

## Appendix 1: Cherwell Sports Studies – Summary of Key Findings

### Playing Pitch Strategy Summary

Table 1: Quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

N.B. Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be **match equivalent sessions**. One match = one match equivalent session if it occurs every week, or 0.5 if it occurs every two weeks.

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance	Future supply/demand balance (2040)
<b>Football – grass pitches</b>			
Banbury Rural	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2 match equivalent sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
Banbury Town	Adult	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
Bicester Rural	Adult	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3.5 match equivalent sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3.5 match equivalent sessions

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance	Future supply/demand balance (2040)
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
Bicester Town	Adult	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Kidlington Rural	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Actual spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
	Youth 11v11	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Kidlington Town	Adult	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session
	Youth 11v11	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
<b>Rugby union – grass pitches</b>			
Banbury	Senior	Shortfall of 9.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11.75 match equivalent sessions
Bicester	Senior	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 6.25 match equivalent sessions
Kidlington	Senior	Shortfall of 4.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions
<b>3G pitches</b>			
Banbury Rural	Full size	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 2 pitches
Banbury Town	Full size	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Bicester Rural	Full size	Shortfall of 2 pitches	Shortfall of 2 pitches
Bicester Town	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Kidlington	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance	Future supply/demand balance (2040)
Rural			
Kidlington Town	Full size	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
<b>Hockey – sand based pitches</b>			
Banbury	Full size	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Bicester	Full size	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Kidlington	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
<b>Cricket squares</b>			
Banbury Rural	Senior	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 44 match equivalent sessions
Banbury Town	Senior	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Bicester Rural	Senior	Actual spare capacity of 46 match equivalent sessions	Actual spare capacity of 46 match equivalent sessions
Bicester Town	Senior	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Kidlington Rural	Senior	Actual spare capacity of 22 match equivalent sessions	Actual spare capacity of 22 match equivalent sessions
Kidlington Town	Senior	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions

Table 2: Quantitative headline findings (District-wide)

Sport	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance	Future supply/demand balance (2040)
Football	Adult	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 8.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 13.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 4 match equivalent sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby union	Senior	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 24.5 match equivalent sessions
3G pitches	Full size	Shortfall of 5 pitches	Shortfall of 6 pitches
Hockey	Full size	Shortfall of 2 pitches	Shortfall of 2 pitches

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Pitch/facility type</b>	<b>Current supply/demand balance</b>	<b>Future supply/demand balance (2040)</b>
Cricket	Senior	Actual spare capacity of 56 match equivalent sessions	Actual spare capacity of 20 match equivalent sessions

For non-pitch sports, quantitative shortfalls can be more difficult to determine, with capacity guidance differing and with focus often away from formal activity. The current and future picture for each sport across Cherwell is therefore instead summarised in the table below.

Table 3: Quantitative headline findings (non-pitch sports)

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Headline findings</b>
<b>Golf</b>	Supply is seemingly good in quantitative terms; however, with high levels of demand also recorded, the level of provision is servicing a clear need and any further loss could not be sustained. Furthermore, there is a lack of variety in what is provided, likely leading to elements of the golfing market not being catered for.
<b>Tennis</b>	There are current capacity shortfalls for three clubs and a future capacity shortfall for four, resulting in an overall level of insufficient provision. For non-club courts, whilst none are identified as having capacity issues, there is a clear need to improve the existing supply in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users.
<b>Netball</b>	The overall quantity of courts does not seem to be a problem, although access to them and the quality of them is. All of the courts that are in use are poor or standard quality and there is a lack of alternative options due to community use not being offered and/or sports lighting not being provided.
<b>Bowls</b>	Whilst there are clearly some pressures on the bowling greens, no clubs report any capacity issues. As such, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, although with each green in use, it is also clear that each green requires protection to ensure that demand can continue to be accommodated.
<b>Athletics</b>	The current supply of provision is considered to be sufficient to meet demand.
<b>Cycling</b>	Whilst most demand is being satisfied, there is an aspiration for more regular access to traffic-free provision.

## **Indoor Facilities Strategy Summary**

### ***Sports Halls***

Each facility is important to the communities served. There are thirteen (3+court plus) halls in the District. Most are of good or above average quality. Main population centres are well served by facilities. Twelve of thirteen halls offer some form of community accessibility. Recommendations based on these findings are to:

- Improve the quality of the below average sport halls, this is explored further in the Strategy.

- Maintain good relationships with schools, to retain levels of community use and support Covid-19 recovery.
- Consider whether and how community use can be extended at school sites enabling existing sport and physical activity participation to grow. This will also, in turn, help spread demand more evenly across the District.
- Levels of demand/used capacity is high across a number of sites (especially, public leisure centres), projected population increases will put this supply under further pressure. New proposed facilities will help alleviate this, as long as community use is secured. Future population forecast FPM runs may be required to analyse future demand further.
- Explore options to increase levels of use at The Cooper School and Whitelands Academy.

### ***Swimming Pools***

There is a need to maintain and improve pool quality in the area via good maintenance programmes.

There is a need for new provision in Bicester to support expected population growth. This could take the form of expansion of the existing leisure centre, which is in need of replacement due to its age.

There is also a requirement for a long-term plan to replace/refurbish/possibly extend the pool at Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre.

This investment strategy should be supported by bespoke FPM modelling\* to test the extent to which demand will increase as a result of housing led population increases. In the short term, programming at key sites should be investigated to ensure the most popular activities are available at peak times.

\*FPM modelling has been commissioned separately by the Wellbeing Team, and will be available in 2023.

### ***Health and Fitness***

Health and fitness facilities plus studio space offers potential to increase physical activity in the wider population. Cherwell's supply is sufficient now and up to 2040. Monitoring is needed as the market is still growing, this is explored in the Strategy.

The importance of the financial contribution that health and fitness makes to the viability of other facilities such as swimming pools is an important facet.

### ***Squash***

There is a need to protect existing facilities and invest in maintaining court quality.

Population increases are unlikely to lead to demand for more courts as there is spare capacity now and to cope with growth up to 2040, especially considering the moderate use reported at leisure centre sites.

### ***Gymnastics***

A full gymnastics development plan will be required to develop the sport in the area, including the need to recruit and develop coaches and volunteers. Current supply in the District is adequate and meets current demand.

### ***Indoor Tennis***

Continue to work with the LTA and partners on the proposed development of an indoor tennis centre at Hanwell Fields. As reported, a key element of the planning will be the management model for the site and analysis of future sustainability.

**Site-by-Site Summary** (Focusing on sites where the Council is / can influence future sports facilities and developer contributions)

### **Banbury**

- Canalside / Bankside Phase 2 – To work with the club and partners to support the relocation of Banbury Utd. To deliver new community football facilities.
- Hanwell Fields – To continue to work with the LTA, Town Council and partners to explore the opportunity for a new indoor tennis facility.
- North Oxfordshire Academy – To secure the provision of a new artificial 3G football pitch on the site, primarily for community access.

### **Bicester**

- Oxford Rd / Former Bicester Sports Association Site – To secure adequate mitigation for the loss of the playing pitches and supporting infrastructure.
- Whitelands – To support the development of the site to better utilise the pitches and 3G pitch, ensuring overplay is prevented.
- Graven Hill – To work with the developer and partners to deliver a sustainable football hub.
- Wretchwick Farm – To ensure the developer delivers the agreed new hockey pitches.
- Eco-Town – To secure and develop new pitches to serve identified future need.
- Bicester Leisure Centre – To continue to develop the facility to ensure it meets the needs of projected future population growth.

### **Heyford Park**

- Work with the developer to agree acceptable indoor and outdoor sports schemes. CDC standards to be applied to ensure adequate provision is provided to serve the projected population. All facilities to be built to Sport England standards.

### **Kidlington**

- Stratfield Brake – To invest in the pitches to ensure capacity potential is maximised.
- PR7a – To deliver 4ha of new football pitches in line with recommendations from the 2018 Sports Studies.

- North Oxford Golf Course – To secure adequate mitigation for the forthcoming loss of the golf facilities within the vicinity.
- Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre – To develop a plan to either refurbish / extend / replace or compliment the existing facility.