



# HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL BUILT INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

## FINAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT DECEMBER 2022

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Introduction

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) was appointed by Herefordshire Council 'to produce a *Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) and a Built Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy 2021-2041*'. This work will provide a key piece of evidence to support the update of the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy.

With regard to the indoor and built facilities (BFS) work, the stated objectives are to:

- ◀ Compile a robust, up to date audit of built facilities across the County of Herefordshire area and to assess the quantity, quality, accessibility, and availability of the provision.
- ◀ Complete an assessment of the required levels of built facilities both now and up to 2041. The assessment is based on the principles of 'Protect, Enhance and Provide'. The approach is also tailored to take account of the bespoke needs of Herefordshire's communities and emerging Local Plan preferred growth sites, including cross-boundary implications, both between Herefordshire and neighbouring local authorities.
- ◀ Provide the Council with a comprehensive evidence base that will support the delivery of future development related to the Local Plan update and the development of its related policies, including neighbourhood plans.
- ◀ Support the Council to secure developer contributions and ensure that Sport England's Built Facility Calculator and bespoke calculator/standards where necessary are informed by the local evidence.
- ◀ Undertake geographic information systems (GIS) mapping of all assessed facilities/ sites and provide a GIS layer to use within the Local Plan update process in an updateable format.

The importance of the assessment in providing the evidence base for the emerging Local Plan is fully recognised. The stated objectives of the BFS are, thus, to:

- ◀ Provide a robust up to date needs assessment which support the councils and to meet the requirement of the amended National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- ◀ Reflect and address the needs and demands of the local population that will grow in line with the changes defined by the emerging Local Plan.
- ◀ Act as a catalyst for action by the Council and key stakeholders for potential joint investment in sport and physical activity facilities.
- ◀ Inform the requirements in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

This report is, therefore, a detailed assessment of current provision of indoor and built sports facilities located within the Herefordshire area, identifying needs (demand) and gaps (deficiencies in provision).

The audit was conducted between December 2021 and February 2022. The process presented some challenges due to the Covid-19 restrictions which were then in place. Where access was not available KKP carried out non-technical quality assessments via desktop research, and where possible quality was accessed via utilising virtual 'walk arounds' of the health and fitness suites or videos and photos present on the operator's website or in discussion with the operator.

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## 1.2: Scope of the project

This report provides detail as to what exists in the Authority, its condition, location, availability and overall quality. It considers demand for facilities based on population distribution, planned growth, and takes into consideration health and economic deprivation. The facilities/sports covered include village/community halls, sports halls (and associated indoor sports), swimming pools, health and fitness, squash, gymnastics, indoor tennis, indoor bowls, climbing, and water sports (rowing, sailing, canoeing). In delivering this report KKP has:

- ◀ Individually audited identified sports halls (conventional i.e., 3+ court halls) swimming pools (minimum size 160m<sup>2</sup>), health and fitness facilities (including, within reason, dance studios) and the wider range of facilities identified above.
- ◀ Analysed supply and demand to identify gaps and opportunities to improve provision.
- ◀ Sought to identify the extent to which delivery of leisure facilities is undertaken with full reference to the corporate strategies of the Council and other relevant strategic influences.
- ◀ Identified areas of good practice and opportunities for improved service in order to drive up participation levels.

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

- ◀ Review relevant Council strategies, plans, reports, corporate objectives.
- ◀ Review the local, regional, and national strategic context.
- ◀ Demographic analysis of the local population at present and in the future (up to 2041).
- ◀ Audit indoor facilities provided by public, private, voluntary and education sectors.
- ◀ Consider potential participation rates and model likely demand.
- ◀ Analyse the balance between supply of, and demand for, sports facilities plus identification of potential under and over-provision – now and in the future
- ◀ Identify key issues to address in the future provision of indoor sports facilities.

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

## 1.3: Background

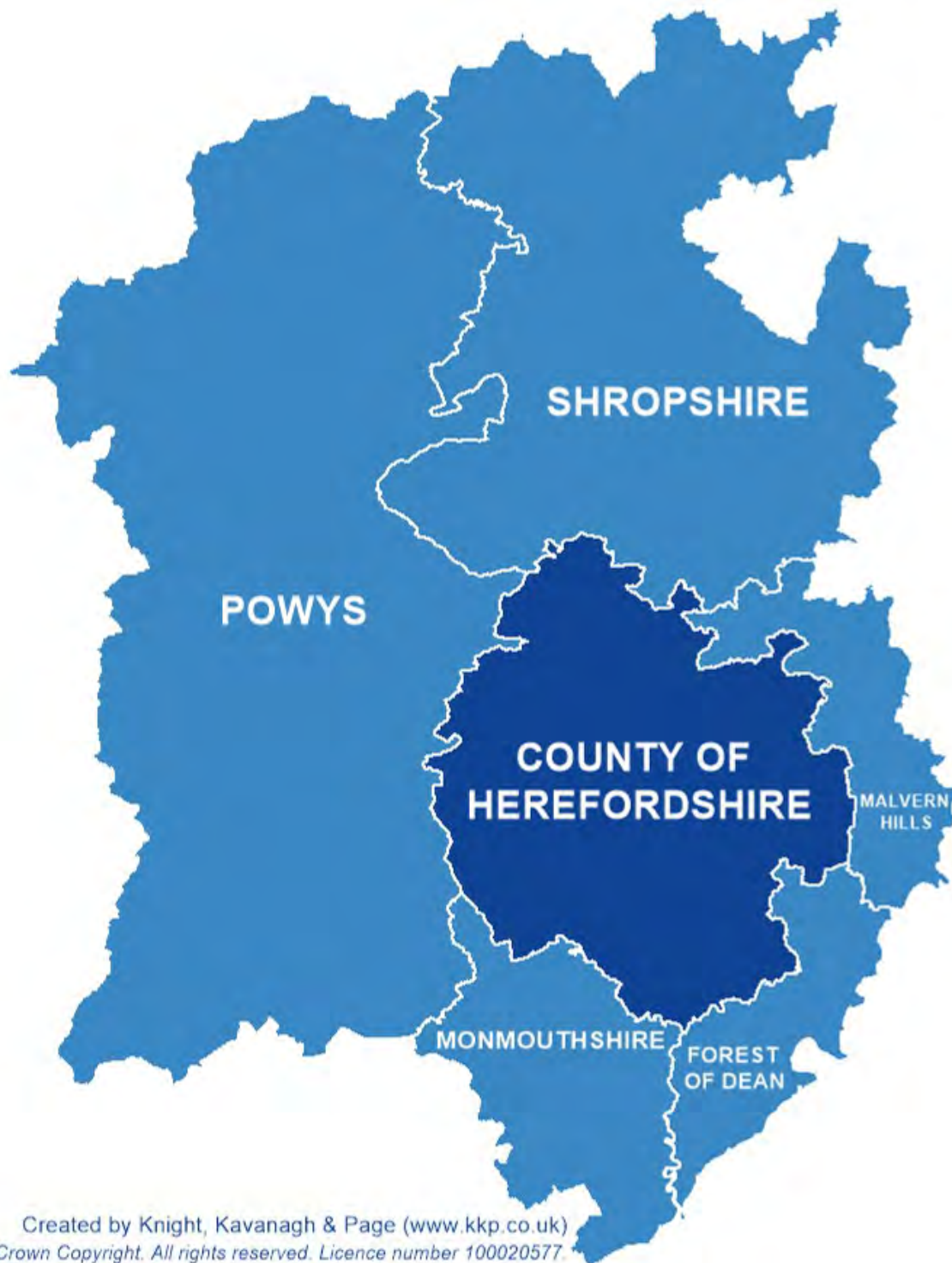
Herefordshire is a large mainly rural county. It covers an area of 2,180km<sup>2</sup> made up of countryside interspersed with the cathedral city of Hereford and the market towns of Leominster, Ross-on-Wye, Ledbury, Bromyard and Kington. It is located on the far western fringes of the West Midlands and is bordered by Shropshire to the north, Malvern Hills to the east, Forest of Dean to the south east, and the Welsh counties of Monmouthshire and Powys to the west.

Hereford is the agricultural and business centre of the County. It has a population of c. 61,000. Situated in the historic Welsh Marshes, it is one of the most rural and sparsely populated counties in England, with a total population of 196,649 (2020 ONS mid-year estimate) and a population density of 82/km<sup>2</sup>. It is the fourth-smallest ceremonial county in England. Land use is mostly agricultural, and the county well known for fruit and cider production and the Hereford beef cattle breed. The Wye Valley is a recognised Area of Natural Outstanding Beauty (AONB) and a popular tourist destination.

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Figure 1.1: Herefordshire with neighbouring authorities





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### 1.4: Report structure

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

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

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

- ◀ Section 2 - review of background policy documentation (national/regional/local) and a profile of the population and socio-demographic characteristics of the district.
- ◀ Section 3 - description of methodology employed to assess indoor provision.
- ◀ Section 4 - assessment of village/community halls provision.
- ◀ Section 5 - assessment of sport halls provision.
- ◀ Section 6 - assessment of swimming pool provision.
- ◀ Section 7 - assessment of health and fitness provision.
- ◀ Section 8 - assessment of squash.
- ◀ Section 9 – assessment of gymnastics.
- ◀ Section 10 - assessment of indoor bowls.
- ◀ Section 11 - assessment of indoor tennis.
- ◀ Section 12 - assessment of water sports
- ◀ Section 13 – assessment of climbing facilities.
- ◀ Section 14 – strategic recommendations.

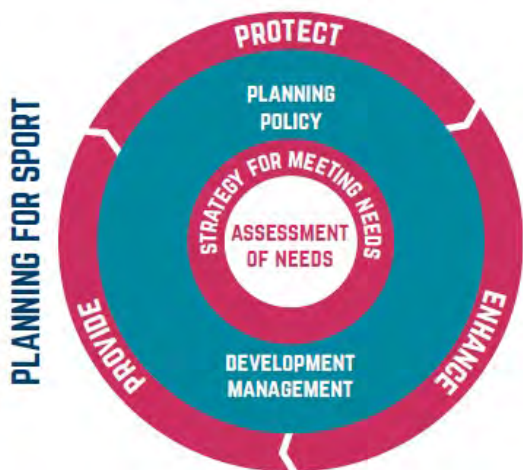
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## SECTION 2: BACKGROUND

### 2.1: National context

Sport England aims to ensure positive planning for sport, enabling the right facilities to be provided in the right places, based on up-to-date assessment of needs for all levels of sport and all sectors of the community. This assessment report has been produced for Herefordshire Council applying the principles and tools identified in the Sport England Guide Assessing Needs and Opportunities for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities (ANOG).

Figure 2.1: The Sport England Planning for Sport Model



Assessment of need is core to planning for sporting provision. It is underpinned by 12 planning-for-sport principles which help the planning system to contribute to sustainable development by fulfilling the key role of the NPPF in creating strong, vibrant and healthy communities. Applying them ensures that the planning system plans positively to enable and support healthy lifestyles, delivers community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs, and provides opportunity for all to experience the benefits that taking part in sport and physical activity brings. They apply to all areas of the planning system and to planning at local authority and neighbourhood levels. As such they are of

relevance to all involved in, or looking to engage with, the planning system.

Figure 2.2: Sport England's 12 planning principles



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### ***Sport England: Uniting the Movement 2021***

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

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



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

- ◀ *Recover and reinvent*: Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant, and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.
- ◀ *Connecting communities*: Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.
- ◀ *Positive experiences for children and young people*: Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.
- ◀ *Connecting with health and wellbeing*: Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health, and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.
- ◀ *Active environments*: Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

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

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

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### ***Sport England - Understanding the impact of Covid-19 January 2021<sup>1</sup>***

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ***Social and economic value of community sport and physical activity in England 2020<sup>2</sup>***

Over the last three years, Sport England has focused on bringing together evidence on the contribution of community sport and physical activity to the five outcomes identified in the Government's strategy Sporting Future. These are physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing, individual development, social and community development, and economic development.

Sport England's aim was to assess the evidence base with a view to demonstrating the contribution of community sport and physical activity to the outcomes. Building on this foundation and other previous work, Sport England quantified the social and economic impact of community sport and physical activity. There are two complementary parts to the research. Part one measures the social impact (including physical and mental health) of sport and physical activity while part two measures the economic importance.

The findings reveal that community sport and physical activity brings an annual contribution of £85.5 billion to the country (in 2018 prices) through social and economic benefits.

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<sup>1</sup>[Link to Sport England - Understanding the impact of Covid-19 January 2021](#)

<sup>2</sup>[Link to Social and economic value of community sport and physical activity in England 2020.](#)

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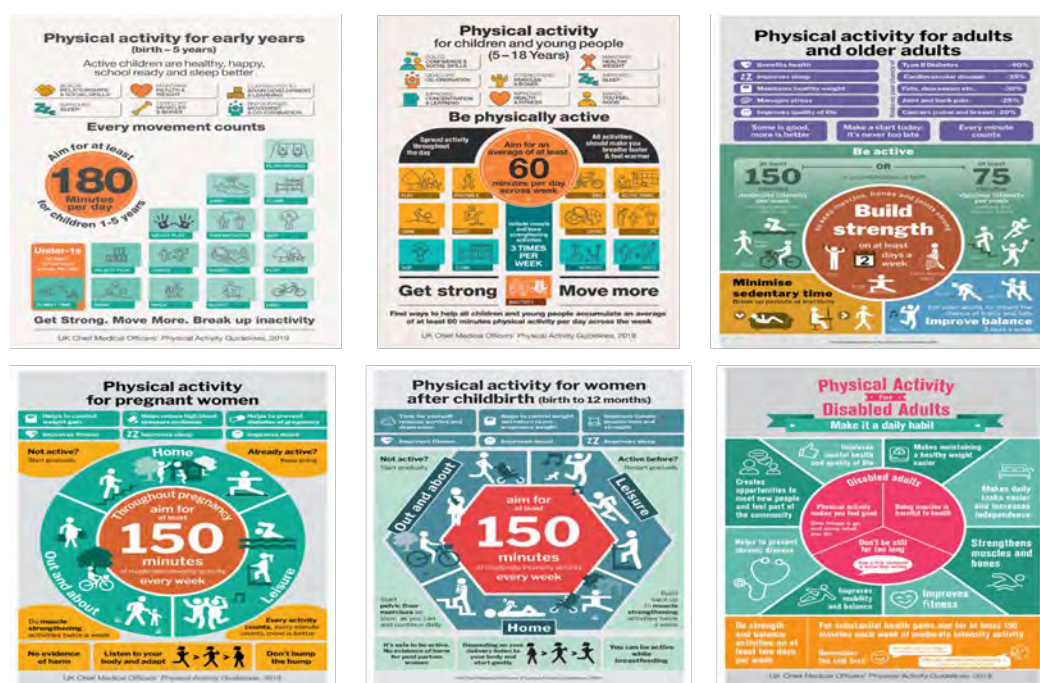
Its social value – including physical and mental health, wellbeing, individual and community development – is more than £72 billion, provided via routes such as a healthier population, consumer expenditure, greater work productivity, improved education attainment, reduced crime, and stronger communities. It also generates more than £13bn in economic value. The economic value includes more than 285,000 jobs that employ people within the community sport and physical activity sector.

Together, both enable Sport England to demonstrate the contribution of sport and physical activity to the five government outcomes. The research revealed that the combined social and economic value of taking part (participating and volunteering) in community sport and physical activity in England in 2017/18 was £85.5bn. When measured against the £21.85 billion costs of engagement and providing sport and physical activity opportunities, for every £1 spent on community sport and physical activity, a return on investment (ROI) of £3.91 was created for individuals and society in 2017/18.

## Chief Medical Officer Physical Activity Guidelines 2019

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

Figure 2.3: Physical activity guidelines



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

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

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

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

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

#### ***Investment in school sport***

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

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

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

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

### ***Revised National Planning Policy Framework 2021***

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

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

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

### ***Summary of national context***

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

## **2.2: Local context**

### ***Herefordshire County Plan: 2020-2024<sup>3</sup>***

The key areas of focus of the Herefordshire County Plan are environment, communities and the local economy:

- ◀ **Environment** – Protect and enhance our environment and keep Herefordshire a great place to live.
- ◀ **Community** – Strengthen communities to ensure everyone lives well and safely together.
- ◀ **Economy** – Support an economy which builds on the county's strengths and resources.

These are developed against three key themes of Sustainability, Connectivity and Wellbeing which will guide the Authority's planning, design and policy making over the coming years.

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/1500/corporate\\_plan\\_2016-20](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/1500/corporate_plan_2016-20)

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### ***Herefordshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Be well, Keep Well, Live Well (2016 - 2026)***

Herefordshire's Health and Wellbeing Strategy vision is for Herefordshire residents 'to be resilient, lead fulling lives, be emotionally and physical healthy and feel safe and secure'. It aims to achieve this vision via keeping people well (prevention), getting people better (treatment or secondary prevention) and helping people to cope (care or tertiary prevention).

### ***Active Herefordshire and Worcestershire (Active Partnership)***

The stated aim of the Active Partnership is 'to reduce inactivity and create a more active and healthier Herefordshire and Worcestershire'. Its blueprint for tackling inactivity is set out in its five strategic objectives, which are to:

- ◀ *Target new opportunities for growth:* To raise the profile across new sectors which will influence large scale interventions throughout Herefordshire and Worcestershire.
- ◀ *Partner and influence:* To facilitate and broker relationships across and within a diverse range of sectors at both operational and strategic levels allowing the Active Partnership to disseminate insight to influence decisions locally.
- ◀ *Empower all:* To ensure that individuals, groups and communities are equipped, confident and have the knowledge to understand local need and the mechanisms for change.
- ◀ *Develop a workforce that inspires:* Through the delivery of high quality coach education teaching to ensure there is a physical activity workforce that is reflective of local need.
- ◀ *Increase the visibility and accessibility of opportunities:* Deliver a range of campaign messaging to create positive opportunities throughout the community through the use of strong communication pathways.

### ***Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy – HLPCS (2011-2031)***

The HLPCS was adopted by the Council in 2015 and was prepared to guide the development and change in the County up to 2031. The Local Plan, in addition to dealing with the use of land, considers how the area functions and how different parts of the county should develop or change over the next 20 years in response to key issues, such as the need to:

- ◀ Deliver more, better quality homes (especially affordable homes) to meet growing needs in this 'high house price' compared to 'average income' area.
- ◀ Deliver improved infrastructure to support economic development and a growing population.
- ◀ Promote a thriving local economy with successful city, town and village centres and provide sufficient employment land to meet business needs and provide higher incomes through a wider range of better-quality jobs.
- ◀ Protect, conserve and enhance valued natural, historic and built environments, including areas of outstanding natural beauty, special areas of conservation, open spaces as well as the county's intrinsic attractive character.
- ◀ Address issues arising from an ageing population and the reducing younger age population.
- ◀ Meet the challenge of climate change and adapt to its impacts such as increased risk of flooding and air pollution.
- ◀ Create places that actively promote and enable healthy lifestyles.
- ◀ Achieve sustainable development and reduce reliance on the private car whilst accepting the sparsely populated nature of the area and difficulty communities have in accessing services.



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The Strategy sets a vision as follows: *'Herefordshire will be a place of distinctive environmental, historical and cultural assets and local communities, with sustainable development fostering a high quality of life for those who live, work and visit here. A sustainable future for the county will be based on the interdependence of the themes of social progress, economic prosperity and environmental quality with the aim of increasing the county's self-reliance and resilience'*.

This vision is aligned with 12 objectives under the themes of promoting social progress (supporting strong communities by meeting housing, education and health, transport and infrastructure needs), economic prosperity (supporting new jobs, area regeneration, business, tourism and retail) and environmental quality (addressing climate change, protecting and enhancing the environmental assets of the county).

The findings of this study are most relevant to HLPCS policies: SC1 (social and community facilities), OS1 (requirement for open space, sports and recreation facilities), OS2 (meeting open space, sports and recreation needs), and OS3 (loss of open space, sports or recreational facilities).

### ***Active & Healthy Herefordshire – Herefordshire's Physical Activity Strategy (2021-2026)***

Herefordshire's Physical Activity Strategy sets out the priorities for physical activity in the County and is underpinned by the vision: 'in Herefordshire every person has the opportunity to; 'get moving, be active, feel better, keep well and enjoy healthier lives as part of everyday life in their local community'. The vision is guided by a recognition of national, regional and local policy framework but particularly through local insight identified through the development of the strategy. In order to challenge and address inactivity in Herefordshire, the shared outcomes of the Physical Activity Strategy are:

- ◀ **Active Environments** – environments that support and facilitate every day physical activity for everyone.
- ◀ **Active Communities** – supported and developed community assets to increase physical activity levels and build community resilience.
- ◀ **Healthy Individuals** – decreasing inequalities, increased awareness and capability in Herefordshire's inactive population to change their behaviour and increase physical activity levels long-term.
- ◀ **Partnerships & Collaborative Working** – improved partnership working to increase physical activity opportunities and participation across Herefordshire's population.

### ***Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review (2021-2041)***

In line with NPPF requirements for local plans to be reviewed and, if required updated no later than five years from adoption, the HLPCS is currently being updated to cover the period 2021-2041. This review will set out the planning framework for the County for the period to 2041 and will cover issues such as housing provision, the economy, retail and town centres, infrastructure provision and the environment. It will also set out policies by which planning applications will be determined, in addition to allocation land for housing, employment and other uses. This BFS, alongside the PPOSS will help to ensure that relevant policies in the plan are updated accordingly to demonstrate the soundness of the plan at Examination.

### ***Halo Leisure Services Ltd***

Halo is a charitable social enterprise that operates 20+ leisure facilities in Herefordshire, for Bridgend, Shropshire and Swindon on behalf of the relevant local authorities. It manages HC's portfolio of eight leisure facilities and in 2017 Halo signed a 75 year lease with the Council<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup>[Link to Halo Leisure lease](#)

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### Summary of local policy

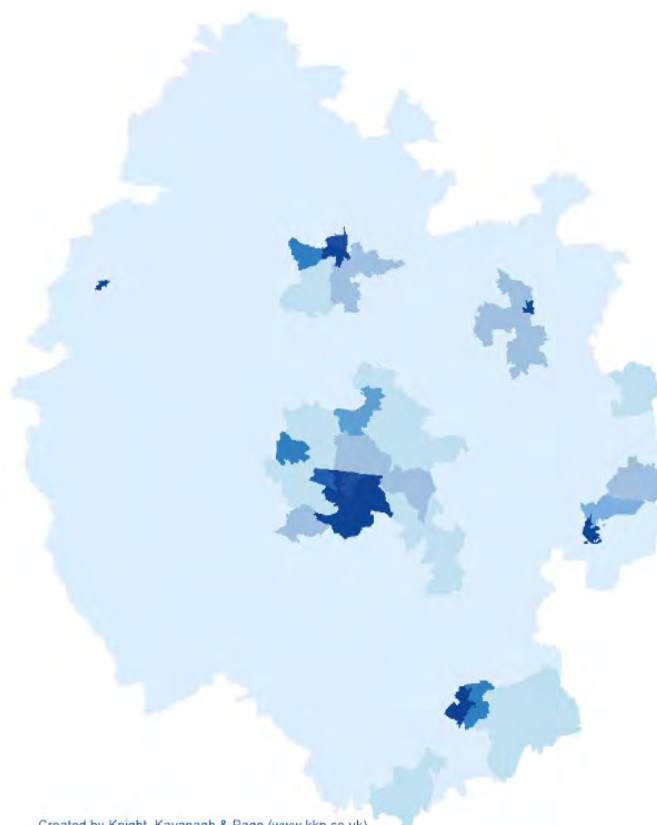
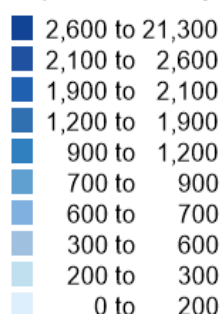
Local policy demonstrates an outcome focused approach with co-commitment to increasing levels of physical activity (across all age groups), reducing health inequality, whilst harnessing the potential for investment offered by residential development as identified in both the Physical Activity Strategy and Core Strategy. In addition, the Council faces the challenge of ensuring that all its facilities remain in good condition and are accessible for all.

### 2.3: Demographic profile

**Population and distribution** (Data source: 2020 Mid-Year Estimate, ONS): The total population of Herefordshire is 196,649. Population density is greatest around Hereford, which is located centrally within the Authority. There are also concentrations in the north around Leominster, Kington, and Bromyard, and in the east and south east around Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye. The south west of the County is particularly sparsely populated, especially in the Golden Valley.

Figure 2.4: Population density 2020 MYE, ONS

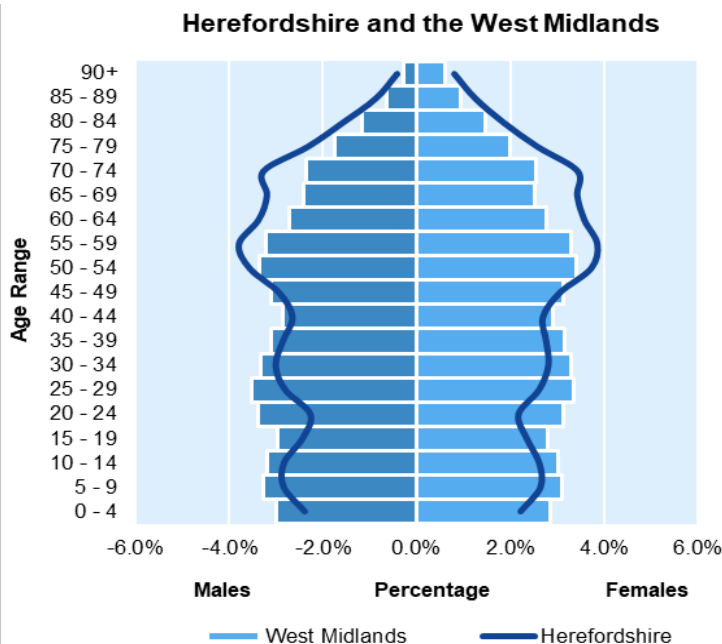
**County of Herefordshire**  
Population density per square mile



# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

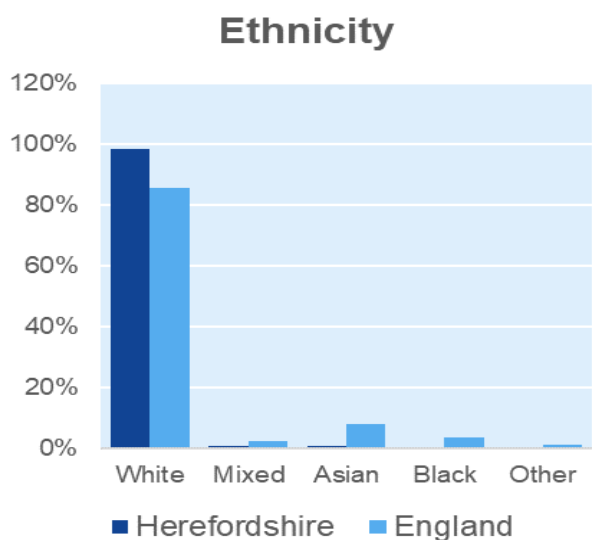
Figure 2.5: Comparative age/sex pyramid for Herefordshire and West Midlands

Set against that of the region Herefordshire population age/gender composition data indicates a lower proportion of 10–34 year-olds (26% - compared to the West Midlands; 32%). This may suggest a lower level of demand from what are regarded as the main sports participation groups and young families. There are, however, more people in the 35-64 age groups (38.9% - compared to the West Midlands; 37.1%). These tend to have higher disposable income and may also still be physically active. The age and make-up of the population is a key factor to consider, when developing and implementing the sport and physical activity offer in the area.



**Ethnicity** (Data source: 2011 census of population, ONS): Herefordshire’s ethnic composition reflects that of England as a whole. The largest proportion (98.2%) of the local population classified their ethnicity as White; this is considerably higher than the comparative England rate of 85.4%. The next largest population group is Asian, at 0.8% this is considerably lower than the national equivalent (7.8%).

Figure 2.6: Herefordshire ethnic composition, income & dependency, and deprivation illustrations

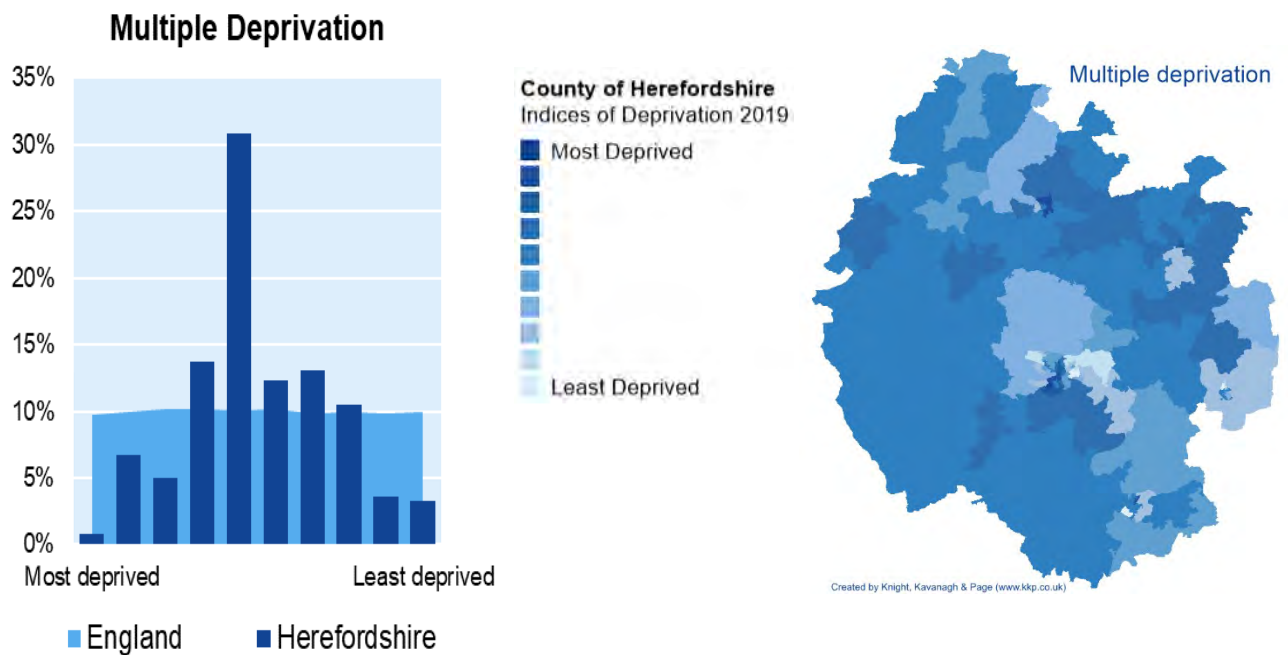


**Income and dependency** (Data source: NOMIS (2021): The median figure for full-time earnings (2020) in Herefordshire is £29,416; the comparative rate for the West Midlands is £30,254 (+2.8%) and for Great Britain is £31,881 (+8.4%). In January 2022 there were 2,960 people in Herefordshire claiming out of work benefits; this represents a decrease of 41.2% when compared to May 2020 (5,035).

**Deprivation** (Data source: 2019 indices of deprivation, MHCLG): Relative to other parts of the country Herefordshire experiences low levels of deprivation; one in eight of the County’s population (12.6%) falls within the areas covered by the country’s three most deprived cohorts compared to a national average of c.30%. Conversely, 17.4% live in the three least deprived groupings (again, this compares to a ‘norm’ of c.30%).

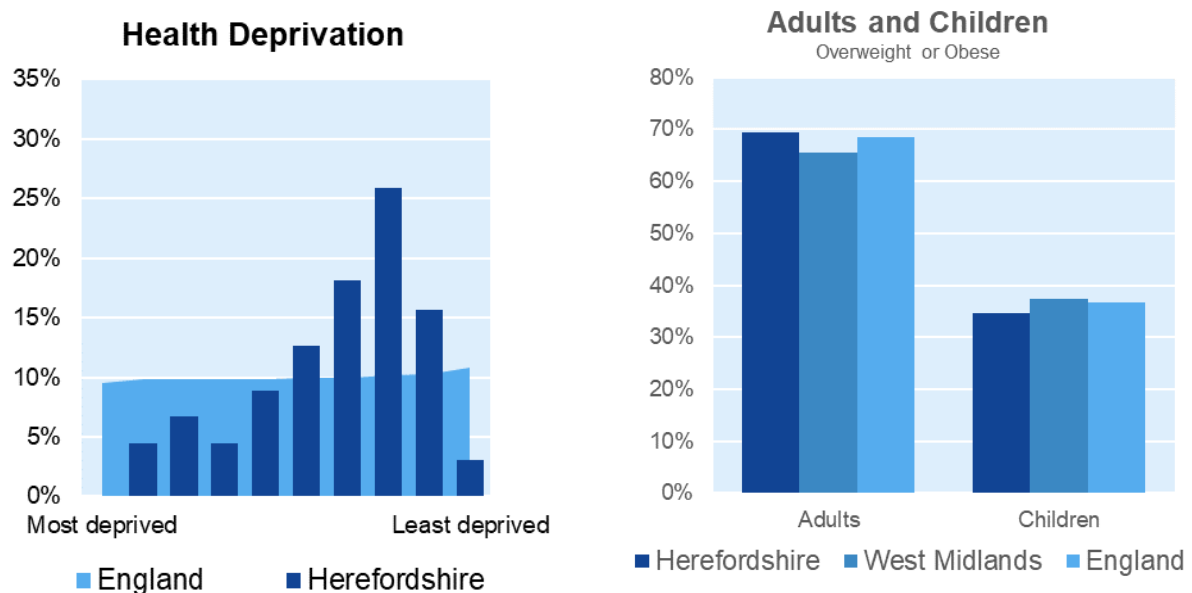
# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.7: Index of multiple deprivation



A similar pattern, to that seen for multiple deprivation, is seen in relation to health; 11.2% of Herefordshire’s population fall within areas covered by the three most deprived cohorts.

Figure 2.7: IMD and health domain comparisons – Herefordshire and England



For a full listing of index of multiple deprivation (IMD) and health deprivation by age bands refer to Appendix 1.

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

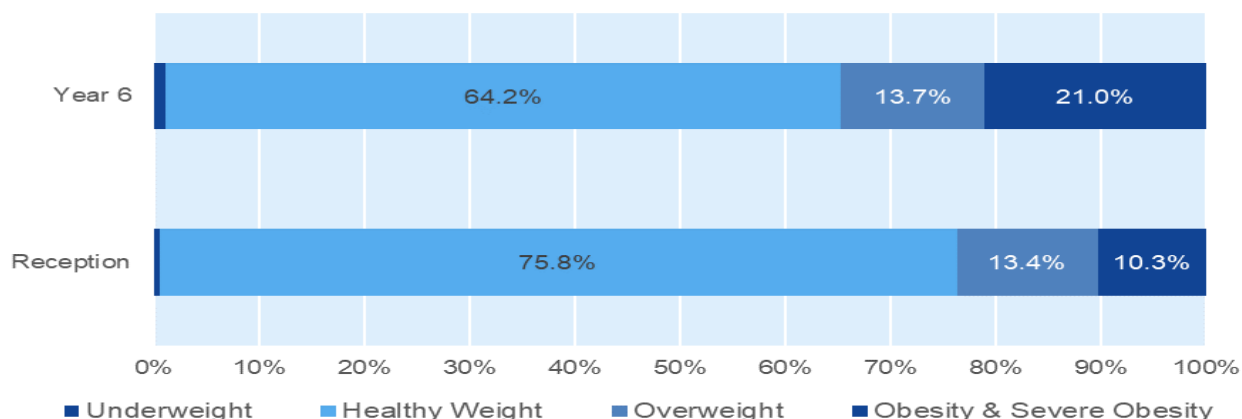
**Health data** (Data sources: ONS births and deaths, NCMP<sup>5</sup> and NOO<sup>6</sup>): In keeping with patterns seen alongside lower levels of health deprivation, life expectancy in Herefordshire is slightly higher than the national figure; the male rate is currently 79.7 compared to 79.6 for England, and the female equivalent is 83.7 compared to 83.2 nationally.

**Weight and obesity:** Obesity is widely recognised to be associated with health problems such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer. At a national level, NHS costs attributable to overweight and obesity<sup>7</sup> are projected to reach £9.7 billion by 2050, with wider costs to society estimated to reach £49.9 billion per year. These factors combine to make the prevention of obesity a major public health challenge.

Adult obesity rates in Herefordshire are above both the national and regional averages. However, child rates for obesity are lower than both regional and national averages as identified in Figure 2.7 overleaf.

In common with many other areas, obesity rates increase significantly between the ages of 4 and 11. In Reception Year at school, 10.3% of children in Herefordshire are considered obese and 13.4% overweight. By Year 6 these figures rise to 21% obese and 13.7% overweight. In total by Year 6 a third of children (33.7%) are either overweight or obese.

Figure 2.8: Child weight – reception and year 6 (2018/19)



Herefordshire falls within NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

The total annual cost to the NHS of physical inactivity for the CCG within which Herefordshire falls is estimated at £7,817,692<sup>8</sup>. When compared to regional and national costs per 100,000, the total costs for the CCGs (£1,024,249), which is 27% above the national average (£806,244) and 23.8% above the regional average (£883,672).

It should also be noted that in addition to the NHS costs there are also significant costs to industry in terms of days of productivity lost due to back pain etc. These have also been costed in CBI reports and are of similar magnitude to NHS costs.

<sup>5</sup> National Child Measurement Program

<sup>6</sup> National Obesity Observatory

<sup>7</sup> Adult Weight Data is for the period 2016-2017. The child data is for the period 2017-2018

<sup>8</sup>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/524234/Physical\\_inactivity\\_costs\\_to\\_CCGs.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/524234/Physical_inactivity_costs_to_CCGs.pdf)

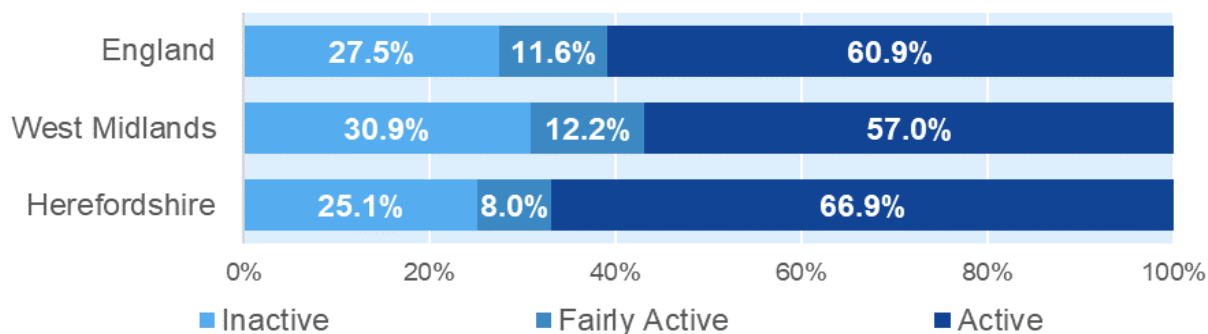
# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### Sport England: Active Lives Survey (ALS) 2019/2020

This is based on 16+ year olds taking part in walking, cycling, fitness, dance and other sporting activity (excluding gardening). 25.1% of the County's population is considered to be inactive. This is below both regional (30.9%) and national (27.5%) averages. It has slightly fewer active people (66.9%). Herefordshire has slightly more active people (63.7%) than both the national average (61.4%) and regional average (57%) as identified in Figure 2.10.

Figure 2.10: Levels of activity and most popular sports/physical activities (Active Lives 2020/21)



[Rate/population totals for sport & physical activity levels (excluding gardening) of adults (16+) in English LAs]

**The most popular sports and physical activities:** a further aspect of the ALS is that it makes it possible to identify the most popular (in terms of participation) sports and physical activities within any given area. As with many other areas, fitness and cycling are among the most popular and they are known to cut across age groups and gender. In Herefordshire just over 1 in 5 adults take part in fitness, on average, at least twice a month. The next most popular activity is classes in which 17.5% of adults take part in on a relatively regular basis.

Refer to Appendix one for further ALS analysis on the most popular sports in Herefordshire.

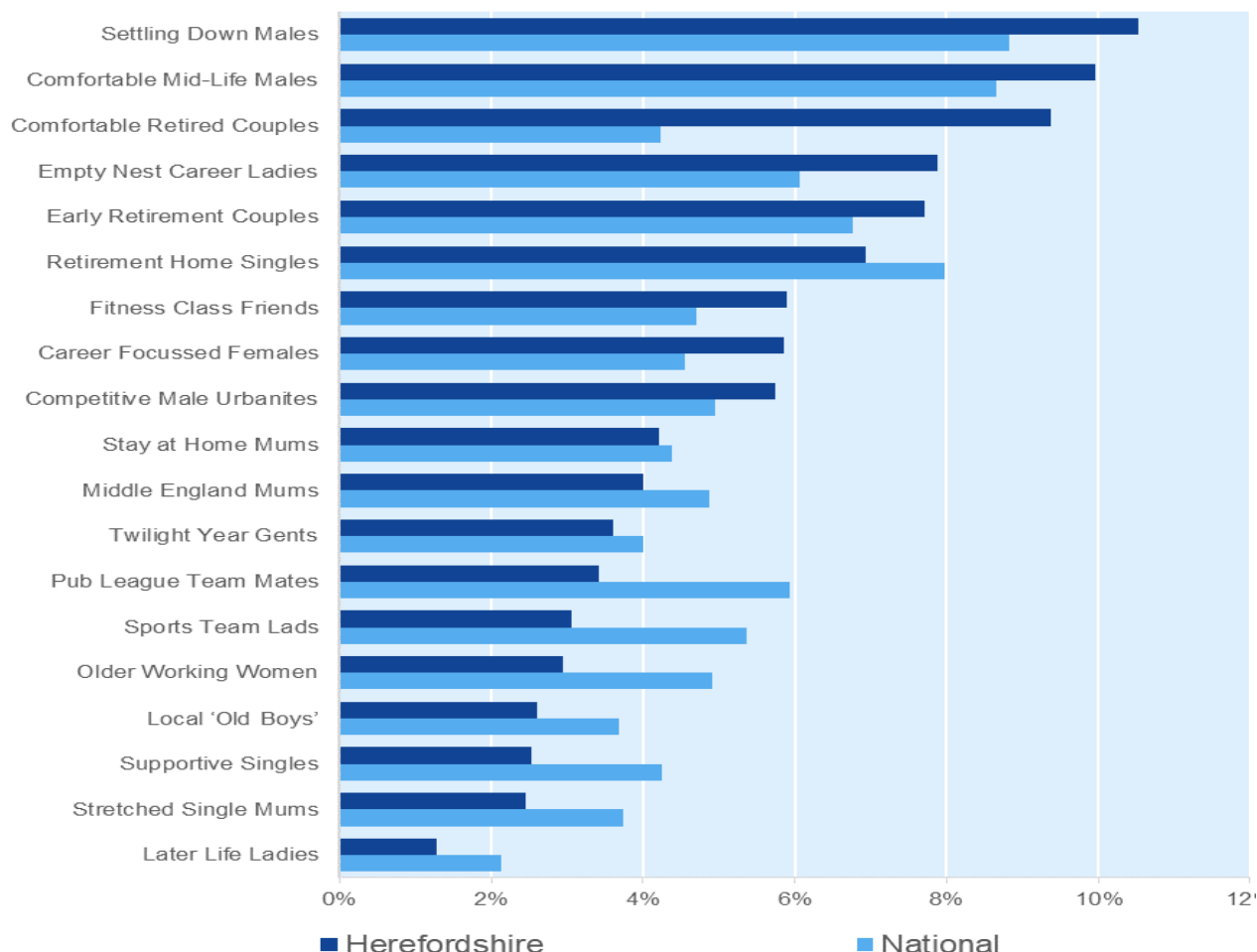


### Sporting segmentation (Data source: Market segmentation, Sport England)

Sport England classifies the adult population in 19 market segments to provide insight into the sporting behaviours. Herefordshire's profile indicates 'Settling Down Males' to be the largest segment of the adult population at 10.5% (15,071) – national average 8.8%. This is closely followed by 'Comfortable Mid-Life Males' (10.0%) and 'Comfortable Retired Couples' (9.4%).

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.12: SE segmentation – Herefordshire compared to England



### Mosaic (Data source: 2020 Mosaic analysis, Experian)

This is a similar consumer segmentation product. The prevalence of the top five classifications is evident in as much they represent 78.6% of the population (national equivalent rate; 39.6%).

Table 2.3: Mosaic – main population segments in Herefordshire

Mosaic group description	Herefordshire		National %
	#	%	
1 - Country Living	72,682	37.4%	7.2%
2 - Rural Reality	23,737	12.2%	6.9%
3 - Aspiring Homemakers	18,791	9.7%	10.4%
4 - Family Basics	13,973	7.2%	8.2%
5 - Senior Security	11,760	6.1%	6.9%

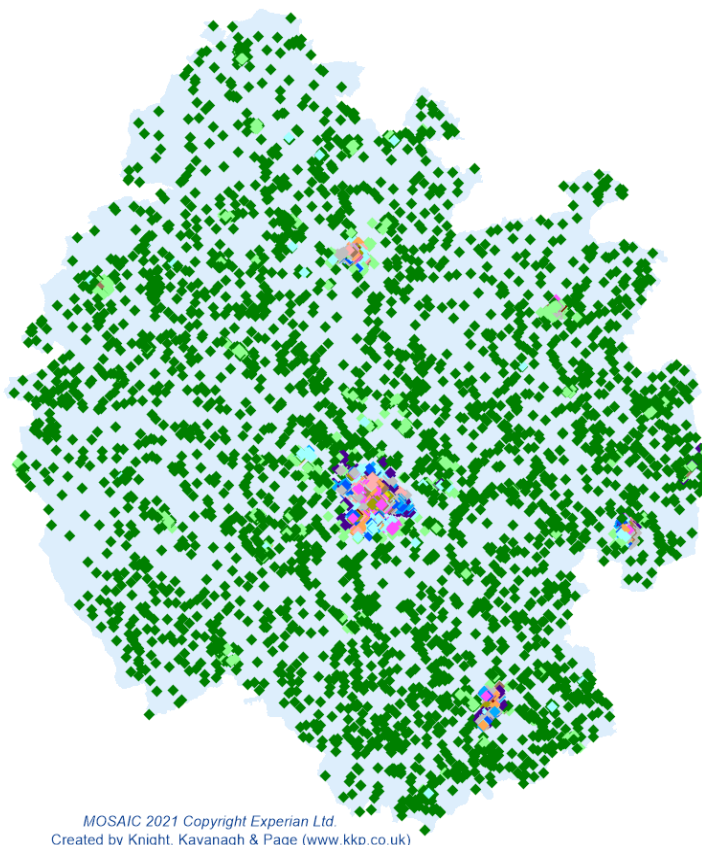
The largest segment profiled for Herefordshire is the Country Living group, making up 37.4% of the adult population in the area, this is more than five times the national rate (7.2%). This group is defined as ‘well-off homeowners who live in the countryside often beyond easy commuting reach of major towns and cities. Some people are landowners or farmers, others run small businesses from home, some are retired, and others commute distances to professional jobs’.

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.12: Mosaic segments in Herefordshire




## County of Herefordshire Mosaic groups 2021

- City Prosperity
- Prestige Positions
- Country Living
- Rural Reality
- Senior Security
- Suburban Stability
- Domestic Success
- Aspiring Homemakers
- Family Basics
- Transient Renters
- Municipal Tenants
- Vintage Value
- Modest Traditions
- Urban Cohesion
- Rental Hubs



MOSAIC 2021 Copyright Experian Ltd.  
Created by Knight, Kavanagh & Page (www.kkp.co.uk)

Table 2.4: Dominant Mosaic profiles in Herefordshire

<b>Country Living</b>		Well-off homeowners who live in the countryside often beyond easy commuting reach of major towns and cities. Some people are landowners or farmers, others run small businesses from home, some are retired, and others commute distances to professional jobs.
<b>Rural Reality</b>		People who live in rural communities and generally own their relatively low-cost homes. Their moderate incomes come mostly from employment with local firms or from running their own small business.
<b>Aspiring Homemakers</b>		Younger households who have, often, only recently set up home. They usually own their homes in private suburbs, which they have chosen to fit their budget.

## Population projections

The most recent ONS projections indicate a rise of 11% in Herefordshire's population (+21,554) over the 20 years from 2021 to 2041. Over this extended timeframe fluctuations are seen in rise and fall at different points across the majority of age groups. Key points are outlined below:

- ◀ The number of 25-34 year olds, falls by -1,666 (-7.6%) over the first half of the projection (to 2031).
- ◀ There is a continuous increase in the number of persons aged 65+ of +24.8% (+12,302) in the first period continuing to rise to +40.8% (+20,223) between 2031 and 2041. While this age group represented 25.2% of Herefordshire's population in 2021 it is projected to be 32.0% of the total by 2041 – approaching on third of the population.



# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.13: Projected population change (2018 -2041)

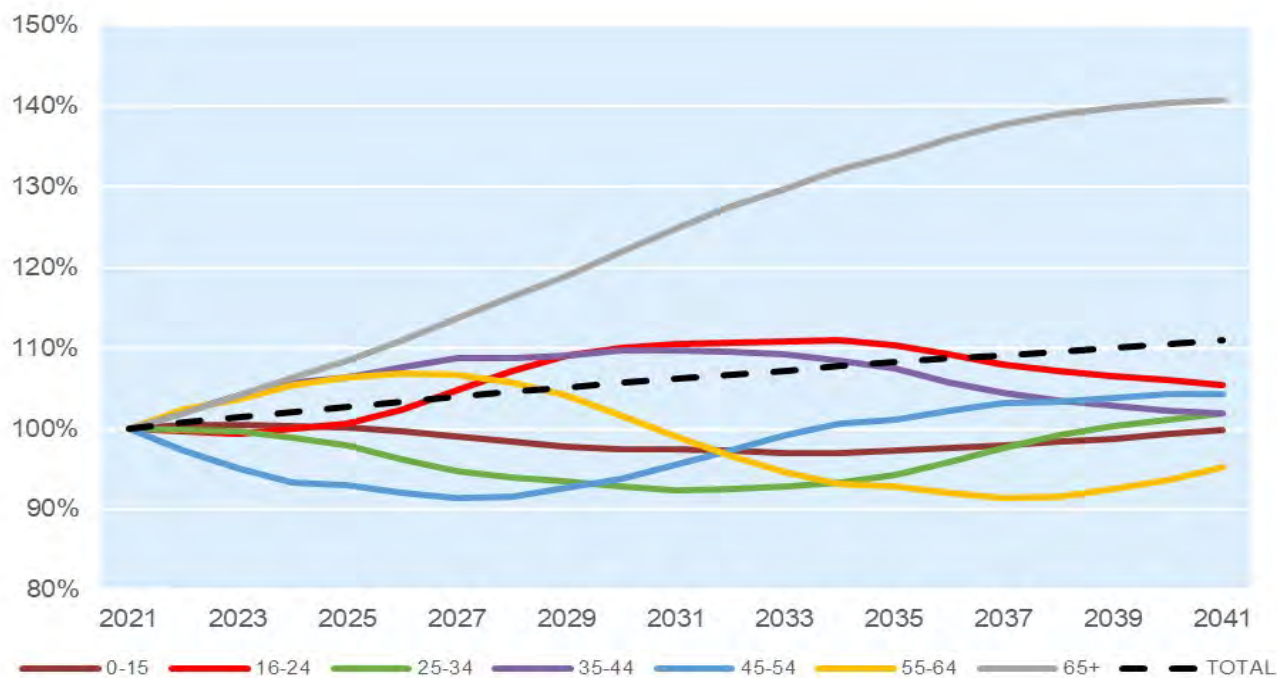


Table 2.6: Herefordshire - ONS projected population<sup>9</sup> (2021 to 2041)

Age (years)	Number			Age structure %			Change 2021 – 2041		
	2021	2031	2041	2021	2031	2041	2021	2031	2041
0-15	32,754	31,897	32,718	16.7%	15.3%	15.0%	100.0%	97.4%	99.9%
16-24	15,924	17,602	16,786	8.1%	8.4%	7.7%	100.0%	110.5%	105.4%
25-34	21,975	20,308	22,390	11.2%	9.7%	10.3%	100.0%	92.4%	101.9%
35-44	21,883	23,994	22,317	11.1%	11.5%	10.2%	100.0%	109.6%	102.0%
45-54	25,192	24,083	26,259	12.8%	11.5%	12.0%	100.0%	95.6%	104.2%
55-64	29,381	29,103	27,969	14.9%	13.9%	12.8%	100.0%	99.1%	95.2%
65+	49,541	61,843	69,764	25.2%	29.6%	32.0%	100.0%	124.8%	140.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,649</b>	<b>208,829</b>	<b>218,203</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>106.2%</b>	<b>111.0%</b>

## Herefordshire Council: Local Housing Strategy 2021–2026

The Local Housing Strategy’s vision is to effectively meet the housing needs of people living in Herefordshire, promote independence and create healthy and sustainable communities. This vision will be developed through the four established priorities over the next five years:

- ✦ Eliminate the negative impact that our homes have on the environment
- ✦ Increase the number of affordable homes available for rent or buy in line with need.
- ✦ Improve the quality and accessibility of homes in Herefordshire and bring long-term empty properties back into use
- ✦ Work in partnership to assess and deliver solutions to identified housing need.

<sup>9</sup> Based on ONS 2018 projections

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### ***Herefordshire Local Plan: Emerging housing requirements***

In November 2022 emerging housing market area requirements were provided for this study, as listed in table 2.7 below:

*Table 2.7: Housing Market Area Requirements 2021-2041*

Housing market area	Total	Indicative Urban Target	Indicative rural target
Hereford	7,880	3,900	3,980
Leominster	2,500	1,700	800
Ross-on-Wye	2,660	2,180	480
Ledbury	1,860	1,570	290
Bromyard	940	750	190
Kington	720	150	570
Golden Valley	380	0	380

Average household size in the county in 2021 was 2.26 persons per dwelling (2021 Census data), as such the Council have applied this figure to the projections running through to 2041.

### ***Summary of the demographic profile and population projections***

Herefordshire's population, over the next 20 years is expected to increase by 14.5%, with the most substantial rise being in the 65+ age group (by 40.8%). Over one third of the population falls into the Country Living segment. They tend to be 'well-off homeowners who live in the countryside often beyond easy commuting reach of major towns and cities

A key issue to consider is whether the current stock of facilities will be able to accommodate this increase or whether there is sufficient demand in specific areas to justify the development of new leisure facilities. There will also be a need to consider how the ageing population will choose to use its leisure time; this may well lead to changes in levels of demand for different activities.

The importance of ensuring that the proportion of the population which is currently active remains so and that more of the presently inactive become active (sustaining and improving the general health of the local population) will become increasingly relevant.

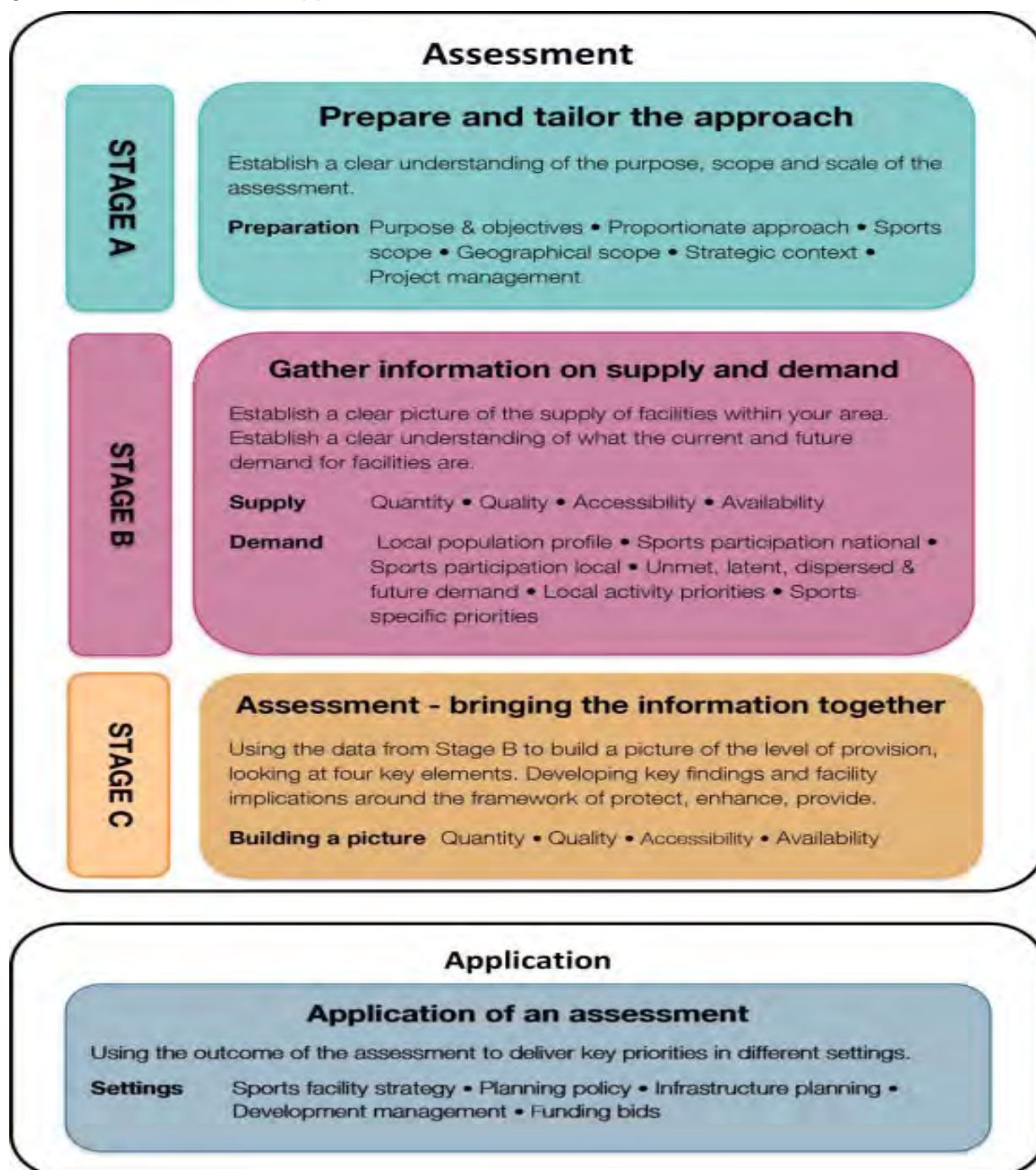
# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## SECTION 3: INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

### 3.1: Methodology

As noted above, the assessment of provision is based on the Sport England Sport England Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities.

Figure 3.1: Recommended approach



This is the recommended approach to undertaking a robust assessment of need for indoor and outdoor sports facilities.

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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It has been produced to help (local authorities) meet the requirements of the Government's NPPF, which states that: *'Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.'* (NPPF, Paragraph 98).

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

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

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

### 3.2: Site visits

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

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

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

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

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Table 3.1: Quality ratings of indoor sports facilities using ANOG

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

Ratings are based on non-technical visual assessments. These consider facility age and condition. Surfaces, tiles and walls, line markings and safety equipment are considered and problem areas such as mould, damage, leaks etc. are noted. The condition of fixtures, fittings and equipment is recorded. Maintenance and facility 'wear and tear' is considered as is compliant with the Equality Act, although this is not studied in detail for the purposes of this report. When all data is collated, key facility elements receive an overall quality rating.

### Catchment areas

Applying catchments areas for different provision types enables identification of areas currently not served. These vary from person to person, day to day, hour to hour. This problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchment'; the distance travelled by around 75-80% of users (used in the Sport England Facilities Planning Model - FPM). Sport England data indicates that most people will travel up to 20 minutes to access sports facilities. This, coupled with KKP's experience of working in/with leisure facilities and use of local data enables identification of catchment areas for sports facilities as follows in table 3.2:

It is understood that village halls and community centres generally cater for a more local population. With that in mind their catchment areas are set at 800m (10-minute walk time).

Table 3.2: Facility catchment areas

Facility type	Identified catchment area by urban/rural
Village halls/community centres	10-minute walk / 800m
Sport halls	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive
Health and fitness	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive
Swimming pools	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive
Squash courts	20 minutes' drive
Indoor bowls centre	30-minute drive
Dedicated gymnastics centre	20 minutes' drive

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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### 3.3: Facilities Planning Model overview

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) helps to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities. It 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 determine an adequate level of sports facility provision to meet local need.
- ◀ Testing 'what if' scenarios with regard to provision and changes in demand, this includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities and the impact population changes may have on need for sports facilities.

In its simplest form the FPM seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport are capable of meeting local demand considering how far people are prepared to travel to a facility (using the integrated transport network). To estimate the level of sports facility provision in an area, the model compares the number of facilities (supply) with the demand for that facility (demand) that the local population will generate.

Within this report, FPM national run data (2020) has been sourced for both swimming pool and sports hall provision which will be used alongside KKP mapping and audit information to provide a balanced summary of supply and demand across these facility types. It may also be appropriate during facility strategy development to undertake further bespoke scenario testing using the FPM model in order to provide additional modelled supply and demand analysis to support future proposed changes in provision.

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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### SECTION 4: VILLAGE/COMMUNITY HALLS

#### 4.1: Introduction

Village halls and community centres are important recreational facilities, especially in rural areas that, in some instances, may lack access to purpose-built sports facilities. They are usually multi-functional, providing places for meetings, socialising and for sports and recreational clubs and activities. In some parishes, a church hall or a sports pavilion can also serve a range of functions depending on its size.

Village/community hall locations were identified via the Council's directory<sup>10</sup> which helped provide baseline information about each site, including:

- ◀ General details; facility (name, address, postcode)
- ◀ Site manager contact details.
- ◀ Intelligence on regular activities held on site.
- ◀ Details of provisions held on site (e.g., catering commitment).

#### 4.1: Supply and quality of village/community halls

The audit identified a total of 160 community buildings in Herefordshire. There appears to be a good spread from north to south serving both rural and urban populations. Village Halls were assessed via an online survey to identify the quality and use of the facilities specifically relating to physical activity and sporting opportunities. The survey was sent to all parish and town councils in the County and yielded 40 results (35% of the total). Respondents did not necessarily answer all questions on the survey, and only 17% of respondents reported that the parish owns/leases an indoor built facility (village halls, community centres etc.)

In addition, a sample of village halls was provided by the Council with a view to undertaking site visits. All 11 were visited in February 2022 and a non-technical site assessment conducted. Sites were selected through consultation with Active Herefordshire & Worcestershire, and Herefordshire Council Talk Community. Furthermore, it was understood that the sites selected had a key role in providing facilities for formal and informal recreation, however, the Council had limited intelligence in terms of what actual activities/programmes were taking place at the sites. The 11 visited sites were:

- ◀ Belmont Community Centre
- ◀ Bosbury Parish Hall
- ◀ Brockhampton Village Hall
- ◀ Burghill Simpson Village Hall
- ◀ Canon Pyon Village Hall
- ◀ Orleton Village Hall
- ◀ Saxon Hall
- ◀ Upton Bishop Millenium Hall
- ◀ Wellington Community Centre
- ◀ Weobley Village Hall
- ◀ Weston under Penyard Village Hall

The findings of the site visits are summarised in Section 4.2 along with further desk research which was undertaken to ascertain what activities are undertaken at village/community halls.

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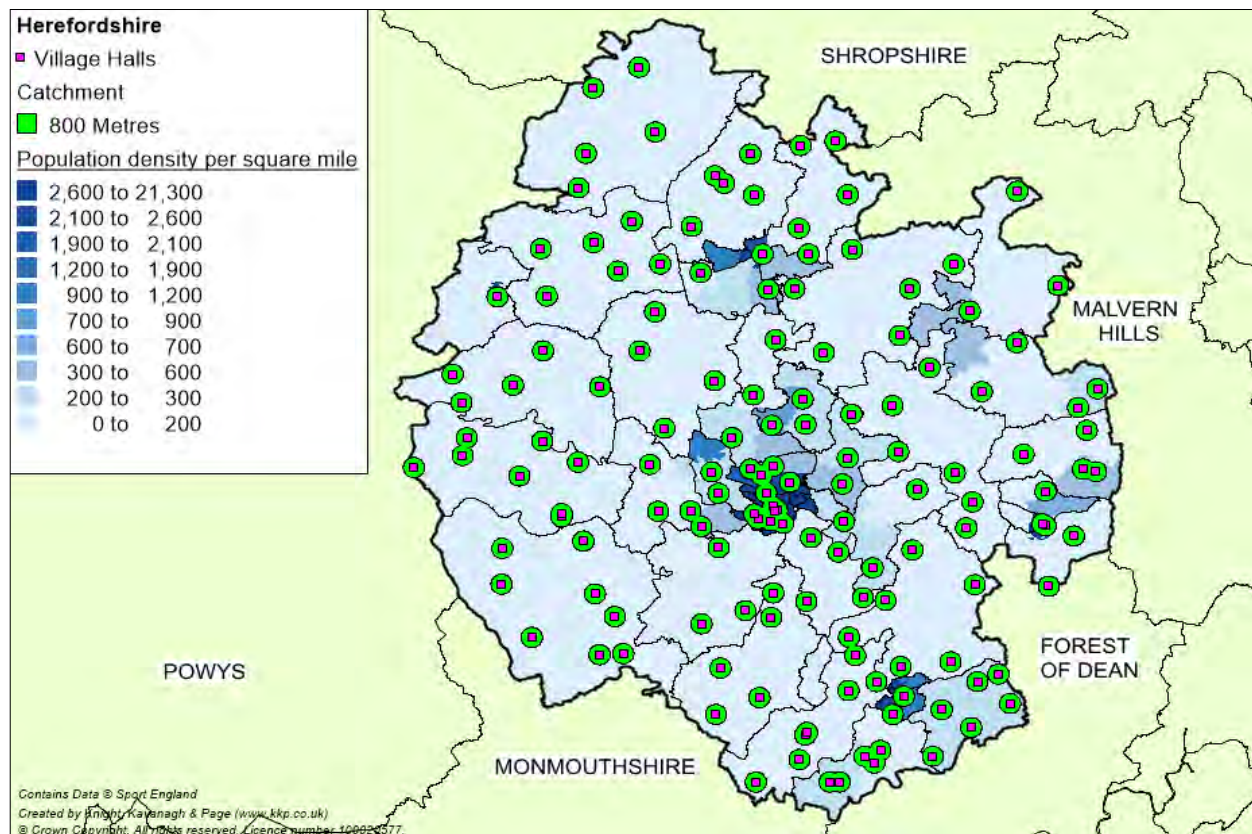
<sup>10</sup> <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/directory/15/community-halls>

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Radial catchment modelling estimates that approximately 36% of the population of Herefordshire lives within 800m of a village hall or community centre (MYE 2019 population estimate). As noted above, the catchment is based on 800m (10-minute walk) although many users travel by car to venues and parking is still an important requirement.

These facilities have potential to offer different types of physical activity which are relevant to the local communities which they serve. Drive time catchment modelling confirms that essentially the whole (99.7%) of the population lives within a 10-minute drive time of a village/community hall.

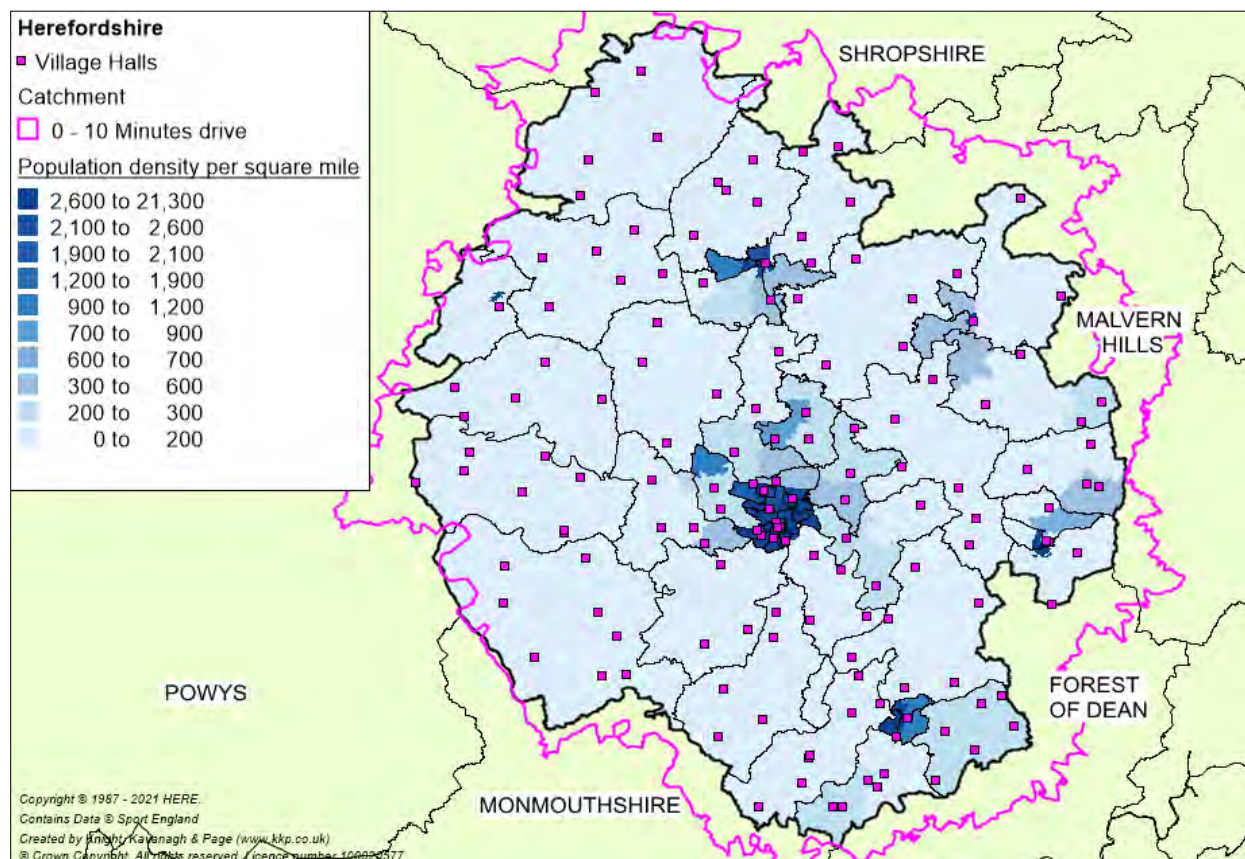
Figure 4.1: Village/community halls in Herefordshire with 800m radial catchment





# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 4.2: Village/community halls with 10-minute drive time catchment



More detailed mapping featuring number allocated sites can be found in Appendix One – the mapping matches the analysis areas as used for the PPOSS.

## Availability

Most village halls rely on volunteers to operate them and service the local community. Many offer facilities to the local community at the key times when they are needed i.e., daytime and evening. Activities tend to reflect the needs of the local community.

Table 4.2: Sports and physical activities in community centres / village halls

Dance	Fitness	Physical activity/well being	Sport
Baby ballet Belly Dancing Bollywood Clubercise Dancercise Dance Aerobics Salsa Sequence	BodyFit Boot Camp Boxercise Kettle Bells Yoga Pilates Zumba	Keep fit for over 55's Neighbours (low impact) Slimming World	Soccer tots Badminton Cheerleading Indoor cricket 5 a side Football Martial Arts Short mat bowling Table Tennis & Pool

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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### 4.2 Demand

#### *Site visit consultation summary*

*Belmont Community Centre* is located to the south west of Hereford City Centre. It is run separately from the parish council. Facilities include a kitchen (and relevant equipment) plus hall space and there is a community library on site. Overall facility quality is above average. It was indicated during consultation that the site is due to be renovated in summer 2022, with a focus on improving the reception area along and the floor in the main hall. It was evident that the toilet facilities need refurbishment. The site manager also highlighted aspirations to improve the kitchen. The facility is well used by a number of groups including (amongst others) Action for Elders, a martial arts club, Slimming World group and the local scouts.

*Bosbury Parish Hall* is situated in the east of the County. It is owned by Bosbury and Coddington Parish Council and is managed under charity status. Its main hall includes a stage and kitchen and is rated as above average quality. It is regularly used to host activities such as drama groups, Yoga, line dancing, children's parties, arts and crafts groups, and local farmers markets. Adjacent to the main hall is an old youth club building which is currently let at as a creche. In addition, within the main building is a retail unit which is sub-let to a community barber shop. It was confirmed during consultation that a new gas central heating system was installed in 2021. Furthermore, there is a disused single badminton court sports hall situated in a separate building to the rear of the Parish Hall. The Parish Council reports that it is exploring options to improve the hall and bring it back to a useable condition. This would complement the multi-sport offer at the site as there is an existing outdoor bowls green and tennis court.

*Brockhampton Village Hall* is located to the south of Hereford in the Wye Valley. It comprises a large hall, kitchen area, and meeting rooms. The main hall floor was fully refurbished in 2021 and all interior rooms were concurrently decorated. As part of the refurbishment, line markings for one badminton court were added to the main room. The hall is good quality. Consultation revealed that the roof leaks during heavy rain. The Parish Committee has been successful in securing a grant and the roof is due to be replaced in June 2022. Hall usage is growing after the Pandemic and it includes a weekly quiz night, Yoga, Pilates, weekly book group, and a monthly community café. The hall is also occasionally hired out for weddings. There is an adjacent outdoor tennis court and the Parish is exploring options to resurface or convert it to a MUGA.

*Burghill Simpson Village Hall* is located approx. two miles from Hereford and is managed by Burghill Parish Council. Facilities include a large hall space with projection screen, surround sound speakers, staging and an attached kitchen. There is an additional upstairs room which contains a pool table and table tennis tables. It is in above average condition. The upstairs room has recently been refurbished. Activities accommodated include Pilates, Tai Chi, children's parties, and gardening club.

*Canon Pyon Village Hall* is owned and managed by Pyons Group Parish Council. It is an old style hall which is considered to be of below average quality. Its main hall is marked out with one badminton court. The building only has electric heaters which are insufficient for heating the space during winter. The Parish Council reports that upgrading heating provision is a priority moving forward, although options are limited as there is reportedly no gas supply in the village. It is exploring best options, and renewable energy sources are being considered. The hall is well used by local groups/activities including weekly coffee mornings, Tai Chi group, children's parties, gardening group, library/book group.

*Orleton Village Hall* is situated approximately six miles north of Leominster. It is managed as a charity. Facilities include a large hall space and kitchen, and it is considered to be of above average quality. Recent refurbishment work has improved the kitchen and toilets. The hall is well used for activities including table tennis, short mat bowls, scouts, exercise classes, and drama groups. It is adjacent to a children's play area and playing pitches.

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

### INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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*Saxon Hall* is located in the Putson area of Hereford. It is operated by the Putson Community Association which operates as a charity and leases the building from the Council. It is a substantial building which includes a large hall space, kitchen, and meeting rooms. The hall is considered to be above average quality. Through to March 2022 its main hall was operating as a Covid-19 vaccination centre. It was advised during consultation that once the vaccination operation finishes the whole interior of the building will be redecorated in time for it to reopen to the public (in April 2022). It is expected that the main hall will be utilised for activities such as Yoga, children's parties, and other exercise-based activities. The building also hosts Reach Radio, a local community lead service. There is also an allotment/garden space outside the building which is regularly maintained by a local veterans group.

*Upton Bishop Village Hall* is situated to the east of Ross-on-Wye, it is a large hall set out on with significant grounds. It is managed by The Upton Bishop Village Hall Trust, which is a registered charity, with day to day running of the hall being coordinated by the Millennium Hall Management Committee. It is of good quality. Its main hall floor was fully replaced in 2018. During consultation it was indicated that the management committee is exploring options to further improve the building, including installing WIFI, modernising the heating system, replacing internal doors and improving the kitchen. A range of groups regularly utilise the hall, including badminton club, keep fit club, little swallows (children's play group), church group, Ross Quilters, tango group, and a local Women's Institute group. The hall is regularly hired out for weddings and other events.

*Wellington Community Centre* is located to the north of Hereford, off the A49. It is managed by Wellington Community Association, which operates as a charity. The hall is adjacent to Wellington Primary School and is part of a larger site which includes grass pitches and tennis courts. Facilities include a community room and a large hall space; the latter is shared use with the School and is available to community users in the evenings and at weekends. During consultation it was highlighted that a new cinema screen was added in 2018. The hall is utilised by a range of groups/activities including Judo, Karate, children's parties, gardening club, RC car club, film club, Brownies, and a knitting club.

*Weobley Village Hall* is situated to the north west of Hereford and is managed by Weobley Parish Council. It comprises a large hall, kitchen space, and meeting rooms. The hall is of above average quality. It has solar panels installed on the roof, which help to off-set the cost of electricity used. In recent years LED lights, and WIFI have been added to the interior rooms. During consultation it was indicated that there is a small leak in the flat roof over the kitchen area, the Parish Council reports having plans to replace the roof in the next year. The hall is used on a frequent basis by groups including Tai Chi, short mat bowling, line dancing, karate, yoga, table tennis and arts groups. The hall is adjacent to a children's play area and skatepark.

*Weston under Penyard Village Hall* is located to the east of Ross-on-Wye. It is managed by the Parish Council. Facilities include a hall, changing rooms and a kitchen. There are two football pitches and a children's play area on site. The hall is of above average quality and is regularly hired out by groups/activities including baby/toddler classes, short mat bowls, rugby tots, children's parties. The Parish Council indicated having plans to add an external toilet block, for use by the resident football teams. This is a priority as the only other available toilets are situated in the main building which presents safeguarding issues when children's activities are taking place in the main hall. The Parish is currently exploring funding options.

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Research undertaken for the audit suggests that demand for village hall and community centre space is high. This highlights the importance of these sites in ensuring that a good range of local sport and physical activity is provided for Herefordshire residents. They also, reportedly, play an important role in ensuring older people or people living in more rural areas have access to facilities and can also contribute to getting the inactive active or retaining those already involved. Further analysis is required to understand how, and the extent to which, activities in these facilities can further meet the needs of what is an ageing local population.

### 4.3 Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Village halls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	There are 160 village and community halls in the County. They are evenly spread across the study area serving different communities.	Consider potential requirement for village halls/multi-purpose facilities in new housing developments (once allocations have been finalised) and consider how these facilities fit within the wider recreational/sporting mix.
<b>Quality</b>	Of the 11 halls visited, one is rated good quality, nine above average, and one below average.	
<b>Accessibility</b>	36% of the population lives within 800m and 99.7% within a 10-minute drive of a community centre/village hall.	
<b>Availability (Management and usage)</b>	Management varies between village hall committees, parish councils and individuals. All rely on the goodwill of volunteers. Activities range between each hall and are considered to broadly reflect interpreted local need.	Support the work of hall management to secure external funding, improve volunteer skills and enhance the quality and effectiveness of facility management, programming, and finance.
<b>Summary</b>	As Covid-19 restrictions ease, support village hall and parish council committees to offer, coordinate and publicise community spaces which contribute positively to the physical activity, and health and wellbeing agenda. Consider potential additional demand produced from new housing developments and whether this demand can be accommodated at existing facilities or whether new provision is required.	

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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### SECTION 5: SPORTS HALLS

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

Sports halls are generally considered to be of greatest value if they are of at least 3+ badminton court size with sufficient height to allow games such as badminton to be played. It should be noted, however, that a 4-court sports hall provides greater flexibility as it can accommodate major indoor team sports such as football (5-a-side and training), basketball and netball. It also has sufficient length to accommodate indoor cricket nets and indoor athletics; as such they tend to offer greater sports development flexibility than the 3-court counterpart. There is often variance in the dimensions of 4-court halls, and only halls that meet current Sport England Design Guidance<sup>11</sup> of 34.5m x 20m can fully accommodate the full range of indoor sports, especially for competition/league activities.

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

#### 5.1: Supply

##### Quantity

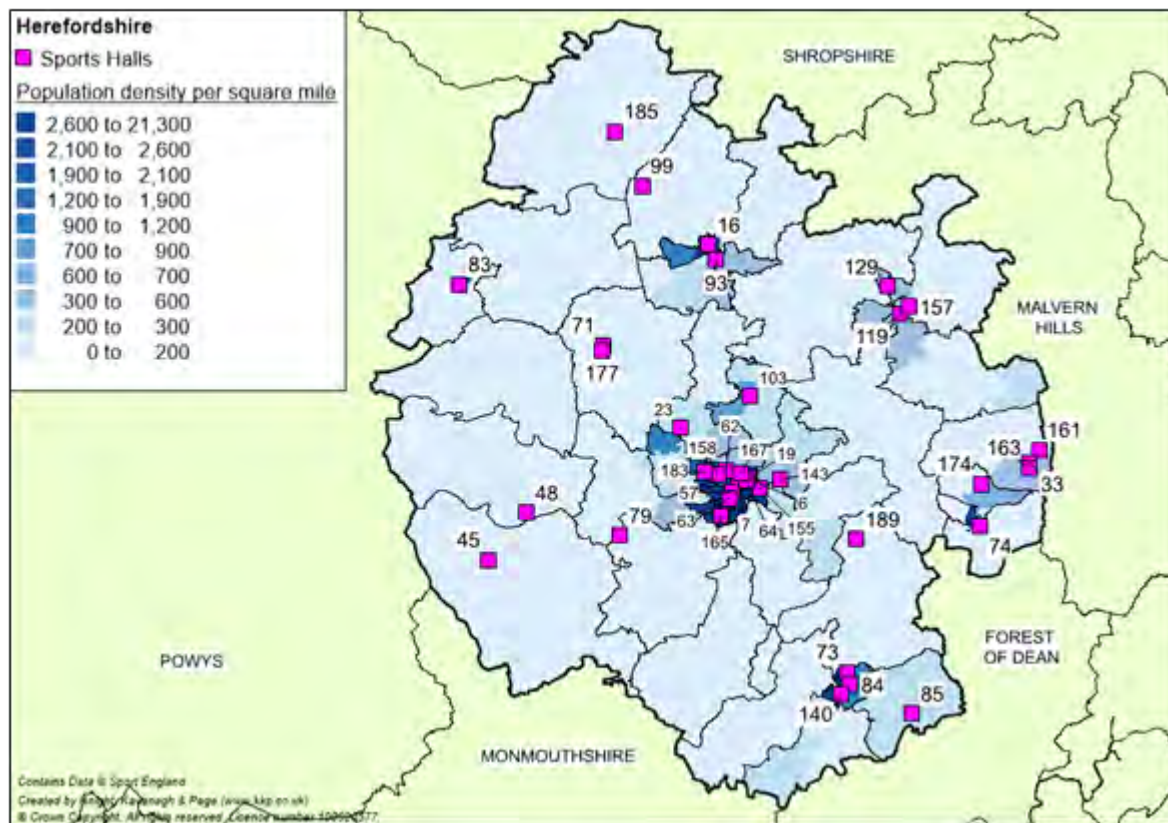
The 47 sports halls of all sizes accommodate 96 badminton courts. They are generally located in areas of higher population density. Some venues have more than one activity/sports hall on site.

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<sup>11</sup><https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/sports-halls>

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.1: All sports / activity halls in Herefordshire – regardless of size



The facility mix primarily comprises 4-court community provision.

Table 5.1: All sports / activity halls in Herefordshire

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

ID	Site name	No. of Courts	ID	Site name	No. of Courts
6	Aylestone School	1	103	Marden Primary Academy	1
6	Aylestone School	1	119	Queen Elizabeth High School	1
7	Barrs Court School	0	119	Queen Elizabeth High School	1
16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	4	129	Rowden House School	0
19	Broadlands Primary School	0	129	Rowden House School	0
23	Burghill Community Academy	1	140	St Joseph's RC Primary	1
33	Colwall C of E Primary School	1	143	St Mary's RC High School	4
45	Escley & District Sports	0	143	St Mary's RC High School	0
48	Fairfield High School	1	143	St Mary's RC High School	1
57	Hereford Cathedral School	4	155	The Bishop of Hereford's	3
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	8	155	The Bishop of Hereford's	0
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	0	157	The Bromyard Centre	4
64	Hereford Sixth Form College	4	158	The Brookfield School	1
71	Hopelands Village Hall	0	161	The Downs - Malvern	4
73	John Kyrle Academy	4	165	The Hereford Academy	6
73	John Kyrle Academy	0	167	The Point 4	3
74	John Masefield High School	4	174	Wellington Heath Memorial	0
79	Kingstone Academy	4	177	Weobley High School	0
83	Lady Hawkins Community	4	177	Weobley High School	4

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

ID	Site name	No. of Courts	ID	Site name	No. of Courts
84	Larruperz Community Centre	0	183	Whitecross High School	4
85	Lea C of E Primary School	1	185	Wigmore Leisure Centre	4
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	4	189	Woolhope Parish Hall	0
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	0	163	The Elms School	4
99	Lucton School	4	<b>Total</b>		<b>96</b>

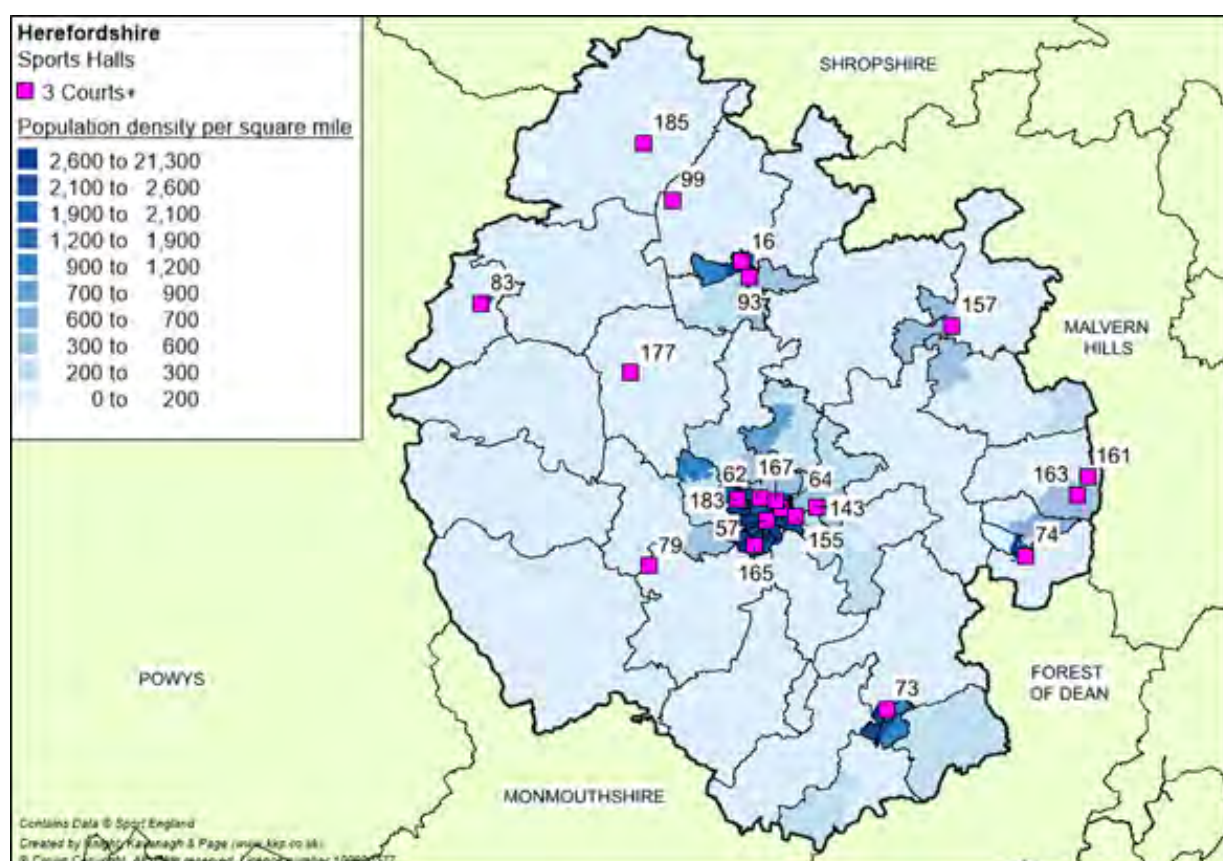
27 sites have one court or fewer and there are no halls with two courts. While often appropriate for mat sports, exercise to music and similar provision, the size of smaller (1-2 court) halls limits the range and scale of recreational/sporting activity that can be accommodated. Some venues have more than one activity/sports hall on site.

Table 1.3 in Appendix 1 identifies halls excluded from the audit and assessment due to size (i.e., they have fewer than three marked badminton courts).

The remaining 20 sports halls; those with 3+<sup>12</sup> marked badminton courts are identified in Figure 5.2.

Main sports halls are primarily located in Hereford, and other population centres such as Leominster, Ross-on-Wye, Ledbury and Bromyard.

Figure 5.2: Sports halls with 3+ courts in Herefordshire



<sup>12</sup> One of the 19 halls is not marked out for badminton, this is referenced further on page 29

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Table 5.3: Sports halls with 3+ badminton courts

ID	Site name	Courts
16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	4
57	Hereford Cathedral School	4
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	8
64	Hereford Sixth Form College	4
73	John Kyrle Academy	4
74	John Masefield High School	4
79	Kingstone Academy	4
83	Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre	4
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	4
99	Lucton School	4
143	St Mary's RC High School	4
155	The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School	3
157	The Bromyard Centre	4
161	The Downs - Malvern College Preparatory School	4
163	The Elms School	4
165	The Hereford Academy	6
167	The Point 4	3
177	Weobley High School	4
183	Whitecross High School Hereford	4
185	Wigmore Leisure Centre	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>84</b>

The sports halls vary in size. One of the two largest is located at The Point 4. This is not marked out for badminton use but is of a large size with a total area of 1434m<sup>2</sup>. The largest marked up hall in the County is located at Hereford Leisure Centre (8-courts).

Ten sports halls (Bridge Street Sports Centre, Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Leisure Centre, John Kyrle Academy, St Mary's RC High School, The Downs – Malvern College Preparatory School, The Hereford Academy, The Point 4, Weobley High School, and Whitecross High School Hereford) comply with current Sport England size guidance.

### **Facility quality**

All bar two 3+ court sports halls were subject to a non-technical assessment to ascertain quality, details of which are found in Figure 5.3 and Table 5.4 overleaf. Access was not obtained to the below sites despite numerous attempts to contact the site manager:

- ◀ Hereford Cathedral School
- ◀ John Masefield High School



# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.3: Sports halls with 3+ courts in Herefordshire by condition

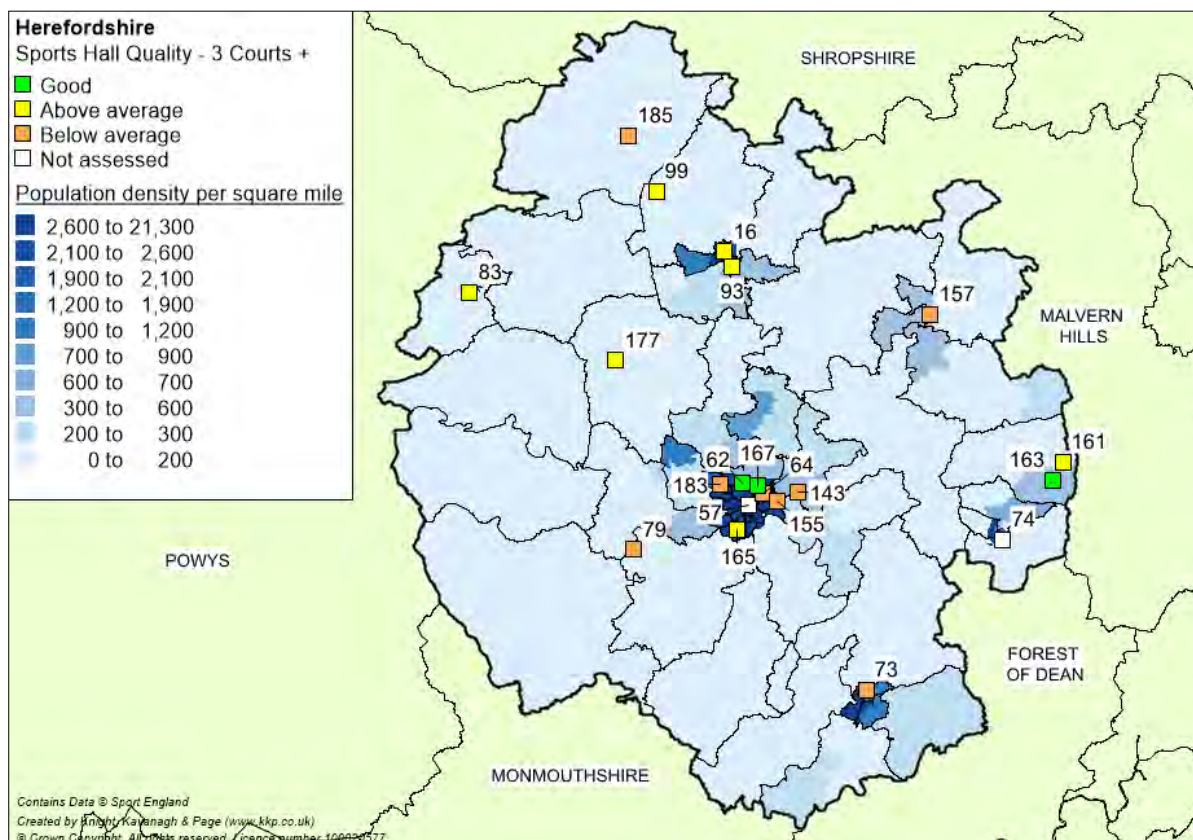


Table 5.4: listing of 3+ court sports halls with quality assessment – Herefordshire

ID	Site name	No. of courts	Assessment condition	
			Court	Changing
16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	4	Above average	Above average
57	Hereford Cathedral School	4	Not assessed	Not assessed
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	8	Good	Good
64	Hereford Sixth Form College	4	Below average	Below average
73	John Kyrle Academy	4	Below average	Below average
74	John Masefield High School	4	Not assessed	Not assessed
79	Kingstone Academy	4	Below average	Below average
83	Lady Hawkins Community Leisure	4	Above average	Below average
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	4	Above average	Above average
99	Lucton School	4	Above average	Above average
143	St Mary's RC High School	4	Below average	Below average
155	The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat	3	Below average	Below average
157	The Bromyard Centre	4	Below average	Below average
161	The Downs - Malvern College	4	Above average	Above average
163	The Elms School	4	Good	Good
165	The Hereford Academy	6	Above average	Above average
167	The Point 4	3	Good	Good
177	Weobley High School	4	Above average	Above average
183	Whitecross High School Hereford	4	Below average	Below average

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

ID	Site name	No. of courts	Assessment condition	
			Court	Changing
185	Wigmore Leisure Centre	4	Below average	Below average

There are three good quality sports halls (containing 15 courts), seven are of above average quality (30 courts), eight are below average (31 courts) and two (4-court) halls were not assessed. Thus, of the assessed facilities 55.5% are in good or above average condition. The remaining 44.5% of halls are rated as being below average quality. No halls are rated as being in poor condition.

Consultation with Wigmore Leisure Centre highlights that floor line markings are in need of renewal, although the floor itself is holding up well. The site operator also has aspirations to upgrade the lights to LED. Whilst the hall at Bridge Street Sports Centre was rated above average the audit identified some small dents in the floor surface, the hall would also benefit from the lighting being upgraded to LED. Furthermore, the exterior of the building is in a tired condition and needs some remedial refurbishment to the paintwork. Through consultation with the Council it was indicated that the site has been assigned some S.106 allocation to help improve the site.

Hereford Leisure Centre was significantly refurbished in 2015. Overall, the works were focused around modernising the building from its original format which dated back to 1985. During consultation with St Marys RC High School it was indicated some sections of the sports hall floor need to be replaced and the hall is generally in a tired condition. The lighting at Hereford Sixth Form College has been upgraded to LED in recent years. It was also apparent that there is an issue with damp in the sports hall building.

The floor at John Kyrle Academy is reportedly approaching the end of its lifespan, whilst currently in working order it will need to be replaced in the medium term. Furthermore, the lighting is also in need of upgrade.

The hall floor at Kingstone Academy was replaced in 2017, however, it was identified during the audit that there is a leak in the building's roof, which has created a damp issue on the walls. To date this has not impacted the quality of the flooring.

The hall at Lucton School received a minor refurbishment in 2019, works included refreshing the internal paint work. However, it was also reported that a small section of the floor has damp issues due to a leak in the roof. The school is working to address this issue as a priority. In addition, it was indicated that the floor has been upgraded at some point in the last 15 years, although exact information was not available during the audit.

The Elms School reported that its hall was refurbished in 2020 – with new LED lights and cricket nest installed, along with some improvement to the flooring.

Changing provision is generally commensurate with sports hall quality, with Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre the exception, where its changing provision is considered to be below average.

Just under half (42%) of the sports halls in the area were built within the last 20 years, whilst 26% of the stock have had some form of refurbishment in the last ten years. Most halls opened prior to 2000 have been modernised, the exception being the halls at The Bromyard Centre which was built in 1991 and at John Kyrle Academy (modernised in 1990). Both halls have received no significant refurbishment since.

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Table 5.5: Year of construction and refurbishment of sports halls

Site	Year built	Year refurbished	Age since opened/ refurbishment
Bridge Street Sports Centre	1997	2002	20
Hereford Cathedral School	2009		13
Hereford Leisure Centre	1985	2015	7
Hereford Sixth Form College	1977	2010	12
John Kyrle Academy	1980	1990	32
John Masefield High School	2000	2018	4
Kingstone Academy	2006	2017	5
Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre	1995	2013	9
Leominster Leisure Centre	1986	2015	7
Lucton School	1950	2019	3
St Mary's RC High School	2005	2007	15
The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School	1997	2007	15
The Bromyard Centre	1991		31
The Elms School	2002	2020	2
The Downs - Malvern College Preparatory School	2009		13
The Hereford Academy	2011		11
The Point 4	2009		13
Weobley High School	2007		15
Whitecross High School Hereford	2006		16
Wigmore Leisure Centre	1996	2004	18

### Accessibility

Sports hall accessibility is influenced by how far people are willing and able to travel to and from them. Walk and drive-time catchments are applied to determine facility accessibility to different communities. One site (St Marys RC High School) has been removed from the analysis due to it being unavailable to the community. The normal (industry) standard is a 20-minute walk time (one-mile radial catchment) for an urban area and a 20-minute drive time for a rural area:

- ✦ 87,783 residents live within one mile of a sports hall (46.6% of the total population).
- ✦ 23,698 people (12.6% of the population) live in areas of higher deprivation.
- ✦ Of these, essentially all (23,696 / 99.9%) live within a one-mile radial catchment of a sports hall.
- ✦ Approximately 98% (189,092) of Herefordshire's population of 193,615 lives within a 20-minutes' drive of a publicly available sports hall with 3+ badminton courts (ONS MYE 2019)

Figure 5.4 highlights how six of the halls (33.3%) are located in and around Hereford, there are also two halls located in Leominster, the Authority's second largest settlement.

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.4: All sports halls with 3+ courts on IMD

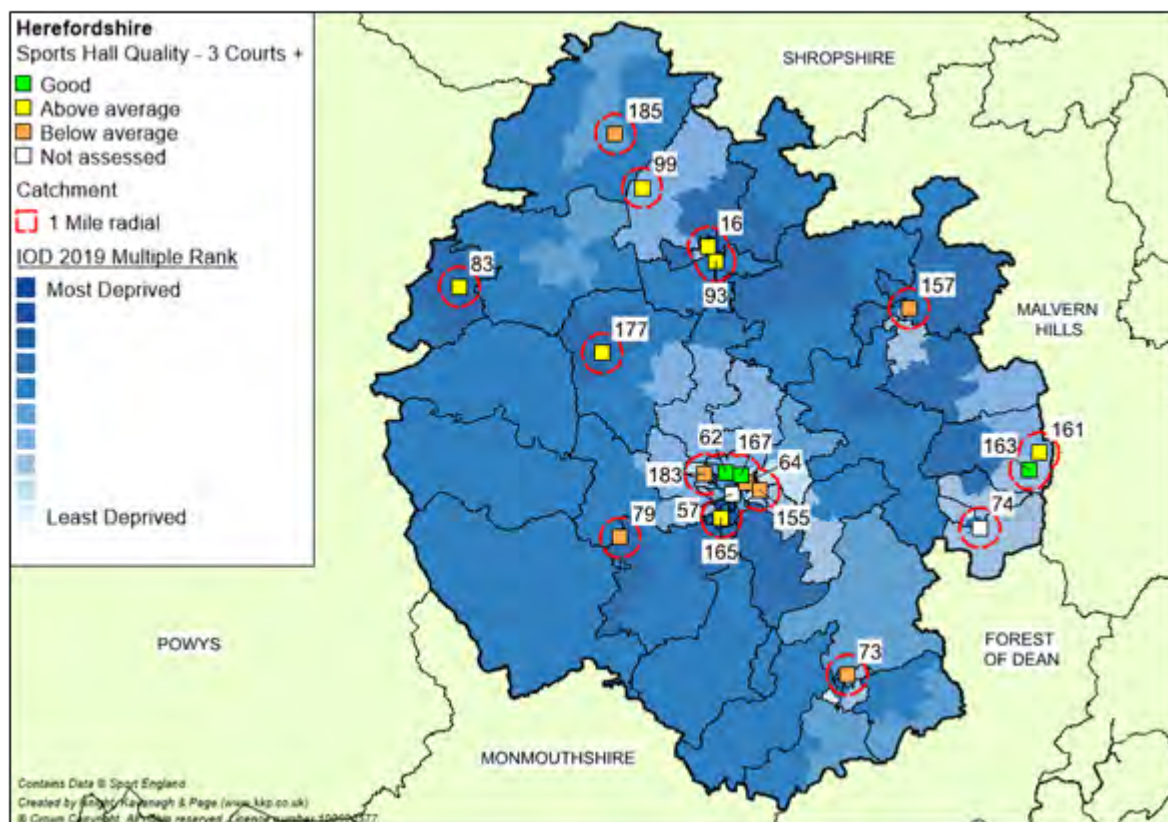


Table 5.6: Accessibility to sports halls with 3+ courts

IMD 10% bands	Herefordshire		Sports halls minimum 3 courts+ excluding private use. Catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	1,605	0.9%	1,605	0.9%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	12,692	6.7%	12,690	6.7%	2	0.0%
20.1 - 30	9,401	5.0%	9,401	5.0%	0	0.0%
30.1 - 40	25,882	13.7%	10,718	5.7%	15,164	8.0%
40.1 - 50	58,143	30.8%	16,073	8.5%	42,070	22.3%
50.1 - 60	23,192	12.3%	10,503	5.6%	12,689	6.7%
60.1 - 70	24,695	13.1%	6,086	3.2%	18,609	9.9%
70.1 - 80	19,857	10.5%	11,069	5.9%	8,788	4.7%
80.1 - 90	6,864	3.6%	5,028	2.7%	1,836	1.0%
90.1 - 100	6,191	3.3%	4,610	2.4%	1,581	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>188,522</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>87,783</b>	<b>46.6%</b>	<b>100,739</b>	<b>53.4%</b>

The rural make up of Herefordshire is highlighted by the fact that just 46.6% of residents live within one-mile walking distance of a sports hall. There are very few 3+court halls located in the rurally sparsely populated west and south of the County.

Whilst nearly all of the population (99.9%) lives within a 20-minute drive of a sports hall, portions of the local population face difficulties in accessing sports hall facilities in these areas (for example older people and/or non-car owning residents).

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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Residents from more deprived localities are statistically less likely to participate in sport than those living in more affluent areas. The reasons for this include, for example, cost and access.

### ***Availability and facility management***

Management and ownership vary across the County, as identified in Table 5.7. The Council owns four facilities which are managed by Halo Leisure Trust. School sports halls tend to be owned and managed by schools themselves. The exceptions are Leominster Leisure Centre and Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre which both operate as dual use sites.

The sports hall at Lucton School and The Elms School, (both private, independent schools) are available to the wider community. Both operate a traditional model whereby facilities are available for hire on midweek evenings and at weekends<sup>13</sup>. Hereford Cathedral School is also an independent private school and is listed on APP as offering community use. It was unable to verify the levels of availability as the School did not respond to consultation requests despite numerous attempts.

John Masefield High School also did not respond to consultation requests and as such levels of community availability at the site are unknown. Although through desk research it is evident that the hall can be booked by community users for activities, such as netball, badminton and trampolining. The hall at The Downs (Malvern College Preparatory School) run under the auspices of the wider Malvern College site. Facilities at Malvern College operate under the 'Malvern Active' brand, which acts as a community arm of the College, offering club block bookings, along with pay and play options for community users when facilities are not being used by the school. The Point 4 is part of the Royal National College for the Blind campus. Its facilities are accessible to community users on weekday evenings and at weekends.

Consultation with St Mary's RC High School indicates that its hall is not let to community users due to its condition. The School has aspirations to open the facilities to the community but considers facility quality to be significant barrier to this.

During the visit to Kingstone Academy it was indicated that its hall was open to the community prior to Pandemic and although there was no community use at the time of the audit, it is expected that it will re-start this later on in 2022.

As mentioned above, Leominster Leisure Centre and Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre are dual use sites, the hall at Leominster is utilised by Earl Mortimer College & Sixth Form Centre and the hall at Lady Hawkins by Lady Hawkins School during weekday daytime hours. The community use function at both sites is managed by Halo Leisure. The hall at Wigmore Leisure Centre is a dual facility with Wigmore School where community use is managed through the school. Community use at all four sites is formally secured via community use agreements (CUA).

Both Hereford Leisure Centre and Bridge Street Sports Centre offer daytime (off peak) availability to community users. Availability during the day and relevant programming can be attractive for residents who wish to use facilities at such times. Evidence suggests that some older people tend to use facilities during daylight hours and as has already been highlighted the number and proportion of older people (aged 65+) is rising (The proportion will rise 40.8% by 2041).

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<sup>13</sup> The hall at The Elms School is not available at weekends due to it being a boarding school, its hall is retained for school use during weekends.

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Table 5.7: Ownership and management of sports hall facilities

Site	Ownership	Management
Bridge Street Sports Centre	Local authority	Trust (Halo)
Hereford Cathedral School	Independent School	In house
Hereford Leisure Centre	Local authority	Trust (Halo)
Hereford Sixth Form College	Further education	In house
John Kyrle Academy	Academy	In house
John Masefield High School	Community School	In house
Kingstone Academy	Academy	In house
Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre	Community school (dual use)	Trust (Halo)
Leominster Leisure Centre	Local authority	Trust (Halo)
Lucton School	Independent School	In house
St Mary's RC High School	Voluntary aided school	In house
The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School	Voluntary aided school	In house
The Bromyard Centre	Local authority	Trust (Halo)
The Elms School	Independent school	In house
The Downs - Malvern College Preparatory School	Independent school	In house
The Hereford Academy	Academy	In house
The Point 4	Higher education	In house
Weobley High School	Community school	In house
Whitecross High School Hereford	Academy	In house
Wigmore Leisure Centre	Academy (dual use)	In house

### Facilities planning model (FPM)

A standard run (2020) FPM report for Herefordshire sports halls has been provided by Sport England to support this assessment. Its headline findings are summarised below:

#### Supply<sup>14</sup>

- ◀ In terms of the of overall supply and demand balance in Herefordshire, the resident population generated demand for a minimum of 52.0 courts compared with a current available supply of 82.0 courts.
- ◀ The average age of all the sport halls is 24 years. The average of the public leisure centre sports halls is 29 years, which is indicated as a concern within the FPM.
- ◀ Sports halls are generally located in where there is the greatest demand.
- ◀ Ten sports halls opened before 2000. Nine of these have been modernised. The unmodernised sports hall is The Bromyard Centre, which opened in 1991.

Table 5.11: Demand findings from the FPM

Element	FPM 2022
Total demand	52.0 courts
Satisfied demand (%)	92.0%
Satisfied demand retained within Herefordshire	87.0%
Satisfied demand exported	12.8%
Levels of unmet demand	8.0%
% of unmet demand due to residents living outside catchment of a hall (as opposed to no capacity).	93.0%
Used capacity	66.0%

<sup>14</sup> The hall at The Elms School was not included within the FPM supply.

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### Demand

- Table 5.11 indicates that 92.0% of demand is satisfied. The level of satisfied demand in Herefordshire is in line with the regional average (92.0%) and the national rate (92.0%).
- FPM modelled findings are that four sites in Herefordshire (Hereford Leisure Centre, John Kyrle Academy, John Masefield High School, and Whitecross Hereford High School) are operating significantly above the 80% used capacity figure. The lowest levels of capacity are at Weobley High School and Wigmore Leisure Centre.
- Although some of the FPM assumptions marry with the KKP audit, it should be borne in mind that several sites had recently re-opened after a significant period of closure due to the Pandemic and are, thus, likely to take a period of time to return to previous usage levels.
- Overall, levels of unmet demand are low across Herefordshire, and would not justify the addition of a new sports hall facility in their own right.

Table 5.8 details used capacity in the peak period<sup>15</sup> for each sports hall. This figure has been estimated using intelligence gathered from the audit and site visits undertaken for this study. It is not possible to gauge spare capacity exactly due to the changing nature of bookings on a week-by-week basis.

Table 5.8: Opening hours and activities in sports halls in Herefordshire

Community use hours Total	Hours available during peak period	Ref	Site	Total courts	Main sports played	Used capacity where known <sup>16</sup>	
<b>None</b>	N/A	143	St Mary's RC High School	4	No current users.	No current users	
<b>1-40</b>	<b>15.0</b>	15.0	177	Weobley High School	4	Badminton, football, Zumba	c.35% used capacity
	<b>15.0</b>	15.0	163	The Elms School	4	Cricket, netball, football.	c.60% used capacity
	<b>16.0</b>	14.0	161	The Downs - Malvern College Prep. School	4	Badminton, cricket, table tennis.	c.50% used capacity
	<b>17.0</b>	17.0	185	Wigmore Leisure Centre	4	Badminton, football.	c.50% used capacity
	<b>20</b>	20.0	73	John Kyrle Academy	4	Badminton, cricket, basketball, football, netball.	c.70% used capacity
	<b>20</b>	20.0	79	Kingstone Academy	4	No current users.	No current users
	<b>20</b>	20.0	155	Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School	3	Badminton	c.50% used capacity mainly at weekends
	<b>22.5</b>	22.5	64	Hereford Sixth Form College	4	Badminton, fitness, classes, basketball, netball, football, table tennis	c.70% used capacity

<sup>15</sup> Sport England guidance states that the weekly peak period comprises- weekdays: 09:00-10:00, 17:00-22:00, weekends: 08:00-16:00. This is a total of 46 hours.

<sup>16</sup> Used capacity is calculated for usage during peak hours and is focused on sites main halls (3+ courts), where smaller activity halls are present, for example Weobley High School, the used capacity of the activity hall has not been calculated and included in the table.

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Community use hours Total	Hours available during peak period	Ref	Site	Total courts	Main sports played	Used capacity where known <sup>16</sup>	
24	24	14.0	99	Lucton School	4	Badminton, cricket, netball, football.	c.40% used capacity
	24	24.0	74	John Masefield High School	4	Unknown.	Unknown.
	25	25.0	57	Hereford Cathedral School	4	Unknown.	Unknown.
	25.5	25.5	83	Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre	4	Badminton, cricket, football, exercise classes.	c.40% used capacity
	38	34.0	165	The Hereford Academy	6	Badminton, cricket, basketball, netball.	c.70% used capacity
40+	44.0	42.5	93	Leominster Leisure Centre	4	Badminton, martial arts, football.	c.50% used capacity mainly at weekends
	46.5	33.5	183	Whitecross High School	4	Badminton, football, dance classes.	c.20% used capacity
	77	39.0	16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	4	Cricket, netball, tennis <sup>17</sup>	c.50% used capacity
	83.5	36.0	167	The Point 4	3	Netball, football, dance. boxing (on occasion)	c.90% used capacity. Spare capacity is mainly on Friday evenings.
	87	44.0	157	The Bromyard Centre	4	Badminton, football	c.60% used capacity
	104	44.0	62	Hereford Leisure Centre	8	Kick boxing, netball badminton, taekwondo, trampolining <sup>18</sup>	c.70% used capacity.

Table 5.8 indicates that mainstream sports are catered for across most sites. Education site availability is limited to peak times (evenings/ weekends), this is also evident at the dual use sites (Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre, and Leominster Leisure Centre). The Point 4 has the highest levels of community user bookings, with only c.10% spare capacity across peak hours.

The eight-court hall at Hereford Leisure Centre is effectively operating as a four-court hall. This is as two courts are permanently allocated for use by Dynamix Trampolining Club<sup>19</sup>, the space is currently set up with five trampolines and a foam pit. Two further courts are allocated as an extension of the site's health and fitness function; the space is utilised flexibly as an exercise class/personal training area. Based upon data provided by Halo the other four courts of the hall are not utilised for mainstream sports, with the exception of pay & play badminton. Taekwondo and kick boxing take place in the hall along with a weekly walking netball session. The data provided suggests that the 4-court section of hall is well utilised (c.30% spare capacity).

<sup>17</sup> Hall is overmarked with tennis court markings and also identifies as an indoor tennis centre, refer to Section 11 for indoor tennis analysis.

<sup>18</sup> Two badminton courts in the hall are permanently allocated/set up with trampolining equipment.

<sup>19</sup> Full detail about club included in Section 9.



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### Used capacity

The non-technical site audits identify the used capacity of each sports hall. Used capacity in the peak period is the percentage of available community use hours used. For example, the 42.5 hours available at Leominster Leisure Centre are used for 50% of the time whereas The Point 4 is available for 36 hours per week during the peak period and is operating at 90% of used capacity. In Table 5.9 below used capacity for each site is listed along with findings from the FPM.

Table 5.9: Used capacity of sports halls

Used capacity	Site	FPM used capacity	KKP audit used capacity
0-20%	Kingstone Academy	66%	unknown <sup>20</sup>
	St Marys RC High School <sup>21</sup>	N/A	N/A
20-40%	Whitecross High School	98%	20%
	Weobley School	24%	35%
40-60%	Lady Hawkins Leisure Centre	64%	40%
	Leominster Leisure Centre	47%	50%
	Lucton School	35%	40%
	The Downs – Malvern College Preparatory School	36%	50%
	The Elms School	N/A <sup>22</sup>	60%
	Wigmore Leisure Centre	26%	50%
	The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School	53%	50%
	Bridge Street Sports Centre	39%	50%
60-80%*	The Bromyard Centre	53%	60%
	The Hereford Academy	73%	70%
	Hereford Sixth Form College	70%	70%
	John Kyrle Academy	100%	70%
	Hereford Leisure Centre	100%	70%
80-100%	The Point 4	59%	90%
Unknown	Hereford Cathedral School	75%	Unknown
	John Masefield High School	100%	Unknown

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

As identified above, access was not obtained to Hereford Cathedral School, and John Masefield High School to ascertain capacity.

Average used capacity is calculated (by the FPM) across sites to be 66%. The FPM considers that an 80% used capacity figure for sports halls to be the limit where the facility starts to become uncomfortably busy. This differs from the findings of the KKP audit which suggests that used capacity ranges between c.50-60%. Intelligence gathered on a halls used capacity by KKP through site visits and consultation presents a live picture, whereas the FPM is a theoretical model which utilises a range of data sets such as population density to ascertain demand and particular sites.

<sup>20</sup> Site not open to community users at time of audit

<sup>21</sup> Site excluded from FPM due to no current community access.

<sup>22</sup> Site not included in FPM analysis

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As such, there are some discrepancies between the FPM and KKP findings, a good example of the variance of the findings is The Point 4 where the FPM lists the site as having a used capacity of 59%, whereas KKP audit and review of the halls programming found it to be operating at 90% used capacity. Of the halls assessed by KKP the FPM states that two are operating at 100% used capacity; John Kyrle Academy, Hereford Leisure Centre, whereas through analysis of the programming for each site KKP ascertained that both sites were operating at 70% used capacity, with some availability on Friday evenings and over the weekend.

### ***Neighbouring facilities***

Accessibility is influenced by facilities located outside the County. There are 12 sports halls within two miles (indicative of how far people may travel) of Herefordshire's boundary. They offer 53 courts and are predominantly located to the east of the County, in neighbouring English local authority areas. It is unknown whether facilities are located to the West within two miles of the boundary in the Welsh counties of Powys and Monmouthshire. Access to Sport Wales's Datahub was not available at the time of the audit.

Of the neighbouring facilities, seven are in are in Malvern Hills, three in Shropshire, and two in the Forest of Dean. Access types vary and are detailed in Table 5.10. Nine sites require access via a sports club or community organisation, two are available on a pay and play basis, and one requires membership to access. All sports halls identified have a minimum of three badminton courts.

### *Future developments*

No known new sports hall developments were identified as part of the audit.

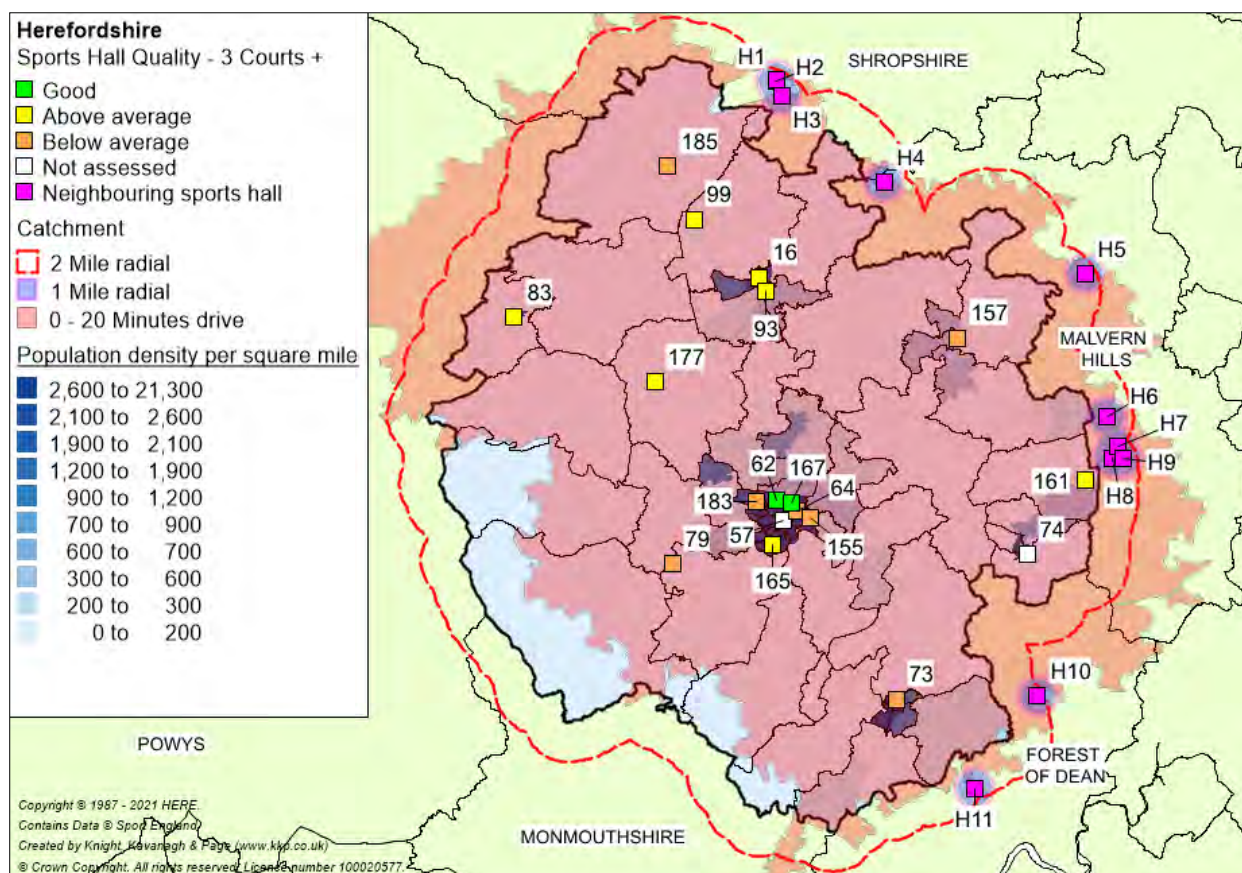
*Table 5.10: Neighbouring 3+ court sports halls (excluding private use)*

<b>ID</b>	<b>Site name</b>	<b>Courts</b>	<b>Access type</b>	<b>Local authority</b>
H1	Teme Ludlow	6	Reg. membership	Shropshire
H2	Ludlow C of E School	3	Sports Club / CA	Shropshire
H3	Ludlow College	3	Sports Club / CA	Shropshire
H4	Tenbury High Ormiston	4	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
H5	Sport Martley Leisure Centre	4	Pay & play	Malvern Hills
H6	Sport Dyson Perrins LC	4	Pay & play	Malvern Hills
H7	Malvern St James Girls School	3	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
H7	Malvern St James Girls School	6	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
H8	Malvern College Sports Complex	8	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
H9	The Chase School	4	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
H10	Forest Leisure Newent	4	Pay and Play	Forest of Dean
H11	Dene Magna School	4	Sports Club / CA	Forest of Dean

*NB: Sports Club / CA = Sports Club / Community Association use*

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Figure 5.5 Sports halls with 3+ courts within 2 miles of Herefordshire



## 5.2: Demand

### **NGB consultation**

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

### **Badminton England (BE)**

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

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

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The Badminton Facilities Strategy Model 2020-2030 Herefordshire overview is as follows:

### *Badminton participation statistics*

- 3.17% of adults (63.80%; male and 36.20%; female) have played badminton at least twice in the last 28 days<sup>23</sup>. This equates to **5,000 regular adult players**.
- 6.00%<sup>24</sup> of juniors<sup>23</sup> have played badminton at least twice in the last 28 days. This equates to **585 regular junior players**.
- It is estimated that 9.73% of adults have played badminton at least once in the last 12 months. This equates to **10,300 occasional adult players**<sup>25</sup> (6.54% latent demand).

### *Demand*

- The presumption is that **regular adult players** play once per week for one hour and that their average need is for 3 adults per court. This equates to a weekly requirement for **1,667 court hours** (current demand).
- The presumption is that **regular junior players** play once per week for 45 minutes and that their average need is for 4 players per court. This equates to a weekly requirement for **111 court hours** (current demand).
- The presumption is that **occasional adult players** play four times per annum for one hour and that their average need is for 3 adults per court. This requires **265 court hours** (latent demand).
- To service all badminton demand there is a need for **2,043 court hours** per week.
- Projected increase in regular demand in 2030 is **131 court hours**.

### *Supply*

- There are 20 (3+court) sports halls containing 87 courts in County of Herefordshire.
- Two hall(s) are for private use only; thus 79 courts are available for badminton.
- The total number of court hours per week (3+ court sports halls) available in County of Herefordshire during stated peak time is **2,303**<sup>26</sup>
- 89.87%<sup>27</sup> of badminton courts in County of Herefordshire meet the Badminton England quality threshold (above average/good) which equates to **2,051 court hours**<sup>28</sup>.
- There is a need for **99.61%** of the **2,051** good quality peak time court hours, available each week, to service current and latent badminton demand.
- Additional court hours required per week in 2030 are **131**.

### *Strategic overview*

There are high levels of regular badminton participation (with nearly two thirds being male). Nine affiliated clubs with c.155 members suggests a relatively strong badminton infrastructure. Nearly 90% of courts meet BE quality threshold. Quite high level of growth expected. There is no spare capacity for growth.

<sup>23</sup> ALS states that people that have participated at least twice in the last 28 days. For modelling purposes, it is assumed that they participate every week

<sup>24</sup> ALS states that 6.0% of juniors nationally (14-15 year olds) have played at least twice in the last 28 days. For modelling purposes this has been extended to include 11-13 year olds.

<sup>25</sup> Occasional players equates to all players minus regular players

<sup>26</sup> Peak time hours are defined as; Monday – Friday 17:00-22:00, Saturday 09:30-17:00, Sunday 09:00-14:30 & 17:00-19:30

<sup>27</sup> National figure: 75.0%

<sup>28</sup> Assumes that all courts of all standards available during all peak hours.

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BE has six affiliated clubs in Herefordshire with a collective total of c.122 members, in addition the audit identified four unaffiliated clubs;

- ◀ Broadlands BC
- ◀ Herefordshire Badminton Academy
- ◀ Hereford BC
- ◀ Leominster BC (unaffiliated)
- ◀ Ledbury BC (unaffiliated)
- ◀ Lucton Social BC (unaffiliated)
- ◀ Ross BC
- ◀ Tupsley BC
- ◀ Weobley Junior BC (unaffiliated)
- ◀ Wigmore BC (unaffiliated)
- ◀ Wye BC

#### *Club consultation*

All clubs were approached for consultation; responses were received from Ross BC, Leominster BC, and Ledbury BC. In addition, Herefordshire Badminton Association was engaged in the consultation. No response was received from; Broadlands BC, Herefordshire Badminton Academy, Hereford Badminton Club, Lucton Social BC, Tupsley BC, Weobley Junior BC, Wigmore BC, and Wye BC despite numerous requests. A summary of the club consultation is as follows:

*Ledbury Badminton Club* has c.25 members (split approximately 50/50 male/female). It is primarily socially focused and does not enter any BE accredited leagues. It uses the sports hall at John Masefield High School, booking court time every Monday evening (18:30-21:30). The Club reports having no issues with the facilities at John Masefield and that its Monday evening sessions work well for its members.

*Ross BC* currently has c.20 members. This is a reduction on pre-Pandemic levels, when it had c.30. It uses John Kyrle High School on Mondays and Fridays (19:30-21:30) and is generally content with the facility offering. One issue indicated is that it loses access to the sports hall during school exams and has no back up venue during these periods. It enters competitive teams in both the Herefordshire and Gloucester badminton leagues.

*Leominster BC* currently has c.20 members, it has also seen a reduction of c.10 members since prior to the start of Pandemic. It uses the sports hall at Leominster Leisure Centre every Thursday (19:00-21:00) and reports having no issues with the facility.

*Wye BC* currently has c.27 members and has also seen a reduction in membership since the Pandemic. It books court time at Hereford Academy on Wednesday evenings (20:00-22:00).

*Herefordshire Badminton Association* organises leagues across the County. For the 2021-2022 season it ran five leagues with a total of 18 teams from five clubs. The leagues cover men's, women's and mixed doubles provision. Its representative reports that it has seen a significant reduction in players - attributed to the Pandemic and that, while there are signs of improvement it is a slow recovery. Further, it was indicated that some players are lost to play and play badminton due to it being more flexible than structured club activity.

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### ***Netball***

The England Netball (EN) strategy, *Your Game, Your Way*, aims to establish it as a top performing, financially sustainable NGB that promotes 'Netball for Life' and develops more world class athletes. The four key stated priorities are:

- ◀ Grow participation in the game by an average of 10,000 participants per annum.
- ◀ Deliver a 1st class member and participant experience.
- ◀ Establish England as the number one team in the World
- ◀ Lead an effective and progressive infrastructure enabling all involved in the netball experience to collaborate as one team aligned behind one dream.

EN reports that the sport is growing fast nationally with a recent YouGov<sup>29</sup> report it commissioned reporting that the 2019 World Cup inspired 160,000 adult women to take up the sport. In addition, 71% of clubs reported more people had shown an interest in playing netball than before the tournament started.

Netball is played both indoors and outdoors. For outdoor provision please refer to the 2022 Herefordshire PPOSS. Consultation with EN highlighted that Bridge Street Sports Centre and The Point 4 are key venues for the sport in Herefordshire. Current indoor provision in the Herefordshire area is as follows:

- ◀ *Back 2 Netball*- sessions are designed to re-introduce players to the sport. Sessions are run by coaches. There are currently weekly sessions held at The Point 4 and The Bromyard Centre.
- ◀ *Walking Netball* (netball played at a walking pace). This is designed so that anyone can play it regardless of age or fitness level. It was indicated during consultation that weekly walking netball sessions are held at; Bridge Street Sports Centre, Hereford Leisure Centre and John Kyrle Academy.
- ◀ *Hereford Netball League* – is EN affiliated and runs summer and winter indoor leagues. Consultation reports that for the 2021/2022 winter season it had a total of 21 teams across three divisions. Weekly fixtures are split evenly between Bridge Street Sports complex and The Point 4. During winter, it holds fixtures at both sites on Tuesday evenings from September through to March. It then runs a shorter summer season at the same venues on Tuesday evenings from late April through to mid-July. The League contact reported that if it were to grow it would seek additional court space at The Point 4 which may present some issues as the site is operating close to capacity.
- ◀ *Westside Netball Club* has c.30 members. It comprises one senior team and three junior teams. Its senior team play in the Midlands Regional League. It trains weekly at Whitecross High School (Thursdays 18:30-20:30).
- ◀ *Herefordshire Netball Academy* has c.60 members and is focused on developing junior netball players. Regular weekly sessions are held at The Point 4 (Mondays 18:00-20:00).
- ◀ *Play Netball (Hereford)* is a commercial netball league provider which operates over 80 leagues at venues across England and Wales. It organises weekly winter and summer leagues (outdoor), at Hereford Sixth Form College. It does not run any indoor leagues in Herefordshire.

Sapphires NC, Honeybees NC, Rubies Netball Club, AND Unicorns NC were all approached for consultation, however, no responses were received despite numerous requests.

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<sup>29</sup> <https://www.uksport.gov.uk/news/2019/10/02/netball-world-cup>

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### ***Basketball (BBE)***

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

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

To increase the opportunities to play the game at every level, BBE has produced a facilities strategy which aims to create community hubs including, where appropriate, arenas that sit at the heart of communities and are homes for the leading British Basketball League (BBL), Women's British Basketball League (WBBL) and community clubs.

The stated intent is that as part of its facilities strategy implementation, BBE will regularly monitor provision in schools, colleges, universities, clubs and at local authority sites and identify any gaps, looking to improve connections between these organisations to increase the availability and affordability of facilities of the right quality. It reports three affiliated clubs in the County; Hereford Roar, Hereford Hornets and Leadonites.

All three clubs were approached for consultation; however, no response was received despite numerous requests.

### ***Indoor cricket***

Herefordshire Cricket Board (HCB) is the main NGB for cricket across Herefordshire. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children in the County. HCB organises the Herefordshire Indoor Cricket League which is held during winter months at Bridge Street Sports Centre. For the 2021/2022 season the league included seven teams from the following clubs:

- ◀ Builth Wells CC
- ◀ Goodrich CC
- ◀ Canon Frome CC
- ◀ Dales CC
- ◀ Ludlow CC
- ◀ Tenbury Wells CC
- ◀ Kington CC

Indoor cricket is most often played between two teams of six or eight players. It can take place in any suitably sized multi-purpose sports hall offering amateur and professional cricketers an option to play the game during winter months. Through consultation with HCB it was highlighted that the majority of clubs in the County use indoor nets (in sports halls) for senior and junior practice sessions from January through to mid April. HCB provided a summary of indoor activity:

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Table 5.12: Summary of indoor cricket training activity.

Organisation/club	Sports hall(s) used
HCB	Bridge Street Sports Centre, Lucton School, Hereford Academy
Bartestree & Lugwardine CC	Hereford Sixth Form College
Bosbury CC	The Downs – Malvern College Preparatory School
Bromyard CC	Bridge Street Sports Centre
Brockhampton CC	Hereford Cathedral School
Burghill CC	Weobley High School
Canon Frome CC	Hereford Sixth Form College
Colwall CC	The Downs – Malvern College Preparatory School.
Eastnor CC	The Elms School
Dales CC	Lucton School
Goodrich CC	John Kyrle Academy
Fownhope Strollers CC	The Hereford Academy
Kington CC	Lady Hawkins Leisure Centre, Bridge Street Leisure Centre
Ledbury CC	The Elms School, The Downs – Malvern College Preparatory School (Malvern)
Luctonians CC	Lucton School
Ross on Wye CC	John Kyrle Academy
Wormelow CC	Kingstone Academy

HCB also report that it runs activity in sports halls during the winter months, which consist of, Coach Education courses, elite player programmes, junior academy, and county age group coaching.

*Ledbury Cricket Club* is a predominantly outdoor cricket club with c.50 junior members and 30 seniors. It fields two adult Saturday teams and teams from U8's all the way up to U15's. It uses the indoor nets at the The Downs - Malvern Preparatory School for three hours a week for six weeks in the winter/ spring (February to March). This has three cricket nets. It claims this site to be the best local indoor facility around them. It has previously attempted to book the indoor nets at John Masefield High School but has found the site to be fully booked.

It also runs a casual indoor cricket team which uses Lucton School for its activity. This is c.24 miles away from their location which does cause some issues for players getting to and from this provision. The Club noted that if a venue closer to them was available they would have two indoor teams competing. There are also no changing facilities available for these members and consequently they have to come dressed ready for the activity. There was at one point an indoor league at Bromyard but this has folded.

*Kington Cricket Club* utilises Indoor sports hall facilities at Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre and Bridge Street Sports Centre for junior and adult cricket training between mid-February and late April when the outdoor season commences. It is operating with c.30 junior members plus c.15 senior members. Both facilities are adequate for their needs, especially Bridge Street Sports Centre which accommodates the Herefordshire Indoor Cricket League.

It was highlighted during consultation with Lucton School that it hosts an informal indoor cricket league which takes place in the sports hall on Sundays throughout the winter. This is attended by community teams from across the local area.

### *Volleyball*

The audit did not pick up any volleyball activity in Herefordshire. Desk research indicates that Hereford Volleyball Club folded in 2019. Further, Volleyball England was unresponsive to consultation requests.



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### **Summary of current demand**

There are currently moderate levels of demand for sports hall space from a number of clubs operating in and across Herefordshire. The audit indicates that badminton, netball, and indoor cricket are popular in the area. BE reports that over three quarters of facilities in Herefordshire meet its quality threshold; this is above the national average. Club membership numbers for badminton have seen a reduction across the County due to the Pandemic, however, it is expected this will continue to rebuild as time progresses through 2022.

Herefordshire Netball League has a strong presence. Winter and summer leagues are both located indoors utilising two venues. It does not report current need for more court time, but provision at Bridge Street Sports Centre and The Point 4 is integral for sustaining the League. Facilities are reported to be operating at comfortable levels, this is especially prevalent at leisure centre sites.

There are two daytime community use options – Bridge Street Sports Centre and Hereford Leisure Centre. Badminton and netball both identify scope for growth.

### **5.3: Future demand and Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC)**

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

- ✦ Facility location compared to demand.
- ✦ Capacity and availability of facilities – opening hours.
- ✦ Cross boundary movement of demand.
- ✦ Travel networks and topography.
- ✦ Attractiveness of facilities.

*Table 5.13: Sport England: Sports Facilities Calculator*

	Population 2021: (ONS)	Population estimate: 2041 (ONS)
ONS population projections	196,649	218,203
Population increase	-	21,554
Facilities to meet additional demand	-	+5.89 courts or 1.48 sports halls
Estimated cost	-	£3,548,012

Calculations assume that the current sports hall stock remains available for community use and the quality remains the same. It appears that the projected increase in population will lead to an increase in demand for sports hall space. The SFC indicates a requirement for an additional 5.89 (badminton) courts, up to 2041 (estimated cost: £3,548,012).

Despite this increase demand it is expected that the current sports hall stock will be in a position to accommodate the increase, especially when considering the significant levels of spare capacity across the County. There is potential to explore the opening of the hall at St Marys RC High School to community users as the school has aspirations to open if the facility can be improved. In addition, there is potential to explore the number of community use hours available at educational sites, for example Wigmore Leisure Centre (currently no access at weekends). Furthermore, Kingstone Academy is expected to reopen to community users later in 2022.

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There is a need to improve quality at the sites identified as below average quality (Hereford Sixth Form College, John Kyrle Academy, Kingstone Academy, St Mary's High School, The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School, The Bromyard Centre, Whitecross High School Hereford, Wigmore Leisure Centre). Options and scope for improvement is covered in more detail in the Strategy. There may also be a need for daytime use as the number/proportion of older people in the local population increases, however, it is recognised that this is may be challenging at education sites.

### 5.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Sports halls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	Herefordshire has 47 sports halls (96 courts). There are 20 with 3+ courts across 19 sites (a total of 84 badminton courts).	Population growth estimates may create additional demand for up 5.89 courts. There is available capacity at existing facilities to accommodate this increase.
<b>Quality</b>	Herefordshire has three good, seven above average, and eight below average quality halls. Two sites were unassessed.	Maintain/improve quality of above average sites. Issues at below average sites include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Line markings at Wigmore Leisure Centre need to be renewed.</li> <li>▪ Bridge Street Sports Centre needs LED lighting.</li> <li>▪ The sports hall floor (or sections of) at St Marys RC requires replacement.</li> <li>▪ Hereford Sixth Form college, Kingstone Academy, and Lucton School all report issues with damp .</li> <li>▪ The floor at John Kyrle academy will need to be replaced in the medium term.</li> </ul>
<b>Accessibility</b>	Approx. 98% of Herefordshire residents live within 20 minutes' drive of a sports hall. 46% lives within 20 minutes' walk of a sports hall. All residents living in areas of higher deprivation live within one mile of a sports hall. Twelve 3+ court halls are located within two miles of the Herefordshire County border.	Main population settlements are all serviced by sports hall facilities. Rural accessibility is limited for residents without access to a car. Although, in more rural locations Village Halls are likely to provide a more locally accessible facility for residents.
<b>Availability (Management and usage)</b>	18 sports halls offer some form of community availability. Kingstone Academy is expected to re-open to the community later in 2022. Most halls have some spare capacity and operate below the Sport England comfortably full benchmark. One hall is operating at or very close to capacity. FPM lists average used capacity of halls as 66%; KKPs audit identified that halls were	Continued good relationships between schools and clubs are required to ensure continued / increased use of sites. This is of high importance and there will be a need to support the process of re-opening schools to the community following lock-down. Further investigation is required to gain community access to St Marys RC High School, where facility quality is the key barrier to community use. Improve availability for club activities and secure community use agreements with educational sites, where not currently in place.

## COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Facility type	Sports halls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
	<p>on average operating at c.50-60% used capacity.</p> <p>Levels of community use at John Masefield High School and Hereford Cathedral School are unknown.</p>	<p>Investigate programming at Hereford Leisure Centre which is significantly underutilised.</p>
<b>Summary</b>	<p>Each facility is important to the communities served and should be protected. There are 20 (3-court plus) halls in the County. Of the 18 assessed, three are good quality, seven above average and eight are below average quality. Main population centres are well served by facilities. 18 of the 20 halls offer some form of community accessibility. Below are recommendations from the findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve the quality of the below average sport halls, this will be explored further in the Strategy.</li> <li>▪ Maintain good relationships with schools, to retain levels of community use and support Covid-19 recovery.</li> <li>▪ Consider whether and how community use can be extended at school sites enabling existing sport and physical activity participation to grow.</li> <li>▪ Projected increases in population can be accommodated during peak hours available in sports halls across Herefordshire. Developer contributions could thus, be directed at improving the sports hall quality – possibly as part of a trade-off which enables more community hours.</li> </ul>	

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

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### SECTION 6: SWIMMING POOLS

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

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

Swim England is the recognised NGB for swimming, platform and springboard diving, and water polo. Its most recent strategy, *Towards a Nation Swimming: a Strategic Plan for Swimming in England 2017-21*, has the stated aim to create a happier, healthier and more successful nation through swimming. Several strategic objectives are set - to:

- ◀ Provide strong leadership and be the recognised authority for swimming.
- ◀ Substantially increase the number of people able to swim.
- ◀ Significantly grow the number and diversity of people enjoying and benefitting from regular swimming.
- ◀ Create a world leading talent system for all disciplines.
- ◀ Deliver a high quality, diverse and motivated workforce within swimming.
- ◀ Strengthening organisational sustainability for future generations.

The 2019 State of the UK Swimming Industry Report reveals that the UK swimming industry has not changed significantly in the previous 12 months although 26 swimming pool sites have opened and 27 have closed. Nuffield and GLL remain the UK’s leading private and public operators (by number of sites with a pool). GLL operates 146 swimming centres, while Nuffield has 111 clubs with a pool. The 2019 report shows that 84% of the UK population live within two miles of one of the 3,170 swimming pool sites. As mentioned previously the Covid-19 Pandemic has had a big nationwide impact on swimming pool provision, with many sites being closed due to social distancing restrictions for a significant portion of 2020.

#### 6.1: Supply

This assessment is mostly concerned with larger pools available for community use (no restrictions to accessing the pool as a result of membership criteria). As such, those less than 160m<sup>2</sup> (e.g., 20m x 4 lanes) water space and/or located at private member clubs are deemed to offer limited value in relation to community use and delivery of outcomes related to health and deprivation. It is recognised that smaller pools can accommodate learning/teaching sessions but they are, for modelling/needs assessment purposes, deemed unable to offer a full swim programme and, thus, eliminated from the supply evaluation, when considering accessibility and availability later in this section.

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## Quantity

The audit identifies 16 swimming pools at 12 sites. This includes all pools irrespective of size and access. There are seven learner/teaching pools in the County. These assist with programming (and income generation) at the public leisure centre sites in particular. Swimming facilities are well distributed well across the County. The market towns of Leominster, Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye and the city of Hereford are all served by public leisure centre pools. This suggests pool provision is well located across all main population centres.

Facility provision is mainly focused on learn to swim/lane swimming, although there is significant club demand in Herefordshire. Hereford Leisure Pool has a total of four pools, one of which includes a flume and other water-based play options.

Figure 6.1: All swimming pools in Herefordshire

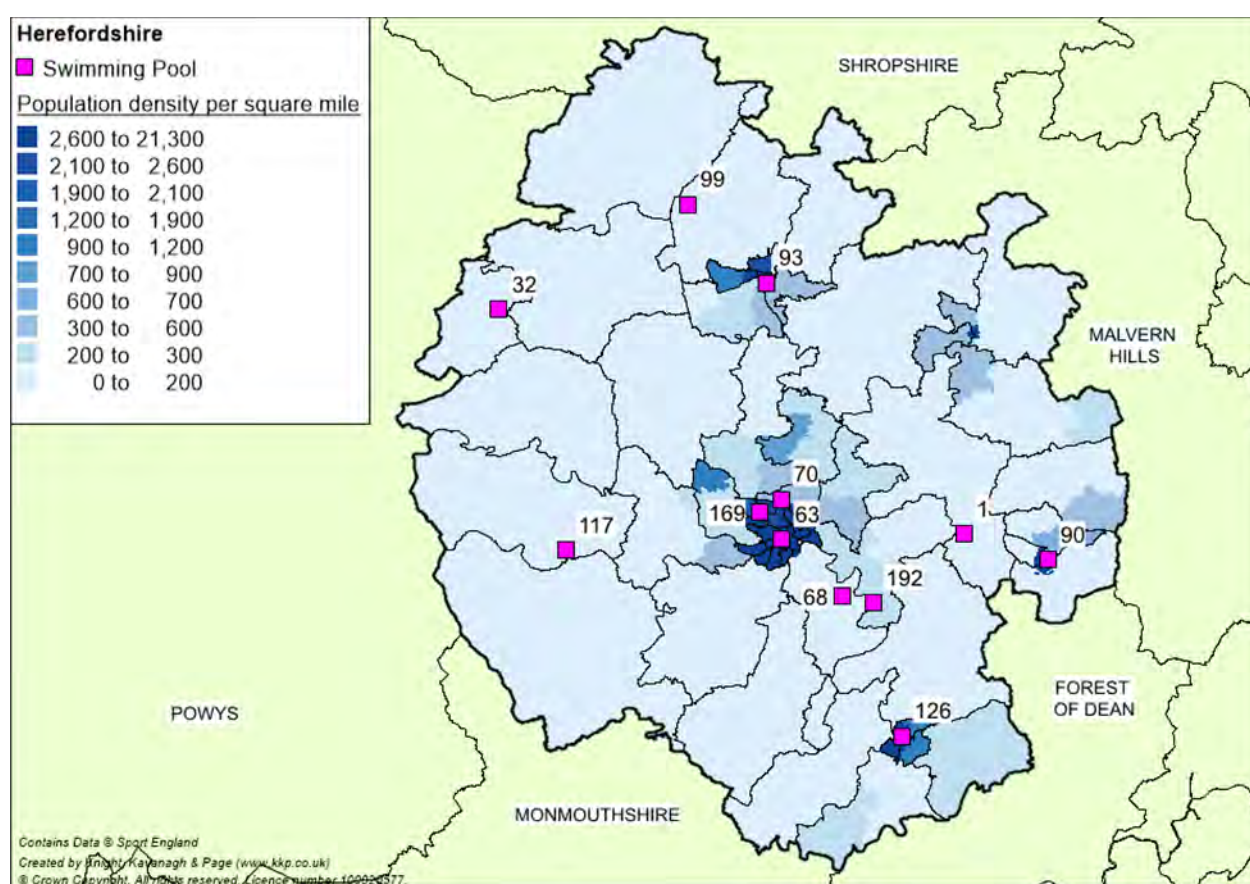


Table 6.1: All swimming pools in Herefordshire

ID	Site	Facility type	Lanes	Length (m)	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
1	Alexander Park Resort	Learner/teaching	0	12	72
32	Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club	Learner/teaching	0	14	168
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	Main/general	6	25	300
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	Leisure pool	0	27	275
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	Learner/training	0	12	96
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	Learner/training	0	12	132
68	Holme Lacy House Hotel Leisure Club	Main/general	0	18	162
70	Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	Main/general	0	20	320

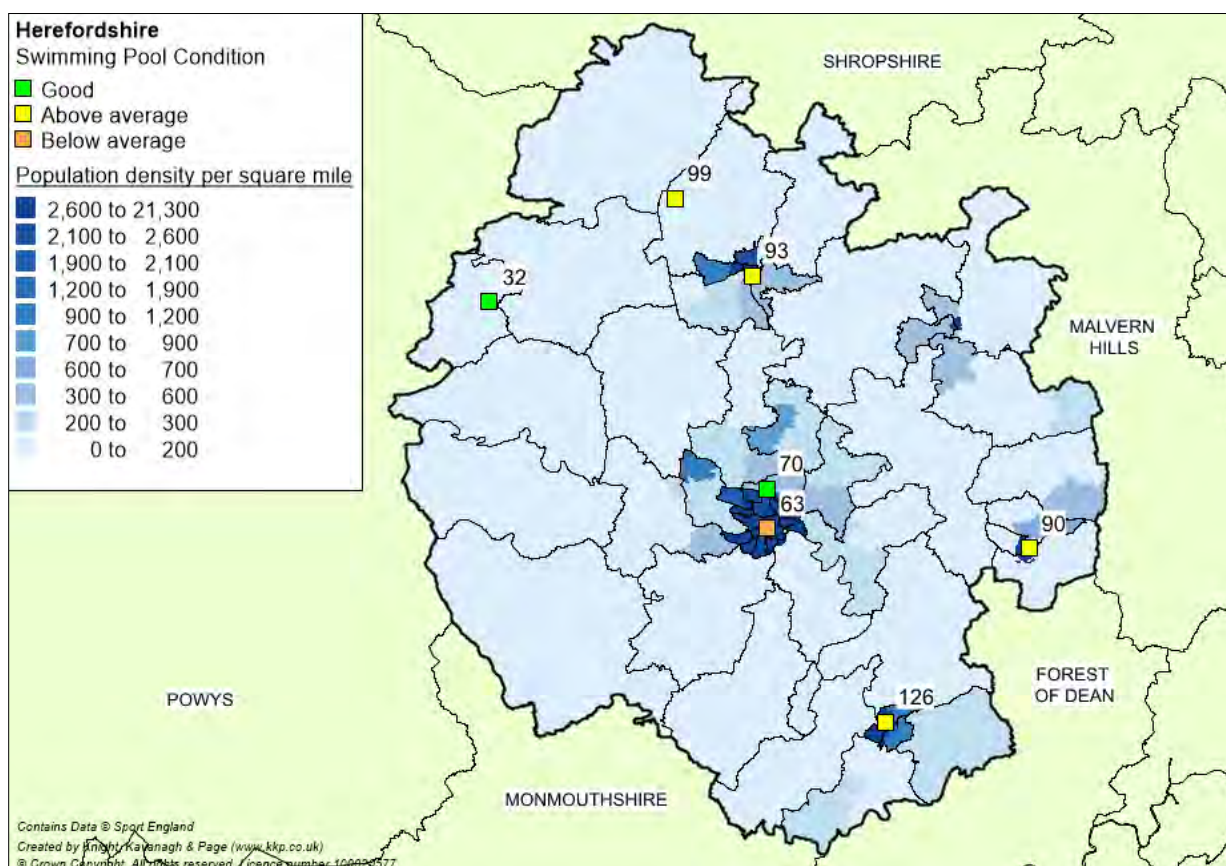
# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

ID	Site	Facility type	Lanes	Length (m)	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
90	Ledbury Swimming Pool	Main/general	5	25	250
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	Main/general	6	25	313
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	Learner/training	0	10	50
99	Lucton School	Main/general	4	22	220
117	Peterchurch Primary School	Learner/teaching	0	10	50
126	Ross Swimming Pool	Main/general	4	25	250
169	Trinity Primary School	Learner/teaching	2	12	84
192	Wye Leisure	Main/general	0	18	144

## Quality

Of the eight total pools (minimum 160m<sup>2</sup>) in Herefordshire, two are rated good quality, four above average, and two below average quality. KKP visited all main pools (minimum 160m<sup>2</sup>) and completed non-technical visual assessments. These also encompass assessment of changing provision as this can play a significant role in influencing and attracting users. Quality is assessed as described in Table 6.2. One 160m<sup>2</sup>+ pool (located at Holme Lacy House Hotel Leisure Club) is excluded from the analysis due to the low levels of community access available. This is only available for residents of the hotel and consultation with the site manager indicated no future plans to open the pool to community users.

Figure 6.2: Quality of audited swimming pools in Herefordshire (excluding private use)



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Table 6.2: Quality of 160m<sup>2</sup>+ swimming pools in Herefordshire

ID	Site	Lanes x length (m)	Condition	
			Pool	Changing
32	Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club	0 x 14m	Good	Good
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	6 x 25m	Below average	Above average
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	0 x 27m	Below average	Above average
70	Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	0 x 20m	Good	Good
90	Ledbury Swimming Pool	5 x 25m	Above average	Above average
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	6 x 25m	Above average	Below average
99	Lucton School	4 x 22m	Above average	Below average
126	Ross Swimming Pool	4 x 25m	Above average	Above average

Cloud Nine Health & Fitness is the smallest (minimum 160m<sup>2</sup>) pool with an area of 168m<sup>2</sup>, it is 14m in length and 12m in width. The largest is Holmer Park Spa & Health Club which is 20m in length and 16m in width.

The main pool at Leominster Leisure Centre is the largest pay and play accessible pool in the County, comprising a 25m x 13m main tank. Hereford Leisure Pool is the largest swimming pool site (when factoring in all four of its pools) with a combined 803m<sup>2</sup>, of water space.

Both pools at Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club, and Holmer Park Spa & Health Club are considered to be in good condition. Ledbury Swimming Pool, Leominster Leisure Centre, Lucton School, and Ross Swimming Pool are all rated above average, whilst Hereford Leisure Pool is below average quality. Changing provision matches pool condition at all sites, with the exception of Hereford Leisure Pool where changing provision is rated as above average quality.

Table 6.3: Age of swimming pools and refurbishment dates (where applicable)

Site	Year built	Refurbishment	Age (years) since refurbishment
Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club	2006	-	16
Hereford Leisure Pool	1976	2011	11
Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	2006	-	16
Ledbury Swimming Pool	1976	2016	6
Leominster Leisure Centre	2006	-	16
Lucton School	1950	2007	17
Ross Swimming Pool	1973	2016	6

Lucton School is the oldest pool in the County (opened 1950). The newest are located at Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club, Holmer Park Spa & Health Club, and Leominster Leisure Centre (all opened in 2006).

The changing rooms at Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club were refurbished in 2021, in addition a sauna facility was added to the overall leisure offer in 2019.

Changing facilities at Hereford Leisure Pool have had some refurbishment in the last five years. Its exterior was upgraded in 2016, when the lobby area was fully refurbished and a health & fitness suite added. The pools were not refurbished as part of these works. The site is close to the River Wye and was flooded in February 2020 - which forced a closure for 15 months. The pools area required a deep clean in order to reopen.

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Consultation with the site manager suggests that the roof of the pool area is prone to leaking during heavy rain. The 2016 upgrade provides a positive customer experience in terms of overall building quality however, its condition and age is an emerging long term issue. Furthermore, it was indicated by Halo Leisuri that the pools pump has been fully upgraded in recent years.

Similar to Hereford Leisure Pool, the reception areas, health and fitness suites and changing provision at Ross and Ledbury swimming pools' were refurbished in 2016. In addition, sauna/steam room facilities were added. The pools were not refurbished as part of the works, although both had remedial work over the last decade. The roof of Ledbury Pool was refurbished as part of the same works. The age of both these pools will be an issue in the longer term.

In consultation with Lucton School it was indicated that the school is exploring options to replace the pool liner. It is presently costing options and considering tiling the pool as an alternative to the liner.

### **Availability of swimming pools**

Swimming pool availability differs dependent upon ownership and/or management. Facilities audited all offer some form of public access. The access policy for each site is detailed below.

*Table 6.4: Access policy of swimming pools*

Site	Access policy
Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club	Registered membership
Hereford Leisure Pool	Pay & play
Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	Registered membership
Ledbury Swimming Pool	Pay & play
Leominster Leisure Centre	Pay & play
Lucton School	Sports club/CA
Ross Swimming Pool	Pay & play

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

The four sites listed below are owned by the Council and operated by Halo:

- ◀ Hereford Leisure Pool
- ◀ Ledbury Swimming Pool
- ◀ Leominster Leisure Centre
- ◀ Ross Swimming Pool

All four operate on the basis of a pay and play access. Pools at Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club and Holmer Park Spa & Health Club both fit a traditional model of commercial management; users must purchase annual/monthly memberships to access facilities. Cloud Nine does offer ad hoc 'family swim' pay and play but as this does not fit the traditional model for pay and display (access for all) it is still defined as primarily accessible via the registered membership format. While acknowledging that commercially managed facilities can cater for specific market segments, they are not available to all sections of the community and may not necessarily be affordable to all households.

Lucton School's pool is available to hire by community groups at evenings and weekends. Demand composition is detailed below.



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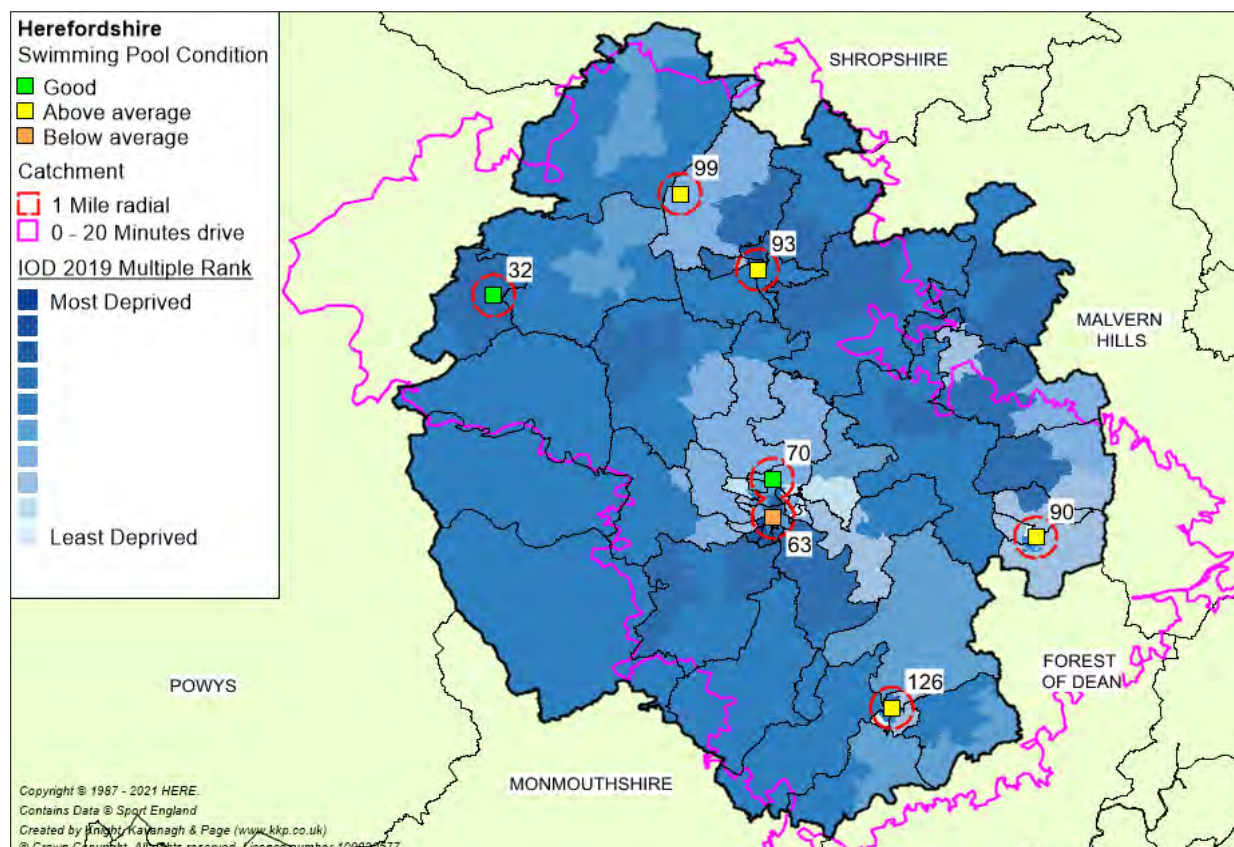
## Accessibility

Swimming pool accessibility is influenced by physical (i.e., built environment). Appropriate walk and drive-time catchments are applied to determine accessibility to communities. The normal acceptable standard is 20-minutes' walk time (1-mile radial catchment) for an urban area and a 20-minutes' drive time for a rural area. This enables analysis of the adequacy of coverage and helps identify areas currently not serviced by existing provision. Figure 6.3 and Table 6.5 illustrate the walk-time based accessibility of all swimming pools in Herefordshire.

Catchment analysis indicates that 32.7% of the population lives within one mile of a swimming pool. Of the 23,698 people living in areas of higher deprivation in Herefordshire (i.e., those living in 30% most deprived areas nationally), 16,346 (68.9%) live within one mile of a swimming pool. This would suggest that swimming pools are well located to attract users from areas of higher deprivation, assuming that other barriers to access can be overcome.

The data shows that over 90% of Herefordshire's population lives within a 20-minute drive time of a swimming pool (2019 ONS MYE). Pools are, thus, well located when considering the rural make up of the County. The south west corner of Herefordshire falls outside the 20-minute drive catchment, however this area is sparsely populated. Furthermore, residents in the north east of the County currently not within the drive time catchment area of a pool can potentially access pools in neighbouring authorities such as Malvern Hills and Shropshire.

Figure 6.3: Accessibility of swimming pools in Herefordshire



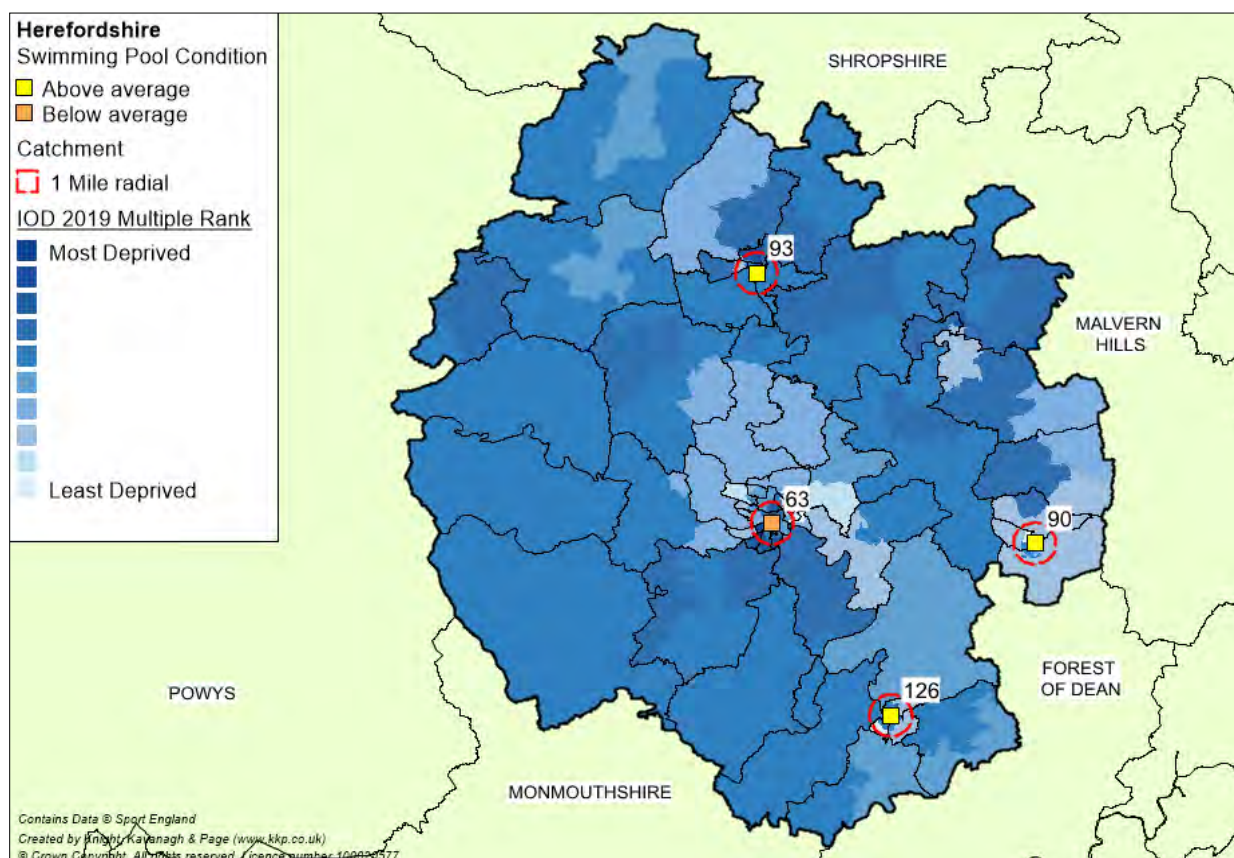
# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Table 6.5: Accessibility of swimming pools in Herefordshire

IMD 10% bands	Herefordshire		Swimming pools, 160m <sup>2</sup> Catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	1,605	0.9%	1,303	0.7%	302	0.2%
10.1 - 20	12,692	6.7%	10,433	5.5%	2,259	1.2%
20.1 - 30	9,401	5.0%	4,610	2.4%	4,791	2.5%
30.1 - 40	25,882	13.7%	7,969	4.2%	17,913	9.5%
40.1 - 50	58,143	30.8%	17,313	9.2%	40,830	21.7%
50.1 - 60	23,192	12.3%	7,068	3.7%	16,124	8.6%
60.1 - 70	24,695	13.1%	4,456	2.4%	20,239	10.7%
70.1 - 80	19,857	10.5%	4,470	2.4%	15,387	8.2%
80.1 - 90	6,864	3.6%	638	0.3%	6,226	3.3%
90.1 - 100	6,191	3.3%	3,424	1.8%	2,767	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>188,522</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>61,684</b>	<b>32.7%</b>	<b>126,838</b>	<b>67.3%</b>

Pools at Cloud Nine, Holmer Park and Lucton School offer limited public access. Hereford, Leisure Pool, Ledbury Swimming Pool, Leominster Leisure Centre and Ross Swimming Pool are, thus, the four swimming facilities which offer 100% pay and play access.

Figure 6.4: Pay and play pools quality on IMD 1-mile catchment



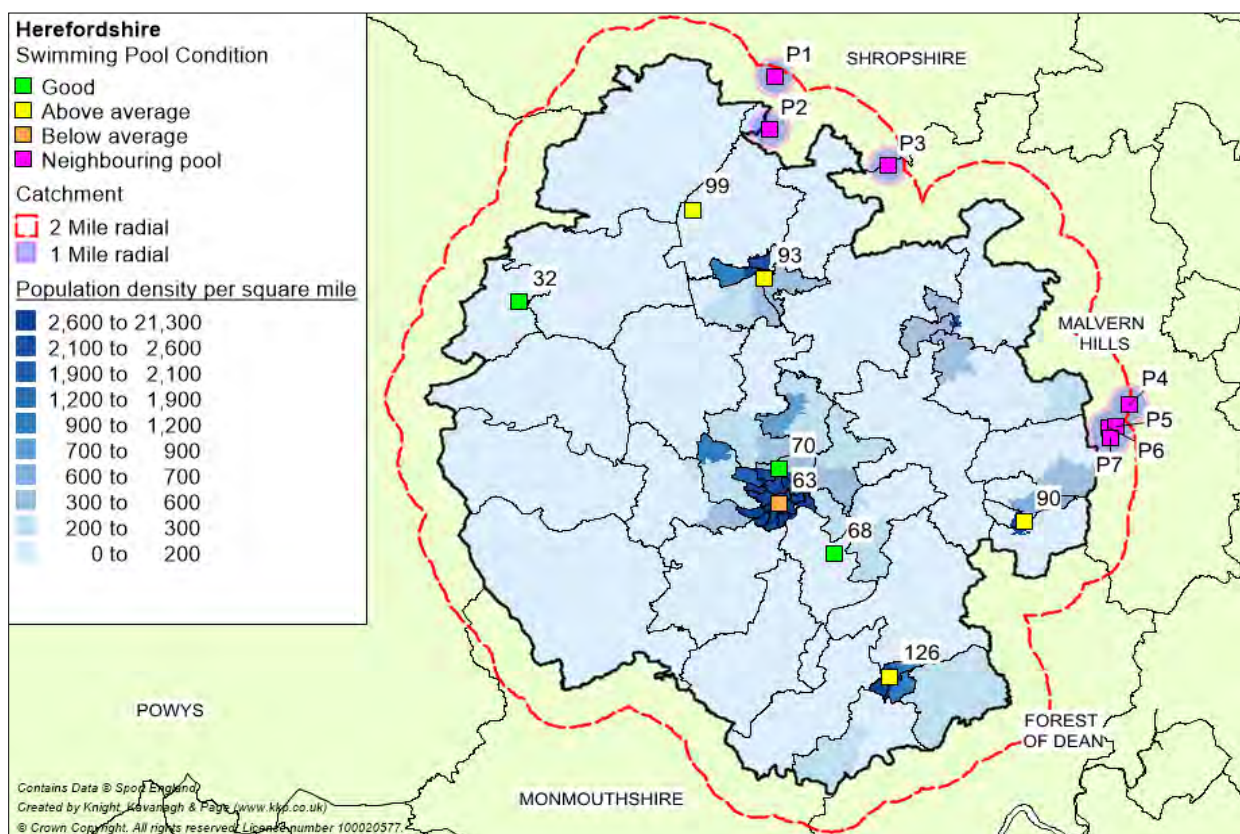
Accessibility as a walk to facility on a pay and play basis is reduced to 27% of the population of which 8.6% live in the areas of higher deprivation.

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## Facilities in neighbouring authorities

Accessibility is influenced by facilities located outside an authority. Seven pools (160m<sup>2</sup>+) are located within two miles of Herefordshire's boundary<sup>30</sup>; two in Shropshire and five in Malvern Hills. Three of these offer pay and play access, three require membership and one is accessed via a sports club or community association. They are concentrated to the east/north east. There are options for Herefordshire residents, especially those living outside of the 20-minute drive time of facilities within the County to access these facilities.

Figure 6.5: Swimming pools located within 2 miles of Herefordshire boundary



Source: Active Places Power 15/03/2022

Table 6.6: Neighbouring community available pools within 2-mile radial of Herefordshire

ID	Site	Pool type	Lanes / length	Access type	Authority
P1	Teme Ludlow	Main/general	6 x 25m	Pay & play	Shropshire
P2	Moor Park School	Main/general	0 x 18.2m	Sports Club/CA	Shropshire
P3	Tenbury Swimming Pool	Main/general	4 x 25m	Pay & play	Malvern Hills
P4	The Malvern	Leisure pool	0 x 20m	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills
P5	Malvern St James Girls School	Main/general	4 x 25m	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills
P6	Malvern Splash Leisure Complex	Leisure pool	5 x 25m	Pay & play	Malvern Hills
P7	Malvern College Sports Complex	Main/general	6 x 25m	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills

<sup>30</sup> It is not clear whether facilities are located within two miles of the boundary in the Welsh counties of Powys and Monmouthshire although it is unlikely. Access to Sport Wales's Datahub was not available at the time of the audit.

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### ***Future enhancements/new developments***

No known swimming pool developments are planned in the area or in neighbouring authorities at the time of audit.

### ***Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM)***

The FPM report provides an overview of current levels of provision of swimming pools in Herefordshire; based on data from the Facility Planning National Run; March 2022. Its findings are:

#### *Supply*

- ◀ 2,367 m<sup>2</sup> of water space is available for community use in the weekly peak period in Herefordshire.
- ◀ The average age of the swimming pools in Herefordshire, excluding Lucton Pool which opened in 1950, is 33 years. The average age of the four public leisure centres is 39 years. The oldest public centre is Ledbury Swimming Pool (opened in 1976) and the most recently opened site is Leominster Leisure Centre (opened in 2006).
- ◀ Hereford Leisure Pool provides 45% of the total accessible water space in the County, which is a significant percentage for one site, especially considering the age of the pool (built in 1976).
- ◀ The FPM excluded the pool at Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club from the analysis due to it being listed on APP as private use only. The KKP audit found it to be accessible via a membership and thus has included it within the supply for County.

#### *Demand*

In the context of demand for swimming pools, the FPM identifies the following:

- ◀ The resident population of Herefordshire in 2022 generates demand for 1,940<sup>m</sup> of water. This is compared to the available supply of 2,367<sup>m</sup> of water.
- ◀ Levels of satisfied demand (83%) are relatively high. Spatially there are small concentrations of unmet demand around the Hereford and Bromyard areas, however the FPM indicates that there is no area with high unmet demand of sufficient scale to consider the requirement for an additional pool in their own right. Furthermore, of the 17% unmet demand, approximately 93% of which is due to residents being too far away from a facility, which is inevitable considering the rural nature of Herefordshire.
- ◀ Pools in Herefordshire are operating at an average of 60.3% used capacity in the peak period. However, community accessible pools at Hereford Leisure Pool (99% used capacity) and Ross Swimming pool (71% used capacity) demonstrate a high level of theoretical demand for them (NB the Sport England threshold, whereby a pool is deemed comfortably full is 70%).
- ◀ There is scope to increase capacity at Hereford Leisure Pool as the main pool is available for community use for 32.5 hours<sup>31</sup> in the weekly peak period and the leisure pool for 32 hours. The two teaching pools are available for 11 and 15 hours in the weekly peak period.
- ◀ It is recognised that current peak period hours are most likely based on programmes of use for different activities and demand. A review of pool programmes can ensure that each pool is providing for the most popular activities at times residents want to swim. This may lead to changing the balance in the programming between, for example, learn to swim programmes and private use

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<sup>31</sup> The FPM maximum peak period hours are 52.5 hours in the weekly peak period. Increasing the hours in the weekly peak period for some or all of the individual pools, will theoretically increase capacity and reduce the estimated used capacity to a more comfortable level.

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Table 5.5: Demand findings from the FPM

Element	FPM 2022
Total demand	1,940 sqm
Satisfied demand	83.0 %
Satisfied demand retained within Herefordshire	90.7%
Satisfied demand exported	9.3%
Levels of unmet demand	17.0%
% of unmet demand due to residents outside pool catchment (as opposed to no capacity)	93.0%
Used capacity	60.3%

### 6.2: Demand

Consultation with Swim England confirms that in relation to UK wide participation local authorities with swimming pool water deficits are its highest priority. It notes that:

- ◀ Community use swimming pools provide the accessible water space for a diverse range of water activities, which the general public and sports clubs are both able to use.
- ◀ Despite the deficit in water provision, the area as a whole does provide a good amount of community available swimming facilities, able to cater for a diverse range of swimming activities.
- ◀ Hereford Leisure Pool is a key facility, providing a versatile aquatic facility.
- ◀ Hereford, Ledbury and Ross swimming pools are all 40+ years old and should be subjected to condition surveys to ascertain any future replacement requirements.
- ◀ A combination of the current small water deficit along with the high usage of aquatic facilities (especially Hereford Leisure Pool) in the County, may suggest a potential need for additional water provision in the future.

#### Club consultation

City of Hereford SC and Ledbury & Malvern SC are the Swim England accredited clubs in the County. A precis of consultation with both clubs follows below along with summaries in respect of the other activities which take place at pools in Herefordshire.

*City of Hereford SC* is the primary swimming club in Hereford. Prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic it had c.250 members. It is now operating with c.170 active members and it reports that membership figures are showing an improving trend. It caters for competitive swimmers from the age of eight upwards. It makes extensive use of Hereford Leisure Pool, with weekly sessions every Monday-Friday (AM), evening sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays plus Saturdays (AM) and Sundays PM. Its total usage at this site equates to 17 pool hours per week. Furthermore, it uses the pool at Leominster Leisure Centre for 7.5 hours (Mon-Fri PM), and to a lesser extent the pool at Ross for 5.5 hours per week (Mon-Fri PM). It previously had a water polo section and would be keen to rebuild this in future years. It considers all three swimming sites to be important to it and that its current assigned pool time is sufficient. Overall, it reports having a positive relationship with Halo and that the pricing works well for it, given that it has an outlay of £60-70k per annum on pool hire fees.

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*Ledbury & Malvern SC* utilises sites in Herefordshire and Malvern Hills. Prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic it had c.150 members. As of March 2022 it is operating with c.100 members, of which the majority are juniors. It caters for both competitive and recreational swimmers. Currently, in Herefordshire it utilises Ledbury Swimming Pool for five hours per week (Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and Saturday afternoons). It reports being happy with the fees at Ledbury, however, it would benefit from more pool time as its recovery from the reduction in members attributed to the Pandemic continues.

*Hereford Triathlon Club* is known to use the main pool at Hereford Leisure Pool (Tuesdays 19:30-21:00). This information was verified by site operators. It was indicated by the Council that the Club use Bodenham Lake for training during summer months, with the Club having use of ancillary facilities, including changing rooms. Reportedly, the facilities are in a poor condition and options are being explored to provide a multi functional space for use by the Club and other lake users. The exploration of potential options to improve the site have been included in the Hereford Outdoor Sports Investment Plan. The Club did not respond to consultation requests, despite numerous attempts.

*Typhoon Leisure* is a private swim school (and tennis coaching) provider which delivers swimming lessons across Herefordshire, Malvern Hills, Shropshire and Gloucester. It regularly uses the pool at Lucton School to deliver toddler and children's swimming lessons, including intensive 'crash course' swimming lessons, where children are taught the basics of swimming over a five-day period. It has access to Lucton Pool on weekdays (17:00-1900) and at weekends (07:00-12:00 Saturdays and 09:00-12:00 Sundays). This information was verified by the site operators.

#### *Swimming lessons*

Children's swimming lessons are delivered at all four publicly accessible pools in Herefordshire. (all data is from November 2022). Current lesson volumes are as follows:

- ◀ Hereford Leisure Pool – operating at 86.6% of capacity (1,820 - capacity 2100).
- ◀ Ledbury Swimming Pool – lessons operating at 83.3% of capacity (500 - capacity 600).
- ◀ Leominster Leisure Centre – lessons operating at 60% of capacity (600 - capacity 1,000).
- ◀ Ross Swimming Pool – lessons operating at 83.3% of capacity (500 - capacity 600).

#### **6.3: Sport England's Facilities Calculator (SFC)**

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

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

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Table 6.9: Sports facilities calculator

Factor	Population 2018	Population estimate 2041
ONS population projections	218,203	218,203
Population increase	-	21,554
Facilities to meet change in demand	-	+4.24 lanes or 1.06 swimming pools
Estimated Cost		£3,896,842.

(Build costs for Table 6.9 are correct as of Q2, 2021, BCIS June 2021).

Calculations assume that the current swimming pool stock remains available for community use and the quality remains the same. The projected increase in population will lead to an increase in demand for swimming space. The SFC indicates a requirement for an additional 4.24 lanes (equivalent to 1.06 swimming pools, up to 2041 (estimated cost: £3,896,842).

Sport England's FPM identifies that used capacity across pools in Herefordshire (at 60.1%) is lower than its threshold (70%). FPM findings in respect of high levels of satisfied demand, and relatively low unmet demand would suggest that there is sufficient pool provision to serve the current population. (FPM findings do not consider future population growth projections at this stage). Hereford Leisure Pool is, however, operating well above the Sport England threshold

The FPM and KKP findings identify that there is adequate swimming pool stock to meet current demand. As such a key consideration is the age of Hereford Leisure Pool, Ledbury Pool and Ross Swimming Pool which suggests that a medium / long term capital investment strategy is required. This could be supported by further FPM modelling work to understand the impact of future population growth. Although, requirement for new pool provision in the future is unlikely, due to the rural make up of Herefordshire there may not be sufficient concentrations of population growth in one particular area to justify a new pool. In the shorter term, programming at Hereford and the other key public leisure sites should be investigated to ensure that the most popular activities are available at peak times.

### 6.4: Summary of key facts and issues

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

Facility type	Swimming pools	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	There are eight pools on seven sites; six main pools, one leisure pool and one teaching pool.	The FPM indicates that current provision is adequate for the population. Further investigation is required (in the form of future population FPM modelling).
<b>Quality</b>	Pool stock is generally in good or above average condition. Hereford Leisure Pool is the only pool rated below average.	There is a need to maintain the current stock of swimming pools with ongoing investment. A long-term plan to replace/refurbish Hereford Leisure Pool, Ledbury Swimming Pool and Ross Swimming Pool is required.
<b>Accessibility</b>	Over 90% of the population lives within 20 minutes' drive of a swimming pool. One third reside within 20-minutes' walk (including 69% of those living in areas of higher deprivation).	The FPM and KKP audit identify that overall average used capacity for Herefordshire pools is 60%. Two sites are currently operating above the Sport England 70% comfort threshold. Used capacity at public leisure sites (especially Hereford Leisure Pool) should be monitored closely.

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Facility type	Swimming pools	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
	Pay and play access is available within a 20-minute walk time for 27% of residents of whom 9% live in areas of high deprivation).	
<b>Availability</b> (Management and usage)	<p>Hereford, Ledbury and Ross pools are available to the community on a pay and play basis.</p> <p>Lucton School is available on a block-booked basis. Cloud Nine and Holmer Park both require memberships.</p> <p>Hereford, Ledbury and Ross pools all accommodate swimming lessons.</p> <p>Lucton School offers lessons via private providers.</p>	<p>Maintain good relationship with Lucton School.</p> <p>Programming at Hereford Leisure Pool needs to be reviewed to ensure that the most popular activities are available at peak times.</p>
<b>Summary</b>	<p>Each facility is important to the community served – they should be protected in accordance with Paragraph 99 of the NPPF.</p> <p>There is a need to maintain and improve the quality of swimming pools in the area via good maintenance programmes.</p> <p>The Authority needs a long term plan to replace/refurbish pools at Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.</p> <p>This investment strategy should be supported by further bespoke FPM modelling (with future population projections) to test whether current levels of water space will be sufficient in the long term</p> <p>In the short term, programming at key sites should be investigated to ensure the most popular activities are available at peak times.</p>	



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### SECTION 7: HEALTH AND FITNESS SUITES

For the purposes of assessment, health and fitness suites are normally defined as venues with 20 stations or more. A station is a piece of static fitness equipment; larger health and fitness centres with more stations are generally able to make a more attractive offer to both members and casual users. They provide a valuable way to assist people of all ages, ethnicities and abilities to introduce physical exercise into their daily lives with the obvious concomitant benefits to health, fitness and wellbeing.

The current state of the UK fitness industry is complex with a variety of providers. Key providers are; private sector operators (ranging from low-cost operators to the high-end market) and the operators of public sector facilities. The publicly owned facilities can be managed by companies and/or Trusts (such as GLL and Everyone Active, for example) on behalf of the local authority or are managed inhouse, by the local authority itself. Other providers include schools, trusts and/or charities.

Prior to the Coronavirus pandemic, the UK health and fitness industry was enjoying a strong period of growth. It had more gyms, more members and a greater market value than ever before. Data up to the 12 month period ending March 2019, demonstrated an estimated increase of 4.7% in the number of members, 2.9% in the number of facilities and 4.2% in market value. Pure Gym and GLL remained the UK's leading operators (by number of gyms and members).

According to the State of the UK Fitness Industry Report (2019) there were 7,239 fitness facilities in the UK, up from 7,038 in 2018. Total industry membership was up 5.0% to 10.4 million which means that one in seven people in the UK is a member of a gym. The total market value is estimated at £5.1 billion, up 4.1% on 2018. The UK penetration rate is at 15.6%, which is an increase of 0.7% from the previous year. The 2019 report is the latest report available.

During 2020, and in the midst of social distancing restrictions (following an average 4-5 month period of enforced closure), many health and fitness providers were achieving a maximum figure of 40-50% of normal attendance. In the case of local authority contracted facilities, remobilisation following the relaxation of restrictions is likely to require a negotiated package of financial support from the Local Authority.

The impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the sector is likely to continue well into 2021 (and beyond) in terms of enforced facility closure and residual social distancing restrictions. Many providers have responded by designing a variety of on-line classes as a means of retaining member loyalty and engagement. Nevertheless, estimating when a likely return to pre-pandemic membership levels will be achieved is problematic, and it is likely that a level of uncertainty will remain for the foreseeable future in terms of business sustainability.

#### 7.1: Supply

##### *Quantity*

As is illustrated overleaf there are 31 health and fitness gyms in Herefordshire with 1,356 stations. Generally, they are located in more densely populated areas, especially in and around Hereford. Spatially there is a good even spread of facilities across the County, with all main population centres being served.

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 7.1: All health and fitness facilities in Herefordshire on population density

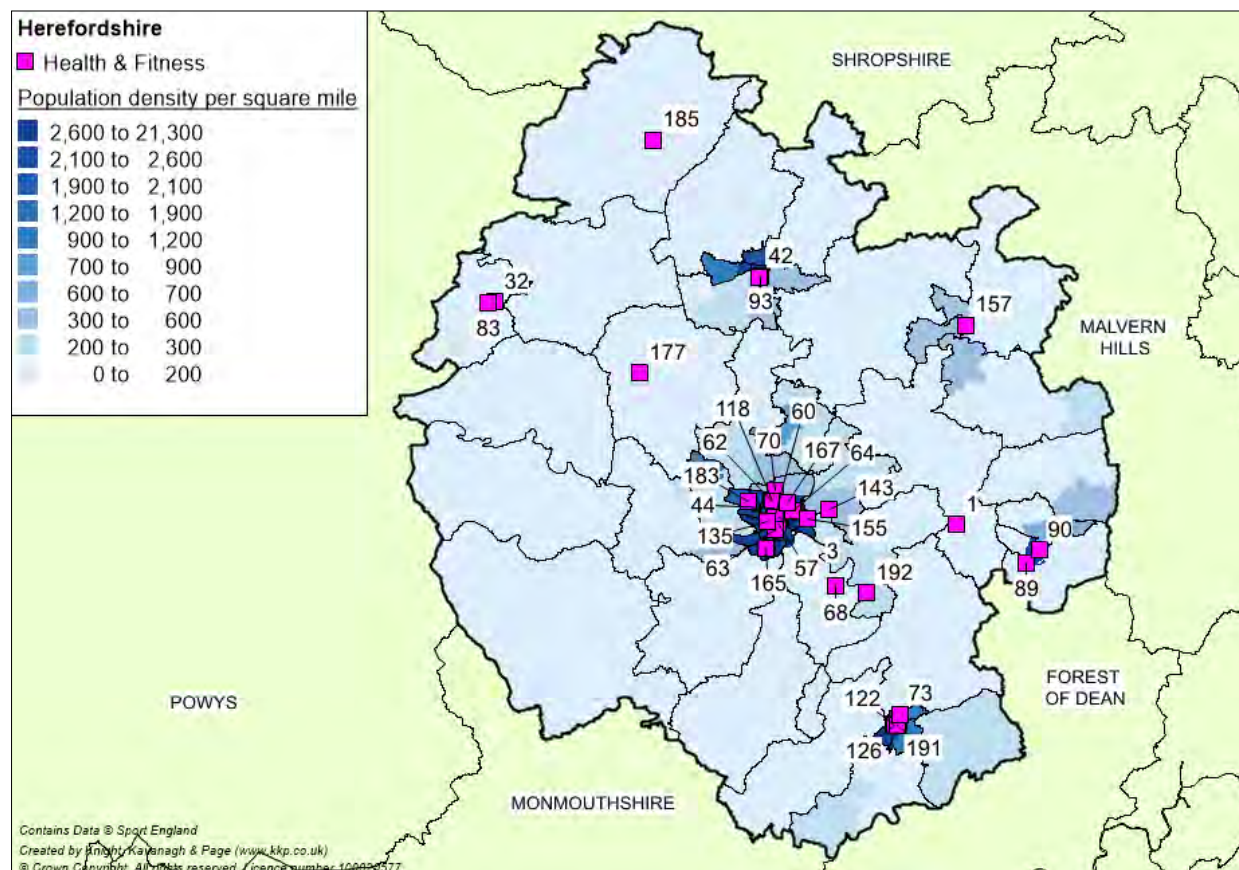


Table 7.1: All health and fitness gyms in Herefordshire

ID	Site	Stations	ID	Site	Stations
1	Alexander Park Resort	24	93	Leominster Leisure Centre	70
3	Anytime Fitness (Hereford)	124	118	Pure Gym (Hereford)	220
32	Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club	20	122	Ross Health & Fitness	40
42	Earl Mortimer College & 6th Form Centre	8	126	Ross Swimming Pool	54
44	Elite Performance	40	135	Snap Fitness (Hereford)	150
57	Hereford Cathedral School	16	143	St Mary's RC High School	8
60	Hereford FC (Edgar Street)	5	155	Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School	28
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	83	157	The Bromyard Centre	25
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	85	165	The Hereford Academy	20
64	Hereford Sixth Form College	15	167	The Point 4	55
68	Holme Lacy House Hotel Leisure Club	13	177	Weobley High School	16
70	Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	60	183	Whitecross HS Hereford	10
73	John Kyrle Academy	8	185	Wigmore Leisure Centre	18
83	Lady Hawkins Comm. Leisure Centre	15	191	Wye Fit	10
89	Ledbury Rugby Club	6	192	Wye Leisure	59
90	Ledbury Swimming Pool	51			
<b>Total</b>					<b>1,356</b>

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Fitness facilities containing fewer than 20 stations are typically not assessed/considered although they can service small sections of the community. Where this is the case they are included. The fitness suites at The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School (28 stations) and The Hereford Academy (20 stations) are discounted because usage is restricted to school only. On this basis, the number of community available sites reduces to 16 with 1,160 stations.

## Quality

All community available health and fitness sites received a non-technical quality assessment. seven are rated as good quality, seven above average, and two below average.

Figure 7.2: Health and fitness suites with 20+ stations on population density by condition

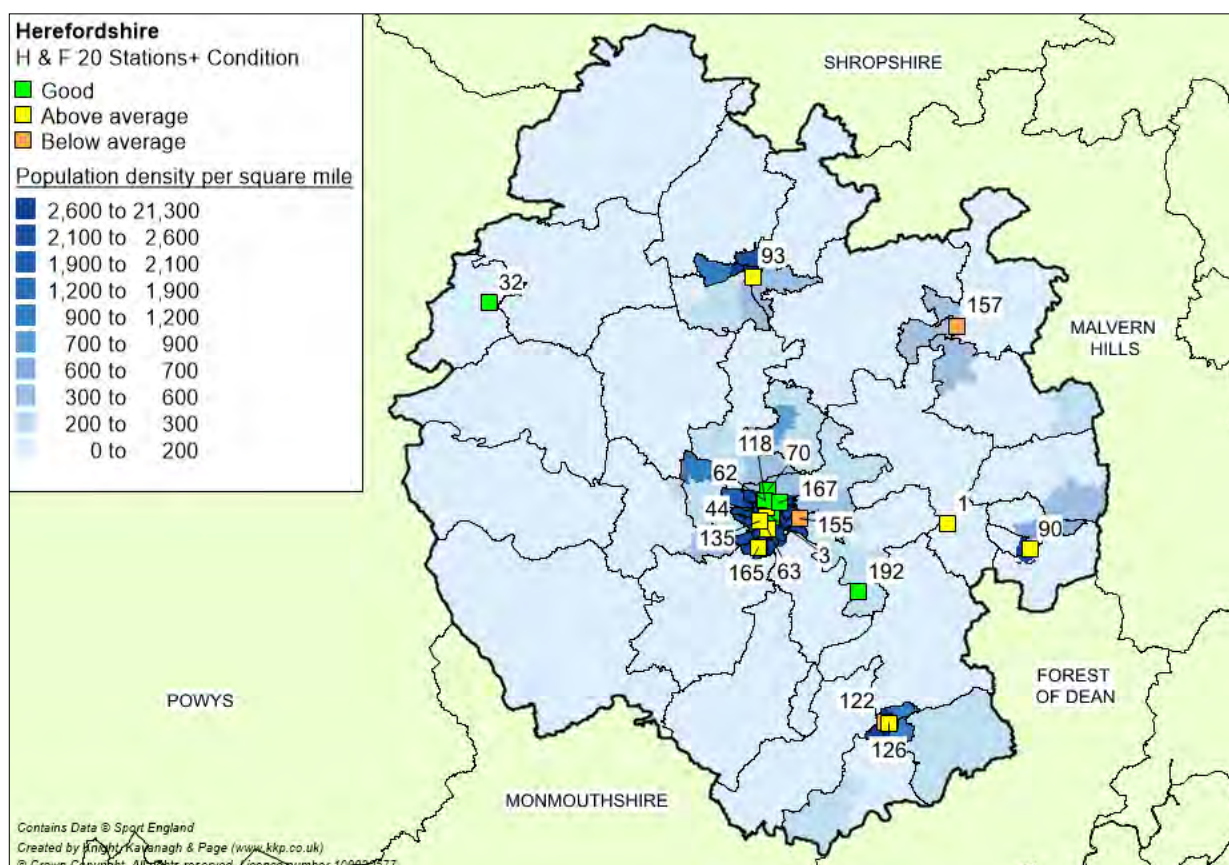


Table 7.2: Health & fitness suites with 20+ stations by condition

ID	Site	Stations	Condition
1	Alexander Park Resort	24	Above average
3	Anytime Fitness (Hereford)	125	Good
32	Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club	20	Good
44	Elite Performance	40	Above average
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	83	Good
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	85	Above average
70	Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	60	Good
90	Ledbury Swimming Pool	51	Above average
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	70	Above average
118	Pure Gym (Hereford)	220	Good
122	Ross Health & Fitness	40	Below average

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ID	Site	Stations	Condition
126	Ross Swimming Pool	54	Above average
135	Snap Fitness (Hereford)	150	Above average
157	The Bromyard Centre	25	Below average
167	The Point 4	55	Good
192	Wye Leisure	59	Good
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,160</b>	

During 2015/2016 the health and fitness suites at Hereford Leisure Centre, Herefordshire Leisure Pool, Ledbury Swimming Pool and Ross Swimming Pools were refurbished. The main gym area at The Point 4 was fully refurbished in 2018.

Hereford Leisure Centre also has a toning suite<sup>32</sup>. This was added in 2016 as part of the refurbishment and comprises power assisted exercise machines which are designed to be usable for all, especially for those with mobility/health issues. As mentioned in Section 5, a section of the sports hall at Hereford Leisure Centre is permanently repurposed as a flexible area for additional health and fitness provision (outside of the main gym area).

Although excluded from the analysis, it was indicated during consultation with Hereford Academy that it has plans to upgrade its health and fitness equipment in spring 2022. The School was successful in securing a grant to cover the costs of the upgrade. Whilst not community accessible it is reported that the gym has good levels of school student usage.

### **Accessibility**

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

As with pools and sports halls, appropriate walk and drive-time accessibility standards are applied to health and fitness suites to determine provision deficiencies or surpluses. The normal acceptable standard is a 20-minutes' drive time. Over 45% of the Herefordshire population lives within 20 minutes' walk of a health and fitness facility with 20+ stations. Consequently, 55% of the population is likely to need to use a car or public transport to access facilities. Over 94% of the population lives within 20 minutes' drive of a health and fitness facility.

Table 7.3 identifies that 23,698 (12.6%) of the Herefordshire population live in the top 30% most deprived IMD bandings. Of these, the majority (22,859 – 12.2%) of residents live within one mile of a health and fitness facility. (This equates to 96.5% of people who live in areas of higher deprivation), suggesting that the health and fitness facilities are well placed on this measure.

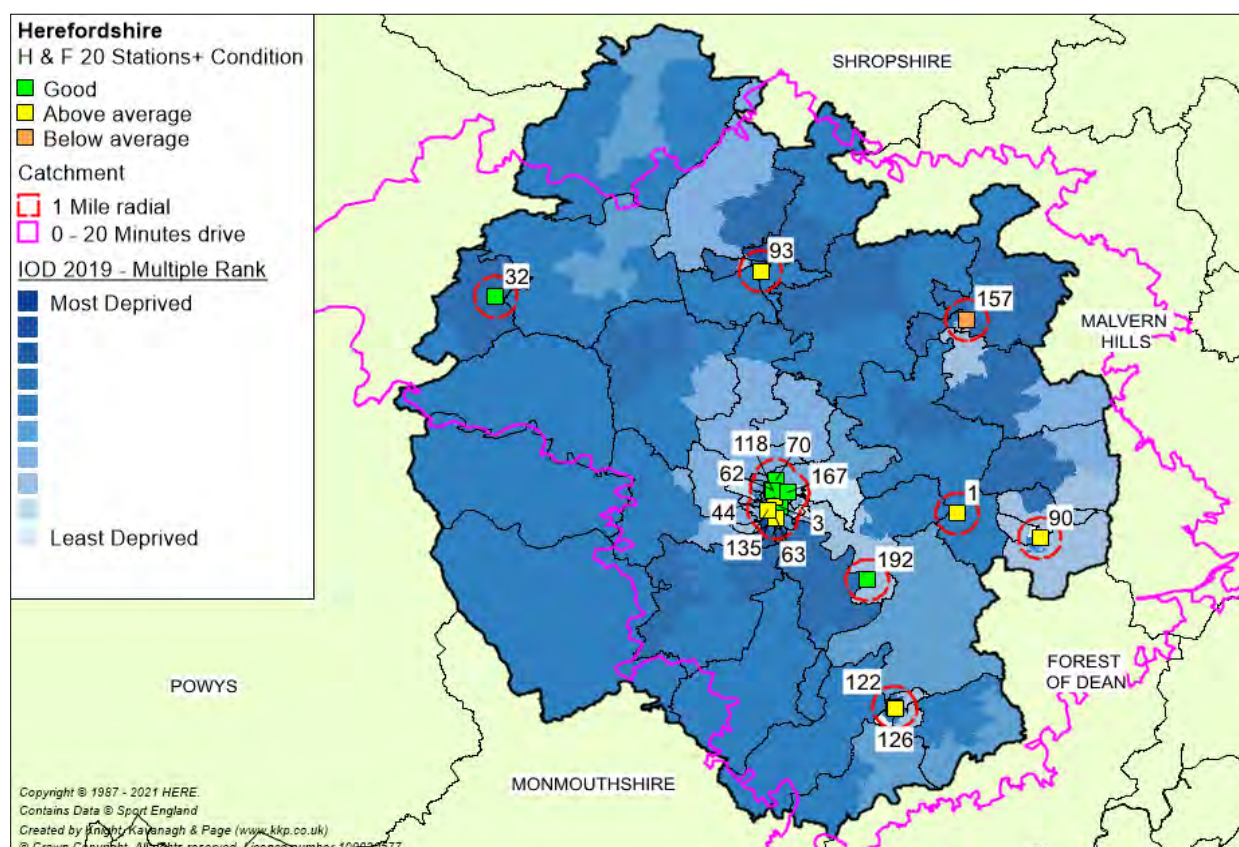
<sup>32</sup> [https://haloleisure.org.uk/activities/herefordshire/toning-suite#!IMG\\_9376](https://haloleisure.org.uk/activities/herefordshire/toning-suite#!IMG_9376)

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Table 7.3: IMD (2019 populations): health and fitness 20+ stations with 1 mile radial

IMD 10% bands	Herefordshire		Health & Fitness, 20 stations or more Catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	1,605	0.9%	1,605	0.9%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	12,692	6.7%	11,853	6.3%	839	0.4%
20.1 - 30	9,401	5.0%	9,401	5.0%	0	0.0%
30.1 - 40	25,882	13.7%	9,878	5.2%	16,004	8.5%
40.1 - 50	58,143	30.8%	17,782	9.4%	40,361	21.4%
50.1 - 60	23,192	12.3%	10,972	5.8%	12,220	6.5%
60.1 - 70	24,695	13.1%	5,804	3.1%	18,891	10.0%
70.1 - 80	19,857	10.5%	9,366	5.0%	10,491	5.6%
80.1 - 90	6,864	3.6%	3,629	1.9%	3,235	1.7%
90.1 - 100	6,191	3.3%	5,795	3.1%	396	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>188,522</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>86,085</b>	<b>45.7%</b>	<b>102,437</b>	<b>54.3%</b>

Figure 7.3: Health and fitness suites with walk/drive time catchment on IMD



## Neighbouring facilities

Health and fitness facility users do not just use venues in their own authority, consequently those within two miles of the border are considered. As identified in Figure 7.4 there are ten (a total of 397 stations) such facilities.

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Four offer pay and play availability while the others require some form of membership. The sites are primarily clustered around the town of Malvern in Malvern Hills. It is unknown whether facilities are located within two miles of the boundary with the Welsh counties of Powys and Monmouthshire. Access to Sport Wales's Datahub was not available at the time of the audit.

Figure 7.4: Fitness gyms with 20+ stations within 2 miles of Herefordshire boundary

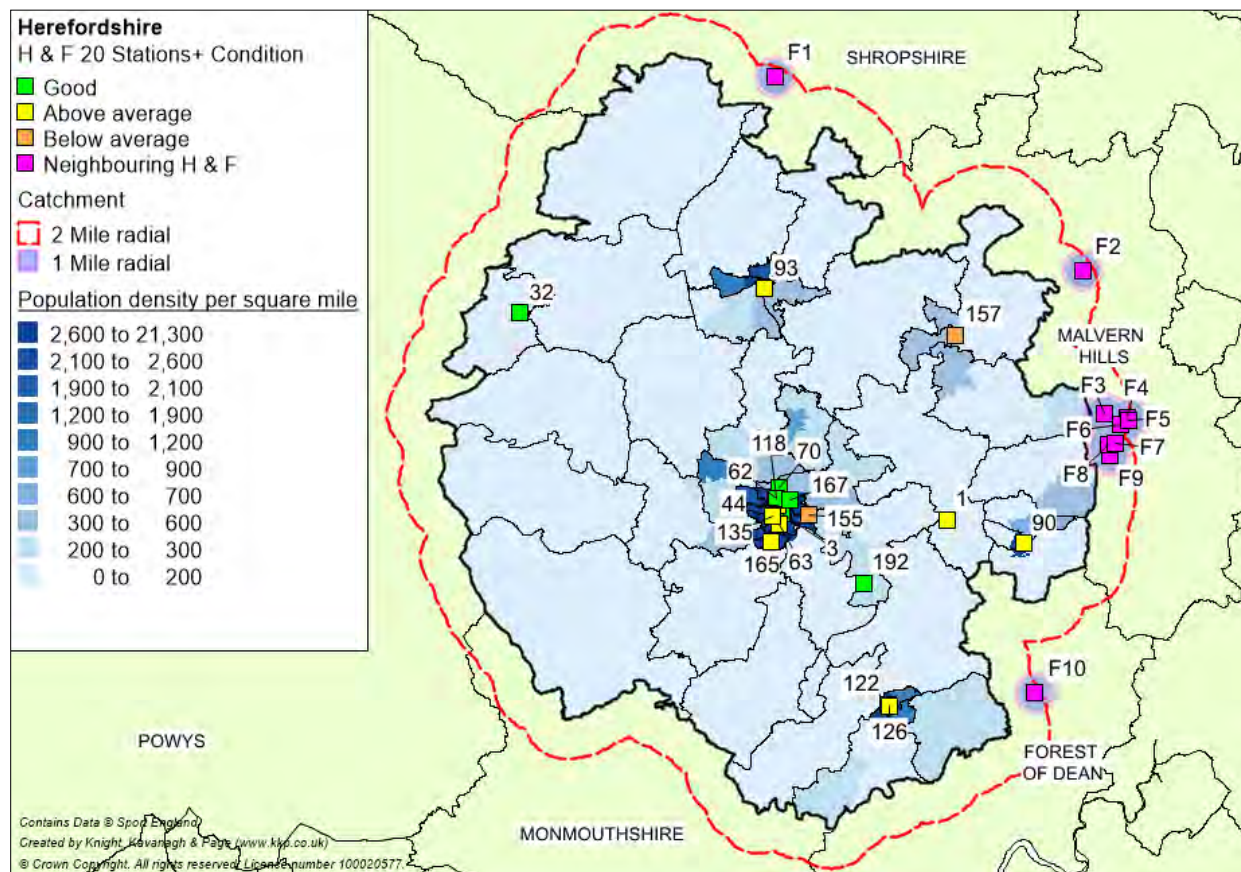


Table 7.4: Community available health and fitness (20+ stations) within 2 miles of boundary

ID	Active Places site name	Stations	Access type	Authority
1	Teme Ludlow	55	Reg. membership	Shropshire
2	Sport Martley LC	26	Pay & play	Malvern Hills
3	Sport Dyson Perrins LC	30	Pay & play	Malvern Hills
4	Anytime Fitness (Malvern)	37	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills
5	The Malvern	35	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills
6	Revolution Fitness	49	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills
7	Malvern St James Girls School	32	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills
8	Malvern Splash Leisure Complex	65	Pay & play	Malvern Hills
9	Malvern College Sports Complex	45	Reg. membership	Malvern Hills
10	Forest Leisure Newent	23	Pay & play	Forest of Dean

(Source: APP 15/03/2022)

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### Availability and programming

Sport England's classification of access type defines registered membership use facilities as publicly available. However, the cost of monthly membership fees can vary considerably. It is acknowledged that those which may be considered expensive offer access to different market segments and can ease pressure on facilities which offer cheaper membership options. In total, ten gyms require a membership to access their facilities (as shown below), the remaining six offer pay and play availability.

Table 7.5: Health and fitness gyms access policy (20+ stations)

Map ID	Site	Stations	Access type
1	Alexander Park Resort	24	Reg. membership
3	Anytime Fitness (Hereford)	125	Reg. membership
32	Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club	20	Reg. membership
44	Elite Performance	40	Reg. membership
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	83	Pay & play
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	85	Pay & play
70	Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	60	Reg. membership
90	Ledbury Swimming Pool	51	Pay & play
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	70	Pay & play
118	Pure Gym (Hereford)	220	Reg. membership
122	Ross Health & Fitness	40	Reg. membership
126	Ross Swimming Pool	54	Pay & play
135	Snap Fitness (Hereford)	150	Reg. membership
157	The Bromyard Centre	25	Pay & play
167	The Point 4	55	Reg. membership
192	Wye Leisure	59	Reg. membership

Table 7.6: Pricing structure of health and fitness facilities in Herefordshire (as of February 2022)

Venue	Pay & play	Annual	12-month DD	Notes
Alexander Park Resort			£56.00	Includes access to golf course and swimming pool. Family deals also on offer.
Anytime Fitness (Hereford)		£349.50	£34.95	Involves an additional £30 joining fee. Student offers also available.
Cloud Nine Health & Leisure Club		£530.00	£53.00	Off peak membership also available.
Elite Performance			£30.00	
Hereford Leisure Centre	£8.30	£367.20	£32.25	Monthly fee (no contract or joining fee). Includes access to exercise class and use of Hereford Leisure Pool, toning suite and golf course. Cheaper offers for students/ concessions.
Hereford Leisure Pool	£8.30	£367.20	£32.25	Same additional benefits as Hereford Leisure Centre. Cheaper offers for students/concessions.
Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	£7.50	£780.00	£72.00	Fees not including one of joining fee of £79.00.

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Venue	Pay & play	Annual	12-month DD	Notes
Ledbury Swimming Pool	£8.30	£393.00	£34.50	Monthly fee includes no contract and no joining fee. Includes access to swimming pool, exercise classes and sauna/steam room. Cheaper offers for students/concessions.
Leominster Leisure Centre	£8.30	£367.20	£32.25	Monthly fee includes no contract and no joining fee. Includes access to swimming pool, exercise classes and sauna/steam room. Cheaper offers for students/concessions.
Pure Gym (Hereford)			£21.99	Monthly fee not including one-off enrolment fee payment of £10.00. Day passes also available (total number restricted – not fully pay & play).
Ross Health & Fitness		£300.00	£35.00	Student offers also available.
Ross Swimming Pool	£8.30	£393.00	£34.50	Monthly fee includes no contract and no joining fee. Includes access to swimming pool, exercise classes and sauna/steam room. Cheaper offers for students/concessions.
Snap Fitness (Hereford)			£29.99	
The Bromyard Centre		£282.00	£24.75	Monthly fee includes no contract and no joining fee. Includes access to fitness classes. Cheaper offers for students/concessions.
The Point 4		£395.00	£39.50	Off peak and student/concession offers also available.
Wye Leisure		£780.55	£74.60	Monthly fee not including one off enrolment fee of £59.00. Off peak and student/concession offers also available.

The cost of accessing health and fitness facilities varies across the Authority. As shown in Table 7.6 the five Halo sites offer pay and play access for £8.30 per session. Monthly membership costs vary significantly, the most expensive being Wye Leisure (£74.50 pcm). The least expensive is Pure Gym Hereford (£21.99 pcm). It must be noted that certain membership packages automatically include pool access to which makes comparison difficult.

Halo Leisure also deliver a GP referral scheme at all its sites in partnership with the local CCG. The is available to people over the age of 16 referred by a health professional. The programme offers supported gym-based activity with a specialist trainer.

Membership at the public leisure centres offer multi activity options (e.g., swimming and fitness classes) and multiple site usage. It is recognised that well run health and fitness facilities with studios can offset the costs and enhance the financial viability of other venue elements such as swimming pools and in many instances are used to cross subsidise such facilities.

### *Future developments*

No known new health and fitness facilities are planned for the area.



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### 7.2: Demand

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

Table 7.8: UK penetration rates; health/fitness in Herefordshire (ONS Data)

	Curent (2018)	Future (2041)
Adult population (16+ years)	196,649	218,203
UK penetration rate	16.0%	17.0%
Number of potential members	31,464	37,095
Number of visits per week (1.75/member)	55,062	64,915
% of visits in peak time	65	65
No. of visits in peak time (equated to no. of stations required i.e., no. of visits/39 weeks*65%)	918	1082
<b>Number of stations (with comfort factor applied)</b>	<b>1377</b>	<b>1623</b>

Model applies 1.75 visits/week by members and 65% usage for 39 weeks of the year. (Figures rounded up/down)

Based upon UK penetration rates there is current need for 1,377 stations in Herefordshire. This will grow to 1623 by 2041; taking into account of a comfort factor (particularly at peak times). When comparing the current number of community available stations (1,160) and accounting for the comfort factor, there is an undersupply of c. 217 stations. Although this figure looks significant, it does not account for facilities in adjoining authorities some of which are of significant scale. Given their location they may attract Herefordshire residents, particularly from the East of the Authority, to provision in Malvern Hills and Shropshire.

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

### Supply and demand analysis

As noted earlier, fitness facilities are an important facet of leisure provision and have been a successful addition to sports centres over the past three decades. Income derived can help to offset the cost/underpin the viability of other aspects of leisure provision, especially swimming and targeted physical activity programmes such as GP referral. In Herefordshire, the challenge is to provide opportunities for people from areas of higher deprivation who are less likely to be able to afford or choose to access provision and do not have the transport to access them. Furthermore, consideration should be given to ensuring that public leisure centre health & fitness facilities and the attributed programming meets the needs of Herefordshire's aging population.

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### 7.3: Dance studios

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

Figure 7.5: Dance studios in Herefordshire

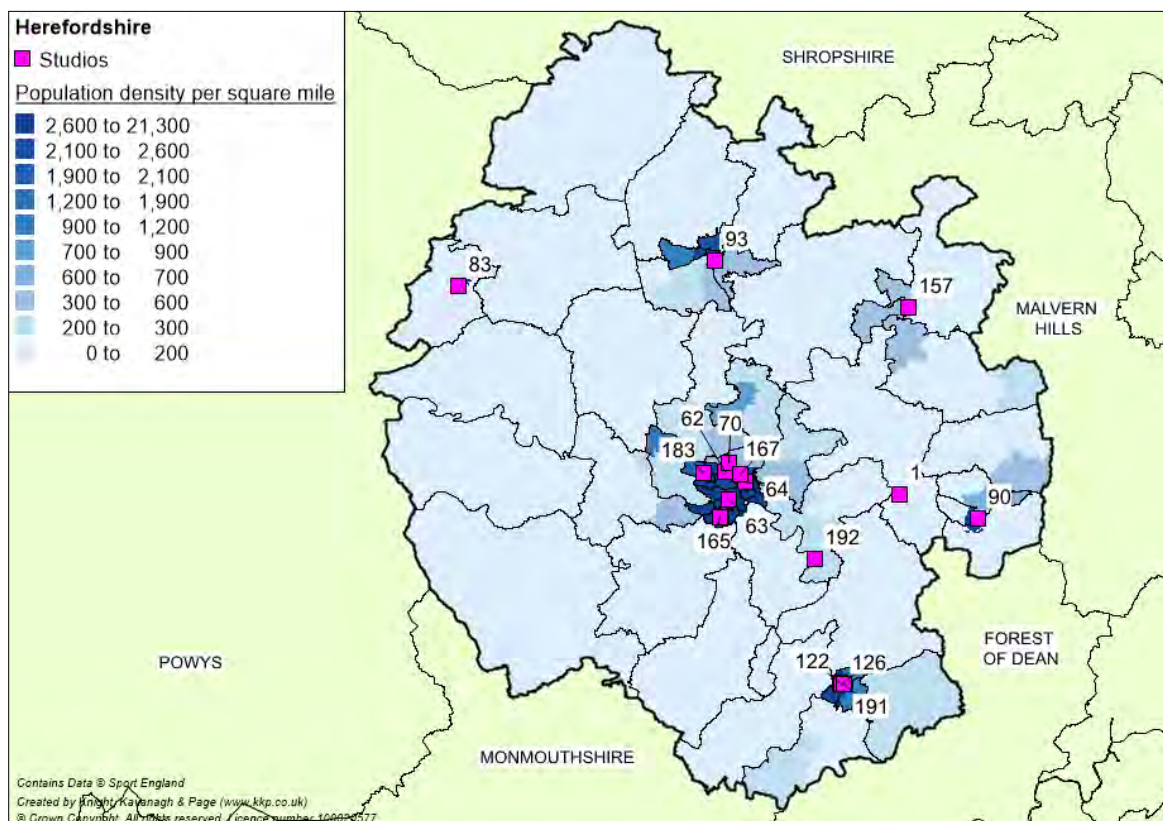


Table 7.9: Table of studios in Herefordshire

ID	Site name	Access	Condition
1	Alexander Park Resort	Reg. membership	Above average
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	Pay & play	Good
63	Hereford Leisure Pool (x2 studios)	Pay & play	Above average
64	Hereford Sixth Form College	Sports Club / CA	Below average
70	Holmer Park Spa & Health Club	Reg. membership	Good
83	Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre	Sports Club / CA	Above average
90	Ledbury Swimming Pool	Pay & Play	Above average
93	Leominster Leisure Centre (x2 studios)	Pay & play	Good
122	Ross Health & Fitness	Reg. membership	Above average
126	Ross Swimming Pool	Pay & play	Good
157	The Bromyard Centre	Pay & play	Below average
165	The Hereford Academy	Sports Club / CA	Below average
167	The Point 4 (x2 studios)	Reg. membership	Above average
183	Whitecross School Hereford	Sports Club / CA	Below average

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ID	Site name	Access	Condition
191	Wye Fit	Reg. membership	Above average
192	Wye Leisure	Reg. membership	Good

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

Of the 19 studios assessed, six are considered to be in good condition, nine are rated above average, and four are below average. Seven are available for pay and play based use, four are available via sports club/association and the remaining four require a membership to access.

Consultation with Halo Leisure indicated that studios across all sites are very popular with a variety of different classes available ranging from Pilates to Yoga. Whilst there are no current plans to add more studio space, a section (two badminton courts) within the sports hall at Herefordshire Leisure Centre is currently being utilised to host exercise classes.

### 7.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Health & fitness	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	16 gyms have 20+ stations and are available to the community. These provide 1,160 stations. There are 19 studios. Of the ten gyms in neighbouring authorities, three have 100+ stations.	There is a small undersupply of health and fitness provision at present. It is expected that some Herefordshire residents in the east and north will access facilities in neighbouring authorities.
<b>Quality</b>	Seven gyms are of good quality. Seven are of above average quality, gyms and two are below average.	There is a need to maintain quality and, where possible, improve the condition of the below average rated gyms and studios.
<b>Accessibility</b>	All main population areas have health and fitness facilities. Over 45% of the population lives within one mile of a gym. Just over 96% of those who reside in areas of higher deprivation) live within one mile of a health and fitness gym. 94% of the population lives within a 20-minute drive of a health and fitness gym.	There is a need to ensure that harder to reach groups and people with specific health needs can access facilities. This may include residents living in more rurally isolated communities who do not have access to a car.
<b>Availability</b> (Management and usage)	There are six publicly accessible pay and play health and fitness facilities with 20+ stations in Herefordshire. Ten require a membership to access. Halo Leisure provide an exercise referral programme at all its sites.	The key need is to ensure that gyms cater fully for the full range of market segments in the County and that residents from targeted groups can afford them.
<b>Strategic summary</b>	Health and fitness facilities along with dance studio space offer potential to increase physical activity in the wider population. Notwithstanding the technical shortfall, because of the adjacency and scale of supply in neighbouring areas, Herefordshire's supply is currently deemed to be sufficient now and up to 2041. Monitoring is needed as the market is still growing, this is explored further 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.	

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### SECTION 8: SQUASH

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

Table 8.1: England Squash Strategic aims:

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

Squash In a Changing World (2021-2025) outlines the vision, principles and strategic pillars for England Squash. Its vision for the *future of squash in England is a thriving, diverse and growing community*. Its Purpose is to serve as custodians of the game's past, its present and its future. It is to serve as a catalyst for positive change across the sporting community at home and abroad. The 2021-2025 strategy sets six key objectives:

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

#### 8.1 Supply

There are nine squash courts in Herefordshire at three sites: Hereford Leisure Centre, Hereford Whitecross Club and John Masefield High School. Five are rated good quality, two above average and one below average. It was not possible to assess the two courts at John Masefield High School as the School did not respond to consultation requests. Hereford Leisure Centre is accessible on a pay & play basis, whilst Whitecross Club requires a membership to access.

Approximately 60% of Herefordshire's population live within a 20-minute drive time of a squash facility. In addition, three facilities in neighbouring authorities are within the 20-minute drive time catchment; the two closest located in Malvern Hills.

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Table 8.2: Squash courts in Herefordshire

Map ID	Site name	Courts			Condition
		Normal	Glass backed	Total	
62	Hereford Leisure Centre	0	2	2	Above average
65	Hereford Whitecross Club	3	1	4	Good
65	Hereford Whitecross Club	1	0	1	Below average
74	John Masefield High School	0	2	2	Not assessed

Whitecross reports having plans to improve the quality of its below average court in the next two-three years. Its good quality courts have been refurbished within the last three years. The two Leisure Centre courts were fully refurbished in 2015 as part of the works to improve the site.

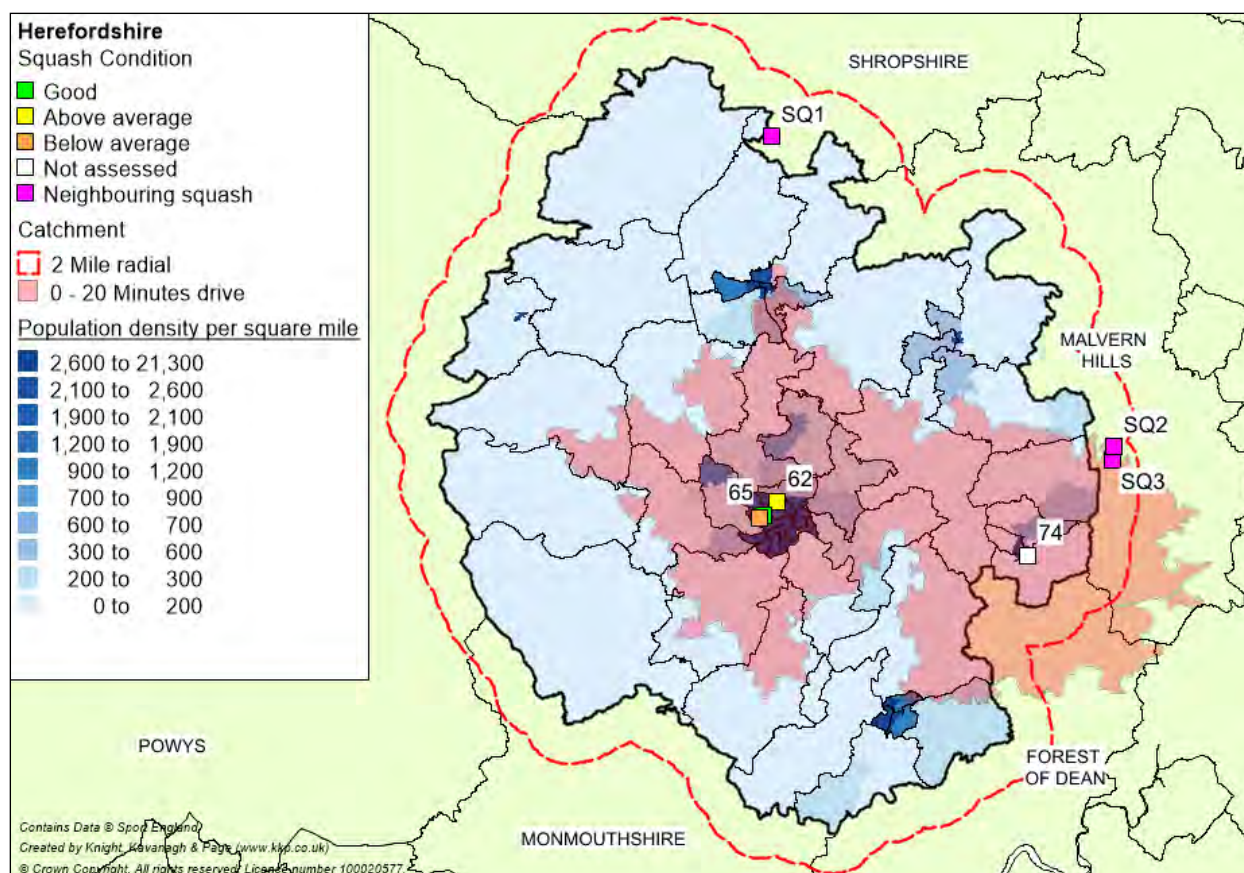
Table 8.3: Squash in neighbouring authorities within 20 minutes' drive time of Herefordshire

ID	Site name	Cts	Access type	Local authority
SQ1	Moor Park School	1	Sports Club / CA	Shropshire
SQ2	Manor Park Multisport Complex	4	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
SQ3	Malvern College Sports Complex	2	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills

Source: Active Places Power 18/03/2022 // Sports Club / CA = Sports Club / Community Association

All three sites are accessible via clubs/community associations.

Figure 8.1: Location of squash courts in Herefordshire and within a 20-minute drive time



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### 8.2: Demand

England Squash reports that it has invested in the local County Association which works closely with Hereford Whitecross Club to deliver bespoke activity based on national participation programmes and campaigns. Relative to other counties the small and local scale impact that the County Association can have, makes Herefordshire a key area for future delivery and squash participation. The population demographic also lends itself to squash participation, however, rural accessibility across the County is a challenge.

England Squash indicated that the number of courts in Herefordshire does not meet the national requirement of one court per 10,000 people<sup>33</sup>; currently there is one court per approx. 20,676 people. Protection of current facilities is, thus, imperative to sustain the current position. The NGB also implies that more investment should be put into new fully accessible facilities to maintain and improve current figures and ensure that population can access squash provision.

Halo Leisure indicated that the courts at Hereford Leisure Centre attract moderate use, mainly in the form of pay and play bookings.

#### *Club consultation*

*Hereford Whitecross Club (also known as Herefordshire Squash & Tennis Centre)* is the only squash club in the County. It also offers tennis provision and has seven outdoor courts. Its facilities include five squash courts (inc. one glass backed). It reports having c.430 members (of which 140 are juniors and 170 are squash players). Membership allows players to access both the squash and tennis courts. It indicates a significant level of cross over, with members using both facilities and it has ample capacity to take on new members.

### 8.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Squash	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	There are nine squash courts at three sites. One is glass backed.	England Squash report a small deficit in provision.
<b>Quality</b>	Four courts are good quality, two above average and one below average. Two courts were not assessed..	Continued investment is needed to maintain court quality chiefly at Hereford Leisure Centre.
<b>Accessibility</b>	Approx. 60% live within a 20 minute drive time of a squash court. There are three courts in neighbouring authorities are accessible to Herefordshire residents.	
<b>Availability</b> (Management and usage)	Five courts are available for community use via registered membership. The other two are on a pay and play basis. The access policy for courts at John Masefield High School is unknown.	
<b>Summary</b>	Squash court provision is low in comparison to neighbouring authorities. 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 2041, especially considering the moderate use reported at Herefordshire Leisure Centre.	

<sup>33</sup> England Squash currently estimates that there is one court per 12,617 people in England. In order for Squash to thrive its strategic aim is to bring the ratio down to one court per 10,000 people.

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### SECTION 9: GYMNASTICS

The British Gymnastics (BG) Strategic Framework 2017-2021 identifies three key priorities, to:

- ◀ Diversify sources of revenue to develop and grow the provision of gymnastics.
- ◀ Build the capacity and grow the demand in gymnastics.
- ◀ Raise the profile and increase the appeal of gymnastics.

Its facility development priorities (for the period 2017 - 2021) are to:

- ◀ Support increased capacity within gymnastics through clubs, leisure providers and other delivery providers.
- ◀ Guide funding investment through the United Kingdom from BG, home country sports councils, local authorities and other potential funders.
- ◀ Maintain/improve the quality of facilities and equipment within existing delivery partners.
- ◀ Develop insight, understanding and direction of how facility developments can contribute towards other BG strategic priorities.

Participation in gymnastics is reportedly increasing rapidly. BG membership reached 390,500 in 2017 having increased at about 12% per year between 2013-17. The emphasis for this strategy period is on using gymnastics as a foundation sport for 5-11 year olds. BG reports extensive demand for more gymnastics opportunity across the country and clubs with long waiting lists.

Research undertaken (Freshminds Latent Demand Research, 2017) suggests that a further 1.9 million would like to participate but are not currently on a waiting list. A key part of BG's strategy to increase participation is to support clubs moving into their own dedicated facility, offering more time and space for classes. There is a definite trend for gymnastics clubs to do this.

There are also initiatives for older people funded by Sport England, such as, Love to Move focused on dementia patients.

BG is in the process of developing a new overall strategy and a facility strategy. It is expected that both pieces of work will be finalised in summer 2022.

#### 9.1: Supply

There are three dedicated gymnastics venues in Herefordshire, two in Hereford and one in Ross-on-Wye. In addition, one non-dedicated venue accommodates gymnastics activity. This venue provides large storage facilities with transferable equipment. One of the venues in Hereford (Hereford Leisure Centre) accommodates two clubs; Hereford Sparks (managed directly via Halo) Gymnastics Club and Hereford Dynamix Trampoline Club. Consultation requests were sent to all three dedicated gymnastics venues (clubs) to which three responded.

Sparks has use of a dedicated gymnastics area (with relevant equipment) within the leisure centre. Dynamix is a community club which has its trampolines permanently set in up in the leisure centres sports hall. It is allocated an area the size of two badminton courts.

Drive time catchment modelling estimates that approx. 92% of Herefordshire's population lives within 30 minutes' drive of a dedicated gymnastics facility. Twelve gymnastics clubs/facilities are located in neighbouring authorities within a 30-minute drive time from Herefordshire. Taking these into account, catchment modelling suggests that over 97% of Herefordshire's population is within a 30-minute drive of a gymnastics facility.

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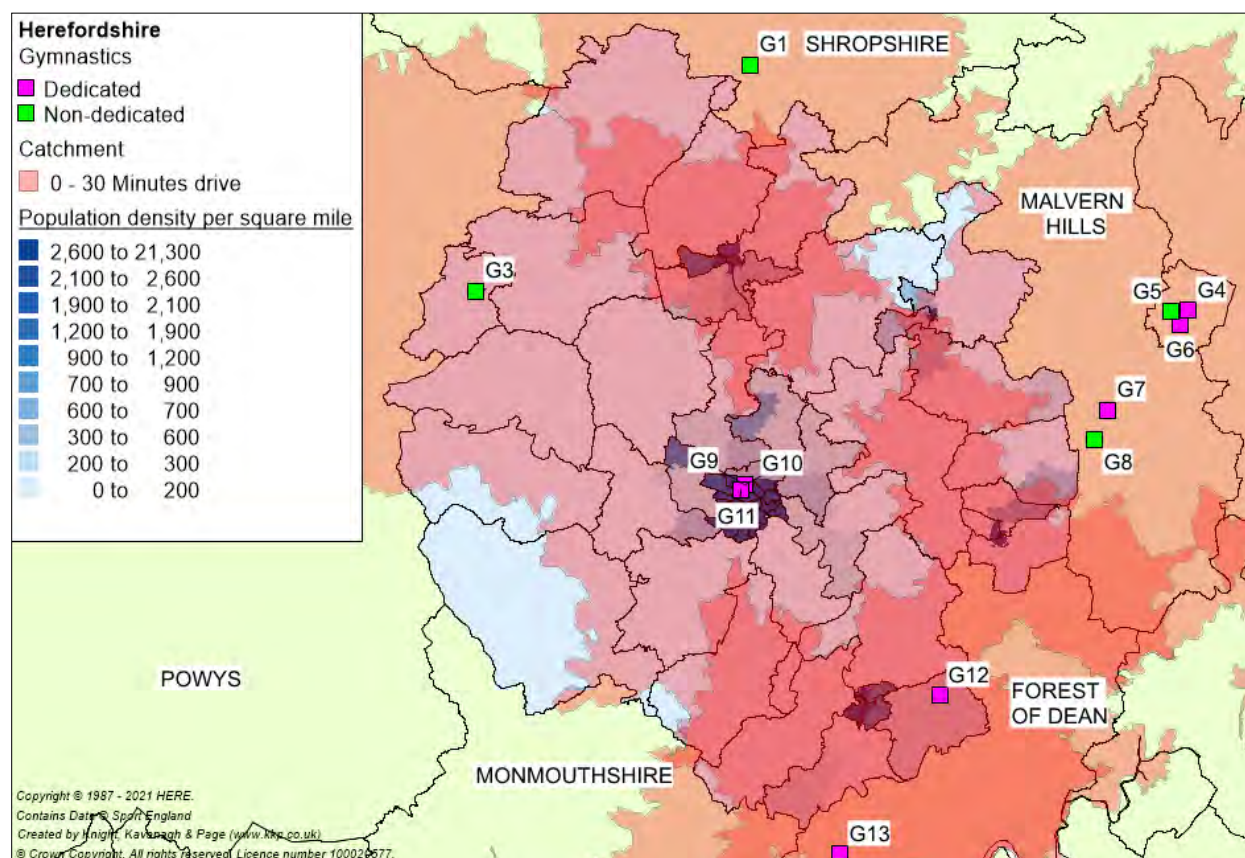
Table 9.1: All facilities which offer gymnastics in Herefordshire

ID	Site name	Dedicated gymnastics site
G3	Lady Hawkins Gymnastics Club	No
G9	Hereford Dynamix Trampoline Club	Yes
G10	Hereford Sparks (Halo) Gymnastics Club	Yes
G11	React	Yes
G12	Flipz Gymnastics	Yes

Table 9.2: Gymnastics facilities in neighbouring authorities

ID	Site name	Dedicated gymnastics site	Local authority
G1	South Shropshire Gymnastics Club	No	Shropshire
G4	Flics Gymnastics	Yes	Worcester
G5	Rythmic Gymnastics Club	No	Worcester
G6	City of Worcester Gymnastics Academy	Yes	Worcester
G7	City of Worcester Gymnastics Academy (Malvern)	Yes	Malvern Hills
G8	Malvern Gymnastics	No	Malvern Hills
G13	Forest of Dean Gym	Yes	Forest of Dean

Figure 9.1: Gymnastics provision in Herefordshire and sites in neighbouring authorities





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### 9.2: Demand

In the West Midlands BG notes an increase in participation from 9,000 to 29,000 in the years 2014 through to 2020. As noted above, the emphasis for 2017 – 2021 was using gymnastics as a foundation sport for 5-11 year olds.

BG also reports substantial demand and that many clubs have waiting lists - restricting access to gymnastic activity due to lack of time within dedicated and generic facilities. A key part of BG's strategy to increase participation is to support clubs, leisure providers and other partners to move to their own dedicated facilities, offering more time and space for classes. BG provides a range of products and programmes and expert assistance to support local delivery; gymnastic activities which are successfully driving membership growth and retention across the country.

#### *Club consultation*

*Hereford Sparks (Halo) Gymnastics Club* is a large club based in a dedicated space within Hereford Leisure Centre. BG reports having 169 participants (members). However, consultation with Halo Leisure, indicates that it currently has 592 active members. It is expected the Halo figure is a more accurate representation as it also includes regular pay and play users. Sessions are delivered by qualified coaches and children as young as 18 months old can attend. It subscribes to the National Gymnastics Awards Programme<sup>34</sup>, and follows this at each level.

*Flipz Gymnastics* is based in a commercial unit in Ross-on-Wye; a site which previously operated as a gym. BG reports having 315 participants (members). It indicated that prior to moving in to its current facility in 2019, it was located at a local primary school. It currently leases the facility and delivers sessions on five days per week (Mondays-Thursdays during after school hours, and on Saturdays). Its coaches also deliver a weekly school session at Ashfield Primary School. It reports currently being at capacity and that it has aspirations to grow further, although, there is a recognition that this would require further resource allocating to coach development. It is currently operating as a limited company and has aspirations to transition to become a community interest company (CIC).

*Lady Hawkins Gymnastics Club* is based at Lady Hawkins School in Kington. It utilises the school assembly hall. BG reports that it has 60 participants (members), however, the Club indicated that it has c. 100. It currently runs a weekly session (on Saturday mornings). It has recently gained some new equipment via a grant. It reports that the School allows it to store equipment on site, which helps significantly from a logistical standpoint. It is located in sparsely populated rural west Herefordshire and reports experiencing difficulties recruiting coaches given the small pool of people to call upon.

*React Gymnastics* is large club based in Hereford. BG suggested that it has 584 participants (members) although the Club itself indicates having c.700 members. The Club reports having a waiting list. It has aspirations to grow further and is aiming for a membership of c.1000. In June 2021 it moved into a dedicated gymnastics facility having previously used the sports hall at Whitecross High School Hereford. It has been significantly affected by the Pandemic but managed to keep functioning via the range of government support options. It operates sessions Mondays through to Saturdays and is currently focusing on growing its pre-school offer. It operates as a CIC and moving into 2022 it reports that its key focus is on investing in equipment and that it is continually seeking funding options for this. It suggested that it faces an 'unfair playing field' when seeking local authority support due to the provision run by Halo at Hereford Leisure Centre, which it feels gets a disproportionate share of funding/resource allocation.

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<sup>34</sup> <https://natgap.co.uk/>

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*Hereford Dynamix Trampoline Club* did not respond to consultation requests, despite numerous attempts to make contact. BG reports that it has 180 participants (members).

### 9.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Gymnastics	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific needs
<b>Quantity</b>	There are three dedicated gymnastics venues in Herefordshire- accommodating four clubs. In addition, one club is located at Lady Hawkins School in the West of the County.	React gymnastic report and aspiration to grow further. Lady Hawkins Gymnastics Club report coach recruitment to be a challenge.
<b>Quality</b>	The facilities at Hereford Leisure Centre serving both Hereford Sparks Gymnastics Club and Hereford Dynamix Trampoline Club are rated as good. No site assessment was undertaken at Flipz and React Gymnastics.	
<b>Accessibility</b>	92% of Herefordshire's residents reside within a 30-minute drive time of a club within the County. In addition, there are seven gymnastics sites in neighbouring authorities within a 30-minute drive.	
<b>Availability</b> (Management & usage)	There is opportunity to grow participation in gymnastics in Herefordshire. There will be a need to develop the coaching and volunteer workforce in order to increase participation in gymnastics.	Expand the coaching and volunteer workforce to develop the sport locally to enable it to offer further gymnastics opportunities. Maintain good relationships with community gymnastic providers.
<b>Strategic summary</b>	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 across the County is adequate and meets current and future demand.	

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### SECTION 10: INDOOR BOWLS

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

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

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

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

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

An indoor bowling centre typically comprises a single flat green with a number of rinks and ancillary accommodation such as changing rooms, lounge/bar, viewing area, kitchen, office/meeting rooms and stores plus designated car parking. The size of ancillary accommodation varies according to the number of rinks available. A successful indoor bowls centre requires a combination of the right location, design, and financial and general management. Sport England<sup>35</sup> guidelines on catchment for indoor bowls centres are set out to be interpreted in the light of local circumstances:

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

The stated priorities of EIBA are:

- ◀ Recruitment of participants.
- ◀ Retention of participants.
- ◀ Clubs obtaining “Clubmark Accreditation”.
- ◀ Retention and improvement of facilities.
- ◀ New indoor facilities in areas of low-supply and high-demand.

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<sup>35</sup> Sport England Design Guidance Note Indoor Bowls 2005

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### *EIBA Outline Plan 2017 - 2021*

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

- ◀ Facilities: build, improve, retain.
- ◀ Youth and the family.
- ◀ Women – increase participation and retention.
- ◀ Disability.
- ◀ Competitions.
- ◀ Internationals.
- ◀ Promotion.
- ◀ Commercial partnerships.

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

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

It was reported during consultation with EIBA that an updated development strategy is in development and is due to be released in the latter half of 2022.

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

The Sport England funding for the 2017-2021 period, focuses on the delivery of:

- ◀ **Club Development Programme:** supports clubs across the country where they have identified greatest need.
- ◀ **Play Bowls Package Scheme:** supports clubs with their recruitment.
- ◀ **Coach Bowls:** providing qualifications for coaches and developing the best tutor workforce to deliver these qualifications across the whole sport including BE, EIBA, British Crown Green BA and English Short Mat BA
- ◀ **Facilities:** providing funding support for BE and EIBA to research the facility requirements of their clubs.

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

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

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## 10.1: Supply

There is one indoor bowls facility in Herefordshire, located at Bridge Street Sports Centre in Leominster. It has six rinks - all flat greens. The non-technical assessment found the facility to be in above average condition. There are two other indoor bowls facilities within a 30 minutes' drive of Herefordshire – Manor Park in Malvern Hills and GL1 Leisure Centre in Gloucester.

Figure 10.1: Indoor bowls facilities in Herefordshire & within 30 minutes' drive time

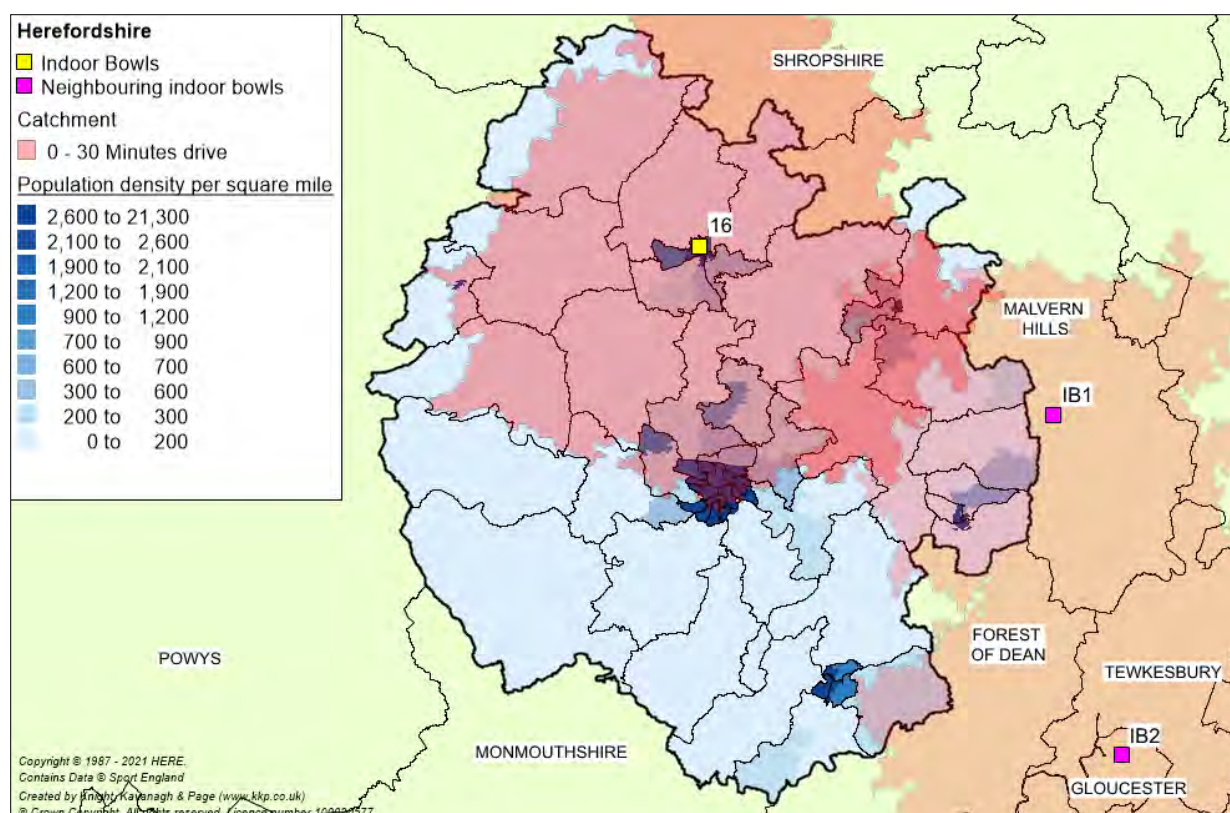


Table 10.2: Indoor bowls facilities in Herefordshire and neighbouring authorities

ID	Site	Rinks	Access type	Authority
16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	6	Sports Club / CA	Herefordshire
IB1	Manor Park Multisports Complex	6	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
IB2	GL1 Leisure Centre	4	Pay & play	Gloucester

### Accessibility

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that approx. 55% of Herefordshire's population lives within a 30-minutes' drive of Bridge Street Sports Centre. Indoor bowls facilities in neighbouring Malvern Hills and Gloucester can be accessed within a 30-minute drive by approximately 15% of Herefordshire's residents (those living in the east and south east of the County). Both these are outside the 30 minute drive time from Bridge Street Sports Centre.

### Availability

Bridge Street Sports Centre is accessible via sports club/community association. It is available during the day and in the evening.

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### 10.2: Demand

Consultation with EIBA indicates that as Bridge Street Sports Centre is the only indoor bowls provision the County it is important that the Council/Halo and the resident bowling club work together to ensure that it continues to not just operate, but thrive post Pandemic. The NGB highlighted rising population projections for the 60+ age group and that it considers the retention of Bridge Street Sports Centre for indoor bowls as essential. Ideally the EIBA would like to see development of an additional facility in the County, especially as the nearest other purpose-built site is in Malvern Hills. This exceeds the recognised acceptable distance as outlined in the Sport England/EIBA indoor bowls design guidance notes.

*Leominster Indoor Bowls Club* has c.115 playing members. Along with club membership it also offers pay as you go options for individuals attending on a session by session basis. It is based exclusively at Bridge Street Sports Centre and hires the hall throughout the winter months for two hours per day (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays). During the 2021/2022 winter it operated six internal leagues. This includes competitions which are held on every alternate Saturday. Prior to the Pandemic it played in an external league with fixtures on a home and away basis, however, the league was suspended and had not recommenced as of March 2022.

The Club reports having plans to re-join the league if it restarts. Its officials indicated that the playing facilities at Bridge Street work well for it along with the pricing, however, it suggested that the ancillary facilities are lacking. Only vending machines are in place and this limits its members' social experience. It would like to see café provision added at the site.

### 10.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Indoor bowls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	There is one 6-rink indoor bowls facility in Herefordshire at Bridge Street Sports Centre.	Retain existing facility. Consider whether/how further provision could be developed in Herefordshire. Review ancillary facilities at Bridge Street and how best to support social elements of centre use and for the Club
<b>Quality</b>	The facility is in above average condition.	Maintain quality and monitor condition of carpet.
<b>Accessibility</b>	55% of Herefordshire's population lives within 30 minutes' drive of an indoor bowls facility. The two facilities in neighbouring authorities are accessible to 15% of Herefordshire residents.	No access needs. Short mat bowls provision is available in a range of village/community halls in the County; this enables some access for residents without access to a car.
<b>Availability</b> (Management and usage)	Bridge Street is available during the day and in the evening. It is necessary to be a club member to access indoor bowls on a regular basis.	No programming and pricing needs
<b>Strategic Summary</b>	EIBA report the importance of retaining Bridge Street Sports Centre, further, it indicates aspirations for further provision within the County. Further investigation is required to ascertain demand levels for new provision.	

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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### SECTION 11: INDOOR TENNIS

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

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

This will be supported through the following key funding objectives:

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### 11.1: Supply

Indoor tennis provision is based on specialist facilities which appeal beyond a local authority boundary. Consequently, this report considers provision within with a 30-minutes' drive time catchment to demonstrate accessibility.

There is one indoor tennis facility in Herefordshire, located at Bridge Street Sports Centre. It has two indoor courts. There are three indoor tennis facilities within a 30 minutes' drive of Herefordshire – Manor Park in Malvern Hills, David Lloyd Club (Worcester) in Wychavon and Oxtails Sports Park in Gloucester. The facility at Bridge Street Sports Centre is not exclusively used for indoor tennis. Courts are overmarked with netball markings and the space is also utilised as a general sports hall, accommodating netball and indoor cricket in addition to indoor tennis.

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 11.1: Indoor tennis facilities in Herefordshire and within 30 minutes' drive time

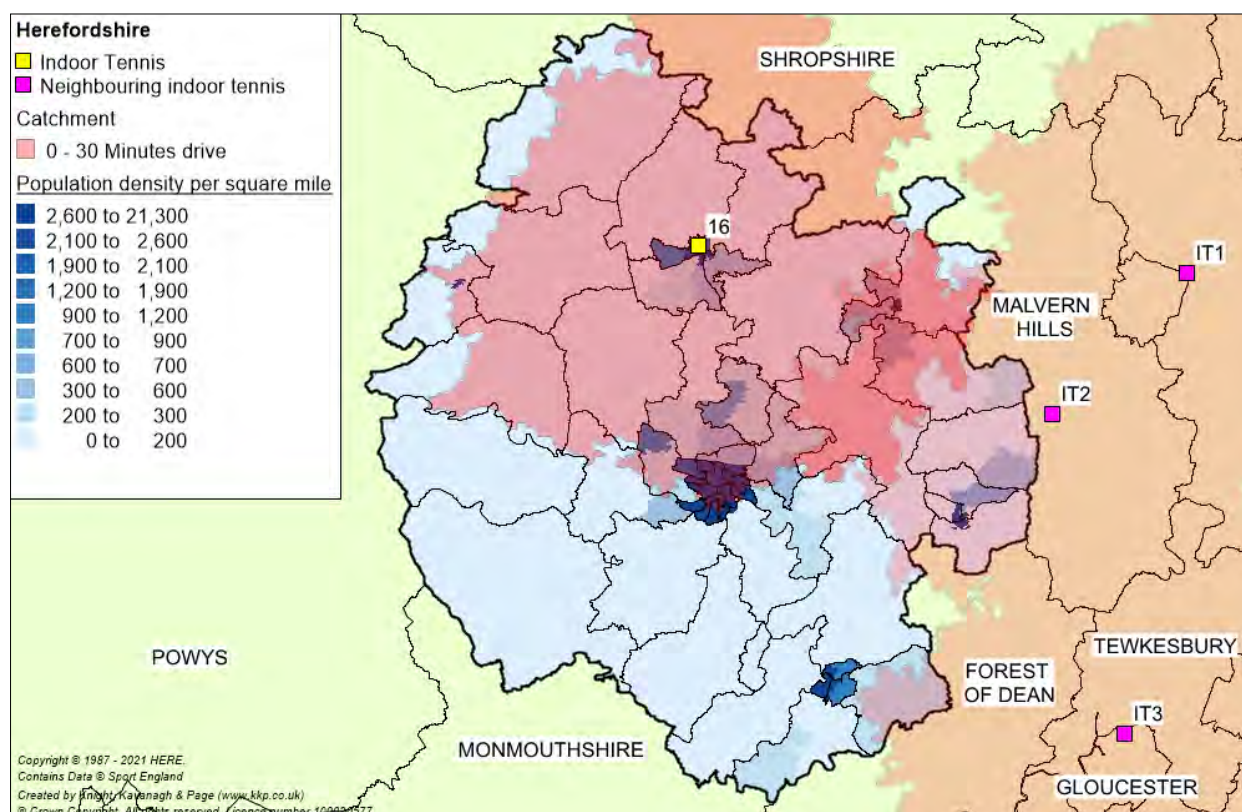


Table 11.1: Indoor tennis facilities in Herefordshire and neighbouring authorities

ID	Site	Courts	Access type	Authority
16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	2	Pay & play	Herefordshire
IT1	David Lloyd Club (Worcester)	3	Reg. membership	Wychavon
IT2	Manor Park Malvern	1	Sports Club / CA	Malvern Hills
IT1	Oxtails Sports Park	6	Pay & play	Gloucester

Source: Active Places Power 15/03/2022

## Accessibility and availability

Drive time catchment modelling confirms that c. 55% of Herefordshire's population lives within a 30-minutes' drive of Bridge Street Sports Centre. Indoor tennis facilities in neighbouring Malvern Hills, Wychavon, and Gloucester can be accessed within a 30-minute drive by approximately 15% of Herefordshire's residents located in the east and south east of the County. All three sites fall outside the 30 minute drive time of Bridge Street Sports Centre.

Bridge Street Sports Centre is managed by Halo Leisure and is available on a pay and play basis. The courts are also regularly booked by the club – Leominster Tennis Club.



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### 11.2: Demand

The LTA recently redesigned its strategic approach to target key national focus areas, ultimately to grow participation. Future investment in facilities is based on detailed analysis of potential demand throughout the UK. It has identified 96 priority target areas for development of new indoor courts in the UK of which Herefordshire is one.

It suggests that there is potential for development of additional indoor tennis provision in Hereford, although no current clear opportunity is available. The current draft PPS will also calculate future demand for outdoor tennis and should future demand exceed supply, this may further highlight potential for an additional indoor facility.

Halo indicated that during an average week the courts at Bridge Street are booked for 25 hours (primarily weekday daytime and evenings). The makeup of the usage is a mixture of pay and pay bookings, local coaches booking the courts and club use.

#### *Club consultation*

*Leominster Tennis Club* has c.50 tennis members (three men's teams, three ladies' teams and one mixed team). It uses the four outdoor courts at the Halo Centre- Bridge Street for most of its activities though it does also utilise the two indoor courts on a weekly basis (mainly casual play as there is no official indoor leagues in the area). It highlighted the previous existence of an indoor league (Herefordshire and Worcestershire Indoor League) but noted that this ceased to exist due to a lack of interest. It reports having contributed to improvements of this facility as it bought dividing nets to be installed - which are used by all sport users of the venue.

The cost of hire was raised as an issue. As a result, it claims some of its members have moved on to the Ludlow Centre, where it is reportedly cheaper (to hire). In terms of ancillary provision, the facility is well catered for. The Club stated that the building's ancillary provision is lacking (no café etc), which it feels is a missed opportunity on the centre's behalf. It indicated potential demand for this especially when there are junior training sessions when parents are present and are waiting on the side lines.

### 11.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Indoor tennis	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	Bridge Street Sports Centre is the sole facility for indoor tennis, it has two courts.	Herefordshire is identified as a priority target area for development by the LTA.
<b>Quality</b>	The site is rated as above average quality.	Leominster Tennis Club report that ancillary provision is lacking, and that it would benefit from some form of catering infrastructure.
<b>Accessibility</b>	Approx. 55% of Herefordshire's residents live within a 30 minute drive of Bridge Street Sports Centre.	
<b>Availability</b> (Management & usage)	The site is available on a pay & play basis.	
<b>Summary</b>	Continue to work with the LTA and partners to drive up participation and ensure that facilities are financially viable.	

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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### SECTION 12: WATER SPORTS

This section covers the built facilities in Herefordshire for water sports, which includes facilities in rowing, sailing, and canoeing. Given the requirement for suitable facilities on water to be able to take part in canoeing, sailing and rowing, it is understood that participants in water sports may need to travel significant distances to take part in relevant activities. This section, therefore, considers canoeing, sailing and rowing in both Herefordshire and neighbouring authorities which may be considered accessible for Herefordshire residents.

#### 12.1: Introduction

There are two identified affiliated rowing clubs in the County with built facilities plus four canoeing clubs. The primary source of water space in the County is the River Wye which runs west to south east across the County. There are no sailing clubs located within Herefordshire. The County has significantly less accessible open water space than some neighbouring authorities, which may help to explain this.

#### 12.2: Canoeing

British Canoeing is responsible for leading and setting the overall framework for the UK's four National Associations and includes areas such as coaching, competition and representing canoeing interests at a UK level. Its strategic plan, Stronger Together, guides its work until 2021. It is highly likely that a new plan will build on previous work whilst taking account of the impact that the Pandemic has had on outdoor sporting activity.

The purpose of British Canoeing is to; "inspire people to pursue a passion for paddling; for health, enjoyment, friendship, challenge and achievement". The vision for British Canoeing is "A united British Canoeing, focused on our people and ambitions and excellent in delivery". Its ambitions include:

- ◀ Increase regular participation in paddlesport.
- ◀ Attract new members in British Canoeing and improve member engagement and satisfaction.
- ◀ Create and promote more opportunities for exploration, adventure and challenge.
- ◀ Develop a stronger network of clubs and centres.
- ◀ Create more places to paddle and improve facilities.
- ◀ Improve access and promote environmental awareness.
- ◀ Provide excellent competitions.
- ◀ Improve pathways to performance and international success.
- ◀ Develop volunteers, coaches and leaders.
- ◀ Strengthen governance and financial sustainability within the sport.
- ◀ Improve the profile of paddlesport and communications throughout the sport.

It is recognised that canoeing is a popular sport for recreation in addition to clubs' sports participation. This is particularly the case for the Herefordshire area.

#### *Supply & accessibility*

Three of the four canoeing clubs in Herefordshire are located on the River Wye in and around the Hereford area, and one is located on the same river at Symonds Yat in the Wye Valley.

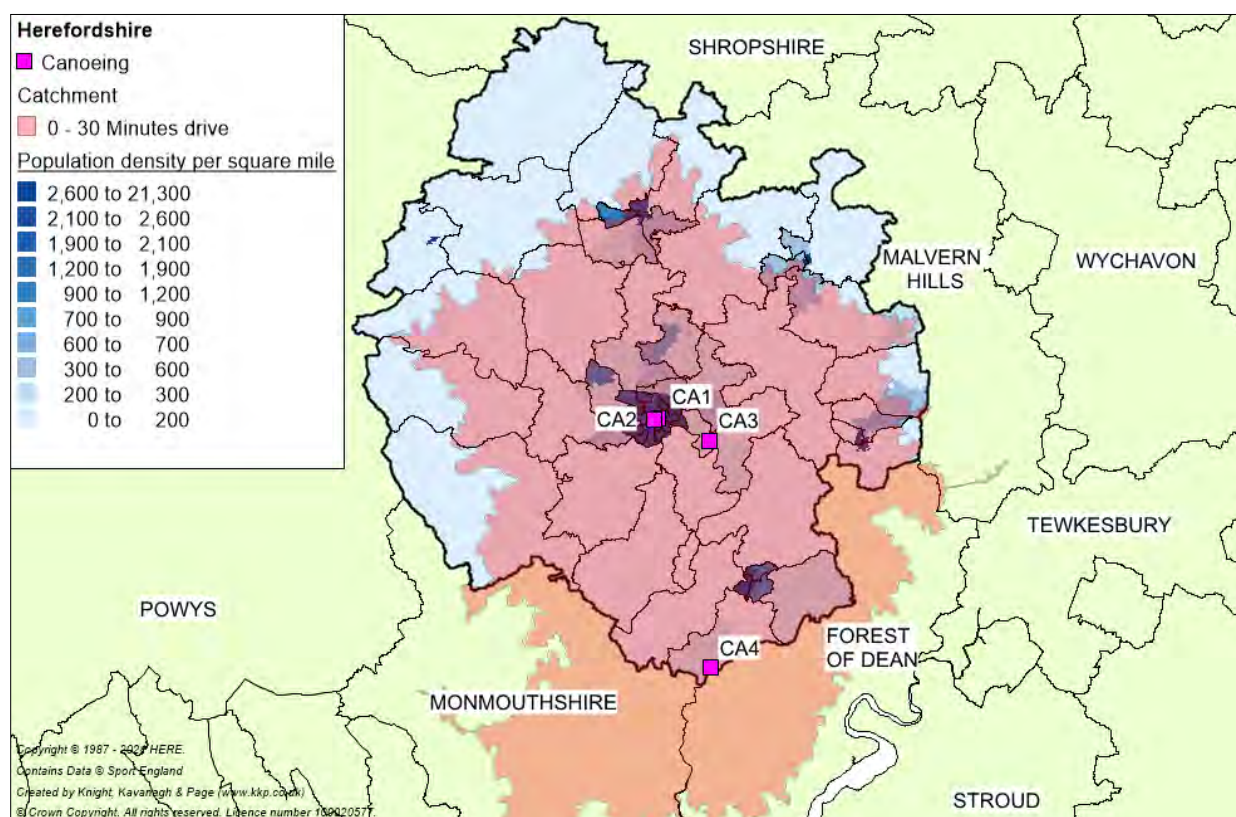
# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Table 12.1: Canoeing Clubs in Herefordshire

ID	Site name	Postcode
CA1	Hereford Youth Canoe Club	HR1 2NH
CA2	Hereford Kayak Club	HR4 0BE
CA3	Hereford County Canoe Club	HR1 4LE
CA4	Wyedean Canoe Club	HR9 6JL

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that approx. 85% of Herefordshire's population (ONS MYE 2020) is within a 30-minute drive of a canoeing facility located within the County.

Figure 12.1: Canoeing clubs in Herefordshire



## Demand

All four clubs were approached for consultation. Hereford County Canoe Club responded indicating that it has no built facilities and as such did not wish to engage with the consultation. The other three did not respond despite receiving multiple requests. Below is a summary of the Clubs activities based on desk research:

*Hereford Kayak Club* is based at Hereford Rowing Club on the banks of the River Wye. It has access to the Rowing Club clubhouse facility along with storage options for its kayaks. Its website reports that its current specialism is the racing side of the sport, however, many members still also kayak recreationally as a way of keeping fit or enjoy the River Wye and its wild life. Members range in age from 11 to 60 years of age. The Club has several qualified coaches and is currently working to acquire Clubmark status.

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It participates in the West Midlands Marathon System, whereby, clubs from the region host races which are divided into ability divisions, meaning there is scope for people of all ages from beginners to international level. Its members also have the option to race at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham, competing in the three nationally held sprint regattas (200m, 500m & 1000m races).

*Hereford County Canoe Club's* website indicates that it is a family friendly, non-competitive, mixed ability club for kayak and open water paddlers. It was founded in 1956 and primarily organises a programme of sociable cruises on the River Wye and its tributaries, as well as other local waterways and rivers further afield across England. Club members tend to own or hire out kayaks/canoes individually.

*Hereford Youth Canoe Club* does not have a website, however, its social media page indicates that it is based on the banks of the River Wye and offers kayaking and canoeing activities for young people aged 11-18. No further information was available.

*Wyedean Canoe Club* is based at Symonds Yat on the River Wye in the Wye Valley. Its website indicates that it is all-inclusive and encourages and assists members to achieve their personal paddling goals. It offers the opportunity for paddlers of all ages, backgrounds, abilities and disabilities to enjoy kayaking and canoeing safely with qualified coaches. The Club meets every Thursday evening during summertime.

### 12.2: Yachting

The Royal Yachting Association (RYA) is the national body for all forms of boating, including dinghy and yacht racing, motor and sail cruising, RIBs and sports boats, powerboat racing, windsurfing, canal and river boat cruising, and personal watercraft. Within its Strategic Plan 2017-2021, it has identified that it will invest in the following activities with an aim of getting more people involved:



Current RYA programmes include:

- ◀ *Push the Boat Out (PTBO)* - getting out on the water and discovering sailing and windsurfing. Clubs are encouraged to open their doors, during a specific week of the year, to the public to allow people to try either sailing or windsurfing.
- ◀ *OnBoard* - which introduces new young people into the sport by teaching them new skills in a safe controlled environment.

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- ◀ *Active Marina* - designed to build competence and confidence in marina berth holders. The programme engages with a large number of people who sail recreationally to develop their skills and confidence and give them opportunities to sail more frequently.
- ◀ *Sailability* - supporting disabled people to sail at Sailability Foundation sites.
- ◀ *Provide Try Sailing* - opportunities for new or returning sailors
- ◀ Promoting adult sailing opportunities via RYA affiliated clubs and RYA recognised training centres through participation pathway activities.
- ◀ Encouraging more female participation via This Girl Can. Its clubs are actively encouraged to promote women only sailing programme. Certain clubs have adopted the Women on Water (WOW) programme to encourage more female participation.

The Marine Federation Code of Practice guidance prepared by the British Marine Federation (BMF) and RYA provides planning authorities with supporting information and sample policies to safeguard and enable marine businesses and voluntarily run clubs to be developed. The aim is for such organisations and individuals to adapt and increase recreational boating facilities across the UK's inland and coastal waters on a planned, sustainable basis. It is acknowledged throughout that although the primary audience is policy makers within planning authorities and regional assemblies, the advice is also relevant to a wide range of policy and decision makers that develop management plans, including Sport England.

Table 12.2: RYA strategies for increasing participation:

Strategy	Enablers	Measures
<b>Broader delivery network</b> Clubs, commercial providers and marinas Develop robust multi-sport offer "Pay and Play" ownership alternatives	Consumer insight data and market intelligence	Diversity of participant profile
<b>Regional participation plans</b> Tailored, local plans supporting core activity Trial opportunities with local clubs Focus on conversion to regular participation Integrated RYA teams Local communications		Number of providers, sessions and regulars by programme
<b>Promote and market boating to all</b> Demolish perception of "elitism" Build awareness and connection via shows, digital, advertising, press Create, support or leverage mass participation events Ensure retention of existing core participants Encourage lapsed boaters to return to the sport	Collaboration with sports and charity partners	Club participation in core programmes and providing regular data
<b>Strengthen routes into boating</b> Direct work with schools and youth groups Holiday to club links Friends & family core introduction programme Closer liaison with sailors leaving the squad pathway	Enhanced digital & physical communications	Engagement with Start Boating site and digital campaigns
<b>Targeted diversity</b> More black, asian & minority ethnic role models Differentiated marketing <i>Sailability</i> tailored by impairment group Charity partners		

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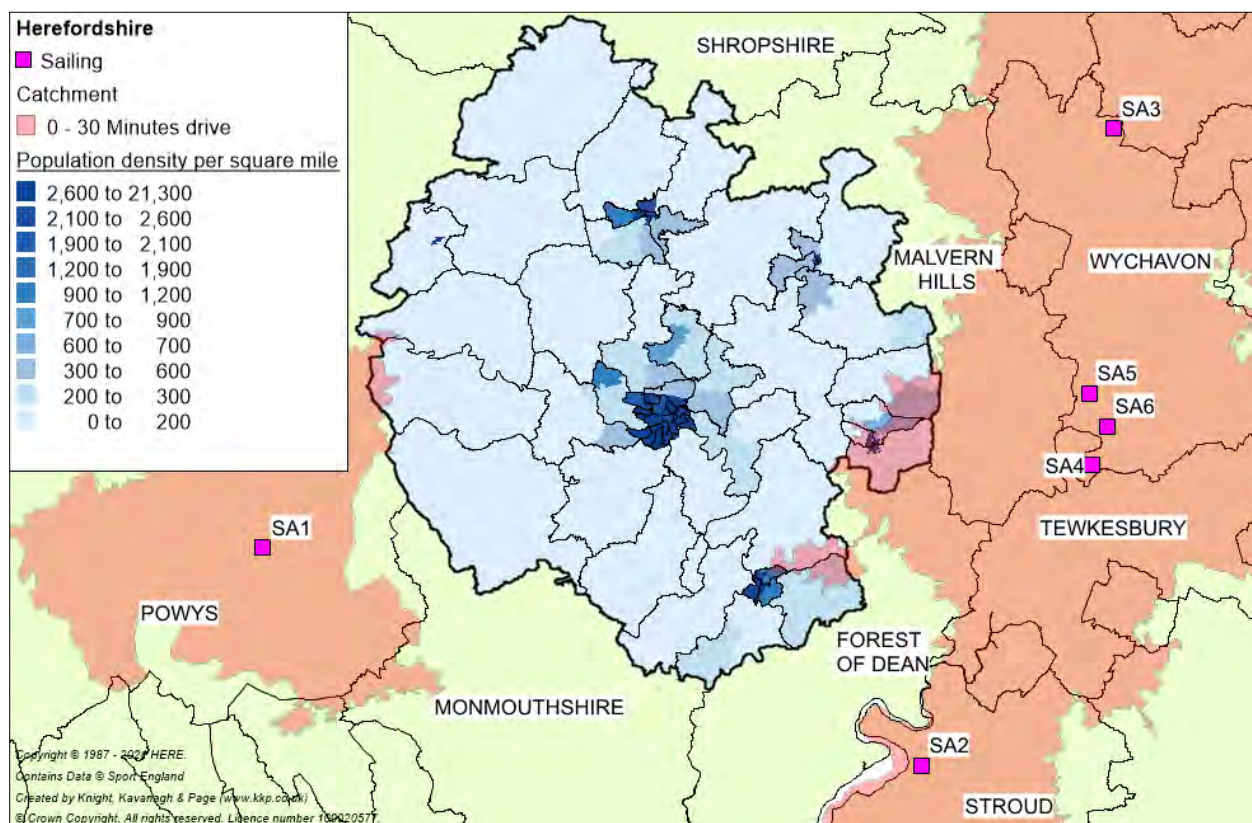
## Supply

There are no sailing clubs in Herefordshire. The nearest RYA affiliated clubs are in Wychavon, Stroud and Powys. (Clubs where motor boating is the main offer have been excluded.)

Table 12.3: Club offer in neighbouring authorities:

Club name	ID	Local authority	RYA affiliated club	RYA training centre	Sailability	OnBoard
Llangorse Sailing Club	SA1	Powys	Dinghy cruising	Dinghy, Short courses (First Aid)		Sailing, Windsurfing.
Frampton on Severn SC	SA2	Stroud	Dinghy racing, Dinghy cruising, Yacht cruising	Dinghy, Short courses (First Aid)	Dingy, yacht.	Sailing, Windsurfing.
Aztec Adventure Ltd	SA3	Wychavon		Dinghy, Powerboat, Windsurfing	Keelboat Windsurfing Dinghy	Sailing Windsurfing.
Sail & Paddle Ltd	SA4	Wychavon		Dinghy Powerboat Windsurfing		Sailing Windsurfing.
Arden SC	SA5	Wychavon	Dingy racing, Dingy cruising	Dinghy, Short courses (First Aid)		
Severn SC	SA6	Wychavon	Dingy racing, Dingy cruising	Dinghy, Powerboat		

Figure 12.2: Sailing clubs in neighbouring authorities



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### Accessibility

Drive time catchment suggest that approx. 7% (ONS MYE 2020) of Herefordshire's population lives within a 30-minute drive of a sailing club in neighbouring authorities. As such sailing opportunities are highly limited for the Herefordshire residents.

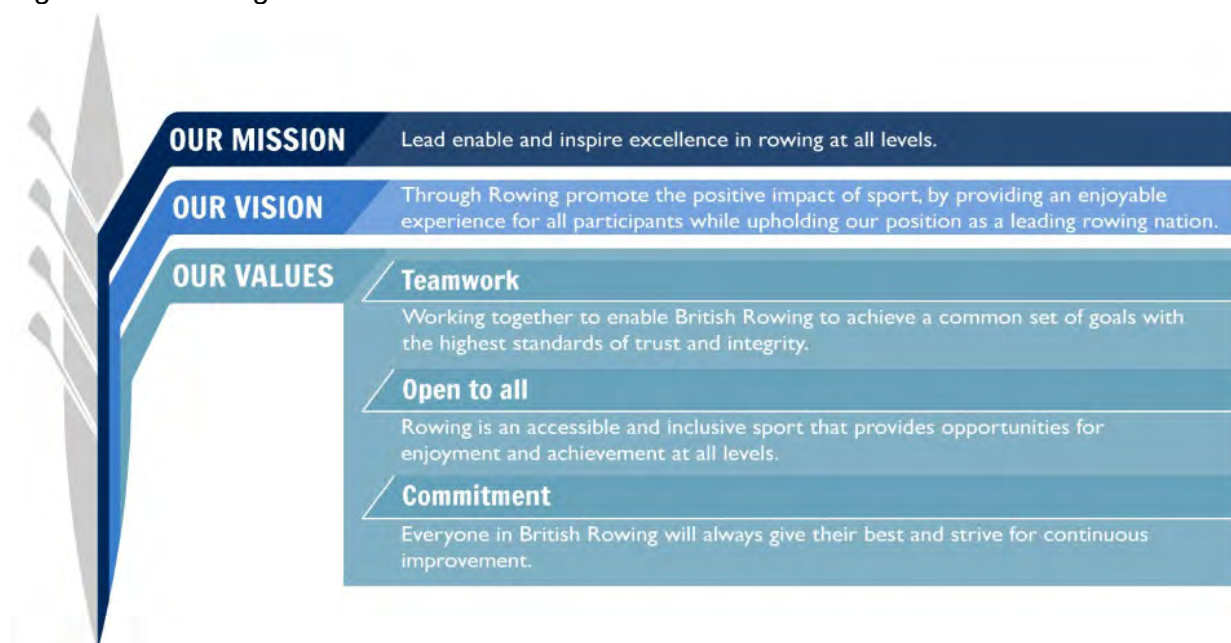
### Demand

No sailing clubs were identified in Herefordshire.

## 12.3: Rowing

British Rowing is the governing body for the sport of rowing (indoor and on water).

Figure 12.2: Strategic Plan 2015 – 2024



British Rowing's stated strategic objectives are to:

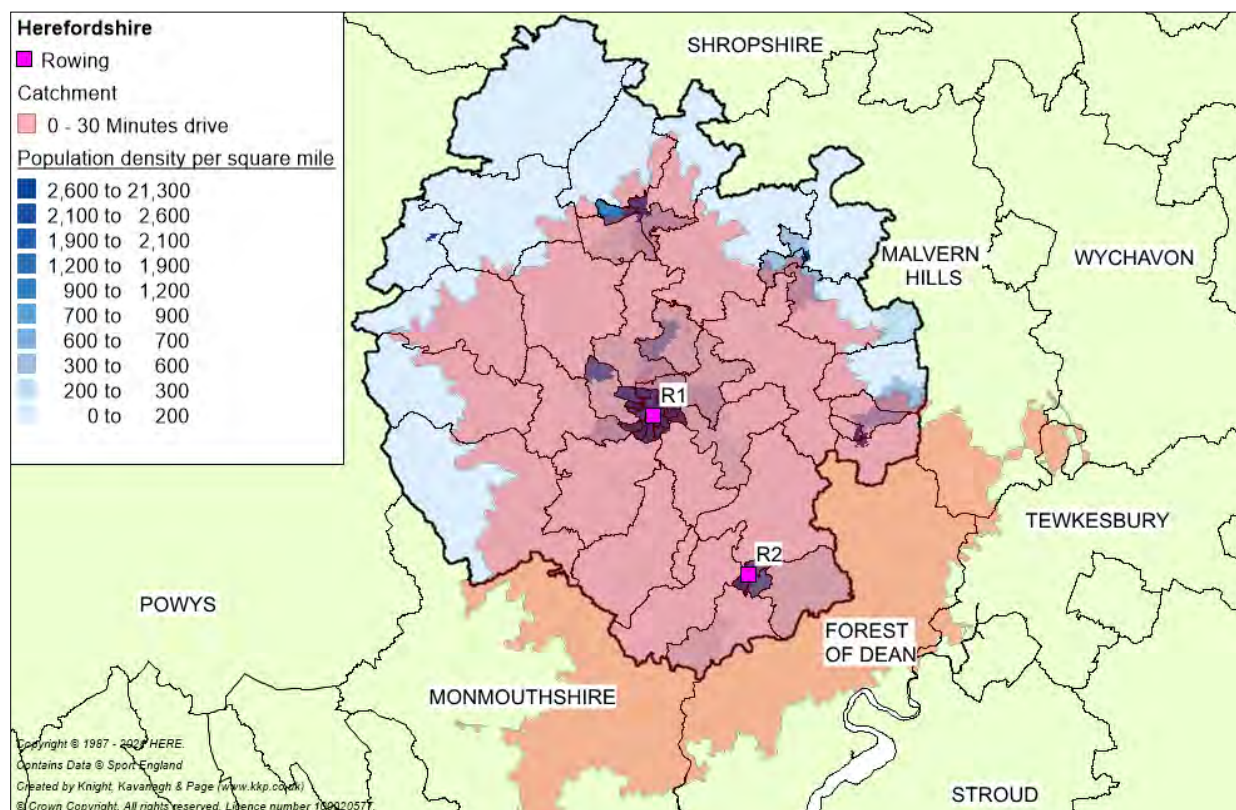
- ◀ Grow the number of people in rowing.
- ◀ Be one of the leading rowing nations at the Olympics and Paralympics.
- ◀ Create and embed pathways to identify and develop talent.
- ◀ Maximise the value of the sport.
- ◀ Pull together: One team with a shared purpose.

### Supply

The key affiliated clubs in Herefordshire are Hereford Rowing Club (map ID- R1) and Ross Rowing Club (map ID – R2).

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Figure 12.3: Herefordshire rowing clubs



## Accessibility

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that approx. 85% of Herefordshire's population (ONS MYE 2020) is within a 30-minute drive of a canoeing facility located within the County.

## Demand

Consultation was carried out with British Rowing. It did not prove possible to consult Hereford Rowing Club despite numerous requests. Ross Rowing Club did engage with the consultation. The summary below consists of intelligence from British Rowing, consultation summary (in relation to Ross Rowing Club) and desk research:

*Ross Rowing Club* has 108 members for the 2021/2022 British Rowing affiliation period, this is down from 141 in the previous year. The Club which has a built facility on the banks of the River Wye has c.30 juniors in its overall membership. It has recently suffered two flooding events, the first in October 2019 and the second in February 2020. The latter badly damaged the clubhouse and it is currently being replaced – mainly paid for via the Club's insurance policy although it has also needed to raise additional funds for the project. The new building is scheduled for completion by June 2022. It will feature a bar/social area along with changing rooms and kit storage. The new build will utilise materials with better resistance to the effects of flooding. This is of considerable importance as it will be still be located in its original position in proximity to the water. Issues linked with the flooding along with the Pandemic have significantly impacted membership over the last two years, however, it reports an improving trend in 2022.

The Club also reports owning a campsite adjacent to its clubhouse, which helps provide revenue. Regular events are held at the site, including an annual regatta.



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British Rowing reports *Hereford Rowing Club* to have 139 members (2021/2022). This too represents a reduction in membership compared with the previous year (175). The Club website indicates that it has a substantial clubhouse, which includes a bar/social area, small gym and an indoor rowing tank. Furthermore, it too owns an adjacent camping area.

### 12.4: Summary of key facts and issues for Herefordshire

Facility type	Water sports	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	Two rowing club with a built facilities are located on the River Wye. There are also four canoeing clubs in the county. No sailing clubs are located in Herefordshire.	Provide general support for clubs looking to maintain and renew facilities.
<b>Quality</b>	In general, the quality of the rowing/canoeing offer is good with a range of boats, clubhouse and ancillary facilities. Ross Rowing Club's built facility is currently being rebuilt.	
<b>Accessibility</b>	Approx. 85% of the County's population live within a 20 minute drive of a rowing or canoeing club. Sailing facilities are accessible for a small segment (7%) of residents.	
<b>Availability</b> (Management and usage)	Hereford RC is in a position to accept new members, with come and try sessions being either free or low cost in the first instance. This also applies to Ross Rowing Club. Most water sports provision is accessible via club membership.	
<b>Summary</b>	Support all rowing and canoeing to drive up participation and continue to offer a range of water sports. Maintain the current facilities and ensure they are viable in the longer term.	

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### SECTION 13: CLIMBING FACILITIES

This section focuses on facilities which provide opportunities for indoor climbing.

The British Mountaineering Council (BMC) is the national representative body that champions the interests of climbers, hill walkers, mountaineers and ski mountaineers in England and Wales. It is recognised by Sport England as the NGB for competition climbing. BMC latest Strategic Plan (2020-2024) outlines the vision of 'to create a better future for climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers'. It sets out five key strategic themes:

- ✦ Access, conservation & environmental sustainability.
- ✦ Membership engagement, services & support.
- ✦ Education, inspiration & skills.
- ✦ Organisational development & sector leadership.
- ✦ GB Climbing - competitions, talented athletes & the GB Teams.

Consultation with BMC indicated that indoor climbing activities have been particularly hard hit by the restrictions attributed to the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, as with other sports it is an improving picture progressing in to 2022.

Sport climbing (speed, bouldering and lead) officially debuted at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. All three disciplines can be hosted at indoor venues and are popular formats of climbing. Bouldering is identified as a high growth area, especially for children entering the sport.

#### 13.1: Supply

In this section climbing facilities are split into two facility types: dedicated and non-dedicated. Dedicated facilities tend to be indoor climbing centres where the facilities primary focus is climbing and its associated activities. Whereas, non-dedicated facilities are multi-sport settings, for example a climbing wall located in a sports hall or leisure centre.

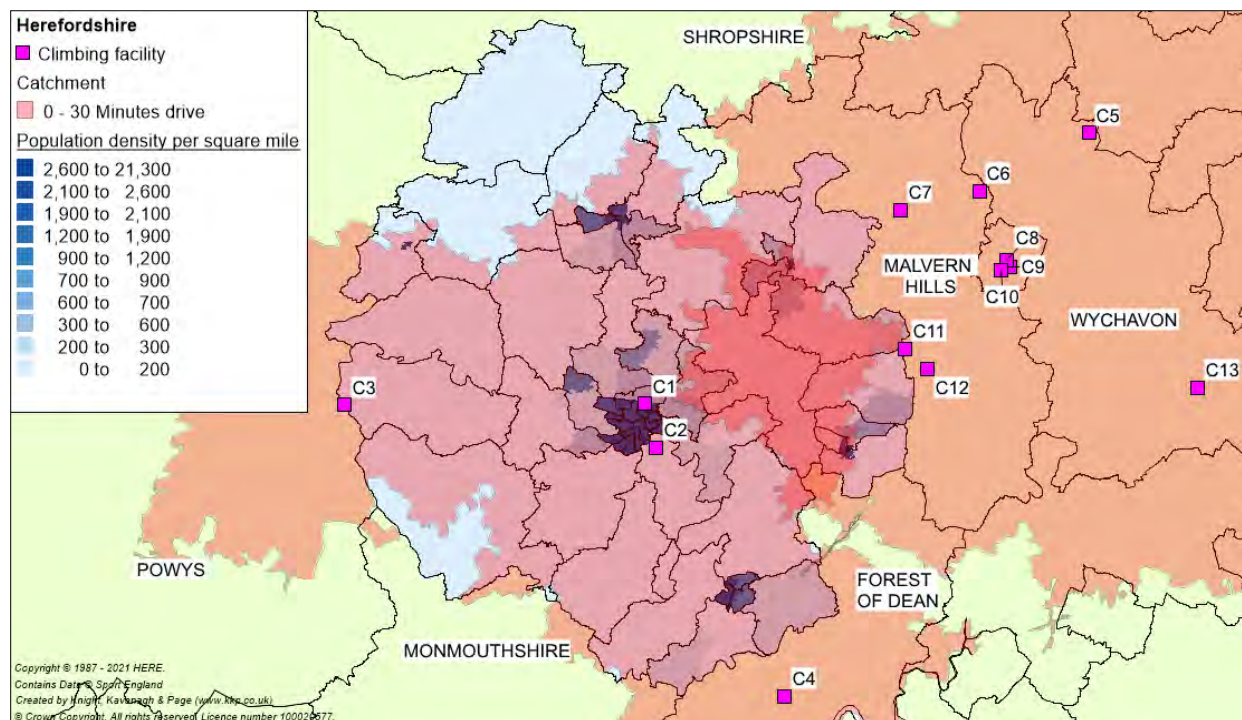
In Herefordshire there are three dedicated indoor climbing facilities. There are also three dedicated indoor climbing facilities within a 30-minute drive of the County.

*Table 15.1: Indoor climbing provision in Herefordshire and neighbouring areas*

ID	Site name	Type	Local authority
C1	Boulder Barn Hereford	Dedicated	Herefordshire
C2	Green Spider Climbing & Bouldering	Dedicated	Herefordshire
C3	Trewern Outdoor Centre	Dedicated	Herefordshire
C4	Forest Climbing Ltd	Dedicated	Forest of Dean
C5	Aztec Adventure Ltd	Non-dedicated	Wychavon
C6	University of Worcester Lakeside Campus	Non-dedicated	Malvern Hills
C7	Sport Martley Leisure Centre	Non-dedicated	Malvern Hills
C8	Vertical Limit	Dedicated	Worcester
C9	Redpoint Climbing Centre	Dedicated	Worcester
C10	Kings School	Non-dedicated	Worcester
C11	Boundless Outdoors	Non-dedicated	Malvern Hills
C12	Malvern College Sports Complex	Non-dedicated	Malvern Hills
C13	Evesham Leisure	Non-dedicated	Wychavon

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Figure 15.1: Climbing provision in Herefordshire and neighbouring areas



## Accessibility

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that approx. 88% (ONS MYE 2020) of Herefordshire residents live within 30 minutes of a climbing facility located within the County. Residents living in the east and south are also well-placed to travel to climbing facilities in Malvern Hills, Worcester and Forest of Dean.

## Availability

All three climbing facilities in Herefordshire are operated commercially and all operate on a pay and play basis. Two, Green Spider Climbing and Bouldering and Boulder Barn both also offer monthly membership options.

### 13.2: Demand

#### *Dedicated site consultation*

It did not prove possible to consult Boulder Barn Hereford, and Trewern Outdoor Centre despite numerous requests. Green Spider Climbing & Bouldering did engage with the consultation. The summary below consists of intelligence desk research plus the consultation with Green Spider Climbing & Bouldering.

*Green Spider Climbing and Bouldering Centre* which has three branches (London, Portsmouth, and Hereford) caters for all age groups, running coaching sessions for children through to adults. It has various flexible membership options, including pay and play. The centre is based in an old warehouse which has been converted into climbing areas. Consultation indicated no major issues, other than the absence of central heating system. It has plans to expand the unit further in the summer with the idea of adding more walls/ climbing challenges as well as a specially designed children's climbing area.

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The centre manager highlighted that it was Council support (in the form of grants) which helped it through the various Covid-19 forced shutdowns. The aim now for Green Spider is to develop partnerships/ build relationships with schools.

The centre also reports aspirations to improve ancillary provision within its facilities and become more accessible for all as currently it does not have any disabled toilets. There are no dedicated changing facilities on the premise. (The latter is not necessarily needed due to most of its members coming in changed and ready for the activity). Different days are set for distinct users i.e.: Monday- bouldering social, Tuesday- parents night, Wednesday- ladies night and Thursday- youth night. It states these social events were very popular pre Covid and its aim is to build these sessions back up to previous attendances.

*Boulder Barn* was opened in 2018 and is operated by the charity Taste for Adventure. Its website states that it offers affordable climbing for the local community and helps the disadvantaged enjoy the challenge of adventurous activities including off-site activities for target groups. Moreover, it is stated that all profits generated are transferred to help fund the charity. The site is fully configured to accommodate bouldering activities and as such is designed to make use of low-level climbing, eliminating the need for ropes. It is accessible on pay and play basis along with flexible monthly membership options. It also delivers structured introductory coaching sessions for children and adults.

*Trewern Outdoor Education Centre* provides residential experiences for young people to promote experiential learning through a variety of educational experiences, including climbing. The site is primarily accessible to school groups and other youth organisations (e.g., clubs/v teams). However, climbing wall facilities can be accessed on a pay or play basis for individuals. The climbing wall was built in 2007 and comprises of traversing walls, a bouldering area, 18 roped climbs and top rope/abseil ledge.

### 13.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Climbing	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
<b>Quantity</b>	There three indoor climbing facilities in the County. Two are dedicated commercially run indoor climbing centres, whilst the other is a climbing facility located at an Outdoor Education Centre.	
<b>Quality</b>	Facility quality was not assessed as part of the audit.	
<b>Accessibility</b>	88% of residents live within a 30 minutes' drive time of an indoor climbing facility in the County.	There is no requirement for more indoor climbing provision.
<b>Availability</b> (Management & usage)	All sites offer some form of pay and play availability.	
<b>Summary</b>	Continue to work with the BMC and partners to drive up participation and ensure the facilities are financially viable.	

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### SECTION 14: OTHER SPORTS

Through the BFS process it was agreed with the Council that shooting and Archery would be included within the analysis, a precis of club activity is included within this section.

#### *Shooting*

The National Rifle Association (NRA) is the recognised NGB in the UK for full bore rifle and pistol shooting in the UK, it promotes and encourages marksmanship through competition and training. It supports a club network across the UK and also organises accredited competitions for its members. Shooting consists of a range of disciplines<sup>36</sup> – which are a way of categorising different types of firearms based on their features, including; types of mechanisms, calibre limits, age of firearms, and the type of shooting each firearm typically undertakes. Each discipline has a representative within the NRA management structure. One notable exception of a shooting discipline not administered by the NRA is Clay Pigeon Shooting – which is controlled by the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association.

There are two recognised shooting clubs in Herefordshire:

*Bromyard & District Rifle Club* leases a facility from the Council which features indoor and outdoor shooting ranges. It currently accommodates members from across the County. It focuses on small bore rifle, air rifle and pistol shooting disciplines, along with training its facility also accommodates competitions. It was indicated during consultation that a challenge for the club is the recruitment of coaches to support new members. The Clubs facilities are in a poor condition, both the flooring and walls in the indoor range require upgrading along with the lighting. Furthermore, the ancillary facilities on site are lacking and the club has aspirations to install toilets and a dedicated kitchen area within the clubhouse.

*Ledbury Rifle & Pistol Club* were approached for consultation, however, no response was received despite numerous attempts.

#### *Archery*

Archery GB is the NGB for the sport of archery in Great Britain and acts as an umbrella organisation for the English Archery Association and other home nation equivalents. It is responsible for all levels from grassroots to performance level.

There are two forms of outdoor archery: target archery and field archery. In target archery, shots are taken from marked distances only, whereas in field archery, both marked and unmarked shots are taken around a course of natural terrain.

There are three Archery clubs in Herefordshire:

*Bromyard Bowmen* leases a site from the council, facilities consist of an indoor and outdoor range with limited ancillary facilities. It was indicated during consultation that the range facilities are in poor condition. There are no toilets on site and the Club are required to access facilities at the adjacent Bromyard Sports Foundation premises. The Club currently has 58 members, which includes nine coaches. Its membership also includes juniors, with the youngest member being eight years old. The Clubs primary aspiration is to make the facility more fit for purpose, through the addition of toilet and kitchen facilities.

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<sup>36</sup> <https://nra.org.uk/get-into-shooting/>

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Ledbury Archery Club has 48 adult and five junior members. It rents a space for both indoor and outdoor ranges at New House Farm. The Club indicates that the arrangement works well, especially as it has access to adequate storage.

Hereford company of Bowmen were approached for consultation; however, no response was received despite numerous attempts.

Figure 14.1: Shooting/Archery provision in Herefordshire and neighbouring areas

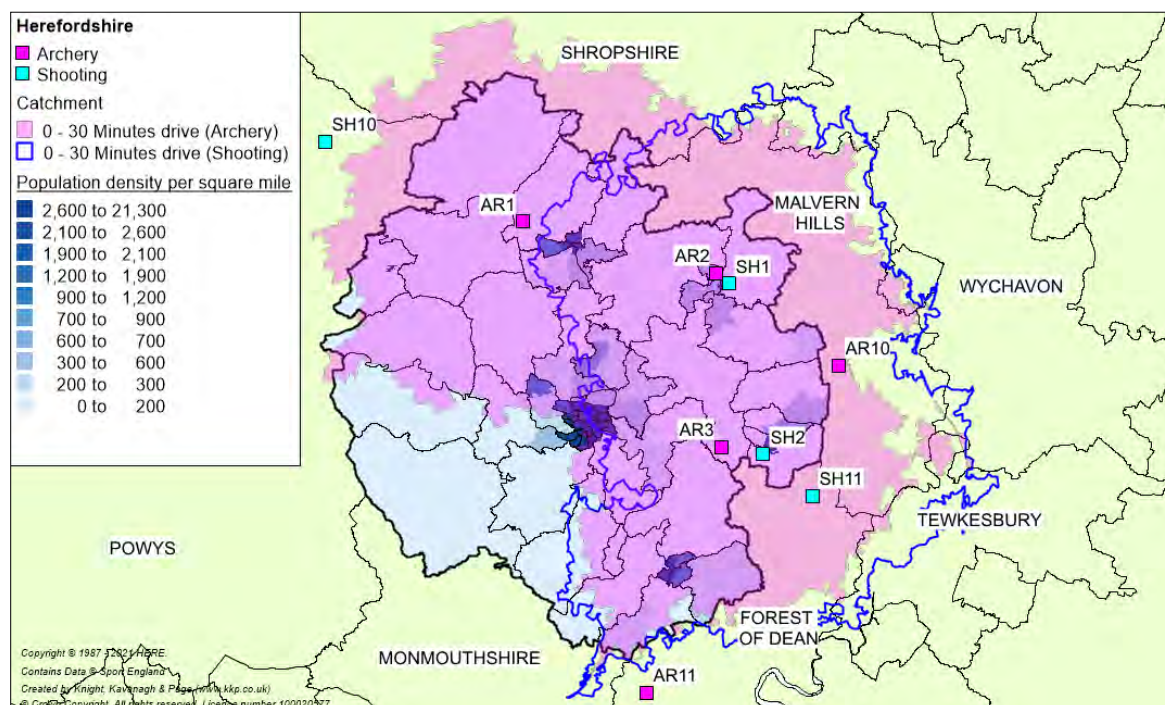


Table 14.1: Shooting/Archery provision in Herefordshire and neighbouring areas

ID	Site name	Type	Local authority
SH1	Bromyard & District Rifle Club	Shooting	Herefordshire
SH2	Ledbury Rifle & Pistol Club	Shooting	Herefordshire
SH10	Griffin Lloyd Shooting Ground	Shooting	Powys
SH11	Longridge Shooting Ground	Shooting	Forest of Dean
AR1	Hereford Company of Bowmen	Archery	Herefordshire
AR2	Bromyard Bowmen	Archery	Herefordshire
AR3	Ledbury Archery Club	Archery	Herefordshire
AR10	Malvern Archers	Archery	Malvern Hills
AR11	Bowmen of the Deans	Archery	Forest of Dean

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that c.84% of Herefordshire's population live within a 30-minute drive of an archery facility located within the County, for shooting this drops to c.53%.

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### *Summary*

Both shooting and archery are well catered for in the County through the existing club network. Through consultation with the Council it was indicated that potential S.106 monies are available to assist with the identified improvements required at both Bromyard & District Rifle Club and Bromyard Bowmen. Any potential funding to improve the sites will assist which improving quality, ancillary provision and thus, will help sustain the clubs for the future.

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### SECTION 15: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategy which follows will take account of the findings of this needs assessment, the Authority's demographic make-up and the Council's vision. There is a requirement to continue to invest in indoor and built facilities in Herefordshire to ensure that they are fit for purpose for the 21st Century (e.g., welcoming, clean, attractive, flexible spaces, wide programme offer, ability to learn to swim cost-effective to manage and operate etc). This should lead to increased participation and a more active Herefordshire. Strategy recommendations are likely to be predicated upon the following:

#### *Sports Halls*

- ◀ Work with site operators (primarily schools) to improve the standard of the eight below average community available sports halls and maintain the quality of those which are currently in good/above average condition.
- ◀ Engage with St Mary's RC High School to investigate potential of opening its facilities to community users.
- ◀ Consider whether and how community use can be extended at school sites enabling existing sport and physical activity participation to grow.
- ◀ Where no formal agreements are in place work with educational sites to secure Community Use Agreements (CUA).
- ◀ Projected increases in population can be accommodated during peak hours available in sports halls across Herefordshire. Developer contributions could thus, be directed at improving the sports hall quality – possibly as part of a trade-off which enables more community hours.

#### *Village Halls*

- ◀ Consider potential requirement for village halls/multi-purpose facilities in new housing developments, consider how these facilities fit within the wider recreational/sporting mix.
- ◀ Support village hall and parish council committees to offer, coordinate and publicise community spaces which contribute positively to the physical activity, and health and wellbeing agenda.

#### *Swimming Pools*

- ◀ In the medium term, maintain the standard of the area's swimming pools via ongoing investment. There is a need, in the longer term, to replace/refurbish Hereford Leisure Pool, Ledbury Swimming Pool and Ross Swimming Pool.
- ◀ This investment strategy should be supported by further bespoke FPM modelling (with future population projections) to test whether current levels of water space will be sufficient in the long term.
- ◀ Monitor used capacity at key swimming sites (especially Hereford Leisure Pool) and, where required, assess whether programming should be reviewed to ensure that the most popular activities are assigned to peak times.
- ◀ There is a challenge to balance the programming of swimming pools to ensure fair access to water space for casual and lane swimming, swimming lessons and club swimming. The importance of the revenue generated by swimming lessons to enable pools to remain viable should not be underestimated.
- ◀ There is a need to focus on rapidly returning participation levels to pre Covid levels to ensure viability of public sites.



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### *Health & Fitness*

- ◀ Maintain a watching brief in respect of the scale of health and fitness provision within Herefordshire (and provision made outside the Authority). Should the upward participation trend continue, look to invest in expanding the level provision available at public leisure centres.
- ◀ There is a need to ensure that harder to reach groups and people with specific health needs can access health and fitness facilities.
- ◀ Consideration should be given to ensuring that public leisure centre health & fitness facilities and the attributed programming meets the needs of Herefordshire's aging population.
- ◀ Work with, and via, the leisure operator to ensure that the health and wellbeing offer meets the needs of all residents.

### *Squash*

- ◀ There is a need to protect existing squash facilities and continue to invest and maintain court quality in order to ensure the sport retains its current high participation levels.

### *Indoor Bowls*

- ◀ The indoor bowling green at Bridge Street Sports Centre needs to be protected. Further investigation is required to ascertain demand levels for new provision in the County.

### *Indoor Tennis*

- ◀ Continue to work with the LTA and partners to drive up participation and ensure that indoor tennis areas are financially viable.

### *Archery/Shooting*

- ◀ In line with the County's S.106 funding allocation plan support Bromyard Rifle Club and Bromyard Bowmen with proposed facility upgrades.

### *All facility types*

- ◀ Ensure that memberships and specific activities are available to people living in the Authority's more deprived communities via enabling increased use of community facilities (e.g., activity halls and community centres).
- ◀ Support other developments (via planning, developer contributions and officer expertise) which may assist in increasing sport and physical activity within the wider community.
- ◀ Work with local sports clubs (with and via the leisure operator) to ensure that facilities and workforce development programmes meet the needs of all clubs and residents.
- ◀ Develop a system to, as early as possible, identify and tackle ongoing investment, maintenance, and refurbishment requirements to protect and improve existing sports facilities.

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### APPENDIX 1: MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORTING DATA

Table 1.1: Index of multiple deprivation (IMD) and health deprivation in Herefordshire

IMD cumulative norm		Multiple deprivation			Health deprivation		
		Population in band	Percent of population		Population in band	Percent of population	
Most deprived	10.0	1,605	0.9%	0.9%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	20.0	12,692	6.7%	7.6%	8,483	4.5%	4.5%
	30.0	9,401	5.0%	12.6%	12,622	6.7%	11.2%
	40.0	25,882	13.7%	26.3%	8,487	4.5%	15.7%
	50.0	58,143	30.8%	57.1%	16,734	8.9%	24.6%
Least deprived	60.0	23,192	12.3%	69.4%	23,884	12.7%	37.2%
	70.0	24,695	13.1%	82.5%	34,114	18.1%	55.3%
	80.0	19,857	10.5%	93.1%	48,873	25.9%	81.3%
	90.0	6,864	3.6%	96.7%	29,552	15.7%	96.9%
	100.0	6,191	3.3%	100.0%	5,773	3.1%	100.0%

Table 1.2: Most popular sports in Herefordshire (Active Lives Survey Nov 19/20)

Sport	Herefordshire		West Midlands		England	
	No. (000s)	Rate	No. (000s)	Rate	No. (000s)	Rate
Fitness	43,200	26.9%	1,205,900	25.3%	12,930,400	28.4%
Cycling	28,100	17.5%	611,900	12.8%	7,424,800	16.3%
Swimming	17,100	10.6%	365,200	7.7%	4,221,300	9.3%
Athletics	15,100	9.4%	571,700	12.0%	6,668,800	14.7%
Football	7,100	4.4%	226,800	4.8%	2,019,800	4.4%

Table 1.3: Halls excluded from assessment/audit due to size

ID	Site name	Cts	ID	Site name	Cts
6	Aylestone School	1	103	Marden Primary Academy	1
6	Aylestone School	1	119	Queen Elizabeth High School	1
7	Barrs Court School	0	119	Queen Elizabeth High School	1
19	Broadlands Primary School	0	129	Rowden House School	0
23	Burghill Community Academy	1	129	Rowden House School	0
33	Colwall C of E Primary School	1	140	St Joseph's RC Primary School	1
45	Escley & District Sports Pavilion	0	143	St Mary's RC High School	0
48	Fairfield High School	1	143	St Mary's RC High School	1
63	Hereford Leisure Pool	0	155	The Bishop of Hereford's	0
71	Hopelands Village Hall	0	158	The Brookfield School	1
73	John Kyrle Academy	0	174	Wellington Heath Memorial	0
84	Larruperz Community Centre	0	177	Weobley High School	0
85	Lea C of E Primary School	1	189	Woolhope Parish Hall	0
93	Leominster Leisure Centre	0			
				<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>

# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 1.4: Village/community halls in Herefordshire with 800m radial catchment

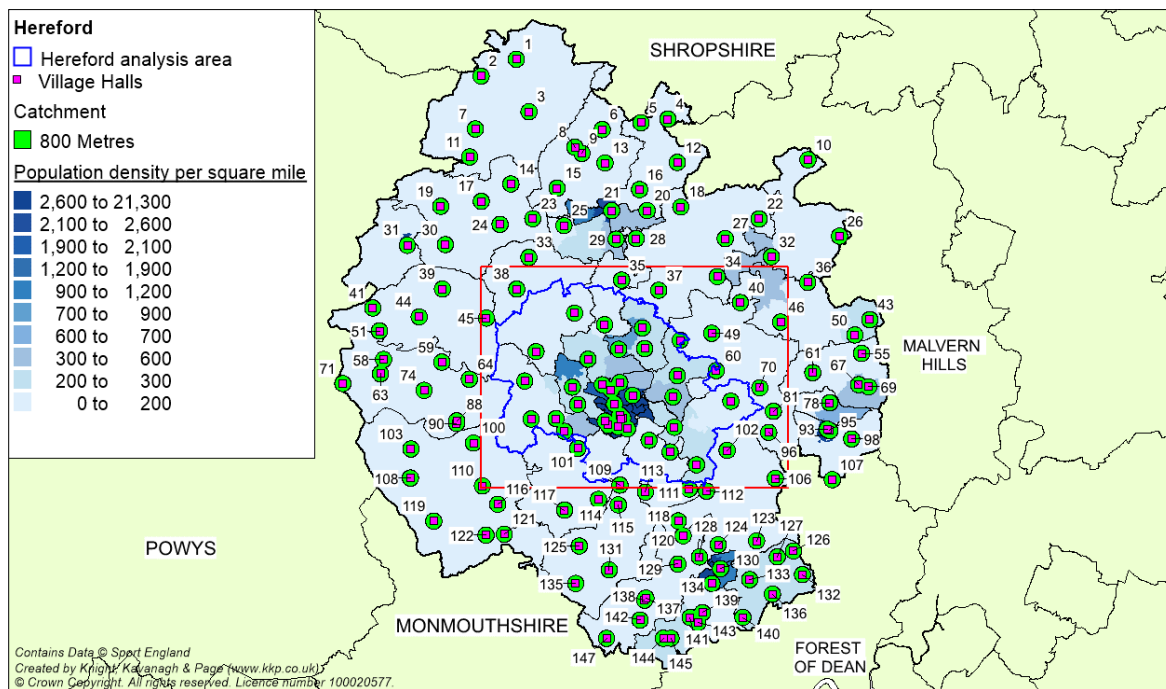


Figure 1.5: Hereford area village halls

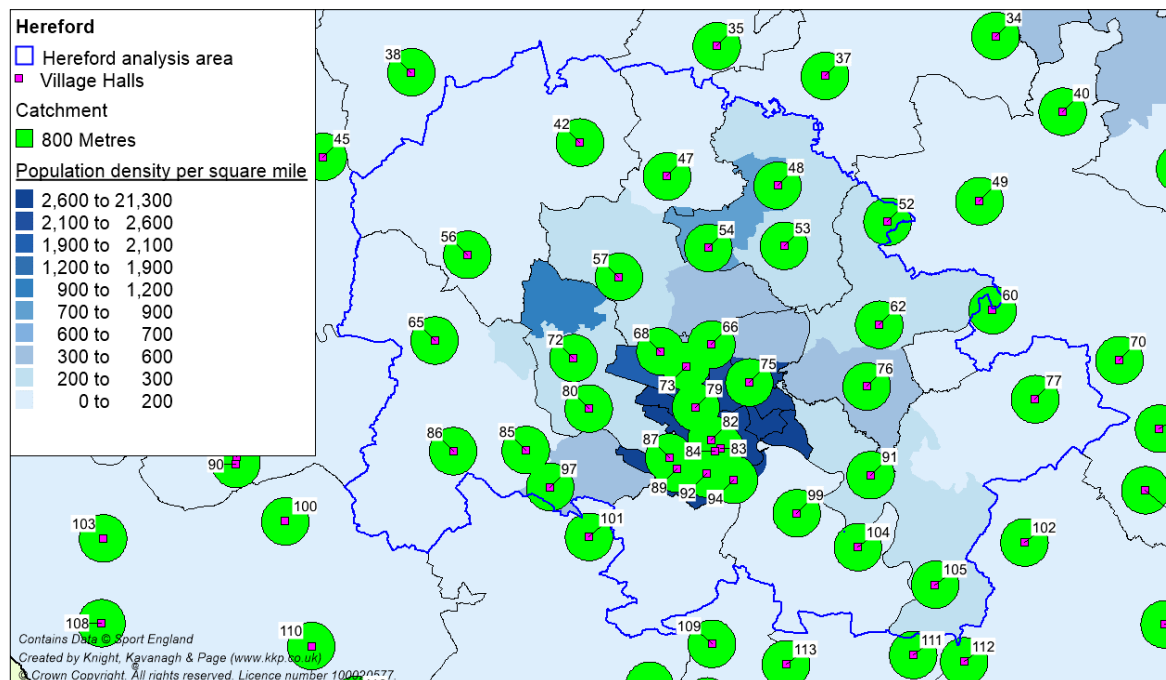


Table 1.4: Hereford analysis area village halls

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
42	Canon Pyon Parish Hall	Hereford	HR4 8PE
47	Wellington Community Centre	Hereford	HR4 8AT
48	Marden Community Centre	Hereford	HR1 3EW
52	Felton and Preston Wynne Village Hall	Hereford	HR1 3PE
53	Sutton St Nicholas Community Ctr	Hereford	HR1 3AX

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ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
54	Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall	Hereford	HR4 8DE
56	Mansel Lacy Community Hall	Hereford	HR4 7HQ
57	Burghill Village Hall	Hereford	HR4 7RW
62	Withington Smith Memorial Hall	Hereford	HR1 3PP
65	New Bridge Community Centre	Hereford	HR4 7JH
66	Holmer Parish Church Centre	Hereford	HR4 9RG
68	Young Farmers Club Centre	Hereford	HR4 9QJ
72	Stretton Sugwas Village Hall	Hereford	HR4 7PT
73	Westfields Village Hall	Hereford	HR4 9PG
75	St Barnabas Church Centre	Hereford	HR1 1DT
76	Bartestree Village Hall	Hereford	HR1 4BY
77	Tarrington Lady Emily Community Hall	Hereford	HR1 4EX
79	Hereford Musical Theatre	Hereford	HR4 0DH
80	Breinton Village Hall	Hereford	HR4 7PJ
82	Kindle Centre	Hereford	HR2 7JE
83	Hinton Community Centre	Hereford	HR2 6AF
84	St Martins Church Hall	Hereford	HR2 7RJ
85	Eaton Bishop Village Hall	Hereford	HR2 9QA
86	Madley Parish Hall	Hereford	HR2 9PH
87	Northolme Community Centre	Hereford	HR2 7SP
89	Belmont Community Centre	Hereford	HR2 7UQ
91	Hampton Bishop Village Hall	Hereford	HR1 4JY
92	Golden Jubilee Hall	Hereford	HR2 7NT
94	Saxon Hall	Hereford	HR2 6HE
97	Clehonger Village Hall	Hereford	HR2 9RD
99	Dinedor Village Hall	Hereford	HR2 6LQ
104	Holme Lacy Village Hall	Hereford	HR2 6LP
105	Fownhope New Memorial Hall	Hereford	HR1 4PW

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Map 1.5: Leominster analysis area village halls

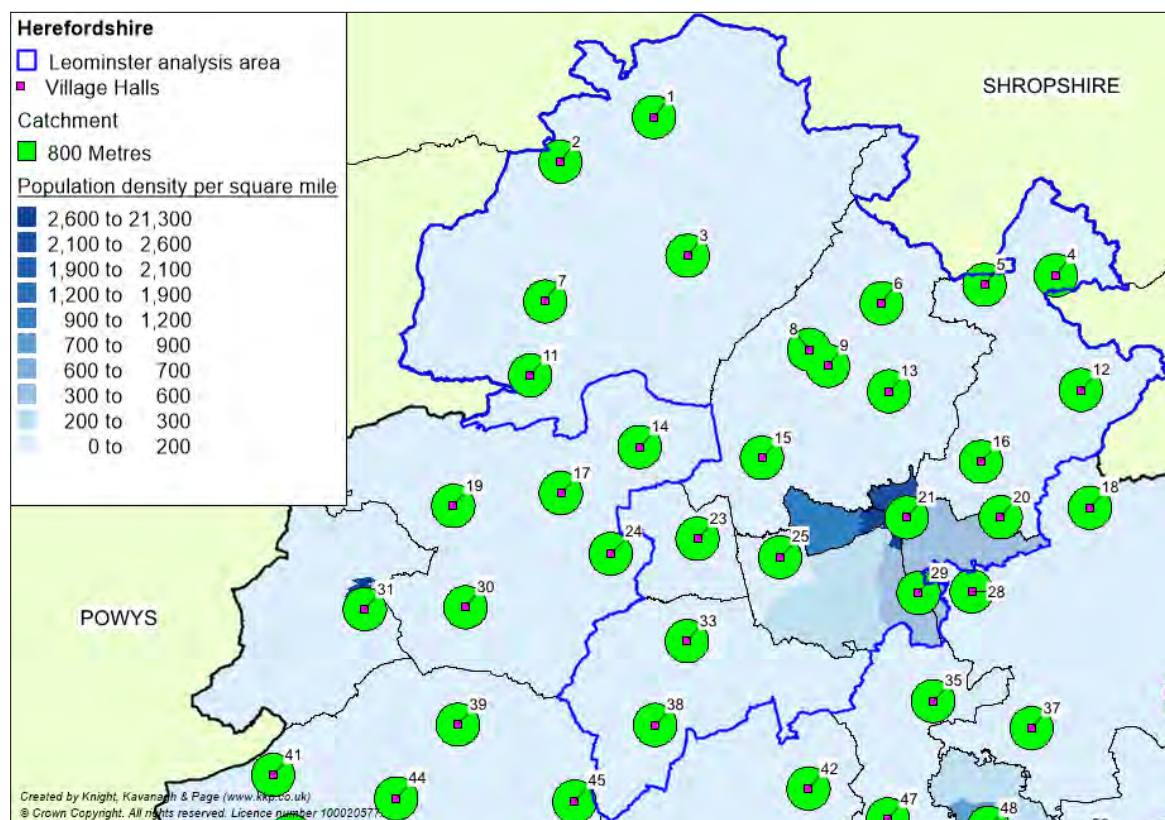


Table 1.5: Leominster analysis area village halls

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
1	Leintwardine Village Hall and Community Centre	Leominster	SY7 0LB
2	Brampton Bryan Parish Hall	Leominster	SY7 0DH
3	Wigmore Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 9UW
4	Little Hereford Parish Hall	Leominster	SY8 4LL
5	Brimfield Village Hall	Leominster	SY8 4NE
6	Orleton Village Hall	Leominster	SY8 4HW
7	Lingen Village Hall	Leominster	SY7 0DY
8	Yarpole Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 0BL
9	Yarpole - St Leonard's Church	Leominster	HR6 0BD
11	Kinsham - The Arkwright Hall	Leominster	LD8 2HN
12	Leysters and Middleton Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 0HP
13	Eye Cawley Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 0DS
15	Kingsland Coronation Hall	Leominster	HR6 9SQ
16	Kimbolton Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 0HQ
20	Hamnish Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 0QW
21	Leominster Community Centre	Leominster	HR6 8NJ
23	Eardisland Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 9BP
25	Monkland Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 9DD
29	Humber Village Hall	Leominster	HR6 0NS
33	Dilwyn Cedar Hall	Leominster	HR4 8HS
38	Weobley Village Hall	Leominster	HR4 8SN

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Map 1.6: Bromyard analysis area village halls

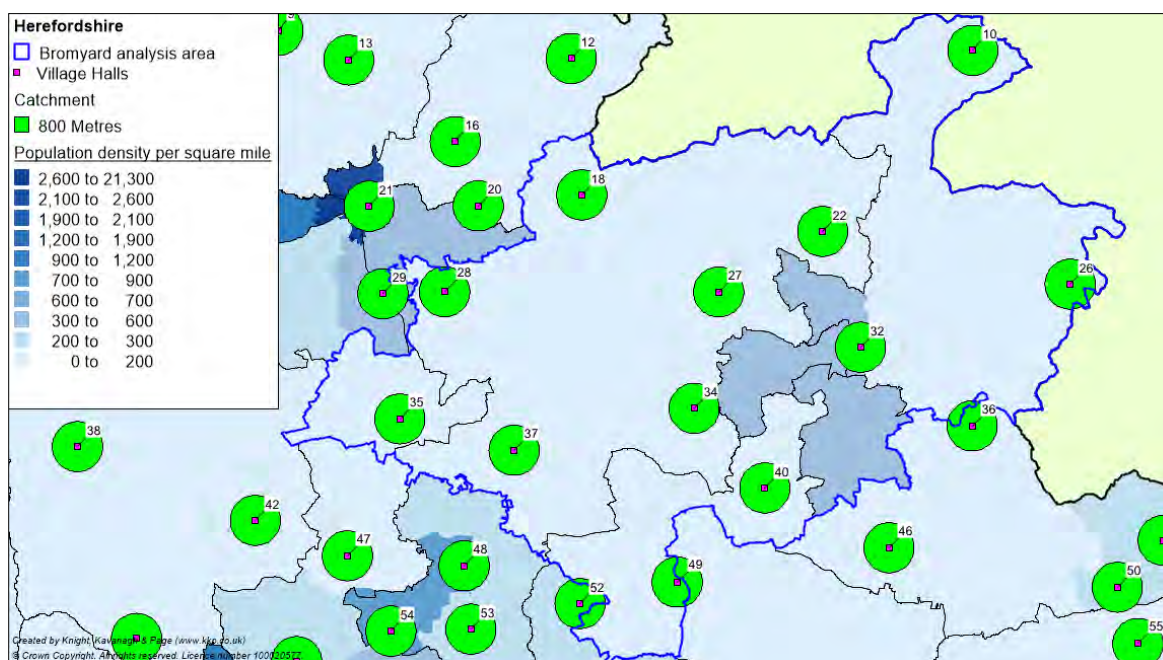


Table 1.6: Bromyard analysis area village halls

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
10	Upper Sapey (Edith Silcock Memorial) Village Hall	Bromyard	WR6 6EU
18	Pudleston Village Hall	Bromyard	HR6 0QY
22	Edwyn Ralph Village Hall	Bromyard	HR7 4LY
26	Whitbourne Village Hall	Bromyard	WR6 5RR
27	Bredenbury Parish Hall	Bromyard	HR7 4TF
28	Stoke Prior Village Hall	Bromyard	HR6 0LG
32	Bromyard Public Hall	Bromyard	HR7 4DU
34	Pencombe and Little Cowarne Parish Hall	Bromyard	HR7 4SH
35	Hope-under-Dinmore Village Hall	Bromyard	HR6 0PP
37	Bodenham Village Hall	Bromyard	HR1 3LB
40	Stoke Lacy Village Hall	Bromyard	HR7 4HG
49	Burley Gate Village Hall	Bromyard	HR1 3QR

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Map 1.7: Kington analysis area village halls

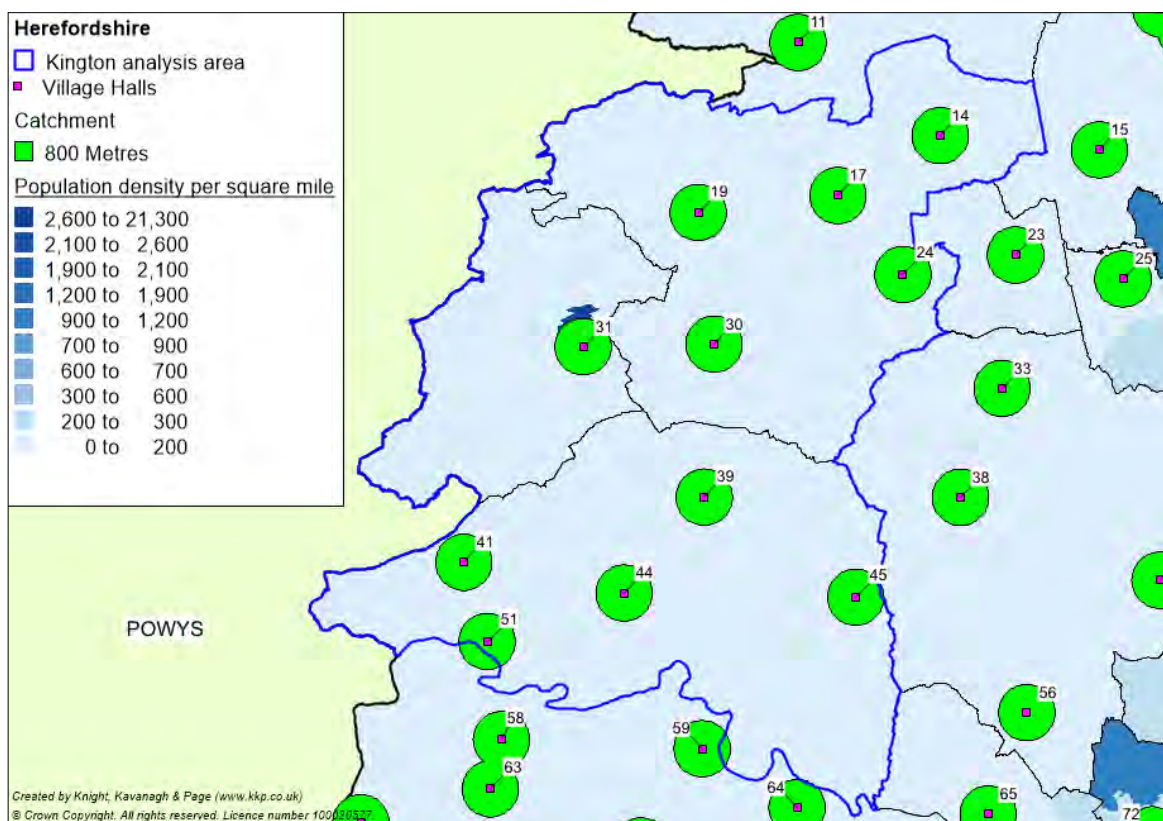


Table 1.7: Kington analysis area village halls

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
14	Shobdon Village Hall Committee	Kington	HR6 9LU
17	Staunton on Arrow Village Hall	Kington	HR6 9HR
19	Titley Village Hall	Kington	HR5 3RL
24	Pembridge Village Hall	Kington	HR6 9EB
30	Lyonsshall Memorial Hall	Kington	HR5 3LL
31	Kingswood Village Hall	Kington	HR5 3HE
39	Almeley Village Hall	Kington	HR3 6LB
41	Brilley and Michaelchurch Village Hall	Kington	HR3 6JG
44	Eardisley Village Hall	Kington	HR3 6NT
45	Norton Canon Village Hall	Kington	HR4 7BL
51	Whitney on Wye Village Hall	Kington	HR3 6EG

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Map 1.8: Golden Valley analysis area village halls

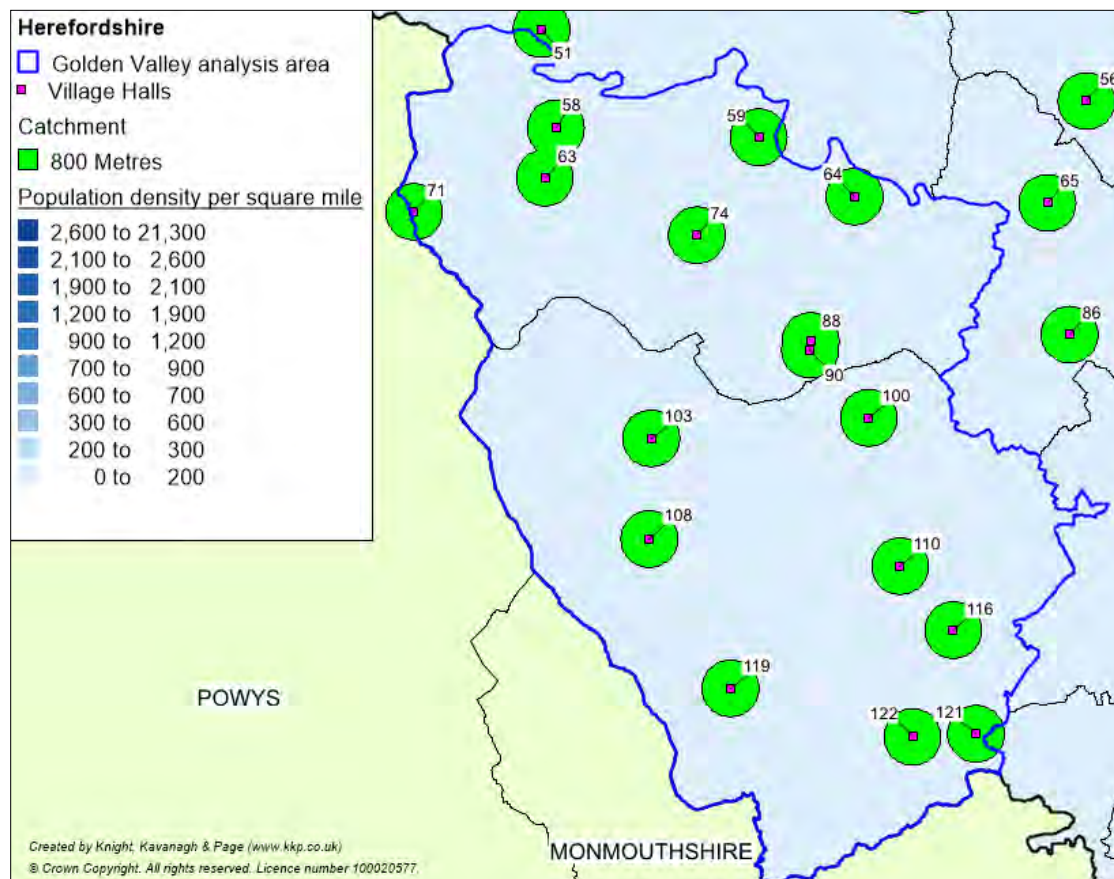


Table 1.8: Golden Valley analysis area village halls

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
58	Clifford Community Centre	Golden Valley	HR3 5HA
59	Bredwardine Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR3 6BU
63	Hardwicke Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR3 5TA
64	Moccas Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 9LQ
71	Cusop Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR3 5RW
74	Dorstone Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR3 6AN
88	St Peter's Church, Peterchurch - Community Hub	Golden Valley	HR2 0RT
90	Peterchurch Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0RS
100	Vowchurch and Turnastone M Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0RB
103	Michaelchurch Escley - Escleyside Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0PT
108	Craswall Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0PH
110	Bacton Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0AR
116	Abbey Dore Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0AA
119	Longtown Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0LD
121	Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0EL
122	Rowlestone Village Hall	Golden Valley	HR2 0DW



# COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL INDOOR & BUILT SPORTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 1.9: Ross-on-Wye analysis area village halls

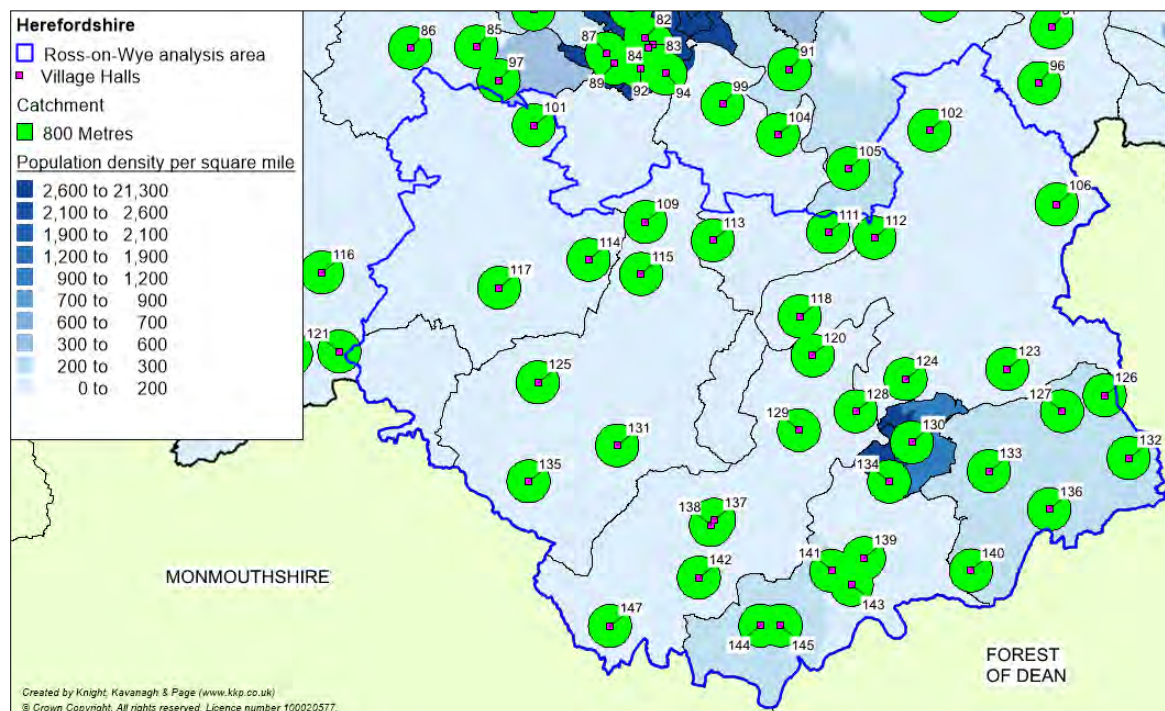


Table 1.9: Ross-on-Wye analysis area village halls

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
101	Allensmore Parish Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 9AF
102	Woolhope Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR1 4QS
106	Much Marcle Memorial Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR8 2LY
109	Little Birch Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 8AZ
111	Ballingham Old School Hall (BOSH)	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 6NH
112	Brockhampton Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR1 4SG
113	Little Dewchurch Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 6PN
114	Much Dewchurch Memorial Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 8DQ
115	Much Birch Community Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 8HT
117	Kilpeck and District Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 9DW
118	Kings Cuple Village Hall (The Old School)	Ross-on-Wye	HR1 4TY
120	Sellack Parish Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6QP
123	Upton Bishop Millennium Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7TU
124	Brampton Abbots Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7JD
125	Orcop Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 8ET
126	Gorsley Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7SJ
127	Linton Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7RX
128	Bridstow Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6PZ
129	St Peters Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6LF
130	The Larruperz Centre	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7QD
131	St Weonards Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 8NT
132	Aston Ingham Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7LS
133	Weston under Penyard Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7PA
134	Tudorville and District Community Centre	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 5PZ

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ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
135	Garway Community Centre	Ross-on-Wye	HR2 8RQ
136	Lea Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 7JY
137	Llangarron Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6NZ
138	Llangarron - The Garron Centre	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6NJ
139	Walford Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 5QS
140	Hope Mansell Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 5TL
141	Goodrich Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6HX
142	Llangrove Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6EX
143	Bishopswood Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 5QT
144	Whitchurch and Ganarew Memorial Hall	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6DJ
145	St Dubricius Church	Ross-on-Wye	HR9 6BZ
147	Welsh Newton Village Hall	Ross-on-Wye	NP25 5RW

Figure 1.10: Ledbury analysis area village halls

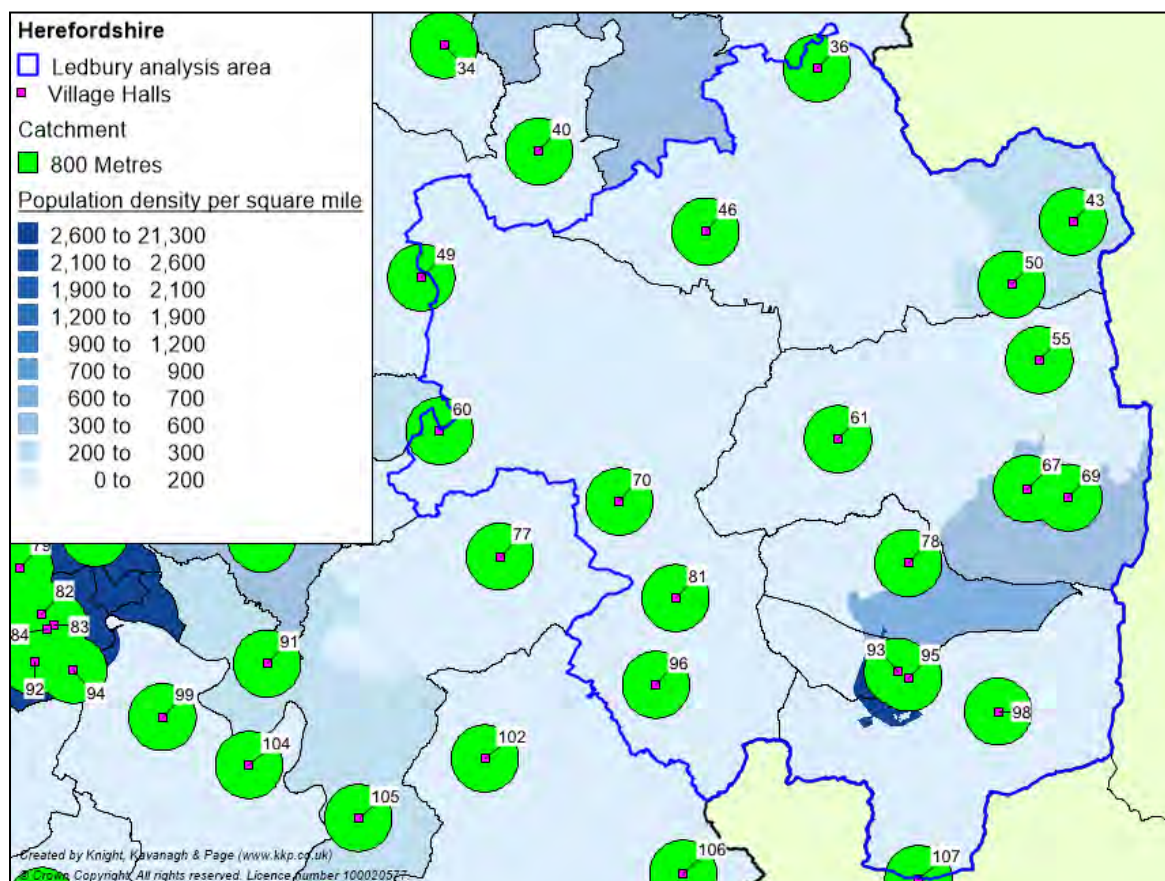


Table 1.10: Ledbury analysis area village halls

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
36	Stanford Bishop Village Hall	Ledbury	WR6 5TT
43	Storrige Village Hall	Ledbury	WR13 5EY
46	Bishops Frome Village Centre	Ledbury	WR6 5AR
50	Cradley Village Hall	Ledbury	WR13 5LH
55	Mathon Village Hall	Ledbury	WR13 5NY

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ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Postcode
60	Yarkhill Village Hall	Ledbury	HR1 3ST
61	Bosbury Parish Hall	Ledbury	HR8 1PU
67	Colwall Ale House	Ledbury	WR13 6HJ
69	Colwall Village Hall	Ledbury	WR13 6EQ
70	Ashperton Village Hall	Ledbury	HR8 2RY
78	Wellington Heath Memorial Hall	Ledbury	HR8 1ND
81	Munsley W I Hall	Ledbury	HR8 2RA
93	Ledbury Community Hall	Ledbury	HR8 2AE
95	Burgage Hall	Ledbury	HR8 1DW
96	Putley Village Hall	Ledbury	HR8 2QN
98	Eastnor Visitors Centre	Ledbury	HR8 1RL