing Body survey can be summarised as follows:

- More use of school facilities particularly for badminton and table tennis.
- The need for improvement of existing facilities particularly cricket, canoeing and gymnastics.
- Improved provision for maintaining swimming pools within the Council's long term funding plans.

In order to obtain a clearer overall picture with regards to the leisure needs assessment in Redcar and Cleveland it would have been particularly useful to have elicited the views of the following Governing Bodies:

- Hockey – views on synthetic turf pitches within the Borough particularly in relation to club development.
- Rugby – in relation to junior rugby facilities and improvement of existing facilities at Guisborough.
- Tennis – in relation to the lack of indoor tennis facilities within Redcar and Cleveland.

Unfortunately the survey forms from these Governing Bodies were not returned.

5.5 Consultation with Community Groups and Organisations

5.5.1 Issues regarding open space, sports and recreation facilities

As part of the local needs assessment 240 local groups and organisations were sent survey forms in order to ascertain key issues regarding open space, sport and recreation facilities. A total of 34 (14%) responded to the survey and these included a wide variety of groups from all areas of the Borough.

5.5.2 Key Findings

The key findings of the consultation exercise are given below.

- 50% of organisations made direct use of open space (50% did not)
- 47% of organisations stated there was enough open space in the area where they were based – 28% stated there was insufficient open space
- The 5 most important issues regarding open space were (in order)
 - Cleanliness i.e. freedom from litter and graffiti
 - Safety and security for users of open space
 - The control of dogs and dog fouling
 - The control of noise and anti social behaviour
 - Ease of access to open space

Organisations were asked to comment on how they rated certain aspects of open space from very good through to very poor, and the findings are detailed in the table (5.5) below.

Table 5.5: Important Issues regarding Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities

	Very Good (A)	Fairly Good (B)	Average (C)	Fairly Poor (D)	Very Poor (E)	No opinion (F)	Average or Better (A+B+C)	Average or Worse (C+D+E)
Variety of Open Space	3.4%	48.3%	37.9%	10.4%	0.0%	0.0%	89.6%	48.3%
Range & quality of play facilities	3.4%	17.2%	37.9%	6.9%	17.2%	13.8%	58.5%	62.0%
Range & quality of outdoor facilities for young people	3.4%	3.4%	48.3%	17.2%	20.7%	6.8%	55.1%	95.0%
Range & quality of outdoor sports facilities	0.0%	10.4%	24.1%	27.6%	26.7%	17.2%	34.5%	78.4%
Range & quality of indoor sports facilities	0.0%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	13.8%	40.7%	62.1%
No & quality of local parks /rec grounds	0.0%	24.1%	48.3%	17.2%	6.9%	3.4%	72.4%	72.4%
Formal plant displays, shrubs & flower beds	3.4%	41.4%	24.1%	17.2%	10.4%	3.4%	68.9%	51.7%
Local nature reserves/wildlife areas	6.9%	44.8%	17.2%	20.7%	6.9%	3.4%	68.9%	44.8%
Footpaths & cycleways	13.8%	17.2%	31.0%	27.6%	6.9%	0.0%	62.0%	65.5%
Country parks , c/side woodland areas	13.8%	48.3%	20.7%	13.8%	3.4%	0.0%	82.8%	37.9%
Areas for sitting out/informal ball games	0.0%	13.8%	48.3%	24.1%	6.9%	6.9%	62.1%	79.3%
Cleanliness/freedom from litter	0.0%	3.4%	37.9%	24.1%	34.5%	0.0%	41.3%	96.5%
Accessibility for wheelchairs & pushchairs	6.9%	6.9%	31.0%	34.5%	13.8%	6.9%	44.8%	79.3%
Provision of events & festivals	3.4%	10.4%	58.6%	17.2%	6.9%	3.4%	72.4%	82.7%
Provision of shelters & seating	0.0%	0.0%	27.6%	48.3%	20.7%	3.4%	27.6%	69.0%
Car parking	3.4%	10.4%	37.9%	24.1%	20.7%	3.4%	55.2%	82.7%
Areas & bins for dog Fouling	6.9%	17.2%	31.0%	20.7%	17.2%	6.9%	55.1%	68.9%
Signposting/information boards & leaflets	6.9%	20.7%	41.4%	13.8%	13.8%	3.4%	69.0%	68.6%
Lighting	0.0%	20.7%	34.5%	31.0%	10.4%	3.4%	55.2%	75.9%
Security & feeling safe	0.0%	10.4%	44.8%	31.0%	31.8%	0.0%	55.2%	89.6%

Of the 20 issues that respondents were asked to rate in the above categories, 12 came out worse than average, 4 better than average and 4 had an overall average rating. Given that 50% of organisations who responded actually use open space (see previous) and 50% do not, this emerging picture of a rather negative response comes from both practical usage and perceptions.

The most positive responses were those relating to the standard and quality of country parks, countryside sites and woodland areas whereas the most negative responses related to the range and quality of outdoor sports facilities for young people.

In summary the categories that had the most positive responses were:

- Country parks, countryside sites, woodland areas
- Variety of open space
- Local nature reserves, wildlife areas
- Formal planting displays, shrubs etc

Conversely the following were rated worse or much worse than average (generally):

- Range and quality of outdoor sports facilities for young people
- Range and quality of outdoor sports facilities
- Range and quality of indoor sports facilities
- Areas for sitting out and/or playing informal ball games
- Cleanliness and freedom from litter
- Accessibility for wheelchairs
- Provision for shelters and seating
- Car parking
- Areas for bins and dog fouling
- Signposting/information boards
- Lighting
- Security and feeling safe

5.5.3 Individual comments from the community group survey

Some of the individual comments from the survey respondents have been included in Appendix 9. These have been grouped into geographical areas and/or towns. Many of the comments reflect the general conclusions referred to above.

5.6 Survey of town and parish councils

In order to obtain a picture of current leisure needs as seen by Redcar and Cleveland's parish/town councils each council was sent a questionnaire. The results from these are summarised below and are also included in the area profile section of this report.

5.6.1 Lockwood Parish Council

This council stated that there was a need for additional or improved open space and that there were not enough of the following facilities in the Lockwood Parish area.

- Football pitches – Boosbeck also poor quality
- MUGA'S/Tennis/Netball courts
- Outdoor bowling greens
- Poor quality and inadequate changing facilities
- Informal open space around Lingdale
- Play areas
- Indoor halls
- Facilities for young people (13 – 19 year olds in particular)
- Wild life areas
- Lingdale village hall is under used.

Lockwood also identified the 3 most important issues relating to open space areas as:

- Easy access for all members of the community
- Safety and security for people using open space
- Control of noise and anti social behaviour.

5.6.2 Guisborough Town Council

The town council stated there was a need for additional/improved open space, sport and recreation facilities in Guisborough. The council also considered that there were insufficient tennis courts/MUGA's and that changing facilities at playing fields and other outdoor facilities were generally poor. Another main issue was the lack of facilities for teenagers. The main comment from Guisborough Town Council was in respect of the swimming pool which they stated should be refurbished or replaced, possibly at Laurence Jackson School. A play area on Westgate Park/Rectory Lane was also thought to be required.

5.6.3 Skelton and Brotton Parish Council

The parish council emphasised the need for additional/improved open space, sport and recreation facilities in their area. The survey indicated that there was not enough of the following:

- Rugby pitches
- Tennis/netball/MUGA'S
- Parks and kickabout areas
- Children's play areas, particularly for children with disabilities
- Facilities for teenagers i.e. skate parks, shelters etc.
- Indoor halls suitable for sport

The parish council also stated that local schools sports facilities should be made more readily available for use by the community.

In relation to open space areas the 3 most important issues were:

- Freedom from litter/graffiti
- Safety and security of use
- Equipment and grounds should be of a better quality and well marked

5.6.4 Saltburn, Marske and New Marske

Several individual Councillors responded to the survey and the consensus view was that there was generally a need for additional or improved open space, sport and recreation facilities within the area apart from New Marske where it was felt there was adequate provision.

The main areas of concern were a shortage of:

- Informal open space
- Facilities for teenagers
- Wild life areas

The parish council felt that Bydales School should be open for community use outside school hours (Private Finance Initiative build) as a way of providing further facilities. It was further emphasised that the needs of young people were not currently being met.

5.7 Leisure Centre Surveys including usage figures

Customer Survey – Redcar and Cleveland Leisure Centres

- Introduction

A customer survey of the Council's Leisure Centres, managed by Tees Valley Leisure was undertaken in January/February 2005. A total of 302 people (123 males and 179 females) were surveyed across the 5 leisure centres and a summary of the key findings is given below:

- Customer Profile Analysis

- 75.5 % of customers use their own transport to leisure centres
- Only 6.3% of customers use public transport
- 36% of users travel less than 1 mile to leisure centres
- 64% of users travel less than 3 miles to leisure centres
- 8% of users travel more than 10 miles to leisure centres
- 72% of users take less than 16 minutes to travel to a leisure centre
- 37.5 % of leisure centre users are not in work
- 61.1% of leisure centre users are in work or education
- 56% of leisure centre users partake in individual activities at the centres
- 34.4% of leisure centre users partake in organised classes/sports club activities
- 38.4% of leisure centre users are aged over 51 years with only 13.2% under 18.

- Customer Service Analysis
 - Only 7.8% of leisure centre users were dissatisfied with the overall value for money
 - 10.5% of leisure centre users were dissatisfied with the quality of facilities/services on offer
 - Only 4.1% of leisure centre users were dissatisfied with the customer service provided by TVL staff
 - 89% of leisure centre users were satisfied with the customer service provided by TVL staff
- Comments

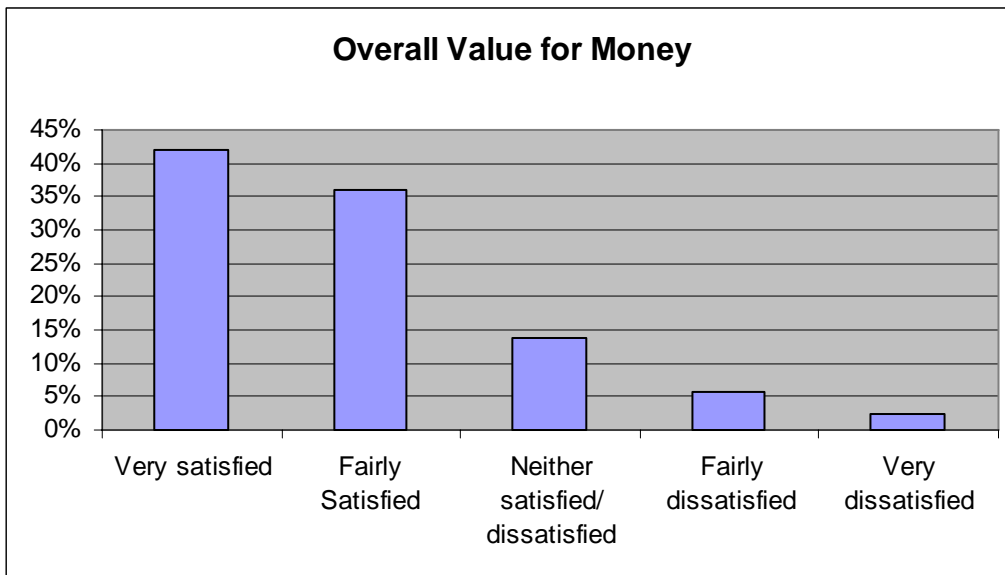
It was difficult to draw any meaningful conclusions regarding individual leisure centres as the number of respondents in the survey was low (around 80 users per leisure centre). The findings would be more meaningful if they could be compared with other leisure centres in the same groupings throughout the country, highlighting the need to participate in recognised benchmarking schemes.

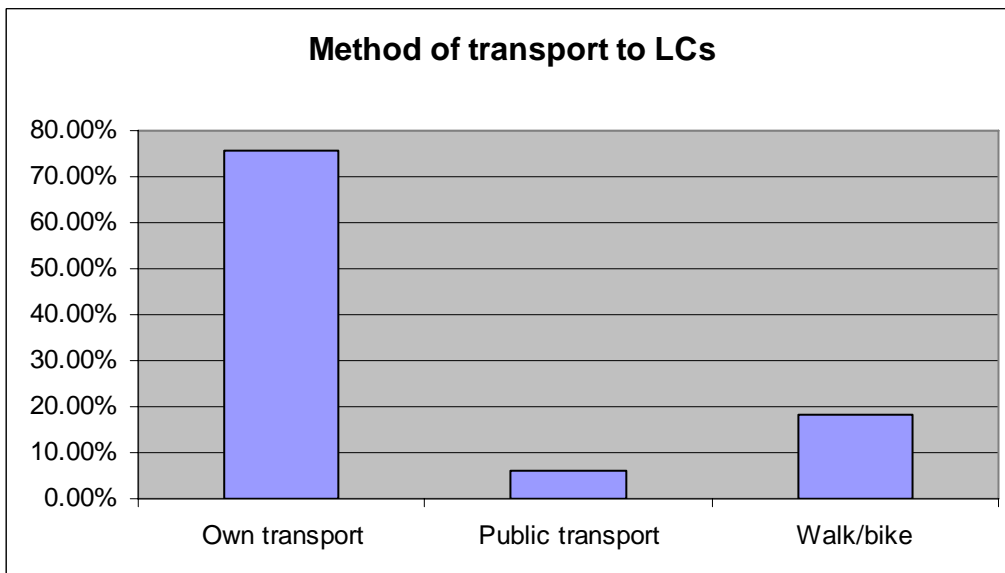
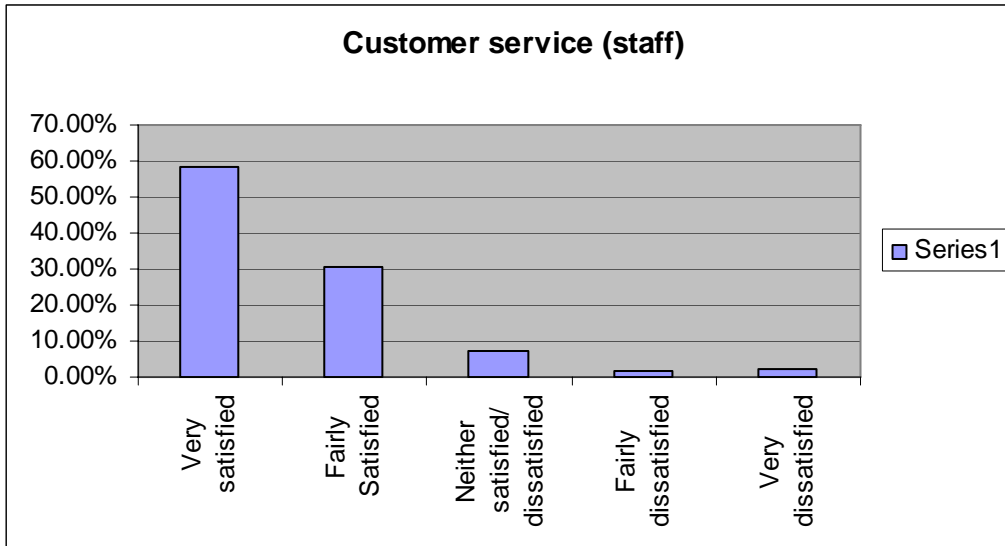
Future surveys will need to include the following:

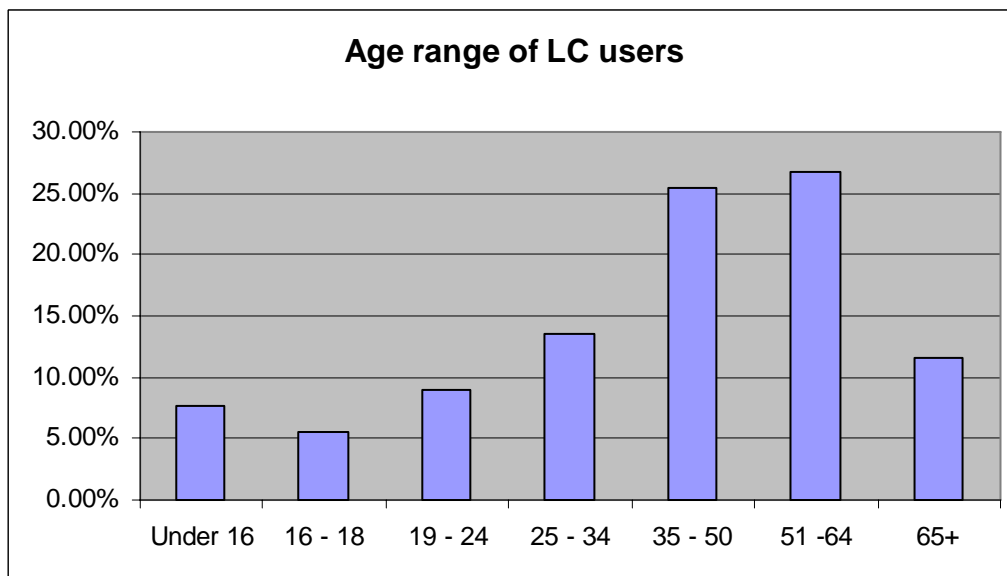
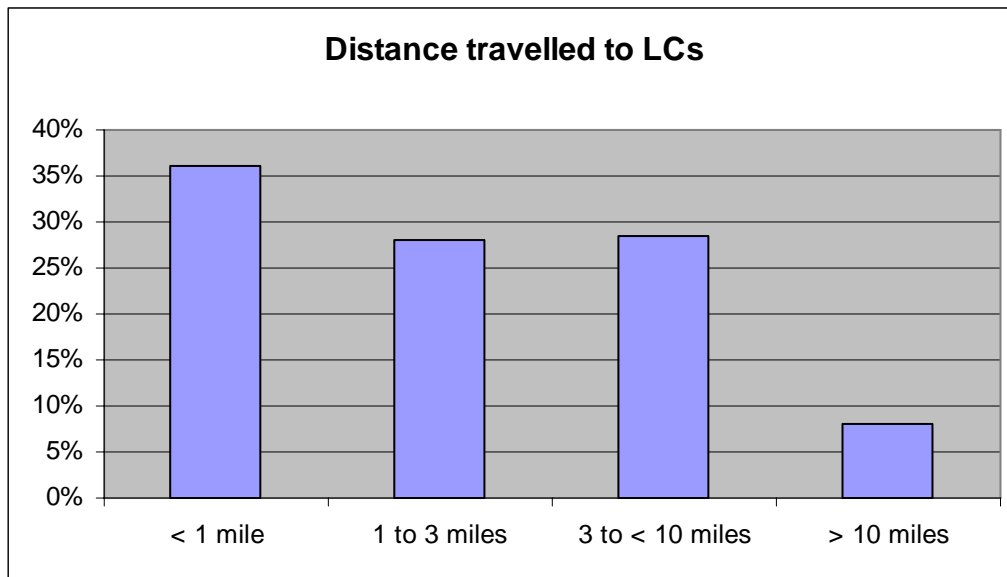
- A survey of when (time of day) users take part in activities
- How often individual users visit a particular centre
- The nature of activity/sport that individuals use/partake in
- Details, for each leisure centre, of where users live. i.e. settlement/village/town for each leisure centre

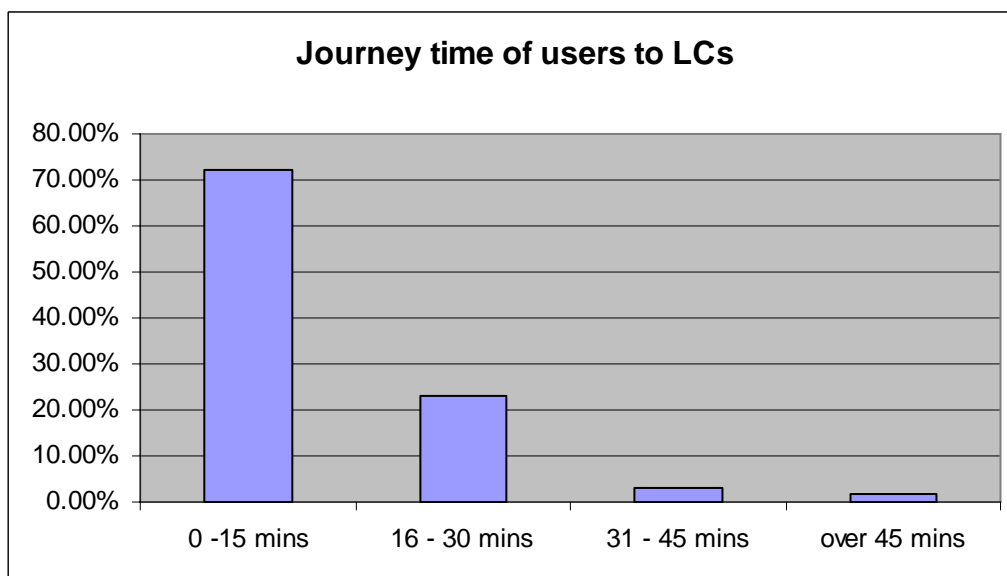
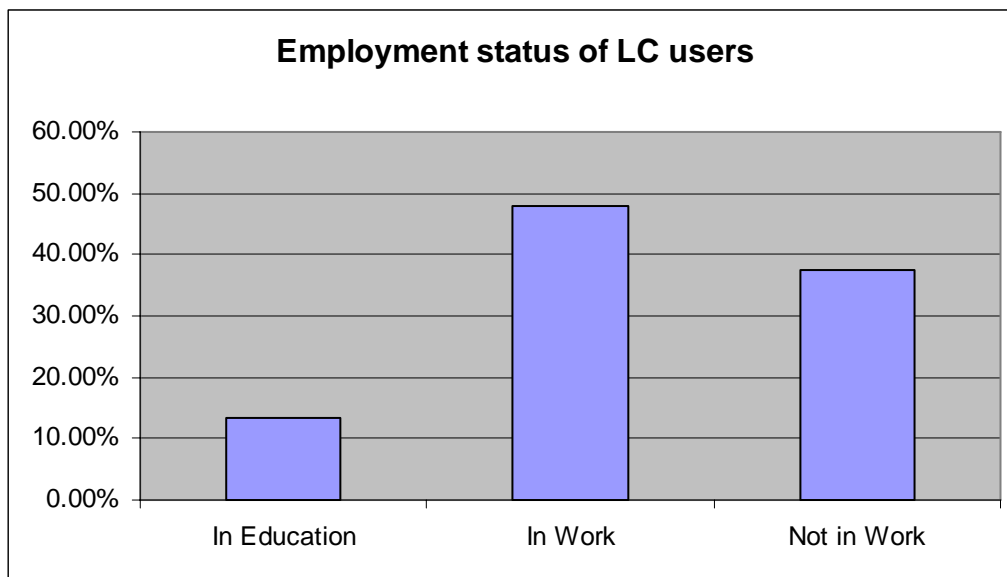
The above would be of particular use in assessing peak demand and off peak usage. This will be of benefit when calculating the overall supply/demand requirement of sports hall and swimming pool usage in the Borough.

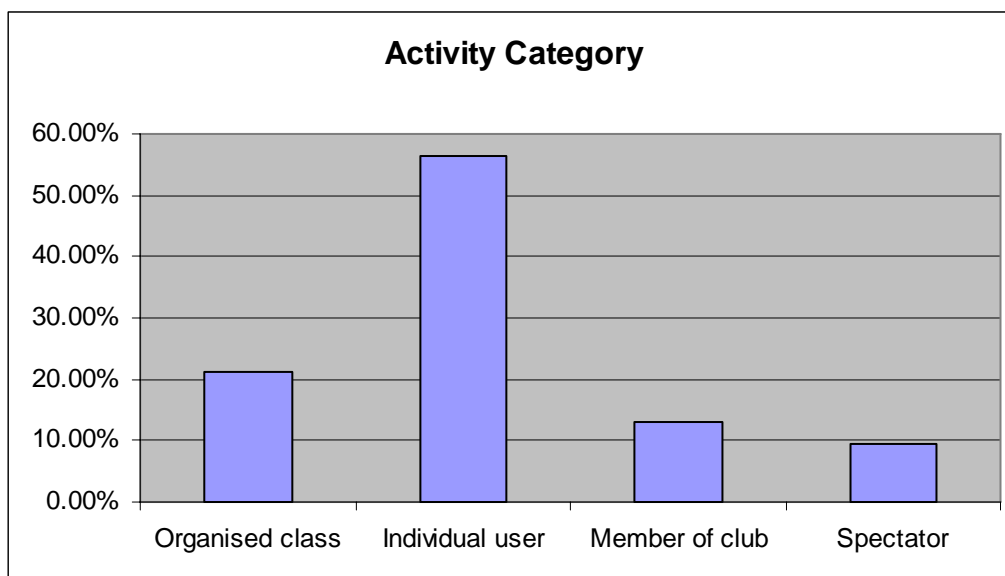
The following tables set out the key results.









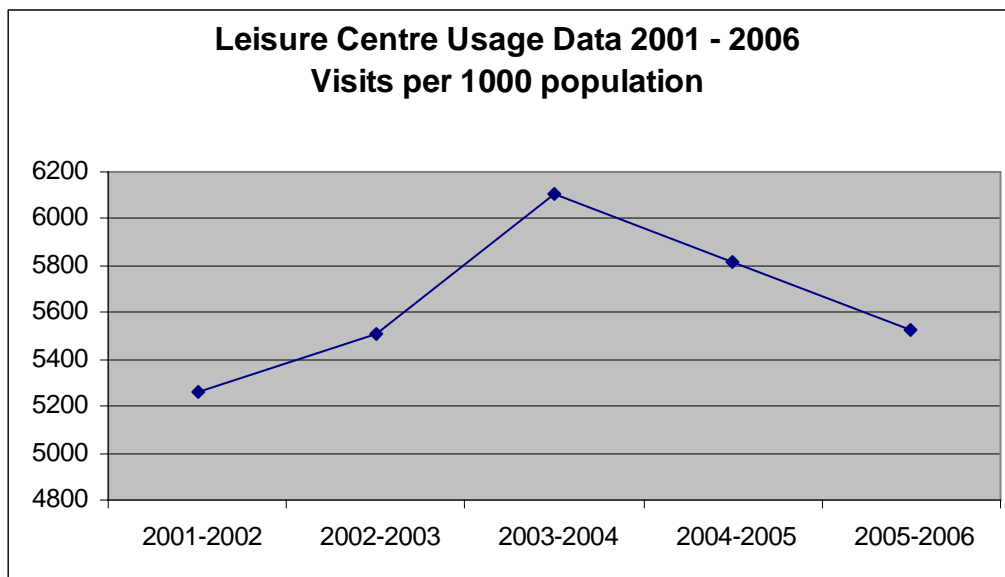


Leisure Centre Attendances – Redcar and Cleveland

The information provided below gives overall attendance figures between 2002 and 2006 and also the figures for specific target groups i.e. women, young people, older people and GP referrals.

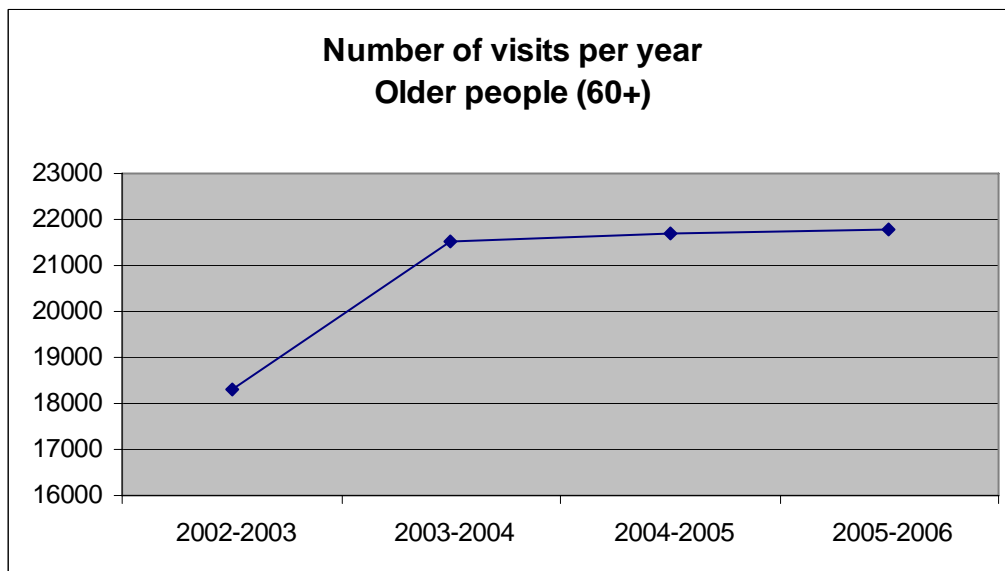
Individual and Overall Attendance Figures

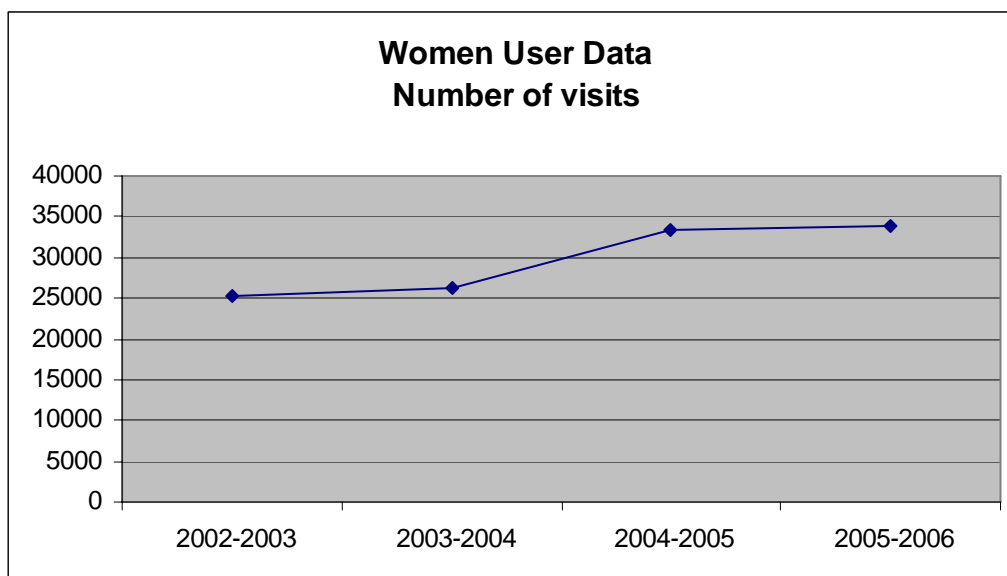
In general overall attendance figures (visits per thousand population) have risen, peaking in 2003/04, but there has been a decline from that year through to 2006. The above trend is confirmed when usage data for individual leisure centres are compared year on year (data only available since April 2003). Eston and Redcar leisure centres show declining attendances since 2003 whilst Saltburn, Loftus and Guisborough centres have remained relatively static in terms of usage. Redcar leisure centre was closed for a time during August 2006 and Guisborough was also closed due to a faulty electricity supply during October/ November 2004.



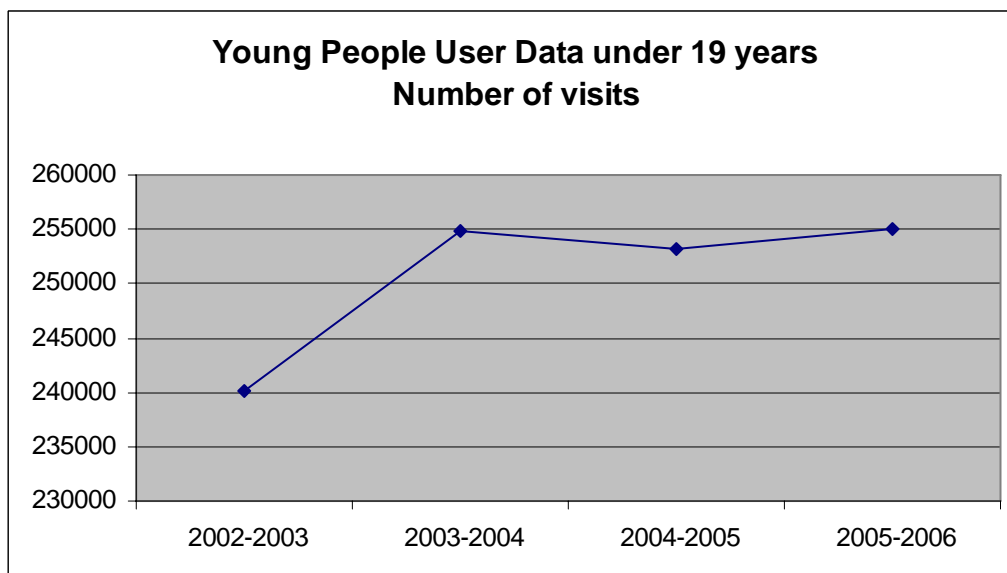
Council Target Groups

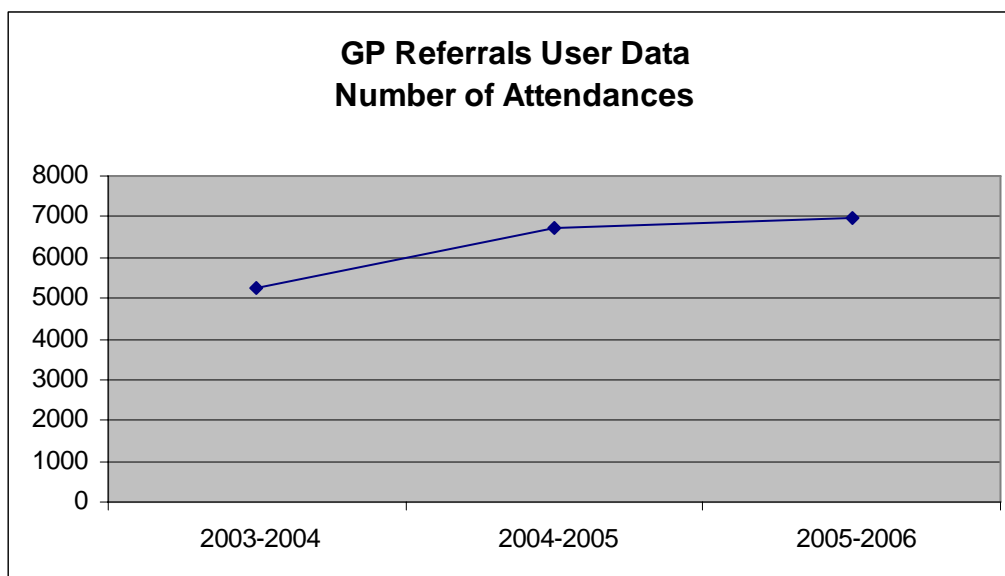
As can be seen from the graphs below usage figures for the Council target groups show an encouraging upward trend year on year since 2002. However strict interpretation of the combined data infers that usage from outside the target groups has fallen. This may be due to the fact that more publicity and attention has been focussed on the target groups.





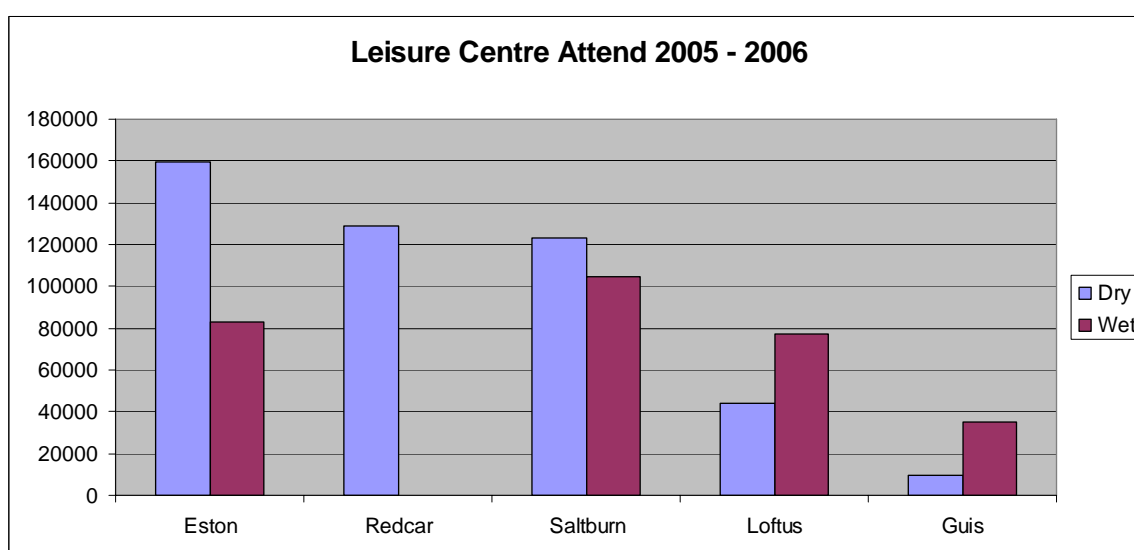
Council Target Groups (continued)





Swimming Pools and Sports Hall Attendances

The graph below shows the relative attendances of wet and dry facilities throughout the Borough for 2005/06 (the latest available data). The split between wet and dry usages is approximately 40% wet (swimming pools) 60% dry (sports hall) usage.



Leisure Centre Performance Analysis

The analysis of relative performance of leisure centres is difficult on usage figures alone and it is recommended that the centres implement a national measurement exercise based on either APSE or QUEST. These national methods of comparing leisure centres can be used by the Council and Tees Valley Leisure to compare the Borough's individual centres with other baseline leisure centres throughout the country. QUEST is the recommended option since it is based on quality assurance standards.

5.8 Greenspace Strategy Consultation

Preparation of the strategy included an extensive consultation exercise. The key findings of the surveys and workshops are included as part of Appendix 5.

This information has been used to inform the development of this Assessment.

5.9 Community Facilities Survey

Community Facilities Survey – Redcar and Cleveland

A survey of community facilities was undertaken in 2006 covering the management and use of these buildings. This survey included the Council owned stock of buildings, Coast and Country managed buildings and other privately owned facilities. Some the key results of this survey are shown below:

Management of Buildings

Management Committee	43%
Trustees	19%
Management Com and Trustees	20.3%
Others	17.6%

Estimated Annual Running Costs of Community Buildings

Estimated Annual Costs	No of centres with that cost
Less than £1,000	3 (5.4%)
£1,001 - £5,000	17 (30.4%)
£5,001 - £10,000	17 (30.4%)
£10,001 - £15,000	4 (7.1%)
£15,001 - £20,000	1 (1.8%)
£20,001 - £30,000	4 (7.1%)
£30,001 - £40,000	1 (1.8%)
£40,001 - £50,000	0
£50,001 - £60,000	3 (5.4%)
£60,001 - £70,000	2 (3.6%)
Over £70,000	3 (5.4%)
Unknown/no response	19

- 35% of centres have difficulty meeting the above costs
- 80% of centres obtain Council Tax relief

Satisfaction Ratings for Community Buildings

	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neither/ Nor	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Doesn't apply
Appearance from the outside	14 19.4%	28 38.9%	6 8.3%	11 15.3%	13 18.1%	
Access to the Building	18 26.1%	33 47.8%	7 10.1%	7 10.1%	4 5.8%	
Internal decoration	17 24.6%	37 53.6%	7 10.1%	5 7.2%	3 4.3%	
Condition of the furniture	19 27.5%	28 40.6%	10 14.5%	5 7.2%	5 7.2%	2 2.9%
Temperature	13 18.6%	32 45.7%	8 11.4%	4 5.7%	9 12.9%	4 5.7%
Availability of car-parking	11 15.7%	22 31.4%	11 15.7%	8 11.4%	13 18.6%	5 7.1%
Access to public transport	16 23.9%	20 29.9%	10 14.9%	5 7.5%	6 9%	10 14.9%
How welcoming the building is	21 29.6%	32 45.1%	7 9.9%	5 7%	2 2.8%	4 5.6%
How safe the building feels	24 34.8%	30 43.5%	5 7.2%	4 5.8%	3 4.3%	3 4.3%
Kitchen/catering facilities	19 27.9%	28 41.2%	4 5.9%	6 8.8%	2 2.9%	9 13.2%

5.10 Viewfinder 2005 and 2006/7

Part of the Greenspace Strategy consultation was based on questions added to the summer 2005 Viewfinder Survey. Using this process provided access to a large (over 1800) panel of residents within the Borough. The demographic make up of the panel has been designed to reflect the age, gender, ethnicity and employment characteristics of the Borough.

The questions covered the types of open space that people used and the frequency of use; the level of satisfaction with the amount of different types of open space provided and its quality.

Details of the results of the 2005 survey can be found in Appendix 10 however the key points identified were that:

- 35% of respondents stated that they or other members of their household use public open space in Redcar and Cleveland at least once a week.
- The majority of people felt that local communities should be involved in the management of parks and open spaces (70%).

- Just over three quarters of respondents (76%) thought that biodiversity was an important issue to incorporate into the management of the Borough's green and open spaces.
- 73% of panel members thought that we should be encouraging and investing in more natural wildlife, species and habitats on coastal sites.
- 47% of panel members thought that we should be encouraging and investing in more natural wildlife, species and habitats on the urban fringe.

The survey also found that 28% of respondents used public open space almost daily with a further 35% using it at least weekly.

People from the younger age categories tended to use public open space most often and open space in residential areas appears to be used most and for leisure rather than sporting purposes.

Walking in particular is a popular activity.

One of the main PPG17 criteria for establishing local standards of provision is accessibility across the whole range of sports leisure and recreation activities.

Questions were, therefore, included in the winter 2006 Viewfinder Survey to cover accessibility issues and to include reference to the wider range of sporting, leisure and recreation facilities. i.e. more than just open space.

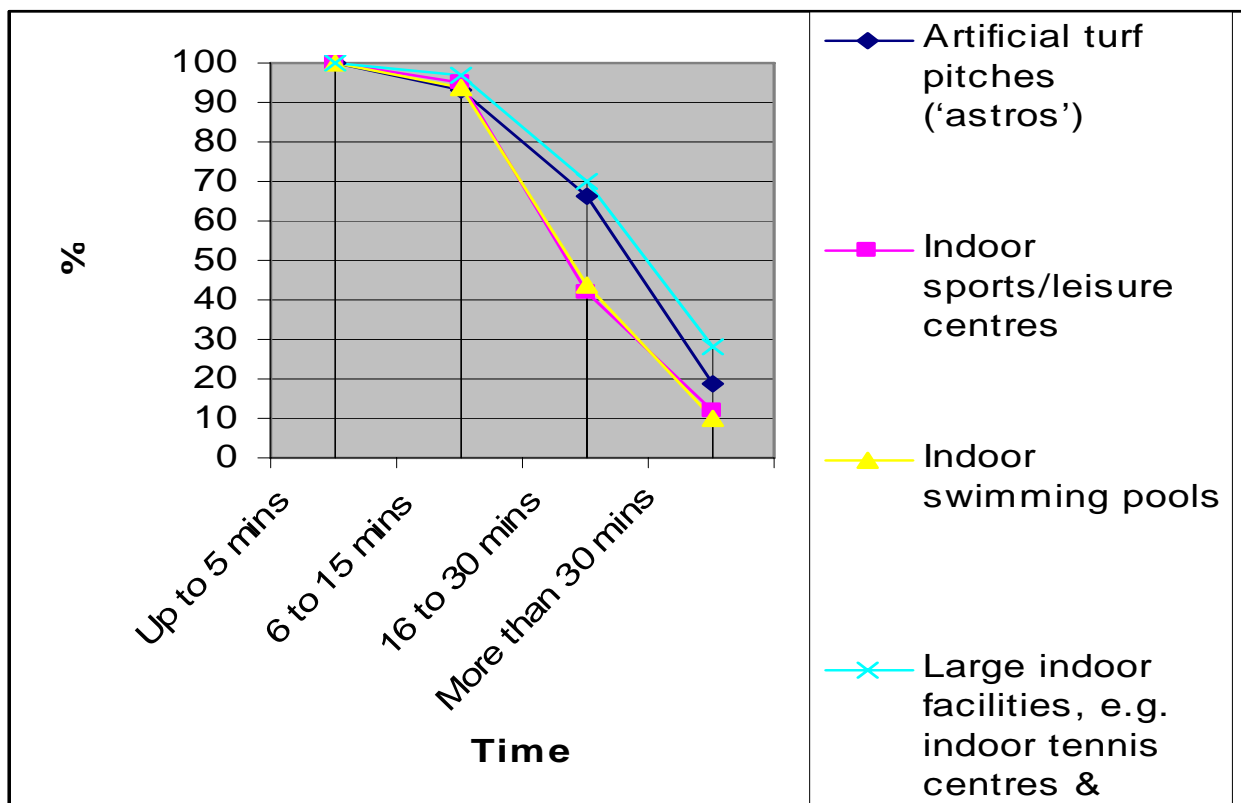
In detail the questions covered the type of leisure facility used most often, how far away from home it is and how did they travel there; frequency of use; reason for the visit: time spent there: how far and by what means of transport would they be prepared to visit a given range of open space and sports facilities and finally levels of satisfaction with the different facilities and opportunities available.

Details of the results are given in Appendix 11 but key findings were that:

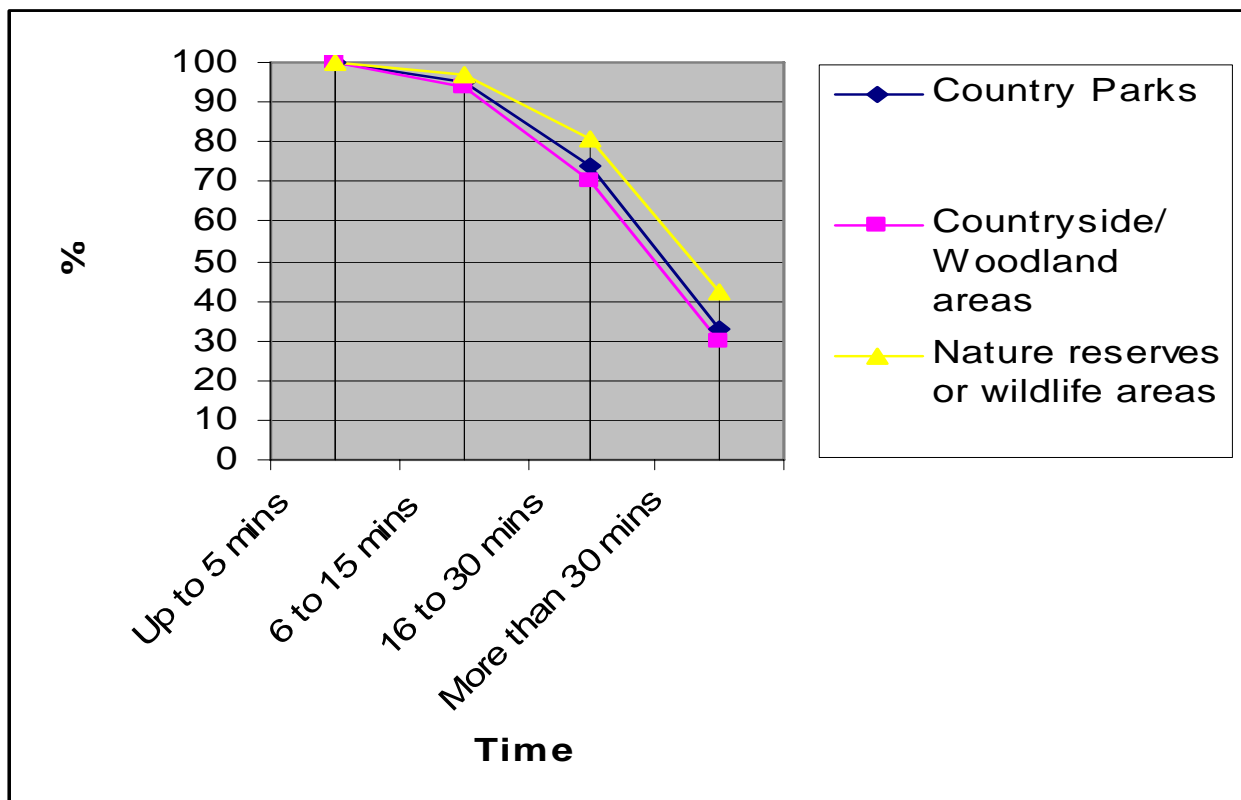
- the most commonly used areas are parks, countryside areas, footpaths and beaches.
- the most common activities are walking/dog walking, exercise and enjoying the environment
- around 75% of respondents would be prepared to travel up to 15 minute to get to an equipped play area.
- people are prepared to travel longer to get to larger facilities but the preferred method of travel is by car.

The diagrams below illustrate the times that people are prepared to travel to different types of facility/provision and the last one indicates the preferred mode of travel.

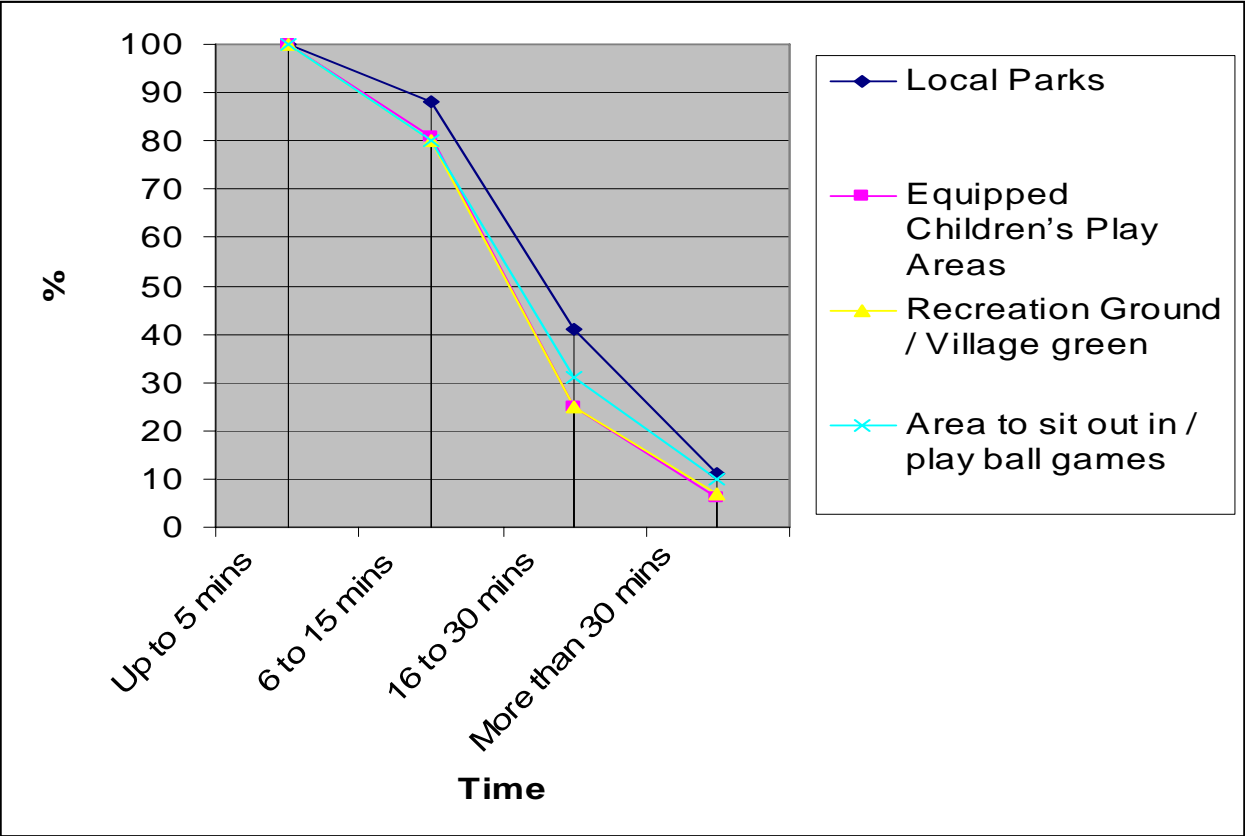
1. Larger 'built' facilities



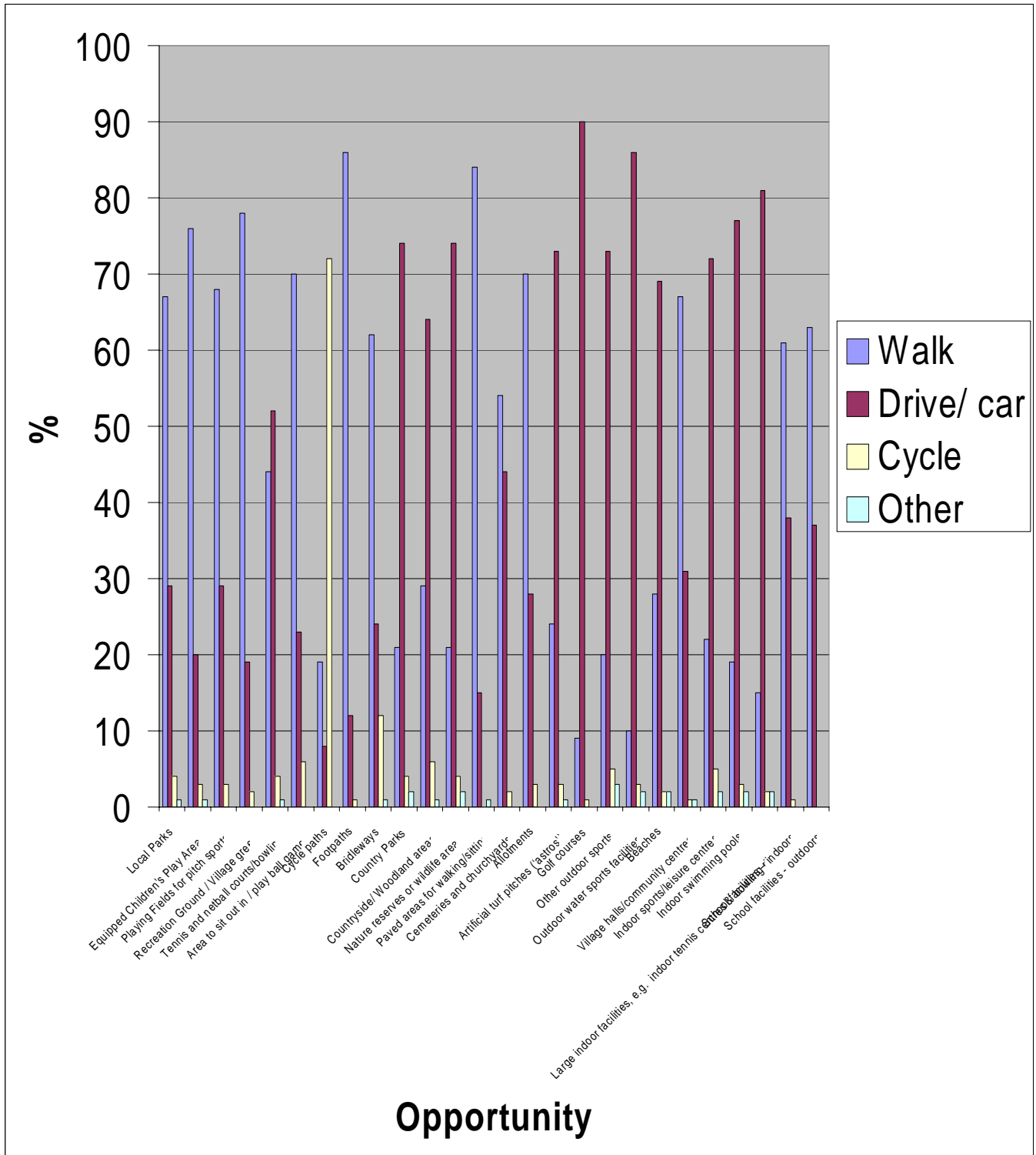
2. Natural Sites



3. Local opportunities



4. Mode of transport



5.8 Audit Commission Data

Using data from the Audit Commission website, in relation to Best Value performance indicator BV 119, satisfaction with open space and sports facilities, it is possible to compare Redcar and Cleveland's performance with the group of local authorities selected by the Office of National Statistics. Compared to other authorities in the group satisfaction with parks and open spaces is well below the average but expenditure, comparatively, is significantly lower i.e. £4.12 per head with all others in the group spending more than £12 per head

In relation to sports facilities i.e. swimming pools and sports halls expenditure is well above the group average but satisfaction is the lowest.

5.8 Future Needs

The population of the Borough is expected to decline slightly over the next 15 years and the balance too will change with a reduction in young people and an increase in the over 50's.

This could affect the demand for leisure facilities as there will be potentially less pressure on children's play but an increasing demand for facilities and activities for the over 50's. In particular informal recreation activities ie walking, cycling and visiting parks and natural semi natural areas are likely to become more important.

The demand for outdoor and indoor bowls and allotments could also increase but there is already some spare capacity for these facilities.

It will be important to continually review the demand for different types of leisure facilities, not just because of changing demographics but because, over time, needs and interests are likely to change.

In addition new developments, to cater for increased household formation, will alter the makeup of some settlements. Where new developments are planned to cater for such changes leisure needs must be taken into account, not just in terms of providing for at least the minimum open space standards but to ensure that appropriate linkages to natural and semi natural areas are maintained and enhanced and that any section 106 contributions are used to improve the quality and range of leisure provision.

In terms of leisure needs the area currently has more than sufficient built facilities to deal with current use and any anticipated increase in participation. In numerical and accessibility terms the current and likely future need for built facilities could be met with less and decisions will need to be taken in the future about the best way of providing cost effective accessible facilities for the borough.

Another significant factor will be the need to increase participation rates. This is more of a sports development than a buildings issue and will require the provision of suitably trained staff to encourage and support people to take up and maintain sport and leisure activities and to maximise the informal open space opportunities that exist in the area.

5.9 Non Residents Needs

It is estimated that some 2million people visit the borough annually with around 1million visiting Redcar alone. A majority appear to visit the area's natural attractions, mainly the coast , with a significant proportion visiting friends and relatives.

Certain amenities, particularly parks and beaches are of significance to residents and visitors but all have the capacity to deal with current visitor numbers and are capable of dealing with any anticipated increase.

Whilst there is likely to be some visitor usage of the proposed new pool at Redcar the facility will cater primarily for residents.

5.10 Overall Conclusions

- The existing policy framework for Sport, Recreation and Leisure is weak.
- The landscape of facility provision has changed significantly with the provision of new/improved schools but this has not been matched by a more co-ordinated approach to availability and use.
- Decisions about the development of some facilities seem to have been taken without any reference to actual need.
- The backlog maintenance expenditure requirement for existing facilities is significant and has increased over the last few years and satisfaction regarding sports facility provision is lower than for comparative authorities and lower in relation to other leisure activities.
- There has been a failure in the past to capitalise on the potential for section 106 to help fund improved sports and leisure facilities.
- Rationalisation of schools and the availability of new facilities provides an ideal opportunity to address local needs for sport and recreation provision.
- Attendances at Leisure centres are declining.
- Leisure activities are considered to be an important component of people's lives with walking and outdoor activities being the most popular.
- Whilst the quantity of open space provision meets minimum standards its quality is an issue.
- Spend per head on parks and open spaces is relatively low compared to other authorities.
- Similarly whilst the provision of playing pitches broadly matches needs there are inconsistencies across the Borough with shortages in some areas. The quality of pitches and their related facilities is barely adequate.
- The huge investment in play has secured the provision of excellent facilities but there are still areas of the borough without sufficient play areas.
- The provision for young people is generally considered to be inadequate.
- The structure of the areas population will change over the next 20 years with increasing numbers of older people and decreasing numbers of young people.
- The Borough has a generally aging stock of community buildings with some backlog maintenance issues to be resolved.

- The community buildings are evenly spread demographically throughout the Borough although there is considered to be a shortage of community facilities in Guisborough although the actual type of shortage is unspecified.
- Leisure centre customers are generally satisfied with the service provided by Tees Valley Leisure, who manage the centres.
- The majority of users travel to mainstream leisure facilities by car with very few customers using public transport.

5.11 Overview of Key Issues

These include the need:

- For better co-ordination in relation to the facilities available and potentially available to the community.
- To look carefully at the location of existing provision in relation to new and emerging opportunities and the age, condition and usage of the existing stock.
- To secure genuine and realistic community use of new publicly funded facilities.
- To secure sports, recreation and leisure as a key component of corporate and strategic plans to match the community needs, expectations and aspirations.
- To improve the management information available at Leisure centres and the collection of customer satisfaction data to facilitate planning for the future.
- To improve the quality of public open spaces and playing pitches.
- To provide a more even spread of play facilities within the borough.
- To maximise the potential of sites released from the school building programme.
- To secure investment into the quality and range of provision by capitalising on the potential through s106.
- To assess the aging stock of the Council's community buildings in order to maximise potential use and reduce revenue and maintenance costs.

6. Standards

6.1 General: justification for standards

Standards of provision should be informed by both the assessment of the current quantity, quality, and accessibility of existing open space and recreation provision; and, the established needs and aspirations of the community. Standards are one of the major end products of the study.

Standards should also reflect the importance attached to different kinds of opportunity by the community through the consultation exercise.

Broadly speaking, PPG17 suggests that standards should have three basic components covering: quantity (per capita); quality; and, accessibility. The results of community consultation help to inform the development of local standards in respect of the three required components.

6.2 Standards for open space.

This section is largely devoted to describing and justifying a set of standards for 'Built Facilities' (covering sports halls, swimming pools, synthetic turf pitches, and small halls/community buildings). It was explained earlier that the Borough Council has already researched standards for various types of open space (as explained within the Borough Council's Green Space Strategy). As explained by the Green Space Strategy, are as follows:

"1. Everyone should have access to at least one of the following:

- at least one small green space of up to 1.9ha in size within 5 mins walk; and/or,*
- a larger green space of at least 2ha within 10 mins walk; or,*
- a formal urban park of at least 2ha within 20 mins walk.*

2. Small spaces should be at least 0.1 ha in size and offer a basic range of facilities, they should include areas suitable for younger children's play and provide opportunities for walking and relaxation. Small spaces should be accessible to children without crossing a busy road.

3. Large spaces other than wildlife areas should include all the facilities of small spaces plus the opportunities for older children including kick-about areas.

4. Urban Parks should offer all the facilities above plus ones for popular activities such as bowls and tennis courts. Urban parks should also provide toilet facilities and, where possible, on site parking.

5. In terms of Playing pitches the strategy recommends the adoption of different standards for each of the Area Environmental Committee areas and these are covered in the review of the Playing Pitch Strategy below."

Sub Area	Suggested (ha/00)	Standard
Redcar	0.9	
Grangetown, South Bank	0.9	
Guisborough, Boosbeck	1.0	
Saltburn, Marske, New Marske, Skelton	1.0	
Eston, Normanby, Ormesby	0.9	
Loftus, Lingdale, Brotton	0.8	

As regards the quality of open spaces each of the sites was surveyed, as part of the Green Space Strategy, and given a quality score based on a standardised form of assessment. The scores, for a sample of sites, were independently checked to assess the validity of the process used. This was found to be consistent and reliable as is an excellent basis for the establishment of a regular monitoring process.

A majority of the sites were found to be 'fair ' to 'poor' and as a minimum in the short to medium term the council should strive to ensure that all sites score consistently as 'good' .

More specifically all urban parks should achieve the Green Flag award.

6.3 The suggested standards for built facilities

The Borough Council has therefore already developing revised standards to cover different kinds of open space. Instead, this section concentrates upon the development and justification of corresponding standards of provision for important local built facilities.

The following standards are based on the results of local consultation, but are also informed by pragmatic considerations, and are intended to be achievable. The standards proposed are for minimum levels of provision, and they are being provided to guide planning developer contributions from new development in respect of important community facilities. Therefore, just because geographical areas may enjoy levels of provision exceeding minimum standards does not mean there is surplus provision, as all such provision may be well used.

The standards will need to be supplemented by additional guidance to assist in the interpretation of their application, and to also indicate associated capital and maintenance costs (where appropriate).

Indicative access catchments for both open space and built facilities have been plotted on maps later in Part 2, as well as in Section 4 of this report. These are based on walking times and drive times considered to be reasonable. It is rarely possible to take a straight line route, and this consideration has been factored into the catchment radii

shown in the area profiles. It will also be important in the micro planning of new provision to take full account of locally specific barriers to access. It has not been possible within this study to consider these matters in detail in plotting catchments around facilities. However, within the towns features such as main roads, railways, and rivers may hamper access in some areas.

6.4 Standards provided

Standards suggested in this section include those for:

- Sports halls and swimming pools
- Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs)
- Small halls/community venues

The following explanation of these proposed standards also highlights existing national and local plan standards covering similar themes with a discussion as to why these may not be appropriate to either or both of the local authority areas.

6.5 Sports halls and swimming pools

Existing National and Local Policies: There are no existing national or local standards specifically covering the provision of sports halls and swimming pools. However, Sport England do suggest possible levels of provision based on information gained from modeling exercises and leisure centre use from around the country (see below).

General justification for a local standard: The study area's main sports halls and swimming pools are generally well used, although there has been some recent decline in usage.

Sport England has developed a 'Facilities Calculator', which is based on the new up to data population information and participation and usage rates adopted in Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (now known as Active Places Power Plus).

The Calculator should be treated with some caution as it analyses demand for the local authority alone, and does not take into account the situation in surrounding areas. However, in broad terms it is a useful and valuable tool in assessing overall requirements.

Applying this calculator to the current population for the Borough suggests the theoretical need for the following:

Swimming pools: 1 (4-lane) pool per 21,040 persons (or 10.06 m² of water space per 1000 persons)

Thus suggests a provision of between 6 and 7 4-lane pools (or about 1,404 m² of water space).

Sports halls: 1 (4-court) hall per 14,360 (or 1 court per 3,590 persons)

This suggests a provision of between 9 and 10 4-court sports halls

The above figures do not take into account several important factors, the most important being:

- That assessment of provision within the Borough cannot be considered in isolation from opportunities in neighbouring local authorities.
- Factors relating to quality, genuine availability, and access.

The household survey suggested that the majority of people using sports halls and swimming pools would be prepared to travel around 20 minutes to use these facilities with trips largely being by car⁶.

Quantity: A minimum of a 4-court sports hall per 15,000 people, and 1 x 4-lane swimming pool (22 + metre length) per 21,000 people.

In planning and providing for new or improved strategic facilities such as leisure centres it is important to:

- consider the appropriateness of improving, expanding and 'opening up' existing venues within the study area (such as school facilities); and,
- take into account existing venues in neighbouring local authorities,

before committing to new facilities.

Accessibility: No more than 20 minutes, but with encouragement for use of non-motorised trips and public transport as much as possible. The earlier maps indicate the general locations where access by car should be improved, perhaps by enhancing existing venues that may not currently be available to the community at times of peak demand; or, by working in conjunction with neighbouring local authorities to improve access to and provision of facilities outside the study area.

Quality: Further guidance should be provided by the Council, but should be in accordance with Sport England technical guidance. Consideration should also be given to provision of associated facilities that are found within leisure centres including reception areas, refreshment areas, health and fitness suites, and appropriate changing, storage and viewing areas. Where new development or expansion/enhancement is planned attention should be paid to the comments of local groups and organizations and their technical requirements.

⁶ It is noted that the Audit Commission has developed Performance Indicators aimed at London Councils and other unitary authorities, suggesting a walk time of 20 minutes as a guide.

Facilities should be available for genuine community use on a largely pay-and-play basis for a minimum of 40 hours a week including times of peak demand for the community (generally weekday evenings and weekends).

6.6 STPs

The following standard for STPs is based on the results of local consultation, but is also informed by pragmatic considerations, and is intended to be achievable. The standards proposed are for minimum levels of provision, and they are being provided to guide planning developer contributions from new development in respect of important community facilities. Therefore, just because geographical areas may enjoy levels of provision exceeding minimum standards does not mean there is surplus provision, as all such provision may be well used.

Existing National and Local Policies: There are currently no national or local plan standards relating to this important outdoor sports medium.

General justification for a local standard: STPs are now seen as very important training resources for many sports, and essential for serious competitive hockey.

Quantity: The current level of provision is 2 full-size floodlit facilities in the Borough, or 1 per 69,550 persons.

Although Sport England does not currently provide guidance on the per capita level of provision for STPs, previous guidance has suggested a level of around 1 STP per 60,000 people. This is now well exceeded in many parts of the country, and a commonly held view is that significantly fewer people are able to support such a facility, and the situation in study area supports this view.

Accessibility: Research conducted by Sport England suggests that users of these surfaces tend to be prepared to travel up to 20 minutes (by car) on a regular basis, although the majority of trips will take significantly less. Local consultation generally supports this figure.

Quality: Further guidance should be provided in an SPD, but should be in accordance with Sport England technical guidance. The local authorities could include guidance on the appropriate type of surface and floodlighting as this can vary depending on which sport is anticipated to be the main user.

Facilities should be available for genuine community use on a largely pay-and-play basis for a minimum of 40 hours a week including times of peak demand for the community (generally weekday evenings and weekends).

6.7 Small halls and community venues

There are no existing national or local standards or guidance relating specifically to the provision of small halls and community venues.

There is no 'one size fits all' solution to providing community venues. Generally speaking the larger the local population the bigger and more accommodative a community facility, as larger settlements will tend to generate a greater and more diverse level of activities compared with smaller settlements. However, even small villages can sustain simple and attractive venues.

The size of venue should be determined by the population it will serve and the uses it will provide. A floor space of 400m² could be used as a guide for the minimum size of a small local facility (See comments on quality below).

Quantity: a minimum standard of 1 venue per 1000 persons would be realistic.

Quality: Further guidance should be provided by the Council, but provision should include:

- A main hall that can be used for dances, performances, reception, meetings, and sports activities such as carpet bowls and table tennis.
- A small meeting/committee room
- Provision for disabled access and use
- Kitchen
- Toilets
- Storage
- Car parking

The aim should not be to create a proliferation of small community venues in areas of growth where fewer larger venues would be more appropriate. Contributions in lieu of providing a new facility could be used towards the enlargement/improvement of existing venues where appropriate and perhaps where this is a local priority.

Accessibility: 1000 metres straight line distance (or about 15 minute walk time), although it is accepted that in rural areas it will be sometimes difficult to meet this criterion in some areas, and there will need to be an acceptance of driving or cycling to venues.

Access is the factor (especially in rural areas) that in many cases will determine whether existing facilities should be improved / extended or new facilities provided.

Part 2 – Area Profiles

Contents

PART 2: AREA PROFILES

Introduction	Page 105
Area Profile – Redcar	Page 106
Area Profile – Grangetown, South Bank (GaTeS)	Page 115
Area Profile – Guisborough	Page 124
Area Profile – Saltburn/Skelton (East Cleveland)	Page 132
Area Profile – Eston, Normanby (ONE)	Page 141
Area Profile – Loftus (Kilton)	Page 149

1. Introduction

For area management purposes the Borough has been divided into 6 Area Environment Committee zones as identified in the following table.

Sub Area	Wards Covered
Redcar (Redcar)	Dormanstown, Coatham, Newcomen, Kirkleatham, West Dyke, Redcar
Grangetown, South Bank (GaTeS)	Teesville, Southbank, Grangetown
Guisborough, Westworth (Guisborough)	Guisborough, Hutton, Westworth
Saltburn, Marske, New Marske, Skelton (East Cleveland)	Longbeck, St. Germans, Saltburn, Skelton
Eston, Normanby, Nunthorpe (ONE)	Eston, Normanby, Nunthorpe, ormesby
Loftus, Lingdale, Brotton (Kilton)	Loftus, Lockwood, Brotton

These zones have also been used in other strategy documents and reports, such as the Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies, to highlight the specific needs of distinctive parts of the Borough.

The profiles included in this part of the Leisure Needs Assessment (Part 2) give detailed information about the sports, open space and recreation facilities available in each area and identify needs and issues.

2. Area Profile – Redcar

1. General

Redcar is the largest single settlement within the Borough and the area includes Redcar itself together with Dormanstown. This area covers the wards of Kirkleatham, Dormanstown, Zetland, West Dyke and Newcomen and has a total population of 36,635.

2. Policy issues

The main components of the Local Development Framework's Core Strategy are the area based Spatial Strategies which identify specific aims for particular parts of the borough under the headings of:

- Regeneration
- Sustainable Communities
- Access
- Economy
- Environment

For the Redcar area relevant aims include:

- Promoting the role of Redcar town centre for shopping, businesses, services, leisure and community facilities;
- Enhancing the role of Redcar as the civic centre for the Borough;
- Rationalising and improving sports and recreation facilities.
- Improving community facilities based on schools.
- Improving parks and green spaces.
- Encourage tree planting and integrated habitat creation and management to support the Tees Forest Plan and the Biodiversity Action Plan.

3. Facilities

The map below illustrates the types and location of outdoor and indoor facilities within the Redcar sub area of the Borough.

Indoor facilities

Redcar Leisure Centre

The main indoor facility in this area is Redcar Leisure Centre situated in the Newcomen/Coatham area. The centre has an 8 court sports hall, fitness suite, activity area and the Redcar Bowl entertainment facility.

The centre's usage figures since 2003 are as follows:

2003/04	157,690
2004/05	134,499
2005/06	129,133

The figures show a steady decline over this time period. The centre has a backlog maintenance costs of £517,400 and a condition status classed as “B” (“A” the best, “E” the worst).

Redcar Leisure centre is included as part of the new Coatham Links housing development and will be demolished and replaced by a new swimming pool and leisure centre.

School Facilities

There are 3 secondary schools within the Redcar area Ryehills, Redcar Community College (West Redcar) and Sacred Heart RC. Ryehills has a new sports hall with an all weather hockey pitch and Redcar Community College has a sports hall plus new gym facilities. Sacred Heart meanwhile is a new build school with a sports hall and outdoor playing pitches.

The 3 schools above have a commitment to open their sports facilities for community use outside school hours. If this can be successfully achieved it will help to increase the sporting opportunities available in the area, particularly for young people.

There are 10 primary schools in the Redcar area with some capacity for leisure use. A MUGA is also planned for Newcomen School.

Redcar Further Education College also has a sports hall.

Community Facilities

In the Redcar area there are limited community facilities but Coatham Memorial Hall is available and is now well used by the community.

Open Space, Playing Fields, Children’s Play, Teenage Provision

Quantity of Open Space

The table below highlights the existing open space available in the Redcar area compared with the required provision for open space, playing fields, children's play and teenage provision.

Population

36,365

Total hectares	244.10
Total required	76.37
Provision	167.73

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Required provision (ha)	Over/under(-) minimum standards (ha)	
Playing Fields	23.97	32.73	-8.76	
Informal open space	72.14	14.55	57.60	
Children's play	1.53	10.91	-9.38	
Teenage provision	14.12	18.18	-4.06	

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council space standards (ha) per 1000 people

Playing fields	0.9
Informal	0.4
Children's Play	0.3
Teenage Provision	0.5
	2.1

The table indicates that there is sufficient overall open space in the Redcar area largely to due to areas of natural/semi natural green space. There is, however, an under supply of publicly accessible playing fields and children's play areas. There are also 3 formal parks in the Redcar area Zetland, Borough and Locke.

There are an additional 32.91 hectares of playing fields with limited public access (i.e. in schools, private and club use). If access to these sites could be secured this would help to meet the shortfall in the area.

Playing Pitches

The Council's playing pitch study concluded that for the Redcar area there was a shortfall of 1.5 junior pitches and 4 mini soccer pitches whilst there was just a small surplus (0.5) of adult pitches. However, the provision of youth and mini soccer pitches relative to demand is more tenuous than the figures suggest. In practice this does not appear to be causing undue problems for the clubs but it may be repressing sporting need.

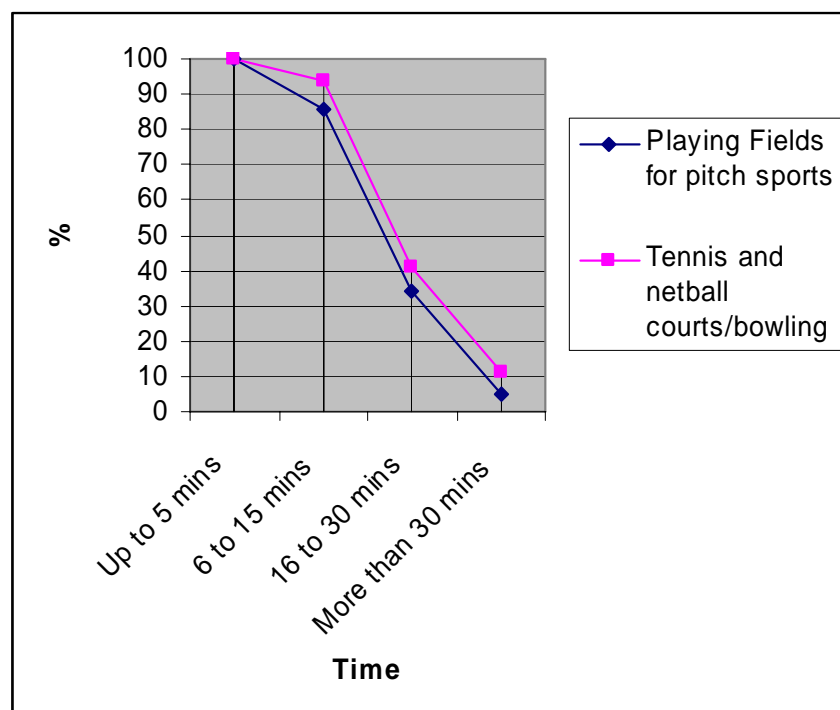
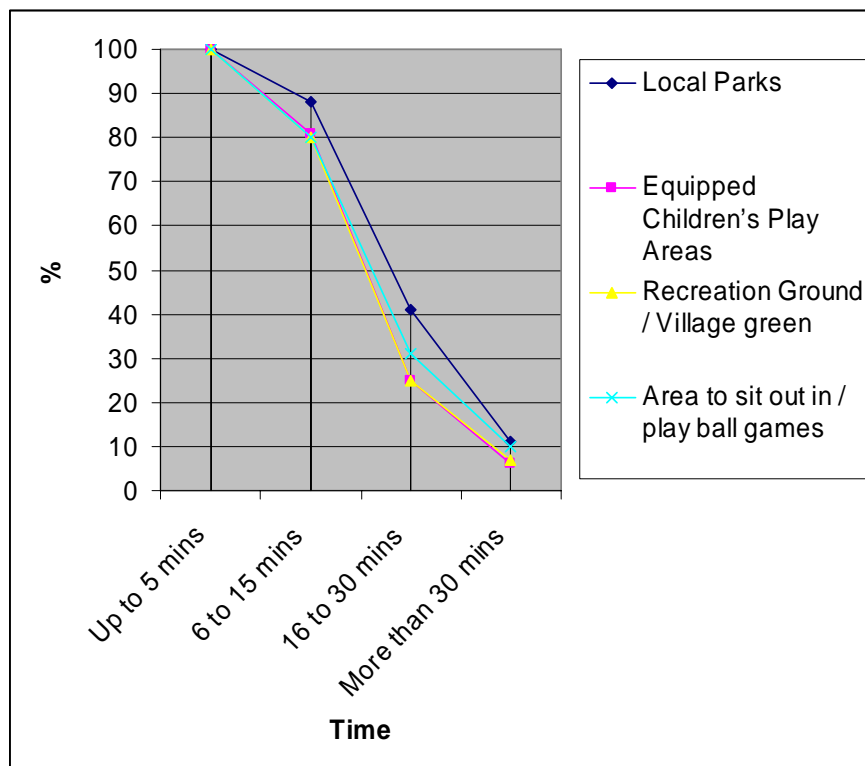
With respect to cricket pitches there are 2 in the Redcar area, both owned by clubs, and there is not a problem with availability.

A similar situation exists for rugby, where Redcar Rugby Club maintains 3 full sized pitches and there is not a concern over meeting expressed demand.

The situation regarding pitches for hockey has changed with the new synthetic turf pitch at Ryehills School. Redcar Hockey Club plays its matches outside the Borough (Acklam Leisure Centre) but they are negotiating with Ryehills School to use the STP at the sports college. The Ryehills School STP should also enable more youth hockey to be played particularly if the school allows community use after school hours.

Accessibility of Open Space

The graph below shows the importance of travel times to local facilities.



Quality of provision

Work carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy, and verified through the Leisure Needs Assessment review, has identified that a majority of open spaces areas in the Borough are 'fair' to 'poor'. Kick about areas in general received the lowest scores as they are particularly prone to vandalism, litter and other anti-social behaviour.

Individual scores are available for each site but it is reasonable to assume, for this report, that quality standards need to be improved.

Overview of open space issues

There is sufficient overall supply of open space in the area, largely due to significant areas of natural and semi-natural green space (120 hectares). There is however, an under supply of publicly accessible playing fields and children's play areas.

There are an additional 32.91 hectares of playing fields with limited public access, (i.e. in school, private or club use) if access to these sites could be secured, this would meet the shortfall in the area.

If funds are available from development they should be used to improve the range and quality of play, youth, junior football and amenity provision.

This analysis is supported by information contained in the Background Paper to the Redcar and Cleveland Green Space Strategy which identified that;

- In surveys the Newcomen ward had a higher level of dissatisfaction then satisfaction in relation to the provision of open space,
- The estimated provision of space in the Newcomen ward of 1.99 ha/'000 pop is well below the Environmental management area average of 3.88 and considerably less than the adjacent wards of Kirkleatham and Dormanstown.
- The Coatham Ward only has a modest provision of open space at 1.38 ha per '000 people.
- Play provision needed to be reviewed,
- The area of green space created off Mersey Road (former school site) will also serve the Newcomen Ward.
- The former school land at Haweswater Road may present an opportunity to provide additional local space.

Key Consultation Data for the Redcar Area

The 2005 MORI survey of Borough residents indicated that one of the main issues was the lack of facilities and activities available, for young people, and the need to improve them.

As part of the leisure needs assessment, a survey of community groups and organisations was undertaken and for the Redcar area the following issues were highlighted:

- Too much space used for housing
- Zetland park could be better utilised
- More use could be made of school playing fields
- Inadequate use of children's play areas
- More after school clubs needed
- Indoor 5-a-side/netball/badminton facilities are required
- Not enough playing fields
- A high level of dissatisfaction regarding lack of open space in the Newcomen ward.

4. Areas/Properties available for re/changed use

The closure and relocation of Sacred Heart RC School on an adjoining site has provided surplus playing fields on Mersey Road and Haweswater Road.

By allowing a majority of the former Sacred Heart School at Mersey Road to be released for housing and by securing capital sums from section 106 agreements, it should be possible to provide junior/mini soccer pitches and informal sports/play areas. Landscaping and a play area on the Haweswater Road site should also be feasible.

5. Summary

Summary - Redcar Area

Population Area	36,635 4628ha	Wards – Kirkleatham, Dormanstown, Zetland, West Dyke, Newcomen	
Facility/Open Space		Number	Location
Swimming Pool		None	
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL		1 - 8 Court	RLC
- Secondary schools		4 – 4 court	Ryehills, S Heart, R&C F Coll, W Red
- Private		None	

Availability	Redcar LC 90 hours/week Schools 55 hours/week		
Fitness/gym facilities	3		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	3	Coatham Mem Hall, Larkswood, Kirk'm St	
Youth Centres	3	Coatham Rd, Ayton Drive, Ridley Street	
Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	2		
- Rugby	3		
- Hockey	1 atp	Ryehills	
- Golf	2		
- Football			
Council	8 adult, 1 jnr		
School	4 adult, 7 jnr, 1 mini		
Private/club	9 adult, 0 jnr, 1 mini		
Play Areas	13		
MUGA's/Kickabout	None		
Parks	3	Locke, Zetland, Borough	
Countryside sites	None		
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>
- Informal Open Space	72.14	14.55	+ 57.60
- Playing fields	23.97	32.73	- 8.76
- Children's play	1.53	10.91	- 9.38
- Teenage provision	14.12	18.18	- 4.06
Proportion of Open space	2.41%		
Backlog Maintenance Issues	Redcar LC £517,400		

6. Key Issues

- The area is well provided for in terms of built leisure facilities but has deficiencies in publicly accessible playing fields, children's play and teenage provision.
- A number of the built facilities are not generally available to the public on a pay and play basis. T
- The proposed new development at Coatham Enclosure will replace the ageing and unattractive existing leisure centre and provide a new pool which will improve the range and quality of leisure provision in the area for residents and visitors
- Removal of the existing Leisure Centre will result in the removal of a large well equipped events space.

- The rebuilding of two secondary schools, the provision of a sports hall and gym at a third and the likely provision of a sports hall at Redcar College has significantly increased the range and nature of built facilities and raises issues of availability, pricing, access and comprehensive management.
- The provision of new and planned outdoor facilities at new or improved schools will also change the landscape of provision and could address the current shortages of play, accessible playing pitches and youth facilities.
- The quality of playing pitches and related changing facilities at sites such as Lakes Estate is poor and may act as barrier to increased participation.
- Through careful planning the former, currently vacant, school sites off Mersey Road and Haweswater Road could be used to deal with current shortages of play and playing fields and provide space for development. Development income could be used to support the provision of any new facilities on those sites and to contribute to a general improvement in leisure provision across the Borough.
- There is a particular shortage of facilities for Junior Football.
- There is a specific shortage of play facilities in the Newcomen area and dissatisfaction levels with the provision of play are high across the area.
- There is a general lack of facilities available for young people.

3. Area Profile – Grangetown, South Bank (GaTeS)

1. General

The area has a population of 20,335 and contains the wards of Grangetown, Teesville and South Bank. It is part of the greater Eston conurbation

2. Policy Issues

The main components of the Local Development Framework's Core Strategy are the area based Spatial Strategies which identify specific aims for particular parts of the borough under the headings of:

- Regeneration
- Sustainable Communities
- Access
- Economy
- Environment

For the Eston area relevant aims include:

- Creating a revised attractive community built on sustainability principles;
- Developing a significant area of new housing development at Low Grange Farm
- Establishing a new District Centre of an appropriate scale with health village, opportunities for small businesses and community facilities around the Normanby Road and A1085 junction;
- Developing new housing on other sites throughout the Greater Eston area including redevelopment within existing estates;
- Using vacant land for growing biomass crops pending redevelopment;
- Rationalising and improving sports and community facilities;
- Improving pedestrian and cycle accessibility to the new district centre, schools community facilities and open space;
- Upgrading the general environment with strong peripheral landscaping around new housing areas;
- Improving Eston Recreation Ground and its associated facilities and other parks and green spaces;
- Encouraging tree planting and integrated habitat creation and management to support the Tees Forest Plan and the Biodiversity Action Plan.

For the Greater Eston area more specific proposals are emerging as part of the Greater Eston Planning and Regeneration Strategy. Significant new housing

development is envisaged for Low Grange Farm that will impact on the role and function of the Eston Recreation Ground. The provision of a new District Centre in close proximity to the Eston Leisure Centre offers significant potential for raising the profile of the area and for consolidating uses.

3. Facilities

The map below illustrates the types and location of outdoor and indoor facilities within this sub area of the Borough.

Indoor facilities

3.1.1 The main indoor facility is at Eston Sports Academy which has a six lane 25 metre swimming pool and a relatively new 8 court sports hall with seating. It has been refurbished, and enhanced recently through a substantial sports lottery grant. Middlesbrough Football Club's Football in the Community initiative also forms part of the Eston Sports complex. The football club facilities include a large sports hall, an artificial turf outdoor pitch and an indoor soccer training area in the former Herlingshaw centre.

The user statistics for Eston Sports Academy (not including the MFC facilities) is as follows:

2003/04	299,276
2004/05	282,284
2005/06	242,640

These figures are for pool and dry use and show a decline of 56,636 over the 3 years, a drop of 19% which is more than any other major leisure centre facility in the Borough.

3.1.2 School Facilities

There are secondary school sports facilities at Eston Park – 3 court sports hall, Gillbrook – a new 4 court sports hall, and St Peter's – 4 court sports hall. Gillbrook is being rebuilt through Private Finance Initiative. A Community use agreement is in place for the new facility to extend use of the sports facilities to the community outside school hours.

There are 5 primary schools in the area with limited community use of their small halls.

3.1.3 Community Facilities

Local community facilities are at Grangetown Youth Centre which has a good range of sports facilities including a sports hall and gym. There are small halls at Grangetown Opportunity Centre and Whale Hill Community Centre.

Open Space, Playing Fields, Children's Play, Teenage Provision

Quantity of Open Space

The table below highlights the existing space provision for open space, playing fields, children's play and teenage facilities for the South Bank (GATES) area compared to the amount required for each category.

Population

20,335

Total hectares	65.66
Total required	42.67
Provision	22.98

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Required provision (ha)	Over/under minimum standards (ha)	
Playing Fields	18.41	19.4	-0.98	
Informal open space	27.44	7.76	19.68	
Children's play	1.88	5.82	-3.94	
Teenage provision	17.92	9.70	8.22	

Redcar and Cleveland minimum space standards per 1000 people, in hectares

Playing fields	1.0
Informal	0.4
Children's Play	0.3
Teenage Provision	0.5
Total	2.20

Playing Pitches

The Council's playing pitch study (revised 2006) included 4 adult soccer pitches at Mannion Park Grangetown and 5 adult pitches at Eston Recreation Ground. However the pitches at Mannion Park have been closed and 2 pitches at the Eston Recreation Ground have been transferred into school use at Eston Park and Gillbrook (with community use agreements). The 2 pitches managed by MFC are rarely used but are in good condition with floodlights. There is a loose community use agreement for these pitches which needs to be formalised. The designated women's pitch and the one remaining general pitch are currently not used.

No teams currently use Mannion Park or Eston Recreation Ground and these adult and junior teams are playing elsewhere (Teesdock Park and Trunk Road, Dormanstown).

Eston Recreation site is currently being assessed and recommendations for future use have been made as part of a separate report.

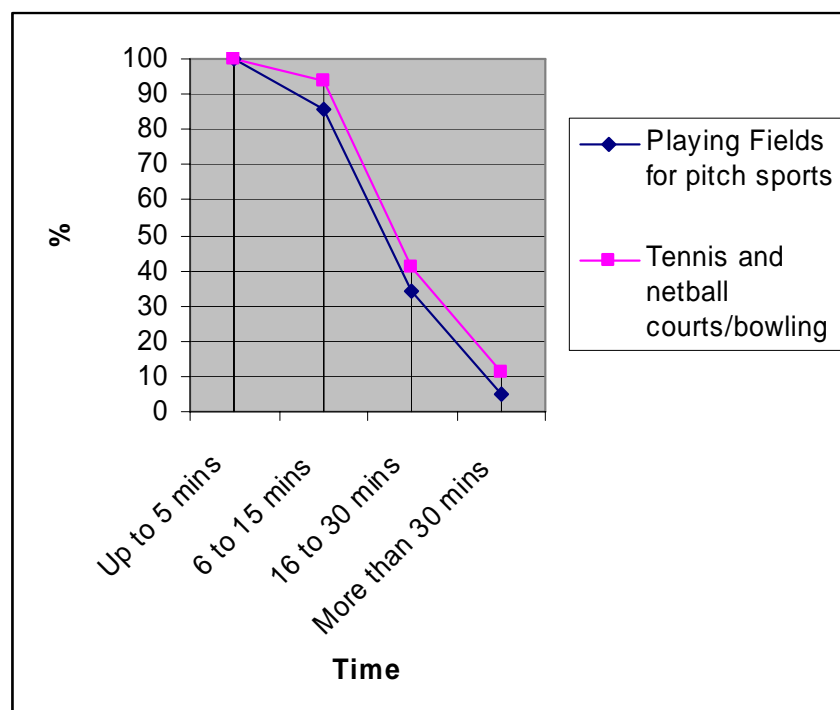
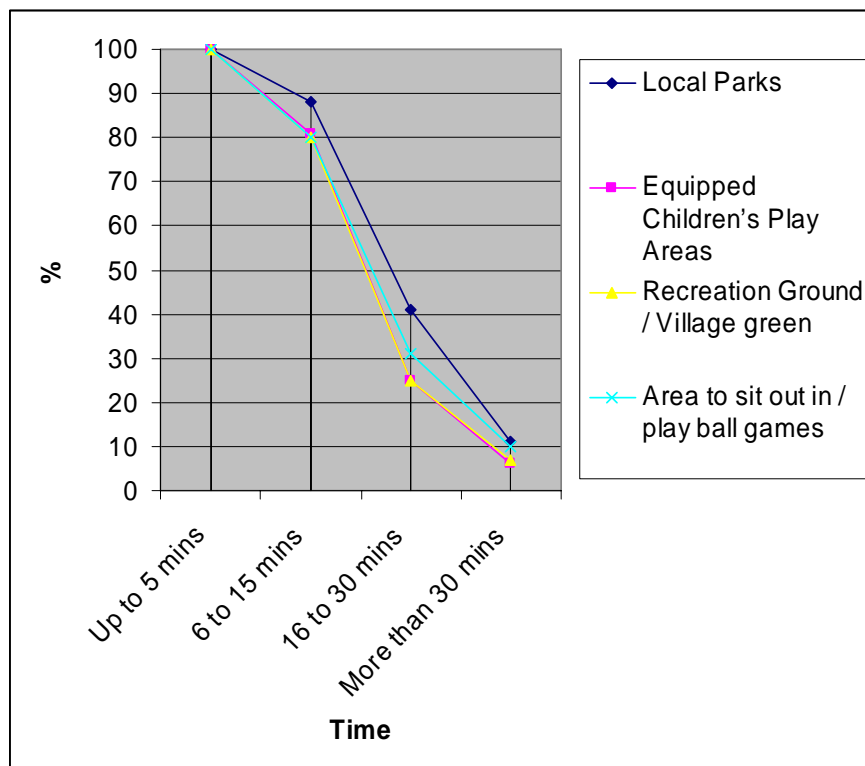
There are 3 adult pitches in South Bank and 6 junior, 2 mini soccer pitches at local primary schools in the GATES area.

A new supply/demand balance for soccer pitches in this area needs to be reassessed once the recommendations for the Eston Recreation Ground are implemented.

Proposals are in place for the provision of an STP at St Peters school with the intention that it will also be available for community use.

Accessibility of Open Space

The graph below shows the importance of travel times to local facilities.



Quality of Open Space

Work carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy, and verified through the Leisure Needs Assessment review, has identified that a majority of open spaces areas in the Borough are 'fair' to 'poor'. Kick about areas in general received the lowest scores as they are particularly prone to vandalism, litter and other anti-social behaviour.

Individual scores are available for each site and the Eston Recreation area scored the lowest quality score in the Borough.

The Eston Recreation ground and surrounding area is currently of poor quality, with the exception of the physically isolated equipped children's play which has a good standard of equipment and is well maintained. The remainder of the area is overgrown, neglected and the subject of constant vandalism and misuse. Some low level fencing is being erected to inhibit illegal motorcycle access.

Overview

Overall, there is a sufficient quantity of open space in the area; however, there is an insufficient quantity of publicly accessible playing fields and children's play.

There are, however, an additional 20.98 hectares of playing fields with limited public access in the area, and if genuine community access could be secured for many of these the deficiency in publicly accessible playing fields would be greatly reduced.

Key Consultation Data for the GATES Area

The 2005 MORI survey of Borough residents indicated that one of the main issues was the lack of facilities and activities available, for young people, and the need to improve them.

There was insufficient response from local community groups as part of the leisure needs assessment survey to draw any meaningful conclusions regarding open space and recreation facilities.

However key findings from the consultation survey carried out as part of the green space strategy identified that dissatisfaction levels with respect to open space in South Bank and Teesville were the highest (apart from Newcomen in

Redcar) in the Borough. By comparison the Grangetown area had the highest satisfaction levels with respect to open space.

3 Areas/Properties available for re/changed use

The Eston Recreation Ground has suffered from years of neglect and under investment. It is a significant open space area but substantial investment is required to enable it to provide more effectively for local needs.

The planned new development at Low Grange Farm should provide the stimulus and resource for provision of spaces and facilities that reflect current needs.

The site is adjacent to the former Stayplton School playing fields which are now no longer in use. Rationalisation of this site in association with the Eston Recreation Ground should enable the open space, play and playing field needs in the area to be met more effectively.

It should be possible to provide 2 good quality adult football pitches and some junior provision in the area and improve the current changing facilities. By concentrating all the sporting activity within a designated area maintenance and security issues should be resolved.

4 Summary

Summary - South Bank, Grangetown (GaTeS) Area

Population Area	20,335 857ha	Wards – Grangetown, South Bank, Teesville	
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	1 – 25 metre	Eston Sports Academy	
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	1 – 8 court	Eston Sports Academy	
- Secondary schools	1– 4 court, 2-3 court	Gilbrook, E Park, St Peter's	
- Private	2 halls (soccer)	MFC Football in Community	
Availability	Eston Sports Academy 90 hours/week		
	School use 35 hours/week		
Fitness/gym facilities	2		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	4		
Youth Centres	3	Eston Park, Grangetown, South Bank	

Playing Pitches			
- Cricket	0		
- Rugby	0		
- Hockey	1 (ATP)	MFC (also soccer)	
- Golf	0		
- Football			
Council	5 Adult, 1 Jnr, 0 mini		
School	3 Adult, 8 Jnr, 4 mini		
Private/club	2 Adult		
Play Areas	6		
MUGA's/Kickabout	3		
Parks	0		
Countryside sites	0		
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>
- Informal Open Space	27.44	7.76	+19.68
- Playing fields	18.41	19.40	- 0.98
- Children's play	1.88	5.82	- 3.94
- Teenage provision	17.92	9.70	+8.22
Proportion of Open Space	7,6%		
Backlog Maintenance Issues	Eston Sports Acad	£545,245	

- **Motor sport facility at South Bank including speedway, karts, motor bike, car testing etc**

5 Key Issues

- The area is well served with sport, recreation and leisure facilities.
- The quality of open spaces is the worst in the Borough and some suffer from extreme vandalism and misuse.
- The planned new developments in the area provide opportunities to raise the profile and improve the quality of provision.
- The quantity of existing provision is adequate but genuine community use needs to be secured.
- Planned new developments may duplicate existing provision and better, management and coordination will be required to maximise potential use.
- Provision of facilities in Middlesbrough overlaps the provision at Eston, particularly in relation to swimming pools.
- A considerable amount of investment has been made into the provision at Eston and this needs to be capitalised on.
- The condition of the Eston recreation ground and its related playing pitches is very poor but the area provides tremendous potential for rationalisation and revitalisation.
- Usage of the Eston Sports Academy is declining.

- There is inadequate management information about use at Eston available to plan effectively for the future.
- A number of playing pitches serving the area have been lost in recent years and, no shortage of pitches is evident from team demand, there may be an element of latent unsatisfied demand.
- The former Stayplton school site offers the potential, through the release of some land for housing, to improve the quality and supply of publicly accessible pitches and changing facilities, the availability of play areas and the landscape quality of informal open space areas.

4. Area Profile – Guisborough

1. General

The Guisborough area has a population of 19,950 and includes the main town of Guisborough and the small villages of Boosbeck, Margrove Park and Charltons. The area covers the council wards of Hutton, Guisborough and Westworth. Guisborough Town Council operates in this area.

2. Policy issues

The main components of the Local Development Framework's Core Strategy are the area based Spatial Strategies which identify specific aims for particular parts of the borough under the headings of:

- Regeneration
- Sustainable Communities
- Access
- Economy
- Environment

For the Guisborough area relevant aims include:

- Building on the Market Towns initiative to improve the environment and streetscape of the town centre to enhance its role for tourism and business development;
- Improving sports and leisure facilities;
- Improving community facilities based on schools;
- Improving parks and green spaces;
- Supporting the development of the town centre for retail, leisure and service development;
- Supporting the development of tourism related facilities including those related to activity recreation and for business tourism;
- Recognising the special character of the landscape around Guisborough, in particular the periphery of the National Park;
- Safeguarding and enhancing sites of biodiversity and geodiversity importance;
- Safeguarding the setting of Guisborough;
- Encouraging tree planting and integrated habitat creation and management to support the Tees Forest Plan and the Biodiversity Action Plan.

In terms of the challenges that the Area Strategy will need to address the most significant for this assessment is the need "To improve community facilities to

support a sustainable community, including sports and leisure facilities and open space.”

3. Facilities

The map below illustrates the types and location of outdoor and indoor facilities within the Guisborough sub area of the Borough.

3.1 Indoor facilities

3.1.1 Sports Centres/Pool

There is a 25 metre swimming pool located at King George V playing fields attendance figures for which are:

2003/04	48,151
2004/05	45,269
2005/06	45,192

The swimming pool facility has a backlog maintenance cost of £380,860 with a condition status of “D” (“A” the best, “E” the worst).

The main dry indoor facilities in Guisborough are at the Laurence Jackson Sports College which has 2 6 court sports halls, a squash court, climbing wall, gymnasium, fitness room and activity room. Prior Pursglove also has a 4 court sports hall and hosts a wide range of community activities particularly for local clubs.

Two private gyms operate in Guisborough and there is a small private pool, tennis court and activity room at Galley Hill for residents only.

3.1.2 School Facilities

As mentioned earlier, the main dry leisure facilities in Guisborough are based at Laurence Jackson Sports College which is a dual use facility. The school also has a new outdoor all weather athletics training track and an all weather training surface for football, rugby and hockey. Tennis courts and grass pitches are also available to local junior teams.

There are 6 primary schools in the Guisborough area with small halls which are used by the public on a limited basis.

3.1.3 Community Facilities

There is general lack of community centres and halls in the Guisborough area suitable for leisure activity use but there are small activity areas at Boosbeck Community Centre and Margrove Park village hall.

3.2 Open Space, Playing Fields, Children's Play, Teenage Provision

3.2.2 Quantity of Open Space

The table below highlights the existing space provision for open space, playing fields, children's play and teenage facilities for the Guisborough area compared to the amount required for each category

Population

19,950

Total hectares	32.70
Total required	39.90
Provision	-7.20

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Required provision (ha)	Surplus / Deficiency (ha)	Surplus / Deficiency
Playing Fields	7.64	15.96	-8.32	
Informal open space	11.68	7.98	3.70	
Children's play	0.77	5.99	-5.22	
Teenage provision	11.43	9.98	1.45	

Redcar standards

Playing fields	0.8
Informal	0.4
Children's Play	0.3
Teenage Provision	0.5
Total	2.0

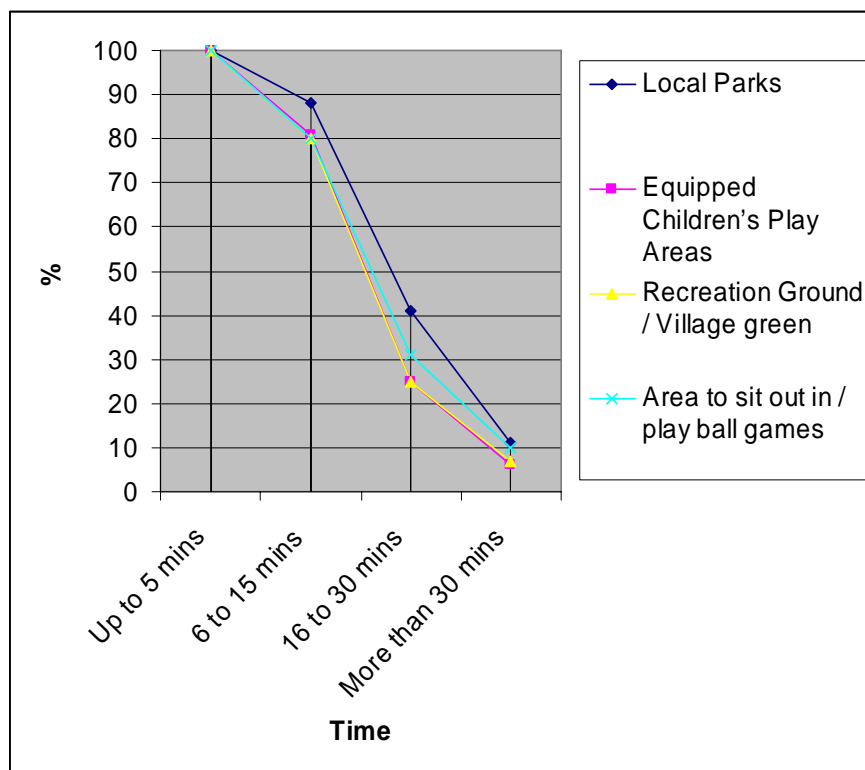
3.2.3 Playing Pitches

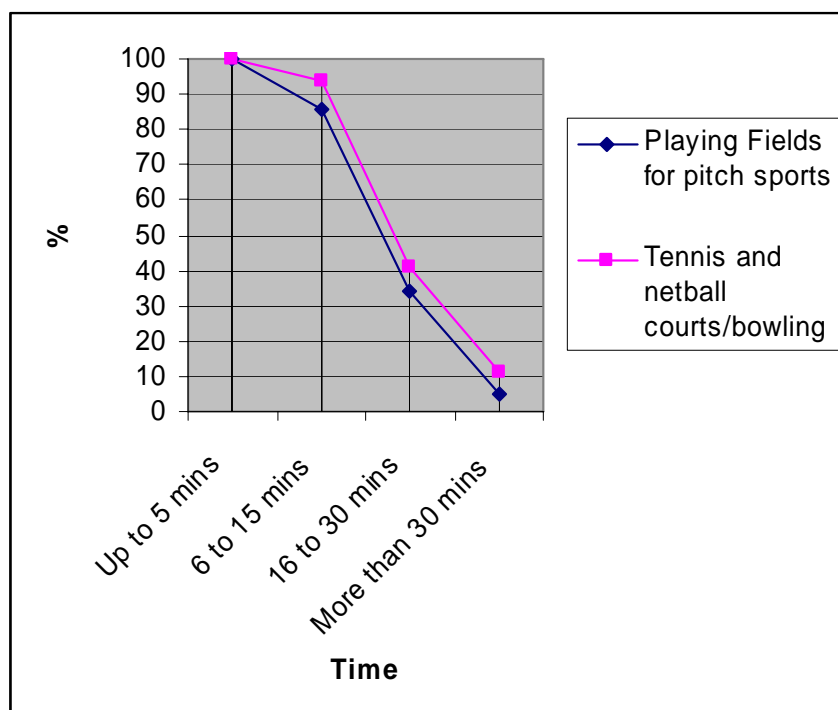
The Council's playing pitch study (revised 2006) indicated that there were enough adult football pitches with 10 teams playing on 5 pitches. A similar situation exists for junior and mini soccer pitches where there is neither a shortfall nor surplus of pitch provision in the Guisborough area. However there are issues with regard to quality of pitches and changing facilities at the King George V site.

The main concern in the Guisborough area is the lack of junior rugby pitches (2 adult pitches are located at Guisborough Rugby Club).

3.3 Accessibility of Open Space

The graph below shows the importance of travel times to local facilities.





3.4 Quality of Open Space

Work carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy, and verified through the Leisure Needs Assessment review, has identified that a majority of open spaces areas in the Borough are 'fair' to 'poor'. Kick about areas in general received the lowest scores as they are particularly prone to vandalism, litter and other anti-social behaviour.

Individual scores are available for each site but it is reasonable to assume, for this report, that quality standards need to be improved.

However the Guisborough area has the largest proportion of sites rated as good in terms of quality.

3.5 Overview

The Guisborough area contains the lowest proportion of green space in the Borough with an estimated 1.63 hectares per 1000 people and includes Hutton ward which has the lowest provision of all the Council's wards.

There is general deficiency in the Guisborough area of both playing fields and children's play. The Guisborough area however has the largest proportion of sites rated as good in terms of quality.

3.6 Key Consultation Data for the Guisborough Area

The 2005 MORI survey of Borough residents indicated that one of the main issues was the lack of facilities and activities available, for young people, and the need to improve them.

As part of the leisure needs assessment, a survey of community groups and organisations was undertaken including Guisborough Town Council and the following issues were highlighted:

- There is a need for additional and improved open space, sport and recreation facilities in Guisborough
- There are Insufficient tennis courts and MUGA's
- The standard of changing facilities at Guisborough's playing fields is poor
- There are insufficient facilities for teenagers
- The swimming pool should be refurbished or replaced, possibly at Laurence Jackson Sports College
- A play area at Westgate Park is needed.

4 Areas/Properties available for re/changed use

None at present

5 Summary

Summary - Guisborough Area

Population	19,950	Wards – Hutton, Guisborough, Westworth	
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location	
Swimming Pool	1 – 25 metre		
Sports Halls			
- Council/TVL	0		
- Secondary schools	2- 6 court, 1-4 court	L Jackson and Prior Pursglove	
- Private	0		
Fitness/gym facilities	2		
Availability	Laurence Jackson school 30 hours/week		
	Prior Pursglove 15 hours/week		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	2		

Youth Centres	1	Laurence Jackson		
Playing Pitches				
- Cricket	2			
- Rugby	2			
- Hockey	0			
- Golf	0			
- Football				
Council	4 Adult, 0 Jnr, 1 mini			
School	1 Adult, 7 Jnr, 1 mini			
Private/club	0			
Play Areas	10	4 Guis, 1 Pinch, 1 Duns, 2 BBeck, 1 Char, 1 Marg		
MUGA's/Kickabout	0			
Parks	0			
Countryside sites	1	Pinchinthorpe		
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>	
- Informal Open Space	11.68	7.98	+ 3.70	
- Playing fields	7.64	15.96	- 8.32	
- Children's play	0.77	5.99	- 5.22	
- Teenage provision	11.43	9.98	+ 1.45	
Land Use Profile				
Backlog Maintenance Issues	None			

9. Key Issues

- The area has very good access to natural and semi natural areas but has a shortage of a good quality park and a lack of play spaces particularly in the western part.
- Guisborough Pool is an outdated facility with continuing maintenance problems but is well used and thought of. There is pressure to see the pool replaced within Guisborough and it has been suggested that this should be at Laurence Jackson school
- All sports hall provision is at education sites meaning that there are no publicly accessible sports halls available during weekdays in school term time.
- Three leisure facilities and three other swimming pools available to the general public are within less than 20 minutes drive time of the town.
- The ATP at Laurence Jackson is not full size which limits the range of activities it can be used for.
- The quality of changing facilities at King George V playing fields is poor.
- There is a general shortage of MUGA's, play and teenage provision.

- There is no specific community/village hall but a range of venues exists.
- There is a shortage of pitches for junior rugby.

5. Area Profile – Saltburn/Skelton (East Cleveland)

1. General

The Saltburn area has a population of 26,145 and includes the towns of Saltburn, Marske, New Marske, Skelton and the villages of North Skelton and Skelton Green.

Saltburn, Marske and New Marske Parish Councils operate in this area of the Borough.

2. Policy Issues

The main components of the Local Development Framework's Core Strategy are the area based Spatial Strategies which identify specific aims for particular parts of the borough under the headings of:

- Regeneration
- Sustainable Communities
- Access
- Economy
- Environment

For strategic planning purposes the Saltburn Area falls within the East Cleveland and the Villages Area Spatial Strategy and the relevant aims include:

- Improving the environmental quality of settlements and streetscapes and maintaining their rural nature;
- Recognising the function of each town as part of a linked network of communities: Skelton to be the focus for housing and employment; the district centre at Loftus to be safeguarded and enhanced, together with sports facilities; Brotton to be strengthened with improved educational and community facilities and Saltburn to be strengthened as a district centre and as a focus for leisure and visitor facilities;
- Safeguarding and improving local services and community facilities including sport and recreational facilities;
- Developing new housing of an appropriate scale, with a mix of types and tenures in other settlements;
- Recognising the special character of the landscape in East Cleveland;
- Encouraging tree planting and integrated habitat creation and management to support the Tees Forest Plan and Biodiversity Action Plan;
- Safeguarding the setting of settlements.

3. Facilities

The map below illustrates the types and location of outdoor and indoor facilities within the Saltburn sub area of the Borough.

a. Indoor facilities

i. Saltburn Leisure Centre

The main indoor centre for sport and physical activity in this area is Saltburn Leisure Centre which has a 25 metre swimming pool (also a learner pool), a large 6 court sports hall, indoor bowls centre, squash courts and a gym/fitness suite. The centre is situated next to Huntcliffe Secondary school which has been rebuilt with new sports facilities.

Leisure centre usage for Saltburn has remained relatively static since 2003 through to 2006 with the following usage data for each year:

2003/04 – 235,203

2004/05 – 223,497

2005/06 – 227,696

The 2005/06 figure included 123,267 users of the centre's dry facilities and 104,429 users of the swimming pool. The leisure centre has, however, a substantial backlog maintenance cost of approximately £780,000 with a condition status rated as "B" ("A" the best status, "E" the worst).

ii. Marske Leisure Centre

Marske Leisure Centre is owned by the Council but is managed and operated through a local management committee. The centre has a small sports hall and a dance/fitness area which is well used particularly for women's keep fit, aerobics etc.

iii. School Facilities

The area has 2 secondary schools at Huntcliffe and Bydales which are currently being rebuilt and incorporate new sports facilities as part of the new build agreements. It is important that the community use agreements for the sports halls at these schools are implemented effectively to allow for after school use by the local community.

The De Brus secondary school site at Skelton is now redundant following the rationalisation of East Cleveland Schools into Freeborough College at Brotton. There is still a sports hall and playing fields at de Brus. The former is being

considered for inclusion as part of the adjacent youth centre and the playing field could be used to provide additional public pitches in the area, thus reducing the shortfall, whilst still leaving some land available for development.

There are 6 primary schools in this area, all with small halls but community use of them is limited.

iv. Community Facilities

Other indoor community facilities in this area include Skelton Civic Hall (managed by Skelton and Brotton Parish Council) and community centres at North Skelton, Skelton Green and New Marske (Jubilee Hall). However at present there is limited use of these facilities for physical activity sessions but they are still a valuable resource for other leisure activities/hobbies and community use.

b. Open Space, Playing Fields, Children's Play, Teenage Provision

i. Quantity of Open Space

The table below highlights the existing space provision for open space, playing fields, children's play and teenage facilities for the Saltburn, Marske and Skelton area compared to the amount required for each category

Population

26,145

Total hectares	54.44
Total required	54.90
Provision	-0.47

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Required provision (ha)	Over/under(-) minimum standards (ha)	
Playing Fields	11.02	23.53	-12.51	
Informal open space	27.84	10.46	17.38	
Children's play	1.87	7.84	-5.97	
Teenage provision	0.34	13.07	-12.74	

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council space standards (ha) per 1000 people

Playing fields	0.9
Informal	0.4
Children's Play	0.3
Teenage Provision	0.5
Total	2.1

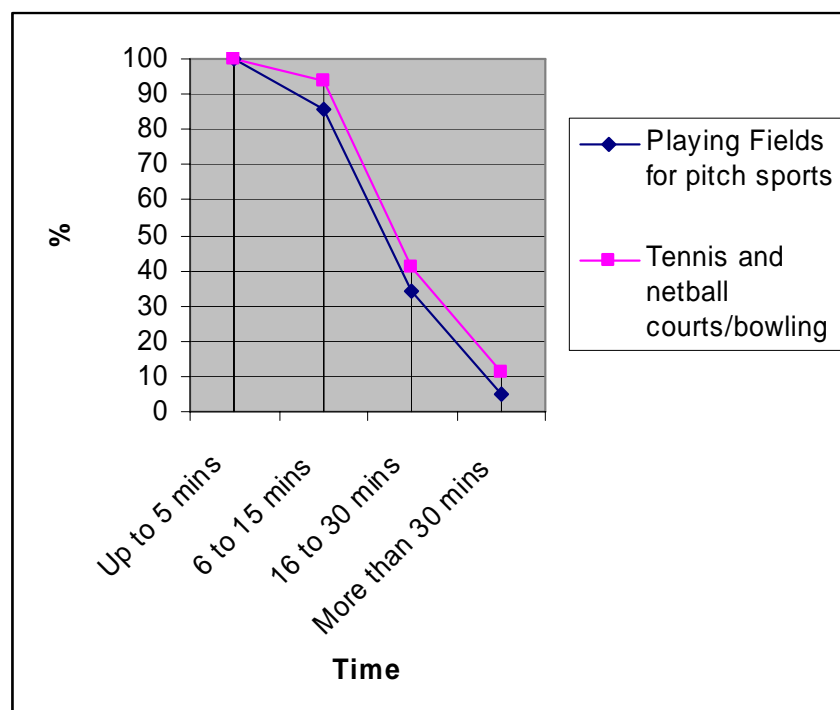
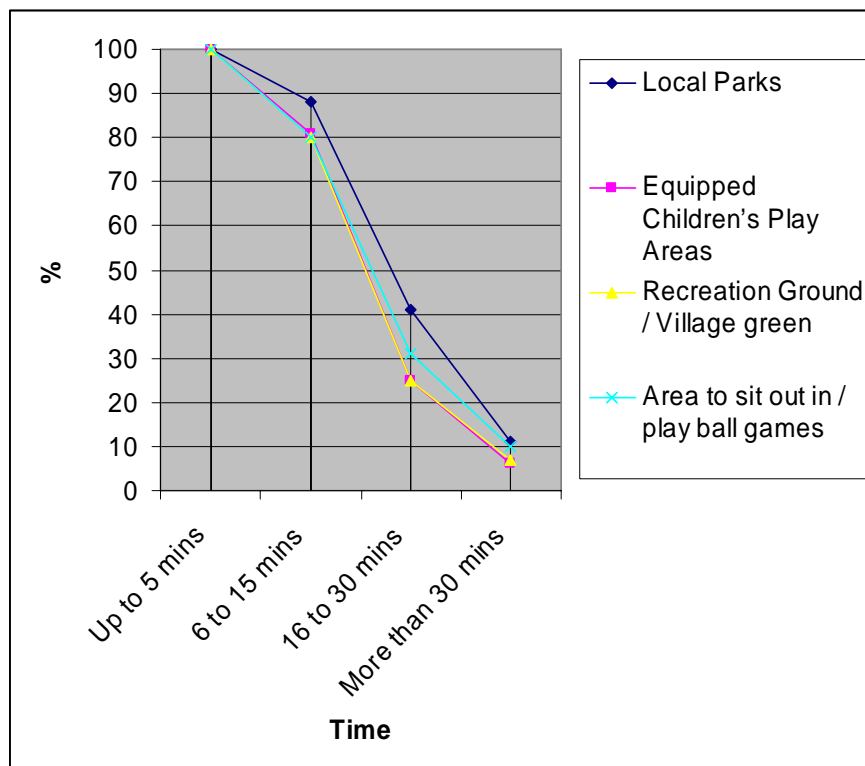
ii. Playing Pitches

The recent updated playing pitch assessment (revised 2006) indicated that for the Saltburn area there is a small shortfall of 0.1 adult pitches, a shortfall of 4.5 junior pitches and neither a shortfall nor surplus of mini soccer pitches. However, the availability of pitches at school sites cannot be guaranteed and there is a risk that the supply/demand equation could change at any time.

The de Brus school playing fields at Skelton are now unused and these are currently being assessed for leisure usage as they provide the scope for the provision of at least 1 senior football pitch, 1 junior football pitch and 1 junior rugby pitch. Use of this area would improve pitch availability, reduce the current shortfall and improve the quality of provision.

c. Accessibility of Open Space

The graphs included below demonstrate how important short travel times are to local facilities.



d. Quality

Work carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy, and verified through the Leisure Needs Assessment review, has identified that a majority of open spaces areas in the Borough are 'fair' to 'poor'. Kick about areas in general received the lowest scores as they are particularly prone to vandalism, litter and other anti-social behaviour.

Individual scores are available for each site but it is reasonable to assume, for this report, that quality standards need to be improved.

e. Overview

Access to open space in the area is good.

With regards to the quantity of open space, overall, the area has a small under supply; however, there is a more significant under supply of publicly accessible playing fields, children's play areas and teenage provision. There is however, an additional 30.42 hectares of playing fields with limited public access.

This analysis is supported by information contained in the Background Paper to the Redcar and Cleveland Green Space Strategy which identified that;

- Green space provision in the Skelton ward, at 1.52/ha per '000 people, is well below the Borough average.
- The satisfaction level for parks was the lowest for all borough wards.

f. Key Consultation Data for the Saltburn Area

The 2005 MORI survey of Borough residents indicated that one of the main issues was the lack of facilities and activities available, for young people, and the need to improve them.

More specific comments, taken from the Leisure Needs Assessment survey of local groups, relating to the Saltburn area include:

- The lack of facilities for young people in Saltburn
- Satisfaction with the provision of facilities for young children but concern that there is little for older children
- Concern over continued existence of Saltburn pool
- There is enough open space in the Saltburn area

- Access to school sports facilities declining (Skelton)
- Indoor sports provision at De Brus is now closed
- Good access to Easington Woods at New Marske
- Good footpaths and PROW – Marske
- Would like more indoor facilities in Marske.

Skelton and Brotton Parish Council comments:

- The need for more and improved space, sport and recreation sites in the area;
- Not enough rugby pitches, tennis, netball, MUGA's, parks and kick about areas;
- The need for more children's play areas and indoor halls suitable for sport.

Saltburn, Marske and New Marske Parish Council comments:

The main areas for concern were a shortage of the following:

- Informal open space
- Facilities for teenagers,

the fact that Bydales school should be open for community use after school hours and that the needs of young people are not being met.

4. Areas/Properties available for re/changed use

The playing fields at the former De Brus School could provide senior, junior football and junior rugby pitches adjacent to the existing Youth centre. A release of some land on the site for housing could provide funding to improve pitch and changing room quality and provide for additional play facilities.

5. Summary

Summary - Saltburn Area

Population Area	26,145 3098ha	Wards – Longbeck, St. Germain's, Saltburn, Skelton		
Facility/Open Space		Number	Location	
Swimming Pool		1 -25 metre	Saltburn Leisure Centre	
Sports Halls				
- Council/TVL		1–6 court, 1 smll hall	Saltburn LC, Marske LC	
- Secondary schools		3 – 3 court	Huntcliffe, Bydales, De Brus YC	
- Private		0		
Availability		Saltburn LC 90 hours/week Community school use 50 hours/week		
Fitness/gym facilities		4		
Com Centres/Vil Halls		3		
Youth Centres		4	Marske, New Marske, Saltburn, Skelton	
Playing Pitches				
- Cricket		4		
- Rugby		0		
- Hockey		0		
- Golf		1	Saltburn GC	
- Football				
Council		4 Adult		
School		4 Jnr		
Private/club		2 Adult		
Play Areas		11	2 Marske, 3 Skel, 1 Skel Grn, 1 N Skel, 3 Salt, 1 New Marske	
MUGA’s/Kickabout		7		
Parks		0		
Countryside sites		1	Saltburn Valley Gardens	
Open Space (hectares)		<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>
- Informal Open Space		27.84	10.48	+ 17.38
- Playing fields		11.02	25.53	- 12.51
- Children’s play		1.87	7.84	- 5.97
- Teenage provision		0.34	13.07	- 12.74
Proportion of open space		1.32%		
Backlog Maintenance Issues		Saltburn LC £780.030		

6. Key Issues

- Although the area has good access to informal open space the provision of publicly accessible playing fields, children's play areas and space for teenagers is inadequate.
- The quality of playing pitches and related changing facilities is poor.
- The backlog maintenance costs for Saltburn Leisure Centre, at £780,000 are high.
- There is a new sports hall at Bydales School and one due to be completed at Huntcliffe, next to the Saltburn Leisure centre, in 2008. Both have or will have community use agreements allowing public access out of school hours.
- The gym at the former de Brus School is being retained and refurbished as part of an extended youth provision on the site.
- There is an over supply of built facilities if fully public and part publicly accessible buildings are taken into account.
- The co-ordination of use and availability of all the built facilities available to the public is required.
- Better management information for current leisure centre usage is required to monitor use and users and to help match provision with need more effectively.
- There is shortage of public open space in the Skelton area.
- There is a general lack of facilities available for young people.
- There is generally an under provision of children's play.
- There is a shortage of provision for junior football and rugby.
- There is dissatisfaction with the provision of parks in the St Germaines and Skelton wards.
- The playing fields at the former de Brus School offer the opportunity to provide improved publicly accessible playing fields in the area and to address junior sport and general youth needs.

6. Area Profile – Eston, Normanby (ONE)

1. General

The area has a population of 21,055 and covers the Council wards of Ormesby, Eston, Nunthorpe and Normanby.

2. Policy Issues

The main components of the Local Development Framework's Core Strategy are the area based Spatial Strategies which identify specific aims for particular parts of the borough under the headings of:

- Regeneration
- Sustainable Communities
- Access
- Economy
- Environment

For the Eston area, which for Strategic Planning Purposes also includes the GATES area, relevant aims include:

- Creating a revised attractive community built on sustainability principles;
- Developing a significant area of new housing development at Low Grange Farm
- Establishing a new District Centre of an appropriate scale with health village, opportunities for small businesses and community facilities around the Normanby Road and A1085 junction;
- Developing new housing on other sites throughout the Greater Eston area including redevelopment within existing estates;
- Using vacant land for growing biomass crops pending redevelopment;
- Rationalising and improving sports and community facilities;
- Improving pedestrian and cycle accessibility to the new district centre, schools community facilities and open space;
- Upgrading the general environment with strong peripheral landscaping around new housing areas;
- Improving Eston Recreation Ground and its associated facilities and other parks and green spaces;
- Encouraging tree planting and integrated habitat creation and management to support the Tees Forest Plan and the Biodiversity Action Plan.

For the Greater Eston area more specific proposals are emerging as part of the Greater Eston Planning and Regeneration Strategy. Significant new housing

development is envisaged for Low Grange Farm that will impact on the role and function of the Eston Recreation Ground. The provision of a new District Centre in close proximity to the Eston Leisure Centre offers significant potential for raising the profile of the area and for consolidating uses.

3. Facilities

The map below illustrates the types and location of outdoor and indoor facilities within this sub area of the Borough.

a. Indoor facilities

- i. The area does not have a mainstream sports hall or swimming pool, however the Eston Sports Academy is between 1 and 4 miles away for residents in this area. The only full size sports hall (4 court) is at Nunthorpe Secondary school which does have some community use especially for local clubs.

ii. School Facilities

Nunthorpe Secondary school has the only sports hall and there are small halls with limited public use at the 6 primary schools in the area.

iii. Community Facilities

There are 2 community centres, one in Ormesby (George Sickling) and one in Bankfields. Public sports use of these is limited due to their size and condition.

The area has a countryside centre at Flatts Lane which has access to local woods, footpaths and to Eston Hills.

The James Finegan's hall, adjacent to the Council Offices, provides a comprehensive range of facilities for community use including a large hall, stage and catering area. It also houses a Wurlitzer Organ

b. Open Space, Playing Fields, Children's Play, Teenage Provision

i. Quantity of Open Space

The table below highlights the existing space provision for open space, playing fields, children's play and teenage facilities for Eston Normanby Ormesby area compared to the minimum amount required for each category.

Population

21,055

Total hectares	50.56
Total required Provision	45.18
	5.39

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Required provision (ha)	Surplus / Deficiency (ha)	Surplus / Deficiency
Playing Fields	11.17	20.54	-9.36	
Informal open space	21.37	8.21	13.15	
Children's play	1.98	6.16	-4.18	
Teenage provision	16.04	10.27	-5.77	

Standards

Playing fields	1.0
Informal	0.4
Children's Play	0.3
Teenage Provision	0.5
Total	2.20

ii. Playing Pitches

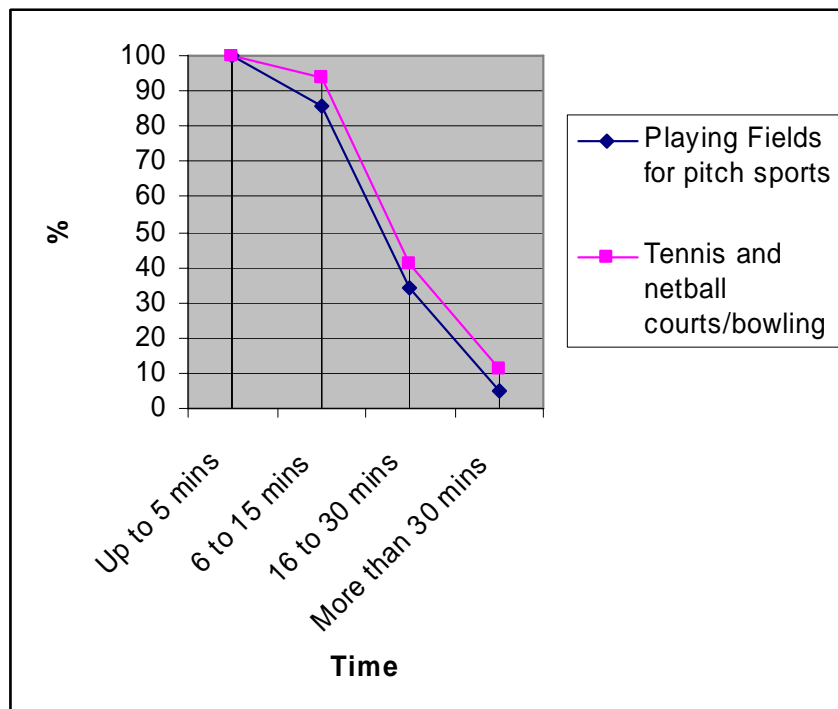
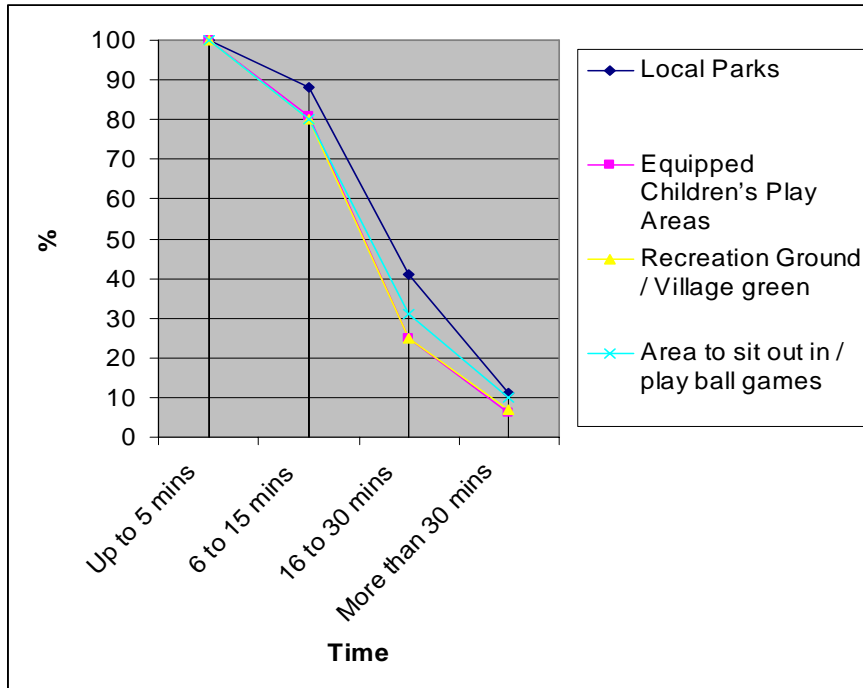
The Council's playing pitch study (revised 2006) indicated that there are 6 adult pitches in this area, 4 at Teesdock Park and 2 at Nunthorpe Secondary School although only the former pitches are in secured community use. There are 8 junior pitches at primary and secondary schools in the area, none of which are in secured community use. There are, however, 2 mini soccer pitches at Nunthorpe Primary school which local teams use.

The above situation is not causing undue concern to local teams.

There are cricket pitches at Normanby Hall and Ormesby CC but there are no rugby or hockey pitches in the area.

c. Accessibility of Open Space

The graph below shows the importance of travel times to local facilities.



d. Quality

Work carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy, and verified through the Leisure Needs Assessment review, has identified that a majority of open spaces areas in the Borough are 'fair' to 'poor'. Kick about areas in general received the lowest scores as they are particularly prone to vandalism, litter and other anti-social behaviour.

Individual scores are available for each site and the Eston Recreation area scored the lowest quality score in the Borough.

The Eston Recreation ground and surrounding area is currently of poor quality, with the exception of the physically isolated equipped children's play which has a good standard of equipment and is well maintained. The remainder of the area is overgrown, neglected and the subject of constant vandalism and misuse. Some low level fencing is being erected to inhibit illegal motorcycle access.

e. Overview

Overall, there is a sufficient quantity of open space in the area; however, there is an insufficient quantity of publicly accessible playing fields and children's play.

There are, however, an additional 20.98 hectares of playing fields with limited public access in the area, and if genuine community access could be secured for many of these the deficiency in publicly accessible playing fields would be greatly reduced.

f. Key Consultation Data for the ONE Area

The 2005 MORI survey of Borough residents indicated that one of the main issues was the lack of facilities and activities available, for young people, and the need to improve them.

Information from the survey of local community groups and organisations carried out as part of the leisure needs assessment was limited for this area but a summary of the comments made is as follows:

- Nunthorpe area – not enough indoor sports facilities; more facilities needed for young people
- Normanby area – concern about loss of James Finegan Hall

Residents were surveyed as part of the green space strategy and the following is a summary of the main points:

Ormesby

Satisfaction levels with open space were the 4th lowest (33%) and well below the Borough average of 46%, yet still higher than dissatisfaction levels. Ormesby has the second lowest availability of open space at 0.95 hectares per thousand people in the Borough.

Normanby

Although Normanby has a relatively large amount of green space, at 3.44 hectares, satisfaction levels were below the Borough average.

Eston

The audit showed that satisfaction and dissatisfaction levels for residents exceeded the Borough average. Satisfaction levels were high for kick about areas but fairly low for equipped play areas.

4. Areas/Properties available for re/changed use

Although the former Stayplton school playing fields are not in this area, the impact of changed use will affect the Ormesby/Nunthorpe/Eston area.

The Eston Recreation Ground has suffered from years of neglect and under investment. It is a significant open space area but significant investment is required to enable it to provide more effectively for local needs.

The planned new development at Low Grange Farm should provide the stimulus and resource for provision of spaces and facilities that reflect current needs.

The site is adjacent to the former Stayplton School playing fields which are now no longer in use. Rationalisation of this site in association with the Eston Recreation Ground should enable the open space, play and playing field needs in the area to be more effectively met.

It should be possible to provide 2 good quality adult football pitches and some junior provision in the area and improve the current changing facilities. By concentrating all the sporting activity within a designated area maintenance and security issues should be resolved.

5. Summary

Summary - Eston, Normanby, Nunthorpe (ONE) Area

Population Area	21,055 1078ha	Wards – Eston, Normanby, Nunthorpe		
Facility/Open Space		Number	Location	
Swimming Pool		0	Eston LC nearby	
Sports Halls				
- Council/TVL		0		
- Secondary schools		1	Nunthorpe	
- Private		0		
Fitness/gym facilities		0		
Availability		School use 20 hours/week		
Com Centres/Vil Halls		2		
Youth Centres		2	Nunthorpe, California	
Playing Pitches				
- Cricket		2		
- Rugby		0		
- Hockey		0		
- Golf		0		
- Football				
Council		4 Adult, 0 Jnr, 0 mini	Teesdock Park	
School		2 Adult, 8 Jnr, 2 mini		
Private/club		0		
Play Areas		5	2 Orms, 1 Norm, 1 Bank, 1 Nunth	
MUGA's/Kickabout		4		
Parks		0		
Countryside sites		1	Flatts Lane	
Open Space (hectares)		<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>
- Informal Open Space		21.37	8.21	+ 13.15
- Playing fields		11.17	20.54	- 9.36
- Children's play		1.98	6.16	- 4.18
- Teenage provision		16.04	10.27	+ 5.77
Proportion of open space		4.6%		
Backlog Maintenance Issues		Finegan's Hall	Approx £300,000	

9. Key issues

- The area has good provision for informal open space but is short of accessible playing fields and children's play areas.
- The only sports hall available in the area is at Nunthorpe School which has limited public access.
- There is access to built leisure facilities, including swimming pools within and just outside the Borough within less than 20 minute drive time.
- The reduced availability of playing pitches through closure or changed use does not appear to have caused a problem with teams but may be repressing sporting activity.
- Play provision is inadequate and there is concern about the quality of provision.
- The lack of a park and the perceived shortage and quality of open space areas and facilities for young people is of concern to residents.
- Finegans Hall has almost £300,000 worth of outstanding maintenance required and there are concerns that it may be closed,

7. Area Profile – Loftus (Kilton)

1 General

The Loftus area covers the Council wards of Lockwood, Brotton and Loftus and includes the main settlements of Loftus, Brotton, Easington, Liverton Mines, Skinningrove, Carlin How, Moorsholm and Lingdale and has a population of 16,225. Lockwood parish and Loftus town councils operate within the area.

10. Policy Issues

The main components of the Local Development Framework's Core Strategy are the area based Spatial Strategies which identify specific aims for particular parts of the borough under the headings of:

- Regeneration
- Sustainable Communities
- Access
- Economy
- Environment

For strategic planning purposes the Loftus Area falls within the 'East Cleveland and the Villages Area Spatial Strategy' and the relevant aims include:

- Improving the environmental quality of settlements and streetscapes and maintaining their rural nature;
- Recognising the function of each town as part of a linked network of communities: Skelton to be the focus for housing and employment; the district centre at Loftus to be safeguarded and enhanced, together with sports facilities; Brotton to be strengthened with improved educational and community facilities and Saltburn to be strengthened as a district centre and as a focus for leisure and visitor facilities;
- Safeguarding and improving local services and community facilities including sport and recreational facilities;
- Developing new housing of an appropriate scale, with a mix of types and tenures in other settlements;
- Recognising the special character of the landscape in East Cleveland;
- Encouraging tree planting and integrated habitat creation and management to support the Tees Forest Plan and Biodiversity Action Plan;
- Safeguarding the setting of settlements.

3. Facilities

The map below illustrates the types and location of outdoor and indoor facilities within the Loftus sub area of the Borough.

a. Indoor facilities

i. Loftus Leisure Centre

The main indoor facility in this area is Loftus Leisure Centre which has a 25 metre swimming pool, squash court and fitness/gym facilities but no sports hall. With the closure of Rosecroft School the only sports hall of any size is at the new Freeborough College secondary school in Brotton, otherwise the nearest sports hall is at Saltburn Leisure Centre.

Loftus Leisure Centre had 121,651 users during the period April 2005 to March 2006, of which 77,521 used the swimming pool and 44,130 users participated in the “dry” facilities at the centre.

According to Sport England’s facility planning statistics, Redcar and Cleveland currently has just enough swimming pool water to cover demand in the Borough. However, if a new pool at Redcar is built as planned then there will be an over capacity of swimming pools in the Borough.

The latest condition survey for Loftus Leisure Centre indicated that there is a backlog maintenance cost on the building of £140,264 with a condition status given as “C” (“A” the best status, “E” the worst).

ii. School Facilities

The only secondary school in the area with a sports hall is at the Freeborough College site at Brotton and therefore it is critical to the supply/demand balance in this area that there is a workable community use agreement for after hours use of the school sports and leisure facilities.

There are a number of small school halls at local primary schools some of which could be used on a low level basis for keep fit, yoga, etc but at present usage is low.

iii. Community Facilities

There are community centres at Easington, Carlin How, Queens Road Loftus, Brotton, Lingdale, and Liverton Mines. Loftus Town Hall is also used by the local

community. However sports usage at these facilities is poor due to their size, condition, layout etc although they do provide a valuable community resource for meetings, coffee mornings etc.

There is a private indoor facility at Loftus Athletic and Social Club which is mainly used for badminton, indoor bowls etc and there is also a J & D fitness centre at Skinningrove for women.

b. Open Space, Playing Fields, Children's Play, Teenage Provision

i. Quantity of Open Space

The table below highlights the existing space provision for open space, playing fields, children's play and teenage facilities for the Loftus area compared to the amount required for each category

This indicates that there is an under supply of playing fields, children's play and teenage provision with a slight over provision of informal open space.

Population

16,225

**Total
hectares** 37.68
**Total
required** 34.07
Provision 3.61

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Required provision (ha)	Over/under(-) minimum standards (ha)	
Playing Fields	13.50	14.60	-1.10	
Informal open space	7.54	6.49	1.05	
Children's play	1.34	4.87	-3.52	
Teenage provision	4.60	8.11	-3.51	

**Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council minimum space standards (ha)
per 1000 people**

Playing fields	0.9
Informal	0.4
Children's Play	0.3
Teenage Provision	0.5
Total	2.1

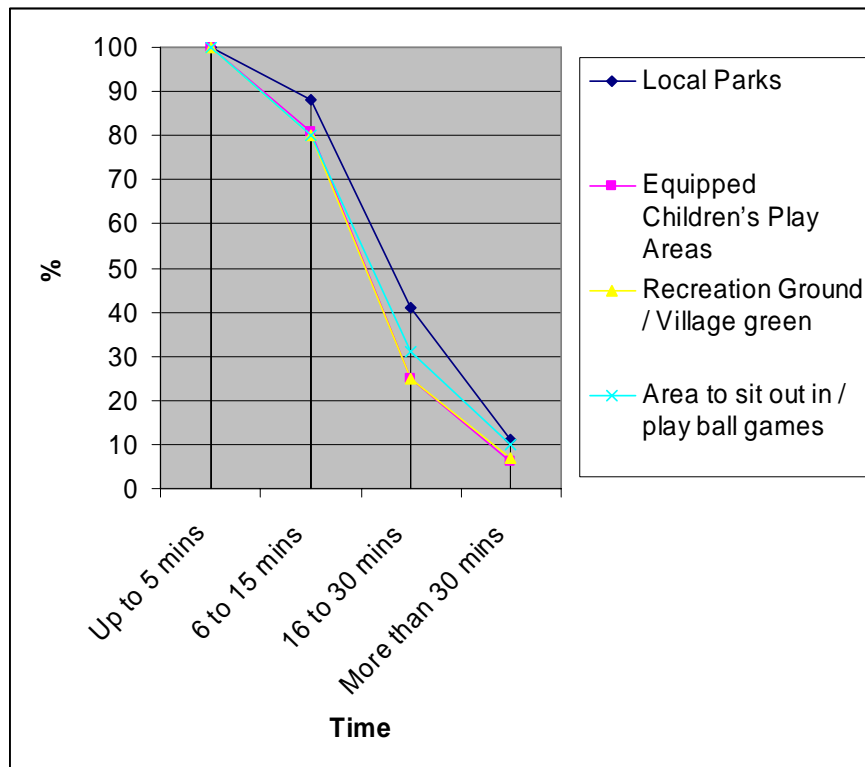
ii. Playing Pitches

The Council's playing pitch study (revised 2006) indicated there were enough adult and mini soccer pitches in the Loftus area but a shortage of junior pitches (by 1.5 pitches). However football pitches at the North Road site at Loftus are of a poor quality with minimal changing facilities and there are problems with vandalism at the site.

The study indicated that there were no supply/demand problems for the sports of cricket, rugby and hockey.

c. Accessibility of Open Space

The graph below shows the importance of travel times to local facilities.



d. Quality

Work carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy, and verified through the Leisure Needs Assessment review, has identified that a majority of open spaces areas in the Borough are 'fair' to 'poor'. Kick about areas in general received the lowest scores as they are particularly prone to vandalism, litter and other anti-social behaviour.

Individual scores are available for each site but it is reasonable to assume, for this report, that quality standards need to be improved.

e. Overview

Within the area, overall there is a sufficient quantity of open space. There is however, a small under supply of playing fields and a significant under supply of children's play areas.

There are an additional 20.30 hectares of playing fields with limited public access in the area.

Findings from the recent Background Paper to the Redcar and Cleveland Green Space Strategy identified that:

- The survey showed satisfaction levels in Loftus (43%) were similar to Brotton, but dissatisfaction levels were slightly higher at 29%.
- Dissatisfaction levels for sports pitches (45%) were the highest of any ward and far exceeded the Borough average of 17%. Satisfaction and dissatisfaction levels for equipped play and kick-about areas were also below the Borough average.
- Overall provision of green space in Loftus is relatively low – 1.02 ha. per every '000 people. There is however a range of spaces distributed across the built –up area but unlike Brotton there are no particularly large sites, hence the much lower overall supply figure. The estimate includes a sports pitch at North Road. There is also a private sports ground at Whitby Road and leased school pitches at Freebrough College but these sites have not been included in the audit as access is limited.
- The town is tightly developed and this, combined with poor road network, awkward topography and multiple land ownerships may restrict the options for to increase supply. Loftus ward includes Liverton Mines which has two green spaces, including a football pitch and an estimated provision of 1.96 ha per thousand people.

f. Key Consultation Data for the Loftus Area

- Lack of facilities and activities for young people and a need to improve those facilities for this age group (2005 MORI survey of Borough residents).
- Loftus swimming pool is under used
- Loftus town hall could be better used
- Not much for young people to do in Loftus
- Good provision for youth but not for elderly
- Enough outdoor facilities
- Village/community halls are lifeblood of the county
- Not enough bridleways
- Do not want Loftus leisure centre to close

The survey of Lockwood Parish Council produced the following comments:

- There is a need to improve and add to open space and recreation facilities in the area;
- There is a lack of MUGA's, tennis courts, bowling greens;
- Changing facilities on playing fields are poor;
- There is a shortage of play areas;
- Lingdale Community hall underused;
- There is a shortage of facilities for young people.

4. Areas/Properties available for re/changed use

Rationalisation of secondary schools in the East Cleveland area has led to the release of the Playing Fields at the Rosecroft School Loftus from school use. As there is a shortage of playing pitches in the area in secured community use it would be appropriate to improve and use the area released at Rosecroft to provide a secure, quality adult pitch and related facilities and up to two junior pitches. This would leave an additional area of land that could be released for housing to help fund the improvements. Provision of a good quality adult football pitch would allow for a rationalisation of pitch use in the area with the inadequate one at North Road being released for informal recreation purposes.

5. Summary

Summary - Loftus Area

Population Area	16,225 8,264ha	Wards – Lockwood, Brotton, Loftus		
Facility/Open Space	Number	Location		
Swimming Pool	1 – 25 metre	Loftus Leisure Centre		
Sports Halls				
- Council/TVL	0			
- Secondary schools	1 – 4 court	Freeborough – Brotton site		
- Private	1 small sports hall	Loftus AC		
Availability	School use 24 hours/week at Brotton			
Fitness/gym facilities	2	Loftus LC, Skinningrove		
Com Centres/Vil Halls	7			
Youth Centres	3	Brotton,Lingdale, Loftus		
Playing Pitches				
- Cricket	3			
- Rugby	0			
- Hockey	0			
- Golf	1	Hunley Hall Brotton		
- Football				
Council	4 Adult			
School	6 Jnr, 1 mini			
Private/club	1 Adult			
Play Areas	15	2 Brot, 2 Chow, 1 Skin, 3 Ling, 2 Liv Mines, 3 Loftus, 1 Easing, 1 Moorsholm		
MUGA’s/Kickabout	9			
Parks	0			
Countryside sites	0			
Open Space (hectares)	<u>Existing Provision</u>	<u>Required Provision</u>	<u>+/-</u>	
- Informal Open Space	7.54	6.49	- 1.10	
- Playing fields	13.50	14.60	+ 1.05	
- Children’s play	1.34	4.87	- 3.52	
- Teenage provision	4.60	8.11	- 3.51	
Proportion of open space	0.32%			
Backlog Maintenance Issues	Loftus LC £140,264			

9. Key Issues

- Against minimum standards the area has a slight shortfall in relation to informal open space and playing pitches and a greater shortfall for children's play and teenage provision.
- The shortfall in playing field could be alleviated by improving public access to the provision on education sites.
- There is no publicly accessible sports hall available for daytime use.
- The sports hall at Freeborough School Brotton is only available to the public outside school hours.
- Whilst Freeborough has a good range of sports and recreation facilities they are not available during the day and are not easily accessible from outside Brotton by public transport.
- The quality of playing pitches and related changing facilities in the area is very poor.
- Young people's provision is inadequate.
- There are no parks in the area.
- There is a shortage of provision for junior football.
- The former Rosecroft School playing field have the potential to provide improved and publicly accessible playing fields and could include an adult football pitch with related changing facilities. The site could also provide play/youth facilities and still have some land available to release for development. Any income generated by such development could be used to improve the range and quality of playing field and play provision locally.

Part 3 – Policy and Action Plan Framework

Contents

PART 3: POLICY FRAMEWORK and ACTION PLAN

1. Application of draft standards	Page 160
2. Conclusions from the area profiles	Page 173
3. General Conclusions	Page 177
4. Options Suggested Actions	Page 185

Part 3

This part of the Leisure Needs Assessment draws together key information from Parts 1 and 2. It is intended to provide a stand alone document that identifies the key issues and conclusions from the analysis of leisure needs in the Borough and a view of the actions that appear to be required.

1. Application of draft standards for major built facilities

1.2 Sports halls

Summary of suggested standards

- **Quantity:** A minimum of a 4-court sports hall per 15,000 people.
- **Accessibility:** No more than 20 minutes, but with encouragement for use of non-motorised trips and public transport as much as possible.
- **Quality:** Consideration should also be given to provision of associated facilities that are found within leisure centres including reception areas, refreshment areas, health and fitness suites, and appropriate changing, storage and viewing areas.
- Facilities should be available for genuine community use on a largely pay-and-play basis for a minimum of 40 hours a week including times of peak demand for the community (generally weekday evenings and weekends).

Application of standards for sports halls

Quantity: Actual provision for pay and play is 2 – 8 court sports halls plus 2 – 6 court sports halls which is equivalent to 7 standard sports halls for Redcar and Cleveland. This is against a standard of 9 sports halls i.e. a slight under provision when taking into account population statistics. Conversely this is equivalent to 19,800 people per 4 – court sports hall as opposed to 15,000 people per 4 – court sports hall suggested by the standard.

There are, however, another 9 school sports halls that although not available for pay and play activities are currently available to clubs and groups after school hours. When this is taken into account there is not a problem with supply/demand issues on a general basis across the Borough, although there is under provision in the Loftus area.

This situation could change if a mainstream sports hall is closed or school sports hall provision via community use agreements changes.

Accessibility: based on drive times of 20 minutes no part of the Borough is outside easy reach of a sports hall. The maps below show various scenarios on sports hall and swimming pool closures together, given that there are both sports hall and swimming pools in the same facilities at Saltburn and Eston. However, scenario modelling like this does not take into account:

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

- those who do not have access to a car;
- the ability of other facilities to absorb additional visits from users displaced from centres if they were to be shut; and,
- the likelihood that closure of facilities will mean that many regular users won't travel to venues further away, with a resultant negative effect on overall participation levels.

Generally, there will be many parts of the Borough that are not within easy reach of a major leisure centre when there is reliance on walking, cycling and public transport. In such cases the solution may be to improve access to existing or proposed venues on school sites (see below).

Quality: other than the Council venues, there are no sports halls that can claim to be available largely on a pay and play basis for a minimum of 40 hours a week and at times of peak demand. There are existing and proposed facilities on school sites that could meet this criterion if their availability during the weekday evenings and at the weekends could be assured. Physical improvements of facilities, including dedicated public receptions and changing facilities would also greatly help in this regard.

Saltburn and Redcar sports halls have significant backlog maintenance problems as can be seen from the summary table given in 1.3.

1.3 Swimming Pools

Summary of suggested standards

- **Quantity:** The recommended standard is 1 - 4 lane pool of minimum 22 metre length per 20,000 population.
- **Accessibility:** No more than 20 minutes drive time, but with encouragement for use of non-motorised trips and public transport as much as possible to ensure that the maximum number of people can access facilities within 20 minutes walk time in urban areas.
- **Quality:** Consideration should also be given to provision of associated facilities that are found within swimming pools including reception areas, refreshment areas, health and fitness suites, and appropriate changing, storage and viewing areas.
- Facilities should be available for genuine community use on a largely pay-and-swim basis for a minimum of 40 hours a week including times of peak demand for the community (generally weekday evenings and weekends).

Application of standards for swimming pools

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

Quantity: Actual provision for Redcar and Cleveland is 2 x 25 metre by 6 lane pools plus 2 x 25 metre by 4 lane pools which equates in terms of water space to 5.7 standard size pools when population figures are taken into account. This is slightly below Sport England's standard of 6.9 standard size pools for Redcar and Cleveland's population and a lower level of provision than other similar authorities. Provision equates to 27,800 people per standard pool against a standard of 20,000.

Accessibility: Based on drive times of 20 minutes no part of the Borough is outside easy reach of a swimming pool of a good size. The maps below show various scenarios on sports hall and swimming pool closures together, given that there are both sports hall and swimming pools in the same facilities at Saltburn and Eston. However, scenario modelling like this does not take into account:

- those who do not have access to a car;
- the ability of other facilities to absorb additional visits from users displaced from centres if they were to be shut; and,
- the likelihood that closure of facilities will mean that many regular users won't travel to venues further away, with a resultant negative effect on overall participation levels.

Quality: All swimming pools in the Borough are of an age where maintenance problems become significant in relation to plant and equipment and the building fabric. Without continued, timely investment they will continue to deteriorate and their poor appearance will act as a disincentive to users.

Table 1 Leisure Centre Backlog Maintenance Costs

Leisure Centre	Facility Type	Backlog Maintenance Cost 2002	Backlog Maintenance Cost 2004*
Eston	Pool and Sports Hall	£342,890	£545,245
Loftus	Pool	£574,620	£140,264
Guisborough	Pool	£307,376	£380,860
Saltburn	Pool and Sports Hall	£395,041	£780,030
Redcar	Sports Hall	£568,577	£517,400
Total		£2,188,509	£2,363,799

* Backlog maintenance costs represent the expenditure required to bring a facility up to a good standard of repair. As the latest figures relate to 2004 costs they should be regarded as conservative estimates.

Main Issues from Application of Standards for Swimming Pools

In terms of quantity there is a small under provision with respect to swimming pool water space in the Borough. However, when accessibility standards are

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

applied (i.e. consideration of facilities in adjoining boroughs is taken into account) provision slightly exceeds the standard. All residents have access to at least one pool within the 20 minute drive time and some have access to up to 4 and 5 when Redcar Pool is completed. From mapping exercises it appears that even with only 3 pools in the Borough all residents would be within 20 minutes drive time of at least one.

The main problem with the Council's pools lies in their age and condition requiring expenditure totalling some £2.4m (including the costs for 2 sports halls)

In relation to the provision of water space for school swimming lessons with 4 pools the space required can be accommodated but this would be more difficult to achieve if there was one less.

1.4 Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs)

Summary of suggested standards

- **Quantity:** 1 full-size floodlit STP per 35,000 persons (reflects current levels of provision).
- **Accessibility:** No more than 20 minutes drive time, but with encouragement for use of non-motorised trips and public transport as much as possible.
- **Quality:** The Borough Council should provide guidance on the appropriate type of surface and floodlighting as this can vary depending on which sport is anticipated to be the main user.
- Facilities should be available for genuine community use for a minimum of 40 hours a week including times of peak demand for the community (generally weekday evenings and weekends).

Application of standards for STPs

Quantity: the standard should be applied to new populations arising out of (qualifying) new housing development, given the popularity of and demand for this type of facility. Strict interpretation of actual provision against the standard suggests there is an under provision of STPs. However, there is a reasonable level of provision within the Borough compared with many other parts of the country. Precise needs are more appropriately assessed through dialogue with existing and potential stakeholders. There is no reason to believe the Borough could not sustain additional STPs of an appropriate specification, as there is certainly no evidence to the contrary.

Quality: The Council should seek to ensure that an appropriate balance is struck between the provision of different surfaces, especially in terms of sand-based pitches and 3rd Generation pitches. At the basic level of community provision (on which this study is largely focused) it is important that facilities should be available to and suitable for a wide range of activities, unless compelling reasons for providing 'specialist' surfaces exist.

It is doubtful whether all existing facilities meet the criterion of 40 hours a week community availability including at times of peak demand. The facilities at Ryehills School and Middlesbrough FC Football Academy may not meet this criterion.

Accessibility: All the Borough is within easy reach by car of an STP, but not necessarily by foot, bike or public transport. Undersized provision at Saltburn and Guisborough could help meet local demand for some of the activities that might otherwise seek access to a full size STP.

If additional pitches are to be provided in urban areas, care should be taken to ensure that access by foot and bike is optimised.

It is important that the use of existing STPs in the Borough is maximized through community use agreements. This will have beneficial effects particularly for current hockey teams and provide stimulus for new teams as virtually no hockey is played on grass pitches any longer.

The use of STPs for football coaching will also affect supply/demand patterns particularly for grass junior football pitches.

1.5 Community Buildings

Summary of suggested standards

- **Quantity:** there is no national standard for provision of community buildings within local authorities. However, previous studies have suggested that 1 small community venue per 1000 population is an appropriate guide.
- **Accessibility:** An appropriate standard of around 15 minutes walk time or a 10 minute drive time.
- **Quality:** Guidance from other studies suggests a minimum provision of around 400 sq metres of space for a community building which should, ideally, include the following:
 - A small hall
 - A small meeting room

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

- A kitchen
- Storage space
- Toilets
- Provision for disabled access and use
- Car parking

Application of standards for Community Buildings

Quantity and accessibility: there are approximately 60 community centres/village halls across the Borough of which 22 are Council owned. A strict interpretation of the standard against actual provision suggests there needs to be double the number of venues. However, when the accessibility standard is applied the Borough seems to have adequate provision. Certainly all rural villages and settlements in the Borough have a community centre or village hall and the community group and resident surveys indicate there is not a shortfall in provision. Whilst in urban areas there may be a shortfall, there is an adequate supply of other larger buildings and facilities to compensate. The one area of concern is Guisborough.

Quality: It is estimated that most of the community centres in the Borough would meet the quality amenity standards i.e. all having meeting rooms, kitchens etc. There is evidence, particularly concerning the Council owned stock, which suggests that some of the buildings have an aged appearance and have backlog maintenance issues (£150,000 at 2004).

1.5 Playing Pitches

Summary of standards

- **Quantity:** following the revised playing pitch assessment and examination of the local plan standard for playing pitches, a standard lower than the NPFA guidance of 1.2 ha per 1000 population has been adopted. There is now a recommended standard for the Borough's playing pitches with respect to each of the environmental committee areas which are as follows:

Sub Area	Suggested Standard (ha/00)
Redcar	0.9
Grangetown, South Bank	0.9
Guisborough, Boosbeck	1.0
Saltburn, Marske, New Marske, Skelton	1.0
Eston, Normanby, Ormesby	0.9
Loftus, Lingdale, Brotton	0.8

These local area standards should meet any long term changes in demand as well as any short term fluctuations.

- **Quality and accessibility:** there are no definitive standards for quality and accessibility in relation to playing pitches. More important is the feedback from local teams that play on pitch sports which currently suggests that the quality of existing pitches and related changing facilities is often poor,

Application of standards for Playing Pitches

Quantity: When compared against the above standards and when the nationally recognized method of supply and demand is applied to Redcar and Cleveland playing pitches, there are no apparent shortages of pitches within the Borough. This conclusion is based on the present inclusion of pitches that are currently not in secured use. However, supply and demand differs from area to area within the Borough and also for different types of provision i.e. for adult, junior and mini soccer football pitches. There is evidence to suggest that there are particular shortages of facilities for junior football.

Quality: The main problems in this area are associated with the quality of pitches and ancillary provision such as changing rooms etc and this is a concern in most areas of the Borough.

1.7 Children's Play

Summary of suggested standards

- **Quantity and accessibility:** The current local plan suggests that for children's play a standard of 0.3 ha per 1000 population should be applied. The standard consists of 2 components. The first covers equipped play areas categorized into 3 types i.e.
 - LAP (Local Area for Play) – an area of open space for children up to 7 years old with a minimum of a 100 sq metres of space and a minimum walking distance of 5 minutes from home.
 - LEAP (Local Equipped Area of Play) – is a large area for children up to 10 years old which should be a minimum of 400 sq metres and be within 5 minutes walking distance from home.
 - NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play) – this is aimed at children between 8 and 12 years and should have a minimum of a 1000 sq metres and be a 15 minute walk from home.

The second component, which makes up the standard, relates to small areas of open space that can be used and are available to children. This will include areas for ball games etc, mainly close to housing.

- **Quality:** All equipped play sites undergo a rigorous quality inspection programme in relation to nationally approved quality assurance standards.

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

Application of standards for Children's Play

Quantity: The table below shows existing provision for children's play against the standard of 0.3 ha per 1000 population for each area of the Borough. It also indicates the under provision for each area and the total deficit in the Borough.

Area	Standard ha/1000	Existing provision ha	Required provision ha	Over/under ha
Redcar	0.3	1.53	10.91	- 9.38
GATES	0.3	1.88	5.28	- 3.94
Guisborough	0.3	0.77	5.99	- 5.22
Saltburn	0.3	1.87	7.84	- 5.97
ONE	0.3	1.98	6.16	- 4.18
Loftus	0.3	1.34	4.87	- 3.52
Totals		9.37	41.05	- 32.21

Also shown below are the numbers of equipped play areas across the Borough categorised into LAPS, LEAPS and NEAPS.

No of LAPS = 12
No of LEAPS = 41
No of NEAPS = 11

Total no = 64

If actual provision is compared against the local plan standard of 0.3 ha per 1000 population, the Borough has an under provision amounting to nearly 5 times less than the standard i.e. 9.37 ha against required standard provision of 41.05 ha. However, in terms of actual numbers of equipped play sites the Council has a total of 64 which in terms of accessibility and need is, in most areas, adequate and compares favourably with the provision made by other similar authorities. There is a grey area as to what is informal children's green space and Amenity space (see later) and it is probable that in some cases space that is classed as amenity space may also be able to be used by children. This may account for the possible overall under provision in the Borough with respect to children's play.

Accessibility: Most of the equipped play sites in the Borough will meet the standard walking times for each of the LAPS, LEAPS and NEAPS.

Quality: All the Council's equipped play areas undergo routine inspections and adhere to the industry quality assurance standards for equipped play.

1.8 Teenage Provision

Summary of suggested standards

Quantity: The local plan recommends a standard for teenage provision of 0.5 ha per 1000 population which is a derivative of the NPFA 6 acre standard. The standard includes spaces which are primarily suitable for playing games on an informal basis typically by older children and teenagers. Some of the larger sites included in the standard may even contain a sports pitch but have been classified as kick-about areas if they have not been included in the playing pitch assessment.

- **Accessibility and Quality:** No formal standards as such.

Application of standards for Teenage Provision

Quantity: The table below shows existing and required provision for teenagers in the various areas of the Borough.

Area	Standard ha/1000	Existing provision ha	Required provision ha	Over/under ha
Redcar	0.5	14.12	18.18	- 4.06
GATES	0.5	17.92	9.70	+ 8.22
Guisborough	0.5	11.43	9.98	+ 1.45
Saltburn	0.5	0.34	13.07	- 12.74
ONE	0.5	16.04	10.27	+ 5.77
Loftus	0.5	4.60	8.11	- 3.51
Totals		64.55	69.31	- 4.76

No of kick-about areas = 15

- Existing provision for teenagers in terms of suitable open space and kick-about areas is slightly below the standard provision.
- The Redcar and Saltburn areas have existing provision for teenagers that is significantly below the standard whilst GATES and ONE areas have provision well above the standard of 0.5 ha per 1000 population.

1.9 Amenity Space

Summary of suggested standards

Quantity: The local plan recommends a standard for amenity space (including parks) of 0.4 ha per 1,000 pop. This has been derived from the NPFA national six acre standard.

Accessibility and quality: No formal standard as such.

Application of standards for amenity space

The table below shows existing and required provision for amenity space in the various areas of the Borough.

Area	Standard ha/1000	Existing provision ha	Required provision ha	Over/under ha
Redcar	0.4	72.14	14.15	+ 57.6
GATES	0.4	27.44	7.76	+ 19.68
Guisborough	0.4	11.68	7.98	+ 3.70
Saltburn	0.4	27.84	10.48	+ 17.38
ONE	0.4	21.37	8.21	+ 13.15
Loftus	0.4	7.54	6.49	- 1.10
Totals		168.01	55.07	+ 112.94

Quantity: The open space provision in the Borough is 1.2 ha per 1,000 pop against the local plan standard of 0.4 ha per 1,000 population. In areas such as Redcar, GATES and Saltburn, amenity space is very well provided for and only Loftus has provision less than the standard.

Accessibility and quality : The main problem regarding amenity space in the Borough is that of inferior quality. Some recommendations regarding accessibility and quality have been made in the green space strategy and is summarised in the relevant parts of the following table.

1.10 Summary

The following table provides an overview of the various standards for built facilities and open spaces and identifies priorities for action.

Borough Wide Standards

	National Guidelines			Local Provision			Suggested Standards			Key Priorities for Action
	Quantity	Quality	Access	Quantity	Quality	Access	Quantity	Quality	Access	
Swim Pools	1 - 4 lane pool (22m) per 21,000 pop. From Sport England facilities calculator	Good quality associated facilities i.e. recep area, H&F suite, changing, view areas plus pay play 40 hours per week min.	A pool within 20 minute drive time.	1 – 4 lane pool (22m) per 27,800 pop.	All pools comply with national standard. Guis, Eston and Saltburn have backlog maintenance problems.	All parts of the Borough are within a 20 minute drive time.	Adopt national standards. Add 20 minute walk time for people who live in conurbation and 20 minute drive time for people outside conurbation.			Quality problems indicated by high backlog maintenance costs. Guisborough replacement pool needed? Improved participation through Sports Development.
Sports Halls	Min of 4 court hall per 15,000 pop. From Sport England facilities calculator	Good quality associated facilities i.e. recep area, H&F suite, changing, view areas plus pay play 40 hours per week min.	A sports hall within 20 minute drive time.	1 – 4 court hall per 19,800 pop. Enough spatial provision if school sports halls adopt Community Use Agreements	Only sports halls currently within standard are Saltburn, Redcar, Guis and Eston.	All parts of the Borough are within a 20 minute drive time.	Adopt national standards. Add 20 minute walk time for people who live in conurbation and 20 minute drive time for people outside conurbation.			Securing on-going community access at school sites. Address backlog maintenance issues at specific sports halls.
STP's	1 full size STP per 35,000 pop.	Facilities should be suitable for wide range of activities and available for 40 hours per week pay and play use.	1 STP facility within 20 minute drive time.	1 full size STP per 69,550 pop.	Current STP facilities probably do not meet 40 hours pay and play community use.	All parts of the Borough are within a 20 minute drive time.	Adopt national standards.			Secure genuine community use of existing STPs. Investigate external funding for another public STP.

Borough Wide Standards

	National Guidelines			Local Provision			Suggested Standards			Key Priorities for Action
	Quantity	Quality	Access	Quantity	Quality	Access	Quantity	Quality	Access	
Commty Buildings Including Village Halls	1 small community building per 1,000 pop.	400 sq metres of space (min) that should include: a small hall, meeting room, kitchen, toilets, disabled provision, car parking.	A 15 minute walk time/10 minute drive time.	1 small community building per 2,300 pop.	Council community buildings will meet quality standard. Estimated 80% of private owned halls/ buildings will meet standard.	All community buildings will be within accessibility standard.	1 small commty building per 1,000 pop. Local needs suggest no extra provision needed.	Adopt national stds.	Adopt standards of 15 minute walk and 10 minute drive times. Local needs suggest no additional buildings needed.	Review management arrangements of community buildings. Quality of some buildings is poor with backlog maintenance problems to be overcome.
Indoor Tennis	No recognised industry standards			No dedicated indoor tennis centre within the Borough. Some infrequent ad hoc indoor provision at leisure centres.			Not applicable. Need for indoor tennis centre – private facility recommended.			Investigate possibility of private indoor facility.
Indoor Bowls	No recognised industry standards			3 indoor bowls rinks at Saltburn, Eston, Redcar.	Good quality rinks with associated facilities.	Evenly distributed through the Borough.	Not applicable.			No apparent issues at present.
Ice Rinks	No recognised industry standards			None in the Borough.			Not applicable.			None
Children's Play	0.8 ha per 1,000 pop for children's play and teenage provision (derived from NPFA) 0.3 ha	LAP, LEAP, NEAP, NPFA standards on quality and maintenance.	LAP – 5 min walk LEAP – 5 min walk NEAP – 15 min walk (NPFA recommended	0.07 ha per 1,000 pop – 64 play equipment sites in Borough.	NPFA standards of quality and maintenance are met in Borough.	NPFA standards for LAP, LEAP, NEAP are met.	Adopt local plan standard of 0.3 ha per 1,000 pop (from NPFA overall standard).	Adopt NPFA std.	Adopt NPFA standard.	Review informal open space provision in relation to demand. Maintain quality provision of play sites. A more detailed

Borough Wide Standards

	National Guidelines			Local Provision			Suggested Standards			Key Priorities for Action
	Quantity	Quality	Access	Quantity	Quality	Access	Quantity	Quality	Access	
	per 1,000 pop (local plan).		standards).							area by area review of provision is needed.
Youth/ Teenage Provision	0.8 ha per 1,000 pop for children's play and teenage provision (derived from NPFA). 0.5 ha per 1,000 pop (Local Plan)	No formal standard.	No formal standard.	0.46 ha per 1,000 pop.	Variable quality, most MUGAs regarded as good.	Variable across the Borough.	Adopt local standard of 0.5 ha per 1,000 pop.	Formal MUGAs need to meet Sport England g/lines.	MUGAs and informal kickabout areas to be within a 10 min walk (similar to NEAP).	Address shortfall of formal provision for teenagers i.e. MUGAs shelters etc.
Playing Pitches	NPFA guidance is 1.2 ha per 1,000 pop.	No definitive standard. Should have good drainage, well marked and good changing facilities.	No definitive standards. Should meet local needs.	1.1 ha per 1,000 pop.	Many pitches are of less than good quality (from teams survey).	No problems with access by (from play pitch survey).	Reduced standard varying from 1.0 ha to 0.8 ha per 1,000 pop.	Adopt playing pitch survey quality stds.	Current provision seems adequate	Need to improve quality of pitches and changing rooms. Adopt rec quantity standards particular to each Borough sub area.
Parks and Amenity Space	0.4 ha per 1,000 pop based on NPFA and local plan standard	No formal standard.	No formal standard.	1.24 ha per 1,000 pop.	Majority of sites rated fair to poor.	Access classed as very good. But some parts of the Borough have poor access with regards to urban parks	0.4 ha per 1,000 pop but exceed by at least 15% (from Green Space Strategy).	As rec 9 in Green Space Strategy i.e. well lit, clear entrances well maintd grass areas etc,	As in rec 1 in Green Space Strat - larger grass spaces 2 ha within 10 min walk, at least 1 sml grassed space (<1.9 ha) within 5 min walk.	Improve quality of amenity space through section 106 agreements.

2. Conclusions from the Area Profiles

a. Redcar

- The area is well provided for in terms of built leisure facilities but has deficiencies in publicly accessible playing fields, children's play and teenage provision.
- A number of the built facilities are not generally available to the public on a pay and play basis. T
- The proposed new development at Coatham Enclosure will replace the ageing and unattractive existing leisure centre and provide a new pool which will improve the range and quality of leisure provision in the area for residents and visitors
- Removal of the existing Leisure Centre will result in the removal of a large well equipped events space.
- The rebuilding of two secondary schools, the provision of a sports hall and gym at a third and the likely provision of a sports hall at Redcar College has significantly increased the range and nature of built facilities and raises issues of availability, pricing, access and comprehensive management.
- The provision of new and planned outdoor facilities at new or improved schools will also change the landscape of provision and could address the current shortages of play, accessible playing pitches and youth facilities.
- The quality of playing pitches and related changing facilities at sites such as Lakes Estate is poor and may act as barrier to increased participation.
- Through careful planning the former, currently vacant, school sites off Mersey Road and Haweswater Road could be used to deal with current shortages of play and playing fields and provide space for development. Development income could be used to support the provision of any new facilities on those sites and to contribute to a general improvement in leisure provision across the Borough.
- There is a particular shortage of facilities for Junior Football.
- There is a specific shortage of play facilities in the Newcomen area and dissatisfaction levels with the provision of play are high across the area.
- There is a general lack of facilities available for young people.

b. South Bank, Grangetown, Teesville

- The area is well served with sport, recreation and leisure facilities.
- The quality of open spaces is the worst in the Borough and some suffer from extreme vandalism and misuse.
- The planned new developments in the area provide opportunities to raise the profile and improve the quality of provision.
- The quantity of existing provision is adequate but genuine community use needs to be secured.
- Planned new developments on school sites may duplicate existing provision and better, management and coordination will be required to maximise potential use.
- Provision of facilities in Middlesbrough overlaps the provision at Eston, particularly in relation to swimming pools.

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

- A considerable amount of investment has been made into the provision at Eston and this needs to be capitalised on.
- The external appearance of the pool area and its internal arrangements detracts from the overall quality of provision at Eston.
- Usage of the Eston Sports Academy is declining.
- There is inadequate management information about use at Eston available to plan effectively for the future.
- The condition of the Eston recreation ground and its related playing pitches is very poor but the area provides tremendous potential for rationalisation and revitalisation.
- A number of playing pitches serving the area have been lost in recent years and, no shortage of pitches is evident from team demand, there may be an element of latent unsatisfied demand.
- The former Stayplton school site offers the potential, through the release of some land for housing, to improve the quality and supply of publicly accessible pitches and changing facilities, the availability of play areas and the landscape quality of informal open space areas.

c. Guisborough

- The area has very good access to natural and semi natural areas but has a shortage of a good quality park and a lack of play spaces particularly in the western part.
- Guisborough Pool is an outdated facility with continuing maintenance problems but is well used and thought of. There is pressure to see the pool replaced within Guisborough and it has been suggested that this should be at Laurence Jackson school
- All sports hall provision is at education sites meaning that there are no publicly accessible sports halls available during weekdays in school term time.
- Three leisure facilities and three other swimming pools available to the general public are within less than 20 minutes drive time of the town.
- The ATP at Laurence Jackson is not full size which limits the range of activities it can be used for.
- The quality of changing facilities at King George V playing fields is poor.
- There is a general shortage of MUGA's, play and teenage provision.
- There is no specific community/village hall but a range of venues exists.
- There is a shortage of pitches for junior rugby.

d. Saltburn

- Although the area has good access to informal open space the provision of publicly accessible playing fields, children's play areas and space for teenagers is inadequate.
- The quality of playing pitches and related changing facilities is poor.
- The backlog maintenance costs for Saltburn Leisure Centre, at £780,000 are high.

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

- There is a new sports hall at Bydales School and one due to be completed at Huntcliffe, next to the Saltburn Leisure centre, in 2008. Both have or will have community use agreements allowing public access out of school hours.
- The gym at the former de Brus School is being retained and refurbished as part of an extended youth provision on the site.
- There is an over supply of built facilities if fully public and part publicly accessible buildings are taken into account.
- The co-ordination of use and availability of all the built facilities available to the public is required.
- Better management information for current leisure centre usage is required to monitor use and users and to help match provision with need more effectively.
- There is shortage of public open space in the Skelton area.
- There is a general lack of facilities available for young people.
- There is generally an under provision of children's play.
- There is a shortage of provision for junior football and rugby.
- There is dissatisfaction with the provision of parks in the St Germain's and Skelton wards.
- The playing fields at the former de Brus School offer the opportunity to provide improved publicly accessible playing fields in the area and to address junior sport and general youth needs.

e. Eston, Normanby, Ormesby, Nunthorpe

- The area has good provision for informal open space but is short of accessible playing fields and children's play areas.
- The only sports hall available in the area is at Nunthorpe School which has limited public access.
- There is access to built leisure facilities, including swimming pools within and just outside the Borough within less than 20 minute drive time.
- The reduced availability of playing pitches through closure or changed use does not appear to have caused a problem with teams but may be repressing sporting activity.
- Play provision is inadequate and there is concern about the quality of provision.
- The lack of a park and the perceived shortage and quality of open space areas is of concern to residents.
- Finegans Hall has almost £300,000 worth of outstanding maintenance required and there are concerns that it may be closed,

f. Loftus

- Against minimum standards the area has a slight shortfall in relation to informal open space and playing pitches and a greater shortfall for children's play and teenage provision.
- The shortfall in playing field could be alleviated by improving public access to the provision on education sites.
- There is no publicly accessible sports hall available for daytime use.
- The sports hall at Freeborough School Brotton is only available to the public outside school hours.
- Whilst Freeborough has a good range of sports and recreation facilities they are not available during the day and are not easily accessible from outside Brotton by public transport.
- The quality of playing pitches and related changing facilities in the area is very poor.
- Young people's provision is inadequate.
- There are no parks in the area.
- There is a shortage of provision for junior football.
- The former Rosecroft School playing field have the potential to provide improved and publicly accessible playing fields and could include an adult football pitch with related changing facilities. The site could also provide play/youth facilities and still have some land available to release for development. Any income generated by such development could be used to improve the range and quality of playing field and play provision locally.

3. General Conclusions and key issues

3.1 General Conclusions

- The existing policy framework for Sport, Recreation and Leisure is weak.
- The landscape of facility provision has changed significantly with the provision of new/improved schools but this has not been matched by a more co-ordinated approach to availability and use.
- Decisions about the development of some facilities seem to have been taken without any reference to actual need.
- The backlog maintenance expenditure requirements for existing facilities are significant and have increased over the last few years.
- There has been a failure in the past to capitalise on the potential for section 106 to help fund improved sports and leisure facilities.
- Rationalisation of schools and the availability of new facilities provides an ideal opportunity to address local needs for sport and recreation provision.
- Attendances at Leisure centres are declining.
- The number of publicly owned sports halls available (including those on school sites) means that Borough has an over provision of such facilities.
- Governing bodies for sport are concerned about the quality of facilities and the inadequate use of school facilities.
- Leisure activities are considered to be an important component of people's lives with walking and outdoor activities being the most popular.
- Whilst the quantity of open space provision meets minimum standards its quality is an issue.
- Similarly whilst the provision of playing pitches broadly matches needs there are inconsistencies across the Borough with shortages in some areas. The quality of pitches and their related facilities is barely adequate.
- The Borough benefits from significant and well distributed natural and semi natural areas which are important for prime informal recreational activities and need to be maintained and enhanced.
- The huge investment in play has secured the provision of excellent facilities but there are still parts of the borough without sufficient play areas.
- The provision for young people is generally considered to be inadequate and the space available for youth activities is just below the suggested minimum standard.
- The structure of the areas population will change over the next 20 years with increasing numbers of older people and decreasing numbers of young people and the changing demands for leisure will need to be continually reviewed.
- The Borough has a generally aging stock of community buildings with some backlog maintenance issues to be resolved.
- The community buildings are evenly spread demographically throughout the Borough although there is a shortage of community facilities in Guisborough.
- Leisure centre customers are generally satisfied with the service provided by Tees Valley Leisure who manage the centres.
- The majority of users travel to mainstream leisure facilities by car with very few customers using public transport.

3.2 Key issues, general

These include the need:

- For better co-ordination in relation to the facilities available and potentially available to the community.
- To look carefully at the location of existing provision in relation to new and emerging opportunities and the age, condition and usage of the existing stock.
- To secure genuine and realistic community use of new publicly funded facilities, particularly schools.
- To secure sports, recreation and leisure as a key component of corporate and strategic plans to match the community needs, expectations and aspirations.
- To improve the management information available at Leisure centres and the collection of customer satisfaction data to facilitate planning for the future.
- To recognise the importance of and to maintain and enhance the access to, quality and quantity of semi natural and natural sites.
- To improve the quality of public open spaces and playing pitches.
- To provide a more even spread of play facilities within the borough.
- To maximise the potential of sites released from the school building programme.
- To secure investment into the quality and range of provision by capitalising on the potential through s106.
- To assess the ageing stock of the Council's community buildings in order to maximise potential use and reduce revenue and maintenance costs.

3.3 Typology based conclusions and issues

3.3.1 Built Facilities

a. Sports Halls

- Sport England's recommended standard for sports hall provision indicates that theoretically that there is a slight under provision in the Borough at peak times. However this assumes that school sports halls are generally available for "pay and play" activities at peak times. This is not always the case.
- Some Council owned sports halls have significant backlog maintenance costs i.e. Redcar and Saltburn.
- Eston Sports Academy sports hall is probably the only facility that would meet current building standards.
- School based sports halls do not currently allow for "pay and play" activities but there is some use for clubs and groups.
- As part of the New Build/PFI school provision there is an opportunity to secure effective community use agreements for sports halls and playing fields/STPs at school sites to maximise their benefit to the community.
- Professional management arrangements need to be put in place in community use agreement schools to capitalise on the opportunities available.
- The Council could look at the provision of sports halls on a more comprehensive basis across the Borough and including school/college provision with a view to rationalisation.
- There has been a general decline in usage at Council sports halls over the last 3 years.
- Past customer surveys indicate a general level satisfaction with the management and customer service. However this needs to be compared with other leisure centres in other Local Authorities and it is recommended that a recognised quality assurance benchmarking process be adopted.
- Approximately one third of leisure centre users are not in work (i.e. retired, house persons, students etc).
- Past surveys have indicated that the nearer a person lives to a facility the more likely that person is to use it (two thirds of users live within 3 miles of the leisure centre).
- Approximately three quarters of leisure centre users have their own transport with only a small proportion using public transport.
- More information is needed on usage patterns at peak and non peak times.

b, Swimming pools

- Applying Sport England standards to the provision of pools there is, with 4 pools available a slight under provision of water space available to cater for the populations needs.
- School swimming lessons can currently be accommodated with the available water space.
- All areas of the Borough are within 20 minutes drive time of at least one pool, the recommended standard.
- Approximately 75% of pool and leisure centre users use their own transport to get there with only 6% using public transport.
- On average 72% of users take less than 16 mins to travel to a pool/leisure centre.
- The Councils stock of pools is aging and has backlog maintenance costs of £ 2.4m
- The provision of a new pool at Redcar and retention of the other four pools will result in an oversupply of water space when using Sport England standards see 6.4.
- Once the Redcar pool is built more people will have to travel shorter distances to use the boroughs pools.
- Provision of a new pool at Redcar will allow the Council an opportunity to consider the number and quality of pools provided in the Borough. Rationalisation of pool provision would have an impact on backlog maintenance costs and could provide an opportunity to improve the quality and accessibility of facilities available.

c. Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs)

- There is an under provision of full sized STPs in relation to the recommended current standards. However all residents have access to an STP within 20 mins drive time.
- The use of the current full sized STPs could be maximised through more realistic pricing and better interpretation and management of community use agreements.
- The Borough could sustain another full sized STP if appropriate external funding can be secured. This would be beneficial, in terms of provision, to the supply and quality of youth soccer grassed pitches and hockey pitches.

d. Schools and Colleges

- The rebuilding of a number of schools and the addition of extra sports facilities through other funding regimes has the potential to change the pattern of overall provision across the Borough.
- Effective community use agreements need to be put in place to ensure that meaningful use for the community can be secured outside school hours.
- A more comprehensive view of sports provision in schools needs to be taken in the future to ensure that there is no duplication and that the maximum use is made of existing investment.

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

- The management arrangements, for community use of school facilities, vary from school to school and a more consistent and transparent approach would be beneficial.
- Consideration could be given to using school facilities more for dedicated club usage, where appropriate, (as also suggested by some of the Governing bodies for sport) rather than opening them on a pay and play basis.

e. Community Buildings

- The Councils stock of community buildings, excluding James Finegan Hall, has a backlog maintenance cost of just over £150,000 and steps should be taken to carry out the necessary works before they become too much of a burden.
- Levels of satisfaction with the existing council owned facilities are high but almost a third of halls have difficulty meeting their running costs.
- The management arrangements for each hall should be reviewed to ensure they are appropriate to the facility and the users.
- James Finegan Hall has a backlog maintenance cost of almost £300,000.
- Finegans Hall provides a sprung dance floor, a good sized stage, catering facilities and separate office facilities and is home to a Wurlitzer Organ but it is seriously under used by the local community.
- There are no recognised standards for the provision of community halls.
- Provision of Community buildings is, however, with the exception of Guisborough, fairly evenly spread across the Borough and there is no apparent demand for additional facilities at present.

3.3.2 Open Space and Recreation

a. Children's Play

- The Council has a good range of equipped sites that are well maintained and generally meet local needs.
- In overall space terms there would appear to be a shortage of provision in certain areas, in particular in Redcar(Newcomen), Eston, Brotton, Loftus and east Guisborough.
- Provision against standards indicates a substantial shortfall of informal play areas for children.
- Usage patterns and the location of existing facilities needs to be reviewed as some provision e.g. Eston Rec and New Marske appear to be inappropriately sited for the population it serves.

b. Youth Facilities

- The space available for teenage use exceeds the suggested minimum standards.
- The availability of facilities for young people is considered to be a significant issue across the Borough.
- If the space available is more than adequate then issue is probably more concerned with measures to secure engagement in activity and the provision of more activity specific multi use spaces, shelters and meeting places as opposed to informal kick about areas.

c. Amenity Space (Parks and Open spaces)

- In available space terms the general provision across the borough for parks and informal open spaces is good and exceeds the minimum standards.
- Few formal parks exist with a consequence that satisfaction for the provision of parks is low in the Guisborough and Saltburn zones (mainly Skelton)
- Access to open space areas is generally very good and the proximity of open countryside, beaches and cliffs provides a added dimension to choice, availability and access.
- The quality of some open spaces, particularly in the Eston is of concern and consideration needs to be given to the establishment of management and maintenance standards for all the types of open space areas available. These need then to be publicised.
- A verification of the process of site evaluation carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy has been completed as part of this study. As the findings support the approach adopted and the quality classifications established it is considered that the Strategy should form the basis of any action taken to improve the quality and range of open space provision.
- Action to improve quality and range should be prioritised to deal with the poorest quality sites and those of greatest concern to the community first. The Green Space Strategy has evaluated some 200 sites.

- As part of the Green Space Strategy some 200 open space sites were evaluated. Around 50 of these were visited as part of this study to verify the methodology used and the qualitative findings. The approach was found to be consistent and reliable therefore the findings of the Strategy, matched with consultation data, should be used to prioritise action in terms of improving the quality and range of open space available.

d. Playing Fields

- Numerically there is no apparent shortage of playing pitches within the Borough but this is based on the inclusion of pitches that are not currently in secured use. If pitches not in secured community use are not fully available there will be a shortage of overall provision.
- Supply and demand differs from area to area within the Borough and for the level of sport i.e. adult, junior and, for football, mini soccer.
- Surplus school sites at Rosecroft (Loftus), De Brus (Skelton), Stayplton (Eston) and Sacred Heart (Redcar) offer an opportunity, by releasing part of the land to developers, to improve pitch availability and quality and the potential to release funding for other related improvements. Through careful planning these, currently vacant, school sites could be used to deal with current shortages of play and playing fields. Development income could be used to support the provision of any new facilities on those sites and to contribute to a general improvement in leisure provision across the Borough.

e. Allotments

- The Green Space Strategy suggested that a separate review of allotments was required which would feed into the Local Development Framework.
- Allotments have not been raised as an issue in the consultation process and it would seem appropriate that a separate review is carried out of this specialised area, as suggested above.

f. Cemeteries

- These do not provide spaces within this Borough that are recognised as forming an integral part of open space provision.

3.4 Future Needs

- There are more than sufficient built facilities to deal with future needs and a decline in the number of young people will reduce the pressure on play areas and informal open spaces.
- The redistribution of the boroughs population through new development will make it important to ensure that minimum standards for open space and play are built in to any new provision and that s106 is used constructively to secure an improvement in the quality of existing leisure and recreation facilities.

4. Options and Suggested Actions

4.1 Options

In relation to open space, sport and recreation options tend to revolve around the level, management and quality of provision and depend on the priority given to them as part of wider corporate activity.

At present, whilst increasing participation levels in physical activity is a national and regional target there is no clear strategic focus for this in the corporate or community strategy.

The first issue to resolve, therefore, is the level of policy commitment for open space, sport and recreation in relation to people's perceptions that such components are important in the Borough.

It is in relation to the major built facilities in the Borough that the most significant options for future action occur and the suggestions made in this report have been informed by the following key points:

- A slight surplus of swimming pool space that will be increased when the Redcar pool is built.
- An adequate supply of sports halls that depends on the availability of school facilities to meet peak time demand.
- An ageing stock of leisure centres/pools with a significant backlog of maintenance requirements that are comparatively more expensive to run than newer, energy efficient facilities.
- An impressive range of new facilities provided on school sites through rebuilding, refurbishment and grants that have changed the landscape of provision and potential usage patterns.
- A past failure, compared to many other authorities, to use the opportunity afforded by s106 agreements to support improvements to the quality and supply of open space and leisure facilities

Options that could be considered include:

- A rationalisation of sports hall provision by capitalising on the availability, for community use, of new facilities in schools to reduce revenue costs and reduce the backlog maintenance requirement.
- A reduction in the current number of pools when the new pool in Redcar is opened.
- Improved co-ordination of the management of sports facilities to maximise use and improve choice and availability. Such an improvement could include the use of TVLL's systems and expertise to manage bookings and the spaces available.
- The use of money generated by the sale of land and through s106 agreements to improve the quality of provision by addressing backlog maintenance issues or by looking at the potential for providing replacement facilities.

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

- Improving usage of built facilities by reinforcing sports development programmes.

4.2 Actions

Irrespective of the options chosen a range of specific actions have been identified. These have been set out in the following table and cover general and area specific actions for each typology, where appropriate.

General Actions

ACTION	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY
Clarify policy priority for open space, sport, recreation		
Review community use agreements for schools		
Establish comprehensive management and usage arrangements to cover all built facilities		
Review existing stock of buildings and facilities		
Capitalise on funding potentially available through the sale of surplus playing fields and s106 to radically improve the quality of built and open space based leisure provision.		
Ensure that the conclusions of the Leisure Needs assessment are incorporated into the Local Development Framework		
Draw up a programme of improvements for open space and play areas to match local priorities and reflect the quality assessments, with a view to all sites being rated as good within 3 yrs, and maintained at that level and all parks achieving and maintaining Green Flag status		
Maintain a continuous dialogue with local clubs and teams to ensure that provision continues to match need.		
Secure the views of all the sport's Governing bodies on a regular basis.		
Draw up a programme of improvements for playing pitches, STPs and related facilities in relation to the findings of the playing pitch study		
Secure grant and/or other appropriate funding to deliver the programme of improvements		
Establish a transparent maintenance regime for all open space and recreation areas.		
Carry out further research on an area by area basis to more clearly establish the need for enhanced youth/teenager provision		
Carry out a detailed review of the supply and demand for allotments		
Carry out a review, at least annually, of all open space/play sites to monitor changes, review standards and identify the need for further improvements.		

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Leisure Needs Assessment Part 3

Review the effectiveness of current sports development provision to achieve higher levels of engagement and participation		
Incorporate semi natural and natural sites into the quality review process and evaluate them on a comprehensive borough wide and management zone basis		
Monitor more effectively current usage patterns at leisure centres and pools		
Benchmark leisure centre and pool performance data through a recognised system e.g. QUEST or APSE		
Review the management arrangements at the 22 council owned community halls		
Review the backlog maintenance costs for the community halls and running costs		
Continually review, on an area basis the number and location of play facilities		
Review transport arrangements to improve accessibility to facilities		
Review leisure needs on a regular basis to ensure that any effects of demographic changes are taken fully into account.		

Area Specific Actions - REDCAR

ACTION	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY
Review the effectiveness of current community use agreements and ensure that any new provision adequately accommodates community needs		
Review the management arrangements for the provision and coordination of community use in schools out of school hours		
Look at sports hall and facility provision comprehensively to maximise potential use		
Support local teams and clubs in securing access to facilities		
Capitalise on the potential to generate funding from the reuse the former school sites on Mersey Road and Haweswater Road for securing significant improvements in the range and quality of playing pitches and changing facilities, improved play and youth facilities, and opportunities for junior football		
Ensure that any new/planned facilities complement rather than duplicate any existing provision		
Improve the provision of play facilities particularly in the Newcomen Ward		
Evaluate the specific local needs for young people		

Area Specific Actions – SOUTH BANK, GRANGETOWN, TEESVILLE (GATES)

ACTION	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY
Secure effective community use of facilities at Eston Park, Gilbrook and the Football Academy to address playing pitch availability issues.		
Ensure that an effective community use agreement is in place for the proposed new ATP development at St Peters school		
Review the management arrangements of all the existing and proposed facilities to reduce duplication and maximise potential use.		
Improve the provision of play facilities		
Improve the quality of open spaces		
Use the potential release of land for development (former Stayplton school) to secure improvements to the provision for playing fields, children's play and teenagers and for improving the quality of existing open spaces		
Evaluate the specific local needs for young people		

Area Specific Actions - GUISBOROUGH

ACTION	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY
Work with Laurence Jackson School re the provision of a replacement swimming pool		
Work with Prior Pursglove College and Laurence Jackson School in relation to the provision of leisure facilities out of school hours		
Secure improvements to pitches and changing facilities		
Assess the practicality and potential benefits of making the current ATP at Laurence Jackson full size		
Secure additional provision for junior rugby		
Evaluate the specific local needs for young people		
Review children's play and park provision and address shortfall and quality issues		
Assess whether the shortage of community facilities in Guisborough needs to be addressed		

Area Specific Actions - SALT BURN

ACTION	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY
Review the effectiveness of current community use agreements Bydales and Huntcliffe Schools and ensure that any new provision adequately accommodates community needs		
Review the management arrangements for the provision and co ordination of community use in schools out of school hours		
Ensure that the Sports Hall at the former De Brus school is brought into effective community use		
Evaluate the specific local needs for young people		
Review the provision of parks in the area		
Secure improvements to playing fields and changing facilities		
Improve provision for junior football and rugby		
Retain the former De Brus school playing fields for community use and secure improvements to playing field, play, youth and open space provision by releasing some land for development.		

Area Specific Actions – ESTON, NORMANBY, ORMESBY, NUNTHORPE (ONE)

ACTION	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY
Secure improvements to the accessibility of playing fields in the area		
Review the use of Finegan's Hall and explore the potential for increased use or relocation to other facilities in the area		
Ensure that community use at Nunthorpe School is maintained		
Review play area location and provision and secure improvements		
Review open space availability and secure improvements in to the quantity if required		
Improve the quality of current open space provision in line with established priorities		
Evaluate the specific local needs for young people		

Area Specific Actions - LOFTUS

ACTION	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY
Secure an effective community use agreement for the sports facilities at Freeborough College		
Secure improvements to the playing pitches and changing facilities in the area		
Review the location of current play provision and provide additional facilities where required		
Improve the quality of current open space provision in line with established priorities		
Evaluate the specific local needs for young people		
Improve the provision for junior football		
Evaluate the potential for improving and using the former Rosecroft School playing for community use and, through the release of some land for development, secure any necessary playing field, changing facility, play and youth provision improvements		

Part 4 - Appendices

PART 4: APPENDICES

Contents

1. Study Brief	Page 193
2. Plans and strategies contributing to the Corporate Plan	Page 203
3. Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan 199-2006 Recreation and Leisure Policies	Page 204
4. Strategies linked to the Green Space strategy	Page 206
5. Green Space Strategy key points from research	Page 207
6. Public open spaces Quality Assessment and Accessibility audit	Page 217
7. Green Space Quality Audit March 2007 (separate report)	Page 221
8. School Sports survey	Page 223
9. Individual Comments from Community Groups survey	Page 235
10. Viewfinder Summer 2005 survey – Green Space Strategy - analysis of findings	Page 237
11. Viewfinder Survey winter 2006 – Leisure Needs – analysis of findings	Page 240

Appendix 1. Study Brief

Consultant Specification for REDCAR & CLEVELAND SPORT AND LEISURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND STUDY AREA

1.1 Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council is on the North East coast, and is the southernmost borough council in the North East region, and the Tees Valley sub-region. The population of almost 140,000 is spread across the main urban conurbation of Redcar and Greater Eston, the remainder is a mixture of small towns and villages within a rural setting.

1.2 Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council wishes to commission the borough's first Sport & Leisure Needs Assessment. This will support and compliment the Council's existing Playing Pitch Assessment and Green Space Strategy and will 'steer' policy formation for open space and sport and recreation facilities within the Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan review process along with providing guidance as to where ongoing revenue resources need to be allocated.

1.3 Within the boundary of the Redcar & Cleveland we do have some excellent natural facilities that most other authority areas do not have. We have miles of un-spoilt coastline, well-managed woodland sites, a number of urban and country parks and access to the North Yorkshire Moors National Park. All have enormous potential for increasing participation and enhancing feelings of well being. We also have significant opportunities to provide services that meet both educational and community aspirations through the Building Schools for Future initiative with all our secondary schools (not subject to PFI) being replaced over the next 6-8 years along with our existing stock of five leisure centres, playing fields, community centres and halls.

1.4 At present we do not have an up to date needs assessment for the local community in respect of leisure provision and the complimentary agenda of increasing physical activity although in conjunction with Sport England, this is something we see as a priority. We are currently in discussions about undertaking this piece of work. This is essential, as it will ensure that any future procurement of leisure services is based upon the needs and aspirations of local communities. This needs assessment should ensure that all statutory and non-statutory organisations are aware and signed up to ensuring the relevant facilities and services are provided in the correct locations.

1.5 Within the Council's property portfolio there are a number of key sites that are about to become surplus to operational requirements. The Council would seek to use the outcome of its Leisure Needs Assessment to inform its future asset strategy for the use and deployment of these individual sites.

2.0 PURPOSE AND AIMS OF THE STUDY

2.1 The overall purpose of this study is four fold;

- To ensure that the Council are informed to plan for sufficient open space, sport and recreation facilities in line with current Government recommendations and guidance contained within *Planning Policy Guidance (PPG17): Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation and the OPDM PPG17 companion Guide, Assessing Needs and Opportunities (the Companion Guide)*.
- To ensure that the Council are informed to plan for sufficient indoor sports facilities in line with Sport England planning resources
- Based upon the Audit of provision already undertaken consult within identified population and geographic sub-groups in order to identify the leisure needs and aspirations of the residents of the borough
- To ensure that the Council's future asset management decision making is better informed

2.2 The study should consolidate and build upon the Council's existing strategies and studies such as the Physical Activity Strategy, the Playing Pitch Assessment, the Green Space Strategy and the Schools Sports Partnership Plans. It should formulate conclusions on both qualitative and quantitative provision and make recommendations on the following:

- Quality and quantity of identified open space, sport and recreation facilities in line with PPG17
- Quality and quantity of indoor sports and active recreation facilities in line with Sport England planning resources, in particular the Facilities Planning Model, Planning for Sport & Active Recreation – Objectives and Opportunities and Spatial Planning for Sport & Active Recreation
- Facilities and opportunities identified by residents of the borough and how this supports/ rejects the relevant planning resources
- Suggest methods of addressing problems or shortfalls (facilities/ programming) through planning policy, service modernization, asset planning, and or budget realignment

2.3 The Study will be a public document, and whilst not comprising the recommendations concerning the surplus sites any technical content where required, it should be presented in a manner that can be readily understood by a non-technical audience. The presentation of particular outcomes through clear and understandable key diagrams and maps will assist in achieving this.

3.0 STUDY OUTPUTS

3.1 The consultant will be expected to work with Council Officers to prepare the Study in accordance with the approach recommended within the Companion Guide (see Attachment 1). Outputs expected from the consultant for each of the key steps recommended within the Companion Guide are outlined in this Section.

Identifying Local Needs

3.2 In identifying local needs, the consultants will be required to carry out the following:

- a document review that assesses the implications of any relevant national, regional and local policies and strategies (see Attachment 2).
- Consultants will analyse the results of the Sports & Leisure Facility Audit in order to assist in the identification of local needs and in the preparation of the 'qualitative vision' for open space, sport and recreation facilities.
- A community consultation exercise to obtain public attitudes to existing and potentially future provision with the following will be required:
 1. General public via residents groups, community forums, community centres, leisure facilities, Citizens Panel
 2. Elected Members
 3. Sporting clubs/ organisations
 4. Other Council Departments
 5. Schools
 6. Primary Care Trusts

3.3 Consultants will also be expected to work with Council Officers in order to assess the adequacy of existing provision and in the identification of reasonable local expectations.

Auditing Local Provision

3.4 The audit of local provision has covered relevant indoor and outdoor sport and recreation facilities. The Council provided information on the location of all spaces and facilities that it wished to be considered within the Borough. The Council will transpose this information digitally onto a GIS base.

3.5 The scope of indoor facilities considered within this study is as follows:

- Swimming Pools
- Sports halls
- Health & Fitness facilities

- Leisure Centres
- Community centres
- Village Halls

3.6 The scope of outdoor facilities considered within this study is as follows:

- Grass playing pitches
- Informal 'Kick About' areas
- Synthetic turf pitches
- Bowling greens
- Tennis courts
- Basketball courts
- Running Tracks
- Golf courses
- Skateparks
- BMX tracks
- Cycleways/ bridleways/ Public Rights of Way
- Parks/ formal gardens
- Countryside venues

3.7 The audit results should be tabled in an up-datable matrix or database and should also be depicted visually on GIS.

Setting Provision Standards

3.8 Provision standards are to be set in accordance with the Companion Guide, ie:

- Determine the quantitative component,
- Determine the qualitative component,
- Determine the accessibility component,
- Determine the minimum acceptable size component,
- Determine the site area multiplier component, and
- Determine the cost components.

3.9 Consultants will be expected to work with relevant Council Officers in determining each of these components. The relevant provision standards resolved from the carrying out of this exercise should result in an assessment matrix for each of the 9 typologies and for indoor recreation facilities.

Applying Provision Standards

3.10 The provision standards should be applied through the application of sieve mapping techniques in order to report any deficiencies in accessibility or quality, and to identify areas of quantitative deficiency or surplus and the spatial distribution of unmet need.

- 3.11 Having carried out this exercise, consultants will be required to forecast future needs in accordance with the methodology described in the companion guide.

Policy Implications

- 3.12 Any deficiencies in access of quality and any deficiency or surplus in quality will need to be redressed in policy terms. This may include the need to review planning policy and management techniques. The consultants should recommend ways in which any surpluses or deficiencies might be addressed.

Application of Study Findings

- 3.13 The Council holds a number of land sites that are to be declared surplus to operational requirements in the near future. The sites are listed below and are identified on the enclosed plans: -

- The Rosecroft Playing fields, Freebrough College, Loftus (see plan A)
- The De Brus Playing fields, Freebrough College, Skelton (see plan B)
- Sacred Heart & St Dominic's Schools, Mersey Road, Redcar (see plan C)
- Surplus Site Haweswater Road, Redcar (see plan D)

- 3.14 The Consultants are expected to carry out an assessment of these sites and consult with the Council's Planning Section to determine any potential alternative uses for these sites.

- 3.15 The Consultants are expected to then apply the outcome of the Leisure Needs Assessment to recommend ways in which any forecasted future surpluses or deficiencies might be addressed through the future deployment or release for disposal of these assets. The recommendations will include an assessment of the budget implications of any proposals.

- 3.16 These recommendations will form part of a separate additional report to the Council, which will not form part of the main body of the report to the Council.

Miscellaneous

- 3.17 We would request that the consultants carry out the analysis across the 6 areas identified through the formation of the Area Management Department and the subsequent area committees. These areas are as follows:
- Redcar (all wards)
 - Grangetown, South Bank, Teesville
 - Eston, Normanby Ormesby

- Guisborough, Westworth
- Longbeck, St Germaines, Saltburn, Skelton
- Brotton, Lockwood & Loftus

3.18 The Consultant needs to be mindful that certain facilities, dependent upon size can service more than one of the identified 6 areas and this need's to be identified within the study. Failure to do so may distort the data relating to facility supply and demand.

3.19 There will be a considerable amount of joint working between the consultants and the Council. A working group should therefore be established early in the process and this group should be convened on a regular basis.

Specific Outputs

3.20 Consultants must demonstrate their ability to meet project aims and outputs as detailed within this specification.

3.21 Consultants must demonstrate that their proposals and methodology for carrying out the project meets current Government and good practice guidance.

3.22 The project will be of 4 months duration commencing in July 2006 with the production of the final report by November 2006.

3.23 The following timetable should be met:

- First interim report outlining the methodology for carrying out each of the stages of the study within 4 weeks of the award of the project.
- Consultation and agreement with the Council's working group will be required before commencing the project
- Draft Final Report by mid October 2006
- Final report, including an executive summary, following consultation with the Council's working group no later than 15th October 2006
- Additional report containing recommendations regarding the potential surplus sites to be provided to the Council 's working group no later than 30th November 2006
- Presentation of findings to relevant Council members, chief officers, and other relevant stakeholders to be agreed following publication of the final report.

3.24 The consultants must meet with the Council's Working Group before commencing each of the individual stages described in paragraphs 3.1-3.16 of this specification.

- 3.25 The Council must be consulted on the form and content of the draft and final reports, which should include aims and objectives of the survey, methodology, main finding and key points.
- 3.26 The consultant will provide 12 hard copies of the final report and executive summary, including a full, compiled copy on CD in a format agreed with the Council.

4.0 OTHER MATTERS

Project Conditions

- 4.1 The Council retains the right to use and publish the results as it thinks fit. The consultant may not use or publish the results without the express permission of the Council.
- 4.2 The timescales within paragraphs 3.18-3.19 are essential and must be met.
- 4.3 The consultant's price should be for all costs involved in carrying out the project and for providing the information within the brief, including all necessary staff traveling, accommodation and other expenses, copies of reports and provision of copies of computer records.
- 4.4 All information is to be made available to the Council in the form of a database in an agreed software format to enable to Council to carry out further analysis and monitoring.
- 4.5 The Council reserves the right to make further copies of the original reports for its own purposes.
- 4.6 Consultants are required to maintain any necessary confidentiality of the Council.
- 4.7 The consultant shall indemnify the Council against any loss suffered by or any claims made against the Council arising directly or indirectly from any defect, incorrect statement or omission contained in any report or other information whether written or verbal supplied to the Council under or in connection with the contract.

Project Management

- 4.8 A senior member of the consultant's staff, who must have considerable experience of project managing similar commissions, shall manage the project. That manager will liaise closely with the Council's nominated officer.
- 4.9 The consultant is required to provide a work programme for consultation agreement with the Council's working group. This should give detailed timetables for outputs, from submission to final report and presentation. It must also include considerable consultation and agreement arrangements with the working group regarding deadlines for information to be provided by the Council.
- 4.10 The consultant will prepare written progress reports and attend progress meetings as required.

Selection of Consultant and Commissioning

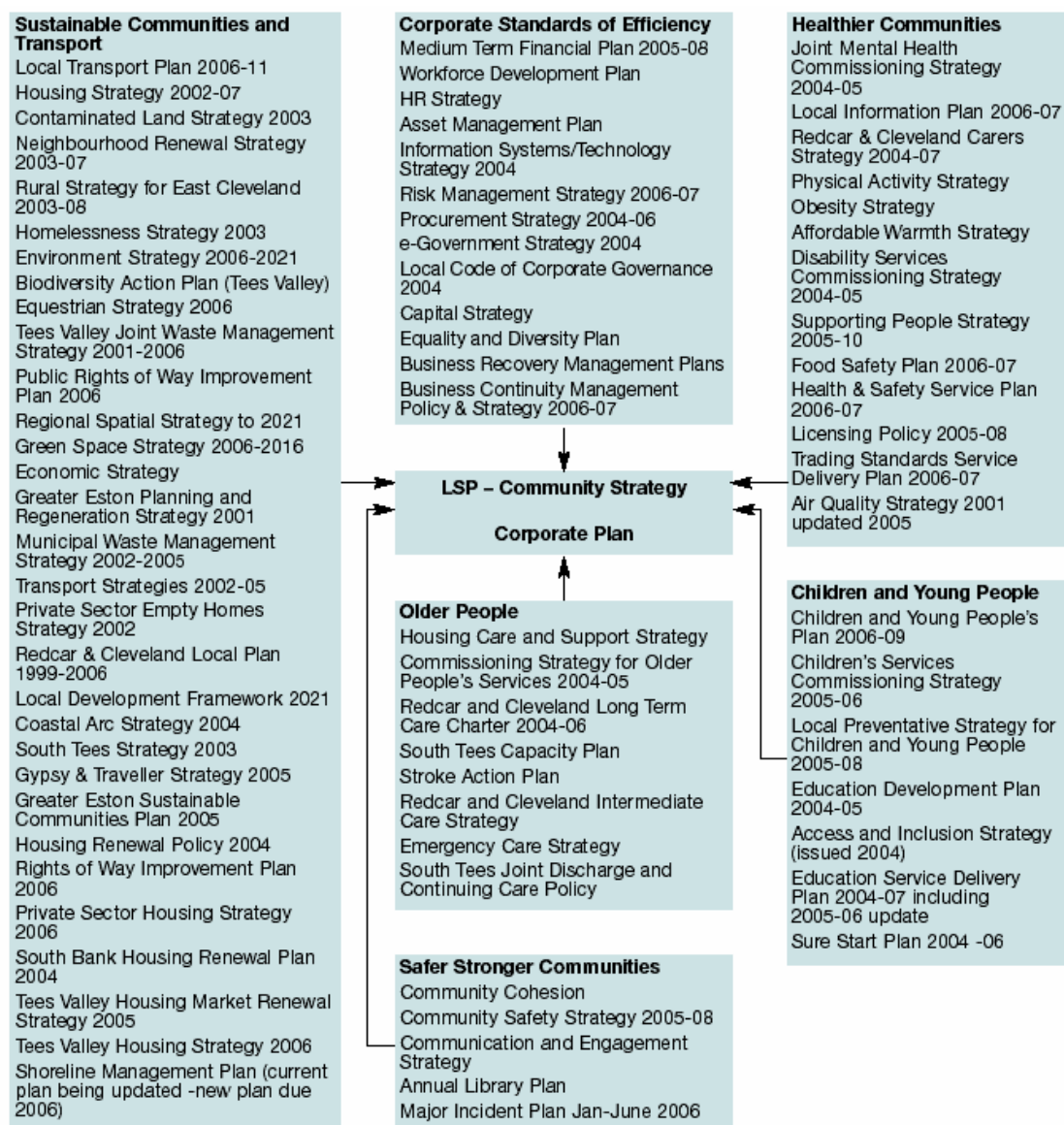
- 4.11 The consultant shall provide a statement specifying proposals for carrying out this project.
- 4.12 Consultants are also required to provide:
 - Detail of examples of similar work carried out within the past 3 years.
 - Details of skills and relevant experience of staff, including the structure of the team.

- Details of any sub contractors whom the consultant would propose to engage in the project.
 - Details of the consultant's customer care policy.
- 4.13 The consultant will provide a fixed price quotation for carrying out and undertaking the work associated with the project.
- 4.14 Where the Council requests and the consultant agrees to perform services relating to the project which are not part of the contract price, then those services will be chargeable on a time and materials basis at current standard fee rates unless otherwise agreed. The consultant agrees that the standard fee rates will apply without increase over the duration of this contract.

Evaluation and Selection

- 4.15 Quotations will be evaluated on the basis of the most economically advantageous to the Council, taking into account both quality and price. The Council offers no guarantee that the lowest quotation will be accepted.
- 4.16 Consultants may be required as part of the evaluation procedure, to present their submission to a panel of officers of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

Appendix 2. Plans contributing to the Corporate Plan



Appendix 3. Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan 1999 – 2006

Recreation and Leisure Policies.

Policy L1

Development proposals which involve the loss of existing public and private recreation and community facilities such as parks, amenity open space, play areas, sports fields, village halls and allotments will be resisted unless:

- Sport and recreation facilities in the local plan area can best be retained and enhanced through development of a small part of the site;
- Alternative provision of equivalent community benefit, that is a satisfactory replacement facility in terms of size, location, access and suitability for the proposed use is made; or
- There is an excess of such provision taking account of the value of the site in both recreation and amenity terms.

Policy L 4

New recreational areas are identified in; Brotton, Guisborough, Lingdale and Skelton, as shown on the proposals map in order to help meet the shortfall in particular localities of playing fields, play areas and informal play space.

Policy L 5

The Local Planning Authority will encourage development which allows sport and recreation facilities to be made available to the community provided that there is no adverse impact on adjoining residents.

Policy L 6

Land at Majuba Road, Redcar as defined on the proposals map, is allocated for major leisure and linked housing development.

Policy L 7

Proposals for the development of housing sites of 100 or more dwellings will be expected to include recreation facilities and amenity open space at a minimum standard of 0.7 ha per 100 dwellings. Sites with a lower capacity, forming part of a larger site to be developed concurrently or consecutively, shall make proportionate provision.

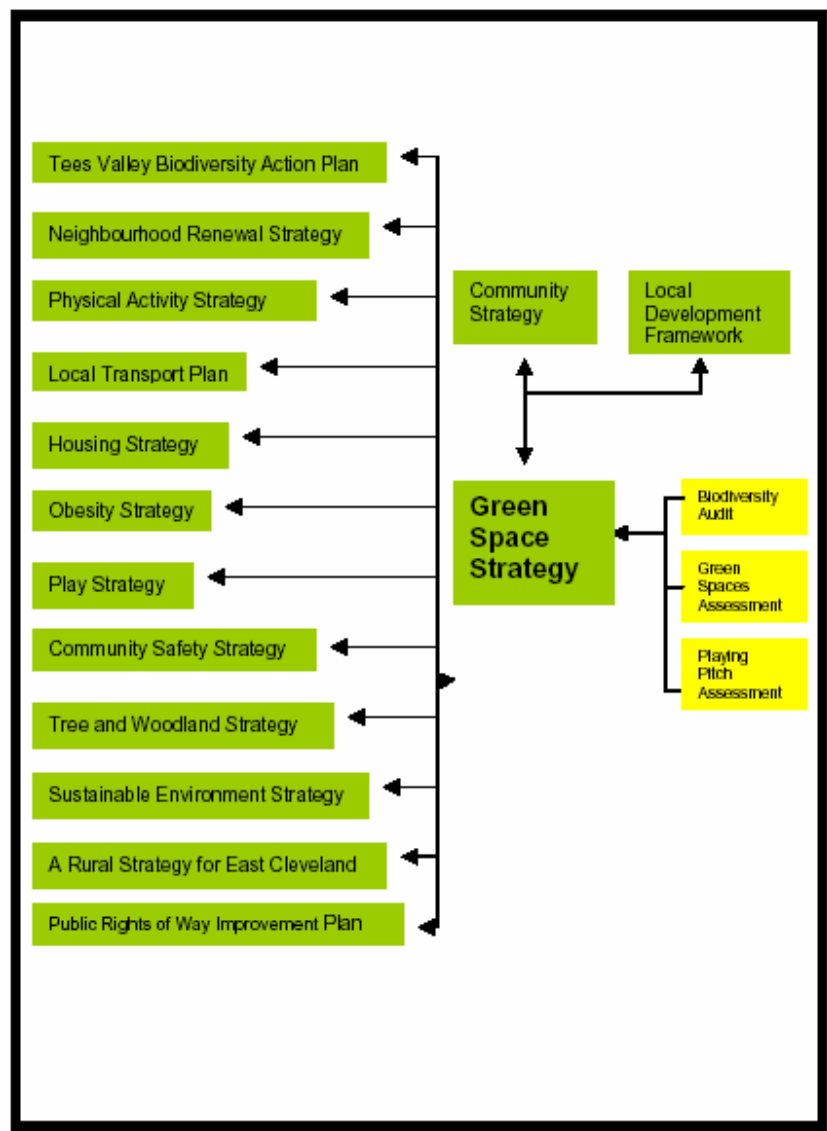
The Council will seek a planning obligation under s 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in favour of the Local Planning Authority, providing a commuted sum representing the capitalised cost of maintaining the facilities for a period of 10 years.

Policy L 8

Leisure developments requiring large areas of land and which cannot be accommodated within the limits to development should be located on derelict land; within the green wedges identified by policy LD 3; within the Cleveland Community Forest; or on land on the edge of urban areas.

New build development associated with this type of leisure development will only be permitted beyond the limits to development where: an existing building could not be converted or utilised; it is essential to the operation of a recreational use; and it is adjacent to a settlement or alongside existing buildings or otherwise visually forms an integral part of the overall development.

Appendix 4. Strategies linked to the Green Space Strategy



Appendix 5. Green Space Strategy – Key Points from the Research Components

QUANTITY ASSESSMENT: AUDIT FINDINGS

Distribution of space

- The audit identified around 200 green spaces covering an estimated area of over 500 hectares of land. This excludes substantial areas of accessible natural and semi-natural spaces beyond the built-up area (such as Eston Hills and Errington Woods).
- The sites ranged in size from 0.1 to over 60 hectares. A lot of sites are fairly small, with around 70% less than 0.4 hectares.
- Green space is unevenly distributed throughout the borough, with variations in the amount and the type of green space provided between AEC areas, wards and neighbourhoods.
- The Redcar & GaTeS AEC areas contain proportionately more green space than the other AEC areas, with the more rural areas of Guisborough and Kilton containing the least.
- Most of the largest green spaces are in the main built-up area of the borough (Redcar, Greater Eston and Guisborough). Spaces in the settlements of East Cleveland tend to be smaller, however these areas contain more equipped play areas.
- There is currently a shortage of space at cemeteries in Brotton and Loftus, which are almost full. Estimated capacity at other cemeteries ranges from 5 years (Eston) to 80 (Skelton). An increase in cremation and the emerging alternative of woodland burial have reduced pressure on burial land requirements.

Residential Neighbourhoods

- Areas of low density housing containing properties with large gardens are likely to contain less public space than more densely developed neighbourhoods.
- Public housing estates are likely to contain a larger supply of space than privately developed areas. Some recent private developments, such as The Ings in Redcar, contain more substantial provision than earlier private developments.

Population Structure

- There are significant variations in the population structure of wards and local neighbourhoods, which will affect the need for different types of space. For example, the proportion of children under 16 in Grangetown is, at 32%, significantly higher than the borough average of 20%. Similarly the proportion of retirement age residents in the wards of St Germain's (28%) and Ormesby (26%) is above the borough average (20%).

QUANTITY ASSESSMENT: QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS

- Most people (75% of respondents) were satisfied with the level of provision of parks and green spaces in their local neighbourhood;
- In terms of different types of open space, people were least satisfied with the amount of space provided for use by children and young people;
- At ward level, satisfaction levels ranged from 56% for respondents in South Bank ward to 87% in Saltburn;
- Relatively low levels of satisfaction were recorded for the wards of Newcomen (61%), Teesville (64%) and Lockwood (68%);
- Satisfaction levels by **AEC area**:

GaTeS:	67%
Kilton:	71%
Ormesby, Normanby & Eston:	75%
Redcar:	76%
Guisborough:	78%
East Cleveland:	81%
- Satisfaction levels by **type** of space:

Kick-about Areas:	69%
Equipped Play Areas:	72%
Small Landscaped (Amenity) Areas:	74%
Urban Parks:	75%
Sports Pitches:	83%
- It was suggested at one of the workshops that there is insufficient space in the following area of the borough:

East Redcar.

ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT: FINDINGS

- Roughly half of residential areas are within the catchment (five minutes walk) of a smaller green space.
- Approximately three quarters of residential areas fall within the catchment of a larger green space or urban park.
- More than half of residential areas are within the catchment of more than one space.
- Approximately 90% of residential areas fall inside the catchment of at least one public green space.
- The main areas falling outside the catchment of public spaces are as follows:
 - Parts of west Guisborough
 - East of Redcar Road, Guisborough
 - Parts of Nunthorpe and Ormesby
 - Between Skelton and Skelton Green
 - Part of Newcomen Ward in Redcar
 - Small part of New Marske
 - Liverton
 - Easington, south of A174

QUALITY ASSESSMENT: QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS

Problem identification

The questionnaire asked panel members how satisfied they were with the quality of a local green space with which they are familiar and respondents were asked to state the extent to which cleanliness, anti-social behaviour, appearance and safety presented problems on their local space.

Over 1000 responses were received to this question, covering a large number of sites across the Borough.

The overall response showed that respondents were most concerned about the following problems:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| • Anti-social behaviour: | 36% |
| • Cleanliness: | 32% |
| • Safety: | 28% |
| • Appearance: | 15% |

Management

70% of respondents thought that local communities should be involved in managing green spaces.

Biodiversity

76% of respondents thought that biodiversity – encouraging a greater range of plants and trees, etc. – was an important consideration that should be incorporated into the management of public green spaces.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT: SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Good points

- Quality of play equipment
- Location of spaces close to residential areas
- Unrestricted access of many spaces

Bad points

- Safety from traffic
- Children's safety
- Safety after dark – this was of particular concern to children and young people
- Litter & broken glass
- Dog fouling
- Vandalism and graffiti
- Misuse – especially through alcohol and drug abuse and 'off-roading'
- Underused areas

Opportunities

- Infrastructure improvements – lighting, pathways, seating etc.
- Provision of more traffic safety barriers
- Increase site security e.g. through more community safety warden patrols
- Provide more litter bins and dog waste bins
- Events and marketing campaigns to increase user numbers
- Educate people not to misuse the spaces

QUALITY ASSESSMENT: AUDIT FINDINGS

- The audit found that there is scope to improve most spaces in the Borough – including some of the 'good' spaces.
- 63% of sites were rated as 'fair'.
- 29% of sites were rated as 'good'.
- 8% of sites were rated as 'poor'.
- Sites scores ranged from a low of 17 to a high of 38.
- Some of the best quality sites are maintained with the involvement of local community groups.
- The surveys showed that sites, which are overlooked by housing tended to be less likely to suffer from problems such as vandalism, graffiti, litter and dog fouling.
- In churchyards and cemeteries, problems of security and personal safety may be compounded by fewer opportunities for surveillance due to tree cover, walled areas and infrequent usage.
- The quality of spaces varied across the borough with most areas containing a mix of sites rated as 'good', 'fair' or 'poor'.
- The largest proportion of sites rated as 'poor' (23%) was located in the GaTeS AEC Area.
- The largest proportion of sites rated as 'good' (48%) was located in the Guisborough AEC area.
- Average quality scores for different types of sites were highest for urban parks (33) and lowest for kick-about areas (25), which are particularly prone to problems of litter, vandalism and other anti-social behaviour.

BIODIVERSITY AUDIT: FINDINGS

- The audit found that each site had a different level of potential for biodiversity gain through a change in approach to management and increased spending.
- Site scores ranged from a low of 3 to a high of 28.
- The lowest scoring site (St. Helen's Close, Eston) had a low level of biodiversity with closely mown amenity grassland of low wildlife value and several small groups of trees and very few shrubs.
- The highest scoring site (Hob Hill Lane, Saltburn) had a higher level of biodiversity with established flower-rich grassland, mixed hedging and scrub and an area of woodland.
- The audit identified the following general measures for increasing biodiversity:
 - hedgrow planting to provide safe wildlife routes
 - planting of native trees and shrubs
 - introducing wildflowers
 - varying grass cutting regimes
 - establishing wetlands in naturally damp areas
 - increasing community involvement in and awareness of biodiversity issues and projects.

ALLOTMENTS SURVEY: FINDINGS

- The condition of allotments varies across the Borough, though well-used sites tend to have better appearance than areas with high plot vacancies.
- In some cases sites have been well secured but this has created an unattractive external appearance.
- There appears to be a shortage of allotments in Redcar.
- There are a number of vacant plots particularly in East Cleveland, and near South Bank.
- Scope to manage sites more effectively, particularly in East Cleveland.
- Poor internal access is a problem on many sites.

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT: FINDINGS

Quality

Private facilities tend to be secure and in good condition. Council-owned facilities are more accessible but this makes them more vulnerable to vandalism and misuse. The survey found that there is significant scope to enhance the quality of some facilities through:

- improving the quality of pitches
- providing secure changing areas
- protecting facilities through more effective security measures

Quantity

On the whole, the borough has sufficient pitch space to meet current and anticipated future demand for each sport, with two exceptions:

- the growing demand for junior football has created a shortage of pitches in Redcar. Generally, making up any shortages could be met through remarking underused adult pitches, upgrading kick-about areas or making greater use of school pitches; and,
- the limited availability of pitches to meet the demand for junior rugby in Guisborough. This may be addressed through making greater use of facilities at Laurence Jackson School outside of school hours.

GREEN ROUTES: SURVEY FINDINGS

Green routes should be:

- Enhanced and protected
- Properly signposted
- Well-maintained
- Easily accessible
- Improved in terms of safety at road crossings and on highways not currently designated for pedestrians and cyclists
- Designed to form a link between Cycleways, Rights of Way and Bridleways

The borough's main urban areas already contain linked green spaces and many spaces are served by footpaths or cycleways. Opportunities exist to further develop the linkages have been identified as follows:

1. Linking up sections of the Eston Mine-Grangetown dismantled railway at Monmouth Road.
2. Creation of a path directly through Flatts Lane Woodland Country Park.
3. A safe route alongside A1043 and A171 to the North and South of Swan's Corner at Nunthorpe linking the LTP (Local Transport Plan) proposed cycle route with the Right of Way.
4. Linking two Rights of Way along the B1269 to the south of Dunsdale.
5. Linking up the Right of Way at Wilton Lane in north Guisborough through the A171 underpass.
6. Making an attractive route eastwards from Guisborough to the Cleveland Way.
7. Land between The Avenue and Hutton Lane. The area has the potential to provide a vital part of the green corridor network linking west Guisborough to the town centre along Chapel Beck, taking in Chapel Beck and Westgate parks.
8. Creating a safe route along The Avenue between Hutton Beck and the cycle way on Hutton Lane.
9. Linking the National Cycle Route and the Cleveland Way at Skinningrove.
10. Joining the 2 sections of the LTP proposed cycle way through the Rights of Way at Kilton.

Appendix 6. Public Green Spaces : Quantity Assessment and Accessibility Audit – Table of Local, Ward issues

Table 22: Summary of findings at ward level

Ward	Needs and Issues	Comments
Brotton	<p>Lack of space in Brickyards / Park Area.</p> <p>Overall satisfaction levels below average; due to concern about kick-about and in particular amenity provision.</p>	<p>Availability of local space in Brickyards / Park area dependent on housing renewal.</p> <p>Importance of achieving a safe link between this area and with the multi-purpose recreational site at Marshall Drive</p>
Coatham	<p>Fairly limited local provision but moderate satisfaction levels.</p> <p>Some concern about provision of larger sites (kick-about and sports pitches).</p>	<p>Importance of retaining smaller spaces Scope for addressing kick-about / pitch issues may lie beyond the ward boundary at Mersey Road (see Dormanstown comments); need to ensure safe links to site.</p> <p>Improvements to Locke Park will enhance provision in the wake of anticipated household growth at Coatham Enclodsure</p>
Dormanstown	<p>High satisfaction levels (play areas excepted) and high provision</p> <p>Potential sustainability issues in the west of Dormanstown due to large supply and potential housing clearance</p> <p>Prospective additional green space at Mersey Road on eastern edge of ward – this will also serve Newcomen ward.</p>	<p>The overriding challenge is to retain / improve spaces in an area with a large supply given the potential for rationalisation, is undermined by policy constraints at Abercrombie Estate, development interest may be limited and split management regime with Coast & Country Housing.</p> <p>Also, need to review play area provision.</p>
Eston	<p>Low provision but higher than average overall satisfaction levels, though low satisfaction levels with play areas</p>	<p>Need to retain spaces in areas where provision is particularly low and ensure good access and high quality provision on existing sites such as Woodgarth and consider options for addressing play area issue.</p>
Grangetown	<p>High Satisfaction Levels High provision - sustainability issues through housing decline e.g.: existing spaces in North Grangetown are serving a reduced population</p>	<p>Potential rationalisation could support quality improvements</p> <p>West of ward would benefit from investment at Eston Rec (South Bank ward).</p>
Guisborough	<p>Moderate provision and satisfaction levels but below average for play areas and parks.</p> <p>High density housing areas.</p>	<p>High density areas – importance of small sites and maintaining or improving footpath links to national park.</p> <p>Explore improvement opportunities at major sites (KGV and Chapel Beck Walkway/) to address concerns about parks and play areas.</p>
Hutton	<p>Very limited provision, low satisfaction levels, especially for parks and play areas.</p>	<p>Need explore possibilities to provide local play space to serve west Guisborough. Potential access improvement through establishment of green link from The Avenue through Newstead Farm to (a potentially enhanced) Chapel Beck Park.</p>

Ward	Needs and Issues	Comments
Kirkleatham	<p>High provision but generally low satisfaction levels, especially for. play areas.</p> <p>Large areas of space lost to development</p>	<p>Need to ensure good quality space in development schemes and address play area issues.</p> <p>Potential to improve Showground</p>
Lockwood	<p>Satisfaction levels below average due to low satisfaction level with sports pitch provision.</p> <p>High provision in Lingdale</p>	SLNA will need to address pitch issue at Freebrough Playing Fields
Loftus	<p>Satisfaction levels below average due to low satisfaction level with sports pitch provision.</p> <p>Below average provision but spaces well distributed through the town.</p>	SLNA will need to address pitch issue at Freebrough Playing Fields
Longbeck	<p>Satisfaction levels and provision above Borough average, except for satisfaction with play areas</p> <p>Lack of play area within New Marske; provision is on edge of village.</p>	No immediate opportunities to provide additional space for play area within New Marske unless existing small amenity spaces are adopted for this purpose.
Newcomen	<p>Dissatisfaction levels exceed satisfaction levels.</p> <p>Provision lower than average and Closes Area is fairly high density.</p> <p>Part of area outside accessibility catchment.</p>	<p>Loss of large site at Mersey Road to be mitigated by investment on adjacent former school site (in Dormnanstown ward).</p> <p>Former school land at Haweswater Road may present an opportunity to provide additional local space.</p>
Normanby	<p>Higher than average provision but variation between neighbourhoods</p> <p>Overall satisfaction levels below borough average. due to low satisfaction with parks and sports pitch provision. Sites include Tees Dock Park; Flatts Lane Country Park nearby.</p>	Potential to improve major sites, esp. Tees Dock Park
Ormesby	<p>Limited provision in Nunthorpe and Ormesby neighbourhoods – no major opportunities to provide additional local space. Dissatisfaction with provision of play, amenity and kick-about areas.</p> <p>Consultation inconclusive – only ward where undecided responses exceeded satisfaction and dissatisfaction. Close proximity to Middlesbrough, incl. Stewart Park</p>	Need to retain and where appropriate improve existing spaces, including all smaller spaces. Similar to Hutton ward – edge of town, high land values (esp. Nunthorpe), some large gardens

Ward	Needs and Issues	Comments
St Germain`s	Low overall provision, with uneven distribution. However, overall higher than average satisfaction levels except for parks.	Planned investment at Village Green and Marske Valley Gardens will improve provision and may contribute to increased satisfaction levels.
Saltburn	Moderation provision high satisfaction levels	Emphasis on improving existing spaces – Valley Gardens Management Plan
Skelton	Lack of space at Skelton Green. Surplus playing field at former De Brus School. Lowest ward satisfaction level for parks.	Limited opportunities to provide space at Skelton Green SNLA to look at De Brus issues; need to consider issue of parkland as part of this process. Nearest park is at Saltburn Valley Gardens – review links ?
South Bank	Varied levels of provision; low satisfaction levels Neighbourhoods divided by major road (A1085)	Major development at Low Grange Farm site linked to Eston Rec provides major opportunity to improve access / provide a much enhanced strategic space serving the wider GaTeS area Clearance of terraced housing area has implications for future uses of spaces / additional maintenance costs in clearance area west of Normanby Road
Teesville	Low satisfaction levels exceeded by dissatisfaction levels Overall provision is above Borough average but area is quite intensively developed	Possible loss of Church Lane amenity site to Eston Cemetery extension but could benefit from potential improvements to Eston Rec and to a lesser extent Tees Dock Park
West Dyke	Higher than average provision and high satisfaction levels. College site redevelopment.	Need prospective development at Redcar Lane on college site to incorporate green space and retain link between West Dyke Road and lngs development . Scope to improve key site at Borough Park
Westworrth	Satisfaction level in line with Borough average. Satisfaction levels for parks and pitch provision below the Borough average Overall provision above the Borough average but uneven – south Guisborough has limited space.	Need to retain provision in south Guisborough including smaller sites. Importance of creating a good quality park in Guisborough (as evidenced by comments for other Guisborough wards).
Zetland	High provision of space, high satisfaction levels.	Emphasis is on improving and retaining quality and green links to the coast

Appendix 7. Green Space Quality Audit March 2007

See Separate Document

Appendix 8. School Sports Survey

SCHOOL & SPORTS PROVISION SURVEY FOLLOW-UP

SCHOOL: HUNTCLIFF SCHOOL	
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x gym (basketball court size) 1 x hall (for general school use) 4 x grass pitches 3 x tennis courts Male and female changing rooms (very poor condition) MUGA. Artificial turf pitch
Are these facilities available for community use?	Yes
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	Gym: 10 hours per week (evenings) Hall: 10 hours per week (evenings) Grass pitches: 10 hours per week (weekends) Tennis courts: 10 hours per week (evenings and weekends) MUGA is available to the community through Saltburn Leisure Centre
How are community users supervised?	Val Claydon to confirm
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Advanced termly booking
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	Changing rooms extremely poor, not suitable for community use. Tennis courts poor. Sports pitches good. Gym average condition. Hall good, but of limited use, no markings. However the school being rebuilt and is due to open with much

	improved facilities, including a sports hall in September 2008.
Disability access?	There is wheelchair access but facilities are by no means fully inclusive, but will be in the new build.
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Badminton 5-a-side football 11-a-side football Netball Yoga
Notes	The school is committed to community use of its facilities and will be looking to develop community use once the school is rebuilt

SCHOOL: ST PETER'S ROMAN CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY AIDED COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x sports hall (4 x badminton court size) 1 x hall (general school use) 4 x grass pitches
Are these facilities available for community use?	Sports hall and grass pitches are available for community use
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	Sports hall and grass pitches: 10 hours per week (sports hall used Saturday mornings & early evenings, grass pitches used weekends and ad-hoc)
How are community users supervised?	There is usually non-teaching staff on site, but largely down to groups hiring
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Advanced booking yearly
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	Would like to refurbish PE changing rooms and toilets, more benches required in changing rooms
Disability access?	Not accessible for wheelchairs
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Badminton 5-a-side football 11-a-side football

SCHOOL: LAURENCE JACKSON SCHOOL	
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	2 x sports halls 1 x gym 1 x hall (for general school use)

	6 x grass pitches 1 x astro-turf pitch 10 x tennis courts 1 x squash court 1 x climbing wall 1 x fitness suite 1x athletics track 1x MUGA. 75% full size. Artificial turf
Are these facilities available for community use?	Yes
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	All facilities available for community use evenings and weekends (Mon to Thurs 5.00-10.00 p.m., Fri 5.00-7.00 p.m., Sat 9.00-12.00, Sun 9.00-2.00) Totals 30 hours per week
How are community users supervised?	Managed by Sports Centre staff
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Block bookings
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	As a specialist sports college, the school encourages community use and sees it as an important aspect of integration with the local community. The school believes that generally speaking its facilities are suitable and adequate for community use.
Disability access?	All facilities have disability access
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Badminton 5-a-side football 11-a-side football Aerobics/keep fit Martial arts Rugby Hockey

	Netball Basketball Gymnastics
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SCHOOL: NUNTHORPE SCHOOL			
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x sports hall 1 x hall (for general school use) 1x Dance Studio	6 x tennis courts 6 x grass pitches	
Are these facilities available for community use?	All facilities are available for community use		
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	Sports hall and dance studio 20 hours per week Grass pitches: 12 hours per week (both evenings and weekends)		
How are community users supervised?	Caretaker opens/locks up, but largely down to group hiring		
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Either weekly, termly or yearly in advance (no casual pay and play)		
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	Changing rooms in sport hall are a disgrace. Not attractive to the public. Not damaged, just general wear and tear.		
Disability access?	Yes		
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Badminton 5-a-side football 11-a-side football	Basketball Volleyball Aerobics/keep fit	Dance
Notes	The school does not believe that it has the range or quality of facilities currently to attract wider community use		

SCHOOL: GILBROOK TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE		
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x sports hall (4 badminton court size) 1 x hall (general school use)	1 x Drama studio 3 x grass pitches
Are these facilities available for community use?	Yes	
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	Gym and sports hall are used evenings Monday to Friday between 5.00-10.00 p.m. Grass pitches are used at weekends	
How are community users supervised?	Caretaker present, but largely down to groups hiring	
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Ad-hoc/termly	
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	Yes	
Disability access?	Yes	
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Badminton 5-a-side football 11-a-side football Aerobics/keep fit	Martial arts Hockey Netball Basketball Gymnastics
Notes	The school is a PFI rebuild. It does believe that public use of sports facilities is an important aspect of integration with the local community. However there are excellent public leisure facilities in the same area.	

SCHOOL: REDCAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE		
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x sports hall 1 x hall (general school use) 5 x tennis courts Dance studio Fitness studio	7 x grass pitches 1 x gym 1 x outdoor basketball court Drama studio/theatre
Are these facilities available for community use?	Yes, all	
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	30 hours per week	
How are community users supervised?	The site supervisor is always on site	
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Advance booking termly	
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	New changing rooms are of a high public standard. Other changing rooms in need of refurbishment. Generally facilities are very well used.	
Disability access?	Yes	
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Badminton 5-a-side football 11-a-side football Aerobics/keep fit	Martial arts Volleyball Netball Basketball Gymnastics
Notes	The school has an extensive programme of community use with 21 clubs active at the school. It is all programmed use, there is no individual booking system.	

SCHOOL: RYE HILLS SECONDARY SCHOOL	
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x sports hall (4 badminton court size) 3 x grass pitches 1 x hall (general school use) Full size artificial turf pitch
Are these facilities available for community use?	Yes
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	30 hours per week (grass pitches Sunday mornings, sports hall various times)
How are community users supervised?	School Caretaker is on site, but largely down to group hiring
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Advanced block booking termly
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	Yes. School only built 6 years ago. Rye Hills is a specialist sports college with a strong commitment to community use.
Disability access?	Yes
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Badminton 5-a-side football 11 a side football Hockey
Notes	

SCHOOL: SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x Sports Hall 1 x hall (general school use) 2 x grass pitches 4 x tennis courts
Are these facilities available for community use?	No community use
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	
How are community users supervised?	
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	
Disability access?	
Sports currently available for community use at the school	

SCHOOL: BYDALES	
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	1 x sports hall 1x Drama studio 6 tennis courts 3 football pitches

	3 hockey pitches (pitches become athletic track in summer)
Are these facilities available for community use?	Yes
If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	Weekdays 6.00-10.00 p.m. and weekends
How are community users supervised?	By qualified coaches where children are involved
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Block bookings through the School Secretary
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	Yes.
Disability access?	Yes
Sports currently available for community use at the school	11-a-side football Volleyball (junior and senior) Badminton Football Cricket Athletics

SCHOOL: FREEBROUGH	
What facilities do you have (indoor and outdoor)?	Sports Hall Drama suite 2x atrium areas 3x soccer pitches
Are these facilities available for community use?	Yes

If so, for how many hours per week, and at what times?	The school is moving into new premises in Brotton at the time of writing. Patterns of community use are still emerging
How are community users supervised?	Still to be decided
On what basis do people book (most common way)?	Still to be decided
Do you feel that the standard of your changing rooms and sports facilities are good enough to attract the public?	Yes
Disability access?	Yes
Sports currently available for community use at the school	Still to be decided

Appendix 9. Individual Comments from Groups and Organisations relating to Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities

Saltburn Area

- Not enough areas for young people in Saltburn
- Youth club should be used and developed for young people
- Footpaths neglected and poorly maintained
- Not easy for disabled to access Hazlegrove woods
- Facilities for young children are fine but nothing for older children
- Concern over continued existence of Saltburn pool
- There are enough open spaces
- There are poor footpaths in Saltburn

Guisborough Area

- Should be more leisure facilities that are available for the general public
- Inadequate provision for children's play areas
- Would like pitch and putt course in Guisborough and more parks
- Need new swimming pool in Guisborough
- Damage to countryside walks in Guisborough hills
- Footpaths generally good
- Enough open space but no ball games allowed
- Need a new improved swimming pool
- King George playing field needs to be improved

Loftus Area

- Loftus swimming pool is under used
- Loftus town hall could be better used
- Not much for young people to do in Loftus
- Too much dog fouling in Loftus
- Good provision for youth but not for elderly
- Enough outdoor facilities
- Village/community halls are lifeblood of the county
- Not enough bridleways
- Do not want Loftus leisure centre to close

Skelton Area

- Poor access for the disabled in parks/open spaces
- Needs some provision for rugby
- Access to school sports facilities declining
- Indoor sports provision – school closed, land sold off for housing – no play areas

Brotton Area

- Not enough playing fields and outdoor facilities
- Play areas adequate
- Village halls too small for usage

Redcar Area

- Disabled car park too far from Kirkleatham museum entrance
- Need a swimming pool in Redcar
- Misuse of disabled car parking in Redcar
- More outdoor facilities needed across Kirkleatham
- Not enough facilities for young children
- Too much open space used for housing
- Coatham marsh excellent
- Vandalism a problem
- Poor access for disabled people
- Zetland park could be better utilised
- More use made of school playing fields
- Inadequate small children play areas
- More after school clubs needed
- Need indoor 5-a-side, netball, badminton
- Not enough playing fields other than outdoor facilities

Marske Areas

- Good access to Errington woods
- Some good footpaths and public rights of way
- Would like indoor facilities developed in Marske

Nunthorpe Area

- Not enough indoor sports facilities in Nunthorpe
- Footpaths well maintained
- More indoor/outdoor facilities needed for young people

Normanby Area

- Concerned about loss of James Finnegan Hall
- Dog fouling a problem in Normanby

Appendix 10. Viewfinder Summer 2005 – Green Space Strategy Survey – Analysis of findings

4. GREEN SPACE STRATEGY - RESULTS

Key findings

- 35% of respondents stated that they or other members of their household use public open space in Redcar and Cleveland at least once a week.
- The majority of people felt that local communities should be involved in the management of parks and open spaces (70%).
- Just over three quarters of respondents (76%) thought that biodiversity was an important issue to incorporate into the management of the Borough's green and open spaces.
- 73% of panel members thought that we should be encouraging and investing in more natural wildlife, species and habitats on coastal sites.
- 47% of panel members thought that we should be encouraging and investing in more natural wildlife, species and habitats on the urban fringe.

- 4.1** The Council is preparing the Borough's first Green Space Strategy. The overall aim of the strategy will be to consider how green spaces in Redcar and Cleveland can be improved for the benefit of individuals, communities and the Borough as a whole. As part of a major consultation exercise being carried out by the Council, questions were included in the survey providing the first stage in the process.

Viewfinder members were asked to state how often they or any other members of their household use public open space in Redcar and Cleveland. The highest percentage of respondents (35% - 465 respondents) stated at least once a week. Other responses to this question are shown below.

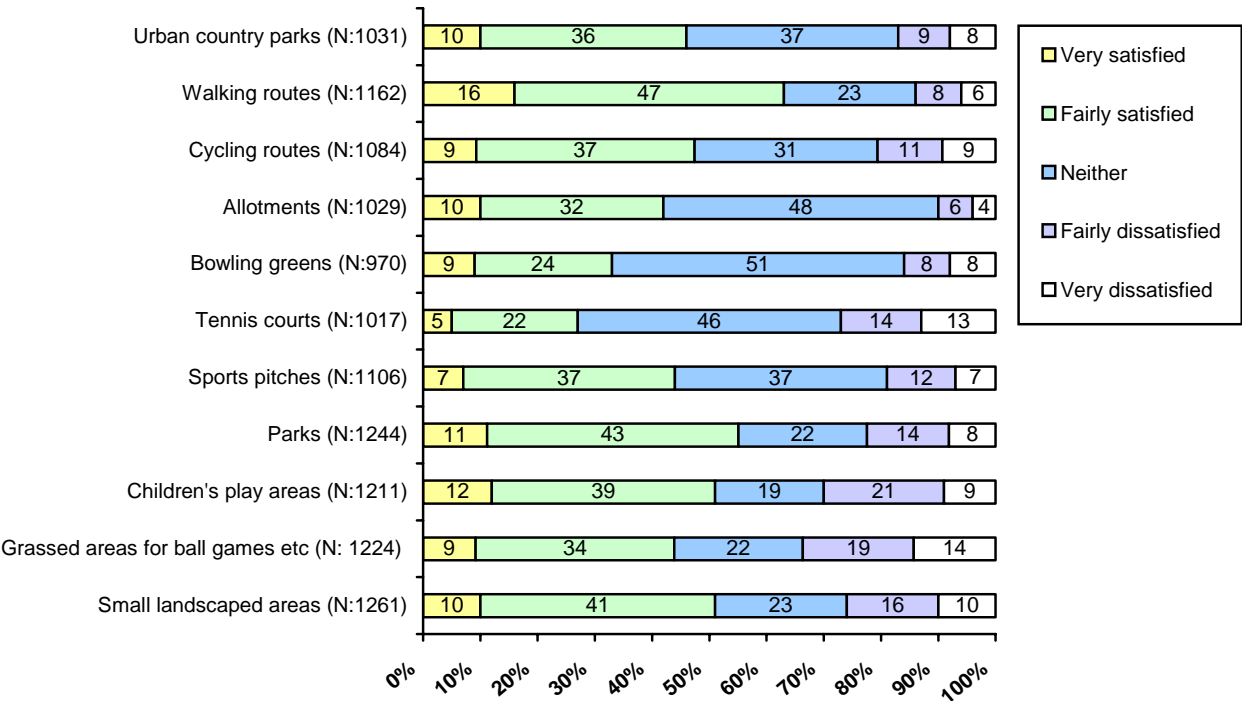
Question 1.1 How often do you or any other members of your household use public open space in Redcar and Cleveland? (No. of respondents =1314)

- Almost every day - 28% (368 respondents)
- At least once a week - 35% (465 respondents)
- About once a month - 13% (169 respondents)
- Never - 11% (142 respondents)
- Within the last six months - 8% (104 respondents)
- Within the last year - 5% (66 respondents)

- 4.2** The detailed results showed that panel members within the 25 to 34 year old age group used public open space most often, 44% of respondents within this age group stated that they use it either every day or at least once a week. Panel members who belonged to the 75 to 84 year old age group and 85+ group were less likely to use public open space, with 5% of responses from these age groups in total.
- 4.3** The types of areas most likely to be visited on a daily basis were grassed open space in a residential area (30%), walking route (20%), and public parks for walking or running (17%).

- 4.4 The areas that were least likely to be used or visited were bowling greens (93%), rugby pitches (88%), cricket pitches (85%), tennis courts, (85%) and golf course /driving ranges (82%).
- 4.5 Respondents were asked to state the name of the nearest area of open space within walking distance from their home and the full list of responses are shown in appendix one.
- 4.6 Panel members were then asked how often they used their nearest area of open space and 33% said they use or visit it at least once a week.
- 4.7 Panel members were asked how satisfied or dissatisfied they are with the level of provision of open space within their local area/neighbourhood, and results are shown in chart 4.1.

Chart 4.1: How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the level of provision of the following types of open space in your local area/neighbourhood? (Percentages based on the number of respondents who completed the questions. Results do not include those respondents who answered ‘Not Sure’)



= Number of respondents

N

- 4.8 The majority of panel members (70% - 941 respondents) stated that they think local communities should be involved in the management of parks and open spaces.

- 4.9** The majority of respondents (76% - 1015 respondents) stated that they think biodiversity is an important issue to incorporate into the management of the Borough's urban green spaces.
- 4.10** When panel members were asked where they think we should be encouraging more natural wildlife, species and habitats in the Borough the responses were:
- Coastal sites - 73% (977 respondents)
 - Open countryside - 71% (953 respondents)
 - Urban parks - 55% (737 respondents)
 - Urban green spaces - 52% (695 respondents)
 - Urban fringe - 47% (632 respondents)

GREEN SPACE STRATEGY - RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.11** Results have shown that in terms of the Green Space Strategy, community involvement in the management of parks and open spaces is important to residents.
- 4.12** People from the younger age categories tend to use public open space most often and open space appears to be used most often in residential areas for leisure purposes more than for sporting activities. Walking in particular is a popular activity.

Appendix 11. Viewfinder Survey Winter 2006 – Leisure Needs - Analysis of findings

8. Leisure Needs Strategy

8.1 Background Information

The Council is currently carrying out a leisure needs assessment for the Borough. This will collect information about the type, amount and location of leisure/recreational and open space facilities required to meet the needs of local people. The study is recommended by the Government as the basis for establishing local planning policies and for determining standards of leisure provision.

An essential part of the process is consultation with a range of groups and organisations, including the Viewfinder panel, to establish a clear picture of current and future leisure needs within the Borough.

A great deal of analysis has been carried out in relation to these questions, but only a summary has been included within this report. Detailed analysis has been passed to consultants for inclusion in the Leisure needs assessment. For a copy of this analysis, please contact the Policy and Research Team.

Q8.1 Please indicate the type of local leisure facility within Redcar & Cleveland Borough that you visit or use MOST OFTEN.

Respondents were asked to indicate the type of leisure facility within Redcar & Cleveland that they visit most often. Responses were varied with over one in ten respondents indicating the countryside/woodland areas (14%), footpaths (13%), local parks (12%) and beaches (11%), as places they visit most often.

Q8.6 Please indicate the MAIN reason why you visit or use this leisure facility.

When respondents were asked to indicate their main reason for visiting these facilities, the most popular reasons were to walk/walk the dog (32%), to exercise (28%) and to enjoy the environment (18%).

Q8.12 How long would you normally be prepared to travel to visit the following types of open space and sports facilities?

Q8.13 Please also tick whether you would prefer to walk, cycle, drive or use other forms of transport.

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they would like to visit a list of facilities and if so, how long they would be willing to travel to visit several types of open space and sports facilities, and how would they prefer to travel there.

The great majority of respondents would like to visit green and open spaces in nature such as

- local parks (89%),
- countryside/woodland areas (89%),
- beaches (89%),
- country parks (86%)
- natural reserves or wildlife areas (83%)
- and footpaths (82%).

The majority of respondents would also like to visit outdoors areas to sit and socialise and indoor sports facilities such as

- indoor swimming pools (69%),
- paved areas for walking/sitting (67%),

- indoor sports/leisure centres (64%),
- areas to sit out/ play ball games (59%),
- village halls/community centres (55%)
- and recreation grounds/village greens (52%).

Least popular facilities, where less than a third of respondents said they would like to visit, mainly included outdoor organised sports facilities. These included tennis and netball courts/bowling (29%), other outdoor sports (27%), outdoor water-sports facilities (24%), golf courses (19%), allotments (18%) and artificial turf pitches ('astros') (17%).

Respondents who indicated that they would like to use these facilities were asked to also indicate how long they would be willing to travel to visit several types of open space and sports facilities, and how would they prefer to travel there.

From the analysis of the responses, four groups of facilities were identified, based on the distance respondents were willing to travel to get to these. These included:

1. Facilities within a short travelling distance
2. Facilities within a medium travelling distance
3. Facilities within a long travelling distance
4. Facilities with a varied range of travelling distance

1. Facilities within a short travelling distance

These are facilities where three out of four users are willing to travel for up to 15 minutes to get there. Table 1 shows the percentage of respondents who said they would be willing to travel up to 15 minutes to get there and their main and secondary preferred mode of travel. The main mode of travel for all of these facilities is walking, with the exception of cyclepaths where the majority would rather cycle there.

Table 1. Facilities within a short travelling distance
(valid % - users only)

	Up to 15 mins %	Mode of travel
equipped children's play areas	74	76% walk - 20% drive
recreation ground/village green	75	78% walk - 19% drive
Cyclepaths	75	72% cycle – 19% walk
Footpaths	73	86% walk
paved areas for walking sitting	72	84% walk
Allotments	77	70% walk – 28% drive
village halls/com. centres	73	67% walk – 31% drive
school facilities - indoor	71	61% walk – 38% drive
school facilities - outdoor	72	63% walk – 37% drive

2. Facilities within a medium travelling distance

These are facilities where 75% of users or more are willing to travel for 6 – 30 minutes. Table 2 shows the percentage of respondents who said they would be willing to travel 6 – 30 minutes to get there and their main and secondary preferred mode of travel. In this category of facilities within medium travelling distance, there are 2 distinct sub-categories:

A) Facilities for informal playing/socialising/resting: These include areas to sit out/play ball games; playing fields for pitch sports; local parks; and cemeteries & churchyards and the majority of respondents would rather walk there.

B) Facilities for organised sports: These include tennis/netball/bowling, artificial turf pitches, indoor sports/leisure centres; and indoor swimming pools and the majority of respondents would rather drive there. Equipment necessary for these organised sports could be influencing the choice of mode of travel.

Table 2. Facilities within a medium travelling distance
(valid % - users only)

	6 – 30 minutes %	Walk %	Drive %
areas sit out/play ball games	70	70	23
playing fields	81	68	29
local parks	77	67	29
cemeteries & churchyards	76	54	44
tennis/netball/ bowling	83	44	52
artificial turf	74	23	73
indoor sports leisure centres	83	22	72
indoor swimming pools	84	19	77

3. Facilities within a long travelling distance

These are facilities where 70%+ of users are willing to travel for more than 16 minutes. Table 3 shows the percentage of respondents who said they would be willing to travel more than 16 minutes to get there and their main and secondary preferred mode of travel. The majority of respondents would rather drive to these facilities

Table 3. Facilities within a long travelling distance
(valid % - users only)

	16+ minutes %	Walk %	Drive %
country parks	74	21	74
countryside/woodland areas	70	29	64
nature reserves/wildlife areas	81	21	74
golf courses	78	9	90
outdoor watersports facilities	76	10	86

4. Facilities with a varied travelling distance

These are facilities where users were willing to travel a variety of distances to visit the facilities. The facilities include: bridleways; other outdoor sports facilities; beaches and large indoor facilities. These varied results reflect variations between the responses from the 6 Area Environment Committees.

Table 8.4. Facilities with varied travelling distances
(valid % - users only)

	Up to 5 mins	6-15 mins	16-30 mins	30+ mins	walk	drive	cycle
bridleways	20	38	23	18	62	24	12
other outdoor sports	4	28	38	30	20	73	5
Beaches	7	29	35	29	28	69	2
large indoor facilities	3	27	42	28	15	81	2

Q8.1 Please indicate the type of local leisure facility within Redcar & Cleveland Borough that you visit or use MOST OFTEN. (Please tick ✓ one box only)

	%		%
Local parks	12	Nature reserves or wildlife areas	4
Equipped Children's Play Areas	7	Paved areas for walking/sitting	3
Playing Fields for pitch sports	2	Cemeteries and churchyards	3
Recreation Ground / Village green	2	Allotments	2
Tennis and netball courts/bowling	*	Artificial turf pitches ('astros')	-
Area to sit out in / play ball games	*	Golf courses	2
Cycle paths	3	Other outdoor sports	*
Footpaths	13	Outdoor water sports facilities	*
Bridleways	1	Beaches	11
Country Parks	2	Village halls/community centres	2
Countryside/ Woodland areas	14	Indoor sports/leisure centres	6
Large indoor facilities, e.g. indoor tennis centres & bowling rinks	1	Indoor swimming pools	9
Other (please specify)	2		

Q8.2 Could you please estimate how far the leisure facility you mentioned in Q8.1 is from your home? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Up to ¼ mile	¼ to ½ mile	½ to 1 mile	1 to 3 miles	More than 3 miles	I don't know
27%	15%	14%	22%	19%	2%

Q8.3 How do you usually travel to this leisure facility? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Walk	Car, van, motorcycle	Bus/train	Bicycle	Other (please specify below)
49%	43%	4%	3%	1%

Q8.4 And using the method of transport mentioned above, how long does it take you to reach this leisure facility? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Up to 5 minutes	6 to 15 minutes	16 to 30 minutes	More than 30 minutes	Not sure
32%	49%	15%	4%	1%

Q8.5 How often do you visit this leisure facility? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

	Almost every day %	At least once a week %	At least once a fortnight %	At least once a month %	Less than that %	Not sure/ varies %
In the winter	15	31	14	17	15	9
In the spring	21	38	15	12	8	7
In the summer	28	40	13	9	5	6
In the autumn	21	37	14	13	7	7

Q8.6 Please indicate the MAIN reason why you visit or use this leisure facility.
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

To walk/walk the dog	32%	To visit a children's play area	9%
To exercise (play sports, use sports facilities, cycle, jog)	28%	To enjoy the environment (e.g. wildlife, floral displays)	18%
To play informally (e.g. ball games, kites, etc.), sit and relax (e.g. take your lunch break), socialise etc.	5%	Other (please specify)	9%

Q8.7 How long do you usually spend there? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Less than 30 minutes	30 minutes to 1 hour	1 to 2 hours	2 to 4 hours	More than 4 hours	It depends
9%	43%	32%	11%	1%	4%

Q8.8 Are you a parent or guardian of a child(ren) aged up to 12 years?

(Please tick ✓ one box only)

Yes 24%

No 76%

Q8.9 If yes, for how long are you prepared to walk with your child(ren) to a play area?

(Please tick ✓ one box only) (% of only those who are parents/guardians)

Up to 5 minutes	6 to 15 minutes	16 to 30 minutes	More than 30 minutes
9%	55%	21%	15%

Q8.10 Are you a parent or guardian of a child(ren) aged 12 to 18 years? (Please tick ✓ one box)

Yes 15%

No 85%




Q8.11 If yes, for how long do you think they would be prepared to walk to an open space to meet their friends, play sports, skateboard etc.? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Up to 5 minutes	6 to 15 minutes	16 to 30 minutes	More than 30 minutes
16%	59%	19%	6%

Q8.12 How long would you normally be prepared to travel to visit the following types of open space and sports facilities?

Q8.13 Please also tick whether you would prefer to walk, cycle, drive or use other forms of transport. We would like your views on all the facilities listed.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO VISIT ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES PLEASE TICK 'DO NOT WISH TO VISIT' BOX AND CONTINUE WITH THE NEXT FACILITY

	DO NOT wish to visit	Q8.11 Time I am prepared to spend travelling				Q8.12 Preferred Method of Travel			
		(Please tick ✓ one box on this column for each line) (% - only those who visit)				(Please tick ✓ one box on this column for each line) (% - only those who visit)			
	%	Up to 5 mins	6 to 15 mins	16 to 30 mins	More than 30min	Walk 	Drive/ car 	Cycle 	Other (please specify)
Local Parks	11	12	47	30	11	67	29	4	1
Equipped Children's Play Areas	53	19	56	19	6	76	20	3	1
Playing Fields for pitch sports	65	13	52	29	5	68	29	3	-
Recreation Ground / Village green	48	20	55	18	7	78	19	2	*
Tennis and netball courts/bowling	71	5	53	30	11	44	52	4	1
Area to sit out in / play ball games	41	20	49	21	10	70	23	6	*
Cycle paths	55	37	38	16	10	19	8	72	*
Footpaths	18	39	34	15	12	86	12	1	*
Bridleways	50	20	38	23	18	62	24	12	1
Country Parks	14	5	21	41	33	21	74	4	2
Countryside/ Woodland areas	11	5	24	40	30	29	64	6	1
Nature reserves or wildlife areas	17	3	16	39	42	21	74	4	2
Paved areas for walking/sitting	33	26	46	19	9	84	15	*	1
Cemeteries and churchyards	54	12	42	34	13	54	44	2	*
Allotments	82	25	52	16	7	70	28	3	-
Artificial turf pitches ('astros')	83	8	27	47	19	24	73	3	1
Golf courses	81	4	17	47	31	9	90	1	-
Other outdoor sports	73	4	28	38	30	20	73	5	3
Outdoor water sports facilities	76	2	22	31	45	10	86	3	2
Beaches	11	7	29	35	29	28	69	2	2
Village halls/community centres	45	24	49	19	8	67	31	1	1
Indoor sports/leisure centres	36	5	53	30	12	22	72	5	2
Indoor swimming pools	31	6	50	34	10	19	77	3	2
Large indoor facilities, e.g. indoor tennis centres & bowling rinks	60	3	27	42	28	15	81	2	2
School facilities – indoors	60	19	52	19	10	61	38	1	-
School facilities - outdoors	65	19	53	19	9	63	37	*	-

Q9.14 In general, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the general provision of the following in Redcar & Cleveland? (Please tick ✓ one box on each line)

	DO NOT use %	Very satisfied %	Fairly satisfied %	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied %	Fairly dissatisfied %	Very dissatisfied %
Bridleways	56	16	54	23	5	2
Local nature reserves & wildlife areas	24	22	53	18	5	1
Paved areas for walking & sitting (e.g. market squares, promenades)	15	14	57	16	11	2
Cemeteries and churchyards	41	16	55	23	5	1
Artificial turf pitches ('astros') for football, hockey etc.	75	8	26	51	12	3
Golf courses	73	12	32	44	9	3
Outdoor water sports facilities	76	7	22	46	15	11
Beaches	13	25	54	14	6	2
Village halls	52	14	45	32	6	2
Leisure centres	36	15	49	18	12	5
Indoor swimming pools	36	12	35	16	21	16
Large indoor facilities (e.g. indoor tennis centres & bowling rinks)	63	8	28	32	21	11
School facilities – indoor	63	17	43	35	4	1
School facilities – outdoor	66	15	41	38	5	1