



SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT FACILITIES STUDY

NEEDS ASSESSMENT: DRAFT REPORT MARCH 2025

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) has been appointed to produce an Indoor and Built Facilities Study (IBFS) for Surrey Heath Borough Council. This work will provide key evidence to support the delivery of Policies set out within the Surrey Heath Local Plan (2019 – 2038).

KKP undertook SHBCs previous Indoor and Built Facilities Needs Assessment in 2016. Notable changes since the completion of the previous study include the provision of a replacement leisure centre in Camberley, which includes two swimming pools, a large sports hall, and a modern health and fitness offer.

With regard to producing the updated IBFS, the Council's stated objectives are to:

- ◀ Provide supporting evidence base for the delivery of policies set out within the Surrey Heath Local Plan 2019-2038.
- ◀ Evaluate the levels of indoor and built facilities required in the period up to 2038 based on: Sport England's principles of 'Protect, Enhance and Provide'; the level of growth identified in, and the specific needs of, Surrey Heath's community.
- ◀ Assess the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of indoor and built sports provision within the Borough including, where relevant, reference to facilities available to residents which lie in close proximity within neighbouring authorities.
- ◀ Ensure that strategic recommendations take into account the County's wider physical activity priorities, as set out within the [Surrey Heath Physical Activity Strategy 2022-2027](#);
- ◀ Make recommendations to address key issues and gaps in provision (including where investment is needed).

The following facilities are included as part of the audit:

- ◀ Sports halls (including netball courts).
- ◀ Swimming pools.
- ◀ Health and fitness suites.
- ◀ Indoor bowls.
- ◀ Specialist/dedicated facilities for tennis, gymnastics, dance/aerobics studios, squash and netball (outdoor).

The audit was conducted between September-November 2024. Where access was not available KKP carried out non-technical quality assessments via desk research. Where possible the quality of this was supplemented utilising virtual 'walk arounds' of the health and fitness suites or videos and photos present on operators' websites or in discussion with operators.

1.2: Scope of the project

This report provides detail about what exists in Surrey Heath, its condition, location, availability and overall quality. It considers demand based on population distribution, planned growth, and takes account of health and economic deprivation. In delivering this report KKP has:

- ◀ Individually audited identified sports halls (conventional i.e., 3+ court halls), swimming pools (minimum size 160m²), health and fitness facilities (including, within reason, dance studios), squash courts, indoor bowls facilities, indoor tennis courts,
- ◀ Analysed supply and demand to identify gaps and opportunities to improve provision.
- ◀ Sought to identify the extent to which delivery of leisure facilities is undertaken with full reference to the corporate strategies of the Council and other relevant strategic influences.
- ◀ Identified areas of good practice and opportunities for improved service in order to drive up participation levels.

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

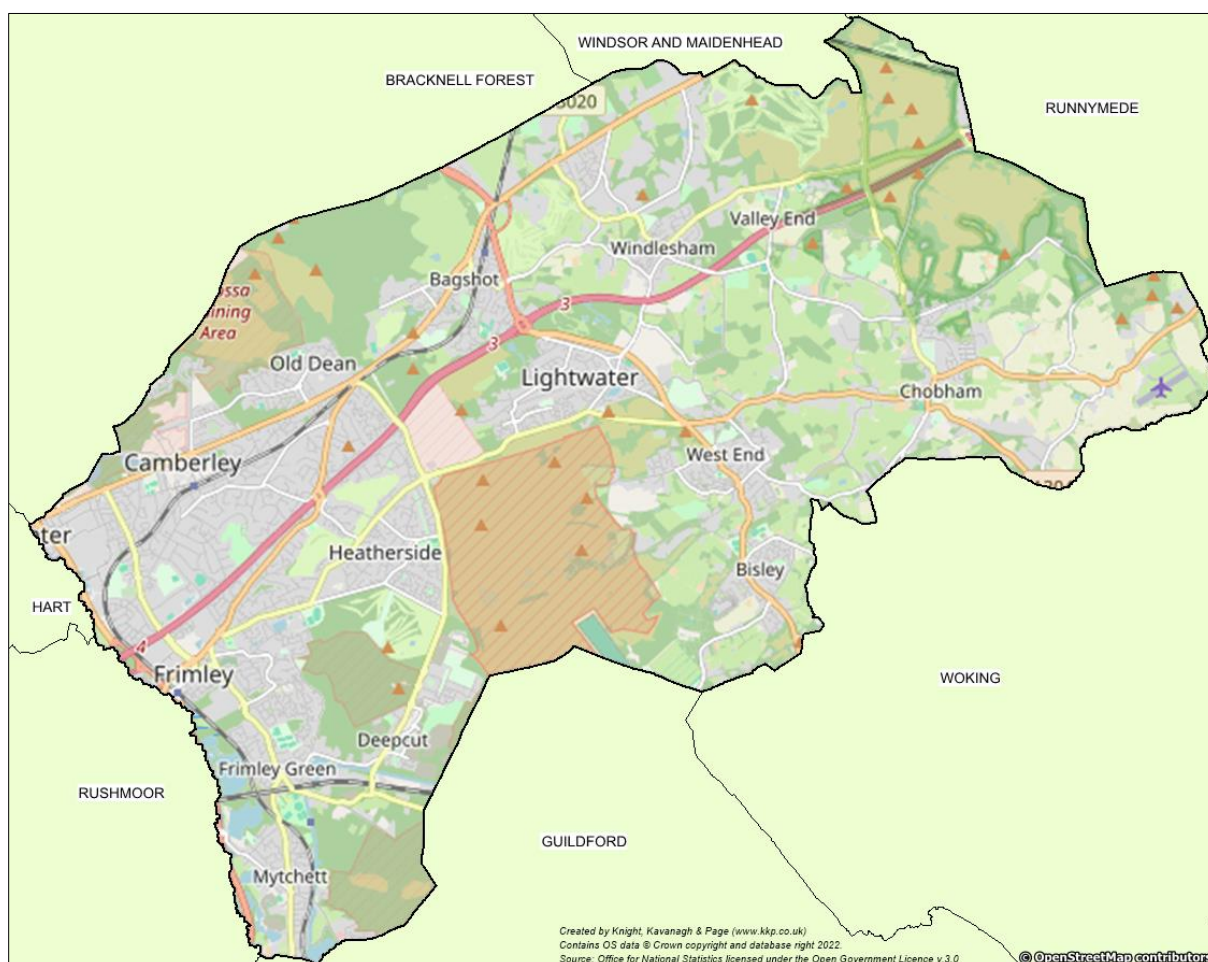
- ▶ Review relevant Council strategies, plans, reports, corporate objectives.
- ▶ Review the local, regional, and national strategic context.
- ▶ Demographic analysis of the local population at present and in the future (up to 2040).
- ▶ Audit indoor facilities provided by public, private, voluntary and education sectors.
- ▶ Consider potential participation rates and model likely demand.
- ▶ Analyse the balance between supply of, and demand for, sports facilities plus identification of potential under and over-provision – now and in the future.
- ▶ Identify key issues to address in the future provision of indoor sports facilities.

This process follows the Assessment Needs and Opportunities Guidance (ANOG) methodology for assessing indoor sports need, developed by Sport England. It also accords with relevant paragraphs of the most up-to-date version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

1.3: Background

The authority of Surrey Heath Borough is located to the southwest of London, just outside the M25 motorway.

Figure 1.1: Surrey Heath with main roads and neighbouring authorities



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Its main urban areas are to the west of the Authority, around the settlements of Frimley and Camberley. It also contains a large amount (over 44%) of Green Belt. The rural areas of the Borough are largely characterised by heathland habitat; approximately 23% of land within Surrey Heath is nationally designated as part of the Thames Basin Heath's Special Protection Area (SPA), including Chobham Common (which is also a National Nature Reserve) and Lightwater Country Park, both of which are popular with local residents and visitors from neighbouring authorities. The SPA poses a significant constraint to development within the Borough.

In terms of access, the M3 dissects the Authority East to West, providing direct access to London (north) and Hampshire (south). Frimley and Camberley both have train stations which provide regular access into London, and the south (to towns including Guildford and Aldershot).

1.4: Report structure

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

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

KKP has paid due regard to these strategic principles and this needs assessment report is, thus, structured as follows:

- ◀ Section 2 - review of background policy documentation (national/regional/local) and a profile of the population and socio-demographic characteristics of the Authority.
- ◀ Section 3 - description of methodology employed to assess provision.
- ◀ Section 4 - assessment of sport halls provision.
- ◀ Section 5 - assessment of swimming pool provision.
- ◀ Section 6 - assessment of health and fitness provision.
- ◀ Section 7 - assessment of squash.
- ◀ Section 8 - assessment of indoor bowls.
- ◀ Section 9 – assessment of indoor tennis.
- ◀ Section 10 – assessment of gymnastics and trampolining.
- ◀ Section 11 – strategic recommendations.

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SECTION 2: BACKGROUND

2.1: National context

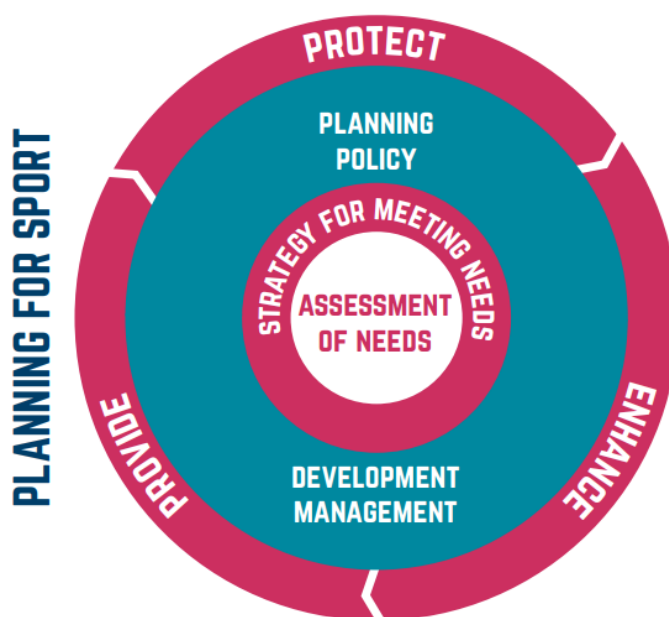
The Government [Get Active: A strategy for the future of sport and physical activity](#) has the focus on increasing physical activity, making sport more welcoming and inclusive, and ensuring the long-term financial and environmental sustainability of the sector. In addition, the recently launched cross-departmental National Physical Activity Taskforce has a focus on environmental sustainability in the sector, clear targets for increasing physical activity rates and a new vision for leisure facilities.

Get Active sets out how the government will work with the sector to achieve these aims by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to get active. Central to this is a focus on ensuring that children establish a lifetime of engagement with sport and physical activity. This is accompanied by the introduction of national targets for participation to help hold Government and the sector to account for delivering the change that is needed.

Sport England

Sport England aims to ensure positive planning for sport, enabling the right facilities to be provided in the right places, based on up-to-date assessment of needs for all levels of sport and all sectors of the community. This assessment report has been produced for SHBC applying the principles and tools identified in ANOG.

Figure 2.1: The Sport England Planning for Sport Model

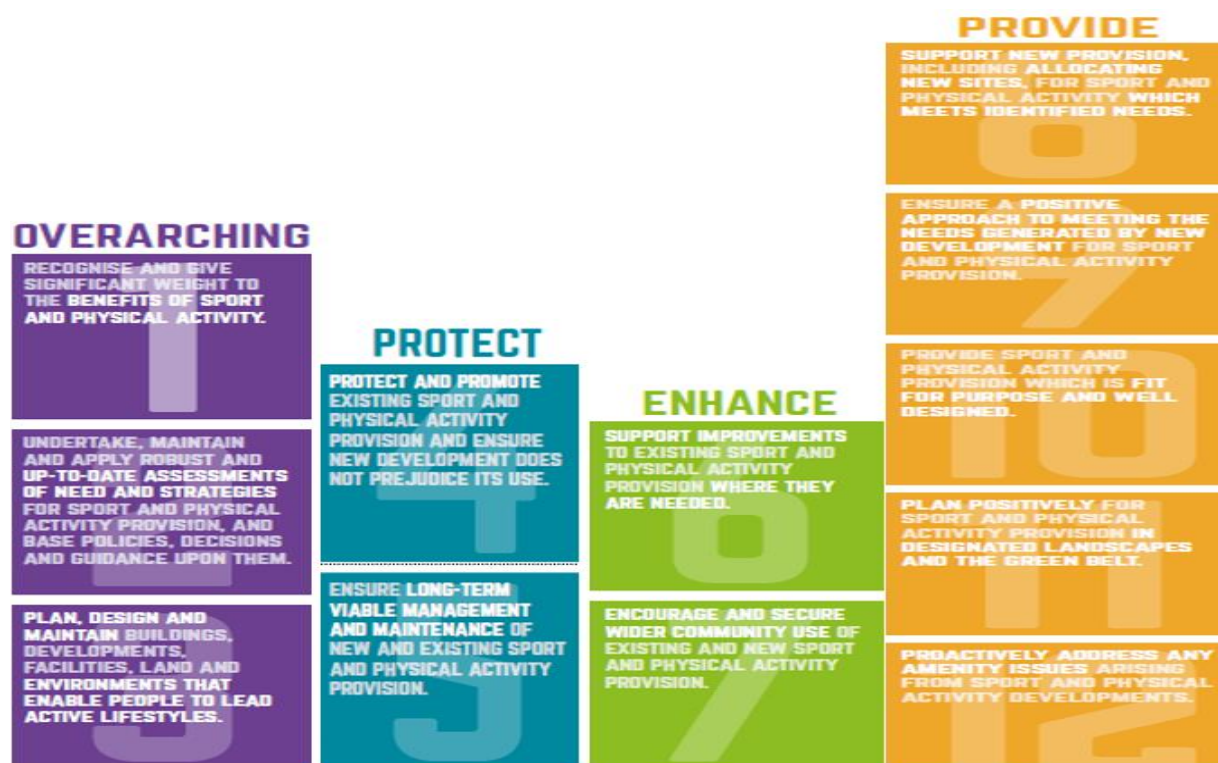


Assessment of need is core to planning for sporting provision. It is underpinned by 12 planning-for-sport principles which help the planning system to contribute to sustainable development by fulfilling the key role of the NPPF in creating strong, vibrant and healthy communities.

Applying them ensures that the planning system plans positively to enable and support healthy lifestyles, delivers community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs, and provides opportunity for all to experience the benefits that taking part in sport and physical activity brings. They apply to all areas of the planning system and to planning at local authority and neighbourhood levels.

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Figure 2.2: Sport England's 12 planning principles



Sport England: Uniting the Movement 2021

Sport and physical activity have a major role to play in improving the physical and mental health of the nation, supporting the economy, reconnecting communities, and rebuilding a stronger society for all following the global pandemic. Reflecting this, Sport England's Uniting the Movement strategy sets out its 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity.

It seeks to tackle the inequalities that it states are long seen in sport and physical activity noting that 'providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity, has never been more important'. The three key Strategy objectives are:

1. Advocating for movement, sport and physical activity.
2. Joining forces on five big issues.
3. Creating the catalysts for change.

As well as being an advocate for sport and physical activity, through the building of evidence and partnership development, the Strategy identifies five big issues that communities and people need to address by working together. They are described as the major challenges to England being an active nation over the next decade as well as being the main opportunities to make a lasting difference. They are designated as a building blocks that individually would make a difference but tackled collectively could change things profoundly. The issues are:

- ◀ Recover and reinvent: Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant, and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.
- ◀ Connecting communities: Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.

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- ◀ Positive experiences for children and young people: Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.
- ◀ Connecting with health and wellbeing: Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health, and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.
- ◀ Active environments: Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

To address these five big issues, the right conditions for change need to be created: across people, organisations, and partnerships to help convert plans and ideas. This will include a range of actions, including development of effective investment models and applying innovation and digital technology to ensure sport and physical activity are more accessible.

The specific impact of the Strategy will be captured via funded programmes, interventions made, and partnerships forged. For each specific area of action, key performance indicators will be developed to help evidence the overall progress being made by all those involved in supporting sport and physical activity.

Sport England: Understanding the impact of Covid-19 January 2021¹

Activity levels for adults had been increasing until coronavirus restrictions were introduced in March 2020. This led to unprecedented drops in activity during the first few weeks of full lockdown between mid-March and mid-May 2020. The proportion of the population classed as active dropped by 7.1% (meaning that there were just over 3 million fewer active adults).

Some audiences found it harder to be active before Covid-19 and are finding it hard now. Inequalities between different groups have persisted since lockdown restrictions began in March. Those who have found it hardest to stay active include:

- ◀ People with long-term health conditions/disabilities.
- ◀ People from lower socio-economic groups.
- ◀ Women aged 16–34-years-old and 55 years and above.
- ◀ Black adults, Asian adults, and adults from other minority ethnic groups

The proportion of children and young people reportedly active mid-May to late July 2021 fell by 2.3%, with just over 100,000 fewer meeting the recommended level of activity compared to the same period 12 months earlier. The impact was greater for some groups than others. Whilst all were impacted in terms of activity levels, girls fared better than boys, whilst those from black and mixed backgrounds saw more pronounced drops in activity levels.

Sporting activities saw large decreases with over a million fewer children and young people (16.3%) reporting having taken part in swimming and team sports in the last week compared to the same period 12 months earlier. Walking, cycling and fitness all saw substantial increases in numbers reporting having taken part in the last week compared to the same period 12 months earlier. 1.6 million more children and young people went for a walk (22.0%) or did fitness activities (22.1%), whilst 1.4 million more cycled for fun or fitness (+18.4%).

In addition, lack of disposable income may lead to a reduction in sports sector spend and can have an impact upon the take-up of activities which cater for children and young people as well as adults. Uncertain employment and financial circumstances mean that greater numbers of people will be looking for affordable and flexible opportunities to stay active. Fewer people will be in a position to make an ongoing financial commitment to participate.

¹ Link to Sport England - Understanding the impact of Covid-19 January 2021

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Total annual social value of sport and physical activity in England 2024²

Sport and physical activity are widely recognized for making people happier, healthier, and fostering stronger communities. That's why creating more opportunities for those who need them most is central to Sport England's Uniting the Movement strategy.

The social and economic value of community sport and physical activity in England 2020³ created an evidence base to better understand the value of taking part in sport and physical activity. Sport England, in partnership with social value experts State of Life, sports economists from the Sport Industry Research Centre (SIRC) at Sheffield Hallam University, and the Institute of Sport at Manchester Metropolitan University, developed an updated national model to quantify the social value of community sport and physical activity.

The October 2024 report breaks down the social and economic impact of community sport and physical activity into two parts. Part one focuses on the primary benefits, such as physical and mental health improvements, while part two explores the broader value to society.

Community sport and physical activity contributed £107.2 billion annually to the UK in 2023/2024 in both social and economic benefits. Of this, £96.7 billion is attributed to primary value, with individual wellbeing improvements driven by adult volunteering, youth participation, and adult participation. This underscores the profound impact of sport and physical activity on quality of life, as improved health and wellbeing positively influence relationships, social connections, and productivity.

It also generated £10.5bn in secondary value; of which £9.3bn is associated with the 'active population' and £1.2bn of the 'fairly active' population through reduced GP visits and mental health service usage. Over three million cases of non-communicable diseases or chronic health conditions were prevented, including depression (1.3 million cases), back pain (0.9 million) and type 2 diabetes (0.6 million).

There would be an estimated £15.6 billion more annual social value created by sport and physical activity if the wider adult population, including those with 1 or 2+ characteristics of inequality, were active at the same levels as those with zero characteristics of inequality. This would equate to over four million more 'active' adults in England.

Sport England: The Future of Public Sector Leisure

Engagement by Sport England with the public leisure sector has highlighted that the pandemic has accelerated the appetite for local authorities to look at leisure services and re-examine the purpose of their provision, delivery against local community outcomes and consider their alignment with broader strategic outcomes, particularly health. Key insight from the report ([Sport England: The Future of Public Sector Leisure](#)) includes:

- ◀ 68% of sports halls and swimming pools were built 20+ years ago. Although more than £150m was invested in the opening of new public leisure and swimming facilities in 2018/19⁴, with another £200m worth of assets in construction or planning, there remains significant levels of ageing public leisure stock.
- ◀ 72% of all school swimming lessons take place in a public leisure facility. This included the statutory learn to swim programme and the water safety curriculum across primary schools. Swimming club usage is also predominantly based at public leisure facilities.

² [Link to Sport and physical activity generates over £100 billion in social value | Sport England](#)

³ [Link to Social and physical value of community sport and physical activity in England 2020](#)

⁴ 2 Mintel Report on Leisure Centres and Swimming Pools (September 2019)

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The leisure sector emerged from the pandemic in a fragile state. Emergency funding⁵ helped to avert financial catastrophe and enabled the additional costs of maintaining public assets and reopening services to be met. This funding is, however, finite and is largely exhausted. At best, financial pressures risk limiting the ability of stakeholders to deliver against their commitments; at worst they may result in the permanent closure of some services or facilities.

In respect of the recovery of the sector to pre-Pandemic participation levels, data generated via the [Moving Communities](#) platform suggests that in October 2021, throughput levels (13.2 million) were still lower than the monthly average in 2019 (17.8 million). Recovery of participation levels across different activities has been imbalanced and has leaned towards those activities which deliver a faster return to pre-pandemic revenue levels.

Sites refurbished in the last 10 years are seeing a throughput recovery of 68% compared with a recovery of 62% for those last refurbished 20+ years ago, suggesting that investment in newer facilities creates spaces that have greater appeal, increase user confidence levels and provide a more relevant offer to meet current customer demands.

To address these significant challenges, a repositioning of the traditional offer of public leisure into one akin to an **active wellbeing service** is advocated focusing on added value and supporting delivery of key local priorities, alongside wider government policy around Levelling Up, net zero and health inequalities.

Chief Medical Officer Physical Activity Guidelines 2019

This updated the 2011 physical activity guidelines issued by the four chief medical officers (CMOs) of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. They drew upon global evidence to present guidelines for different age groups, covering the volume, duration, frequency and type of physical activity required across the life course to achieve health benefits.

Since 2011, evidence of the health benefits of regular physical activity for all groups has become more compelling. In children and young people, regular physical activity is associated with improved learning and attainment, better mental health and cardiovascular fitness, also contributing to healthy weight status. In adults, there is strong evidence to demonstrate the protective effect on physical activity on a range of many chronic conditions including coronary heart disease, obesity and type 2 diabetes, mental health problems and social isolation.

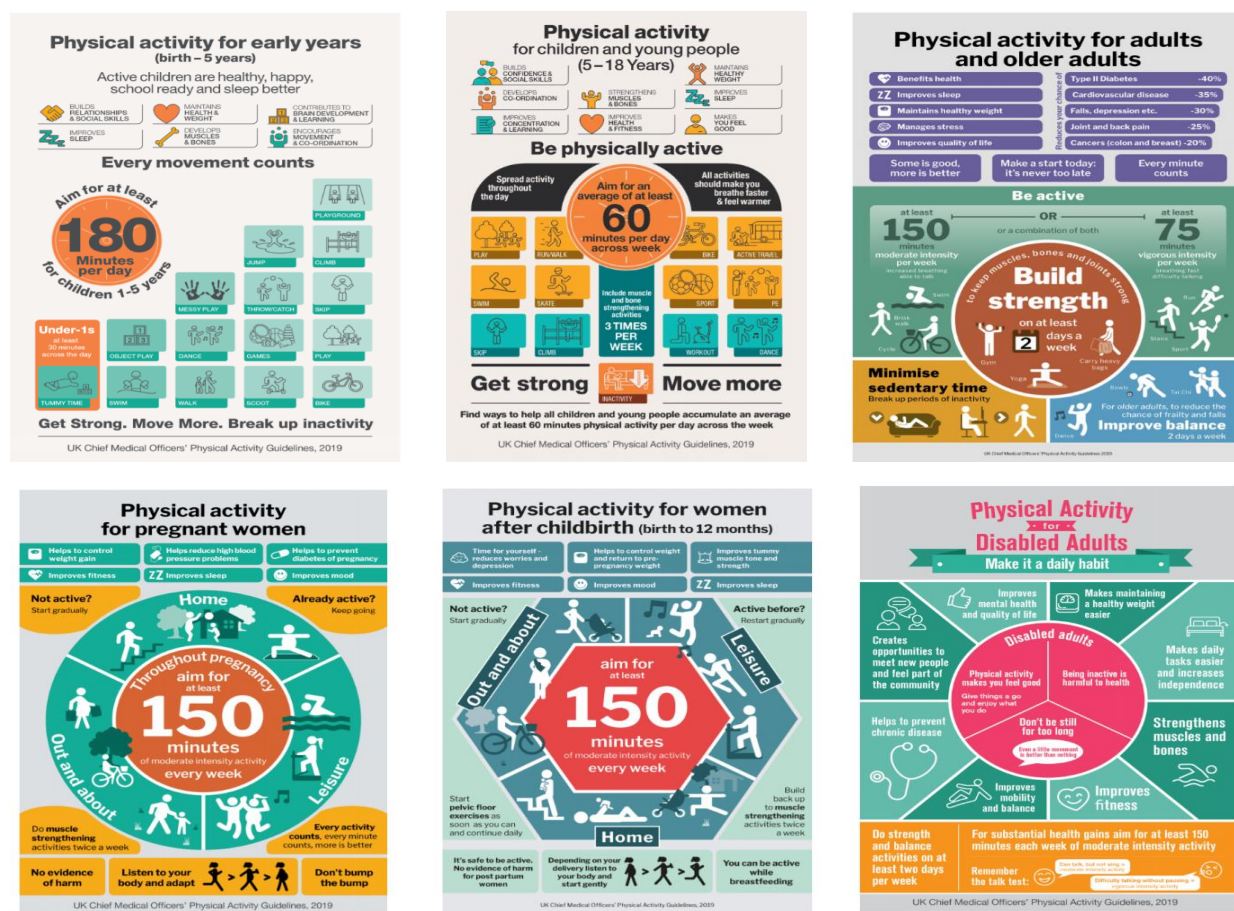
Regular physical activity can deliver cost savings for the health and care system and has wider social benefits for individuals and communities. Key factors for each age group are as follows:

- ◀ Under-5s (infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers): should spend at least 180 minutes (3 hours) per day in a variety of different exercises, whereas infants should be physically active several times every day in a variety of ways, including interactive floor-based activities.
- ◀ Children and young people (5-18 years): should engage in moderate-to-vigorous intensity physical activity for an average of at least 60 minutes per day across the week.
- ◀ Adults (19-64 years): for good physical and mental health, adults should aim to be physically active every day. Across a week, this could include 150 minutes of moderate exercise, 75 minutes of vigorous exercise or even shorter durations of very vigorous intensity activity, or a combination of moderate, vigorous and very vigorous intensity activity.
- ◀ Older adults (65+): should participate in daily physical activity to gain health benefits, including maintenance of good physical and mental health, wellbeing, and social functioning. Each week older adults should aim to accumulate 150 minutes (two and a half hours) of moderate intensity aerobic activity.

⁵ Local authorities invested £160 million The National Leisure Recovery Fund £100m, Leisure operators drew on £171 million of reserves alongside further relief measures such as the Government's furlough scheme

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Figure 2.3: Physical activity guidelines



The report also recognises an emerging evidence base for the health benefits of performing very vigorous intensity activity performed in short bouts interspersed with periods of rest or recovery (high intensity interval exercise, HIIT). Available evidence demonstrates that high intensity interval exercise has clinically meaningful effects on fitness, body weight and insulin resistance. This option has therefore been incorporated into the recommendation for adults.

It, thus, emphasises the importance of regular activity for people of all ages. It presents additional guidance on being active during pregnancy, after giving birth, and for disabled adults. The new guidelines are consistent with previous ones, introducing some new elements and allowing flexibility in achieving recommended physical activity levels for each age group.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation UK Poverty 2025 report

This report notes that more than one in five people in the UK (14.3 million or 21% of the population) were in poverty in 2022/23. Of these, 8.1 million were working-age adults, 4.3 million children and 1.9 million pensioners. Two in every ten adults and three in ten children are in poverty in the UK. Relative to 2021/22, child poverty rose slightly, pensioner poverty fell slightly, and working-age adult poverty stayed the same. Poverty for all 3 groups has returned to around pre-pandemic levels.

In 2022/23, 6 million people (four in ten of those in poverty) – were in very deep poverty, with an income far below the standard poverty line. The poorest families (those in very deep poverty) had an average income that was 57% below the poverty line; this gap has increased by almost two-thirds over the past 25 years.

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Certain groups of people face particularly high levels of poverty. They include (figures relate to 2022/23 unless otherwise stated):

- ◀ Larger families – where 45% of children in families with 3 or more children were in poverty.
- ◀ Families whose childcare responsibilities limit their ability to work – 44% of children in lone-parent families were in poverty.
- ◀ Many minority ethnic groups – many households have higher rates of child, very deep and persistent poverty.
- ◀ 30% of disabled people are in poverty. This rate is higher (at 50%) for people with a long-term, limiting mental health condition.
- ◀ 28% of informal carers (those with caring responsibilities). They have limited ability to work and unpaid social-care givers experience an average pay penalty of nearly £5,000/annum.
- ◀ Families not in work – more than half of working-age adults (54%) in workless households are in poverty - compared with 15% in working households. Around two-thirds of working-age adults in poverty actually live in a household where someone is in work.
- ◀ Part-time workers and the self-employed - the poverty rate for part-time workers was nearly triple that for full-time workers (22% compared with 8%). Self-employed workers are more than twice as likely to be in poverty as employees (23% compared with 10%).
- ◀ 44% of people living in rented accommodation and 35% of private renters are in poverty after housing costs.
- ◀ Families claiming income-related benefits.

Environmental sustainability

The UK Government net zero strategy 'Build Back Greener' was published in October 2021. This sets out UK targets for decarbonisation by 2050. It focuses on interventions such as:

- ◀ A fully decarbonised power system by 2035 - all electricity from 'low carbon sources'.
- ◀ Improved heating efficiency for homes and buildings, aiming for all new heating appliances to be based on low carbon technologies, such as electric heat pumps or hydrogen boilers.
- ◀ Low carbon fuel supply – by scaling up the production of low carbon alternatives including hydrogen and biofuels.

[Sport England](#) reports that ⁶climate change and the increased occurrence of extreme weather that it brings are already affecting sports facilities, meaning that the sector needs to build greater resilience to counter this very real threat.

It proposes that a wide range of issues should be considered when approaching project development to, and the resultant environmental impact of, say, new swimming pool development. This applies to determining whether to refurbish an existing building with its carbon already embedded or to build anew⁷. In establishing a sustainability strategy early on Sport England suggests some key principles as part of a 'pathway to sustainability' and net zero carbon in respect of building design and operation.

Investment in school sport

The School Sport and Activity Action Plan (July 2019) sets out the Government's commitment to ensuring that children and young people have access to at least 60 minutes of sport and physical activity per day, with a recommendation of 30 minutes of this delivered during the school day (in line with the CMO guidelines which recommend an average of at least 60 minutes per day across the week). The action plan has three overarching ambitions - that:

⁶[Sport England Environmental Sustainability policy](#)

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- ◀ All children/young people take part in at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day.
- ◀ Children/young people have the opportunity to realise developmental, character-building experiences through sport, competition and active pursuits.
- ◀ All sport and physical activity provision for children/young people is designed around the principles of physical literacy, focuses on fun and enjoyment and aims to reach the least active.

The PE and sport premium is intended to help primary schools to achieve this aim, providing them with £320m of government funding to make additional and sustainable improvements to the quality of PE, physical activity and sport offered via core budgets. It is allocated directly to schools which have the flexibility to use it in the way that they consider works best for their pupils.

In 2021 the Department for Education announced a £10.1 million funding package to help more schools open their facilities to the public once the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic is over. The funding, which will be administered by Sport England and distributed via the Active Partnership Network will help schools deliver extra-curricular activities and open their facilities outside of the school day during evenings, weekends and school holidays.

The Physical Literacy Consensus Statement for England – Sport England (2023)

This has been developed to facilitate shared understanding of physical literacy for those working in the sport, education, physical activity, recreation, play, health and youth sectors. It offers a broad overview of physical literacy, why it matters and how it can be developed and supported.

Developing a consensus on the term physical literacy has been a priority, as understanding what impacts people's relationship with movement and physical activity throughout life will enable those working in the sector to ensure their offer is as appealing as possible.

In essence, physical literacy represents the extent to which individuals have a positive relationship with movement and physical activity. The Youth Sport Trust has published findings evidencing that a total of 4,000 hours of physical education (PE) have been lost from the curriculum of state-funded secondary schools. PE hours have fallen victim to more time spent online, poor school attendance and declining health and wellbeing levels in young people. Since 2012, the amount of PE undertaken in England has fallen by more than 12%.

Evidence also shows that children with high levels of physical literacy are twice as likely to engage in sport and physical activity. In later life, adults who feel they have the opportunity, ability and enjoy being physically active are more likely to be so. To increase physical activity in both children and adults, it is important to consider the cultural and environmental factors which affect physical activity levels alongside the influence of previous experiences.

Ensuring good quality and regular PE in schools is considered to be essential to improving the mental and physical wellbeing of young people and will enable young people to develop new skills, achieve greater academic success and live longer, happier, healthier lives.

Sport England Swimming Pool Support Fund

In 2023, a funding pot of £63 million was announced to ease the pressure on leisure centres with managing the cost of operating, maintaining and heating swimming pools. This is being managed by Sport England and is available to all pools run by councils and charities and all those run on behalf of councils. SHBC have been awarded funds to assist with an energy benchmarking exercise and then further funding has been awarded for the supply and installation of a pool cover and solar panels at Places Leisure Camberley.

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Revised National Planning Policy Framework 2024

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

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

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

Summary of national context

In the context both of emergence from the global pandemic and the highly challenging economic environment, there is a need to reconnect communities, reduce inequality and create stronger societies. The aim is to create a catalyst for change, with sport and physical activity a key driver and people in all age groups either getting or remaining active. Ensuring an adequate supply of suitable facilities to support this aim is a key requirement of the planning system in line with national policy recommendations.

2.2: Local context

Surrey Heath Local Plan (2019-2038)

The Council is in the process of preparing a new Local Plan to cover the period up to 2038. The Pre-Submission Surrey Heath Local Plan (2019-2038) was submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination in public by a Planning Inspector on 10 December 2024. The new Plan is currently under examination and is expected to be examined against the NPPF 2024.

The Surrey Heath Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD 2011 - 2028 is the current Development Plan. This sets out that housing growth will be focused on the re-development of previously developed land in the western part of the Borough, with over 1000 homes expected to come forward in this location, particularly in Camberley. Policy CP4 sets out that Princess Royal Barracks will be re-developed to provide 1200 new dwellings and associated infrastructure, including outdoor playing pitches. It should be noted that no additional indoor sports facilities are intended to be built as a result of the two key growth areas.

Surrey Heath Corporate Strategy (2024-2028)

This aims *“to secure improvements in the quality of life and opportunities for all residents and businesses, whilst ensuring sustainable council finances to deliver core services effectively”*. To achieve this, the strategy puts forward the following priorities

- ◀ Protect the environment.
- ◀ Promote healthier and more inclusive communities.

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- ◀ Support a strong economy and create more homes.
- ◀ Campaign for residents' rights.
- ◀ Deliver effective services with sustainable finances.

To promote 'healthier and more inclusive communities', the Council aims to improve access to all leisure provision, by ensuring facilities are attractive, located correctly, priced accordingly and offer programmes suitable to the respective local community.

Surrey Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2022-2030)

This sets out priorities identified via the County Council's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) that local government, the NHS and other partners will deliver together through the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). The community vision for Surrey *'is by 2030, Surrey will be a uniquely special place where everyone has a great start to life, people live healthy and fulfilling lives, are enabled to achieve their full potential and contribute to their community and no one is left behind.'* To achieve this, the strategy sets out the following ambitions.

- ◀ Children and young people are safe and feel safe and confident.
- ◀ Everyone benefits from education, skills and employment opportunities that help them succeed in life.
- ◀ Everyone lives healthy, active and fulfilling lives, and makes good choices about their well-being.
- ◀ Everyone gets the health and social care support and information they need at the right time and place.
- ◀ Communities are welcoming and supportive, especially of those most in need, and people feel able to contribute to community life.

Surrey Physical Activity Strategy (2022-2027)

This is the latest strategy aimed to get Surrey residents active. Its aim is to *"To create an environment where all Surrey Heath residents, regardless of age, background or circumstances, have the opportunity to participate in physical activity in a way that works for them."*

This aim will be achieved through the following priorities.

- ◀ Priority 1: Recover and reinvent - helping clubs and community organisations to get back on their feet following the pandemic, with an opportunity to re-invest themselves at the same time.
- ◀ Priority 2: Connecting communities - bringing together people from a range of backgrounds, physical activity has the ability to reduce social isolation, build a sense of pride and belonging, and create better places for our residents to live.
- ◀ Priority 3: Making activities accessible - ensuring the offer is accessible through pricing and ability needs.
- ◀ Priority 4: Creating stronger connections through health and wellbeing - strengthening the connections between movement, physical activity and wider health and wellbeing can help more Surrey Heath residents to enjoy the benefits of an active life.
- ◀ Priority 5: Active environments - make it easy for people in Surrey Heath to be active in the space around them.
- ◀ Priority 6: Children and young people - create positive experiences at an early age help build the foundations for an active life.

Underpinning all priorities is to ensure leisure facilities, across the County, are of the highest standard with the correct programming and pricing structure. This will allow individuals and clubs the opportunity to increase levels of activity.

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Leisure operator – Places Leisure

Places Leisure operates the principal facility in the Borough, in Camberley. This is owned by SHBC and operated via a 25-year lease on the site. It opened in July 2021, replacing Camberley Arena – on the same site. The new facility includes a large (160 station) fitness suite, 6 lane x 25m swimming pool, learner pool and an 8-court sports hall.

Places Leisure operates its 'Big Sister' initiative at Camberley. This program provides free or heavily discounted memberships to girls aged 9-15 years old, to help eliminate financial barriers that might prevent them from participating in sports and physical activities. The reduced cost/free access to Places Leisure's sites is a key aspect of the program, ensuring that all girls, regardless of their financial background, have the opportunity to engage in a wide range of activities. First developed in 2022 in partnership with Women in Sport. Evaluation suggests that 64% of girls engaged in the project now enjoy taking part in sport and exercise more and 62% said their overall confidence has improved.

Summary of local policy

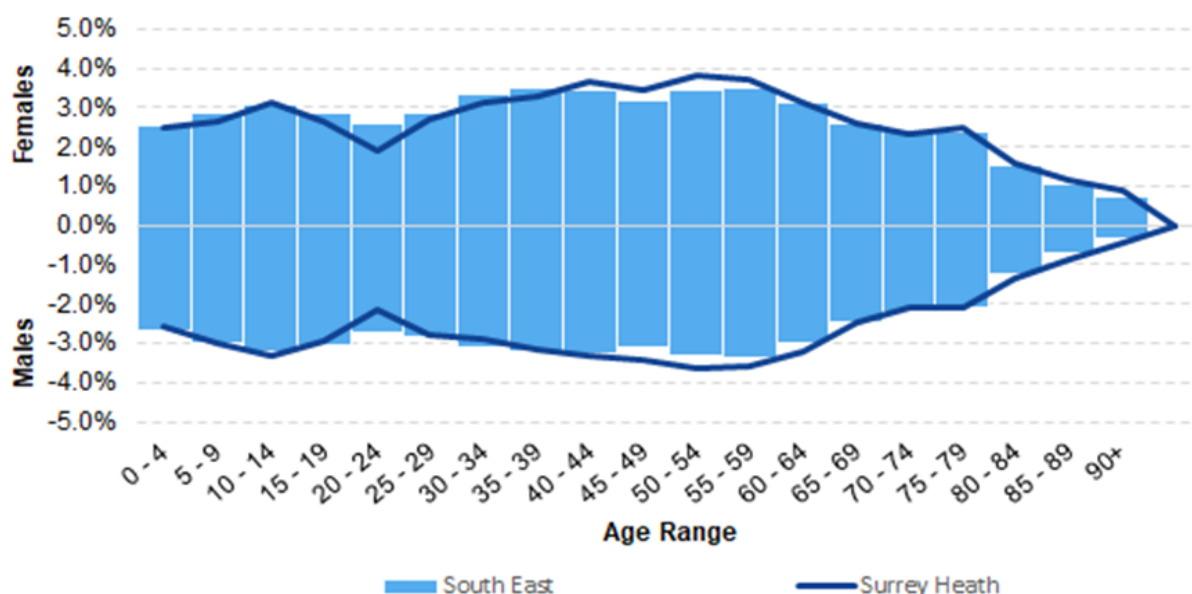
The Council, through its Corporate Plan, is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of its residents. Its own facility: Places Leisure - Camberley is well used by the community. SHBC is also committed to improving other sports facilities, such as schools and other community buildings, to support clubs and the wider community.

2.3: Demographic profile

Population (Data source: 2023 Mid-Year Estimate (MYE), ONS)

The total population of Surrey Heath is 92,168 (males - 45,378 and females - 46,790). There is a lower proportion of 15-39 year olds (Surrey Heath: 27.6%, South East: 30.1%). There are, however, more in the age groups from 40-64 (Surrey Heath: 34.9%, South East: 32.8%).

Figure 2.4: Comparative age/sex pyramid for Surrey Heath and South East



The population density map that follows (see Figure 2.5) is based on lower super output areas (LSOAs). It illustrates that the main areas of population density are located to the west around the towns of Camberley (north west) and Frimley (south west). There are also smaller settlements centrally in Lightwater and in the east, in the town of Chobham.

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Population projections (Data Source: SHBC Local Housing Needs Assessment 2024)
Change over 20 years (2021 to 2040)

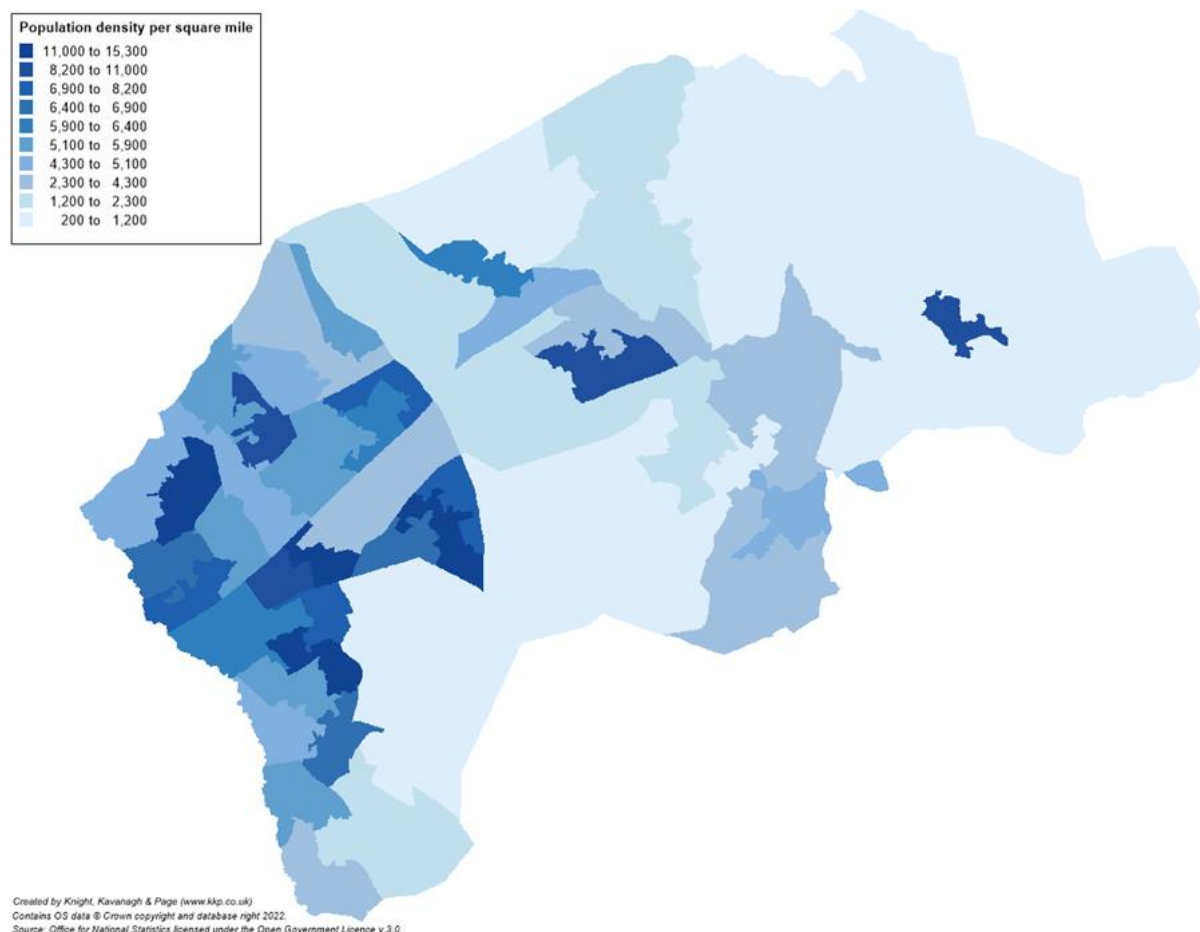
The latest population projections are presented in SHBCs Local Housing Needs Assessment (2024). It indicates an increase of 13.2% in Surrey Heath’s population (11,952) over the 19 years from 2021 to 2040. All of age segments will see a positive population change. The segment with the largest increase is people aged 65 and over (42.0%).

Table 2.8: Projected population change in Surrey Heath

Age bands	2021	2040	Change in population	Percentage change
Under 16	16,593	17,401	808	4.9%
16-64	56,045	59,618	3,573	6.4%
65 and over	18,007	25,578	7,571	42.0%
Total	90,645	102,597	11,952	13.2%

Ethnicity (Data source: 2021 Census, ONS) Surrey Heath’s ethnic composition reflects that of England as a whole. According to the 2021 Census, the largest proportion (85.0%) of the local population classified its ethnicity as White; this is higher than the comparative England rate of 81.0%. The next largest population group (by self-classification) is Asian, at 8.9% this is lower than the national equivalent (9.6%).

Figure 2.5: Population density 2021 Census: Surrey Heath (LSOAs).



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Crime (Data source: Crime in England and Wales year ending June 2024, ONS) Crime data is only available for police force areas. Surrey Heath is in the Surrey Police Force Area, which comprises 11 local authorities (Elmbridge, Epsom And Ewell, Guildford, Mole Valley, Reigate and Banstead, Runnymede, Spelthorne, Surrey Heath, Tandridge, Waverley, Woking). The population of Surrey Heath accounts for 7.5% of this area.

During the 12 months to June 2024 the number of recorded crimes per 1,000 persons in the Surrey area was 61.6. (2023 MYE) This is markedly lower than the equivalent rate for England and Wales as a whole, which was 88.2. The number of recorded crimes in the Surrey area has risen by 1.5% since June 2023 (2022 MYE during which time the number for England and Wales has fallen by 5.7% over the same period.

Table 2.1: Comparative crime rates: Surrey and England & Wales.

Area	Recorded crime (Jul '23 - Jun '24)	Population 2023 MYE	Recorded crime per 1,000
Surrey	75,702	1,228,671	61.6
England & Wales	5,366,753	60,854,727	88.2

As an alternative to the crime figures for police force areas, the Index of Deprivation measures the risk of personal and material crime at a more local level. In Surrey Heath, 3.5% of the population are in the top four cohorts most at risk compared to 40.0% nationally.

Income and benefits dependency (Data source: Nomis 2024)

The median figure for full-time earnings (2024) in Surrey Heath is £45,870; the comparative rate for the South East is £40,519 (-11.7%) and for Great Britain is £37,950 (-17.3%). 1,295 people in Surrey Heath claimed out of work benefits⁸ in October 2024. This is an increase of 13.1% when compared to October 2023 (1,145).

Deprivation (Data source: 2019 indices of deprivation, MHCLG)

Relative to other parts of the country, Surrey Heath has very low levels of deprivation; only one in 20 of its population (5.6%) lives in areas covered by the country's four most deprived cohorts (national average; 40%). Conversely, 81.6% live in the three least deprived groupings in the country ('norm'; c.30%. This is broadly replicated for health. Just 7.2% of the SHBC population lives in areas covered by the four most deprived cohorts, this compares to a national average of c.40%. Conversely, 75.8% live in the three least deprived groupings.

Table 2.2: Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) cohorts – multiple deprivation in Surrey Heath.

10% bands	Population in band	%	Cumulative %
Most deprived - 10.0	0	0.0%	0.0%
20.0	0	0.0%	0.0%
30.0	0	0.0%	0.0%
40.0	4,950	5.6%	5.6%
50.0	4,919	5.6%	11.2%
60.0	4,724	5.4%	16.6%
70.0	1,614	1.8%	18.4%
80.0	7,805	8.9%	27.3%
90.0	23,312	26.5%	53.8%

⁸ This includes both Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) and Universal Credit. Universal credit also includes other benefits including employment and support allowance (ESA) and child tax credits.

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Least deprived - 100.0	40,563	46.2%	100.0%
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Table 2.3: IMD cohorts – health deprivation in Surrey Heath.

10% bands	Population in band	%	Cumulative %
Most deprived - 10.0	0	0.0%	0.0%
20.0	0	0.0%	0.0%
30.0	1,769	2.0%	2.0%
40.0	4,595	5.2%	7.2%
50.0	0	0.0%	7.2%
60.0	8,364	9.5%	16.8%
70.0	6,584	7.5%	24.2%
80.0	7,925	9.0%	33.3%
90.0	16,994	19.3%	52.6%
Least deprived - 100.0	41,656	47.4%	100.0%

Figure 2.6: Index of multiple and health deprivation.

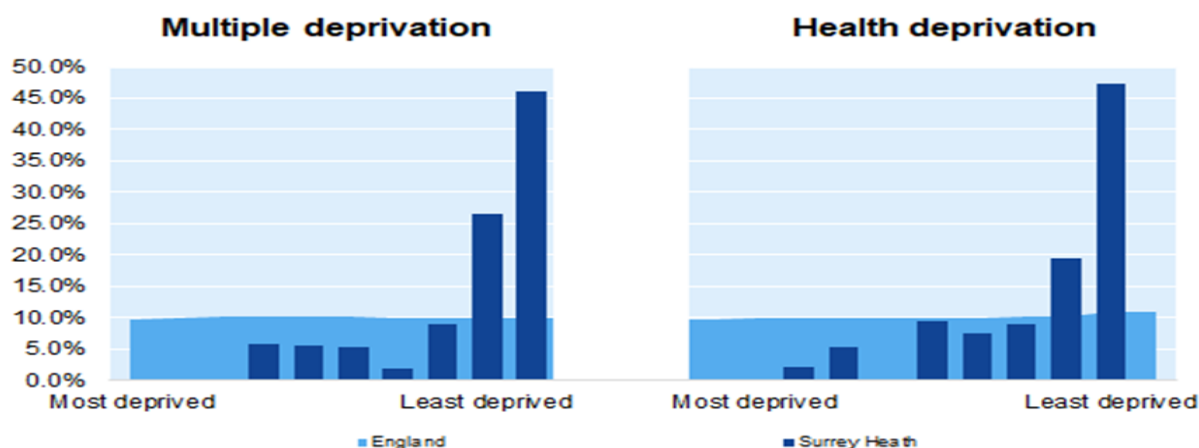
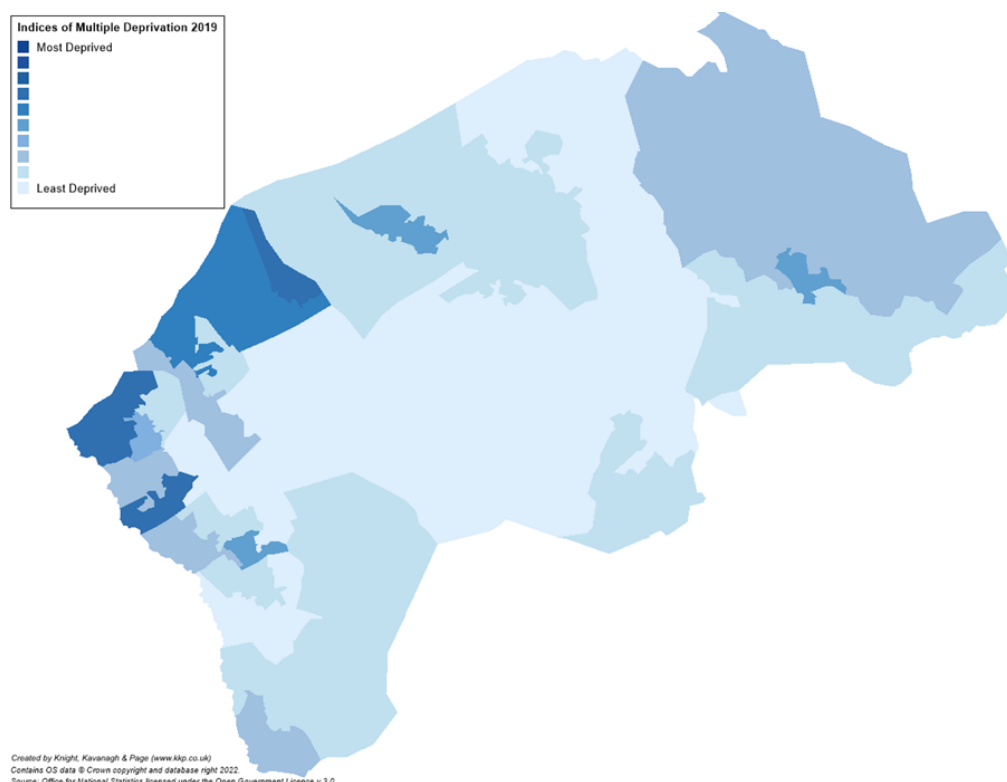


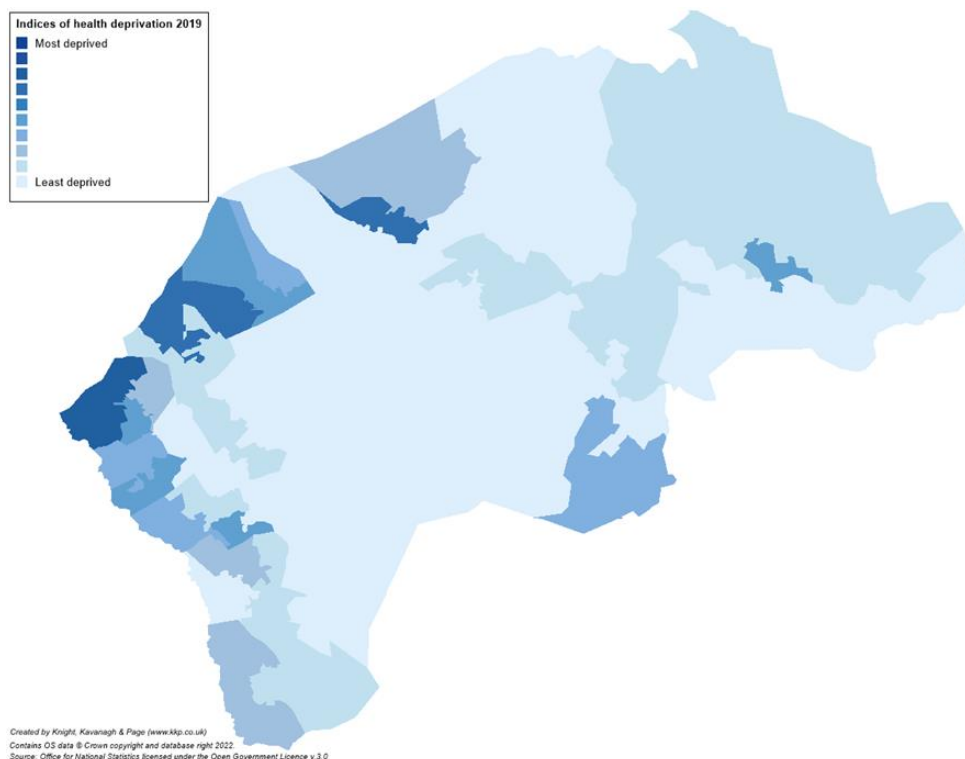
Figure 2.7: Map of multiple deprivation



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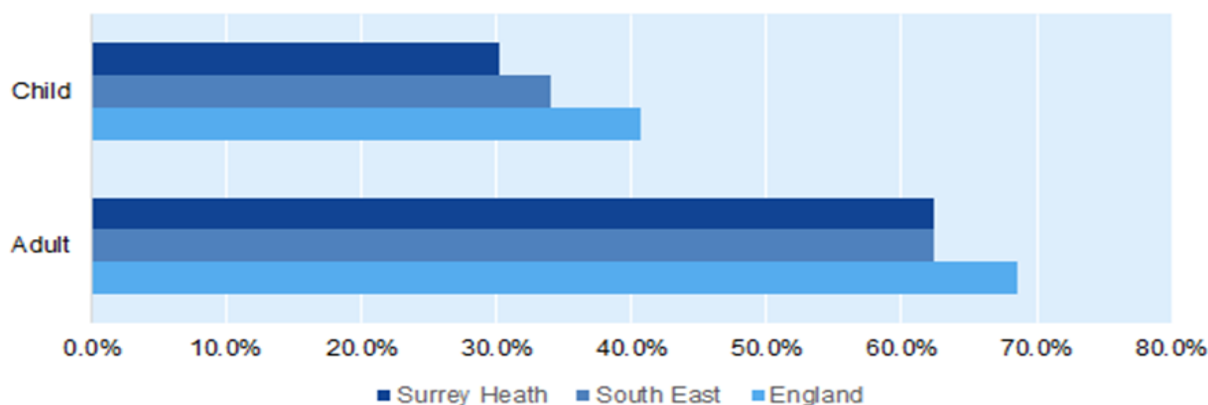
Figure 2.8: Map of health deprivation.



Health data (Data source: ONS) In keeping with patterns seen alongside lower levels of health deprivation, life expectancy in Surrey Heath is higher than the national figure; the male rate is currently 81.7 compared to 79.4 for England; the female equivalent is 85.1 compared to 83.1⁹.

Weight and obesity (Data Sources: NCMP¹⁰ and NOO¹¹) Obesity is widely recognised to be associated with health problems such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer. At a national level, the resulting NHS costs attributable to overweight and obesity are projected to reach £9.7 billion by 2050, with wider costs to society estimated to reach £49.9 billion per year. These factors combine to make the prevention of obesity a major public health challenge. Adult and child obesity/overweight rates in Surrey Heath are below national and regional rates.

Figure 2.9 – Adult and child obesity rates (2021)



⁹ Office of National Statistics: Life Expectancy at Birth by local areas in the United Kingdom, 2020.

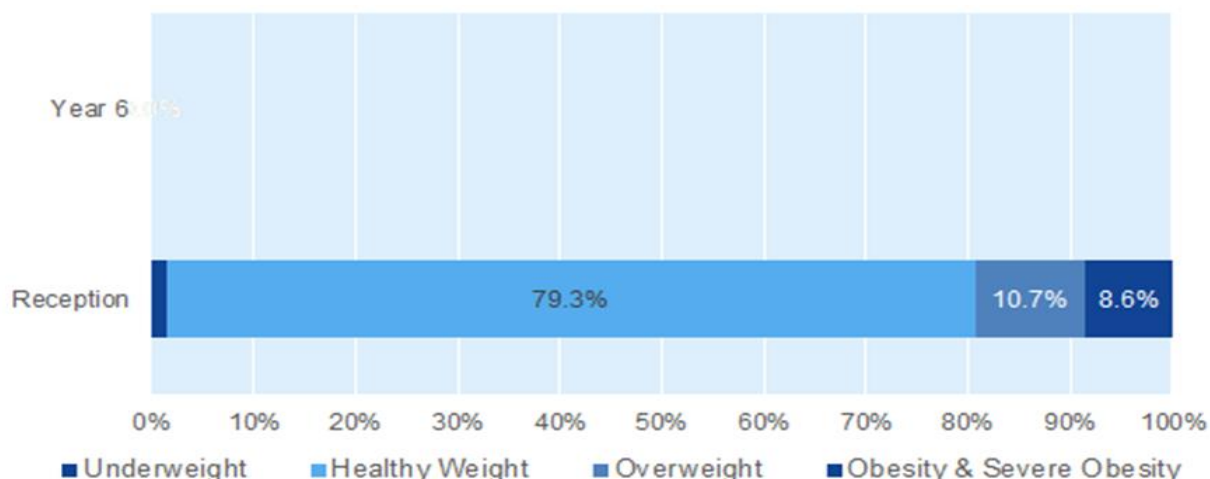
¹⁰ National Child Measurement Program

¹¹ National Obesity Observatory

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Despite this, in common with many other areas, obesity rates increase significantly between the ages of 4-11. One in 15 children (6.8%) in Surrey Heath are obese and 12.1% are overweight in reception year but by Year 6 these figures rise to 16% obese and 13.6% overweight. By Year 6, approaching one third (29.6%) are either overweight or obese.

Figure 2.10 – Child weight – reception and year 6 (2021/2022)

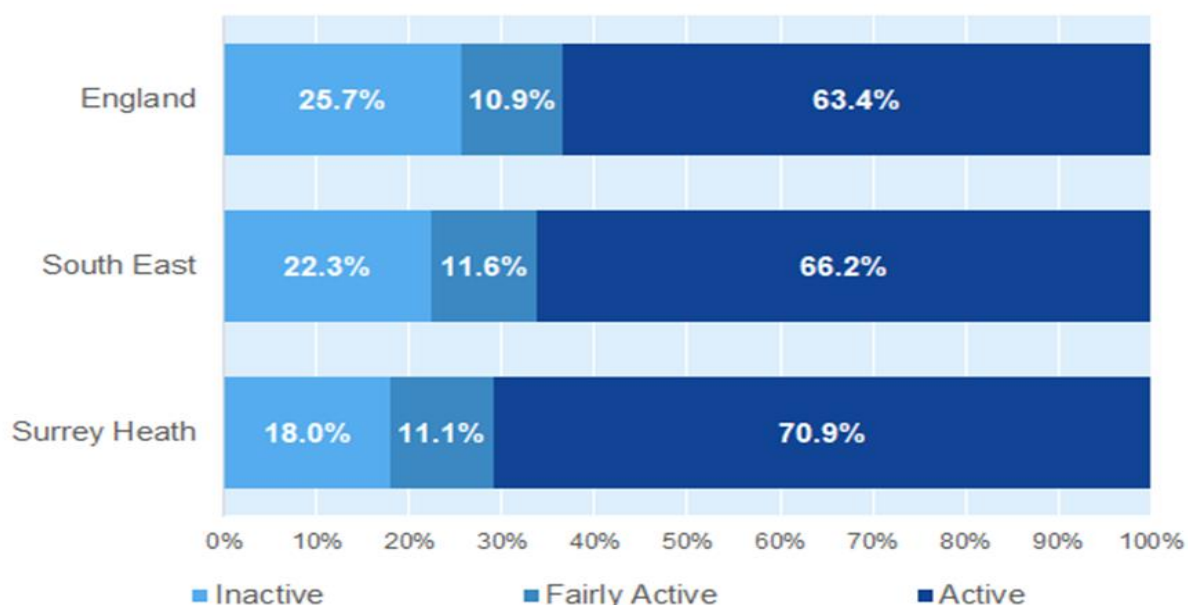


Active Lives Survey (Data Source: Sport England November 2021/22)

This is based on 16+ year olds taking part in walking, cycling, fitness, dance and other sporting activity. As identified in Table 6, a lower percentage of the Surrey Heath population is inactive compared to England and the South East and a higher percentage is considered to be active. This is specified by Sport England as follows:

- ◀ Inactive - <30 minutes per week.
- ◀ Fairly Active – 30-149 minutes per week.
- ◀ Active – 150+ minutes per week.

Figure 2.11: Levels of activity (Active Lives 2022/2023)



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Table 2.4: Active Lives Survey results: November 2022/23.

	Inactive #	Inactive %	Fairly active #	Fairly active %	Active #	Active %
England	11,947,300	25.7%	5,078,500	10.9%	29,505,300	63.4%
South East	1,699,600	22.3%	881,900	11.6%	5,053,000	66.2%
Surrey Heath	13,400	18.0%	8,300	11.1%	52,800	70.9%

Popular sports (Data Source: Sport England Active Lives Survey (ALS) November 2020/21)

ALS enables identification of the top five sports within Surrey Heath. As with many other areas, fitness and athletics are among the most popular activities and are known to cut across age groups and gender; in Surrey Heath 68.9% of adults take part in fitness activities, on average, at least twice a month. The next most popular activity is athletics in which 20.2% of adults participate on a relatively regular basis.

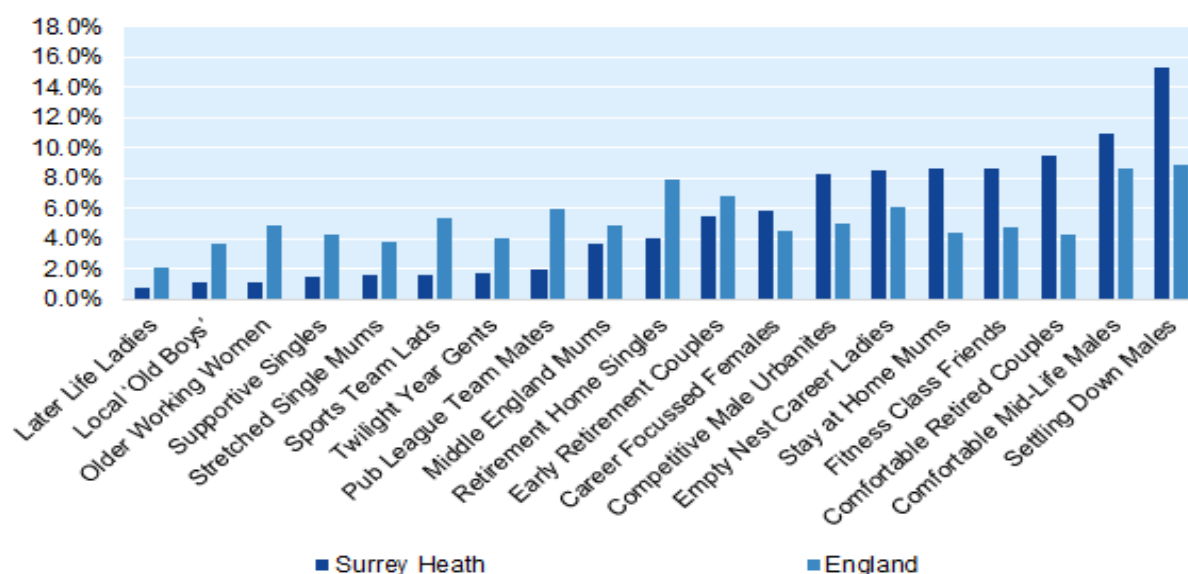
Table 2.5: Most popular sports in Surrey Heath.

Sport	Surrey Heath %	South East %	England %
Fitness	37.4%	27.3%	24.9%
Athletics	20.2%	14.8%	13.7%
Cycling	20.0%	18.0%	16.4%
Swimming	5.8%	5.0%	4.4%
Golf	3.4%	2.2%	1.7%

Sporting segmentation (Data source: Sport England Sports Market Segmentation web tool)

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

Figure 2.12: Sport England Market Segmentation – Surrey Heath compared to England.



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Knowing which segments are most numerous is important as it can help direct provision and programming. Segmentation enables partners to make tailored interventions, communicate effectively with target market(s) and better understand participation in the context of life stage and lifecycles. The profile for Surrey Heath indicates 'Settling Down Males' to be the largest segment of the adult population at 15.35% (national average; 8.83%). This is followed by 'Comfortable Mid-Life Males' (10.97%) and 'Comfortable Retired Couples' (9.46%).

Mosaic (Data source: 2023 Mosaic analysis, Experian)

This is a similar consumer segmentation product. It classifies all 28.6 million households into 15 groups, 66 household types and 238 segments. This data can be used to paint a picture of UK consumers in terms of their social-demographics, lifestyles, culture and behaviour. Table 2.6 shows the top five Mosaic classifications in Surrey Heath compared to the country as a whole. Their dominance can be seen inasmuch as they represent 84.4% of the population compared to a national equivalent rate of 44.5%

Figure 2.13: Mosaic segmentation – Surrey Heath compared to nationally.

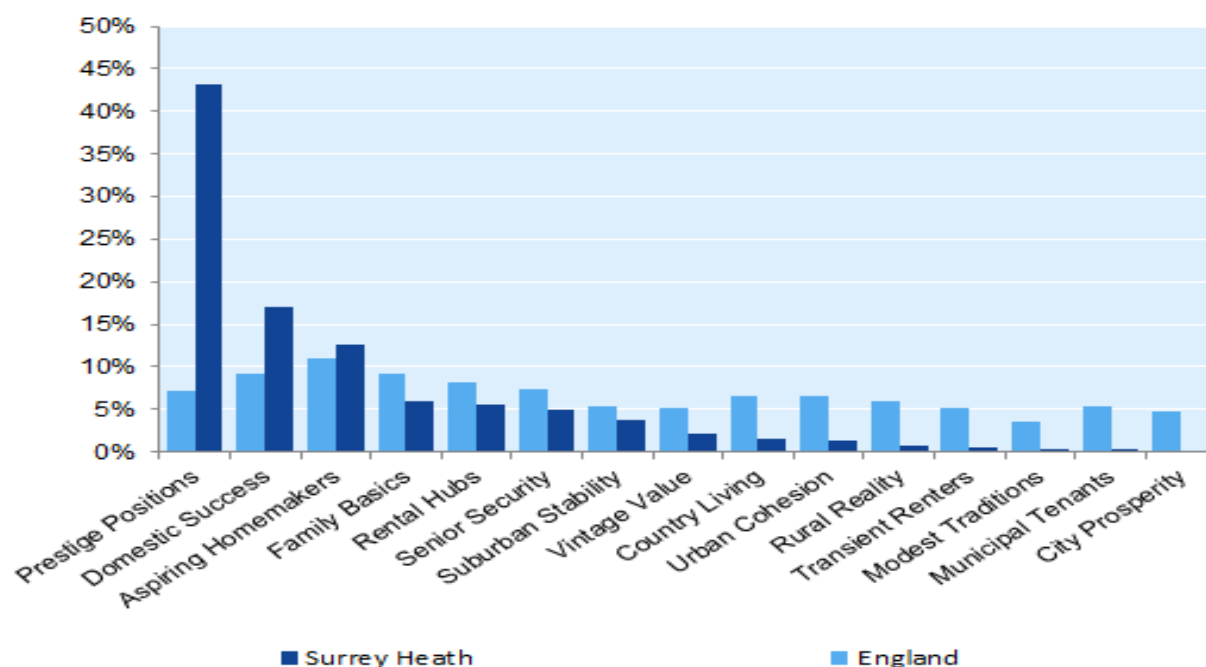


Table 2.6: Mosaic – main population segments in Surrey Heath.

Mosaic group description	Surrey Heath #	Surrey Heath %	National %
1 - Prestige Positions	39,174	43.1%	7.2%
2 - Domestic Success	15,438	17.0%	9.1%
3 - Aspiring Homemakers	11,414	12.6%	11.0%
4 - Family Basics	5,465	6.0%	9.1%
5 - Rental Hubs	5,090	5.6%	8.1%

The largest segment profiled for Surrey Heath is Prestige Positions which makes up 43.1% of the area's adult population (six times the England rate (7.2%)). They are defined as affluent married couples whose successful careers have afforded them financial security and a spacious home in a prestigious, established residential area. While some are mature empty-nesters or elderly retired couples, others are still supporting their teenage or older children.

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Table 2.7: Dominant Mosaic profiles in Surrey Heath

Prestige Positions	Affluent married couples whose successful careers have afforded them financial security and a spacious home in a prestigious and established residential area. While some are mature empty-nesters or elderly retired couples, others are still supporting their teenage or older children.
Domestic Success	Householders in their middle years who have made progress in their careers and own comfortable family homes. Most are couples aged in their thirties and forties. These families usually have children who are moving through the stages of schooling. Other households consist of single people living alone in family-sized properties.
Aspiring Homemakers	Younger households who have, often, only recently set up home. They usually own their homes in private suburbs, which they have chosen to fit their budget.

Car ownership

Car ownership within the Authority is significantly above the national average. Only 9.9% of SHBC residents do not own a vehicle. This is well below the national average of 23.3% (data source: 2021 Census).

Summary of the demographic profile and population projections

In summary, Surrey Heath is a relatively affluent Authority with very limited multiple and health deprivation. Levels of childhood and adult obesity while still significant are below national and regional averages.

The Borough's population is expected to rise by 13.2% by 2040, with particularly significant rises among people aged 65+. These groups will account for a significant percentage of the population by 2040 (24.5%). Consequently, there will be a need to consider how this segment of the population chooses to use its leisure time, particularly in respect of accessible daytime activities.

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SECTION 3: SPORTS FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1: Methodology

As noted above, the assessment of provision is based on the Sport England Sport England Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) for indoor and outdoor sports facilities.

Figure 3.1: Recommended approach

This is the recommended approach to undertaking a robust assessment of need for indoor and outdoor sports facilities (excluding playing pitch provision which is assessed separately in the SHBC Playing Pitch Strategy and uses Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance).

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ANOG has been produced to help (local authorities) meet the requirements of the Government's NPPF, which states that: 'Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.' (NPPF, Paragraph 103).

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

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

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

3.2: Site visits

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

Site visits to key indoor facilities, those operated by other partners and the voluntary sector were undertaken wherever possible. Where a physical visit was not possible a telephone consultation with the facility/site manager was delivered. Via the audit and via informal interviews with facility managers this report identifies 'relevance' and 'condition' and describes (e.g.):

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

The assessment forms utilised capture quantity and quality data on a site-by-site basis and feeds directly into the main database allowing information to be stored and analysed. Quality assessments undertaken are rated in the categories set out in Table 3.1 overleaf. These ratings are applied throughout the report, regardless of facility type.

Ratings are based on non-technical visual assessments. These consider facility age and condition. Surfaces, tiles and walls, line markings and safety equipment are considered and problem areas such as mould, damage, leaks etc. are noted. The condition of fixtures, fittings and equipment is recorded.

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Maintenance and facility ‘wear and tear’ is considered as is compliant with the Equality Act, although this is not studied in detail for the purposes of this report. When all data is collated, key facility elements receive an overall quality rating.

Table 3.1: Quality ratings of indoor sports facilities using ANOG

Quality rating	Description
Good	Facility is new (less than 10 years old) or recently invested in, up to date, clean, well maintained and presented. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are new or relatively new with little if any wear and tear. They are well-lit with a modern feel. Ancillary facilities are new or well maintained, fit for purpose, modern and attractive.
Above average	Facility is in reasonable condition and is well maintained and presented. May be older but it is fit for purpose and safe. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are in an acceptable condition but may show some signs of wear and tear. Ancillary facilities are good quality but potentially showing signs of age and some wear and tear.
Below average	Facility is older and showing signs of age/poor quality. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces show signs of wear and tear. It is usable, but quality could be improved. The facility is not as attractive to customers and does not meet current expectations. Ancillary facilities are deteriorating, reasonable quality, but usable.
Poor	The facility is old and outdated. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are aged, worn and/or damaged. The facility is barely usable and at times may have to be taken out of commission. The facility is unattractive to customers and does not meet basic expectations. Ancillary facilities are low quality and unattractive to use.

3.3: Catchment areas

Applying catchments areas for facility types listed in Sections 3-15 enables identification of areas currently not served. These vary from person to person, day to day, hour to hour. This problem is overcome by accepting the concept of ‘effective catchment’; the distance travelled by around 75-80% of users (used in the Sport England Facilities Planning Model - FPM). Sport England data indicates that most people will travel up to 20 minutes to access sports facilities. This, coupled with KKP’s experience of working in/with leisure facilities and use of local data enables identification of catchment areas for sports facilities as follows.

Table 3.2: Facility catchment areas

Facility type	Identified catchment area
Sport halls, health and fitness, swimming pools, squash courts.	20-minutes’ walk/ 20 minutes’ drive
Indoor bowls, tennis centre, gymnastics, combat sports.	30-minutes’ drive
Village/community halls	800m radial catchment

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SECTION 4: SPORTS HALLS

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

They are generally considered to be of greatest value if of at least 3+ badminton courts in size with sufficient height to allow games such as badminton to be played. However, 4+ court sports halls provide greater flexibility as they can accommodate major indoor team sports such as football (5-a-side and training), basketball and netball. They also tend to have sufficient length to accommodate indoor cricket nets and indoor athletics and, thus, offer more sports development flexibility than their 3-court counterpart. There is often variance in the dimensions of 4-court halls, and only those which meet current Sport England Design Guidance of 34.5m x 20m can accommodate the full range of indoor sports, especially competition/league activities.

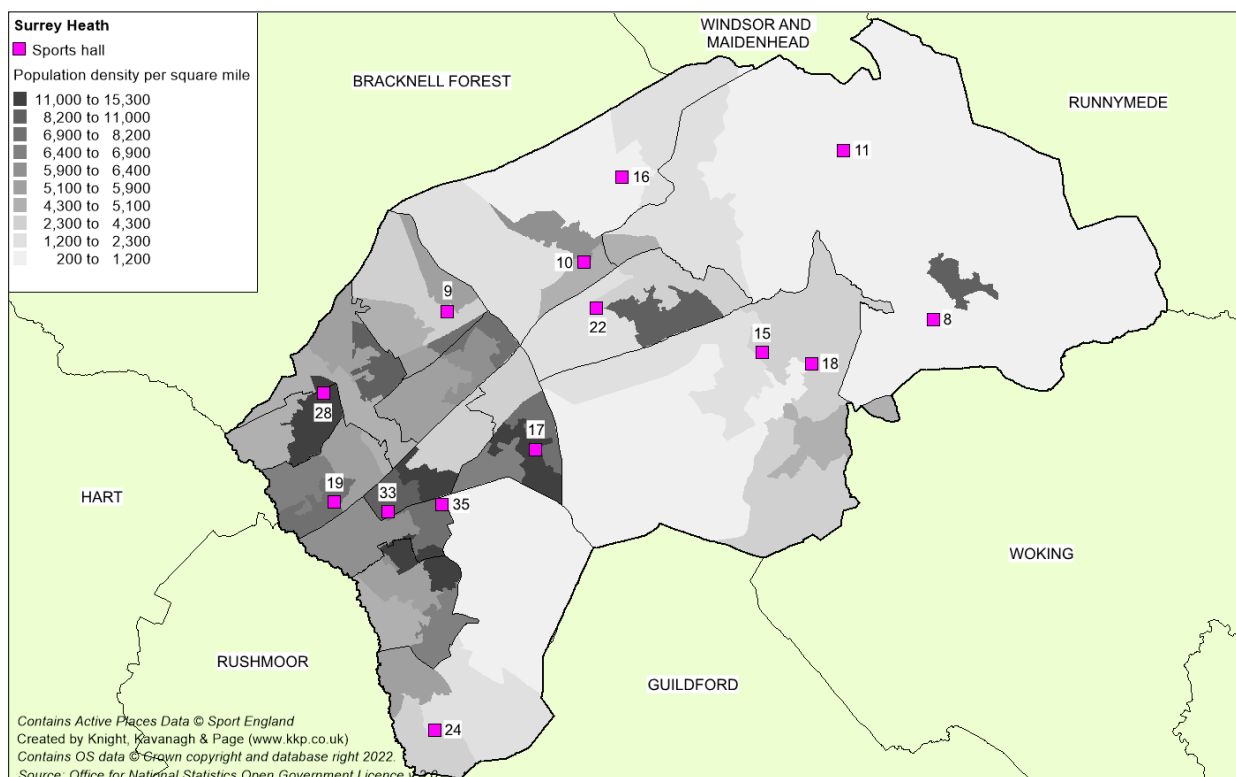
Larger halls, for example those with six or eight courts, can accommodate higher level training and/or competition and meet day-to-day need. They also provide an option for more than one pitch/court increasing flexibility for training and competition and hosting of indoor central venue leagues for sports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

4.1: Supply

Quantity

When considering all sizes of venue, there are 20 sports halls in Surrey Heath containing 37 badminton courts. Some venues have more than one activity/sports hall on site.

Figure 4.1: All sports / activity halls in Surrey Heath– regardless of size



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Table 4.1: All sports / activity halls in Surrey Heath

KKP ref	Site	Courts
8	Chobham St Lawrence C of E Aided Primary School	1
9	Collingwood College	1
9	Collingwood College	0
9	Collingwood College	4
9	Collingwood College	0
10	Connaught Junior School	1
11	Coworth Flexlands School	2
15	Gordons School	1
15	Gordons School	0
16	Hall Grove School	1
17	Heather Ridge Infant School	0
18	Holy Trinity C of E Primary School	0
18	Holy Trinity C of E Primary School	1
19	Kings International College	4
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	6
24	Mytchett Community Centre	0
28	Places Leisure Camberley	8
33	The Grove Primary Academy	2
35	Tomlinscote Sports Centre	1
35	Tomlinscote Sports Centre	4
	Total	37

(0 court halls identified in Active Places but not large enough to accommodate 1 badminton court)

There are 15 sports/activity halls with two or fewer badminton courts marked out. While often appropriate for mat sports, exercise to music and similar provision, the size of these smaller halls limits the range and scale of recreational/sporting activity that can be accommodated.

Several sites have more than one activity/sports hall. One example is Collingwood College, which has one 4-court hall and three smaller activity halls. Only sites with sports halls containing three or more marked badminton courts were subject to assessment for the purpose of the needs assessment. The reason for this is that halls of this scale can accommodate a range of sports and be potentially used by the community depending on the access policy.

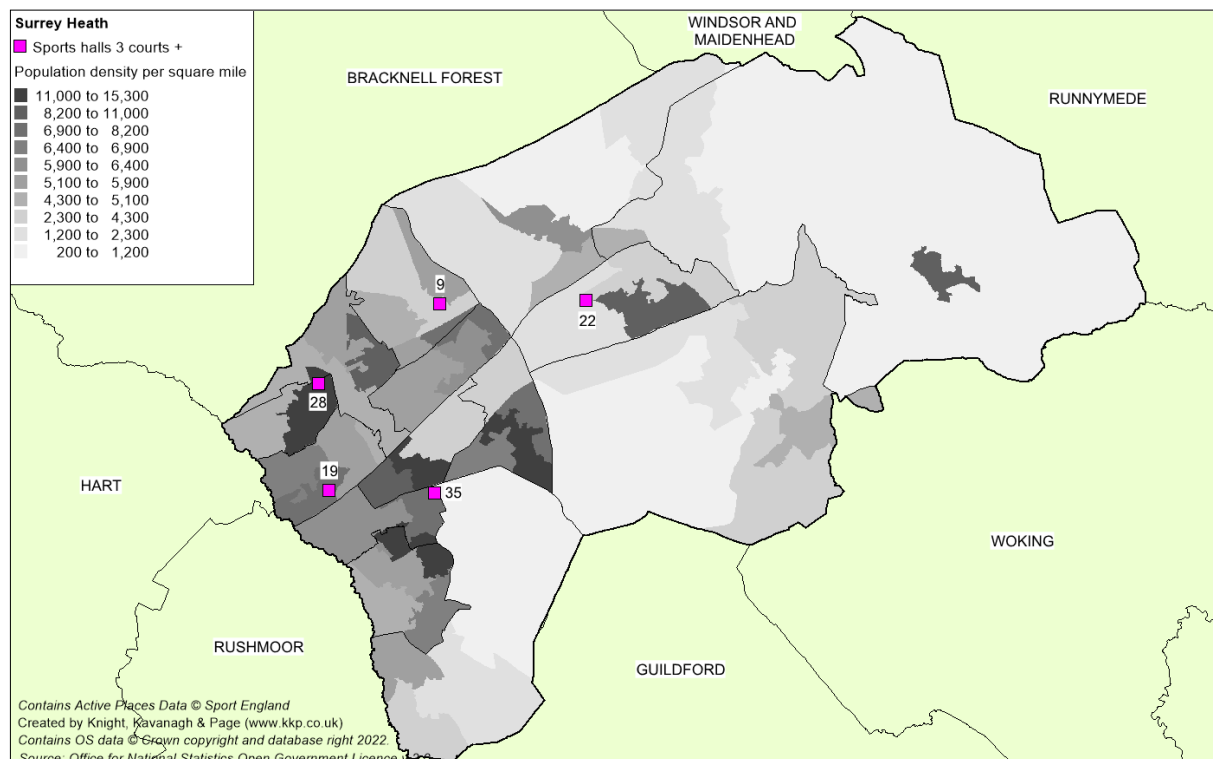
Larger sports halls can cater for sports that require more floor space such as futsal and handball or offer multiple courts for events and competitions. Five sports halls in Surrey Heath have 3+ marked badminton courts. Between them they offer a total of 26 badminton courts.

Table 4.2: Sports halls with 3+ badminton courts

KKP ref	Site	Courts
9	Collingwood College	4
19	Kings International College	4
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	6
28	Places Leisure Camberley	8
35	Tomlinscote Sports Centre	4
	Total	26

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Figure 4.2: Sports halls with 3+ courts on population density



The largest sports hall in the Authority is Places Leisure – Camberley. It has eight marked badminton courts. The 6-court hall at Lightwater Leisure Centre is also a relatively flexible sports hall space.

Of the five 3+ court halls, two (Collingwood College and Kings International College) are slightly smaller than the SE recommended size for community use (34.5 m x 20 m), being 18m x 32m and 18m x 33m respectively.

The more urban, densely populated areas of the Authority around Camberley and Frimley are served predominantly by the two publicly available halls at Places Leisure Camberley and Tomlinscote Sports Centre. The 4-court hall at Collingwood College is located on the northern fringe of Frimley, whilst the 4-court hall at Kings International College is located in between Frimley and Camberley. Lightwater Leisure Centre serves the settlement of Lightwater itself, and is in close proximity to Bagshot, however it is separated from Bagshot by the M3 motorway.

Facility quality

Four of the five 3+ court halls were visited and received a non-technical assessment to ascertain quality. Assessments took place during autumn 2024. Any investment made after this date is not accounted for. Known or planned investment is mentioned in the site notes. KKP was unable to gain access to Kings International College, at which no evidence could be found of community use. It is assumed that it is used solely by school pupils. A desktop / 'virtual' assessment was undertaken to assess the quality of this hall.

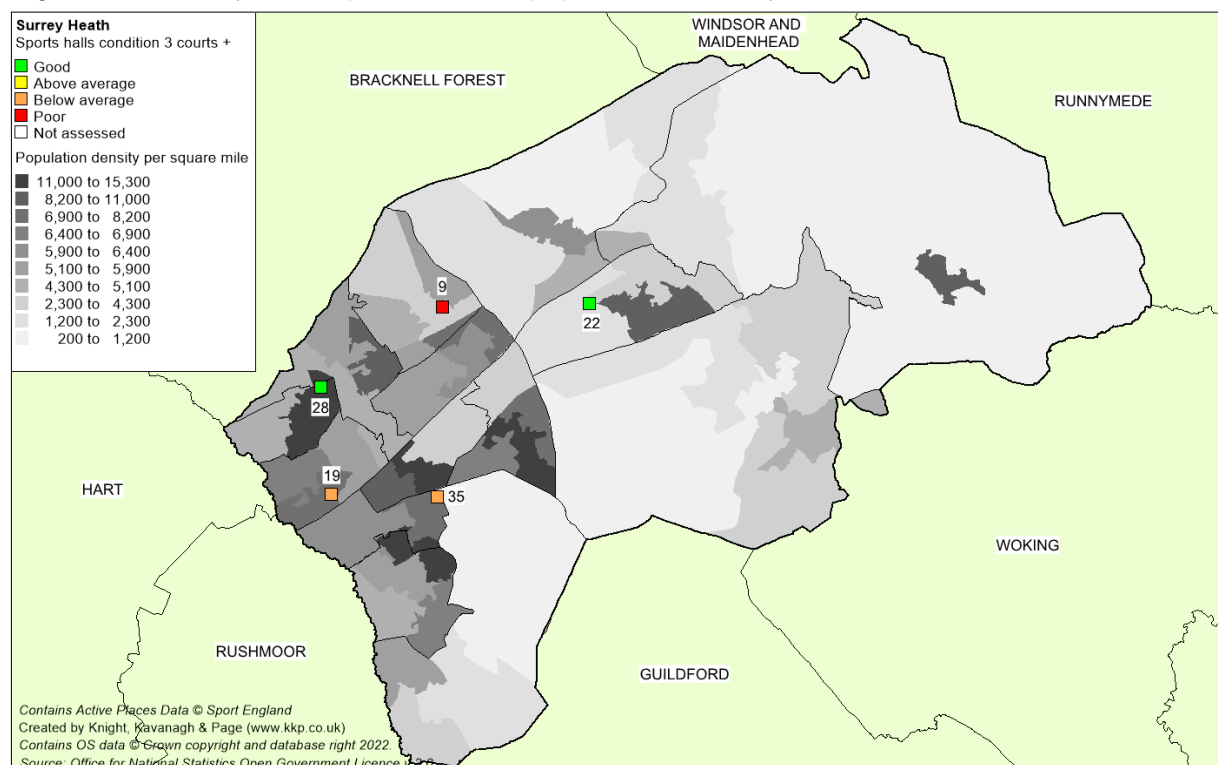
Table 4.3: Quality of 3+ sports halls

Ref	Site	Courts	Hall condition	Changing condition
9	Collingwood College	4	Poor	Poor
19	Kings International College	4	Below average	Below average
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	6	Good	Good

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28	Places Leisure Camberley	8	Good	Good
35	Tomlinscote Sports Centre	4	Below average	Below average

Figure 4.3: Quality of 3+ sports halls on population density



Provision at Places leisure Camberley is rated good quality. This reflects its modernity and the level of attractiveness. Lightwater Leisure Centre has also been in receipt of recent investment making it an attractive, well-maintained site able to cater for netball, pickleball and badminton.

Tomlinscote Sports Centre is rated below average, on balance. Its hall is over 30 years old, with a tired décor despite the floor being replaced in 2020. The School must be praised, however, for keeping the facility operational given the challenges of an old building. Collingwood College's poor quality rating is reflective of the lack of investment at this facility since its construction, and the consequent need for refurbishment of its floor, lighting and general décor.

Table 4.4: Sports hall quality rating

Site name	Rating	Audit findings
Collingwood College	Poor	The sports hall is of breeze block construction with a fabric roof. Its general condition and décor are poor and reflects a reported lack of recent investment. The sports hall floor will need repair/renewal within the short-medium term (3-5 years). Lighting is original, heating is working but is almost certainly not energy efficient.
Kings International College	Below average	The halls general appearance and décor reflects the lack of recent investment/refurbishment. The floor, while it has clear line markings is of concrete construction.
Lightwater Leisure Centre	Good	The sports hall is well maintained - the floor surface and general décor is in good condition. It plans to install new LED lighting later this year

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Site name	Rating	Audit findings
		Changing rooms are in good condition.
Places Leisure Camberley	Good	Places Leisure Camberley is relatively new. It has a sprung wood floor with socket mounted posts and modern lighting. The floor is marked out for the standard range of sports (plus Boccia – which it plans to extend to all courts in the hall).
Tomlinscote Sports Centre	Below average	The hall is over 30 years old. The site has had some investment recently, with a new floor installed in 2020. It has limited but manageable storage.

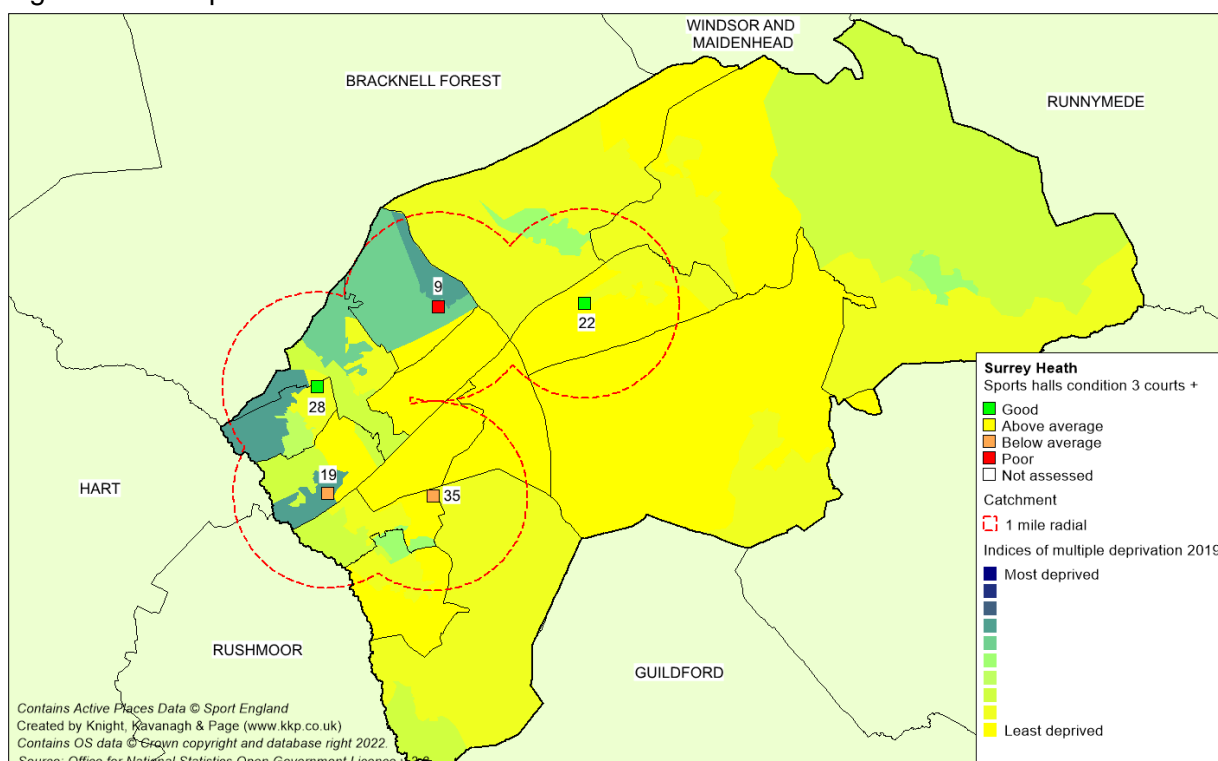
Table 4.5: Date of opening and refurbishment of sports halls

Site	Year built / opened	Last refurbished	Age since opened/refurbished
Collingwood College	2009		15
Kings International College	2006		18
Lightwater Leisure Centre	1998	2008	16
Places Leisure Camberley	2021		3
Tomlinscote Sports Centre	1991	2020	5

Accessibility

Sports hall accessibility is influenced by how far people are willing and able to travel to and from them. Walk and drive-time catchments are applied to determine facility accessibility to different communities. The normal (industry) standard is a 20-minute walk time (one-mile radial catchment) for urban areas and a 20-minute drive time for rural areas. In Surrey Heath, 57.6% of residents (50,582 in total) live within a one mile walk of a sports hall.

Figure 4.4: All sports halls with 3+ courts on IMD with one-mile radial catchments



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The whole Surrey Heath' population lives within a 20-minute drive of a publicly accessible sports hall with 3+ badminton courts or equivalent dimensions. As there is a relatively high level of car ownership, it would be assumed that the majority can access a community available sports hall.

Table 4.6: Accessibility to sports halls with 3+ courts

IMD 10% bands	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
20.1 - 30	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
30.1 - 40	4,950	5.6%	3,286	3.7%	1,664	1.9%
40.1 - 50	4,919	5.6%	4,662	5.3%	257	0.3%
50.1 - 60	4,724	5.4%	2,745	3.1%	1,979	2.3%
60.1 - 70	1,614	1.8%	1,614	1.8%	0	0.0%
70.1 - 80	7,805	8.9%	3,089	3.5%	4,716	5.4%
80.1 - 90	23,312	26.5%	11,515	13.1%	11,797	13.4%
90.1 - 100	40,563	46.2%	23,671	26.9%	16,892	19.2%
Total	87,887	100.0%	50,582	57.6%	37,305	42.4%

Facilities in neighbouring authorities

Accessibility is influenced by facilities located outside the authority. There are 15 sports halls with 3+ courts located within two miles (indicative of how far people may travel) of the Surrey Heath boundary. They include a total of 64 courts, 28 in Rushmoor, 13 in Woking with the remainder dispersed across Bracknell Forest (4), Guildford (7), Hart (4), Runnymede (4) and Windsor & Maidenhead (4). Of the 15, five are accessible on a pay and play basis. The largest pay and play facility is the Eastwood Leisure Centre in Woking, which has five courts.

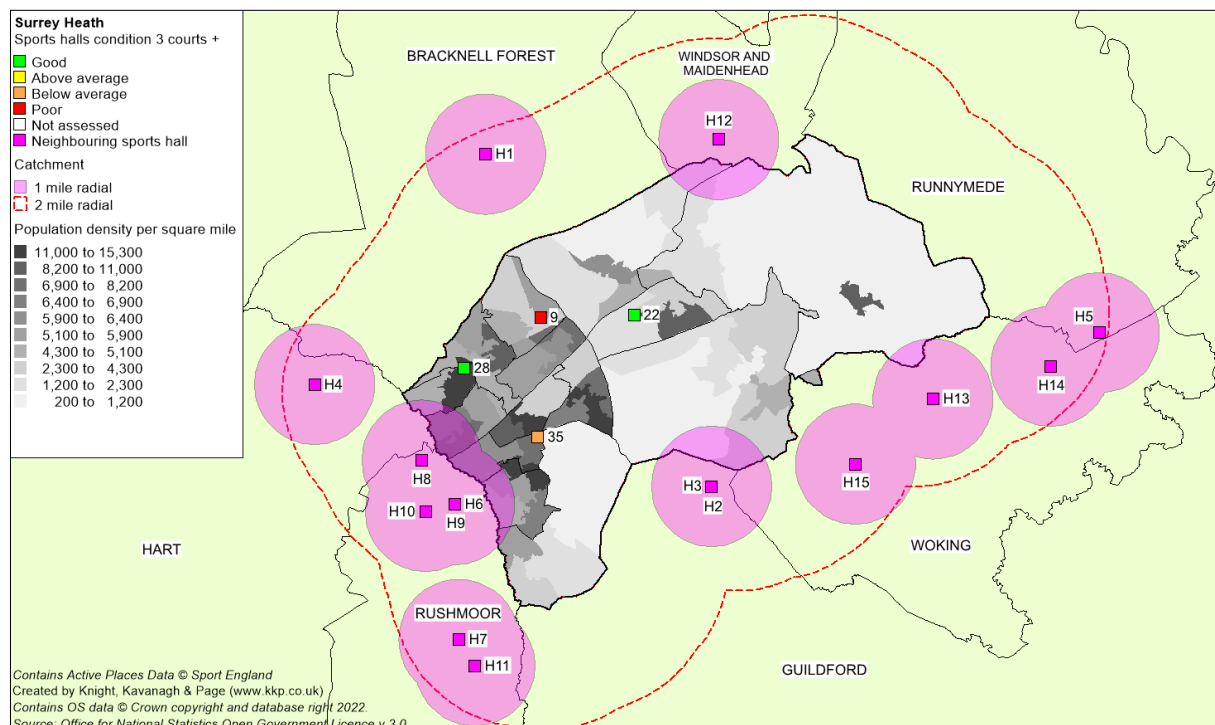
Facilities such as Frogmore Leisure Centre (HD4), The Sixth Form College Farnborough (HD6) and Fernhill School & Language college (HD8) are within close proximity to the more densely populated areas of Surrey Heath around Frimley and Camberley.

Table 4.7: Neighbouring sports halls with 3+ courts

Map ID	Site	Courts	Access	District
H1	David Lloyd (Royal Berkshire)	4	Reg. membership	Bracknell Forest
H2	The Lord Roberts Centre	4	Pay and play	Guildford
H3	The Lord Roberts Centre	3	Pay and play	Guildford
H4	Frogmore Leisure Centre	4	Pay and play	Hart
H5	Fullbrook Sports Centre	4	Pay and play	Runnymede
H6	The Sixth Form College Farnborough	4	Sports club/CA	Rushmoor
H7	Wavell Campus Leisure	4	Sports club/CA	Rushmoor
H8	Fernhill School & Language College	4	Sports club/CA	Rushmoor
H9	The Sixth Form College Farnborough	4	Sports club/CA	Rushmoor
H10	Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College	4	Sports club/CA	Rushmoor
H11	Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre (Aspire Defence Ground)	8	Sports club/CA	Rushmoor
H12	Charters Leisure Centre	4	Sports club/CA	Windsor/Maidenhead
H13	Woking High School	4	Sports club/CA	Woking
H14	Eastwood Leisure Centre	5	Pay and play	Woking
H15	Winston Churchill School (Sports Centre)	4	Pay and play	Woking

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Figure 4.6: Sports halls on IMD background based on 1 and 2-mile radial catchment.



Availability and facility management

The three community available school-based sports halls are owned and managed by the schools themselves. This can help keep the cost of hiring facilities lower but may also result in less usage unless a dedicated role is created within the school to manage bookings. No third-party lettings agents currently operate Surrey Heath schools. Tomlinscote Sports Centre is, however, marketed and promoted as a sports facility in its own right.

Table 4.8: Ownership and management of 3+ court sports halls with community access

Site name	Ownership	Management
Collingwood College	Single site academy trust	In-house
Kings International College	Bourne Education Trust	In-house
Tomlinscote Sports Centre	The Prospect Trust	In-house
Lightwater Leisure Centre	Local Authority	Community organisation (Lightwater Playing Fields Association)
Places Leisure Camberley	Local Authority	Places Leisure

Lightwater Leisure Centre and Places Leisure Camberley (containing 14 badminton courts) offer daytime (off peak) availability to users. Daytime and relevant programming can be important for residents who wish to use facilities at such times (such as older people and shift workers). Given that the number and proportion of older people in the Authority is increasing, providing adequate daytime available sports hall space is essential. Both facilities are located in the areas of higher population, meaning the majority of the population has access to a community available daytime sports hall.

Given the nature of school sites, their availability is limited to evenings and weekends. This significantly lowers the number of hours in which they can offer community use. Other factors such as staffing and community use agreements may also impact this.

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Table 4.9 details the total community use hours available for each sports hall, along with the accessibility details for each site. Community use hours are calculated using intelligence gathered via the audit and desk research. Table 4.10 details used capacity at each site. The percentages were determined based on booking information provided by the site and information gained via consultation. It is not possible to exactly gauge used capacity due to the changing nature of bookings on a week-by-week basis, the seasonality of sports and the varied use of sports halls for school exams.

As access to Kings International School was not obtained, utilisation details are not available.

Table 4.9: Community available hours and activities in sports halls 3+ courts

Site	Community use available hours	Daytime availability	Pay and play	Main sports played
Collingwood College	41	No	No	Basketball, Indoor cricket
Kings International College	n/a	No	No	n/a
Lightwater Leisure Centre	76	Yes	Yes	Badminton, netball, pickleball and table tennis.
Places Leisure Camberley	78	Yes	Yes	Boccia, football, badminton futsal, martial arts, dance, indoor football.
Tomlinscote Sports Centre	38	No	No	Badminton, disability football, netball, martial arts

As well as providing daytime use and pay and play access, both Lightwater Leisure Centre and Places Leisure Camberley have the highest number of hours available for community use. Both sites offer access from 06:00 to 22:00 on weekdays and 8:00-17:00 at weekends. The two school sites which were audited offered c.40 hours for community access.

Used capacity

Non-technical site audits identify the used capacity of each sports hall. Used capacity is the percentage of available community use hours used. Sport England identifies 80% as a 'comfortably full' benchmark.

Table 4.10: Used capacity of sports halls

Used capacity	Site
50%	Collingwood College
80%	Lightwater Leisure Centre
80%	Places Leisure Camberley
80%	Tomlinscote Sports Centre

(80% -Sport England's guidance threshold which is considered to be a "comfortably full" sports hall)

Three of the four facilities operate at the 80% threshold, meaning they have limited capacity to accommodate additional bookings. Consultation with Places Leisure Camberley states that at weekends, it operates at 90% whereas during the week, it is 72% full (averaging 80%). Its only spare slots are on a Friday or a Monday evening. Collingwood College was the only site which was operating below the 80% threshold. This may reflect its quality, as clubs and organisations could be put off by the fact that it is a poor-quality facility.

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4.2: Demand

NGB consultation

National governing bodies of sport (NGBs) and active clubs were consulted to ascertain current use, participation trends and the needs/challenges facing sports halls in the area.

Badminton England (BE)

BE is the national governing body of sport (NGB) for badminton. Its latest strategy, Discover Badminton 2017-2025 presents a vision for the sport to become one of the nation's most popular and to consistently win medals at world, Olympic and Paralympic levels. To achieve this, it has identified three key objectives:

- ◀ Grow grassroots participation.
- ◀ Create a system that identifies and develops player potential to deliver consistent world class performers.
- ◀ Build financial resilience to become a well governed organisation and demonstrate compliance with the UK governance code.

It applies a specific strategy model to assess court quality and sufficiency by local authority. the statistics for Surrey Heath are presented below.

Table 4.11: Overall statistics for Surrey Heath

Number of sites	12
Number of courts	35
Private use courts	4
Supply and demand balance (2019)	-0.9 courts
Supply and demand balance (2030)	-0.9 courts

Badminton England facilities modelling indicates that there is a small current and future deficit in terms of the supply and demand for badminton courts. It must be noted, however, that KKP's needs assessment differs from the findings of the BE model. While BE assumes that there are 35 community available courts, KKP's assessment only identifies 26. It should be noted that KKP's assessment is based on 3+ court sports hall facilities, whereas BE's assessment identifies all facilities which have halls with marked badminton courts (sports halls with one and two courts).

Consultation with BE outlined the need for increased quality and availability of badminton courts in Surrey Heath, in addition, there is a need to increase the number of qualified coaches in the Authority. In badminton workforce terms, it reports five 'No Strings co-ordinators' and one 'Smashup! activators'. There are six BE affiliated coaches in Surrey Heath.

BE identifies that Surrey Heath is not an area of strength for the sport, but it is keen to work with the Authority and partners to further develop the sport in the area.

There is currently one affiliated club in the Authority, Streets Heath Breakaways. It draws from the Camberley and Aldershot area. It currently has c.50 members who compete in three leagues (Aldershot & Camberley, Guildford & Surrey Badminton League) in what is a total of 14 teams of varying standards. It plays and trains at Lightwater Leisure Centre with which it reports having a good relationship. The key challenge reported by the club is retention and recruitment of players, in order to remain competitive across the local leagues.

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Netball

In November 2021, England Netball (EN) launched a ten-year 'Adventure Strategy' for the game along with a new organization brand identity. Its new strategy shares a purpose-led ambition for the game; to build on the momentum the sport has seen in recent years and to take it to new heights for the decade ahead.

The strategy outlines its intention to:

- ◀ Accelerate the development and growth of the game to every level, from grassroots to the elite.
- ◀ Elevate the visibility of the sport, and;
- ◀ Lead a movement to impact lives on and beyond the court.

At the heart of its purpose, EN commits to remaining dedicated to increasing opportunities for women and girls to play the game as a priority and to work to address the gender participation gap in the sport which has widened since the Pandemic. Underpinned by years of engaging with and delivering netball for female communities, EN pledges to understand, support and nurture women and girls more deeply at every life stage, at every age. A recent partnership announcement with England Men's and Mixed Netball Association (EMMNA) to help develop and grow male participation in the game, supports this commitment as EN pledges to promote difference and embrace the opportunity to make the sport available to all.

Transforming netball for children and young people is a strategic priority to help protect the future of the sport. EN is working with schools and policy makers to extend physical literacy within, and after the school day with a focus on netball specific provision. It is committed to accelerating the expansion of its Bee Netball programme for young children, whilst supporting teens and young women to stay in the game.

The Adventure Strategy was developed on the back of feedback from the Netball Family, with over 3,000 members and stakeholders consulted as part of the strategic process to understand what they wanted netball to 'look like' in 2031, the plan is aspirational and ambitious, and sees EN pledge to continue as a trailblazer for women's sport.

Facility development

Facility development aspirations stated within EN's Strategy are to:

- ◀ Take a fresh look at the spaces required to support the sport, creating accessible places in every community to allow netball to be incorporated into how and where women and girls live their lives.
- ◀ Protect, enhance, and extend the network of homes that house the sport at a local and regional level.
- ◀ Develop an elite domestic professional competition that supports full-time athletes underpinned by a world-class infrastructure and environments.

For EN to achieve its ambitions to make the game accessible to wider audiences and in every community, it encourages local authorities to adopt policies within outdoor and indoor sports facilities strategies that:

- ◀ Facilitate informal netball activity within neighbourhood multi-use games areas and neighbourhood equipped areas for play (NEAPs).
- ◀ Incorporates the cultural and health needs of women and girls within any designs for improved or new facilities.

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- ◀ Protects and enhances netball facilities within all primary and secondary school environments so they offer a positive first experience of the sport for students and the wider community during out-of-school hours.
- ◀ Supports the installation of floodlights on outdoor courts to increase all-year-round use.
- ◀ Facilitates the development of netball growth programmes, club training and competition within public leisure centres.
- ◀ Where appropriate, supports development of netball homes and performance environments to enable local women and girls to pursue a career in netball as an elite athlete, official, coach or administrator.

EN reports that the sport is growing fast nationally. Its YouGov¹² report indicated that the 2019 World Cup inspired 160,000 adult women to take up the sport. In addition, at the time when the report research was undertaken, 71% of clubs reported that more people had shown an interest in playing netball than before the tournament started.

Netball is played both indoors and outdoors. Consultation did not identify any location in the Authority where indoor netball is currently being played. In terms of structured recreational sessions promoted by England Netball, both Back to Netball and Walking Netball sessions are delivered outside the Authority.

- ◀ Back 2 Netball sessions are designed to re-introduce players to the sport. Sessions are run by coaches. A number are being delivered at sites in neighbouring authorities including Bracknell Leisure Centre, Woking Leisure Centre and Wokingham Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Walking Netball (netball played at a walking pace). This is designed so that anyone can play it regardless of age or fitness level. EN confirmed that currently sessions take place in neighbouring authorities, including Woking and Hart.

Outdoor Netball

There is limited outdoor netball played in the Authority, mainly due to the lack of large, good quality outdoor floodlit courts. Desktop research indicates that both Surrey Heath and Surrey Panthers netball clubs play matches outside the Borough; Surrey Heath Netball Club's training is at Connaught Junior School in Bagshot. It should be noted that the four outdoor netball courts outside Lightwater Leisure Centre are being converted into padel/pickleball courts in the next couple of months, which further reduces opportunities for outdoor netball in the Authority.

One netball club responded to the request for consultation: Lightwater Netball Club.

It currently has 25 members and uses Gordon's School in West End near Woking (during winter and the summer) playing on the two floodlit outdoor courts. It competes on a Thursday evening at a Play Netball league at St Catherine's School in Bramley (Waverley Borough). It has been at the School for four years and has a good relationship with it. As a Surrey Heath based club, it is keen to secure indoor hall use particularly during the winter months, however, consultation indicates there is limited spare capacity in sports halls, particularly on Tuesday/Thursday evenings.

Basketball

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

¹² <https://www.uksport.gov.uk/news/2019/10/02/netball-world-cup>

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

To increase opportunity to play the game at every level, BBE has produced a facilities strategy which aims to create community hubs including, where appropriate, arenas that sit at the heart of communities and are homes for the leading British Basketball League (BBL), Women's British Basketball League (WBBL) and community clubs. The stated intent is that as part of its facilities strategy implementation, BBE will regularly monitor provision in schools, colleges, universities, clubs and at local authority sites and identify any gaps, looking to improve connections between these organisations to increase the availability and affordability of facilities of the right quality.

BBE did not respond to consultation requests, however, Surrey Rams is located in Surrey Heath. It did not respond to requests for consultation although a number of its teams play in the Wessex League at the Collingwood School.

Pickleball

Runnymede Royals Pickleball is a large pickleball club operating across Surrey. It uses several sites, including, Charters School (Bracknell), Bracknell leisure centre, and Lightwater Leisure Centre. It currently has 400 members, mainly people aged 60+. It is a predominantly informal club; people turn up to play in a non-competitive environment, with the focus mainly on building social value and improving fitness. Membership has risen by 50% this year and it now has a waiting list. Its main challenge is facility availability, as there is insufficient sports hall space across the region available to hire. It currently offers 19 sessions per week.

4.3: Future demand and the Sport England Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC)

The SFC helps quantify additional demand for community sports facilities generated by new growth populations, development and regeneration areas. It is used to estimate facility needs for whole area populations but should not be applied for strategic gap analysis as it has no spatial dimension and does not take account of:

- ◀ Existing facility location compared to demand.
- ◀ Capacity and availability of existing facilities – opening hours.
- ◀ Cross boundary movement of demand.
- ◀ Travel networks and topography.
- ◀ Attractiveness of existing facilities.

Table 4.13: Surrey Heath SFC sports hall projection

	2019	2040
ONS population projections	90,645	102,597
Population increase		11,952
Facilities to meet additional demand		3.02cts/0.76 halls
Cost		£2,588,624

Population data source: SHBC Local Housing Needs Assessment 2020

As the population is expected to increase, the calculated demand for sports halls will also rise. By 2040, the SFC estimates that an additional 3.02 badminton courts/0.76 halls will be required in Surrey Heath.

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4.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Sports halls	-
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	Surrey Heath has 20 sports halls containing 37 badminton courts. It has five sports halls with 3+ courts (containing 26 badminton courts).	Places Leisure Camberley (8 courts) provides a high quality, flexible sports hall serving residents in the more urban, densely populated areas of the Authority. There are 15 3+court halls in neighbouring authorities. Levels of SFC anticipated population growth (2040) suggest a theoretical requirement for an additional 3 badminton courts in the borough.
Quality	Two sports halls are rated good quality, two are rated below average and one is rated as poor.	The pay and play sports halls (Places Leisure and Lightwater) are rated good quality. Kings International College, Tomlinscote Sports Centre and Collingwood College require investment to maintain/improve quality.
Accessibility	57.6% of the Surrey Heath's population lives within 1 mile of a community accessible sports hall. All residents live within a 20-minute drive of a sports hall with community use.	Car ownership levels in Surrey Heath are above average - levels of accessibility to sports hall are generally good. It is important nevertheless to ensure that there are good sustainable transport links to facilities for those who do not have a private vehicle.
Availability (Management and usage)	Of the five 3+ court sports halls, four provide some form of community availability, of which two are pay and play accessible. Three facilities are currently operating at Sport England's threshold of 'comfortably full'. One hall is operating below 80% used capacity and could take on increased demand. Kings International School does not offer any community bookings. Daytime availability of sports hall space is limited, with only two site providing access.	Consideration (where possible) should be given to reviewing the current programming arrangements at Places Leisure Camberley and Lightwater leisure centre to identify whether additional capacity can be identified for sports such as netball and basketball. This could include moving football to outdoor pitches. It may be helpful for SHBC Leisure Services to engage with neighbouring authorities to identify any spare hall capacity and signpost to relevant clubs and organisations. Any future (medium / long term) CIL / S106 contributions should be prioritised to the creation of additional sports hall provision.

Strategic summary

- ◀ Surrey Heath's two 'pay and play' sports hall facilities, at Places Leisure Camberley and Lightwater Leisure Centre provide a good quality offer serving the two main settlements in the Borough (Camberley and Frimley).
- ◀ Tomlinscote Sports Centre, Kings International College and Collingwood College will require short/medium term investment to improve their quality and ensure they continue to offer a good standard of community accessibility.
- ◀ Consultation and KKP's analysis indicate that each of the four halls is close to being fully utilised, with all but one currently operating above the 80% capacity. It is suggested that Places Leisure/Lightwater Leisure Centre should, where possible, review their current programmes of use and attempt to identify additional capacity for those sports clubs that require it.

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- ◀ The Authority should also work with neighbouring authorities to identify where clubs / organisations can be signposted to venues with spare capacity.
- ◀ When considering anticipated population growth (to 2040) the SFC calculates a theoretical requirement for three additional badminton courts in the Borough.
- ◀ It is recommended that in the longer term SHBC undertakes a Sport England Facilities Planning Model assessment for sports halls to provide further quantitative assessment of current and future sports hall requirements in the Borough.
- ◀ In the medium / longer term, consideration should be given to providing additional sports hall capacity into the Borough supply.
- ◀ Due to the growing number of older (60+) residents in the Authority and the popularity of Pickleball amongst this age group, it important to ensure that the new courts at Lightwater Leisure Centre are marketed and priced accordingly to ensure that they are well used by this demographic.

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SECTION 5: SWIMMING POOLS

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

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

The NGB responsible for administering diving, swimming, synchronised swimming and water polo in England is Swim England.

Swim England’s report ‘A Decade of Decline: The Future of Swimming Pools in England’ provides a national analysis of the current swimming pool stock across England. It notes that the average age of a pool built from 1960 onwards is 43 years. On this basis it suggests that many of these pools are now coming to the end of their lifespan.

Many pool operators were placed in a serious financial situation during the pandemic, when many local authorities provided emergency financial support through direct grants, deferred payments or loans to subsidise pool operators who had suffered loss of income due to pool closures.

UK Government’s £100 million National Leisure Recovery Fund also provided assistance to enable pools to re-open once restrictions had been lifted. Despite this, Swim England reports that 206 pools (including 68 public pools) closed, either permanently or temporarily over the period of the Pandemic.

In preparing for the future, Swim England recommend that local authorities conduct analysis of their pool stock to understand if they have the right pools in the right places to meet the needs of the local community. In the light of leisure facilities accounting for over 40% cent of some councils’ direct carbon emissions it advocates capital investment into renewal of pool stock in order to support efforts to reach net zero targets, alongside combating the predicted overall future deficit of water space nationally.

5.1: Supply

This assessment is mostly concerned with larger pools available for community use (no restrictions to accessing the pool as a result of membership criteria). Those with less than 160m² (e.g., 20m x 4 lanes) water space and/or located at private member clubs are deemed to offer limited value in relation to community use and delivery of outcomes related to health and deprivation. It is recognised that smaller pools can accommodate learning/ teaching sessions, but they are, for modelling/needs assessment purposes, deemed unable to offer a full swim programme and, thus, eliminated from the supply evaluation, when considering accessibility and availability later in this section.

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Quantity

The audit identifies 12 swimming pools at 10 sites. This includes all pools irrespective of size and access. The supply comprises four main pools, three learner/teaching sized-pools and five lidos (outdoor pools).

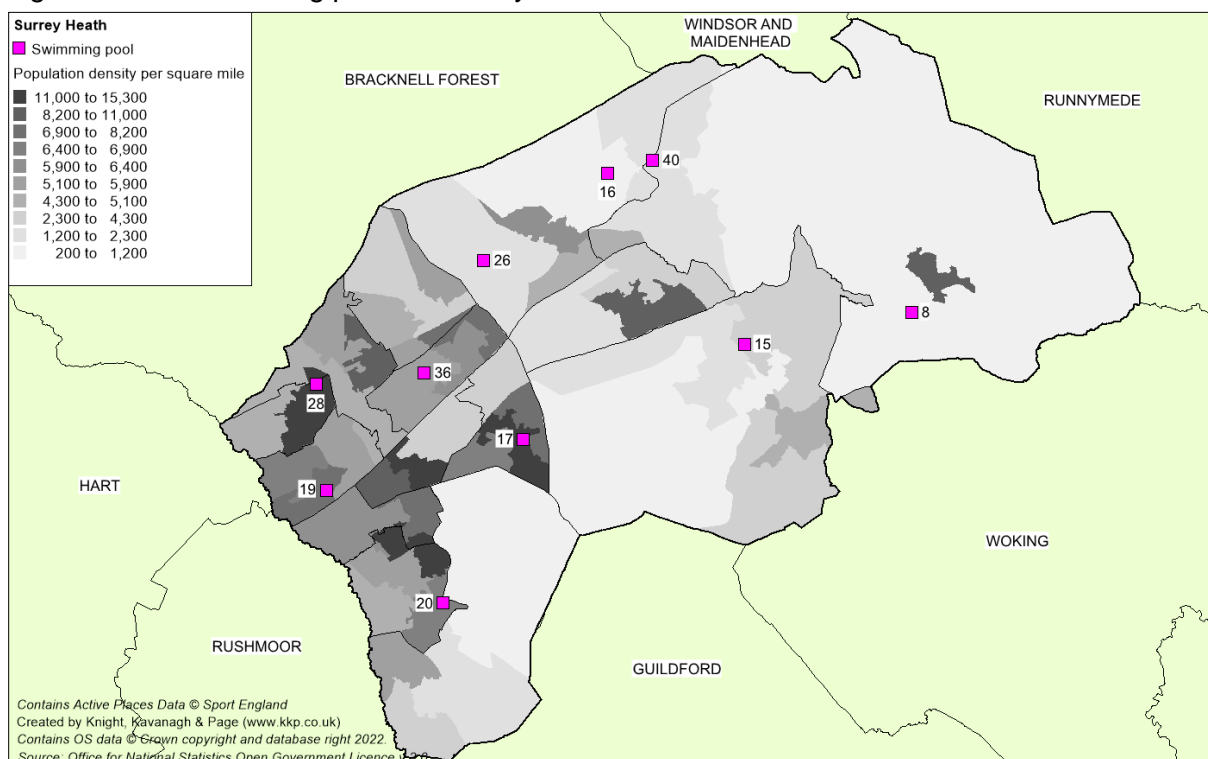
The main pool, Places Leisure Camberley, services the Authority's main area of heavier population density in the west. It opened in 2021 and has two pools, a 6 lane x 25m (325m²) main pool and a 20m learner pool (140 m²). The venue offers a range of swimming options, including lane swimming, club swimming, pay and play and swimming lessons.

Two other pools are greater or equal to 160m² and therefore subject to audit assessment. These are at Pennyhill Park Hotel and Kings International College. Pennyhill Park is a high-end private hotel pool and spa facility which can be accessed by paying guests or via a registered membership, meanwhile, desk research suggests that the 20m (160m²) pool at Kings International College is currently operated solely for pupils of the school.

Of the remaining pools smaller than 160m², and therefore omitted from assessment, desk research identifies that the pool at Gordons School (14m x 4m / 109m²) is used extensively for curricular and school competition purposes but has no wider programme of community use. The five lidos are located on school sites and while potentially able provide a degree of community benefit, do not offer capacity to offer a structured swimming programme. One small commercial pool is located at Frimley Hall Hotel and Spa. This is for member use only.

In terms of notable smaller pools (not mapped nor counted in the supply), consultation with SHBC identified a small hydro therapy pool in Bagshot (Downwind Bagshot) which solely specialises in 0-4 yrs swimming lessons. The facility is located in a private residential house and operates 7 days a week. It is a popular site which provides opportunities for a number of companies, including Puddleducks, Tadpole Swim School, Waves & Aquababies.

Figure 5.1: All swimming pools in Surrey Heath



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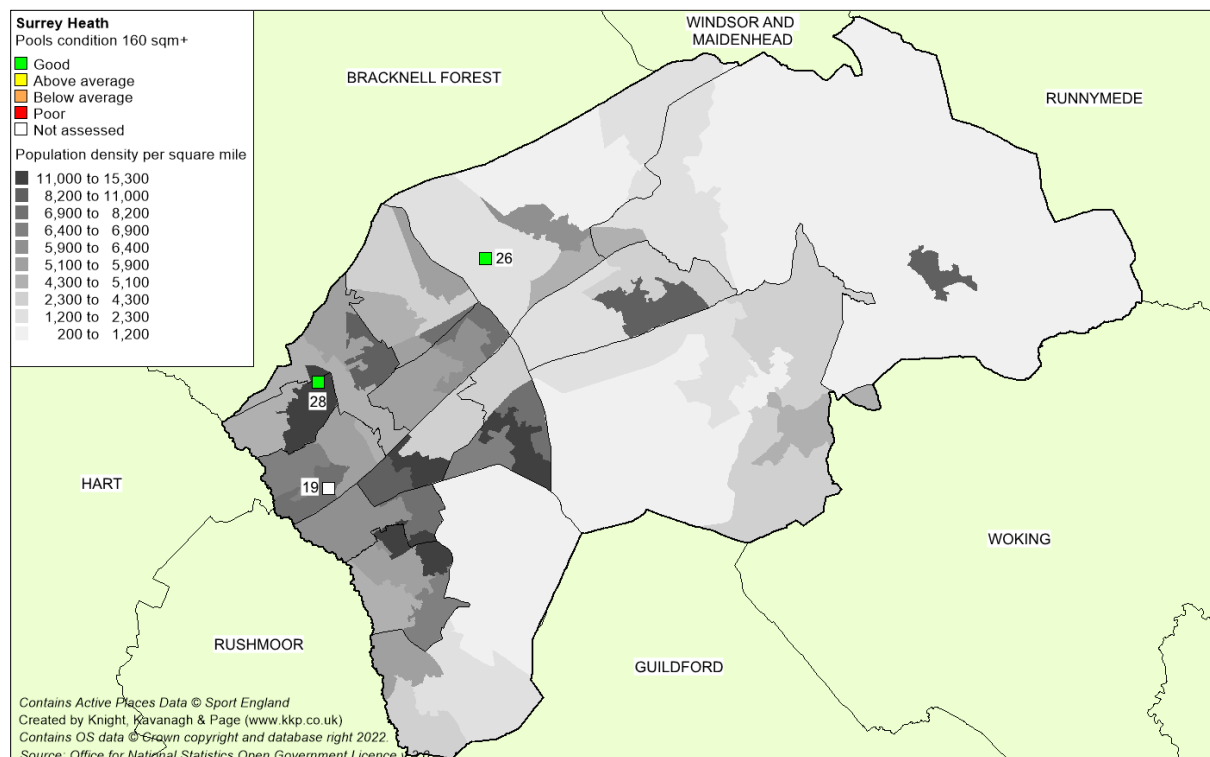
Table 5.1: All swimming pools in Surrey Heath

ID	Site	Sub-type	Lanes/length	Area
8	Chobham St Lawrence C of E Primary School	Lido	0/10	60
15	Gordons School	Learner/teaching	4/14.5	109
16	Hall Grove School	Lido	0/14	98
17	Heather Ridge Infant School	Lido	0/10	50
19	Kings International College	Main/general	20	160
20	Lakeside Health & Fitness Club	Learner/teaching	0/13.5	54
26	Pennyhill Park	Main/general	0/25	250
26	Pennyhill Park	Lido	0/18	144
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Main/general	6/25	325
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Learner/teaching	0/20	140
36	Vital Health & Wellbeing (Frimley Hall Hotel and Spa)	Main/general	0/17	85
40	Woodcote House School	Lido	2/11	66

Quality

Of the three 160m² + swimming pools taken included in this assessment, two are rated good quality and one (Kings International College) was unassessed. Desk research identifies that the pool at Kings International College was refurbished in 2015. Both the main and learner pools at Places Leisure Camberley are rated as good quality reflecting the relatively recent construction and modern layout of this venue.

Figure 5.2: Swimming pools larger than 160m²+ in length with quality ratings.



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The pool at Pennyhill Park Hotel is also rated good quality reflecting its position as a premium commercial facility, pitched at residents able to afford a high monthly membership charge.

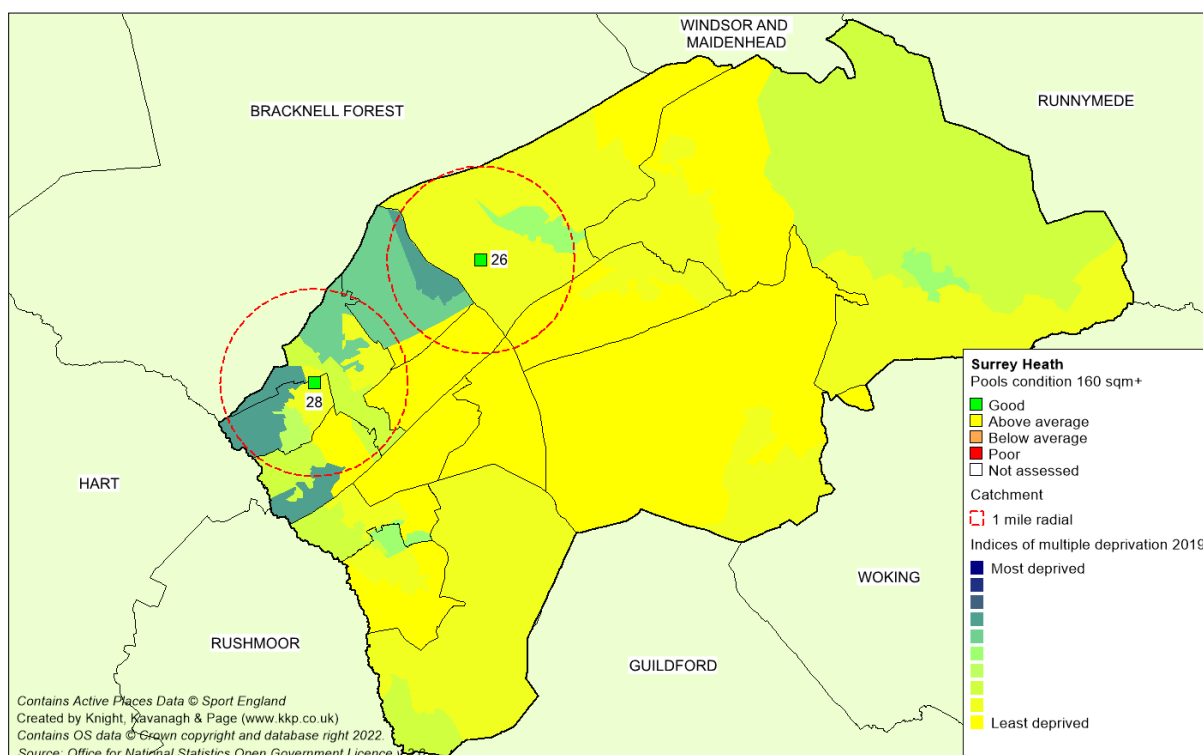
Table 5.2: Quality of 160m²+ swimming pools in Surrey Heath

Map ID	Site	Sub-type	Length (m)	Area (m ²)	CU	Condition
19	Kings International College	Main/General	20	160	No	n/a
26	Pennyhill Park	Main/General	25	250	Yes	Good
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Main/General	25	325	Yes	Good
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Learner/teaching	20	140	Yes	Good

Accessibility

Swimming pool accessibility is influenced by physical traits such as the built environment. Appropriate walk and drive-time catchments are applied to determine accessibility to communities. The normal acceptable standard is 20-minutes' walk time (1-mile radial catchment) for an urban area and a 20-minutes' drive time for a rural area. This enables analysis of the adequacy of coverage and helps identify areas currently not serviced by existing provision. NB As Kings International College is currently solely available to its own students, it is therefore classed as a private use facility and removed from analysis in terms of its accessibility.

Figure 5.3: Walk-time based accessibility of swimming pools in Surrey Heath



In reference to table 5.3 below, catchment analysis indicates that just over a quarter (27.0%) of the population lives within one mile of the two pools that has some level of community use, at Places Camberley and Pennyhill Park.

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Should Kings International College become community available, coverage would increase to 37% of residents living within a mile of a swimming pool.

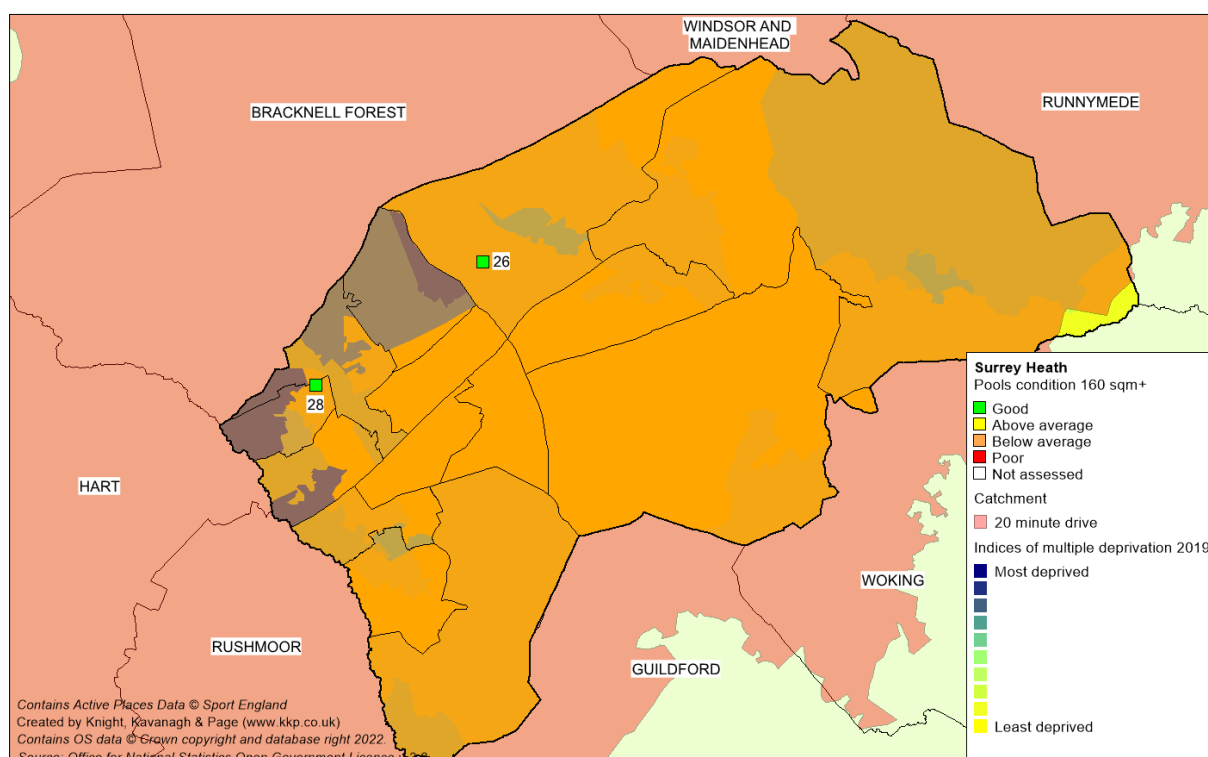
The level of current accessibility reduces to 16.7% when just including the sole public 'pay and play' facility at Places Leisure Camberley. This is an important distinction given that Pennyhill Park is a premium commercial facility with membership costs at over £3,900 a year and therefore likely to be unaffordable to a significant portion of the population.

In terms of a drive time (20-minute) catchment, virtually the whole Surrey Heath population lives within a drive of the two pools. There is a very small gap in the east, however, this area is very rural with limited population.

Table 5.3: Swimming pool accessibility – Surrey Heath

IMD 10% bands	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
20.1 - 30	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
30.1 - 40	4,950	5.6%	3,255	3.7%	1,695	1.9%
40.1 - 50	4,919	5.6%	3,138	3.6%	1,781	2.0%
50.1 - 60	4,724	5.4%	1,473	1.7%	3,251	3.7%
60.1 - 70	1,614	1.8%	1,614	1.8%	0	0.0%
70.1 - 80	7,805	8.9%	2,538	2.9%	5,267	6.0%
80.1 - 90	23,312	26.5%	6,625	7.5%	16,687	19.0%
90.1 - 100	40,563	46.2%	5,078	5.8%	35,485	40.4%
Total	87,887	100.0%	23,721	27.0%	64,166	73.0%

Figure 5.4: Drive time accessibility of swimming pools in Surrey Heath



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Availability of swimming pools

Swimming pool availability differs dependent upon ownership and/or management. Two of the three facilities audited offer some form of public access. Site access policy is detailed below.

Table 5.4: Access policy of swimming pools

Site name	Access policy
Pennyhill Park	Registered Membership use
Places Leisure Camberley	Pay and play
Kings International College	School only use

(NB: Sports Club / CA = Sports Club / Community Association use)

Of the three facilities, Places Leisure Camberley is the only one in the Authority which offers pay and play access to swimming. 16.7% of the population reside within one mile of Places Leisure Camberley, however, 99.4% live with a 20-minute drive of the facility. With car ownership being significantly above average, a good level of accessibility to this pool is achieved across the Surrey Heath population.

Figure 5.5: Accessibility of pay and play swimming pools in Surrey Heath

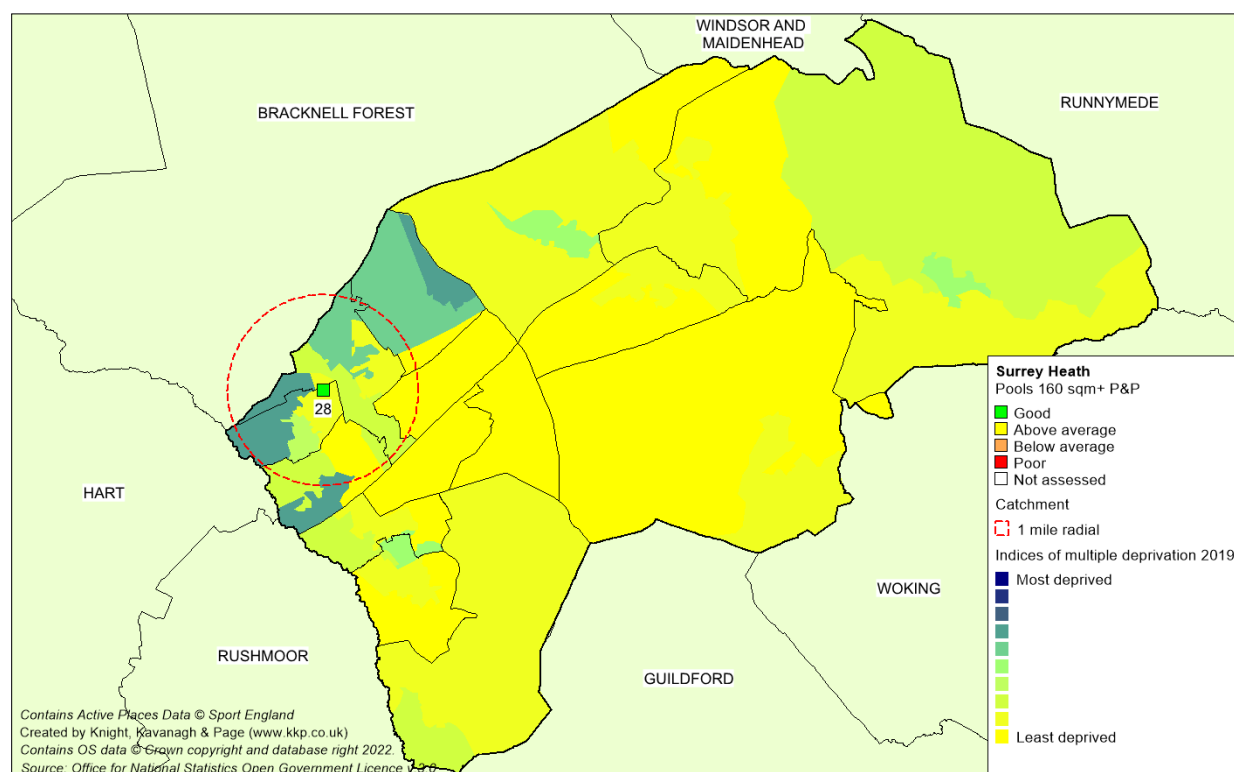


Table 5.5: Accessibility of pay and play swimming in Surrey Heath

IMD 10% bands	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
20.1 - 30	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
30.1 - 40	4,950	5.6%	1,849	2.1%	3,101	3.5%
40.1 - 50	4,919	5.6%	2,119	2.4%	2,800	3.2%

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50.1 - 60	4,724	5.4%	0	0.0%	4,724	5.4%
60.1 - 70	1,614	1.8%	1,614	1.8%	0	0.0%
70.1 - 80	7,805	8.9%	2,538	2.9%	5,267	6.0%
80.1 - 90	23,312	26.5%	3,948	4.5%	19,364	22.0%
90.1 - 100	40,563	46.2%	2,580	2.9%	37,983	43.2%
Total	87,887	100.0%	14,648	16.7%	73,239	83.3%

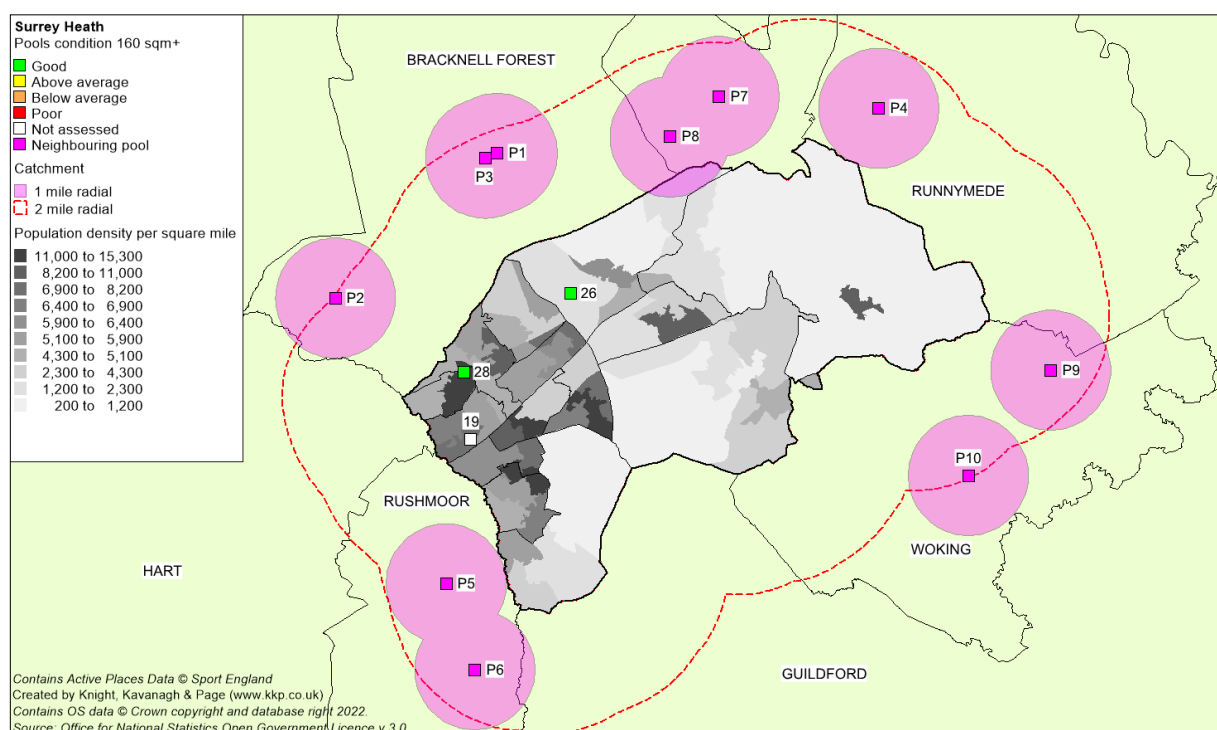
Facilities in neighbouring authorities

Accessibility is influenced by facilities located outside an authority. Nine pools (160m²+) across nine sites are located within two miles of the Surrey Heath boundary; two in Rushmoor, three in Bracknell Forest, two in Windsor and Maidenhead, one in Runnymede and two in Woking. Four of these offer pay and play access; Eastwood Leisure Centre (P9), Coral Reef Leisure Pool (P1), Woking Leisure Centre & Pool in the Park (P10) and Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre (P5).

Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre, home to Rushmoor Royals Swimming Club is located within two miles of the south western border of the Authority. It offers a varied programme of pay and play swimming, lessons, and is open every evening for lane swimming. It is, thus, an attractive alternative for residents living in the west of the Authority. In addition, sites such as Eastwood Leisure Centre and Woking Leisure Centre could be an attractive alternative for swimming lessons and pay and play swimming for residents living in the east.

Rushmoor District Council has recently been successful in attaining £20 million of Levelling Up funding, which will support the development of a new leisure centre in Farnborough town centre (c. 5 miles to the South of Places Leisure Camberley and replacing the former centre which closed permanently in 2021). It is proposed that the facility will consist of 6 x 25m swimming pool, learner pool and a c100 station gym with the intention being to complete the build by autumn 2027.

Figure 5.6: Swimming pools located within 2 miles of Surrey Heath boundary



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Table 5.6: Neighbouring community available pools within 2-mile radial of Surrey Heath

ID	Site	Sub-type	Lanes	Length	Access	
P3	David Lloyd (Berkshire)	Main/general	6	25	Reg. membership	Bracknell Forest
P4	Wentworth Club	Main/general	0	25	Reg membership	Runnymede
P6	Aldershot Garrison	Main/general	8	50	Pay and play	Rushmoor
P1	Coral Reef Leisure Pool	Leisure pool	0	23	Pay and play	Bracknell Forest
P8	St Marys School Ascot	Main/general	5	25	Sports club/CA	W & M
P2	Eagle House School	Main/general	4	22	Sports Club/CA	Bracknell Forest
P5	Village Gym (Farnborough)	Main/general	3	20	Reg. membership	Rushmoor
P7	Marist Senior School	Main/general	4	19	Sports club/CA	W & M
P9	Eastwood LC	Main/general	6	25	Pay and play	Woking
P10	Woking Leisure Centre & Pool in the Park	Main/General	6	25	Pay and play	Woking

(*The audit identified a discrepancy with APP information. This table contains the updated facility mix).

5.2: Demand

Places Leisure

Consultation with Places Leisure confirms that the operator delivers a swimming lesson programme at the Camberley site which runs for 50 weeks per year and is catering for 2,200 learners. This represents 90% of available swimming lesson capacity. There is no current waiting list.

NGB consultation

Swim England calculates a current deficit of 630m² of water space in Surrey Heath, based on a current available supply of 438m² of water space. This is based on its standard of achieving 12m² of water space per 1000 population within a Local Authority area. This analysis does not take account of the spatial location of demand in the Authority or the contribution of neighbouring facilities to meeting need in Surrey Heath.

It recommends that, given this deficit, future planning should consider incorporating an aim to increase the level of water provision in the Authority.

Swim England also states that due to this shortfall, clubs have struggled to get access to the main Camberley leisure centre and are thus using other venues, such as the one in Aldershot.

Club consultation

Two swimming clubs use facilities at Places Leisure Camberley.

Rushmoor Royals is based at the garrison site in Aldershot, however it also uses the pool in Camberley three evenings a week for two hours per session across three of the six lanes. It currently has a six-month arrangement with the operator for this. Its membership currently totals 180 most of whom come from Camberley and Aldershot. Membership numbers dropped post-Covid (by 40%), however, this has steadily risen, and they have returned to 2020 levels.

It reports having a positive relationship with the operator, but it would like additional pool time, particularly on a Monday evening (ideally all six lanes). It would also like to create a joint

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progression pathway from the Places Leisure learn to swim programme, to progress any athletes who are gifted and talented.

Farnborough Fins could not be contacted as part of the consultation; however, desk research suggests that it delivers swimming lessons at Places Leisure Camberley.

5.3: Sport England’s Facilities Calculator (SFC)

As noted earlier, this assists local planning authorities to quantify additional demand for community sports facilities generated by new growth populations, development and regeneration. It is used to estimate facility needs for whole area populations but should not be applied for strategic gap analysis as it has no spatial dimension as it does not take account of:

- ◀ Existing facility location compared to demand.
- ◀ Capacity and availability of existing facilities – opening hours.
- ◀ Cross boundary movement of demand.
- ◀ Travel networks and topography.
- ◀ Attractiveness of facilities.

Table 5.8: Sports facilities calculator

Factor	Population 2019	Population estimate 2040
ONS population projections	90,645	102,597
Population increase		11,952
Facilities to meet change in demand		2.39 lanes/0.65 pools
Cost		£3,113,298

Population data source: SHBC Local Housing Needs Assessment 2020

The projected increase in population will lead to an increase in demand for swimming space. The SFC indicates a requirement for an additional 2.39 lanes (equivalent to 0.65 swimming pools, up to 2040 (estimated cost: £3,113,298).

5.4: Summary of key facts and issues

In summary, the above consultation and analysis indicates that Surrey Heath is in the following position with regards to its swimming pool provision:

Facility type	Swimming pools	Swimming pools
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are 12 pools at 10 sites. Three are 160m ² or larger. Only one of these is a public pool.	Places Leisure Camberley is an attractive, flexible modern pool centrally located and serving the most densely populated part of the Authority. Swim England indicate a current shortfall of c600m ² water space in the Borough. Population growth to 2040 indicates a theoretical requirement for an additional 2.39 lanes of water space when measured via the SFC.
Quality	Two of the three large pools are rated good quality. The third, at Kings International College, was unassessed.	While Places Leisure Camberley is rated as good quality, SHBC should work with the operator to ensure that the required long-term maintenance schedule is delivered to maintain quality of the facility.

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Facility type	Swimming pools	Swimming pools
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Accessibility	<p>Just over one quarter of the population (27%) live within a mile of a pool greater than 160m². Accessibility would rise to 37% on this measure should Kings International College become community available. Current 1-mile accessibility reduces to 16.7% when considering the sole pay and play public facility at Places Leisure Camberley).</p> <p>Virtually all Surrey Heath resident live within a 20-minute drivetime of Places Leisure Camberley.</p> <p>There is a good level of accessibility to public pools in neighbouring authorities, particularly sites in Aldershot and Woking.</p>	<p>Car ownership levels in Surrey Heath are high indicating that a good proportion of the local population is able to access a swimming facility.</p> <p>There is a need to ensure that sustainable travel links (including bus travel) are available to Places Leisure Camberley, for those who cannot access a private vehicle.</p>
Availability (Management and usage)	<p>Currently, one pool is available for pay and play use. One other can be accessed via registered membership – albeit at a premium commercial price point.</p> <p>There are three pay and play facilities within a 20-minute drive in neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>A further 25m public pool is planned to be open in Farnborough by autumn 2027.</p>	<p>Places Leisure report a small level of spare capacity in respect of swimming lessons.</p> <p>There is a need to undertake regular reviews of programming at Places Leisure Camberley to ensure that the whole community (including casual swims) is suitably provided for.</p>

Strategic summary

- ◀ Places Leisure Camberley is the only publicly accessible 160m²+ pool in the Authority. It is a high quality, modern, flexible venue serving the more densely populated part of the Borough.
- ◀ There is strong demand for swimming lessons in the Authority, and demand for additional programmed pool time from Rushmoor Royals SC.
- ◀ There are good levels of accessibility to pools in neighbouring facilities, in particular the 50m pool at Aldershot Garrison, located close to Camberley. The high level of car ownership in Surrey Heath increases the accessibility of such facilities.
- ◀ Swim England calculates that there is a current shortfall of c.600m² of water space (based on a 12m² per '000 population facilities per head ratio). This analysis does not take account of the spatial location of demand in the Authority or the contribution of neighbouring facilities to meeting need in Surrey Heath.
- ◀ The Sports Facilities Calculator indicates a theoretical requirement for around 2.4 lanes of a 25m pool to accommodate future population growth by 2040. This level of growth is not sufficient to justify a new pool in its own right.
- ◀ It is recommended that the Authority commissions a Sport England FPM (Facilities Planning Model) swimming pool assessment to add a further level of quantitative and spatial analysis in terms of future demand and to assess where significant levels of unmet demand for swimming lie in the Authority and the demand technically satisfied by pools in neighbouring authorities.
- ◀ Kings International College's pool is currently solely only available for student use. It is recommended that SHBC initiates dialogue with both the School and Swim England Business Engagement Team in respect of determining the possibility of opening this facility for community use, to increase supply of water space in the Authority.

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SECTION 6: HEALTH AND FITNESS SUITES

According to the most recent ALS data¹³, around 11.4 million adults regularly engage in some form of fitness type activity (i.e., using gym equipment, a weights session, fitness class, or interval session). The popularity of fitness activities is reflective of their taking place across wide range of facilities including larger gyms (run on behalf of the local authority by companies and/or Trusts, managed in-house or private sector operators), and also other smaller activity spaces such as village and community halls.

Fitness studios also vary in their size and function, from relatively large rooms within leisure centres often containing a sprung floor, to smaller spaces (often within community and village halls) which may serve as dedicated spinning (indoor cycling) studios or to hold virtual fitness classes. Studio based timetabled classes such as pilates, yoga, dance, step, boxercise and Zumba usually generate a significant amount of activity within publicly operated provision and comprise a core benefit of a health and fitness membership.

In terms of trends in the market, prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the UK health and fitness industry was enjoying a strong period of growth. It had more gyms, more members and a greater market value than ever before. The State of the Fitness Industry Report UK for 2022 found that membership levels dropped by around 5% since 2019 as a result of the Pandemic and numbers of facilities had also reduced. This correlates with ALS data which measured regular pre-Pandemic activity levels at around 14 million. Pure Gym and GLL remain the UK's leading operators (by number of gyms and members).

Health and fitness facilities are a core element within the transitioning of public leisure facilities towards delivering on wider health improvement outcomes. A leisure operator's role in providing for people with long term health conditions, including via exercise referral is critical. Fitness studios may 'double up' as spaces where NHS services such as physiotherapy, health screening, and weight management can take place alongside gentle exercise classes.

Larger health and fitness gyms containing a mix of flexible spaces (such as cardio, free weights and boxing equipment, (80 stations +¹⁴) remain central to the financial viability of public sector leisure centres. When combined with multiple studio facilities offering a good mix (and sufficient number) of classes, these usually offer the most profitable spaces within a typical leisure centre.

The past decade or so has also seen a growth in the prevalence of operators offering 'functional fitness' type equipment and activities. This form of fitness is a type of strength training that readies your body for daily activities and includes lifting, loading, pushing, pulling, squatting and hauling. This is manifested both in terms of small private facilities, and the incorporation of functional fitness spaces within publicly operated health and fitness facilities.

6.1: Supply

Quantity

There are 11 health and fitness gyms in Surrey Heath, with a total of 929 stations. Generally, they are in more densely populated areas, such as Camberley and Frimley. Spatially, there is a good spread across the Borough, with all main population centres being served.

¹³ [Active Lives adult survey Nov 20-21 report](#)

¹⁴ A health and fitness 'station' is defined as a piece of static fitness equipment – KKP normally audits facilities of 20 stations or more.

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Figure 6.1: All health and fitness gyms on population density

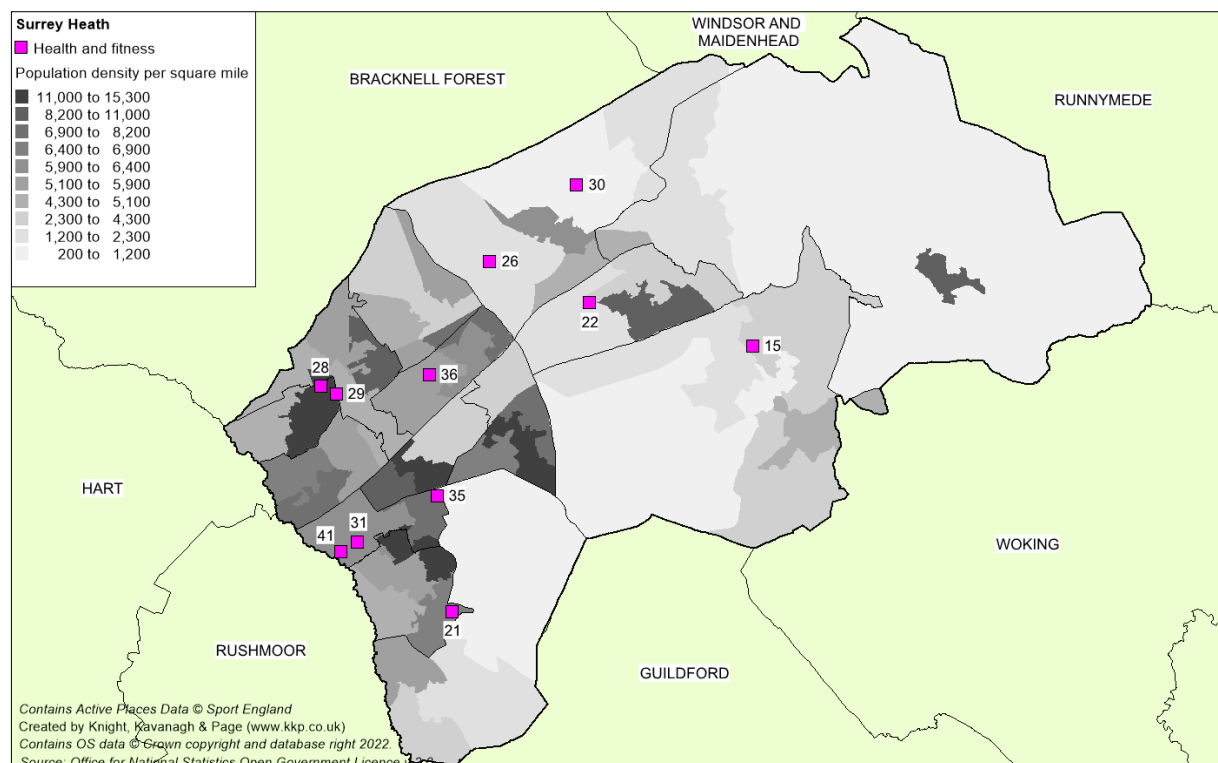


Table 6.1: All health and fitness gyms in Surrey Heath

ID	Site	Stations
15	Gordons School	12
21	Lakeside Leisure Complex	45*
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	140
26	Pennyhill Park	30
28	Places Leisure Camberley	160
29	Puregym (Camberley)	220
30	Snap Fitness (Bagshot)	150
31	Snap Fitness (Frimley)	150
35	Tomlinscote Sports Centre	22
36	Vital Health & Wellbeing (Frimley Hall Hotel And Spa)	20
41	Maximus Gym	25
Total		929

Fitness facilities with fewer than 20 stations are typically not assessed/considered large enough to be a community gym although they can service small sections of the community. When the smaller facility (at Gordons School) is removed from the supply calculation, 10 facilities with 20+ stations (917 stations in total) remain. The largest of these; Puregym (220 stations) and Places Leisure (160 stations) are located in Camberley.

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Quality

All sites received a non-technical quality assessment. The majority were rated either good or above average. Only one is rated below average (Tomlinscote Sports Centre).

Figure 6.2: Health and fitness gym quality (20+ stations)

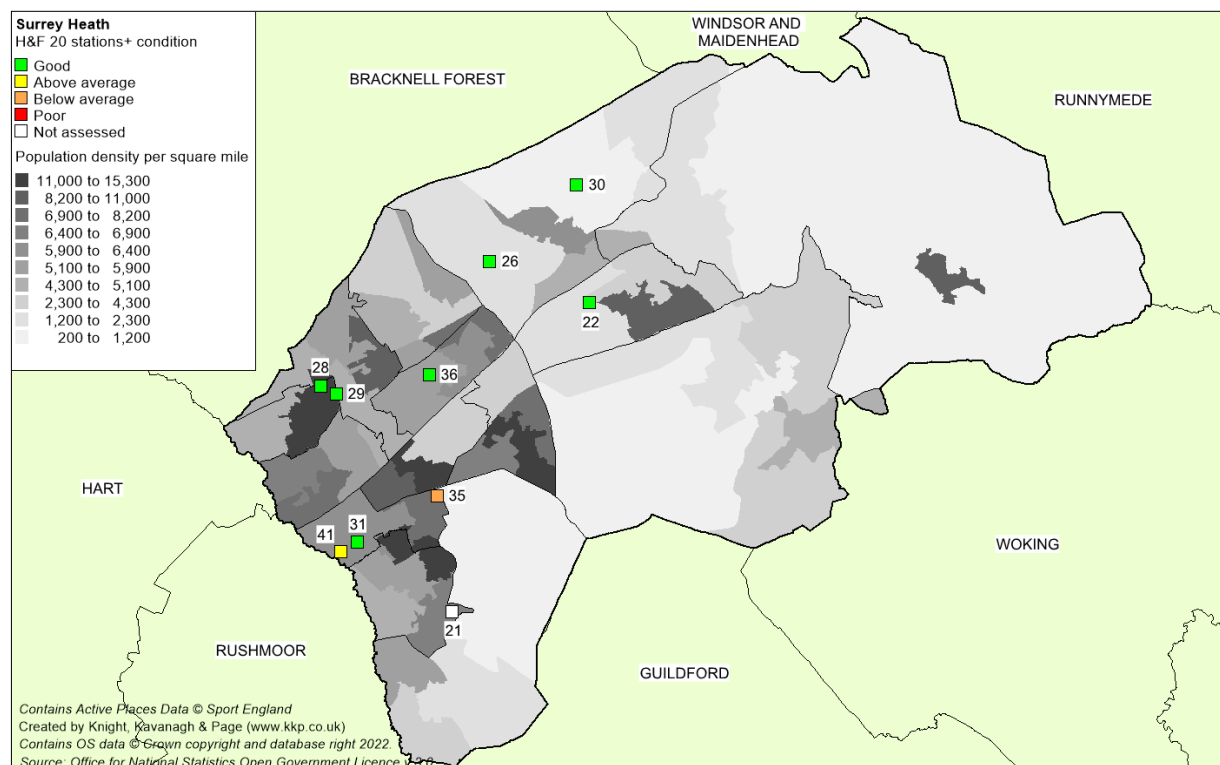


Table 6.3: Health & fitness suites with 20+ stations by condition

ID	Site	Stations	Condition
20	Lakeside Health & Fitness Club	45	n/a
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	140	Good
26	Pennyhill Park	30	Good
28	Places Leisure Camberley	160	Good
29	Puregym (Camberley)	220	Good
30	Snap Fitness (Bagshot)	150	Good
31	Snap Fitness (Frimley)	150	Good
35	Tomlinscote Sports Centre	22	Below average
36	Vital Health & Wellbeing (Frimley Hall Hotel And Spa)	20	Good
41	Maximus Gym	25	Above average
Total		917	

The two large publicly accessible fitness suites (Places Leisure Camberley and Lightwater Leisure Centre) are both rated good quality. Places Leisure Camberley is a modern, attractive and relatively new centre, (opened in 2021). Lightwater Leisure Centre’s fitness suite ‘good’ rating is reflective of its recent refurbishment in 2023. This included new equipment, improved decor and the creation of group training areas.

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All private gyms are rated good, including the chain operators of Puregym and Snap Fitness. As noted above, the only site rated as below average is Tomlinscote Sports Centre. This is a small (22 station) facility located on a school site. Its rating is reflective of its relatively dated layout and equipment.

A combination of consultation and desktop research identified that Lakeside Health & Fitness Club is currently closed. It is unknown when this facility will be reopened. It has, however, been retained as part of the assessment.

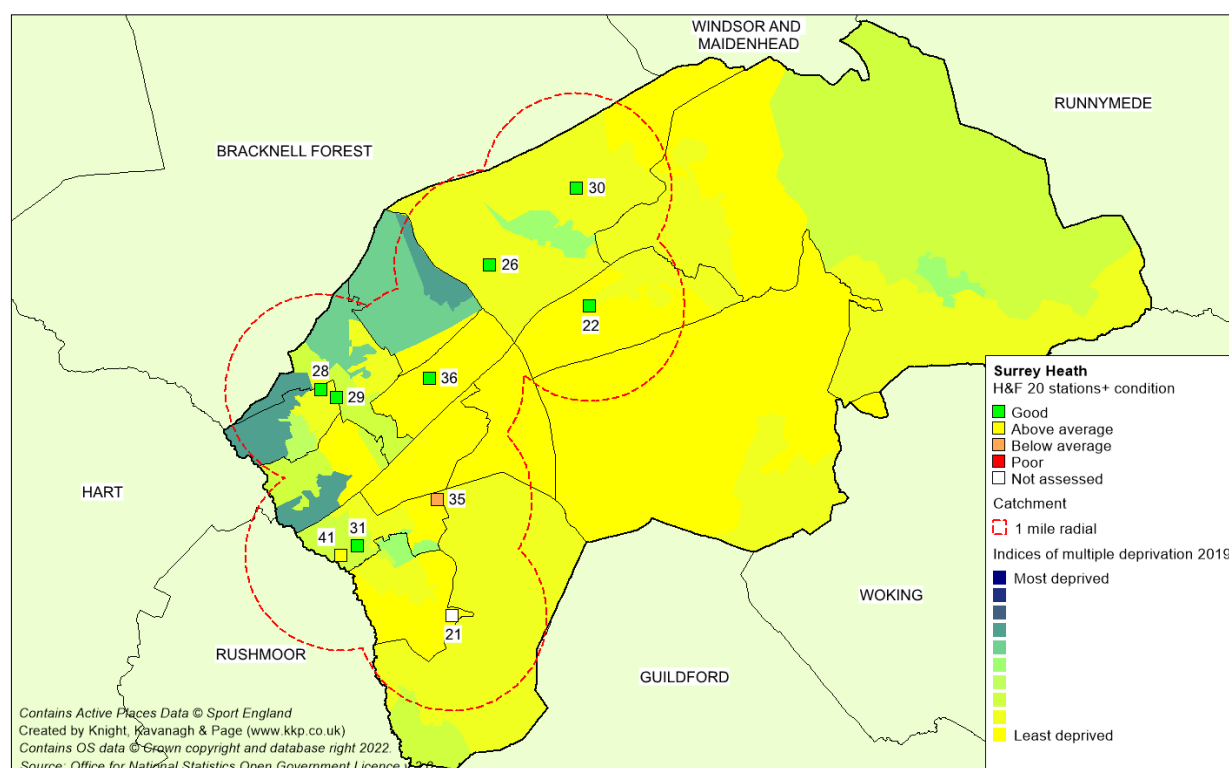
Accessibility

The Sport England classification of access type defines registered membership use facilities as being publicly available. For health and fitness suites, this generally means payment of a monthly membership fee which can vary considerably. Private operators do not have a contractual obligation to, for example, offer exercise referral nor do they necessarily actively target people/communities who face barriers to participation. It is also acknowledged that some memberships are expensive while others are cheaper than those offered by public sector venues. There is little doubt that private operators can take pressure off public facilities.

As with pools and sports halls, appropriate walk and drive-time accessibility standards are applied to health and fitness suites to determine provision deficiencies or surpluses. The normal acceptable standard for an urban area is a 20-minutes' walk time and 20-minute drive time for a rural area.

Over 72.1% of Surrey Heath's population lives within 20 minutes' walk of a health and fitness facility with 20+ stations and community access. Consequently, 27.9% of the population is likely to need to use a car or public transport to access facilities. All residents in Surrey Heath live within a 20-minute drive of a community accessible facility with 20+ stations.

Figure 6.3: Health and fitness gyms 20+ stations+ with 1-mile radial catchment



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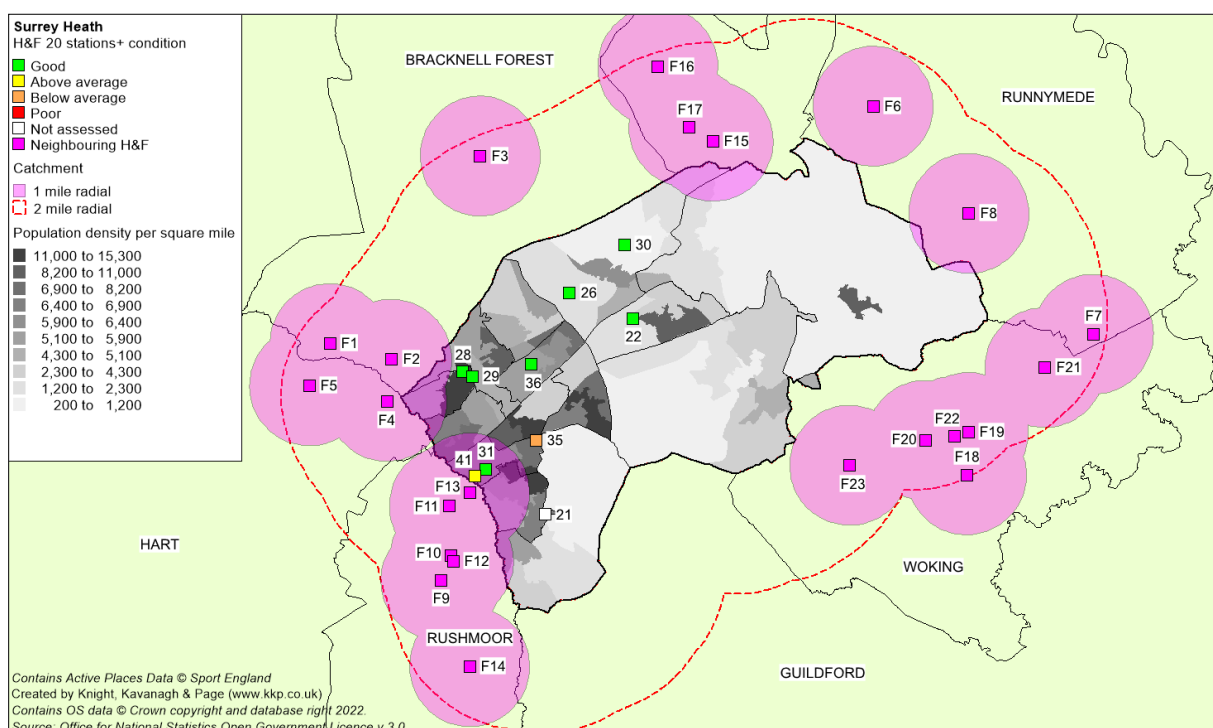
Table 6.4: Health and fitness 20+ stations with 1-mile radial catchment

IMD 10% bands	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
20.1 - 30	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
30.1 - 40	4,950	5.6%	4,710	5.4%	240	0.3%
40.1 - 50	4,919	5.6%	3,832	4.4%	1,087	1.2%
50.1 - 60	4,724	5.4%	3,327	3.8%	1,397	1.6%
60.1 - 70	1,614	1.8%	1,614	1.8%	0	0.0%
70.1 - 80	7,805	8.9%	5,048	5.7%	2,757	3.1%
80.1 - 90	23,312	26.5%	17,184	19.6%	6,128	7.0%
90.1 - 100	40,563	46.2%	28,102	32.0%	12,461	14.2%
Total	87,887	100.0%	63,817	72.6%	24,070	27.4%

Neighbouring facilities

Health and fitness facility users do not just use venues in their own authority. As a consequence, those within two miles of the border are considered. A high number (23) of health and fitness venues are located within two miles of Surrey Heath’s border. Three offer pay and play access whilst the remainder are commercial facilities requiring some form of membership. There is a good spread orbitally around the Authority. Residents in Camberley and Lightwater have access to facilities in Hart and Rushmoor. Residents in the east meanwhile have access to six facilities in Woking.

Figure 6.4: Health and fitness suites with walk and drive time catchment on IMD



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Table 6.5: Community available health and fitness (20+ stations) within 2 miles of SHBC

Map ID	Site	Stations	Access	District
F1	Snap Fitness (Sandhurst)	150	Reg. membership	Bracknell Forest
F2	Energie Fitness (Sandhurst)	100	Reg. membership	Bracknell Forest
F3	David Lloyd (Royal Berkshire)	110	Reg. membership	Bracknell Forest
F4	Fit Club for Women	26	Reg. membership	Hart
F5	Frogmore Leisure Centre	52	Pay and play	Hart
F6	Wentworth Club	50	Reg. membership	Runnymede
F7	Fullbrook Sports Centre	50	Pay and play	Runnymede
F8	Foxhills	43	Reg. membership	Runnymede
F10	The Gym Group (Farnborough)	170	Reg. membership	Rushmoor
F11	The Sixth Form College Farnborough	20	Sports club/CA	Rushmoor
F12	Jetts Farnborough	100	Reg. membership	Rushmoor
F13	Jd Gyms (Farnborough)	300	Reg. membership	Rushmoor
F14	Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre	70	Reg. membership	Rushmoor
F9	Village Gym (Farnborough)	91	Reg. membership	Rushmoor
F15	Charters Leisure Centre	51	Reg. membership	Windsor and Maidenhead
F16	The Fitness Space (Ascot)	30	Reg. membership	Windsor and Maidenhead
F17	Vital Health & Wellbeing (Berystede Hotel and Spa)	30	Reg. membership	Windsor and Maidenhead
F18	Woking Leisure Centre & Pool in the Park	130	Pay and play	Woking
F19	Anytime Fitness (Woking)	39	Reg. membership	Woking
F20	Puregym (Woking)	220	Reg. membership	Woking
F21	Eastwood Leisure Centre	65	Reg. membership	Woking
F22	The Gym Group (Woking)	220	Reg. membership	Woking
F23	Winston Sports Centre	35	Reg. membership	Woking

Source: Active Places Power 05/04/2023

Availability and programming

Sport England's classification of access type defines registered membership use facilities as publicly available. However, the cost of monthly membership fees can vary considerably. It is acknowledged that those which may be considered expensive offer access to different market segments and can ease pressure on facilities which offer cheaper membership options.

Of the 11 health and fitness suites with 20+ stations, only three offer some element of pay and play access - via the pre-purchase of a one-day pass or pay on arrival. These gyms also offer a monthly membership scheme, which generally work out to be more cost-effective options based on regular usage. The remaining gyms offer access via registered membership.

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Table 6.6: access policy of fitness gyms (20+ stations)

ID	Site	Stations	Access
20	Lakeside Health & Fitness Club	45	n/a
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	140	Pay and play
26	Pennyhill Park	30	Reg. membership
28	Places Leisure Camberley	160	Pay and play
29	Puregym (Camberley)	220	Pay and play
30	Snap Fitness (Bagshot)	150	Reg. membership
31	Snap Fitness (Frimley)	150	Reg. membership
35	Tomlinscote Sports Centre	22	Reg. membership
36	Vital Health & Wellbeing (Frimley Hall Hotel And Spa)	20	Reg. membership
41	Maximus Gym	25	Reg. membership

Table 6.7: Pricing structure of health and fitness suites with community use and 20+ stations

Site name	Pay & play	Annual	12-month DD	Notes
Lightwater Leisure Centre	£7.50	£479.88	£39.99	A £25 join fee is required. Price includes gym access and classes.
Pennyhill Park Hotel	n/a	£3,900 plus £750 joining fee	£325	Price includes gym, swim and sauna.
Places Leisure Camberley	£10.10	£336 £580	£33 £58.40	Gym only - £20 joining fee Inc. gym, swim and classes. - £30 joining fee.
Puregym (Camberley)	£8.99*	n/a	£14.99	Prices include gym access only.
Snap Fitness (Bagshot)	n/a	n/a	£39.99	Price includes gym and fitness classes.
Snap Fitness (Frimley)	n/a	n/a	£39.99	Price includes gym and fitness classes.
Tomlinscote Sports Centre	n/a	£270	£24	Prices include gym access only.
Vital Health & Wellbeing (Frimley Hall Hotel And Spa)	n/a	n/a	£75	Price includes gym, swim and sauna
Maximus Gym and Martial Arts	n/a	n/a	£25	Indoor and outdoor gym options

*Pricing as advertised in January 2025 / *day pass- needs to be booked in advance.

Table 6.7 above illustrates that the cost of accessing health and fitness facilities varies considerably across Surrey Heath. The most expensive is Pennyhill Park Hotel. This is a premium hotel/leisure facility with an annual membership rate of £3,900 per person.

Places Leisure Camberley offers an adult gym only monthly rate of £33, with its combined gym and swim package (including peak time fitness classes) being priced at £58.40 per month.

Only three sites offer pay and play access. A day pass at Places Leisure Camberley is priced at £10.10 and is the only facility with the option to pay on arrival. Puregym and Lightwater Leisure Centre offer a day pass, however, this needs to be purchased in advance and booked online.

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Health referral programmes

Places Leisure runs a health referral programme, in partnership with three GP surgeries. All leisure staff are trained to support the 12-week programme, which is led by centre staff. Individuals with a range of long-term health conditions, such as asthma, arthritis, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, depression, anxiety, osteoporosis, can be referred to the programme. Once they have completed the programme, they have an option to purchase a discounted gym membership. The price of which is held for life to encourage long term use. The programme currently works with c.50 individuals per 12-week cycle, but Places Leisure is looking to expand it to include referrals from a wider range of GP practices.

6.2: Demand

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

Table 6.8: UK penetration rates; health/fitness in Surrey Heath

	Curent (2021)	Future (2040)
Adult population (20+ years)*	90,645	102,597
UK penetration rate	16%	17%
Number of potential members	14,503	17,441
Number of visits per week (1.75/member)	25,381	30,523
% of visits in peak time	65	65
No. of visits in peak time (equated to no. of stations required i.e., no. of visits/39 weeks*65%)	423	509
Number of stations (with comfort factor applied)	635	763

Model applies 1.75 visits/week by members and 65% usage for 39 weeks of the year. (Figures rounded up/down)
Source: Sub-National Household Projections (SNHP) *Adult data does not include 18 and 19 yr olds.

Based upon UK penetration rates there is current need for 635 stations in Surrey Heath. This will grow to 763 by 2040, taking account of a comfort factor (particularly at peak times). When comparing the current number of community available stations (917) and accounting for the comfort factor, there is a positive current and future supply demand balance.

It is not uncommon for the private sector to identify niche markets and fill them with stations which make the market appear congested. The key issue is that while some of these may be budget operators this does not necessarily make them available to people/communities who face barriers to participation and people from areas of (relative) disadvantage (as cost is only one factor which may hinder usage). It could be argued that this applies particularly to those who require transport to access such facilities.

6.3: Dance studios

Dance studios are an important element of the wider health, fitness and conditioning market. They vary in size, shape, quality of environment, access to sprung wooden floors and quality of ancillary facilities. There has been an increase in the number of people accessing fitness classes as identified in increased UK penetration rates. Activity types offered also vary from low impact classes such as Pilates and yoga to dance, step, boxercise and Zumba. It is worth noting that dance classes/clubs are key users of studio spaces throughout the country.

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There are 12 studios in Surrey Heath, across six sites. Of these, 11 were subject to a non-technical assessment. All were rated either good or above average. An assessment of Kings International College was not undertaken.

In terms of access policy, seven studios (four at Places Leisure Camberley and three at Lightwater Leisure Centre) can be accessed on a pay and play basis. The remaining nine can be accessed via either a registered membership or via a sports club/community association.

Figure 6.5: Studios in Surrey Heath

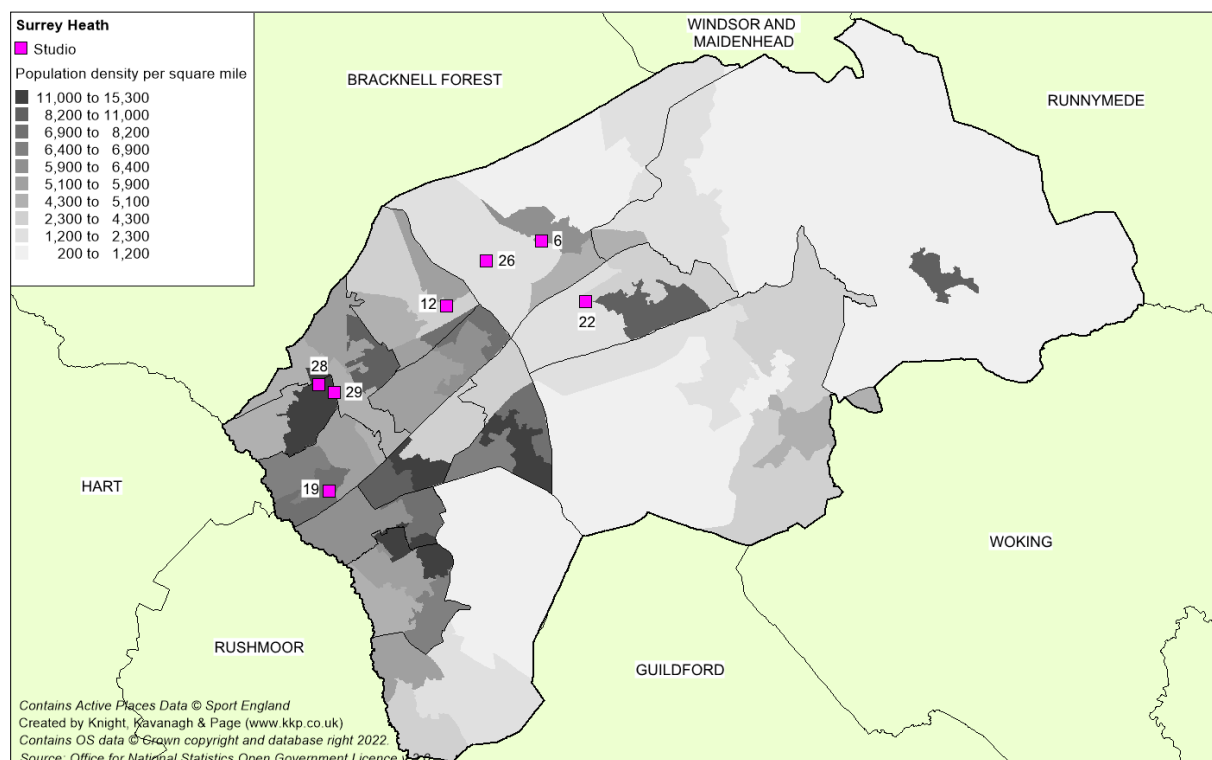


Table 6.9: Table of studios in Surrey Heath

ID	Site	Type	Access	Condition
6	CD Fitness Personal Training Studio	Fitness	Sports club/CA	Good
6	CD Fitness Personal Training Studio	Fitness	Sports club/CA	Good
19	Kings International College	Fitness	Sports club/CA	u/a
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	Fitness	Pay and play	Above average
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	Cycle	Pay and play	Above average
22	Lightwater Leisure Centre	Fitness	Pay and play	Good
26	Pennyhill Park	Fitness	Reg. membership	Good
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Cycle	Pay and play	Good
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Fitness	Pay and play	Good
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Fitness	Pay and play	Good
28	Places Leisure Camberley	Fitness	Pay and play	Good
29	Puregym (Camberley)	Fitness	Reg. membership	Good

(NB: Sports Club/CA= Sports Club / Community Association use)

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6.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Health & fitness	-
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	<p>There are 11 health and fitness suites containing 929 stations.</p> <p>Ten of the 10 have 20+ stations, totalling 917 stations; they are all available to the community.</p> <p>There is a substantial current (c.300) and (c.250) future modelled positive supply demand balance of facilities in the area.</p>	
Quality	<p>Eight of the ten 20+ station health and fitness suites are good or above average in quality. One was below average. One was unassessed.</p>	<p>There is a need to provide high quality provision and maintain quality across the stock.</p>
Accessibility	<p>72.1% of SHBC residents live within a one-mile radius of a health and fitness suite. This increases to 100% when considering those who live within a 20-minute drive of a community accessible facility.</p> <p>There is a large supply (23) of gyms in neighbouring authorities - within 2 miles of the Surrey Heath's boundary.</p>	<p>Accessibility in Surrey Heath is good. Its main settlements all have access to a good or above average quality health and fitness facility.</p>
Availability (Management and usage)	<p>There are two publicly accessible pay and play health and fitness facilities with 20+ stations in Surrey Heath.</p> <p>Places Leisure Centre charges £10.10 for a pay and play session. This is a price point which may discourage certain users.</p> <p>The remaining venues can be accessed via registered membership, although Pennyhill Park is a luxury spa and has extremely high membership rates.</p> <p>Places Leisure also runs an exercise referral programme which it is looking to expand.</p>	<p>Ensure that health and fitness facilities cater to the full range of market segments.</p> <p>Commercial gyms provide the majority of health and fitness supply in Surrey Heath.</p> <p>These facilities, however, do not offer concessionary rates and programmes to enable people with barriers to participation to engage.</p>

Strategic summary

- ◀ Current and future demand is well catered for given the quantity and quality of existing health and fitness suites in the Authority.
- ◀ Places Leisure offers a health referral programme, which it is looking to extend further via collaboration with GP surgeries. SHBC should, where appropriate help to facilitate the further roll out of this scheme working alongside its partners in public health.
- ◀ Places Leisure Camberley is an attractive venue and, as such, caters for considerable demand. It is however, with the exception of Pennyhill Park, the most expensive facility in the Authority, both in terms of its monthly membership and its pay and play rates. The Council should consider how best it might work with the operator to develop an improved concessionary membership offer and an affordable pay and play option for people who do not wish to commit to registered memberships.

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SECTION 7: SQUASH

Squash is now on a new strategic path, implementing a rebrand and undergoing a major restructure. England Squash (ES) has achieved core strategic goals agreed with Sport England and is committed to supporting the traditional infrastructure of county associations, clubs, coaches and officials to grow the game via key programmes (e.g., Squash101) and campaigns (e.g., Squash Girls Can) but will be apportioning resources in a significantly different manner.

Table 7.1: England Squash strategic aims:

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

Squash In a Changing World (2021-2025) outlines the vision, principles and strategic pillars for ES. Its vision for the future of squash in England is a thriving, diverse and growing community. The 2021-2025 strategy sets six key objectives:

- ◆ Drive increased participation in the game, with a radical advance in equality, diversity and inclusion.
- ◆ Inspire and train a community of world class coaches, referees and volunteers at every level, who drive participation and increase engagement in the game.
- ◆ Sustain world-leading talent pathways and programmes for high performing players who achieve success on the global stage and inspire others to realise their potential.
- ◆ Empower creativity and innovation in the game and in ES's culture, using ideas and technology to support the squash community and to engage with new audiences.
- ◆ Spearhead new and creative ways to enhance the visibility and appeal of squash at local, national and international levels, including the pursuit of Olympic inclusion.
- ◆ Provide leadership for the game nationally and internationally, including addressing the Climate and Ecological Crisis.

The ES benchmark is one court per 10,000 people in each local authority for squash to thrive. (It estimates that there is currently one court per 12,617 people in England). This reflects the significant number of court closures and/or non-replacements when new facilities are developed to replace older venues - seen over the past two decades.

Surrey Heath's current population is 89,174 and it has no open squash provision. Applying the ES benchmark would suggest demand for an additional eight courts to meet community need. Taking future population growth (to 2040) into account there is a need for 10 courts.

7.1 Supply

According to Active Places, there are six squash courts in Surrey Heath at two sites: four at Lakeside Leisure Complex and two at Curtis and Staub Gymnasium. Both venues are however currently closed.

Curtis and Staub Gymnasium is located at Collingwood College. The College states that the courts along with the gym closed a number of years ago. The premises is still leased to two

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third parties who are responsible for their operation and maintenance. The College's understanding is that the leaseholders are trying to secure a new undertenant to operate the premises and that their intention is that the building will remain vacant until a new tenant is found. There is therefore no confirmed date for their reopening, however, it is the intention of the College to keep the squash courts.

In addition, there is also uncertainty when Lakeside Leisure Complex will re-open, and consequently, it was unassessed as part of this audit.

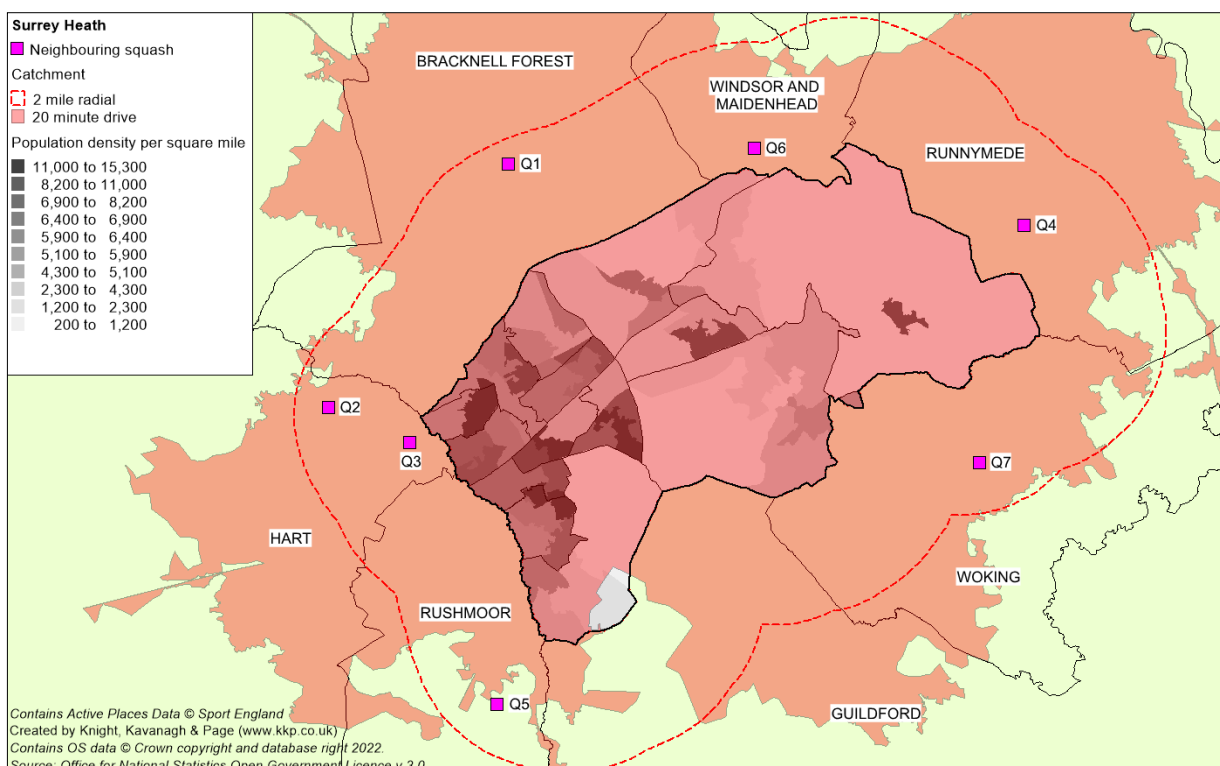
Table 7.2: The two (closed) squash court venue in Surrey Heath

ID	Site	Courts	Type	Condition
12	Curtis and Staub Gymnasium (Camberley)	2	Normal	Not assessed
21	Lakeside Leisure Complex	4	Normal	Not assessed

Table 7.2: Squash courts within a 20-minute drive of Surrey Heath

ID	Site	Type	Courts	Access	District
Q1	David Lloyd (Royal Berkshire)	Glass-backed	2	Reg. membership	Bracknell Forest
Q3	Blackwater & Hawley Leisure Centre	Normal	2	Pay and play	Hart
Q4	Foxhills	Normal	3	Reg. membership	Runnymede
Q5	Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre	Glass-backed	6	Pay and play	Rushmoor
Q6	Charters Leisure Centre	Normal	2	Pay and play	Windsor and Maidenhead
Q7	Woking Squash Rackets Club	Normal	3	Reg. membership	Woking

Figure 7.1: Current operational squash provision in neighbouring authorities within 20-minute drive of the centre of SHBC



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Accessibility and availability

Active Places identifies six squash facilities within a 20-minute drive time of the Authority, of which three are pay and play accessible. The largest pay and play site is the Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre, which has six glass backed courts and is within close proximity to residents living in Camberley. It offers courts for hire at £6.30 per 45 minutes, a relatively affordable rate. It is also home to Hart Squash Club, which offers low-cost memberships (£20 per year adults / £10 juniors).

Consultation with Everyone Active identified that the former pay and play accessible squash courts at Frogmore Leisure Centre in Hart have now been converted into two fitness studios.

7.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Squash	-
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There is currently no squash provision open in the Authority. There are two facilities with courts which are closed, with no known timescales as when these will open. There are six sites within a 20-minute drive of Surrey Heath, with the six courts at Aldershot Garrison being the closest to the Surrey Heath boundary.	Taking account of the closure of facilities at Lakeside and Curtis and Staub Gymnasium, there is a current shortfall of 8 squash courts based on the ES benchmark. This deficiency will increase as the population grows SHBC should enter dialogue with Lakeside to establish whether there is potential to re-open squash courts at the venue.
Quality	Site assessments were not undertaken.	
Accessibility	There are six facilities which residents can access within a 20-minute drive from the centre of the Authority.	
Availability (Management and usage)	Of the six facilities in neighbouring authorities, three are available via pay and play access. Courts at Aldershot Garrison are available at an affordable rate (£6.30 per session)	SHBC should liaise with England Squash to consider whether programmes of alternative 'pop up' forms of the game could be delivered within existing SHBC leisure provision. SHBC should signpost residents to nearest available pay and play & club provision at Aldershot Garrison.

Strategic summary

- ◀ There is no current squash provision in Surrey Heath. This represents a shortfall of eight courts based on the England Squash benchmark of one court per 10,000 population.
- ◀ There is available, good quality provision at Aldershot Garrison which is particularly accessible to residents living in Camberley.
- ◀ The Authority should work with England Squash to consider whether/how existing courts at Lakeside and Curtis and Staub Gymnasium can be re-opened or new courts developed.
- ◀ It should also consider (with ES) how the sport can be promoted within Surrey Heath. In the likely absence of any new provision in the short/medium term. This might encompass the consideration of alternative pop up forms of the game as trialled in Birmingham as part of the [2022 commonwealth games legacy programme](#).

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SECTION 8: INDOOR BOWLS

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

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

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

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

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

An indoor bowling centre typically comprises a single flat green with a number of rinks and ancillary accommodation such as changing rooms, lounge/bar, viewing area, kitchen, office/meeting rooms and stores plus designated car parking. Ancillary accommodation scale varies according to the number of rinks available. A successful indoor bowls centre requires a combination of the right location, design, and financial and general management. Sport England¹⁵ guidelines on catchment for indoor bowls centres are set out to be interpreted in the light of local circumstances:

- ◀ Assume the majority of users live locally and not travel more than 30 minutes.
- ◀ Assume that 90% of users will travel by car, with the remainder by foot.
- ◀ As a guide, calculate demand on the basis of one rink per 14,000-17,000 total population.
- ◀ The number of rinks required can be related to the estimated number of members, assume 80-100 members per rink.

EIBA stated priorities are:

- ◀ Recruitment of participants.
- ◀ Retention of participants.
- ◀ Clubs are recommended to:
 - ◀ Develop and implement a robust sports development plan
 - ◀ Actively review the Sport England 'Buddle' website.
 - ◀ Actively promote the club in the local community amongst those who are able bodied and disabled. Wheelchair users and visually impaired people are particularly keen on the sport of bowls.
- ◀ Retention and improvement of facilities.
- ◀ New indoor facilities in areas of low-supply and high-demand.

¹⁵ Sport England Design Guidance Note Indoor Bowls 2005

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EIBA Outline Plan 2022-2025

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

- ◀ Getting core bowlers back playing following COVID lockdowns.
- ◀ 45-59 year old participants.
- ◀ Volunteers.
- ◀ Health and Wellbeing.
- ◀ Inclusivity – women, ethnic communities.
- ◀ Facilities: build, improve, retain.
- ◀ Youth and the family.
- ◀ Disability.
- ◀ Competitions.
- ◀ Internationals.
- ◀ Promotion.
- ◀ Commercial partnerships.

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

- ◀ Growing participation across the adult population in local communities. Targeted work to increase female participation.
- ◀ Growing participation in the 12-18 age range as part of the EIBA Development Pathway.
- ◀ The provision of an excellent sporting experience for new and existing participants.
- ◀ A growth in Indoor Bowls participation by people who have disabilities.

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

The Sport England funding for the 2022-2025 period, focuses on the delivery of:

- ◀ **Club hubs:** ensure that all clubs remain sustainably positioned at the heart of the communities, and there are good pathways to increase membership.
- ◀ **Communities:** develop healthy bowling communities, with good quality competitions, options to increase coaches and volunteers and healthy relationships between clubs.
- ◀ **Health and wellbeing:** support clubs promote health and wellbeing of members with a range of programmes and activities.
- ◀ **Inclusion:** ensure clubs are as inclusive as possible, promoting the sport to all including females and people from diverse communities.

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

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

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8.1: Supply

Quantity and quality

There is one indoor bowling facility in Surrey Heath. In addition, four facilities in neighbouring authorities can be accessed within a 30-minute drive-time.

Figure 8.1: Indoor bowls facilities in Surrey Heath and in neighbouring authorities

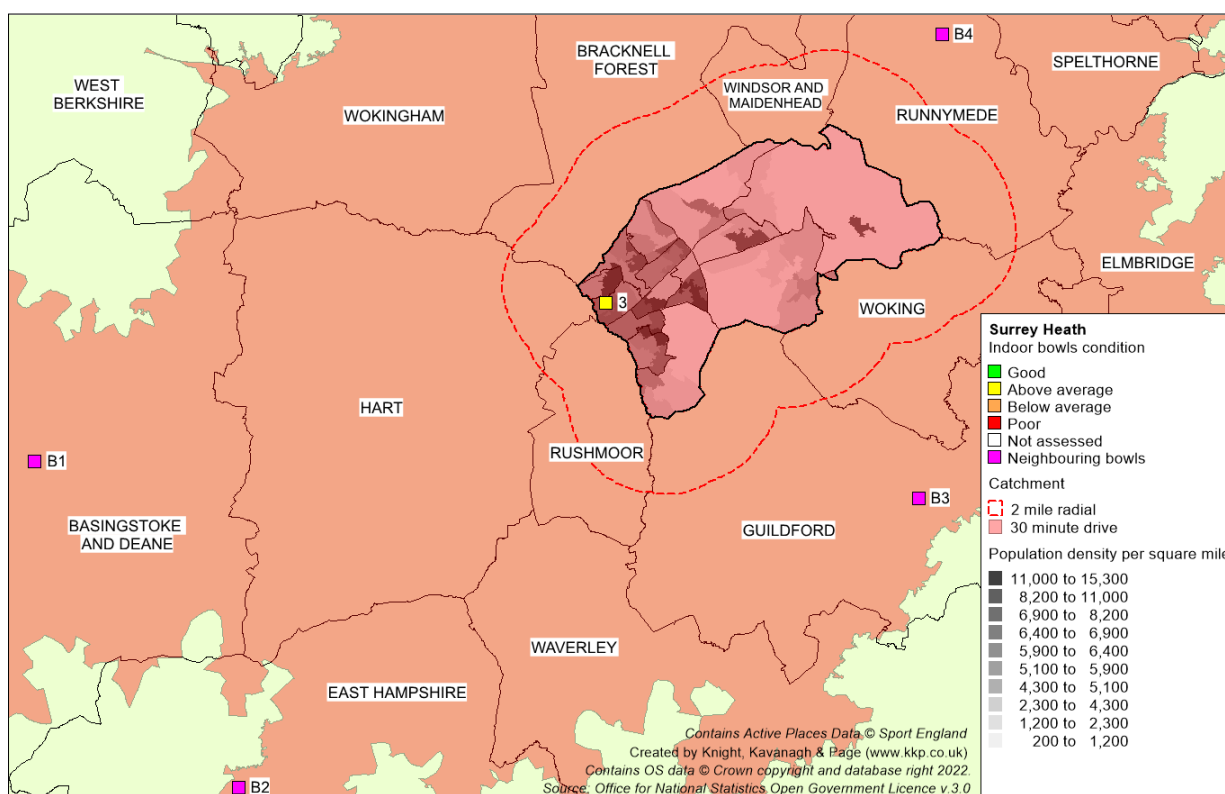


Table 8.1: Indoor bowls facilities Surrey Heath

ID	Site name	Rinks	Access type	Condition
3	Camberley & District Indoor Bowling Club	6	Sports Club/CA	Above average

Table 8.2: Indoor bowls facilities in neighbouring authorities

ID	Site	Rinks	Access	Authority
B1	Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club	8	Sports club/CA	Basingstoke and Deane
B3	Wey Valley Indoor Bowls Club	6	Sports club/CA	Guildford
B4	Egham Indoor Bowls Club	6	Sports club/CA	Runnymede
B2	Chawton Park Indoor Bowls Club	6	Sports club/CA	East Hampshire

Accessibility

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that the whole of Surrey Heath's population lives within a 30-minute drive of an indoor bowls facility within the Authority.

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Availability

The one facility in the Authority is Camberley & District Indoor Bowling Club. Users here are encouraged to become members; however, it does allow pay and play access. All four facilities within the 30-minute drive time are only available on the basis of club membership.

8.2: Demand

Consultation with EIBA suggests that with one club in the Authority and a further four affiliated clubs in the wider local area (within the recognised drive-time) there are sufficient facilities (and capacity at these facilities) to cater for current and future anticipated demand.

Camberley Indoor Bowls Club currently has 450 members, of which 150 are women. It offers internal competitions and runs several teams which compete in the Surrey Indoor Bowls League. This includes three women's teams.

It owns its facility which it maintains to the best of its ability. Its main problem currently is that the roof needs upgrading to tackle consistent leaks. It estimates that this work could cost up to c.£250,000 which it cannot afford. It is also concerned that any closure will affect membership numbers. The carpet will need to be replaced in the next five years, as it is old (albeit well looked after). Aside from structural issues, it is keen to encourage new members, and regularly holds open days, where people are encouraged to 'have a go' at the sport.

8.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Indoor bowls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There is one indoor facility in Surrey Heath plus four within a 30-minute drive of the Authority.	There is sufficient capacity across all facilities to cater for Surrey Heath's residents currently, and in the future.
Quality	The facility is rated as above average but the roof is prone to leaking and will need to be repaired/replaced in the short term. The carpet will also need to be replaced in the medium term.	Support the Club to seek grants/additional income to enable it to undertake the required building repair and replace its carpet.
Accessibility	All borough residents live within 30-minutes' drive of an indoor bowls facility.	
Availability (Management and usage)	The Club offers pay and play access as well as annual membership packages. It has spare capacity and undertakes regular open days to encourage new memberships.	

Strategic summary

- ◀ Camberley Indoor Bowls Club is a popular well-run club, which has a healthy membership.
- ◀ The Club requires support to upgrade its facilities. Its roof is currently leaking and will need to be repaired in the short term. The carpet will also need to be upgraded in the medium term.

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SECTION 9: INDOOR TENNIS AND PADEL

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the NGB for all tennis and padel provision within the UK. It administers the sport at national and regional level. One of its key objectives is to get more people playing tennis more often. To achieve this, through its most recent Investment Framework (Vision 2019 – 2023), priorities will be given to the following sites:

- ◀ New and existing indoor tennis centres
- ◀ Park tennis
- ◀ Tennis clubs
- ◀ Schools and other educational establishments

This will be supported through the following key funding objectives:

- ◀ Funding through LTA loans.
- ◀ Investing in venues that have a proven record of increasing participation.
- ◀ Investing where there is thorough community engagement.
- ◀ Support venues that encourage participation growth.
- ◀ Target investment that is demand led.
- ◀ Invest in venues that are financially sustainable.
- ◀ Support venues that have successfully sourced partnership funding.

Central to any investment will be the provision of a sustainable business case.

This section considers indoor tennis facilities provision in Surrey Heath. It uses two terms to describe indoor building types:

Traditional - A permanent structure made of traditional materials using traditional construction techniques. This commonly takes the form of steel or timber portal frame spanning the full length of the court (including run backs) clad in a material to suit local conditions e.g. metal cladding, brickwork or timber boarding.

Non-traditional - A permanent or non-permanent structure made of non-traditional materials using non-traditional construction techniques. Three types of structure fall into this category:

- ◀ Air supported structures (air halls).
- ◀ Framed fabric structures.
- ◀ Tensile structures/ Canopies

9.1: Supply

Indoor tennis is based on specialist facilities which appeal beyond local authority boundaries. This report considers provision within with a 30-minute drive time catchment. There is no indoor tennis facility in the Authority but there are 14 in neighbouring authorities within a 30-minute drive.

The largest is the David Lloyd in Bracknell, which has 12 indoor courts and is available through a registered membership. There are those within the catchment offer pay and play access. Two to the south and one to the west. The largest pay and play facility is the one to the west, Basingstoke Indoor Tennis Centre in Basingstoke and Deane. It has four courts.

There are currently no covered padel facilities within the Local Authority. With a need for a minimum of seven padel courts (50% covered) to meet existing demand (according to LTA analysis).

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Lightwater Leisure Centre will be converting the current netball/tennis courts to become padel courts in the next couple of months. These will be ready by summer 2025 and will be available on an advance booking process. This development will reduce the shortfall to three once operational.

Figure 9.1 Indoor tennis facilities in Surrey Heath and within 30 minutes' drive time

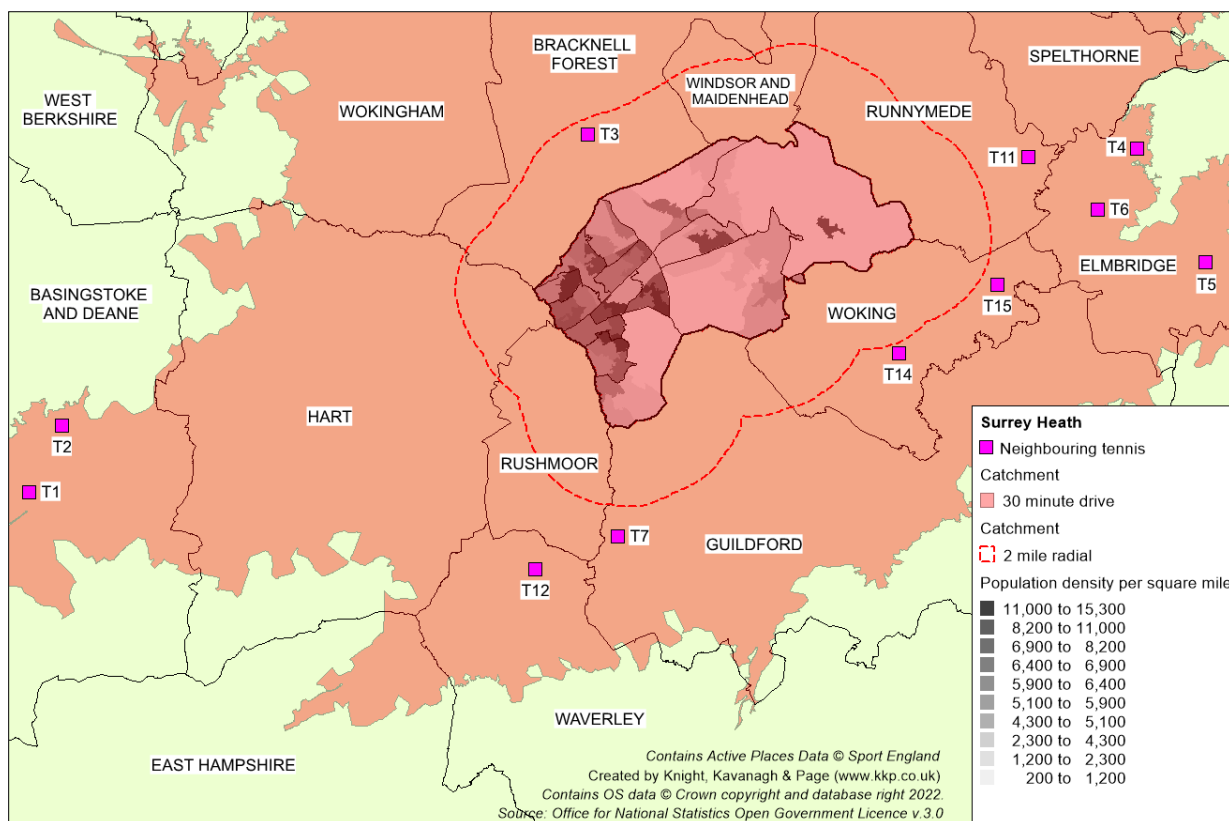


Table 9.2: Indoor tennis provision in neighbouring authorities

ID	Site	Type	Courts	Access	District
T1	Basingstoke Indoor Tennis Centre	Frame & fabric	4	Pay and play	Basingstoke & Deane
T2	The Hampshire Court Hotel	Traditional	5	Reg. membership	Basingstoke & Deane
T3	David Lloyd (Royal Berkshire)	Traditional	12	Reg. membership	Bracknell Forest
T4	Walton-On-Thames LTC	Airhall (seasonal)	2	Sports club/CA	Elmbridge
T5	Reeds School	Airhall	2	Sports club/CA	Elmbridge
T6	St Georges Hill LTC	Traditional	2	Reg. membership	Elmbridge
T7	Ash Manor Tennis Centre	Airhall (seasonal)	2	Pay and play	Guildford
T8	Ash Manor Tennis Centre	Airhall	2	Pay and play	Guildford
T9	David Lloyd (Heston)	Traditional	7	Reg. membership	Hounslow
T10	David Lloyd (Heston)	Airhall (seasonal)	3	Reg. membership	Hounslow
T11	St Georges Weybridge	Traditional	4	Sports club/CA	Runnymede
T12	David Lloyd (Farnham)	Airhall (seasonal)	2	Reg. membership	Waverley

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T13	Windsor LTC	Traditional	3	Sports club/CA	Windsor & Maidenhead
T14	David Lloyd (Woking)	Traditional	8	Reg. membership	Woking
T15	Byfleet Lawn Tennis Club	Traditional	2	Sports club/CA	Woking

Accessibility and availability

Although there are no indoor facilities in Surrey Heath, drive time catchment modelling confirms that the whole Surrey Heaths population lives within a 30-minute drive of an indoor tennis facility, including three pay and play venues. Bearing in mind the high car ownership levels in the Authority, it is reasonable to assume that residents have a good level of accessibility to courts in neighbouring authorities

9.2: Demand

The LTA has recently restructured its strategic approach to target key national focus areas, ultimately to grow participation. Future investment in facilities will be based on detailed analysis of potential demand throughout the UK. It has identified 96 priority target areas for development of new indoor courts in the UK of which Surrey Heath is not one. However, the LTA is committed to growing year round playing opportunities through covered tennis and padel, providing the community with accessible and affordable opportunities. There is sufficient demand within the Local Authority to sustain covered tennis and the LTA would welcome the opportunity to look at the feasibility of covering existing community tennis courts, alongside the provision of covered padel.

9.5: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Indoor tennis	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There is no indoor tennis or padel facility in Surrey Heath. There are 14 facilities in neighbouring authorities, within a 30-minute drive.	There is a calculated need for seven padel courts in the Authority. This will be part addressed through the new four courts being developed at the Lightwater leisure Centre.
Quality		
Accessibility	All residents live within a 30 minutes' drive time of an indoor tennis facility.	-
Availability (Management & usage)	Of the 14 facilities in the 30-minute drive time catchment, three are available through pay and play access. The remainder require some form of membership to access.	Work with neighbouring authorities to ensure the pay and play facilities remain accessible.

SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL BUILT FACILITIES STRATEGY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

SECTION 10: GYMNASTICS AND TRAMPOLINING

In 2023 British Gymnastics released its new strategy – Leap Without Limits: A New Vision for a New Era. The strategy is developed as a shared vision for gymnastics across all four home nations.

To help achieve the vision It focuses on five ‘leaps’:

- ◀ **The Why Leap** - Nurturing and celebrating the positive impact of gymnastics on individuals, communities and wider society.
- ◀ **The Empowerment Leap** – Supporting everyone involved in gymnastics to play their part in making a positive difference.
- ◀ **The Experience Leap** – Making positive experiences and memories central to everything we do, at every stage, in every role.
- ◀ **The Creative Leap** – Encouraging and welcoming new ideas to support meaningful change.
- ◀ **The Together Leap** – Uniting the community, existing and new partners to maximise impact, learning and growth.

To bring the vision to life, British Gymnastics are working on the following actions:

- ◀ **Membership** – Develop a new more relevant membership offer that provides value for all its members, and an improved membership system.
- ◀ **Education** - Implement a reformed and reimagined approach to supporting the learning and development of the gymnastics workforce, ensuring it feels valued and supported by British Gymnastics and the clubs and delivery environments you operate within.
- ◀ **Community** – Celebrate and recognise the contribution and stories of those in the gymnastics community on British Gymnastics channels and more widely, including further developing the British Gymnastics Awards as an annual platform for this.
- ◀ **Reform** - Deliver all of the 40 actions British Gymnastics has committed to in Reform '25 over the next two years to create safe, positive and fair experiences for all in gymnastics, including a major Safe Sport campaign.
- ◀ **Events** - Work with its Technical Committees to agree a clearly defined and sustainable long-term national event programme for each discipline and develop new competitions and events at a recreational level.
- ◀ **Disability** - Work to build international support for our ambition for gymnastics to become a Paralympic sport, with the aim of agreeing a plan and pathway for this to become a reality.

The new strategy outlines six key impacts:

- ◀ More people enjoying the sport and its benefits, across all abilities, ages, and backgrounds, and as a gymnast, coach, club owner, official or fan.
- ◀ Everyone is safe, supported and is able and confident to speak up, whatever their role or involvement in gymnastics.
- ◀ More inspirational moments that are seen, shared and enjoyed by more people.
- ◀ The NGB membership experience is a positive one, which meets your needs, is easy from start to finish. and being a member of British Gymnastics is something that provides you with both pride and value.
- ◀ Members/participants feel connected to British Gymnastics and trust it to be positive custodians of this incredible sport.
- ◀ A united sport, where everyone is working together to ensure that collectively we deliver an uplifting gymnastics experience for all.

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10.1: Supply

There are three gymnastics clubs in Surrey Heath. All three operate out of dedicated sites. Two (Prime Acrobatics and Generation Gymnastics CIC) currently affiliate to British Gymnastics. Little Gym Camberley, which focuses mainly on under 12s, runs as a commercial venture.

The Generation Gymnastics facility is rated poor. It is 50+ years old with poor ventilation, tired décor and no spectator viewing areas. Desk-based assessment of the other two confirmed that both are good quality. Prime Acrobatics is modern (opened September 2024) with good levels of equipment. Little Gym Camberley is also housed in a modern private venue.

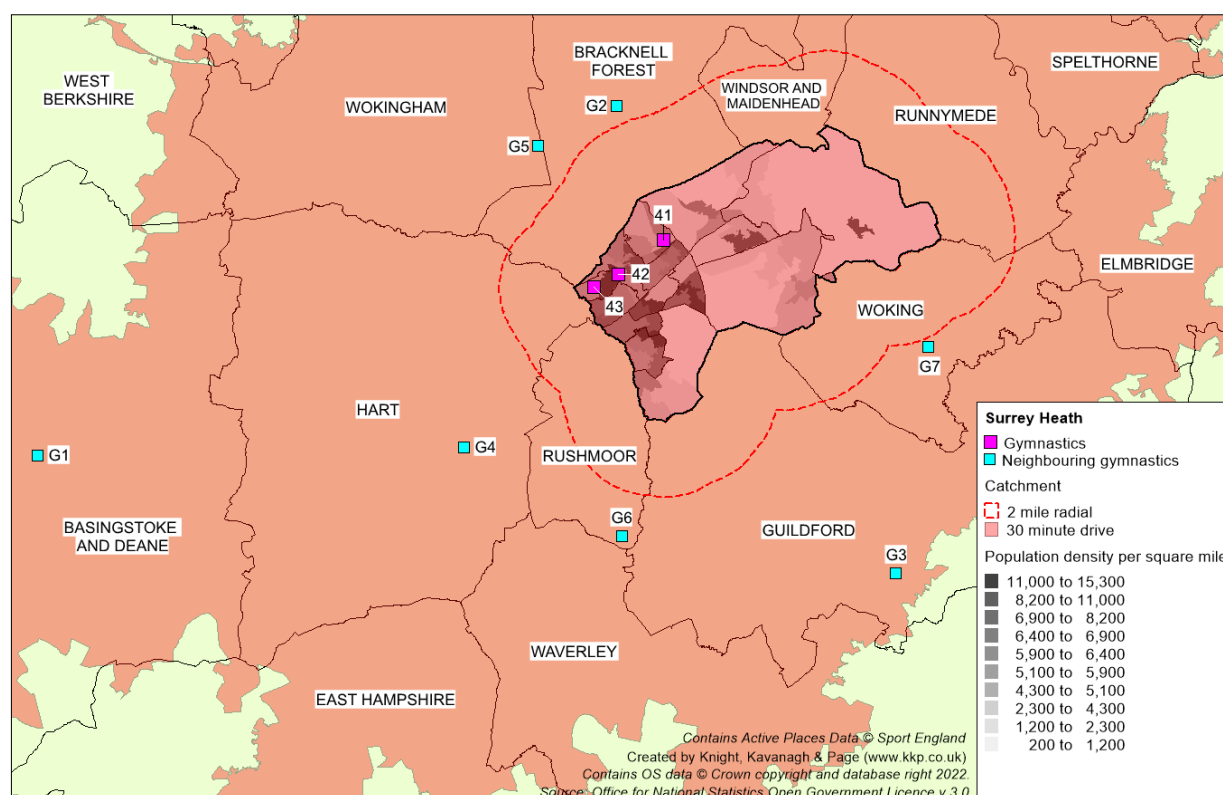
Table 10.1: Gymnastics provision in Surrey Heath along with quality ratings

ID	Club	Quality rating
41	Generation Gymnastics CIC	Poor
42	The Little Gym Camberley	Good
43	Prime Acrobatics	Good

Table 10.2: Gymnastics facilities which fall in a 30-minute drive time

ID	Site
G1	Basingstoke Gymnastic Club
G2	Bracknell Gymnastics Club
G3	Gymnastics Factory
G4	Hart Gymnastics Club
G5	Pinewood Gymnastics Club
G6	Rushmoor Gymnastics Academy
G7	Woking Gymnastics Club

Figure 10.1: Gymnastics provision in Surrey Heath



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Accessibility and availability

Gymnastics facilities appeal beyond a local authority boundary. Consequently, this report considers provision within a 30-minutes' drive time catchment to demonstrate accessibility (Sport England suggests that drive time to specialist sports facilities can be modelled at 30 minutes as opposed to the 20 minutes modelled for sports halls and swimming pools). Desktop research indicates there are seven facilities which fall in the 30-minute drivetime. These are located to the south and east of the Authority.

10.2: Demand

British Gymnastics reports that participation in gymnastics is increasing rapidly. It also reports substantial demand and that many clubs have waiting lists - restricting access to gymnastic activity due to lack of time within dedicated and generic facilities. As with most indoor based sports, membership levels were impacted by the Pandemic although British Gymnastics reports that the sport is experiencing a strong recovery with current membership numbers tracking c.5% below 2019 levels.

A key part of the NGB's strategy to increase participation is to support clubs, leisure providers and other partners to move to their own dedicated facilities, offering more time and space for classes. It provides a range of products and programs and expert assistance to support local delivery; gymnastic activities which are successfully driving membership growth and retention across the country.

Consultation with British Gymnastics states that it recently supported Prime Acrobatics to relocate to a dedicated facility in Camberley. It opened in September 2024 and is located on an industrial estate to the north of the Town Centre. It also acknowledges that Generation Gymnastics club's facility is poor and is exploring options for a new or upgraded facility.

Club consultation

One club (Generation Gymnastics), responded to a request for consultation. It is located at Collingwood College in a dedicated facility on campus. It currently does not have a lease at the site but does have an agreement to use the facility for which it pays a monthly rent. The Club is restricted to using the facility during the evenings only, as the College does not allow external individuals onto the site during the day for safeguarding reasons.

It tries to accommodate as many people as possible and delivers classes for gymnasts aged 8–18 on seven days a week. It has 400 members and presently holds a small waiting list of c. 50, mainly in the younger age groups.

The key challenge is the quality of the facility and the current lack of a long-term lease. The building is over 50 years old and has a number of issues, including a leaking roof and limited capacity to regulate the temperature, which results in it becoming very hot/cold during the different seasons. There is also no viewing area and parking is limited.

It is currently working with the school and BG to seek funding to either upgrade current facility or move to a dedicated premises elsewhere. Should investment be made at the current facility, it would like a long-term lease to ensure that the Club can continue to operate on the site. It is currently concerned that if the building is condemned, it will not have a premises.

Although Places Leisure Camberley is not a designated facility, it does offer beginner gymnastics sessions, including tumble tots. Once individuals get to a certain standard, the Centre encourages them to join one of the local clubs to progress.

SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL BUILT FACILITIES STRATEGY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

10.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Elements	Assessment findings	Specific needs
Quantity	There are three dedicated gymnastics facilities in Surrey Heath. There are also seven within a 30-minute drive time of the Authority.	Generation Gymnastics states that it has a small waiting list, otherwise the level of provision meets current levels of demand in the Authority
Quality	Generation Gymnastics facility is rated poor quality. The other two sites are rated good.	BG is currently working with Generation Gymnastics to either help it to upgrade its current facility or move to an alternative venue.
Accessibility	There are good levels of accessibility to provision in Surrey Heath. All Surrey Heath residents reside within a 30-minute drive time of a club/venue within the Authority.	-
Availability (Management & usage)	Generation Gymnastics has a small waiting list. It is uncertain whether Prime Acrobatics has a current waiting list.	Support Generation Gymnastics to find larger, dedicated facility to reduce waiting lists and increase participation.

Strategic summary

Work with British Gymnastics to support Generation Gymnastics to either upgrade and secure its tenure at the existing venue at Collingwood College or move to new premises.

SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL BUILT FACILITIES STRATEGY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

SECTION 11: INITIAL STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The Authority of Surrey Heath provides a good range of indoor sports facilities. The recently opened Places Leisure Camberley is the main facility for the Local Authority, which boasts two swimming pools, an 8 court sports hall along with a range of health and fitness provision. This facility is supported by a number of other sites, including the Lightwater Leisure Centre and a number of schools. There are also a number of specialists facilities, including one indoor bowls centre and two dedicated gymnastics facilities.

The strategy which follows takes account of the findings of this needs assessment, the Authority's demographic make-up and the Council's vision. There is a general requirement to continue to ensure that facilities in Surrey Heath are fit for purpose for the 21st Century (e.g., welcoming, clean, attractive, flexible spaces, wide programme offer, ability to learn to swim cost-effective to manage and operate etc). This should lead to increased participation and a healthier Borough.

Swimming pools

- ◀ Given the key role of Places Leisure Camberley as the sole pay and play provision in the Authority, SHBC should liaise with Places Leisure to ensure that the operator continues to provide a balanced programme of aquatic activity, with an accompanying pricing structure which allows access to the broadest range of resident groups.
- ◀ It is recommended that SHBC consider undertaking a bespoke FPM report to assess the likely impact of future growth on existing facilities in the medium term; this could be aligned with preparation of the new Local Plan, which is expected to commence in Autumn 2025.
- ◀ In the short term, and to provide additional pool capacity in the Borough, the Council should work with Kings International College to determine whether the school can offer community use at the site.

Sports halls

- ◀ SHBC should (where possible) consider how it can work with facility operators to provide additional sports hall capacity. In particular, Places Leisure and Lightwater Leisure Centre should review current programmes of use to consider whether (for example) football activity could be transferred to outdoor provision, thereby creating additional capacity for indoor sports.
- ◀ SHBC should liaise with local parish councils to consider whether capacity exists within smaller community hall facilities which could accommodate certain current leisure centre bookings (e.g. single court badminton) which would in turn create additional capacity for larger sports hall (team sport) bookings.
- ◀ It may be helpful if SHBC Leisure Services could liaise with neighbouring authorities to identify if there is spare capacity in other facilities which can accommodate Surrey Heath clubs...such as Lightwater Netball Club.
- ◀ Tomlinscote Sports Centre, Kings International College and Collingwood College require investment to maintain/ improve the condition of their sports halls. SHBC should work with these schools and approach the Surrey Active Partnership to explore funding opportunities in order to deliver the required improvements.
- ◀ It is recommended that SHBC consider undertaking a bespoke FPM report to assess the likely impact of future growth on existing facilities in the medium term; this could be aligned with preparation of the new Local Plan, which is expected to commence in Autumn 2025.

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Gymnastics

- ◀ The dedicated gymnastics facility at Collingwood College requires significant investment. Any investment in the venue should be accompanied by agreement of a long-term lease for Generation Gymnastics Club. SHBC should liaise with British Gymnastics to ensure that the required level of support is delivered to enable the improvements to be delivered.

Squash

- ◀ The Authority should work with England Squash to consider how the sport can be promoted within Surrey Heath. In the likely absence of any provision in the short / medium term, this should consider alternative pop up forms of the game as trialled in Birmingham as part of the [2022 commonwealth games legacy programme](#).

Indoor bowls

- ◀ SHBC should work with Camberley Indoor Bowls Club to ensure it has the required support (including funding advice) in order to repair its roof (short term) and replace its carpet in the medium/long term.

General

- ◀ SHBC should continue to support Places Leisure to expand its heath referral programme, including providing the necessary support to facilitate networking with public and primary health contacts.
- ◀ Given the continued rise in the number of older residents (60+ residents) over the period of the strategy, SHBC should work with leisure operators including Places Leisure to ensure that facility programming (particularly daytime programming) reflects the need to support older residents to be active.
- ◀ SHBC should work with Places Leisure to ensure that the pricing, level of leisure card based discounting, and means of access to memberships and activities are accessible to older residents, those living in the rural areas of the authority and the relatively small number of people living in Surrey Heath who would be classified as being financially disadvantaged (i.e., they receive income support, are on benefits of in receipt of, for example, disability allowance). This might also, pending the disposition of the Council and its stakeholders, extend to including specific arrangements for carers and others performing key, socially essential community roles.
- ◀ There is a need to effectively promote the new Padel/Pickleball courts at Lightwater Leisure Centre, to ensure these are well used by the local community.