

## Schedule 2: Consultation Findings

Residents were asked for their views on a range of facility issues in spring 2011 and previously in the autumn of 2010.

A summary of findings from the 360 responses received in April 2011 is set out below:

### **Q1 Do you think there are enough sport and recreation facilities in your local area?**

Yes - about right 53%

Yes - more than needed 3%

No - there is less than needed 38%

No response 6%

### **Q1a If no, please state what additional facilities are needed**

Just under 38% of respondents (136 people) replied there were less facilities than needed in their local area. There were a range of general and specific suggestions of what additional facilities are needed, the top 5 suggestions being:

Playing fields	19 responses
Swimming pools/leisure waters	12 responses
Indoor sports centres/ hall	12 responses
Tennis/ball courts	10 responses
Outdoor Water sports	9 responses

There were also comments relating to the need for local facilities being available for sports clubs and for specific community groups

### **Q2 How would you rate the condition of sport and recreation facilities in your local area?**

Poor 15%

Adequate 40%

Good 42%

Excellent 3%

15% of people considered their local facilities to be in poor condition; the remainder felt they were at least adequate.

**Q3 Are your local sport and recreation facilities easily accessible and regularly available for use?**

Yes 70%

No 16%

Don't know 14%

Just over 70% of respondents felt their local facilities were easily accessible and available for use; about 16% thought they were not.

**Q4 What approach do you think should be taken to increase the sport and recreation opportunities in the borough?**

Respondents were asked to select two approaches. The list shows the percentage of respondents who included the particular approach in their top two:

Keep all current sport and recreation facilities 28%

Focus resources on existing facilities that are highly valued and used by the community 41%

Identify low value and low use facilities that could be closed or used for other purposes 19%

Increase the capacity of existing facilities to meet current and future needs 51%

Provide new local facilities 22%

Provide a major new sports venue 12%

Don't know 3%

'Increase the capacity of existing facilities to meet current and future needs' was highlighted by the most number of people in their top 2 choices, followed by 'focus resources on existing facilities that are highly valued and used by the community'.

**Q5 A detailed study of local facilities and previous consultation has identified the following priorities. Which of the following do you think the plan should focus on?**

Respondents were asked to select the top five priorities. The table shows the percentage of respondents who included the particular priority in their top five:

Maintain and, if possible, improve community swimming pools	55.6%
Enhance access to school sports facilities for community use	50.7%
Plan for long term major refurbishment of council owned facilities, in particular the Aquadrome and Tadley Pool	46.1%
Develop the Basingstoke Rugby Club clubhouse at Down Grange to increase capacity and develop educational links	35%
Maintain and, if possible, improve existing ice rink	33.5%
Enhance the Active Life Centre to increase the range of activities offered	24.6%
Enhance access to fitness facilities (gyms) in rural areas	22.1%
Develop a new canoe facility at Odiham Wharf	20.3%
Develop additional outdoor public tennis courts	19.2%
Develop additional artificial turf pitches	17.5%
Enhance the Indoor Tennis Centre to improve access to tennis	13.2%
Develop additional senior and junior grass pitches	12.6%
Develop a multi-sport pavilion in Overton to meet identified need	11.5%
Develop additional bowls facilities	8.3%
Investigate opportunities to improve facilities at Barlow's Plantation site in Tadley	7.4%

**Q6 Looking further ahead what 'major' facilities do you think are needed in the borough in the next 10 to 15 years? (Please tick up to three that you feel are needed)**

Respondents were asked to select the top three facilities needed. The table shows the percentage of respondents who included the particular facility in their top three:

Multi-functional community stadium	35.8%
Indoor multi-functional sports arena	31.5%
Major sports complex including other features listed	28.1%
None	27.5%
Indoor snow dome	22.8%
Enlarged Aquadrome	18.2%
Outdoor ski slope	18.2%
Another swimming pool	17%
Indoor sports hall	15.4%

Extreme sports centre	14.8%
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## Other Comments

Respondents were invited to add additional comments or expand on their answers. There were a diverse range of comments relating to specific personal circumstances, geographic locations and individual facilities as well as broader generic views.

An overview of the main comments is presented below:

Theme	Overview
<b>General</b>	Recurring themes included ensuring facilities offer opportunities for older people and people with disabilities; the importance of local/neighbourhood facilities, promoting use of open spaces for casual recreation and ensuring current facilities are maintained properly. The need for low cost participation options was expressed while there were also views that users should pay the full cost of leisure facilities with any subsidy related to need.
<b>Swimming Pools</b>	There were a few comments about having additional pools, a 50m pool and diving provision; the majority of comments related to cost, times of access for public swimming vs club use and the general visitor experience at existing facilities.
<b>Major sports complex / stadium</b>	There were differing views ranging from ' We don't need shiny new 'arenas' 'complexes' or 'stadiums' - improve what we already have please' to 'A major sports complex and community stadium would benefit a diverse range of the local population. Additional revenue would be brought into the Borough and inspire future generations to come'. Overall the trend is in favour of one multi functional complex providing a mix of sporting and recreational opportunities.
<b>Ice Rink</b>	The value of the Ice rink to the Town was expressed strongly but there were several observations about investment and refurbishment required.

## Previous Consultation Feedback

The first stage of consultation ran from between October and November 2010. Over 350 responses were received from local residents, sports clubs, facility managers, schools and parish councils. The consultation findings were used to develop a number of priorities that are now being used to develop the final master plan. A summary of the findings is provided below:

## **Residents Participation Survey**

240 questionnaires returned

- 82% of respondents rated local sport and recreation facilities as 'good' or 'excellent'
- 70% consider the quantity of facilities is adequate
- 80% of respondents are prepared to travel up to 20 minutes (walking, cycling, driving and public transport) to sport and leisure facilities
- The main barrier to respondents not participating more in sport or physical activity is lack of time

## **Sports Club Survey**

46 Clubs completed questionnaires

- Membership of sports clubs in the borough is increasing
- 75% of clubs rate the facilities they use as 'good' or 'excellent'
- 50% of clubs consider the quantity of facilities is adequate (compared with 70% of residents)
- 40% of clubs will require alternative facilities in the next 3-5 years

## **Sports Sector Conference**

65 delegates attended the conference representing the private, voluntary and education sectors.

- Sports clubs are willing to explore shared use of facilities
- Improved access to school sports facilities at all schools is essential
- Collective effort is needed to increase participation providing a wide range of opportunities for people to get involved
- Organisations need help with long term viability and sustainability, particularly those who manage facilities
- The sector needs to look at different ways of working in the future