

7 Action Plan

Introduction

7.1 This section comprises an action plan for meeting the open space, sports facility and playing pitch deficiencies identified in this strategy. It contains the following material:

- a) Options for meeting the deficiencies.
- b) Delivery partners.
- c) Grant funding sources.
- d) Action plan for meeting existing needs.
- e) Action plan for meeting future needs.

Dealing with deficiencies

7.2 Introduction: A number of options are available for meeting the identified deficiencies in provision, including:

- a) New provision.
- b) Upgrading and refurbishing.
- c) Improved capacity.
- d) Enhanced access.

7.3 New provision: Providing entirely new open space, sport and recreation facilities may be the only means of securing additional provision in the right location. This can be achieved by:

- a) Identifying entirely new sites for provision in appropriate locations.
- b) Extending existing provision where feasible.
- c) Disposing of existing facilities to reinvest the capital receipt in new provision.
- d) Incorporating open space and facilities into new community provision and/or housing/retail/commercial developments.

7.4 Upgrading and refurbishing: Upgrading and refurbishing existing provision would meet some of the qualitative deficiencies identified. The types of upgrade that would be most beneficial include:

- a) Better provision for visitors at many natural and semi-natural greenspace sites would improve their overall quality rating (although this will need to be balanced against the impact on site biodiversity of enhanced visitor numbers).
- b) Disabled access was rated as 'below average' or 'poor' for most typologies in Uttlesford. Beneficial improvements would include provision for access by disabled people throughout a facility or site (such as lifts or ramps in buildings and hard-surfaced paths with wheelchair accessible gates at open spaces), dedicated changing, parking and toilet facilities and specialist equipment to facilitate disabled usage.
- c) Changing facilities are poor at some types of playing pitch sites in the district and improvements would significantly enhance the experience of users and help to retain existing and attract new participants.

7.5 Improved capacity: Improving the capacity of open space, sport and recreation facilities will enable them to accommodate more use and users. Examples include:

- a) The provision of floodlights for outdoor sports facilities will extend the period in which they can be used.
- b) Drainage and other qualitative improvements to grass pitches enable them to accommodate more play, with fewer postponed fixtures.

- c) Providing additional play equipment in children's play areas, to expand the range of ages and abilities catered for, will attract additional users.
- d) Habitat restoration and development improves the biodiversity value of natural and semi-natural and other greenspace sites.
- e) Provision of facilities like a crèche will improve the capacity of a built sports facilities to cater for families with young children.
- f) Physically expanding the area of existing greenspace sites will increase their capacity for use and may enhance their wildlife and biodiversity value.

7.6 Enhanced access: Improving access to open space, sport and recreation provision can be achieved in a number of ways:

- a) **Formal agreements:** Securing improved access through the development of formal agreements serves to safeguard public usage of provision without general community access and in some cases may provide sufficient security of tenure to allow external funding applications to be sought, to provide further enhancements. Examples include:

Securing the dual use by the community of education facilities, through a Community Use Agreement (CUA). Several schools in Uttlesford already allow external community use of their sports facilities, although in some instances there is no formal Community Use Agreement to secure this. Negotiating community access to education facilities offers an attractive means of securing additional capacity. Sport England provides a template CUA.

The designation of Access Land under the provisions of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000), which allows additional public access at specified sites in addition to traditional linear footpaths and bridleways.

The provision or extension of longer-term leases on sports facilities and greenspace sites (typically 21 years or more), to allow tenants to apply for grant-aid from external sources to fund improvements.

- b) **Public transport improvements:** Improvements to public transport (in particular rural buses), would reduce the need for travel by private vehicles.
- c) **Rights of way improvements:** Improving the rights of way network will ensure that there are appropriate linkages between key sites in the district will improve access and encourage more sustainable forms of transport.
- d) **Information and awareness:** The provision of interpretive panels at sites with nature conservation interest can help to educate and inform users and enhance the user experience. Similarly, good on-site signposting can improve user confidence in exploring larger sites or following marked trails. By the same token, off-site signposting creates greater awareness of sites by non-users and may therefore encourage usage. Finally, the development and distribution of publicity materials promoting open space, sport and recreation will also raise awareness amongst potential users.

Delivery partners

- 7.7 Introduction: A wide range of organisations will have a role in implementing the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy. The type of roles are summarised below.
- 7.8 Uttlesford District Council: The Council is likely to play the lead role in co-ordinating the development of the larger, more strategic sites and facilities, using its statutory planning powers where necessary. It will develop a more strategic, facilitational role, based upon developing, maintaining and making available an up-to-date and robust evidence base.
- 7.9 Parish councils: Parish councils will continue to provide more local scale open space and facilities in the rural parts of the district.

- 7.10 Schools: Several state and independent schools in the district already provide facilities from which local communities benefit, however there is a need to develop more formal community use agreements to secure external access to provision.
- 7.11 Sports organisations: Most governing bodies of sport have strategies for facility provision and some funding to support priority developments. Local sports clubs are significant providers of sports facilities, in particular bowling greens, golf courses, tennis courts and playing pitches.
- 7.12 Environmental organisations: County and national conservation trusts such as the Essex Wildlife Trust provide and manage natural and semi-natural greenspace sites, including the creation of new areas from time to time.
- 7.13 Commercial organisations: Several commercial sector organisations provide sports facilities in Uttlesford, including several of the health and fitness facilities. There may be scope for encouraging more involvement in provision by the private sector.
- 7.14 Developers: The developers of new housing and commercial projects in the district can be required either to provide new open space, sport and recreation as part of an individual development, or to make a financial contribution towards the costs of such provision on site or elsewhere in the vicinity. The key principle is that the open space, sport and recreation demand generated by a development must adequately be met, as opposed solely to rectifying any pre-existing deficiencies. This mechanism is likely to comprise a major component of new provision in the district.
- 7.15 Private landowners: Private landowners may be prepared to allow permissive access across some private open space sites, providing an important supplement to the supply of publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace.
- 7.16 Partnership arrangements: Partnership arrangements involving combinations of any of the above providers will help to share the costs of provision, management and maintenance of additional provision.

Funding sources

- 7.17 Introduction: Whilst some local funding may be available to help with the costs of meeting deficiencies in open space, sport and recreation provision in Uttlesford, the majority of the money is likely to need to be raised from external sources. These are examined in greater detail below, but it should be noted that there is strong competition for the relatively limited amounts of funding available, so only high priority projects are likely to succeed. In addition to the sources listed, some other governing bodies of sport also offer grant and/or loan funding for priority facility developments or improvements.
- 7.18 Sports facilities funding: Sport England has the following range of funding programmes from which projects in Uttlesford might benefit:
- a) *Small grants*: The Small Grants Programme has been set up to support local community sport projects which seek to increase participation, sustain participation or develop opportunities for people to excel at their chosen sport. It is open to any bona fide not-for-profit club or association, statutory body or educational establishment. Grants vary from £300 to £10,000 but the total project cost cannot exceed £50,000.
 - b) *The Iconic Facilities Fund*: The fund draws on the inspirational pull of London 2012 to create local beacons for grassroots sport. £30m will be invested over the next three years in innovative, large-scale, multi-sport facilities' projects that are regionally significant for at least two sports and can demonstrate long-term financial viability.
 - c) *Protecting playing fields*: Through this programme, Sport England will fund up to 300 projects for playing field improvements that will contribute to both retaining and increasing participants in sport across England at the local level. The programme will fund capital projects that create, develop and improve playing fields for sporting and community use and offer long term protection of the site for sport. Projects are likely to involve the construction of new pitches or improvement of existing ones that need levelling or drainage works.

- d) *Inspired Facilities Fund*: Inspired Facilities is focused on making it easier for local community and volunteer groups to improve and refurbish sports clubs or transform non-sporting venues into modern grassroots sport facilities. It will provide grants of up to £150,000 for a wide range of projects than can demonstrate that they will meet community needs.
- 7.19 The Football Foundation: The Foundation is jointly funded by the Football Association, the FA Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to provide grants for projects where football is the major user. The main funding from which projects in North Somerset are likely to benefit is the 'Grass Roots' programme, which has a national budget of around £32 million per annum.
- a) The Foundation seeks to provide sporting facilities by putting into place a new generation of modern facilities in parks, clubs, local leagues and schools, to sustain and/or increase participation.
- b) Facilities eligible for funding include synthetic turf pitch installation and floodlighting, clubhouse development and refurbishment, changing room improvements and pitch drainage.
- c) Applicants may include an element of revenue funding in their grant applications, to help to sustain or increase participation through a development programme.
- d) An organisation can apply for capital funding up to a maximum of £1 million. The percentage level of support is variable, but will not exceed 90%. However, 'ceiling' grants will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances and the average award to date is around 65%. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have exhausted all other sources of grant funding.
- 7.20 Rugby Football Foundation: The Foundation is a charitable trust established by the Rugby Football Union to promote and develop community rugby union in England. The Foundation administers a Capital Fund for the financing of capital projects aimed at improving facilities which lead to the recruitment and retention of rugby players. It has two funding streams:
- a) The Groundmatch Grant Scheme: Clubs at level 5 and below can apply for between £1,500 and £6,000 on a matched 50:50 basis for capital works projects that support the retention and recruitment of community rugby players.
- b) An interest free loan scheme: The scheme provides up to £100,000 in an interest free loan to capital works to clubs at level 4 and below which contribute to the retention and recruitment of community rugby players.
- 7.21 Funding for open spaces: The Department for Communities and Local Government produced a publication in August 2011 entitled 'Potential funding for community green spaces'²⁶. The document identifies potential funding available to community and voluntary organisations for community green space initiatives and the different grant schemes open to local groups, green spaces, allotment organisations or trusts, and also where to go to get help when looking for funding.

Action plan for meeting existing needs

- 7.22 Introduction: An action plan is set out below, which lists the current deficiencies in provision and identifies ways of meeting the shortfalls.
- 7.23 Open spaces: The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

<i>Type of open space</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Parks and Gardens	Quantity and accessibility standards not set Poor onsite car parking and issues with dog fouling, litter and fly tipping or little variety in vegetation/wildlife value at	Seek opportunities to create new parks and gardens where they arise, to increase provision throughout the District

²⁶ <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/greenspacefunding>

Type of open space	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
	existing parks and gardens	
Natural and semi-natural green space	Quantitative deficiencies predominantly in rural parishes Specific qualitative deficiencies along the Flich Way and in Marshall Piece, Stebbing Accessibility deficiencies in a number of settlements – see paragraph 3.65	Seek additional publically-accessible provision in Arkesden, Barnston, Chrishall, Debden, Elmdon and Wenden Lofts, Elsenham, Felsted, Flich Green, Great Easton and Tilty, Hempstead, Henham, High Easter, High Roding, Leaden Roding, Littlebury, Little Easton, Newport, Quendon and Rickling, Radwinter, The Sampfords, Swards End, Stansted, White Roding, Wicken Bonhunt, Widdington Seek improvements to PRow network and bridleways in rural areas and the urban fringe to maximise amenity benefits of private sites even where these not accessible Identify areas for 'naturalisation' within other typologies e.g. amenity greens or boundary areas of sports pitches, to mitigate deficiencies where new sites cannot be created
Amenity green space	Quantitative deficiencies predominantly in the Market Towns and main villages Specific qualitative deficiencies in Lukins Mead/Nursery Rise, Great Dunmow; Village Green, Burnsite Road, Felsted; and Land Off Raven's Crescent, Felsted Accessibility deficiencies in a number of settlements – see paragraph 3.51	Seek additional provision particularly in Barnston, Chrishall, Debden, Elmdon and Wenden Lofts, Great Chesterford, Hatfield Broad Oak, High Easter, Littlebury, Little Chesterford, Little Easton, Manuden, Newport, Radwinter, Stebbing, Wicken Bonhunt, Widdington. Identify where existing smaller sites < 0.2ha could mitigate for existing deficiencies in quantity and accessibility. Identify targeted improvements to sites currently identified as of poor quality or sites attaining poor or very poor for a number of criteria
Provision for children and young people	Quantitative deficiencies predominantly in the Market Towns and main villages Specific qualitative deficiencies at Rectory Road, Farnham Accessibility deficiencies in a number of settlements – see paragraph 3.82	Identify priority sites where natural play elements can be incorporated within enhanced facilities
Allotments	Quantitative deficiencies predominantly in a few smaller villages Qualitative deficiency at the allotments off The Street, Manuden Accessibility deficiencies in Chrishall, Elmdon and Wenden Lofts, Great	Keep local demand under review and seek additional provision particularly in Chrishall, Elmdon and Wenden Lofts, Great Chesterford, Hempstead, Priors Green - Little Canfield, Little Hallingbury,

Type of open space	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
	Chesterford, Hempstead, Priors Green - Little Canfield, Little Hallingbury, Radwinter, The Sampfords, Takeley and small parts of Hadstock	Radwinter, The Sampfords, Takeley
Cemeteries and churchyards	Quantity and accessibility standards not set Upper churchyard off The Street, Manuden considered to be very poor	Seek enhancements in quality and accessibility to the Upper churchyard off The Street, Manuden

7.24 Sports facilities: The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

Facility	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Sports halls	No overall quantitative deficiency, although several facilities are close to 'comfortable capacity'. No qualitative deficiency. All aspects of all facilities are currently rated as 'above average' or better. No accessibility deficiency. All parts of the district are within 15 minutes walk or drive of the nearest sports hall.	No action required
Swimming pools	No overall quantitative deficiency, although several facilities are close to 'comfortable capacity'. No qualitative deficiency. All aspects of all facilities are currently rated as 'above average' or better. No accessibility deficiency. All parts of the district are within 15 minutes walk or drive of the nearest swimming pool.	No action required
Athletics tracks	No quantitative deficiency. No qualitative deficiency. A significant accessibility deficiency in the north of the district, but there is no evidence of any frustrated demand.	Keep local demand under review
Synthetic turf pitches	No quantitative deficiency. No qualitative deficiency. No substantive access deficiency.	Keep local demand under review and consider provision of small-sided 3G synthetic turf pitches/multi-use games areas in parts of the district that are most distant from current pitch provision.
Indoor bowls greens	No quantitative deficiency. No qualitative deficiency. No substantive access deficiency.	Keep local demand under review, particularly in the south central area.
Outdoor bowls greens	No quantitative deficiency Disabled and general access improvements needed at all facilities apart from Dunmow BC and Saffron Walden Town BC. No accessibility deficiency.	Support clubs to make external funding applications for disabled and general access improvements at all facilities.
Indoor tennis	No quantitative deficiency No qualitative deficiency.	Keep local demand under review, particularly in the eastern part of the

Facility	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
courts	Significant accessibility deficiency in the eastern part of the district, although the levels of unserved demand are insufficient to justify additional facility provision within Uttlesford.	district.
Outdoor tennis courts	No quantitative deficiency Qualitative improvements needed at Castle Hill TC, Clavering TC, Dunmow TC, Stebbing TC and Thaxted TC. No accessibility deficiency.	Support clubs to make external funding applications
Squash courts	No quantitative deficiency The courts at the Lord Butler Leisure Centre need refurbishing to meet the qualitative standard. No accessibility deficiency.	Refurbish courts at the Lord Butler Leisure Centre.
Golf courses	No quantitative deficiency Disabled access at the Elsenham Golf and Leisure Centre should be improved. No accessibility deficiency.	Encourage Elsenham Golf and Leisure Centre to address the disabled access issues, with support for external funding application(s) if required.
Health and fitness	No quantitative deficiency. Disabled access improvements needed at some facilities. No accessibility deficiency.	Support disabled access improvements at Wilbur's Fitness Gym, Lord Butler Leisure Centre, County High Sports Centre and the Flitch Fitness Centre.
Village and community halls	No quantitative deficiency. Qualitative improvements for sports usage needed at most facilities. No accessibility deficiency.	Audit existing halls to establish their capacity to accommodate sports activities. Implement an improvement programme, prioritising facilities with the greatest potential to accommodate extra activity.

7.25 Playing pitches: The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

Pitch type	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Adult football	No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 18.5 pitches). Quality improvements needed to three pitches. Quality improvements needed to selected changing facilities. No accessibility deficiency. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches.	Improve pitch quality at: - Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club. - Jubilee Field (Clavering). Support site owners with funding applications to improve changing facilities, prioritising sites serving more than one pitch: - Alcott Playing Field (Stebbing). - Calves Pasture (Hatfield Heath). - Felsted Playing Field. - Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club. - Herbert Farm Playing Fields. - Jubilee Field (Clavering). - Takeley Recreation Ground. Secure community access to pitches at Carver Barracks.
Junior	4.1 additional pitches.	Provide 4 additional junior pitches

Pitch type	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
football	No pitch qualitative improvements. Quality improvements needed to changing facilities serving junior football pitches. No accessibility deficiency. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches	by: - Including pitches in the proposed new playing field development in Manuden and other proposed developments in Saffron Walden. - Converting adult football pitches in areas of the district where junior demand is highest. Support site owners with funding applications to improve changing facilities, prioritising sites serving more than one pitch: - Felsted Playing Field. - Herbert Farm Playing Fields. - Laundry Lane Playing Field (Little Easton) - Swards End Recreation Ground. - Stansted Recreation Ground. Secure community access to pitches at: - Dame Bradbury's School. - Katherine Semar School.
Mni-soccer	Supply and demand effectively balanced. No pitch qualitative improvements. No qualitative improvements needed at changing facilities serving mini-soccer pitches. No accessibility deficiencies. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches at Dame Bradbury's School and Katherine Semar School.	Secure community access to pitches at: Dame Bradbury's School. Katherine Semar School.
Cricket	0.1 additional pitches. Quality improvements needed to changing facilities serving cricket pitches. No accessibility deficiencies. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches.	Support site owners with funding applications to improve changing facilities, prioritising sites serving more than one pitch: - Audley End House. - Clogham's Green CC. - Dunmow CC. - Elmdon CC. - Elsenham CC. - Elsenham CC. - Hatfield Broad Oak CC. - Hatfield Heath CC. - High Roding CC. - Langley CC. - Lindsell CC. - Little Bardfield CC. - Stansted Hall CC. - Thaxted CC. - Wenden's Ambo Recreation Ground. Secure community access to pitches at:

Pitch type	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
		- County High Sports Centre. - Friends School.
Rugby	0.9 additional pitches No qualitative deficiency. No accessibility deficiency.	Support Saffron Walden Rugby Club with funding applications to provide an additional pitch on land adjacent to their current site.

Action plan for meeting future needs

7.26 Introduction: An action plan is set out below, which lists the future projected deficiencies in provision and identifies ways of meeting the shortfalls.

7.27 Open spaces: The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

Type of open space	Future assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Parks and Gardens	No specific additional requirement.	Seek opportunities to create new parks and gardens where they arise through new development, to increase provision throughout the District
Natural and semi-natural green space	A minimum of 7ha publicly accessible sites/1000 population All future sites should be clean and litter free, be of ecological value with appropriate amenity facilities, and footpaths should be well-maintained and designed to minimise impact on the natural features and to maximise natural surveillance. At least one publicly-accessible site within 5 minutes walk time (300-400m) in main settlements	Seek additional publically-accessible provision in Arkesden, Barnston, Chrishall, Debden, Elmdon and Wenden Lofts, Elsenham, Felsted, Flitch Green, Great Easton and Tilty, Hempstead, Henham, High Easter, High Roding, Leaden Roding, Littlebury, Little Easton, Newport, Quendon and Rickling, Radwinter, The Sampfords, Swards End, Stansted, White Roding, Wicken Bonhunt, Widdington to mitigate for existing and prospective quantitative deficiencies Identify areas for 'naturalisation' within other typologies e.g. amenity greens or boundary areas of sports pitches, to mitigate deficiencies where new sites cannot be created
Amenity green space	1.0ha per 1000 population All future sites should be clean and litter-free, managed to give natural surveillance to minimise fear of crime, and all greenspace features and facilities where provided should be well-maintained, including play equipment, footpaths, site furniture and soft landscaping. Within 5 minutes walk (400m) in main settlements/new developments	Seek additional provision particularly in Barnston, Chrishall, Debden, Elmdon and Wenden Lofts, Great Chesterford, Hatfield Broad Oak, High Easter, Littlebury, Little Chesterford, Little Easton, Manuden, Newport, Radwinter, Stebbing, Wicken Bonhunt, Widdington to mitigate for existing and prospective quantitative and accessibility deficiencies
Provision for children and young	A minimum of 0.2ha/ 1000 population All play areas must adhere to the Fields in Trust LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play)	Seek additional provision in line with the standards in areas of proposed growth.

Type of open space	Future assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
people	and NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play) national standards, should have natural surveillance and be within sight of walking or cycling routes or desire lines, facilities should be designed in consultation with local children and young people, be clean and litter free, have no vandalism and provide a mixture of formal and informal facilities, and facilities for youth should seek to provide skate/BMX features, or other appropriate facilities, alongside youth shelter areas Within 5 minutes walk (400m) in main settlements	
Allotments	A minimum of 0.25ha/ 1000 population Allotments should have secure fencing, a watering point, water storage facilities, containers for equipment, good quality soils, vehicle access to the allotment entrance and parking facilities, as well as management of vacant plots and provision for clearance/removal of rubbish and composting Within 10 minutes drive (4km) of whole population	Seek additional provision particularly in Chrishall, Elmdon and Wenden Lofts, Great Chesterford, Hempstead, Priors Green - Little Canfield, Little Hallingbury, Radwinter, The Sampfords, Takeley e.g. through prospective development, to mitigate for prospective quantitative deficiencies. Identify areas in existing sites within other typologies, especially amenity greens, but including formal parks or school grounds, where new sites could be created that cannot be delivered through development
Cemeteries and churchyards	No specific additional requirement.	No action required

7.28 Sports facilities: The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

Facility	Future assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Sports halls	1 additional sports hall close to the main areas of new population growth. All aspects of quality above average. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of a new sports hall funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Swimming pools	0.5 additional swimming pool (152sq.m. water space). All aspects of quality above average. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of a new learner pool at Great Dunmow Leisure Centre funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Athletics	No additional requirement.	No action required

Facility	Future assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
tracks		
Synthetic turf pitches	1 additional 3G pitch close to the main areas of new housing growth. All aspects of quality above average. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of a new 3G synthetic pitch funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Indoor bowls greens	1 additional rink added to the existing facility. All aspects of quality above average. Within 20 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of an additional rink to the existing facility funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Outdoor bowls greens	2 additional bowling greens. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of two bowling greens in areas with accessibility deficiencies in the south of the district, subject to local demand and funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Indoor tennis courts	No additional requirement.	No action required
Outdoor tennis courts	6 additional tennis courts. All aspects of quality above average. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of public tennis courts in sub-areas within 15 minutes drive of new developments, with a pre-existing deficiency, funded by developer contributions. Support local clubs in making funding applications to the LTA to secure additional tennis courts at club sites. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Squash courts	1 additional squash court. All aspects of quality above average. Within 20 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of a squash court in conjunction with the proposed new sports hall funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Golf courses	1 additional 9-hole golf course. All aspects of quality above average. Within 30 minutes drive of new developments.	Encourage the provision of a golf course by a commercial operator. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Health and fitness	2 additional or extended health and fitness facilities with 72 stations.	Encourage commercial operators to provide two new health and

Facility	Future assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
	All aspects of quality above average. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	fitness facilities in areas with an accessibility deficiency. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Village and community halls	8 additional village/community halls. All aspects of quality above average. Within 10 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of 8 additional village/community halls in conjunction with new developments, funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.

7.29 Playing pitches: The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

Pitch type	Future assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Adult football	3 additional pitches. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Additional need will be met by surpluses in current provision. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Junior football	4 additional pitches once the existing deficiency has been met. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of 4 additional junior pitches in areas within 15 minutes drive of new developments, funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Mni-soccer	3 additional pitches. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of 3 additional mini-soccer pitches in areas within 15 minutes drive of new developments, funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Cricket	7 additional pitches once the existing deficiency has been met. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of 7 additional cricket pitches in areas within 15 minutes drive of new developments, funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.
Rugby	0.5 pitches. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 20 minutes drive of new developments.	Secure the provision of an additional rugby pitch land on adjacent to Saffron Walden Rugby Club's current site, funded by developer contributions. Ensure that existing facilities

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
		continue to be maintained to 'above average' standard.