



**Strategic Assessment of Sports Hall
Provision
Durham County Council**

Facility Planning Model

National Run Report

August 2018

Contents

1.	Introduction.....	1
2.	Supply of Sports Halls.....	2
3.	Demand for Sports Halls.....	7
4.	Supply & Demand Balance	9
5.	Satisfied Demand - demand from County Durham residents being met by supply	10
6.	Unmet Demand - demand from County Durham residents not being met	122
7.	Used Capacity - How full are the facilities?	166
8.	Local Share - equity share of facilities	20
9.	Summary Report.....	23
	Appendix 1: Sports hall included and excluded in the assessment.....	299
	Appendix 2 – Model description, Inclusion Criteria and Model Parameters	34

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report and the accompanying maps provide a strategic assessment for provision of sports halls across the County Durham area. The assessment is based on Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (fpm) data from Sport England's 2018 national assessment of sports halls for all local authorities in England.
- 1.1 The purpose of this evidence base report is to provide an assessment of the supply, demand and access to sports halls. The report will be used by Durham County Council in the strategic planning for the future provision of sports halls across the County and inform the County Council's Leisure Transformation Project.
- 1.2 The report is based on an analysis of sports halls provision under seven headings and includes data tables and maps. The headings are: total supply; total demand; supply and demand balance; satisfied/met demand; unmet demand; used capacity (how full the sports halls are); and equity share. The definition of each heading is set out at the start and followed a commentary on the findings.
- 1.3 The assessment and findings reported are catchment area based, and the catchment area of the sports halls extends across local authority boundaries. For some County Durham residents, the nearest sports hall to where they live will be outside the County (exported demand) and vice versa for residents in neighbouring authorities, and where the nearest sports hall to where they live is located within County Durham (imported demand).
- 1.4 So, it is important to include the data for the neighbouring authorities alongside that for County Durham in the data tables. Where valid to do so, the findings for the neighbouring authorities are also commented on.
- 1.5 A summary of main findings is set out at the end of the main report.
- 1.6 The information contained within the report should be read alongside the two appendices. Appendix 1 sets out the facilities included and excluded in the assessment, and Appendix 2 sets out the fpm inclusion criteria and the model parameters.
- 1.7 This report should not be considered in isolation and in the strategic planning for sports halls, it will be important to consider the findings in this assessment, alongside information and consultations from (a) sports perspective (National Governing Bodies of Sport, local sports clubs & key stakeholders), and (b) a local perspective (from the local authority/facility providers and operators/community organisations).
- 1.8 This report has been prepared by WYG Consulting on behalf of Sport England. WYG are contracted by Sport England to undertake facility planning model work on behalf of Sport England and local authorities.

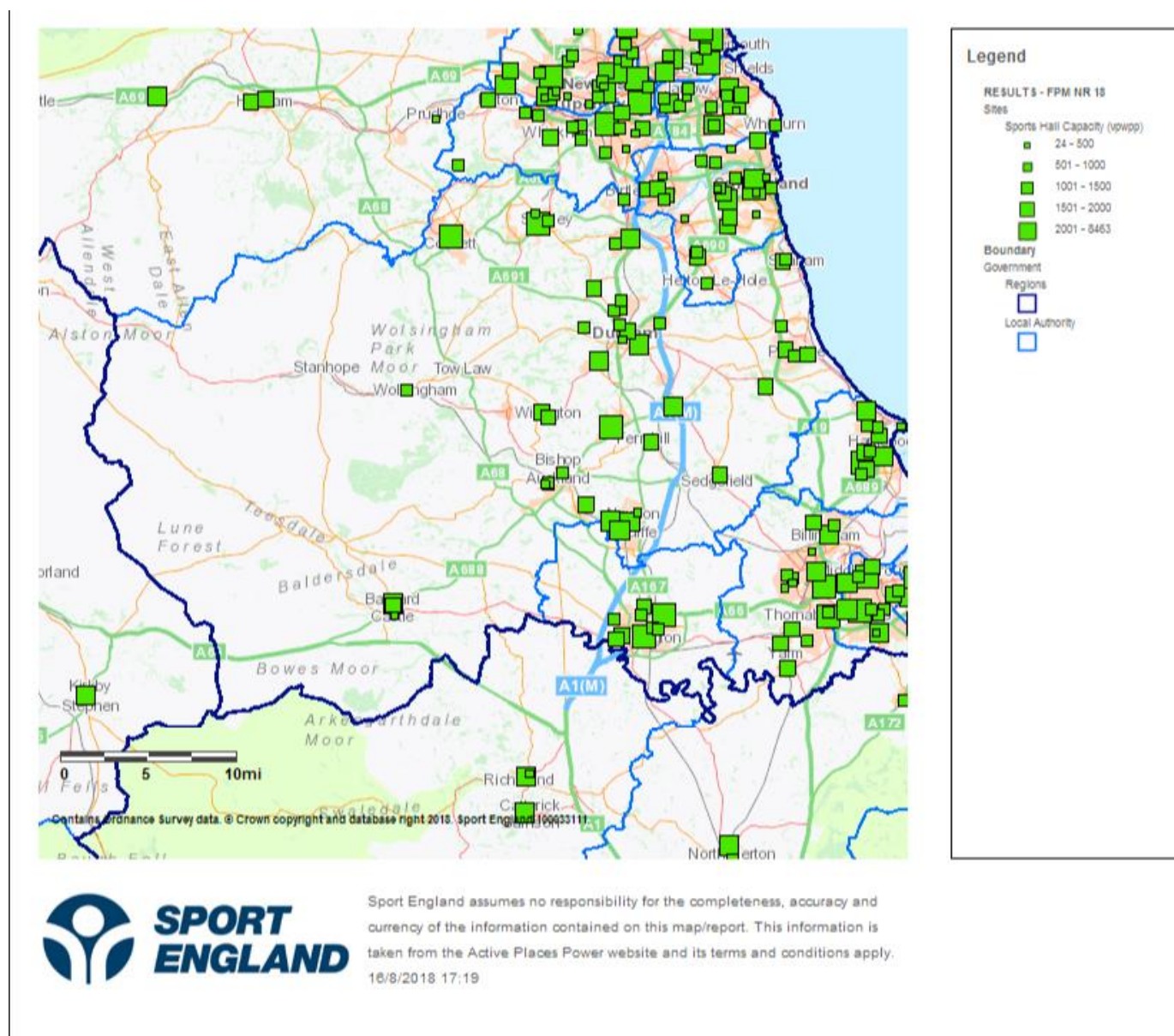
2. Supply of Sports Halls

Total Supply	County Durham UA	Darlington UA	Eden	Gateshead	Hartlepool UA	Northumberland South East	Richmondshire	Stockton-on-Tees UA	Sunderland
Number of halls	59	15	10	21	17	17	4	24	39
Number of hall sites	44	9	5	16	11	12	3	16	26
Supply of total hall space in courts	249.80	54.20	37.50	86	62.10	79.10	18.70	94.50	143.20
Supply of publicly available hall space in courts peak period	188.60	42.70	31.50	58.40	45.40	65.60	13	65.60	91.10
Supply of total hall space in visits per week peak period	51,485	11,653	8,609	15,932	12,403	17,907	3,536	17,911	24,869
Courts per 10,000 population	4.70	5.10	7.10	4.30	6.70	5.30	3.60	4.80	5.10

- 2.1 **Definition of supply** – this is the supply or capacity of the sports halls which are available for public and club use in the weekly peak period. The supply is expressed in number of visits that a sports hall can accommodate in the weekly peak period and in numbers of badminton courts.
- 2.2 There are 59 individual sports halls located on 44 sites across County Durham in 2018. The total supply of sports halls in badminton courts, is 249 courts, of which 188 are available in the weekly peak period for community use (known as the effective supply). The reason for the difference between the total supply of badminton courts and the effective supply, is because of the variable hours of access for community use at the sports halls located on education sites. The difference of 61 badminton courts represents just under 25% of the total supply of badminton courts across County Durham
- 2.3 Based on a measure of number of badminton courts available for community use per 10,000 population, County Durham has 4.7 badminton courts. The County Durham provision is ranked seventh out of the nine authorities in the study area. The highest supply is in Eden District with 7.1 badminton courts per 10,000 population and the lowest is in Richmondshire at 3.6 badminton courts per 10,000 population.
- 2.4 The North East Region average is 5.1 badminton courts per 10,000 population and for England wide it is 4.2 courts per 10,000 population in 2018.
- 2.5 So, the provision of sports hall space across County Durham is below that of most of the neighbouring authorities, North East Region and England wide.

- 2.6 As with swimming pools, these quantitative findings are set out simply for comparative purposes, because some local authorities like to know how their provision compares with that of its neighbours. The assessment of the implications of the findings for County Durham will be made based on the findings from all seven headings in the sports halls data, not just supply.
- 2.7 The location of all the sports hall sites in County Durham is set out in Map 2.1 below. The difference in size of the green square reflect the different size of the sports hall at each site, in terms of its capacity at peak times. As the map shows the sports hall sites are clustered in the North East and South East of the County. There are no sports halls in the west side of the County and for the residents in this area there access to sports halls is very limited. This is exacerbated by Eden District, Richmondshire and South East Northumberland having the least number of sports hall sites at 5 and 4 sites respectively.

Map 2.1 Location of sports hall sites County Durham 2018



- 2.8 A description of all the sports halls in County Durham is set out in Table 2.1 below. The average age for the sports hall sites, excluding Durham School which opened in 1923 is 30 years. In terms of the average age of the sports halls in each of the areas of the County they are:
- Chester-Le-Street 35 years
 - Derwentside 27 years
 - Durham City 25 years
 - Easington 26 years
 - Sedgefield 33 years
 - Teesdale 44 years
 - Wear Valley 26 years
- 2.9 Of the 28 pre 2000 sports hall sites, 15 sites have been modernised, so there is a reasonably good record of modernisation. Modernisation is defined as one or more of, the sports hall floor upgraded to a sprung timber floor, the lighting system upgraded or the changing accommodation modernised.
- 2.10 A key finding is that 24 of the total 44 sports hall sites are owned and operated by educational institutions (schools/colleges/ higher education). The education sports halls will have variable hours of access for community use, outside of education use. Some schools, colleges, higher education proactively manage the venues for wider community use and which is predominantly for sports club and community groups use. Other schools and colleges let their sports halls on a responsive basis, on a term or even shorter irregular lettings and again to sports clubs or community groups.
- 2.11 The variable policy and hours and access for community use at the education sports hall sites, explains the reason for the difference between the total supply of sports halls, which is 249 badminton courts, and the supply available for community use, which is 188 badminton courts, in the weekly peak period. As already reported, the difference of 61 badminton courts represents around 25% of the total supply of badminton courts across County Durham
- 2.12 Furthermore, these quantitative findings on the scale of education sports hall sites, illustrates the impact of any changes in the policy of education providers towards community use and access will have on the overall supply of sports halls across County Durham. Any reduction in community use at these venues will transfer more demand, most likely club use, to the public leisure centres.
- 2.13 The scale of the sports hall offer is excellent, with 31 sports halls of 4 badminton court size. This size of sports hall can accommodate all of the indoor hall sports at the community level of participation.
- 2.14 There are then a further 6 sports halls which are 6 badminton court size, 5 venues which have a double sports hall of 8 badminton courts and the largest sports hall is the 10 badminton court size sports hall which is located at The Louisa Centre. So there are 12 more venues which can accommodate multi sports use at the same time, plus

the eight and ten court venues are of a scale to accommodate events with a centre show court.

- 2.15 Including County Durham and all the neighbouring local authorities, there are a total of 189 individual sports halls on 142 sports hall sites, it is an extensive supply of sports halls.

Table 2.1: Sports Hall Supply County Durham 2018

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of Courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	Car % Demand	Public Tran % Demand	Walk % Demand
CHESTER-LE-STREET							75%	9%	17%
FYNDOUNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1982	2010	82%	9%	9%
FYNDOUNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Activity Hall	18 x 11	204						
HERMITAGE ACADEMY	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2003		66%	7%	27%
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (CHURCH CHARE)	Main	34 x 27	932	6	1965	2002	72%	9%	19%
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (CHURCH CHARE)	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
DERWENTSIDE							80%	10%	10%
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	1991		83%	9%	8%
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	34 x 20	690						
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
CONSETT LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	2015		83%	9%	8%
NORTH DURHAM ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2013		75%	10%	15%
TANFIELD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPECIALIST COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1954	2008	77%	9%	14%
THE LOUISA CENTRE	Main	51 x 30	1530	10	1980	2008	76%	11%	13%
DURHAM CITY							76%	9%	16%
ABBEEY LEISURE CENTRE (DURHAM)	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1991	2008	81%	8%	12%
ACTIVE LIFE AT COXHOE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1986		85%	9%	6%
ACTIVE LIFE AT COXHOE	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153						
BELMONT SCHOOL COMMUNITY ARTS COLLEGE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1979	2015	77%	10%	12%
DURHAM SCHOOL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1923	2008	56%	7%	37%
DURHAM UNIVERSITY (GRAHAM SPORTS CENTRE AT MAIDEN CASTLE)	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1982	2009	82%	10%	8%
DURHAM UNIVERSITY (GRAHAM SPORTS CENTRE AT MAIDEN CASTLE)	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153						
FRAMWELLGATE SCHOOL DURHAM	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2017		73%	7%	20%
FREEMANS QUAY LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2008		63%	9%	28%
MEADOWFIELD LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1985		81%	9%	10%
MEADOWFIELD LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
ST LEONARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1960		69%	8%	23%
ST LEONARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153						
STEPS2FITNESS	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2005	2009	76%	8%	16%

THE SIR BOBBY ROBSON CENTRE	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2006		71%	8%	21%
EASINGTON							73%	11%	16%
DENE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2005		67%	13%	20%
DENE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
EASINGTON ACADEMY	Main	31 x 18	569	4	1990		76%	12%	11%
IMPACT HEALTH & FITNESS	Main	51 x 18	918	6	2009		74%	12%	14%
PETERLEE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	1978	2011	72%	12%	16%
SEAHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1980	2009	70%	11%	18%
SEAHAM YOUTH CENTRE	Main	27 x 18	486	3			70%	11%	19%
WELLFIELD SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1997		80%	9%	11%
WELLFIELD SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
SEDGEFIELD							75%	9%	16%
FERRYHILL COMMUNITY HUB	Main	32 x 18	574	4	1982	2007	73%	8%	19%
GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2006	2010	76%	8%	16%
GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Activity Hall	20 x 10	200						
NEWTON AYCLIFFE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	1974	2007	67%	8%	25%
OAK LEAF SPORTS COMPLEX	Main	42 x 22	924	6	1978	2006	87%	9%	4%
SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY SPORTS COLLEGE	Main	34 x 27	918	6	2011		84%	5%	11%
SHILDON SUNNYDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	41 x 21	867	6	1982	2009	73%	11%	15%
SPENNYMOOR LEISURE CENTRE	Main	37 x 34	1258	8	1986		77%	9%	14%
WOODHAM ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1970		62%	7%	31%
TEESDALE							86%	3%	11%
BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL (SENIOR SCHOOL)	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1975	2007	76%	3%	21%
TEESDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1990		88%	3%	9%
TEESDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
TEESDALE SCHOOL	Main	27 x 18	486	3	1955		82%	3%	15%
TEESDALE SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
WEAR VALLEY							79%	8%	14%
BISHOP AUCKLAND COLLEGE	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2007		76%	8%	16%
BISHOP BARRINGTON SPORTS CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2006		72%	8%	20%
KING JAMES I ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2015		71%	9%	19%
PARKSIDE ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1985		82%	8%	11%
PARKSIDE ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180						
SPECTRUM LEISURE COMPLEX	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1984	2008	84%	8%	8%
SPECTRUM LEISURE COMPLEX	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153						
ST JOHNS RC SCHOOL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1964	1985	69%	8%	23%
WOLSINGHAM SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2005		90%	4%	6%

3. Demand for Sports Halls

Total- Demand	County Durham UA	Darlington UA	Eden	Gateshead	Hartlepool UA	Northumberland South East	Richmondshire	Stockton-on-Tees UA	Sunderland
Population	526,618	105,724	52,624	202,140	93,312	149,631	52,279	197,895	278,969
Visits demanded – visits per week peak period	32,302	6,434	3,076	12,469	5,708	8,891	3,233	12,184	17,287
Equivalent in badminton courts	147.90	29.50	14.10	57.10	26.10	40.80	14.80	55.80	79.10
% of population without access to a car	26.40	26.60	13.10	35.20	33.80	25.90	12.80	24.50	33.80

- 3.1 **Definition of total demand** – it represents the total demand for sports halls by both genders and for 14 five-year age bands from 0 to 65+. This is calculated as the percentage of each age band/gender that participates. This is added to the frequency of participation in each age band/gender, so as to arrive at a total demand figure, which is expressed in visits in the weekly peak period. Total demand is also expressed in numbers of badminton courts.
- 3.2 The 2018 population of County Durham is 526,618 people. This population generates a sports hall demand of 32,302 visits in the weekly peak period of week day evenings (up to 5 hours per day) and weekend days (up to 7 hours per weekend day). The demand in the weekly peak period equates to 147 badminton courts.
- 3.3 The percentage of the population without access to a car is recorded under the demand heading. In County Durham it is 26.4% of the resident population, who do not have access to a car, based on the 2011 Census.
- 3.4 County Durham is mid table in relation to the other authority findings, with four authorities having a higher finding, it being highest in Gateshead at 35.2% of the population without access to a car. There are four authorities with a lower finding than County Durham and it being lowest in Eden District at 13.1% of the population without access to a car. The North East Region average is 30.3% of the population who do not have access to a car and for England wide it is 24.9% of the population who do not have access to a car.
- 3.5 The percentage of the population without access to a car is important, because it influences travel patterns to sports halls. If there is a low percentage, as there is in County Durham, it does mean there is more likely to be higher use of car travel to sports halls. Given the drive time catchment is 20 minutes travel time then it means more residents can access more sports halls by car travel.
- 3.6 If the percentage of the population without access to a car is high, it means a network of more local sports halls become more important, so that residents are able to access venues. There does appear to be a good local network of sports halls across County Durham, given 24 of the total 44 sports hall sites are located at educational institutions.

- 3.7 The findings for County Durham are that 77% of all visits to sports halls are by car, 14% of all visits to sports halls are by walking and 9% are by public transport. So around one in four visits to sports halls are by a combination of walking and public transport. The significance of these findings will be assessed under the unmet demand heading.

4. Supply & Demand Balance

Supply/Demand Balance	County Durham UA	Darlington UA	Eden	Gateshead	Hartlepool UA	Northumberland South East	Richmond shire	Stockton-on-Tees UA	Sunderland
Supply - Hall provision (courts) hours available for community use	188.60	42.70	31.50	58.40	45.40	65.60	13	65.60	91.10
Demand - Hall provision (courts)	147.90	29.50	14.10	57.10	26.10	40.80	14.80	55.80	79.10
Supply / Demand balance	40.70	13.20	17.40	1.30	19.30	24.80	-1.80	9.80	12

- 4.1 **Definition of supply and demand balance** – supply and demand balance compares the total demand for sports halls in County Durham with the total supply. It therefore represents an assumption that ALL the demand for sports halls is met by ALL the supply in County Durham. (Note: it does exactly the same for the other authorities).
- 4.2 In short, supply and demand balance is NOT based on where the venues are located and their catchment area extending into other authorities. Nor, the catchment areas of sports halls in neighbouring authorities extending into County Durham. Most importantly supply and demand balance does NOT take into account the propensity/reasons for residents using facilities outside their own authority. The more detailed modelling based on the CATCHMENT AREAS of sports halls with supply and demand spread across boundaries, is set out under Satisfied Demand, Unmet Demand and Used Capacity.
- 4.3 The reason for presenting the supply and demand balance, is because some local authorities like to see how THEIR total supply of sports halls compares with THEIR total demand for sports halls. Supply and demand balance presents this comparison.
- 4.4 When looking at this closed assessment, the resident population of County Durham in 2018 generates a demand for 147 badminton courts in the weekly peak period. This compares to a supply of 188 badminton courts which are available for community use in the weekly peak period in 2018. So, the County Durham supply exceeds the County Durham demand by 41 badminton courts.
- 4.5 Across the study area, the supply of sports halls in badminton courts exceeds demand in eight of the nine authorities and it is only in Richmondshire where demand exceeds supply but this is only by 1.8 badminton courts. The overall supply and demand balance is that supply exceeds demand by 136 badminton courts.
- 4.6 This is likely to mean that when supply and demand are assessed, based on the catchment area of sports halls, there will be a high level of demand that can be met, and the level of unmet demand will be low.

5. Satisfied Demand - demand from County Durham residents currently being met by supply

Satisfied Demand	County Durham UA	Darlington UA	Eden	Gateshead	Hartlepool UA	Northumberland South East	Richmondshire	Stockton-on-Tees UA	Sunderland
Total number of visits which are met	28,845	6,030	2,568	11,432	5,441	8,257	2,571	11,409	15,945
% of total demand satisfied	89.30	93.70	83.50	91.70	95.30	92.90	79.50	93.60	92.20
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	77	71.10	86.80	64.30	62.20	73.60	90.70	72.60	64.90
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	14.10	19.60	10.20	23	28.50	17.90	5.80	18	22.80
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	9	9.20	3	12.70	9.30	8.50	3.50	9.50	12.20
Demand Retained	26,319	5,645	2,437	7,880	5,268	7,405	2,145	9,288	13,152
Demand Retained - as a % of Satisfied Demand	91.20	93.60	94.90	68.90	96.80	89.70	83.40	81.40	82.50
Demand Exported	2,526	385	131	3,552	173	852	426	2,121	2,793
Demand Exported - as a % of Satisfied Demand	8.80	6.40	5.10	31.10	3.20	10.30	16.60	18.60	17.50

- 5.1 **Definition of satisfied demand** – it represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the sports halls from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a sports hall.
- 5.2 In 2018, some 89% of the total demand for sports halls from County Durham residents is being satisfied/met. This means this level of the County Durham total demand for sports halls is located within the catchment area of a sports hall, within the County, those outside and where the catchment area extends into County Durham. Plus there is enough capacity at the venues to meet this level of total demand for sports halls.
- 5.3 This is a quite high level of satisfied/met demand in the neighbouring authorities and it is highest in Stockton-On-Tees at 93.6% of the Stockton-On-Tees total demand for sports halls being met. The lowest level is in Richmondshire at 79.5% of that authority's total demand for sports halls being met.

Retained demand

- 5.4 There is a sub set of satisfied demand that is retained demand and this measures how much of the County Durham demand is met at sports halls in the County. This is based on the catchment area of sports halls inside County Durham and residents using the nearest sports hall to where they live.
- 5.5 The finding is that the nearest sports hall for a County Durham resident and which a venue is located in the County, is a high 91% of the total 89% of the County Durham total satisfied demand for sports halls.
- 5.6 In short, the site and catchment area of the sports hall sites in the County are very well located, in relation to the location of the County Durham demand for sports halls. So much so, that the nearest sports hall for nine out of ten visits to a sports hall by a County Durham resident is a venue located in the County.

Exported demand

- 5.7 The residual of satisfied demand after retained demand is the export of the County Durham demand. Again, this is based on County Durham residents using the nearest venue to where they live, and which happens to be a sports hall in a neighbouring authority. The finding for 2018. is that County Durham is exporting just under 9% of its satisfied demand for sports halls and which is met in neighbouring authorities. The data does not identify how much demand is exported to which authority, it only provides the total exported demand.
- 5.8 For context, the County Durham exported demand equates to 2,526 visits in the weekly peak period. The County Durham demand retained at the County Durham sports halls is 26,319 visits in the weekly peak period.

6. Unmet Demand - demand from County Durham residents not currently being met

Unmet Demand	County Durham UA	Darlington UA	Eden	Gateshead	Hartlepool UA	Northumberland South East	Richmondshire	Stockton-on-Tees UA	Sunderland
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met	3,458	404	509	1,037	267	634	662	775	1,342
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	10.70	6.30	16.50	8.30	4.70	7.10	20.50	6.40	7.80
Equivalent in Courts - with comfort factor	15.90	1.90	2.40	4.80	1.30	2.90	3	3.50	6.10
% of Unmet Demand due to ;									
Lack of Capacity -	0.60	0	0.40	1.30	0	0.10	0	0	2.70
Outside Catchment -	99.40	100	99.60	98.70	100	99.90	100	100	97.30
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	91.30	95.30	34.30	96.40	96.60	95.90	38.40	96.40	95.20

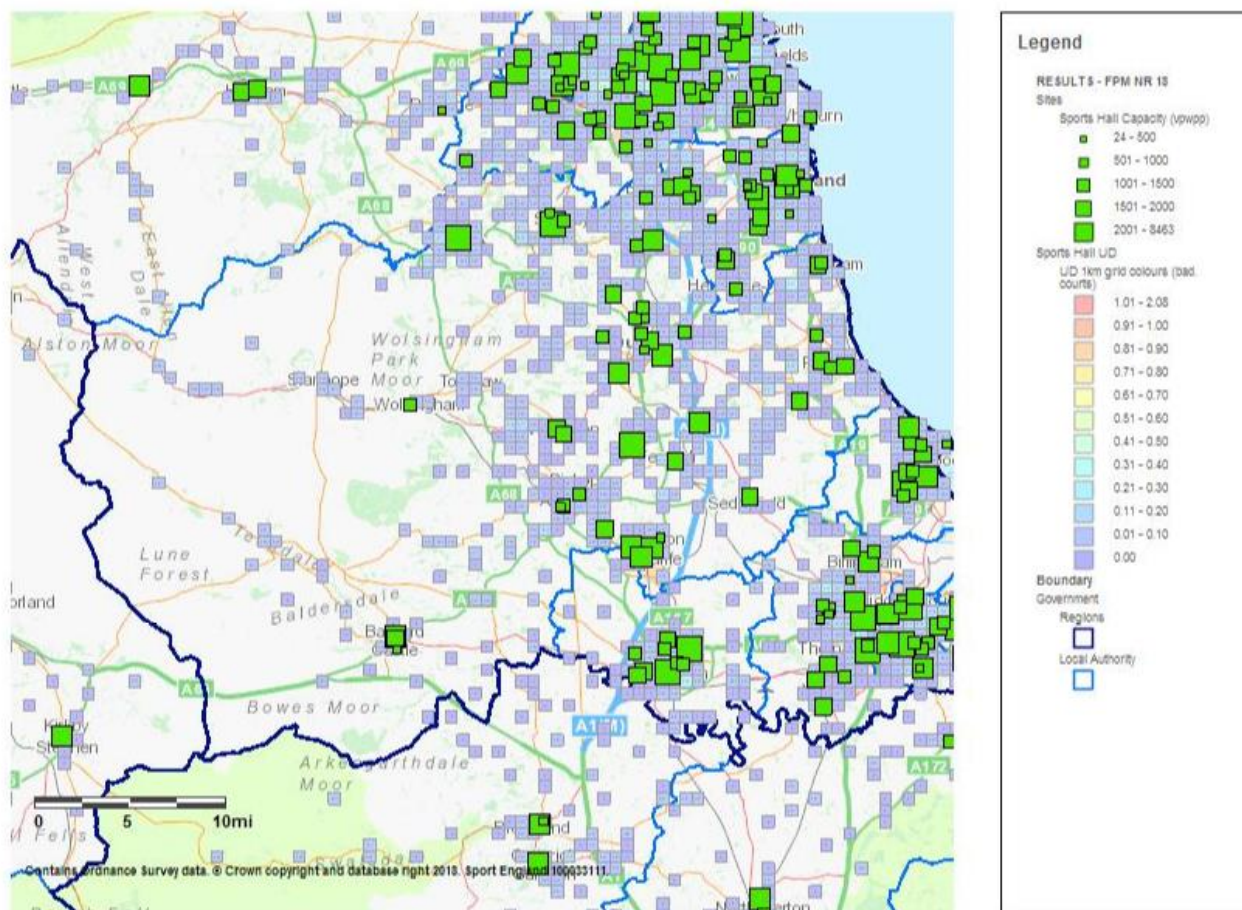
- 6.1 The **unmet demand definition has two parts to it** - demand for sports halls which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall and is then classified as unmet demand.
- 6.2 The finding for County Durham is that total unmet demand is 10.7% of total demand for sports halls and this equates to just fewer than 16 badminton courts.
- 6.3 Of the total unmet demand, all but 0.6% and so 99.4% is from definition two - unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a sports hall.
- 6.4 As reported under the supply heading and as shown by Map 2.1, the sports hall sites are clustered in the north east and south east of the authority. There are few sports hall sites outside these locations and none towards the far western side of the authority.
- 6.5 Across most studies there is a finding that there is unmet demand located outside catchment and it is the same for this study area. This is because, it is not possible to get complete spatial coverage, whereby all areas of an authority are inside the catchment area of a sports hall. Especially when the walking catchment area is only 20 minutes/1mile. The finding is that 91% of the total 99% of unmet demand located outside catchment, is by residents who do not have access to a car (last row in the unmet demand table above).

- 6.6 The significant finding is not that unmet demand outside catchment exists, but the SCALE and in County Durham it equates to fewer than 16 badminton courts and the available supply of sports halls in badminton courts is 188 courts. It is not a large scale of unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a sports hall.
- 6.7 The location and scale of unmet demand across County Durham is shown in Map 6.1. Map 6.2 shows the unmet demand for sports halls in the eastern side of the county and where unmet demand is concentrated.
- 6.8 The unmet demand is expressed in units of badminton courts in one kilometre grid squares and the squares are colour coded with different values of unmet demand. The three shades of blue squares, have unmet demand in the range 0 – 0.2 of one badminton court, so very low levels of unmet demand.
- 6.9 The total unmet demand across the whole of the County is fewer than 16 badminton courts. There is no location/cluster of unmet demand, at a sufficient scale to consider further provision of sports halls to increase accessibility for residents. Unmet demand is distributed quite evenly across the eastern side of the county in these very low values, of between 0 – 0.2 of one badminton court.

Map 6.1: Unmet Demand for Sports Halls County Durham 2018

Facilities Planning Model - National Runs - Sports Halls 2018 Unmet Demand

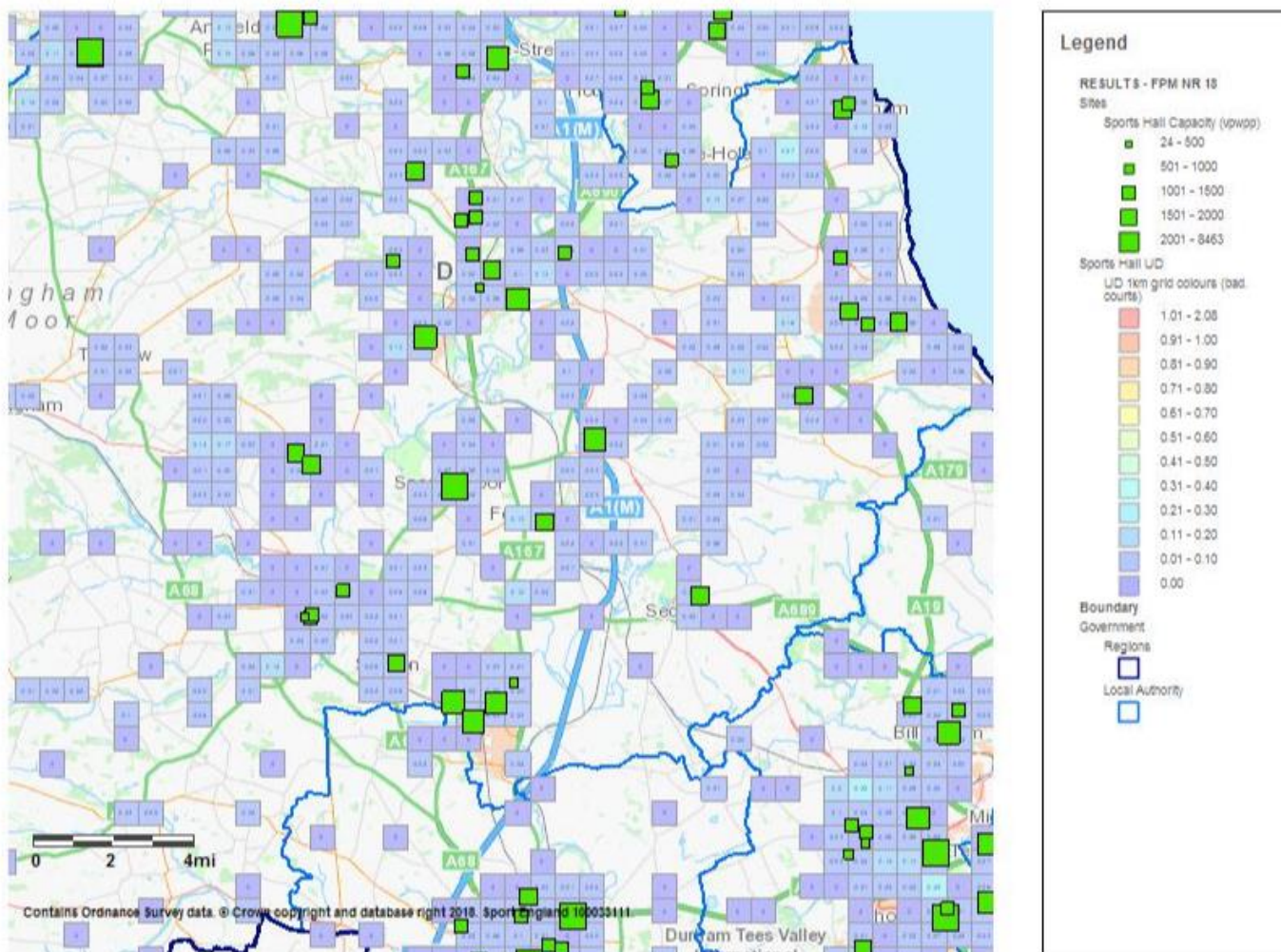
Unmet Demand expressed as units of badminton courts (rounded to two decimal places). Data outputs shown thematically (colours) at either output area level or aggregated at 1km square (figure labels).



Map 6.2: Unmet Demand for Sports Halls Eastern Side of County Durham 2018

Facilities Planning Model - National Runs - Sports Halls 2018 Unmet Demand

Unmet Demand expressed as units of badminton courts (rounded to two decimal places). Data outputs shown thematically (colours) at either output area level or aggregated at 1km square (figure labels).



7. Used Capacity - How full are the facilities?

Used Capacity	County Durham UA	Darlington UA	Eden	Gateshead	Hartlepool UA	Northumberland South East	Richmondshire	Stockton-on-Tees UA	Sunderland
Total number of visits used of current capacity	27,984	6,183	2,446	11,282	5,791	8,832	2,171	10,471	15,375
% of overall capacity of halls used	54.40	53.10	28.40	70.80	46.70	49.30	61.40	58.50	61.80
Visits Imported;									
Number of visits imported	1,665	537	9	3,402	522	1,427	26	1,183	2,223
As % of used capacity	5.90	8.70	0.40	30.20	9	16.20	1.20	11.30	14.50

- 7.1 **Definition of used capacity** - is a measure of usage and throughput at sports halls and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. The facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor', beyond which, the venues are too full. For sports halls, Sport England sets the comfort level at 80% of capacity used at peak times (weekday evenings and weekend days). Above this level the time taken to change the sports hall for different activities starts to impinge on the activity time itself. Also, the changing and circulation areas become overcrowded and can discourage participation.
- 7.2 The facilities planning model finding is the County Durham sports halls are estimated to be operating at 54% of used capacity in the weekly peak period week day evenings (up to 5 hours per day) and weekend days (up to 7 hours per weekend day).
- 7.3 The used capacity findings are consistent and reflect the earlier findings: namely that (1) the County Durham supply of sports halls is greater than the County total demand; (2) that the level of total demand that can be met/satisfied is high; (3) the level of unmet demand for sports hall is low.
- 7.4 Overall, the level of the sports hall capacity used is also quite low and there is considerable headroom before the sport England benchmark of 80% of sports hall capacity in the weekly peak period is reached.
- 7.5 There however are the County wide average findings for used capacity and the findings for each individual sports hall site do vary. These findings are set out in Table 7.1 and the final two columns show, the percentage of sports hall capacity used at peak times and the percentage not used.

Table 7.1: Used Capacity of the County Durham Sports Halls 2018

Name of Site	Type	Dimensions	Area	No of Courts	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	% of Capacity Used	% of Capacity Not Used
COUNTY DURHAM AVERAGE							54%	46%
CHESTER-LE-STREET					1983		55%	45%
FYNDOUNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1982	2010	67%	33%
FYNDOUNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Activity Hall	18 x 11	204					
HERMITAGE ACADEMY	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2003		59%	41%
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (CHURCH CHARE)	Main	34 x 27	932	6	1965	2002	44%	56%
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (CHURCH CHARE)	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
DERWENTSIDE							57%	43%
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	1991		49%	51%
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	34 x 20	690					
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
CONSETT LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	2015		65%	35%
NORTH DURHAM ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2013		43%	57%
TANFIELD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPECIALIST COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1954	2008	29%	71%
THE LOUISA CENTRE	Main	51 x 30	1530	10	1980	2008	70%	30%
DURHAM CITY							59%	41%
ABBAY LEISURE CENTRE (DURHAM)	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1991	2008	87%	13%
ACTIVE LIFE AT COXHOE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1986		58%	42%
ACTIVE LIFE AT COXHOE	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153					
BELMONT SCHOOL COMMUNITY ARTS COLLEGE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1979	2015	82%	18%
DURHAM SCHOOL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1923	2008	57%	43%
DURHAM UNIVERSITY (GRAHAM SPORTS CENTRE AT MAIDEN CASTLE)	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1982	2009	45%	55%
DURHAM UNIVERSITY (GRAHAM SPORTS CENTRE AT MAIDEN CASTLE)	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153					
FRAMWELLGATE SCHOOL DURHAM	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2017		43%	57%
FREEMANS QUAY LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2008		100%	0%
MEADOWFIELD LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1985		54%	46%
MEADOWFIELD LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
ST LEONARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1960		27%	73%
ST LEONARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153					
STEPS2FITNESS	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2005	2009	45%	55%
THE SIR BOBBY ROBSON CENTRE	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2006		55%	45%
EASINGTON							65%	35%
DENE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2005		51%	49%
DENE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
EASINGTON ACADEMY	Main	31 x 18	569	4	1990		57%	43%

IMPACT HEALTH & FITNESS	Main	51 x 18	918	6	2009		77%	23%
PETERLEE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	1978	2011	100%	0%
SEAHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1980	2009	100%	0%
SEAHAM YOUTH CENTRE	Main	27 x 18	486	3			63%	37%
WELLFIELD SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1997		48%	52%
WELLFIELD SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
SEDGEFIELD							47%	53%
FERRYHILL COMMUNITY HUB	Main	32 x 18	574	4	1982	2007	62%	38%
GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2006	2010	46%	54%
GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Activity Hall	20 x 10	200					
NEWTON AYCLIFFE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	40 x 34	1380	8	1974	2007	52%	48%
OAK LEAF SPORTS COMPLEX	Main	42 x 22	924	6	1978	2006	30%	70%
SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY SPORTS COLLEGE	Main	34 x 27	918	6	2011		57%	43%
SHILDON SUNNYDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	41 x 21	867	5	1982	2009	75%	25%
SPENNYMOOR LEISURE CENTRE	Main	37 x 34	1258	8	1986		62%	38%
WOODHAM ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1970		18%	82%
TEESDALE							29%	71%
BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL (SENIOR SCHOOL)	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1975	2007	26%	74%
TEESDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	1990		38%	62%
TEESDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
TEESDALE SCHOOL	Main	27 x 18	486	3	1955		15%	85%
TEESDALE SCHOOL	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
WEAR VALLEY							55%	45%
BISHOP AUCKLAND COLLEGE	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2007		66%	34%
BISHOP BARRINGTON SPORTS CENTRE	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2006		73%	27%
KING JAMES I ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	2015		62%	38%
PARKSIDE ACADEMY	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1985		47%	53%
PARKSIDE ACADEMY	Activity Hall	18 x 10	180					
SPECTRUM LEISURE COMPLEX	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1984	2008	81%	19%
SPECTRUM LEISURE COMPLEX	Activity Hall	17 x 9	153					
ST JOHNS RC SCHOOL	Main	34 x 20	690	4	1964	1985	42%	58%
WOLSINGHAM SCHOOL	Main	33 x 18	594	4	2005		41%	59%

- 7.6 As table 7.1 shows most of the public leisure centre sports halls have a much higher level of used capacity than the County wide average (entries in blue typeface).
- 7.7 These centres will provide for the full range of indoor hall sports. They will be accessible for pay and play recreational use as well as for club use. They will have (1) longer opening hours (2) be open for day time use, which education sports halls during term time are not (3) will be proactively managed to develop and increase participation in indoor sports and exercise activities. So the public leisure centres have a draw effect and hence the higher levels of estimated used capacity.

7.8 There are other reasons why the used capacity of sports halls will vary and these are set out in full in the summary report of key findings.

7.9 An overall finding is that a lot of the demand is shared between lots of education venues, resulting in quite different levels of used capacity at each individual venue. Plus the use is most likely by sports clubs and community groups. It is only the public venues, which are available for pay and play recreational use as well as club use and provide the fullest availability. The findings on the estimated used capacity at these public venues, are in most cases much higher than the County wide average.

.Imported demand

7.10 Imported demand is reported under used capacity because if a resident in a neighbouring authority uses the nearest sports hall to where they live and this is a sports hall in County Durham, then it becomes part of the used capacity of the County Durham sports halls. The finding is that 5.9% of the used capacity of sports halls in the weekly peak period is imported and this represents 1,665 visits. As with the exported demand data, the total figure is reported, not how much demand is imported from each authority or goes to which centre.

Export/Import Balance

7.11 County Durham exports 2,526 visits of the County's demand and which is met at sports halls in the neighbouring authorities. County Durham imports 1,665 visits in the weekly peak period from residents of neighbouring authorities and which is met at the County's sports halls. So County Durham is a net exporter of 861 visits in the weekly peak period.

7.12 The capacity of one badminton court in the weekly peak period is 202 visits. Both the export and import findings are based on residents travelling to and using the nearest sports hall to where they live.

8. Local Share - equity share of facilities

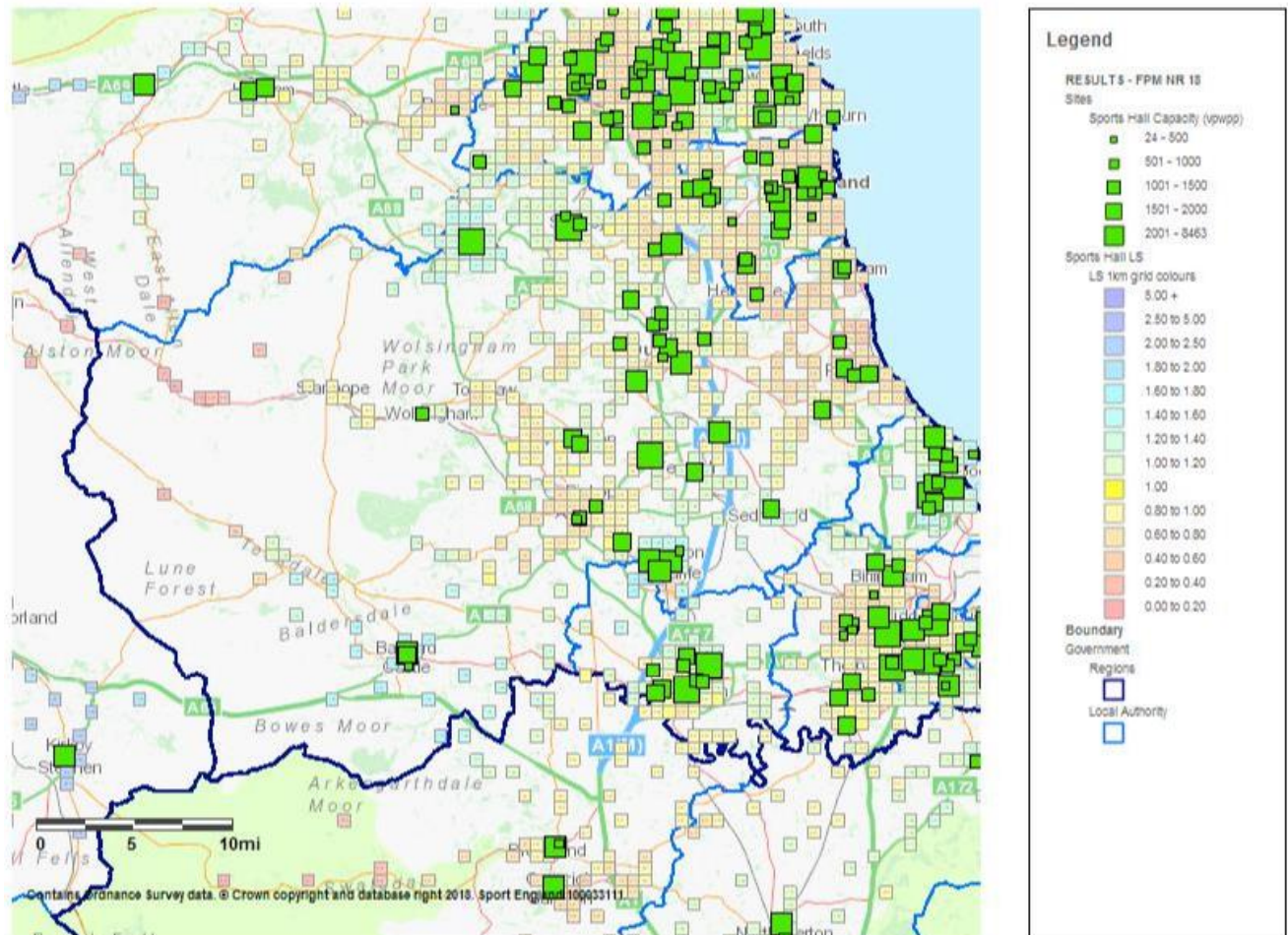
Local Share	County Durham UA	Darlington UA	Eden	Gateshead	Hartlepool UA	Northumberland South East	Richmondshire	Stockton-on-Tees UA	Sunderland
Local Share: <1 capacity less than demand, 1> capacity greater than demand	1	1	1.50	0.80	1.30	1.10	0.70	0.90	0.80

- 8.1 **Local share has quite a complicated definition** - it helps to show which areas have a better or worse share of facility provision. It takes into account the size and availability of facilities as well as travel modes. Local share is useful at looking at 'equity' of provision.
- 8.2 Local Share is the available capacity that can be reached in an area divided by the demand for that capacity in the area. A value of 1 means that the level of supply just matches demand, while a value of less than 1 indicates a shortage of supply and a value greater than 1 indicates a surplus.
- 8.3 County Durham has a county wide average local share of 1 in 2018 and so demand is equal to supply - in terms of local share of access to sports halls. This is also the case for local share in Darlington, whilst supply exceeds demand with a value above 1 in three of the neighbouring local authorities. Demand is greater than supply in three local authorities and is lowest in Richmondshire with a value of 0.7.
- 8.4 Within County Durham local share does vary from the County wide average, the distribution is set out in Map 8.1 for the County and Map 8.2, which shows the findings for the eastern side of the County.
- 8.5 Local share is also colour coded in one kilometre grid squares and in the areas shaded yellow, the values are 1 – 0.80, and the beige squares have a value of 0.80 – 0.60. Local share is above 1 with supply greater than demand in the green squares, this is the area around Durham City, south of Durham City and around Chester-Le-Street. The values in these areas are between 1- 1.20, so residents in these areas have a greater share of sports halls than the County wide average.

Map 8.1: Local Share of Sports Halls County Durham 2018

Facilities Planning Model - National Runs - Sports Halls 2018 Local Share

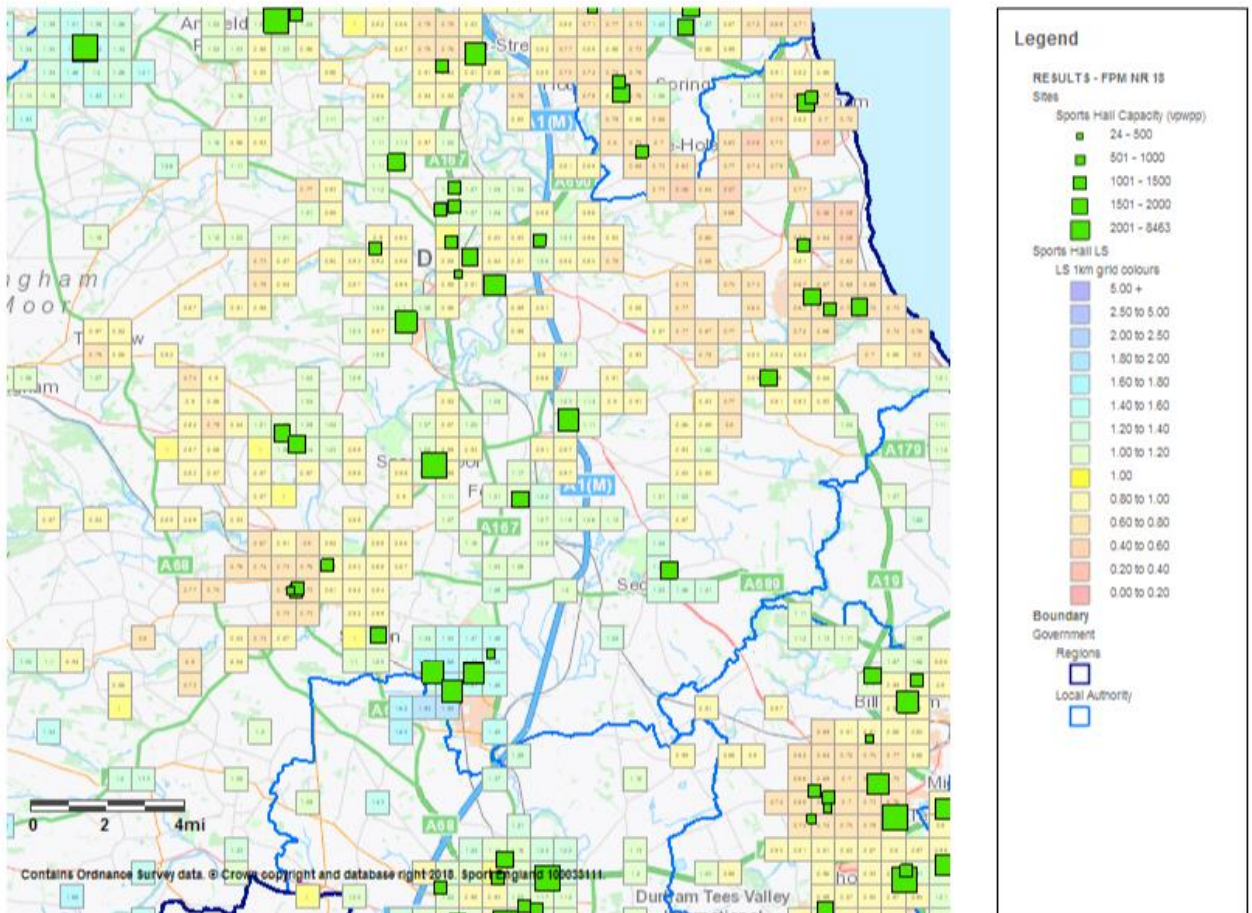
Share of badminton courts divided by demand. Data outputs shown thematically (colours) and aggregated at 1km square (figure labels). Local Share Values: 1 – Supply equals Demand, 2 – Supply is double Demand, 0.5 – Supply is half Demand.



Map 8.2: Local Share of Sports Halls County Durham Eastern Side 2018

Facilities Planning Model - National Runs - Sports Halls 2018 Local Share

Share of badminton courts divided by demand. Data outputs shown thematically (colours) and aggregated at 1km square (figure labels). Local Share Values: 1 – Supply equals Demand, 2 – Supply is double Demand, 0.5 – Supply is half Demand.



9. Summary Report

Report Context

- 9.1 This report provides a hard evidence base for sports hall provision across County Durham in 2018. The report applies the findings from the Sport England 2018 National Run facilities planning model data for County Durham and the neighbouring local authorities.
- 9.2 The purpose of this report is to provide an assessment of the supply, demand and access to sports halls. The report will be used by Durham County Council in the strategic planning for the future provision of sports halls across the County and inform the County Council's Leisure Transformation Project

Key Findings from the National Run report

Sports Hall Supply

- 9.3 There are 59 individual sports halls located on 44 sites across County Durham in 2018. The total supply of sports halls in badminton courts, is 249 courts, of which 188 are available in the weekly peak period for community use (known as the effective supply).
- 9.4 The reason for the difference between the total supply and the effective supply, is because of the variable hours of access for community use at the sports halls located on education sites. The difference of 61 badminton courts represents just under 25% of the total supply of badminton courts across County Durham.
- 9.5 The average age for the sports hall sites, excluding Durham School, which opened in 1923 is 30 years. The findings for each of the areas of the County are:
- Chester-Le-Street average age 35 years
 - Derwentside average age 27 years
 - Durham City average age 25 years
 - Easington average age 26 years
 - Sedgefield average age 33 years
 - Teesdale average age 44 years
 - Wear Valley average age 26 years
- 9.6 Of the 28 sports hall sites, which opened before 2000, some 15 sites have been modernised, so there is a reasonably good track record of modernisation. Modernisation is defined as one or more of, the sports hall floor upgraded to a sprung timber floor, the lighting system upgraded or the changing accommodation modernised.
- 9.7 A key finding is that 24 of the total 44 sports hall sites are owned and operated by educational institutions (schools/colleges/higher education). The education sports halls will have variable hours of access for community use, outside of education use. Some schools, colleges or higher education proactively manage the venues for wider

community use and which is predominantly for sports club and community groups use. Other schools and colleges let their sports halls on a responsive basis, on a term, or, even shorter irregular lettings and again to sports clubs or community groups. The County Council confirmed that Seaham High School also provides for community use of its sports hall and this is not included in the Sport England data. The impact of including this site has, however, been considered within the overall assessment.

- 9.8 These quantitative findings illustrate the impact any changes/reductions in the policy and access to the education sports hall sites for community use. . It will most likely transfer more demand, most likely club use, to the public leisure centres.
- 9.9 The scale of the sports hall offer is excellent, with 31 of the total 59 individual sports halls being 4 badminton court size. This size of sports hall can accommodate all of the indoor hall sports at the community level of participation.
- 9.10 There are then a further 6 sports halls which are 6 badminton court size, 5 venues which have a double sports hall of 8 badminton courts and the largest sports hall is the 10 badminton court size sports hall, located at The Louisa Centre. So there are 12 more sports hall venues which can accommodate multi sports use at the same time. Plus the 8 and 10 court venues are of a scale to accommodate events with a centre show court.
- 9.11 Including County Durham and all the neighbouring local authorities, there are a total of 189 individual sports halls on 142 sports hall sites - it is an extensive supply of sports halls.

Measure of Provision

- 9.12 Based on a measure of number of badminton courts available for community use per 10,000 population, County Durham has 4.7 badminton courts. The County Durham provision is ranked seventh out of the nine authorities in the study area. The highest supply is in Eden District with 7.1 badminton courts per 10,000 population and the lowest is in Richmondshire at 3.6 badminton courts per 10,000 population.
- 9.13 The North East Region average is 5.1 badminton courts per 10,000 population and for England wide it is 4.2 courts per 10,000 population in 2018.
- 9.14 So, the provision of sports hall space across County Durham is below that of most of the neighbouring authorities and North East Region but above the England wide average.
- 9.15 As with swimming pools, these quantitative findings are set out simply because some local authorities like to know how their provision compares with that of its neighbours. The assessment of the implications of the findings for County Durham will be made based on the findings from all seven headings in the sports halls data, not just supply.

Supply and Demand Balance

- 9.16 Supply and demand balance compares the total demand for sports halls in County Durham with the total supply of sports halls in County Durham.
- 9.17 In short, supply and demand balance is NOT based on where the venues are located and their catchment area extending into other authorities. Nor, the catchment areas of sports halls in neighbouring authorities extending into County Durham. The more

detailed modelling based on the CATCHMENT AREAS of sports halls with supply and demand across boundaries, is set out under Satisfied Demand, Unmet Demand and Used Capacity.

- 9.18 The reason for presenting the supply and demand balance, is because some local authorities like to see how THEIR total supply of sports halls compares with THEIR total demand for sports halls. .
- 9.19 When looking at this closed assessment, the resident population of County Durham in 2018 generates a demand for 147 badminton courts in the weekly peak period. This compares to a supply of 188 badminton courts which are available for community use in the weekly peak period in 2018. So, the County Durham supply exceeds the County Durham demand by 41 badminton courts.
- 9.20 Across the study area, the supply of sports halls in badminton courts exceeds demand in eight of the nine local authorities. It is only in Richmondshire where demand exceeds supply but this is by just fewer than 2 badminton courts. The overall supply and demand balance is that supply exceeds demand by 136 badminton courts across the nine local authorities.
- 9.21 This is likely to mean that when supply and demand are assessed, based on the catchment area of sports halls, there will be a high level of demand that can be met, and the level of unmet demand will be quite low.

Satisfied Demand or Met Demand for Sports Halls

- 9.22 Satisfied demand represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the sports halls from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a sports hall. In 2018, some 89% of the total demand for sports halls from County Durham residents is being satisfied/met.

Retained demand

- 9.23 A sub set of satisfied demand is retained demand, which measures how much of the County Durham demand is met at sports halls in the County. This is based on the catchment area of County Durham sports halls inside the County and residents using the nearest sports hall to where they live.
- 9.24 The finding is that retained demand is a high 91% of the total 89% of the County Durham satisfied demand for sports halls. In short, the sites and catchment area of the sports hall sites in the County are very well located, in relation to the location of the County Durham demand for sports halls. So much so, that the nearest sports hall for nine out of ten visits to a sports hall by a County Durham resident is a venue in the County.

Exported demand

- 9.25 The residual of satisfied demand, after retained demand, is export of the County Durham demand. Again, based on County Durham residents using the nearest venue to where they live, and which happens to be a sports hall in a neighbouring authority. The finding for 2018 is that County Durham is exporting just under 9% of its satisfied demand and which is met in neighbouring authorities. The data does not identify how much demand is exported to which authority, it only provides the total exported demand.

- 9.26 For context, the County Durham exported demand equates to 2,526 visits in the weekly peak period. The County Durham retained demand is 26,319 visits in the weekly peak period.

Unmet Demand

- 9.27 The unmet demand definition has two parts to it - demand for sports halls which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall and is then classified as unmet demand. The finding for County Durham is that total unmet demand is 10.7% of total demand for sports halls, this equates to just fewer than 16 badminton courts.
- 9.28 Of the total unmet demand, all but 0.6% is from definition two - unmet demand located outside the catchment area of a sports hall. Across most studies there is a finding that there is unmet demand located outside catchment. This is because, it is not possible to get complete spatial coverage, whereby all areas of an authority are inside the catchment area of a sports hall. The finding is that 91% of the total 99% of unmet demand located outside catchment, is by residents who do not have access to a car.
- 9.29 The significant finding is not that unmet demand outside catchment exists, but the SCALE and in County Durham it equates to fewer than 16 badminton courts. The available supply of sports halls in badminton courts is 188 courts in the weekly peak period.
- 9.30 There is no location/cluster of unmet demand, of a sufficient scale, to consider further provision of sports halls, to increase accessibility for residents. Unmet demand is distributed quite evenly across the eastern side of the County in very low values, of between 0 – 0.2 of one badminton court (Map 6.1 and Map 6.2).

Used Capacity (how full are the sports halls?)

- 9.31 Used capacity - is an estimated measure of usage at sports halls and how well used/how full facilities are. The facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor', beyond which, the venues are too full. The Sport England benchmark for the comfort level is 80% of capacity used at peak times (weekday evenings and weekend days).
- 9.32 The facilities planning model finding is the County Durham sports halls are estimated to be operating at 54% of used capacity in the weekly peak period week day evenings (up to 5 hours per day) and weekend days (up to 7 hours per weekend day).
- 9.33 The used capacity findings are consistent with and reflect the earlier findings: namely (1) the County Durham supply of sports halls is greater than the County total demand;(2) the level of total demand that can be met/satisfied is high; and (3) the level of unmet demand for sports hall is low.
- 9.34 These are the County wide average findings for used capacity and the findings for each individual sports hall site do vary from the County wide average. Most of the public leisure centre sports halls have a much higher level of used capacity than the County wide average (Table 7.1 and the centres in blue typeface).
- 9.35 The public leisure centre sports halls will provide for the full range of indoor hall sports. They will be accessible for pay and play recreational use as well as for club use. They

will have (1) longer opening hours (2) be open for day time use, which education sports halls during term time are not (3) be proactively managed to develop and increase participation in indoor hall sports and exercise activities. So the public leisure centres have a “draw effect” and hence the higher levels of estimated used capacity.

9.36 There are other reasons why the used capacity of sports halls will vary, these being:

- The amount of demand in the catchment area of sports halls. If there are several sports halls with overlapping catchments, then the demand is shared between venues and this contributes to lower used capacity at each venue. As Map 2.1 illustrates, nearly all of the sports hall sites are located in the south east and north east of the County and with overlapping catchment areas, especially the 20 minutes’ drive time catchment area. So the total demand in these areas is shared between several venues.
- Increasingly the quality of the sports in terms of its age are of more importance to customers. This means, a modern sports hall with a sprung timber floor, good quality lighting and a modern changing rooms, plus other facilities on site such as a studio. Increasingly participants are exercising more choice about venues to use, based on the quality of the venue and the offer, not just using the nearest venue to where they live. Of note, is that the older public leisure centres do have a lower estimated used capacity: Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre (opened in 1974) and 52% of sports hall capacity used at peak times; and Meadowfield Leisure Centre (opened in 1985 and according to the data has not had a major modernisation) 54% of sports hall capacity used in the weekly peak
- The estimated used capacity of a sports hall does depend on the hours available for community use. Self-evidently a sports hall on an education site which is only available for a few hours a week on an irregular pattern of club use, is very different from the programming and availability of a public leisure centre sports hall. Also the policy and pricing of the school/college to provide community use will influence the level of usage.

As with public leisure centres, a school/college which is proactive and promotes the school for community use can have a draw effect, especially for sports clubs. The older education venues and which most likely have a solid floor surface and may not have up to date changing accommodation are less attractive to sports clubs. Of note is that some of the older schools have the lower levels of sports hall capacity used (it may also be because of the hours for access and take up of bookings): St Leonards Catholic School (1960 and according to the data the sports hall has not been modernised) 27% of sports hall capacity used; Tanfield Comprehensive School and Specialist College of Science and Engineering (1954 and modernised in 2008) 29%; and Woodham Academy (1970 and according to the data not modernised) 18% of sports hall capacity used in the weekly peak period.

- It is important to consider the size of a venue as well as the percentage figure. For example, the Louisa Centre has an estimated used capacity of 70% but it has a 10 badminton court size sports hall. This means it can accommodate much more actual usage than, for example, the 82% of used capacity at peak times at the 4 badminton court size sports hall at Belmont School Community Arts College. To repeat, it is important to consider the size of a venue as well as the percentage figure when looking at used capacity.

- 9.37 For the reasons set out, the estimated used capacity is based on a number of different factors and which are usually inter related. The estimated used capacity should be taken as a guide to usage levels and requires more detailed examination, especially at the education sites.
- 9.38 In particular, to understand the policy towards community use, the management approach, pricing and lettings arrangements, and if the school/college is proactive with promotion of the sports hall and actively seeking bookings. Or, is the approach reactive to sports clubs and community groups, who request the occasional let or block booking for a few hours a week.
- 9.39 The overall finding is that a lot of the demand is shared between lots of education venues, resulting in quite different levels of used capacity at each individual venue.
- 9.40 It is only the public leisure centre venues, which are available for pay and play recreational use as well as for club use, which are providing the fullest availability. The findings on the estimated used capacity at these public leisure centre venues are, in most cases, much higher than the County wide average.

Key Topics

- 9.41 The 2018 National Run assessment for sports halls in County Durham identifies that the supply of sports halls is sufficient to meet the County Durham demand for sports halls. However, the draw effect of the public leisure centres means that most of the public leisure centres sports halls have an estimated used capacity, which is above the County wide average and they are busy centres.
- 9.42 In looking to the future assessment of need for sports halls, key topics appear to be **first** the potential changes in access to community use at the education sports hall sites. Some 24 total 44 sports hall sites are owned and operated by educational institutions, schools/colleges/higher education (54% of the total supply).
- 9.43 A reduction in access for community use at several of these venues, will most likely divert further sports club use to the already busy public leisure centres. The County Council may wish to consider (if it has not already done so), securing community use agreements at the education sites of most importance to the County Council. Plus focus on the schools/colleges which have a proactive approach to community use.
- 9.44 The **second** topic concerns the future assessment of need for sports halls and the impact of the scale and location of the projected population growth and residential development across County Durham.
- 9.45 The projected increase in total demand and its distribution is likely to have a differential impact, and impact most on increased demand at public leisure centre sports halls. Understanding the implications of growth, with increased demand for sports halls and the capacity of the public leisure centres to accommodate increased demand, is an important key topic.
- 9.46 Are more venues needed to meet a projected increase in demand and, if so, where are the key locations? Or can the existing venues meet the projected increases in demand and if so which areas/venues are most likely to experience the highest increases in demand and may need to increase their capacity?

9.47 All these potential changes could be assessed by a Sport England FPM bespoke assessment, based on a future year consistent with the County Council planning framework and looking at options for change.

Appendix 1: Sports hall included and excluded in the assessment

Sports Hall Facilities Included within the 2018 National Run Analysis

Name of Facility	Type	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurbished
FYNDOUNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main	690	1982	2010
FYNDOUNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Activity Hall	204		
HERMITAGE ACADEMY	Main	594	2003	
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (CHURCH CHARE)	Main	932	1965	2002
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (CHURCH CHARE)	Activity Hall	180		
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	1380	1991	
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	690		
CONSETT ACADEMY AND LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	180		
CONSETT LEISURE CENTRE	Main	1380	2015	
NORTH DURHAM ACADEMY	Main	690	2013	
TANFIELD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPECIALIST COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING	Main	594	1954	2008
THE LOUISA CENTRE	Main	1530	1980	2008
ABBEY LEISURE CENTRE (DURHAM)	Main	690	1991	2008
ACTIVE LIFE AT COXHOE	Main	594	1986	
ACTIVE LIFE AT COXHOE	Activity Hall	153		
BELMONT SCHOOL COMMUNITY ARTS COLLEGE	Main	594	1979	2015
DURHAM SCHOOL	Main	690	1923	2008
DURHAM UNIVERSITY (GRAHAM SPORTS CENTRE AT MAIDEN CASTLE)	Main	594	1982	2009
DURHAM UNIVERSITY (GRAHAM SPORTS CENTRE AT MAIDEN CASTLE)	Activity Hall	153		

Name of Facility	Type	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurbished
FRAMWELLGATE SCHOOL DURHAM	Main	594	2017	
FREEMANS QUAY LEISURE CENTRE	Main	594	2008	
MEADOWFIELD LEISURE CENTRE	Main	594	1985	
MEADOWFIELD LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	180		
ST LEONARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	Main	690	1960	
ST LEONARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	Activity Hall	153		
STEPS2FITNESS	Main	690	2005	2009
THE SIR BOBBY ROBSON CENTRE	Main	690	2006	
DENE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY	Main	690	2005	
DENE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY	Activity Hall	180		
EASINGTON ACADEMY	Main	569	1990	
IMPACT HEALTH & FITNESS	Main	918	2009	
PETERLEE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	1380	1978	2011
SEAHAM LEISURE CENTRE	Main	594	1980	2009
SEAHAM YOUTH CENTRE	Main	486		
WELLFIELD SCHOOL	Main	594	1997	
WELLFIELD SCHOOL	Activity Hall	180		
FERRYHILL COMMUNITY HUB	Main	574	1982	2007
GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main	594	2006	2010
GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Activity Hall	200		
NEWTON AYCLIFFE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	1380	1974	2007
OAK LEAF SPORTS COMPLEX	Main	924	1978	2006
SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY SPORTS COLLEGE	Main	918	2011	
SHILDON SUNNYDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	867	1982	2009
SPENNYMOOR LEISURE CENTRE	Main	1258	1986	
WOODHAM ACADEMY	Main	690	1970	
BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL (SENIOR SCHOOL)	Main	594	1975	2007

Name of Facility	Type	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurbished
TEESDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	594	1990	
TEESDALE LEISURE CENTRE	Activity Hall	180		
TEESDALE SCHOOL	Main	486	1955	
TEESDALE SCHOOL	Activity Hall	180		
BISHOP AUCKLAND COLLEGE	Main	690	2007	
BISHOP BARRINGTON SPORTS CENTRE	Main	594	2006	
KING JAMES I ACADEMY	Main	690	2015	
PARKSIDE ACADEMY	Main	690	1985	
PARKSIDE ACADEMY	Activity Hall	180		
SPECTRUM LEISURE COMPLEX	Main	690	1984	2008
SPECTRUM LEISURE COMPLEX	Activity Hall	153		
ST JOHNS RC SCHOOL	Main	690	1964	1985
WOLSINGHAM SCHOOL	Main	594	2005	

Sports Halls Excluded

The audit excludes facilities that are deemed to be either for private use, too small or closed. The following facilities were deemed to fall under one or more of these categories and therefore excluded from the modelling:

Site Name	Facility Sub Type	Reason for Exclusion
OUSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE	Activity Hall	Too Small
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (NORTH LODGE)	Activity Hall	Too Small
PARK VIEW SCHOOL (NORTH LODGE)	Activity Hall	Too Small
PELTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use
ROSEBERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use
ROSEBERRY SPORTS AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Main	Closed
ST BEDES ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use

Site Name	Facility Sub Type	Reason for Exclusion
WOODLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use
BELLE VUE LEISURE CENTRE (CONSETT)	Main	Closed
DERWENTSIDE COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Closed
NORTH DURHAM ACADEMY (WEST CAMPUS)	Main	Closed
ST BEDE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Private Use
ST BEDE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Private Use
ST MICHAELS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL (ESH)	Activity Hall	Too Small
STANLEY COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CENTRE	Activity Hall	Closed
YMCA (CONSETT AND DISTRICT)	Activity Hall	Too Small
COLLEGE OF ST HILD AND ST BEDE	Activity Hall	Too Small
DEERNESS GYMNASTICS ACADEMY	Activity Hall	Too Small
DURHAM GILESGATE SPORTS COLLEGE (SIXTH FORM CENTRE)	Activity Hall	Closed
DURHAM HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS	Main	Private Use
DURHAM JOHNSTON COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	Main	Private Use
DURHAM JOHNSTON COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL (LOWER SCHOOL)	Activity Hall	Closed
DURHAM JOHNSTON COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL (UPPER SCHOOL)	Activity Hall	Closed
DURHAM SIXTH FORM CENTRE	Barns	Closed
DURHAM TRINITY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use
DURHAM UNIVERSITY (TREVELYAN COLLEGE)	Activity Hall	Private Use
SECONDS OUT ASET	Main	Closed
SECONDS OUT ASET	Activity Hall	Closed
ST JOSEPHS ROMAN CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use
THE CHORISTER SCHOOL	Main	Private Use
EAST DURHAM AND HOUGHALL COMMUNITY COLLEGE (HOWLETTCH CENTRE)(CLOSED)	Main	Closed
MURTON GLEBE CENTRE	Activity Hall	Too Small

Site Name	Facility Sub Type	Reason for Exclusion
ROPERY WALK PRIMARY SCHOOL	Main	Private Use
SEAHAM SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY	Main	Closed
SEAVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use
SHOTTON HALL SCHOOL	Main	Closed
ST BEDES RC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	Main	Private Use
THE ACADEMY OF SHOTTON HALL	Main	Private Use
AYCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
CHILTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Too Small
FERRYHILL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Private Use
NEWTON AYCLIFFE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE	Activity Hall	Too Small
SEDFIELD COMMUNITY SPORTS COLLEGE	Main	Closed
SEDFIELD COMMUNITY SPORTS COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Closed
SEDFIELD HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
SEDFIELD METHODIST CHURCH	Activity Hall	Too Small
THE MEADOWS SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use
TRIMDON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Too Small
WEST CORNFORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE	Activity Hall	Too Small
WHITWORTH PARK SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE - LOWER SCHOOL	Main	Closed
WHITWORTH PARK SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Closed
WINDLESTONE SCHO	Activity Hall	Private Use
BOWES AND GILMONBY PARISH HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
BUTTERKNOWLE VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
COPLEY VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
COTHERSTONE VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
DEERBOLT PRISON	Main	Private Use
GAINFORD VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
GLAXO SMITHKLINE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB	Activity Hall	Too Small

Site Name	Facility Sub Type	Reason for Exclusion
MICKLETON VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
MIDDLETON IN TEESDALE VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
ROMALDKIRK VILLAGE HALL	Activity Hall	Too Small
STAINDROP ACADEMY	Activity Hall	Too Small
WITHAM HALL	Activity Hall	Closed
BISHOP AUCKLAND COLLEGE	Activity Hall	Closed
OAKLEY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL	Activity Hall	Private Use

Appendix 2 – Model description, Inclusion Criteria and Model Parameters

Included within this appendix are the following:

- Model description
- Facility Inclusion Criteria
- Model Parameters

Model Description

1. Background

- 1.1 The Facilities Planning Model (FPM) is a computer-based supply/demand model, which has been developed by Edinburgh University in conjunction with sportscotland and Sport England since the 1980s.
- 1.2 The model is a tool to help to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities in an area. It is currently applicable for use in assessing the provision of sports halls, swimming pools, indoor bowls centres and artificial grass pitches.

2. Use of FPM

- 2.1 Sport England uses the FPM as one of its principal tools in helping to assess the strategic need for certain community sports facilities. The FPM has been developed as a means of:
 - assessing requirements for different types of community sports facilities on a local, regional or national scale;
 - helping local authorities to determine an adequate level of sports facility provision to meet their local needs;

- helping to identify strategic gaps in the provision of sports facilities; and
 - comparing alternative options for planned provision, taking account of changes in demand and supply. This includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities, and the likely impact of population changes on the needs for sports facilities.
- 2.2 Its current use is limited to those sports facility types for which Sport England holds substantial demand data, i.e. swimming pools, sports halls, indoor bowls and artificial grass pitches.
- 2.3 The FPM has been used in the assessment of Lottery funding bids for community facilities, and as a principal planning tool to assist local authorities in planning for the provision of community sports facilities. For example, the FPM was used to help assess the impact of a 50m swimming pool development in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The Council invested £22 million in the sports and leisure complex around this pool and received funding of £2,025,000 from the London Development Agency and £1,500,000 from Sport England¹.

3. How the model works

- 3.1 In its simplest form, the model seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport is capable of meeting local demand for that sport, taking into account how far people are prepared to travel to such a facility.
- 3.2 In order to do this, the model compares the number of facilities (supply) within an area, against the demand for that facility (demand) that the local population will produce, similar to other social gravity models.
- 3.3 To do this, the FPM works by converting both demand (in terms of people), and supply (facilities), into a single comparable unit. This unit is 'visits per week in the peak period' (VPWPP). Once converted, demand and supply can be compared.
- 3.4 The FPM uses a set of parameters to define how facilities are used and by whom. These parameters are primarily derived from a combination of data including actual user surveys from a range of sites across the country in areas of good supply, together with participation survey data. These surveys provide core information on the profile of users, such as, the age and gender of users, how often they visit, the distance travelled, duration of stay, and on the facilities themselves, such as, programming, peak times of use, and capacity of facilities.
- 3.5 This survey information is combined with other sources of data to provide a set of model parameters for each facility type. The original core user data for halls and pools comes from the National Halls and Pools survey undertaken in 1996. This data formed the basis for the National Benchmarking Service (NBS). For AGPs, the core data used comes from the user survey of AGPs carried out in 2005/6 jointly with Sportscotland.
- 3.6 User survey data from the NBS and other appropriate sources are used to update the models parameters on a regular basis. The parameters are set out at the end of the document, and the range of the main source data used by the model includes:

¹ Award made in 2007/08 year.

- National Halls & Pools survey data –Sport England
- Benchmarking Service User Survey data –Sport England
- UK 2000 Time Use Survey – ONS
- General Household Survey – ONS
- Scottish Omnibus Surveys – Sport Scotland
- Active People Survey - Sport England
- STP User Survey - Sport England & Sportscotland
- Football participation - The FA
- Young People & Sport in England – Sport England
- Hockey Fixture data - Fixtures Live
- Taking Part Survey - DCMS

4. Calculating Demand

- 4.1 This is calculated by applying the user information from the parameters, as referred to above, to the population². This produces the number of visits for that facility that will be demanded by the population.
- 4.2 Depending on the age and gender make-up of the population, this will affect the number of visits an area will generate. In order to reflect the different population make-up of the country, the FPM calculates demand based on the smallest census groupings. These are Output Areas (OA)³.
- 4.3 The use of OAs in the calculation of demand ensures that the FPM is able to reflect and portray differences in demand in areas at the most sensitive level based on available census information. Each OA used is given a demand value in VPWPP by the FPM.

5. Calculating Supply Capacity

- 5.1 A facility's capacity varies depending on its size (i.e. size of pool, hall, pitch number), and how many hours the facility is available for use by the community.
- 5.2 The FPM calculates a facility's capacity by applying each of the capacity factors taken from the model parameters, such as the assumptions made as to how many 'visits' can be accommodated by the particular facility at any one time. Each facility is then given a capacity figure in VPWPP. (See parameters in Section C).
- 5.3 Based on travel time information⁴ taken from the user survey, the FPM then calculates how much demand would be met by the particular facility having regard to its capacity and how much demand is within the facility's catchment. The FPM includes an important feature of spatial interaction. This feature takes account of the location and

² For example, it is estimated that 7.72% of 16-24 year old males will demand to use an AGP, 1.67 times a week. This calculation is done separately for the 12 age/gender groupings.

³ Census Output Areas (OA) are the smallest grouping of census population data, and provides the population information on which the FPM's demand parameters are applied. A demand figure can then be calculated for each OA based on the population profile. There are over 171,300 OAs in England. An OA has a target value of 125 households per OA.

⁴ To reflect the fact that as distance to a facility increases, fewer visits are made, the FPM uses a travel time distance decay curve, where the majority of users travel up to 20 minutes. The FPM also takes account of the road network when calculating travel times. Car ownership levels, taken from Census data, are also taken into account when calculating how people will travel to facilities.

capacity of all the facilities, having regard to their location and the size of demand and assesses whether the facilities are in the right place to meet the demand.

- 5.4 It is important to note that the FPM does not simply add up the total demand within an area, and compare that to the total supply within the same area. This approach would not take account of the spatial aspect of supply against demand in a particular area. For example, if an area had a total demand for 5 facilities, and there were currently 6 facilities within the area, it would be too simplistic to conclude that there was an oversupply of 1 facility, as this approach would not take account of whether the 5 facilities are in the correct location for local people to use them within that area. It might be that all the facilities were in one part of the borough, leaving other areas under provided. An assessment of this kind would not reflect the true picture of provision. The FPM is able to assess supply and demand within an area based on the needs of the population within that area.
- 5.5 In making calculations as to supply and demand, visits made to sports facilities are not artificially restricted or calculated by reference to administrative boundaries, such as local authority areas. Users are generally expected to use their closest facility. The FPM reflects this through analysing the location of demand against the location of facilities, allowing for cross boundary movement of visits. For example, if a facility is on the boundary of a local authority, users will generally be expected to come from the population living close to the facility, but who may be in an adjoining authority.

6. Facility Attractiveness – for halls and pools only

- 6.1 Not all facilities are the same and users will find certain facilities more attractive to use than others. The model attempts to reflect this by introducing an attractiveness weighting factor, which effects the way visits are distributed between facilities. Attractiveness however, is very subjective. Currently weightings are only used for hall and pool modelling, with a similar approach for AGPs is being developed.
- 6.2 Attractiveness weightings are based on the following:
- 6.1.1. Age/refurbishment weighting – pools & halls - the older a facility is, the less attractive it will be to users. It is recognised that this is a general assumption and that there may be examples where older facilities are more attractive than newly built ones due to excellent local management, programming and sports development. Additionally, the date of any significant refurbishment is also included within the weighting factor; however, the attractiveness is set lower than a new build of the same year. It is assumed that a refurbishment that is older than 20 years will have a minimal impact on the facilities attractiveness. The information on year built/refurbished is taken from Active Places. A graduated curve is used to allocate the attractiveness weighting by year. This curve levels off at around 1920 with a 20% weighting. The refurbishment weighting is slightly lower than the new built year equivalent.
 - 6.1.2. Management & ownership weighting – halls only - due to the large number of halls being provided by the education sector, an assumption is made that in general, these halls will not provide as balanced a program than halls run by LAs, trusts, etc, with school halls more likely to be used by teams and groups through block booking. A less balanced programme is assumed to be less

attractive to a general, pay & play user, than a standard local authority leisure centre sports hall, with a wider range of activities on offer.

- 6.3 To reflect this, two weightings curves are used for education and non-education halls, a high weighted curve, and a lower weighted curve;
 - 6.1.3. High weighted curve - includes Non-education management - better balanced programme, more attractive.
 - 6.1.4. Lower weighted curve - includes Educational owned & managed halls, less attractive.
- 6.4 Commercial facilities – halls and pools - whilst there are relatively few sports halls provided by the commercial sector, an additional weighing factor is incorporated within the model to reflect the cost element often associated with commercial facilities. For each population output area, the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score is used to limit whether people will use commercial facilities. The assumption is that the higher the IMD score (less affluence) the less likely the population of the OA would choose to go to a commercial facility.

7. Comfort Factor – halls and pools

- 7.1 As part of the modelling process, each facility is given a maximum number of visits it can accommodate, based on its size, the number of hours it's available for community use and the 'at one-time capacity' figure (pools =1 user /6m², halls = 6 users /court). This gives each facility a "theoretical capacity".
- 7.2 If the facilities were full to their theoretical capacity then there would simply not be the space to undertake the activity comfortably. In addition, there is a need to take account of a range of activities taking place which have different numbers of users, for example, aqua aerobics will have significantly more participants, than lane swimming sessions. Additionally, there may be times and sessions that, whilst being within the peak period, are less busy and so will have fewer users.
- 7.3 To account of these factors the notion of a 'comfort factor' is applied within the model. For swimming pools 70%, and for sports halls 80%, of its theoretical capacity is considered as being the limit where the facility starts to become uncomfortably busy. (Currently, the comfort factor is NOT applied to AGPs due to the fact they are predominantly used by teams, which have a set number of players and so the notion of having 'less busy' pitch is not applicable).
- 7.4 The comfort factor is used in two ways;
 - 7.1.1. Utilised Capacity - How well used is a facility? 'Utilised capacity' figures for facilities are often seen as being very low, 50-60%, however, this needs to be put into context with 70-80% comfort factor levels for pools and halls. The closer utilised capacity gets to the comfort factor level, the busier the facilities are becoming. You should not aim to have facilities operating at 100% of their theoretical capacity, as this would mean that every session throughout the peak period would be being used to its maximum capacity. This would be both unrealistic in operational terms and unattractive to users.

7.1.2. Adequately meeting Unmet Demand – the comfort factor is also used to increase the amount of facilities that are needed to comfortably meet the unmet demand. If this comfort factor is not added, then any facilities provided will be operating at its maximum theoretical capacity, which is not desirable as a set out above.

8. Utilised Capacity (used capacity)

8.1 Following on from Comfort Factor section, here is more guidance on Utilised Capacity.

8.2 Utilised capacity refers to how much of facilities theoretical capacity is being used. This can, at first, appear to be unrealistically low, with area figures being in the 50-60% region. Without any further explanation, it would appear that facilities are half empty. The key point is not to see a facilities theoretical maximum capacity (100%) as being an optimum position. This, in practise, would mean that a facility would need to be completely full every hour it was open in the peak period. This would be both unrealistic from an operational perspective and undesirable from a user’s perspective, as the facility would completely full.

8.3 For examples:

A 25m, 4 lane pool has Theoretical capacity of 2260 per week, during 52 hour peak period.

	4-5pm	5-6pm	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm	Total Visits for the evening
Theoretical max capacity	44	44	44	44	44	44	264
Actual Usage	8	30	35	50	15	5	143

8.4 Usage of a pool will vary throughout the evening, with some sessions being busier than others though programming, such as, an aqua-aerobics session between 7-8pm, lane swimming between 8-9pm. Other sessions will be quieter, such as between 9-10pm. This pattern of use would give a total of 143 swims taking place. However, the pool’s maximum capacity is 264 visits throughout the evening. In this instance the pools utilised capacity for the evening would be 54%.

8.5 As a guide, 70% utilised capacity is used to indicate that pools are becoming busy, and 80% for sports halls. This should be seen only as a guide to help flag up when facilities are becoming busier, rather than a ‘hard threshold’.

9. Travel times Catchments

9.1 The model uses travel times to define facility catchments in terms of driving and walking.

9.2 The Ordnance Survey (OS) Integrated Transport Network (ITN) for roads has been used to calculate the off-peak drive times between facilities and the population, observing one-way and turn restrictions which apply, and taking into account delays at

junctions and car parking. Each street in the network is assigned a speed for car travel based on the attributes of the road, such as the width of the road, and geographical location of the road, for example the density of properties along the street. These travel times have been derived through national survey work, and so are based on actual travel patterns of users. The road speeds used for Inner & Outer London Boroughs have been further enhanced by data from the Department of Transport.

- 9.3 The walking catchment uses the OS Urban Path Network to calculate travel times along paths and roads, excluding motorways and trunk roads. A standard walking speed of 3 mph is used for all journeys.
- 9.4 The model includes three different modes of travel, by car, public transport & walking. Car access is also taken into account, in areas of lower access to a car, the model reduces the number of visits made by car, and increases those made on foot.
- 9.5 Overall, surveys have shown that the majority of visits made to swimming pools, sports halls and AGPs are made by car, with a significant minority of visits to pools and sports halls being made on foot.

Facility	Car	Walking	Public transport
Swimming Pool	76%	15%	9%
Sports Hall	77%	15%	8%
AGP			
Combined	83%	14%	3%
Football	79%	17%	3%
Hockey	96%	2%	2%

- 9.6 The model includes a distance decay function; where the further a user is from a facility, the less likely they will travel. The set out below is the survey data with the % of visits made within each of the travel times, which shows that almost 90% of all visits, both car borne or walking, are made within 20 minutes. Hence, 20 minutes is often used as a rule of thumb for catchments for sports halls and pools.

Minutes	Sport halls		Swimming Pools	
	Car	Walk	Car	Walk
0-10	62%	61%	58%	57%
10-20	29%	26%	32%	31%
20 -40	8%	11%	9%	11%

NOTE: These are approximate figures, and should only be used as a guide.



10.