

# **NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

## **Strategic Sports Facilities Framework**

### **FINAL REPORT**

**April 2010**



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## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

### Background

1. This report, jointly commissioned by North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit and Northamptonshire Sport, arose out of the need to agree a set of strategic sports facility priorities for the county of Northamptonshire as a whole. Sport England, whilst not directly involved in commissioning the work, has played a pivotal role in encouraging all parties and stake holders to work together to develop an agreed strategic framework.
2. This framework produces a set of sports facility priorities for the North Northamptonshire area. A similar strategy has been completed for the remainder of the county in West Northamptonshire. The outcomes of both documents will then fit together to provide a comprehensive set of priorities for strategic facility provision across the county up to 2026.

### Aims & Objectives

3. Detailed objectives of the framework include the need to :-
  - Influence the Core Spatial Strategy review by providing a comprehensive evidence base;
  - Reflect the priorities set out in emerging Whole Sport Plans;
  - Plan effectively for the impending Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme;
  - Inform the North Northamptonshire Developer Contributions SPD;
  - Inform other Local Development Framework (LDF) planning documents (such as Site-Specific DPDs and Area Action Plans);
  - “Make the case” for sport;
  - Inform/update the North Northamptonshire Programme of Development (PoD) infrastructure list.

### Scope of study

### Sports covered

4. In conjunction with the County Sports Partnership 10 key sports were identified as being particularly important to the area, and consultation was undertaken with National Governing Body (NGB) officers to determine local priorities and aspirations. The sports covered by this report are as follows:-

Archery	Athletics	Rugby Union
Badminton	Cycling	Squash
Football	Gymnastics	Volleyball

5. The report focuses on the built sports facilities which provide for the above sports, some being multi purpose facilities e.g. sports halls and others being sport specific e.g. gymnastics centres. The facility types covered in this report are as follows:-

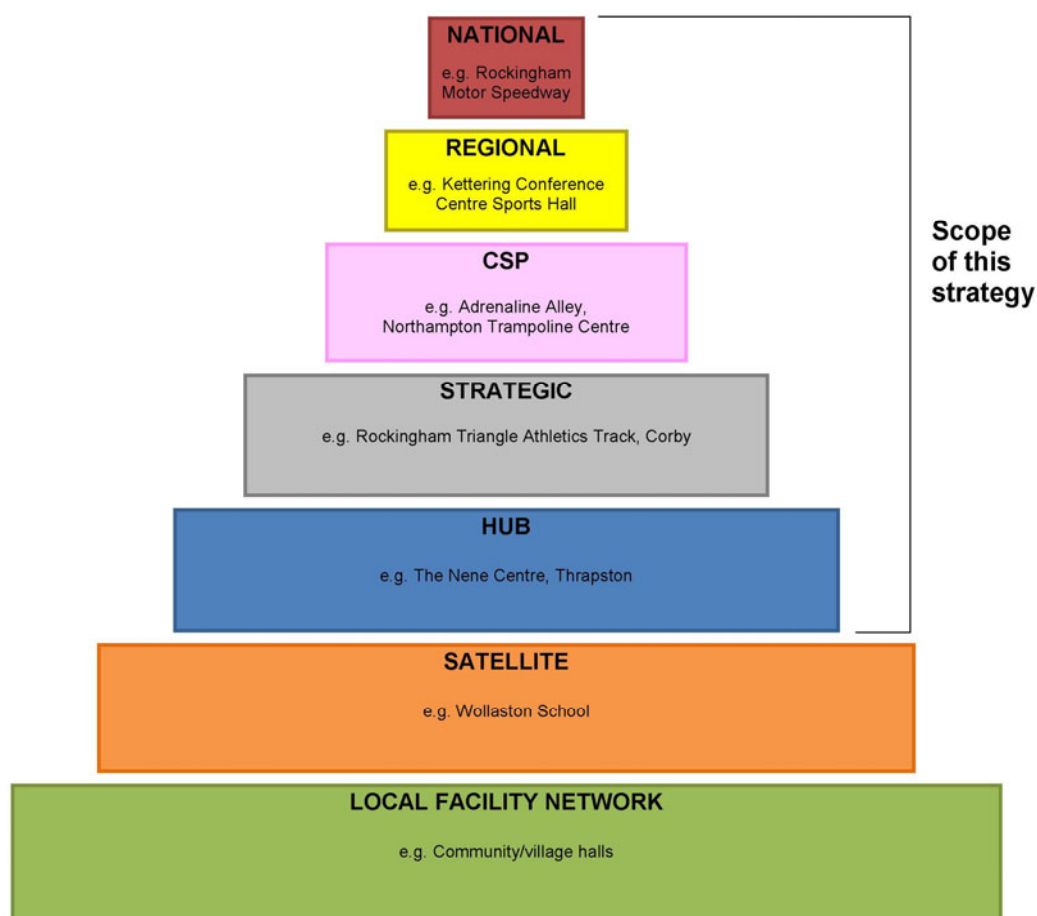
Athletics Tracks	Cycling provision
Dedicated gymnastics venues	Golf driving ranges
Health and fitness facilities	Indoor bowling centres
Indoor tennis centres	Sports halls
Swimming pools	Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs)

6. This report also provides a brief overview of a small number of specialist adventure sports including indoor and outdoor adventure sports.
7. Although this framework considers football and rugby, the absence of up to date playing pitch strategies (with the exception of Wellingborough) at local authority level means that there is insufficient information available to provide detailed recommendations.

## Facility types and hierarchy

8. This document focuses on those facilities which are of **strategic importance** within North Northamptonshire. Figure 1 displays a hierarchy of facilities, with more detailed definitions following in the paragraph below. It should be noted that where a facility is defined as high level, it can also provide for local use. At each level of the hierarchy, facilities may be owned or managed by the public (local authority and education), private, voluntary or commercial sectors and also include further and higher education facilities.
9. Lists of the **major** (of strategic importance) facilities in the area can be found in the local authority pen portraits in Section 3. This Framework will also consider facilities of similar importance which are identified within the West Northamptonshire Sports Facilities Strategy, see “CSP wide facilities” section.

*Figure 1: Sports Facility Hierarchy*



## National

10. These facilities cater for athletes at the highest level of their sport. They are recognised as premier facilities by the national governing bodies and will have a high profile in their strategies and plans.
11. There are two principal types:
  - Sport specific e.g. Silverstone Race Track
  - Multi-sport e.g. Lilleshall in Shropshire (none in North Northamptonshire)
12. As well as providing extremely high quality training and/or competition environments (for example, playing surface, lighting & equipment) they often have extensive on-site ancillary support such as accommodation/food, medical treatment & rehabilitation, seminar/training rooms and a gym.
13. Some facilities are able to cater for both elite training and competition. Other venues, for example the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham are not sports venues but can be adapted to meet the needs of a specific sports event and can host national level competition. However, these venues do not accommodate training outside the competition period.
14. National level facilities are included in the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG) list of potential Pre-Games Training Camp venues.

## Regional

15. These facilities fulfil a regional function, are often sports specific, meet the needs for either training or competition of elite athletes and may have ancillary support, but not necessarily on the same site. The facilities meet the needs of the whole of the East Midlands, and are recognised as such in the relevant national governing body plans. There are currently no outstanding built facilities of this type in the North Northamptonshire area although should the plans to develop a volleyball training centre at KLV come to fruition then this venue would fall into this category.
16. Regional level facilities are also included in the LOCOG list of Pre-Games Training Camp venues.

## CSP

17. These facilities provide for the needs of the whole of the Northamptonshire area in relation to a specific sport(s), for training or competition needs. An example of this type of facility is Adrenaline Alley. There may be issues around accessibility to such specialist training facilities and these are explored further in the 'Delivery Section' of this report.

## Strategic

18. These facilities are the premier sites within each local authority and meet the needs of the largest/best clubs for competition and training. They include 6 and 8 lane 25m swimming pools designed for local galas, the 6 and 8 badminton-court sports halls, and 8 lane, floodlit, synthetic athletics tracks with spectator facilities). There are usually only one (or very occasionally two) of these facilities within an authority area and many facilities will effectively be shared between authorities. Examples might include the trampoline centre at Benham Sports Arena.

## Hub

19. These facilities are other key sports facilities used by the community, for general participation, training and low level competition. They include 6 lane 25m and similar size swimming pools which are not suitable (or available) for competition and sports halls (usually minimum 4 courts) which have intensive management during community use hours. Also included are; indoor bowls centres, 6 lane athletic tracks and training sites.
20. The sites will have long term secure community use. The maximum travel time is likely to be around 20 minutes, with a high proportion of users travelling by car.

## Satellite

21. These are facilities usually specially designed for sport, but one of the main differences between them and 'hub' level facilities, are the ways in which they are managed.
22. For example, this level includes facilities such as 3/4 court halls on secondary school sites which are made available for community use, but where the management is low intensity. This is often on a key-holder basis, or simple caretaking system, which means that the hours that they are open and the programming of the facility is fairly limited. Consequently they are also less available for 'casual' users (pay and play). Smaller school pools used for learn to swim programmes would also fall into this category, together with sand-based STPs.
23. Often there is no long term security of use for the community. The time taken to travel to such a facility is likely to be around 10 minutes, and there is likely to be a higher proportion of people travelling on foot.

## Local Facility Network

24. These facilities are the most local venues used for sport and active recreation. They are often multi-purpose, such as a village or community hall, primary school, or playing field/recreation ground. The facilities are often basic, without any specialist

changing provision. The travel time to these facilities is usually about 5 minutes, with a high proportion of people arriving on foot.

25. Security of use for the community will vary. Some sites will be owned by organisations such as parish councils, whilst others might be privately owned.
26. In relation to school sites, the facility information includes an indication of whether a facility has established community use, and the type of management on the site.

### Time frame / population assumptions

27. The bulk of the recommendations contained within this document relate to the period up to 2021. This is because the adopted Core Spatial Strategy sets out the numbers of homes planned within each local authority for this period, giving a basis from which to estimate likely population growth.
28. The housing numbers for the Sustainable Urban Extensions have been taken from the adopted **North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy June 2008**.
29. The East Midlands Regional Plan (2009) sets out dwelling figures for the period 2021 to 2026 and a wider uncommitted planning assumption in the period post 2026 to 2031. It is yet to be specified how this growth will be distributed across the North Northamptonshire area. The East Midlands Regional Assembly is currently carrying out a Partial Review of the East Midlands Plan.. At the same time, the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit is embarking upon a review of the Core Spatial Strategy which will also cover the period up to 2031. Further details of these documents can be found in Section 2.
30. As a result of this current work focusing upon post 2021 growth, and the subsequent uncertainty about population growth, this Framework will address the period 2021 to 2026 separately. Recommendations for this period can be found in Section 14.

## SECTION 2: POLICY CONTEXT

### Spatial planning

#### National

##### Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)

31. Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) offer guidance on the operation of the planning system and planning policy. In addition, they clarify the link between planning policies and other government policies which affect land use and development.
32. The importance of creating places with opportunities for sport and leisure is dealt with by PPS 1. The document states that plan policies should support the promotion of health and well being by making provision for physical activity.

##### PPG 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002)

33. This main purpose of PPG17 is to set the role of the planning system in assessing the availability of open space, sport and recreational provision.
34. Local planning authorities must ensure that their development plans allocate sufficient land and water resources for organised sport and informal recreation. In order to do this effectively, account should be taken of current levels of provision in comparison to the local community's existing and future need for open space, sport and recreational facilities.
35. The government also believes that a set of local standards for such facilities should be produced. These local standards should comprise the following:
  - *Quantitative elements (how much new provision may be needed);*
  - *A qualitative component (against which to measure the need for enhancement of existing facilities); and*
  - *Accessibility (including distance thresholds and consideration of the cost of using a facility).*

##### Sustainable Communities: Building the Future (2003)

36. This programme outlined the formation of four Growth Areas which were created as a solution to the housing shortage in London and the wider South East.
37. North Northamptonshire is located in the Milton Keynes and South Midlands (MKSM) growth area, within which the urban areas of Corby, Kettering and



conce

## Regional

### East Midlands Regional Plan (2009)

38. The Plan outlines its priorities for culture, sport and recreation, whilst recognising the potential for cultural activities to promote economic growth, regeneration and foster health and well-being. It also notes the role of spatial planning in supporting increased participation in cultural activities, namely by designing facilities to be inclusive and accessible to all sectors of the community.
39. The Plan proposes that the following hierarchy of cultural provision is put in place across the region:
  - *high level regional and sub-regional facilities serving the Principal Urban Areas and their hinterlands, and located at points of good public transport accessibility;*
  - *modern and well designed neighbourhood and local facilities which are closer to where people live, including Sub-Regional Centres, Growth Towns and as part of sustainable urban extensions, and*
  - *multi-activity hubs in market towns in rural areas which may serve groups of connected villages of smaller size (para.3.3.100).*
40. The Plan goes on to endorse a mixed provision of facilities, which may include sport, adult education and health provision (para.3.3.101).
41. Policy 41: Regional Priorities for Culture, Sport and Recreation states that cultural infrastructure plans should be developed to inform Local Development Frameworks. These should include:
  - *key elements of cultural provision, including assets needing refurbishment, relocation of facilities and new provision;*
  - *standards and costs for provision, including quality standards, and*
  - *the sources of and potential sources of funding, including from the planning system.*
42. The Policy goes on to state the importance of joint working, both cross-agency and across administrative boundaries.
43. Policy 13b sets out a housing provision figure of 66,075 for North Northamptonshire in the period 2001-2026. It maintains that local authorities can test higher numbers through their DPDs, but that these must be consistent with PPS1.

## East Midlands Regional Plan: Partial Review – Options Consultation (2009)

44. The Partial Review will focus upon housing, transport and climate change across the region, for the period 2021 to 2031. The Options Consultation (June-October 2009) identified four growth options for North Northamptonshire:
- Continue with the current strategy of focusing development and regeneration at the growth towns of Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough;
  - Focus most new development and regeneration at one or two of the growth towns of Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough;
  - Focus additional development into the areas between growth towns of Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough to create a North Northamptonshire City Region;
  - Focus growth more evenly across the area in a more dispersed pattern of development.

## Sub-regional

### Milton Keynes & South Midlands Sub Regional Strategy (2005)

45. This document was produced as part of central government's Sustainable Communities Plan (see above).
46. The Strategy sets out the requirement for 52,100 new homes to be built in North Northamptonshire in the period up to 2021. It goes on to state that 34,100 of these new dwellings will be built in the towns of Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough. The Strategy sets a housing target for a further 28,000 new homes to be built in the growth towns between 2021 and 2031.
47. As a result of the large numbers of new homes, the Strategy highlights the importance for appropriate community facilities, which includes leisure centres.

## North Northamptonshire Local Development Framework

48. A joint Local Development Framework (LDF) is currently being prepared for East Northamptonshire, Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough Councils (collectively known as North Northamptonshire). The North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (JPU) was set up in 2004 to co-ordinate the production of the strategic plans needed to deliver sustainable development in North Northamptonshire, and is responsible for the development of the Core Spatial Strategy for North Northamptonshire..

### North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008)

49. The North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy was adopted in June 2008 and addresses the growth requirements, in terms of new homes and jobs set out in the Regional Plan and MKSM growth strategy up to 2021.
50. Policy 1 of the CSS sets out the settlement roles and how development will be organised accordingly. It highlights the emphasis upon regeneration in the town centres, where indoor sport and leisure is highlighted as one of the options for initiating regeneration.
51. Policy 5 concerns the provision of green infrastructure whilst Policy 6 deals with infrastructure delivery and developer contributions. Policy 7 concerns the delivery of new housing, which will be looked at in more detail in the pen portraits of each local authority, as will Policy 9: Distribution and Location of Development and Policy 10: Distribution of Housing.
52. Policy 16 deals with Sustainable Urban Extensions and states that Master Plans for these developments should make provision for:

*An appropriate level of retail, leisure, social, cultural, community and health facilities that meet local needs but do not compete with the town centre.*

### North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy Review

53. This review will refine and strengthen the existing strategy, whilst looking forward to 2031. The document aims to focus more on a place-shaping approach, whilst still taking into account growth targets.

### North Northamptonshire Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document (2008)

54. SPDs make up part of the Local Development Framework, meaning that they have statutory status. This document, which aims to guide the design of new development, sets out the importance of including opportunities for sport and physical activity and encouraging active lifestyles. The JPU is also working on a Development Contributions SPD which will be informed by this framework.

### District Council Local Development Documents.

55. As required by PPG17 District Councils are required to identify existing sites of open space, sport and recreational facilities which are deemed to be of good/very good quality against relevant quality indicators. These sites will be shown on the adopted Proposals Maps for each District, within relevant policies included in relevant Local Development Documents DPDs, including Area Action Plans and Site allocation documents.

## Sport

### National

#### Playing to Win (DCMS, 2008)

56. Playing to Win is an overarching strategy to get more people taking up sport and building a world leading sports development system in England. The aims are:
- To engage a million more people in regular sport participation;
  - To produce a seamless ladder of talent development from school to elite level, with opportunities for more competition and more coaching at each level;
  - To ensure every member of the sporting family, and every part of Government, plays its part.
57. It defines a more strategic role for Sport England by commissioning sports development through the following bodies:
- The Youth Sports Trust, to provide high quality coaching and competitive opportunities to all young people for five hours every week, and to help them move to the club system;
  - UK Sport, to create support systems and clear pathways to success for the most promising and talented performers;
  - National Governing Bodies, to expand participation and provide more quality coaching from more people in return for greater freedom and control over public funds.

#### Grow Sustain Excel: Sport England Strategy (2008 – 2011)

58. With the Olympics and Paralympics due to come to the UK in 2012 the government has asked Sport England to review its approach to community sport in England.
59. The emerging strategy aims to ensure that:
- A substantial and growing number of people from across the community play sport;
  - Talented people from all backgrounds are identified early, nurtured and have the opportunity to progress to the elite level; and
  - Everyone who plays sport has a quality experience and is able to fulfil their potential.
60. In the future Sport England's role will be to focus exclusively on sport rather than the broader physical activity agenda being driven by a number of government departments including the Department of Health and the Department of Transport.

Whilst sport has the ability to play a major role in achieving wider and social and economic benefits, the driving force behind this Strategy and investment is to address the needs of sports participants across the country.

61. Sport England will continue to work with the Youth Sport Trust to ensure that young people have the opportunity to participate in a minimum of five hours high quality PE and sport each week. They will also jointly focus on reducing the drop-off in participation at the age of 16, partly by facilitating the development of a modern sports club network in partnership with National Governing Bodies. The resulting multi-sport clubs will provide a diverse range of opportunities to fit with modern lifestyles and needs.
62. As a result of these changes it is hoped that there will be increasing participation in NGB-accredited clubs by one third for all 5-16 year-olds by 2010.
63. NGBs will be 'commissioned' by Sport England to deliver against the key outcomes highlighted above. The NGBs will have greater autonomy over the investment of public funds within their sport, along with greater responsibility for the delivery of the outcomes.
64. NGBs are currently developing their Whole-Sport Plans to illustrate how they propose to deliver against these outcomes. These plans will be assessed and reviewed by Sport England, with NGBs then being given a single four-year grant to deliver. A number of plans are still awaited.
65. Coaches and volunteers will continue to play a critical role in the achievement of all three public outcomes; developing talent, improving satisfaction and encouraging participation. Sport England will work with NGBs to support and develop this involvement.
66. As a consequence of its new strategy Sport England is committed to delivering:
  - 1m people doing more sport by 2012-13;
  - A reduction in post-16 drop-off in at least five sports by 25% by 2012-13 (although the sports have not yet been identified);
  - A quantifiable increase in satisfaction (the actual measure has yet to be determined);
  - Improved talent development systems in at least 25 sports (again, the sports have not yet been identified);
  - A major contribution to the delivery of the Five Hour Sport Offer.

### PE and Sport Strategy for Young People (2008)

67. In January 2008, the government launched the PE and Sport Strategy for Young People, which builds on the PE and School Sport Club Links strategy (PESSCL) which was launched in 2003. The new strategy looks to develop a world class system for

school sport and physical education. In order to deliver on this, the government has promised to invest an additional £775 million over the next three years, in addition to the £1.5 billion that has been invested since 2003. Additional work identified includes:

- Creating new sporting opportunities for young people in the Further Education (FE) sector by appointing FE sport co-ordinators, linked to School Sport Partnerships;
- Investing in more coaching in schools, FE colleges and community sports networks;
- Providing a more attractive range of sporting activity based on what young people say they want;
- Creating a national network (one in each partnership) of multi-sport clubs for young people with disabilities;
- Establishing a National School Sport Week, championed by Dame Kelly Holmes, motivating young people to take part in competitive sport.

### Sport Playing Its Part (2005)

68. This is a series of reports published by Sport England, the DCMS local government board and the Local Government Association evidencing the contribution of sport to:

- Healthier Communities: The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) report 2004 confirmed that regular participation in sport can reduce the likelihood of ill-health and illnesses and reduce the mortality risk, help to tackle obesity, support healthy growth in young people and encourage the adoption of a healthy lifestyle, contribute to older people leading more independent lives, reduce healthcare costs and workplace absence;
- Safe, Strong and Sustainable Communities: By strengthening community cohesion, reducing youth crime and anti-social behaviour, reducing accidents and fear of crime, improving the quality of the built and natural environment and creating a sense of place and encouraging sustainable travel;
- Economic Vitality and Workforce Development: By providing direct employment, contributing to economic output, acting as a catalyst for investment and regeneration, assisting in developing a positive image and improving the attractiveness of an area for business investment and as a place to live, work and visit, improving the skills and qualifications of the workforce and reducing the cost to the economy of workplace absence due to ill health;
- Meeting the Needs of Children and Young People: By contributing to meeting the Every Child Matters outcomes of being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well-being.

## Public Sports & Recreation Services: Making Them Fit for the future (Audit commission, 2006)

69. The Audit Commission, in association with Sport England, undertook a study to examine how local authorities in England are managing their approach to providing public sports and recreation facilities and their attempts to improve access and value for money. The document made the following recommendations:

Councils should improve the strategic planning of sports and recreation provision and increase overall efficiency by:

- Assessing current and future sports and recreation needs;
- Forming partnerships to aid the planning, procurement and delivery of services;
- Appraising the options for delivery and test the market to ensure that the best value option is identified;
- Improving the collection, analysis and use of performance information.

Government should:

- Ensure greater coherence of funding streams and initiatives across government departments;
- Ensure that schools seek specialist advice at an early planning stage on the design and management of school community sports facilities;
- Develop concise guidance and advocate the use of standard contract documentation for procurement of contracts;
- Promote opportunities for councils to work together in strategic partnerships;
- Use Centres of Excellence and their partners as regional advocates of those procurement standards and guidance and capacity building, advice and training.

## Youth Matters (2005)

70. Youth Matters, the Government's Youth Green paper was published in July 2005 and following a period of consultation, Youth Matters: Next Steps was published in early 2006. This sets out the vision for empowering young people, giving them somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to.
71. Key to sport's contribution is Chapter 3 on Empowering Young People: Things to do and Places to go. This focuses on the opportunities that the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London will bring and the tremendous incentive for all young people to participate in a whole range of positive sporting, volunteering and cultural activities.
72. There is reference to the Extended Schools programme and central Government support to increase sporting opportunities for older teenagers and those not in school by investing in a network of local youth sport development managers. In

constructive activities.

### “Promoting and creating built or natural environments that encourage and support physical activity” (2008)

73. The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) published this guidance for professionals with a direct or indirect role or responsibility for the built or natural environment. This includes those working in local authorities and the education, community, voluntary and private sectors.
74. There are recommendations in relation to transport, public open spaces, buildings and schools. The key message seeks to ensure the potential for physical activity is maximised in any planned development and ensuring that local services are easily accessible on foot or by bicycle. It also stresses the need to ensure children can participate in physically active play.
75. All of the recommendations in the document will help to address the government’s Public Service Agreement targets for:
  - Improving the health and wellbeing of children and young people;
  - Promoting better health and wellbeing for all;
  - Increasing the uptake of cultural and sporting opportunities by adults and young people aged 16 and above;
  - Delivering a successful Olympic Games in 2012 and a sustainable legacy.

### Sport Nation

76. Two other significant documents produced in 2006 and 2007 come from Sport Nation. This is an independent sports think-tank which aims to radically change views on key issues in sport in the run up to the London 2012 Olympics. The panel is made up of some of the most influential thinkers in British sport, business and academia.
77. **“Are we missing the coach for 2012?”** examines Britain’s current coaching structures and identified a number of barriers that prevent gifted and talented young performers from reaching their maximum potential. These include:
  - Weaknesses in the coaching system for ensuring that talented athletes access appropriate coaching support, of sufficient quality, when and where they require it;
  - Funding deficiencies at the crucial developmental levels;
  - A limited pool of talented coaches;
  - An over-reliance on volunteerism as the backbone of our coaching system;
  - A filtering effect in sport which makes it less likely that sports participants, who are members of minority groups, will progress to high performance levels, coaching and to other sports delivery roles;



- A lack of any systematic strategies to address the issues raised by current trends in family life that make it difficult for many families to support young talented performers to the extent expected.
78. **“A Sporting Chance”** states that many children are missing out on sporting opportunities because of the time of year in which they are born (i.e. Spring and Summer). The report found that this had a knock-on effect in schools where there could be a year’s difference in age between children in the same class. Evidence showed that often the younger ones were ignored in favour of their older friends. Potential solutions put forward included the need to review the competition structure by each sport and to rethink game formats to widen opportunities.

## Northamptonshire Sport Strategy 2006 – 2009

79. The existing Strategy (due for updating) has four aims:
- To provide and co-ordinate a cohesive framework for sports specific development across Northamptonshire, from playground to podium.
  - Use physical activity to improve the physical, social, mental health and wellbeing of people in Northamptonshire in order to achieve a physically active Northamptonshire.
  - To target interventions to encourage lifelong involvement in sport and physical activity in order to provide healthier, safer and more prosperous communities.
  - To develop high quality education and skills based programmes that provide relevant and accessible opportunities to develop the workforce.
80. The success of the strategy will be measured by a number of Critical Success Factors one of which is closely aligned to facility provision.
- Increasing levels of participation in sport, physical activity and active recreation by 1% annually.

## Education

### Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

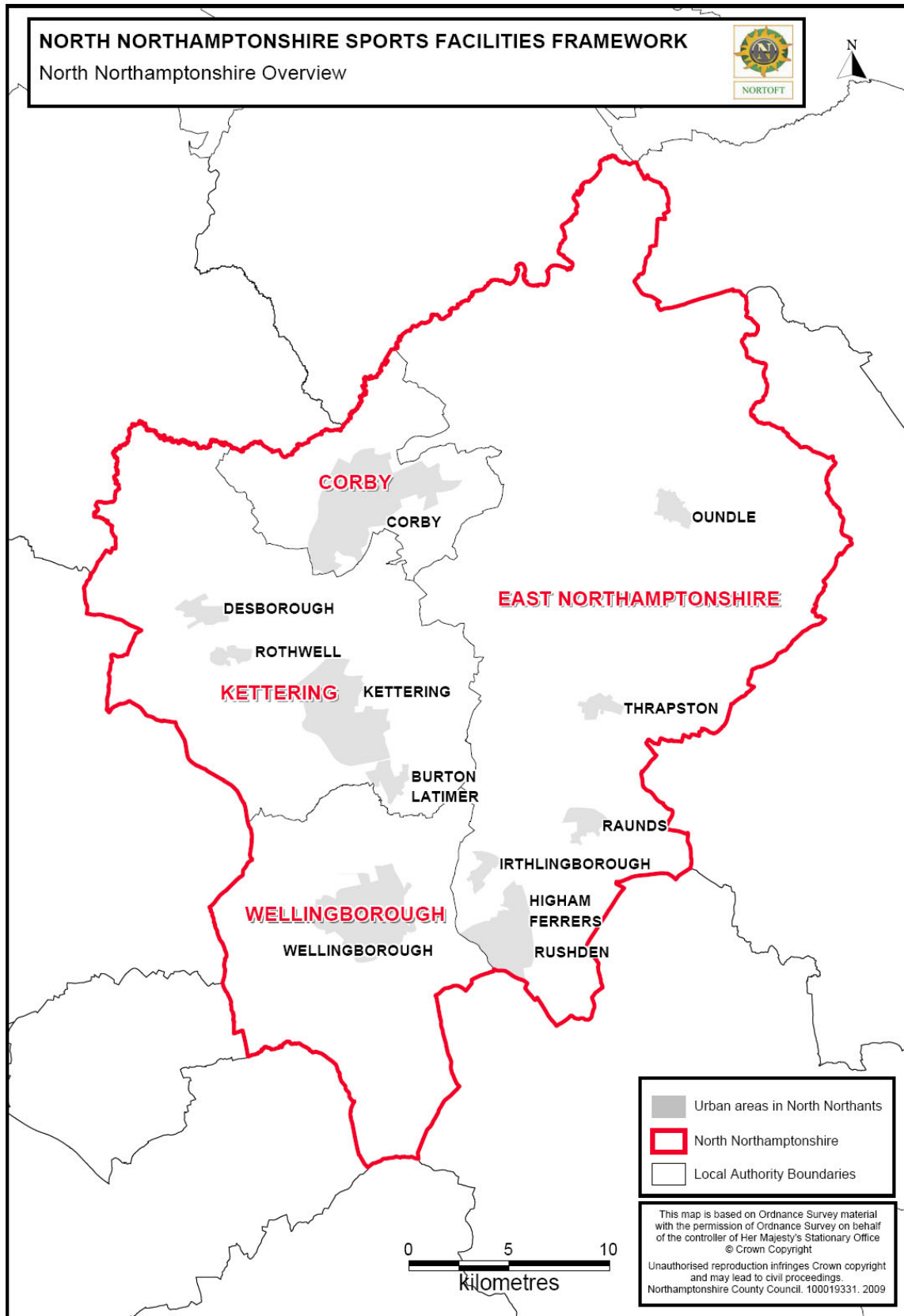
81. This is the Government's national building programme that will give local authorities the opportunity to rebuild or refurbish all secondary schools over the next 10 – 15 years in a series of "waves". As part of the BSF funding envelope, schools will be required to provide a minimum level of sports facilities as part of any new build. BSF provides an unparalleled opportunity to fully integrate education and community use of school sites.
82. Northamptonshire is planning to submit its Readiness to Deliver proposals in the autumn of 2010. The schools which will be in the early waves are Weavers School, Wrenn School, Sir Christopher Hatton School, Rushden Community College and Lodge Park Technology College. Any works on site are unlikely to start before 2012.

## **SECTION 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY PEN PORTRAITS**

### **Introduction**

83. This section provides an overview of each of the local authorities within North Northamptonshire including demographic and social marketing data. It also looks in at the issues and opportunities affecting each local authority in sporting terms. The information included in the portraits has been summarised in the paragraphs immediately below. A variety of sources have been used, which influence the recommendations emerging from this framework.

Figure 2: North Northamptonshire Local Authority Boundaries



## Existing Strategies

84. All of the local authorities have existing strategies which address levels of sports provision. The key findings from these documents have been summarised. However, it should be noted that none of the strategies are fully up to date. In addition, some use data based on 2001 census information and some have not taken account of population projections.
85. A Northamptonshire-wide Playing Pitch Strategy was completed in 2002. However, since the production of this study, participation patterns and levels in pitch sports have altered dramatically, meaning the findings are unlikely to be relevant.

## Sports Facilities

86. This section details the existing facilities in each local authority area which have a high degree of community use and which are above a certain size e.g. 3 + badminton court sports halls (see Facility types and Hierarchy). It also lists those facility aspirations identified by local authority officers at a consultation workshop which took place in February 2009. The facilities for which modelling has been undertaken are as follows:-

- 3+ badminton court sports halls
- 160 m2 + swimming pools
- 6 + Lane athletics tracks
- 50 + station health and fitness facilities
- Indoor bowls centres
- Indoor tennis centres
- Golf driving ranges

## Current Population

87. The total population for each local authority has been estimated by Northamptonshire County Council. This data is based on the 2006 projections, and was published in July 2008. Data is available at local authority level in five year age bands. The 2009 projection has been used to estimate each local authority's current population, and is necessary to establish current levels of sports provision (i.e. number of facilities per 1000 population) to see how they compare with the provision at regional and national levels.

## BME Population

88. Figures on the ethnic breakdown of the population were derived from the 2001 Census. However, these figures do not take into account the influx of economic migrants which occurred with the enlargement of the European Union in 2004. It is possible that this influx however may be counteracted by an outflow linked to the current economic downturn. It is important to understand the ethnic make-up of the population as different sports appeal to different ethnic groups. There are also cultural issues linked to gender and participation in physical activity which may impact upon demand for facilities, or for specific design features.

## Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007

89. The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 is a single deprivation score for each Lower Super Output Area in the country. It combines several indicators covering economic, social and housing issues. Levels of deprivation could affect access to sports facilities where cost and travel are factors influencing participation.

## Health

90. The Association of Public Health Observatories was first commissioned by the Department of Health in 2005 to produce health profiles for each local authority area in England. The aim of the profiles are to provide a standardised overview of the health issues of each authority that are comparable across the country. The profiles contain data on important indicators such as the levels of obesity and physical activity among children and adults.

## Market Segmentation

91. Sport England has developed nineteen sporting segments to help understand individual's attitudes and motivations to sport and physical activity. The information used to develop these segments is founded in information sourced primarily from the Active People Survey, but also from the census, and supplemented with information from other market research surveys. The 19 segments developed by Sport England are:

Segment	Type of person
1	Competitive Male Urbanites
2	Sports Team Drinkers
3	Fitness Class Friends
4	Supportive Singles
5	Career Focused Females
6	Settling Down Males
7	Stay at Home Mums
8	Middle England Mums
9	Pub League Team Mates
10	Stretched Single Mums
11	Comfortable Mid-Life Males
12	Empty Nest Career Ladies
13	Early Retirement Couples
14	Older Working Women
15	Local 'Old Boys'
16	Later Life Ladies
17	Comfortable Retired Couples
18	Twilight Year Gents
19	Retirement Home Singles

92. Each segment has a different personality and Appendix 1 provides a guide to the type of activities which appeal to each, and their motivation for participating in sport. They can be explored at a number of geographic levels (local authority, Lower Super Output Area and Middle Super Output Area).
93. Each segment is also classified into the socio-economic grading system developed originally for the National Readership Survey. The grades can identify income levels in an area and can help to inform how the population might use different types of sports facilities. The grades are classified as follows:

Social Grade	Social Status	Chief Income Earner's Occupation
A	Upper Middle Class	Higher managerial, administrative or professional
B	Middle Class	Intermediate managerial, administrative or professional
C1	Lower Middle Class	Supervisory or clerical and junior managerial, administrative or professional
C2	Skilled Working Class	Skilled manual workers
D	Working Class	Semi and unskilled manual workers
E	Those at the lowest levels of subsistence	Casual or lowest grade workers, pensioners and others who depend on the state for their income

## Future Population- age profile

94. The 2009 population has been compared to the population at key dates in the plan period; 2011, 2016, 2021 and 2026. These estimates will help establish future demand for sports provision. Since this Framework is for the period up to 2026, the age structure of the current population has been compared to that in 2026. Significant changes in the age structure of the population may affect the type of sporting facilities required in the future.

## New Housing and Locations for Growth

95. This information has been derived from the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008), which addresses the growth requirements set out in the MKSM Strategy / Regional Plan . Attention has also been paid to planning applications for major developments in the area. Increased numbers of new houses will impact upon the demand for new sporting facilities. Identifying large areas of new housing will give a good indication of where these new facilities are likely to be located.
96. The proposals for sports facilities therefore reflect the population projections as described in the previous paragraph. Should the area grow more slowly than anticipated, as a result of the current economic down turn, then the proposals will remain valid as they are based on rates of provision per 1000 head of population. However, the phasing of the delivery/implementation of the specific proposals will be slower, in line with the housing growth.
97. North Northants major housing growth is largely directed into Sustainable Urban Extensions (S.U.E's). It is important that sporting infrastructure needs to 2026 and potentially beyond, are properly considered during the master planning of these growth areas and the location, accessibility and phasing of sports facilities needs to be given careful consideration.

## Education / BSF

98. In these sections any firm proposals in relation to sports provision on school sites are identified and their implications for community use assessed in broad terms.



## Corby

### Introduction

99. Corby is situated in the north of Northamptonshire. It shares boundaries with Harborough and Rutland to the north, East Northamptonshire to the east and Kettering to the south and west.
100. The majority of the authority's residents live within the town of Corby but there are also a number of villages in the borough. The main ones being Gretton, Cottingham, Middleton, Stanion and Weldon.
101. In terms of public transport, Corby is linked to the rest of the county by local bus services to towns such as Kettering, Wellingborough, Northampton and Peterborough. In addition, Corby is now directly connected to the Midland Mainline.

### Existing Strategies

102. In January 2006 PMP produced an Open Space, Recreation, and Sport Study for Corby. This document used 2001 census data as the basis for its population figures and levels of demand (for sports halls) was calculated for the year 2005. None the less the key findings are as follows:-
- In 2005 there was a demand for 15.3 badminton courts in Corby, leaving a shortfall in sports hall provision of just over 9 badminton courts;
  - If no additional facilities are built this shortfall would increase to 26.5 courts by 2021;
  - The Corby 50m pool will meet the demand for water space and health and fitness facilities for the lifetime of this Framework.

### Sports Facilities

103. The main sports facilities in the borough are:

Name	Facilities
Brooke Weston Academy	4 badminton court sports hall
	Full size sand based STP
Corby East Midlands International Pool	50m x 8 lane pool and teaching pool
	70 station fitness suite
Corby Indoor Tennis Centre	8 court air-hall

Lodge Park Sports Centre	4 badminton court Sports Hall
	Full size 3G STP
Rockingham Triangle Sports Complex	8 lane synthetic Athletics Track
Corby Business Academy	4 badminton court Sports Hall
	Full size 3G STP
Kingswood School	New 4 court sports hall (to open Sept 2010)
	Full size 3G STP

104. Uppingham School, located within a 20 minute drive time of the majority of Corby Borough and within a 10 minute drive of the villages of Rockingham and Gretton, has just started building a new multi-million pound sports centre. The centre will include a 6 lane x 25m swimming pool, a 6 court sports hall, tennis/netball courts, a fitness suite, a gym, 3 squash courts and 2 dance studios. In addition, enhancements will be made to existing rugby pitches and the athletics facilities will be improved. Public access is anticipated to begin in late 2010, and the site's proximity to Corby Borough means it is a possibility that some residents will use the new facilities.

### Key facility aspirations

105. The main aspiration for hub level facilities and above relates to Phase 2 of Adrenaline Alley (an indoor urban centre in Corby, one of the largest of its kind in the UK). This will involve a new purpose built facility close to the existing site and will include a "My Place" youth facility as well as catering for urban sports such as BMX, skate boarding and in-line skating.
106. There are also proposals to significantly improve the facilities at Rockingham Triangle. Planning permission has been granted for an all weather pitch, refurbished football stadium and new sports hall, however at the time of writing only the football stadium element was being progressed. There are also proposals to increase the number of outdoor tennis courts at Rockingham Triangle to 6. Whilst this Framework focuses on facilities which consist of 8+ outdoor courts the fact that these will be linked to the 8 indoor courts already on site means that this warrants inclusion.
107. Initial discussions have taken place regarding the possible creation of a "dry diving" / gymnastics facility linked to the diving facilities at Corby pool. This project is currently on hold although the ASA has recently funded a diving coach to work at the new Corby Pool.

## Current Population

108. The latest population projections estimate that the total population of the district is around 60,100.
109. Whilst current projections are only available for the district as a whole, the 2001 census shows that 90% of residents live within the urban wards and 10% within the rural areas.

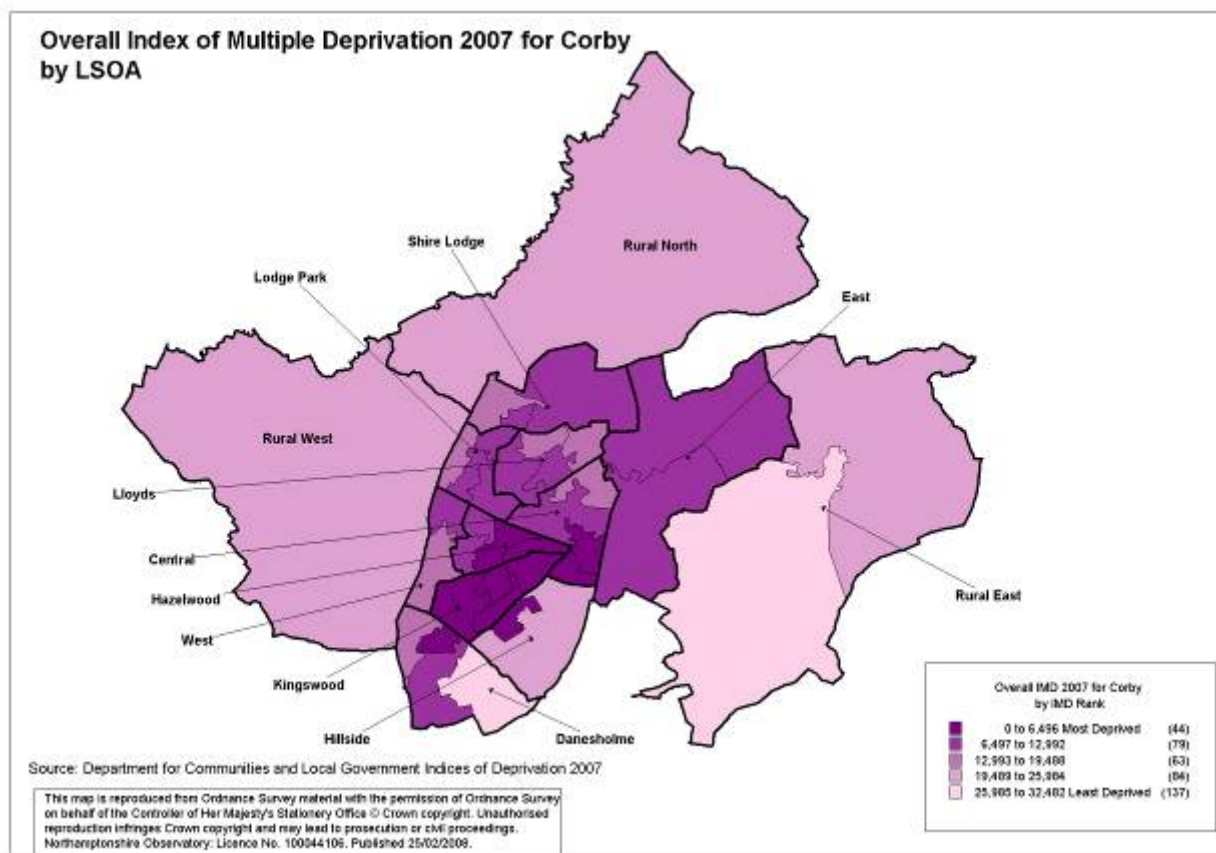
## BME Population

110. The following key facts arose from the 2001 Census:
- The population of Corby is predominantly White British (94.2%);
  - The BME population accounts for 5.8% of the total population;
  - The largest ethnic groups are White Irish (2.3%), Other White (1.9%) and Indian (0.5%).

## Indices of Deprivation 2007

111. Key findings from the Indices of Deprivation 2007 are as follows:
- Four of the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Corby are within the top 10% most deprived in England; and
  - A further six LSOAs are in the top 20%.

*Figure 3: Overall index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 by LSOA for Corby*



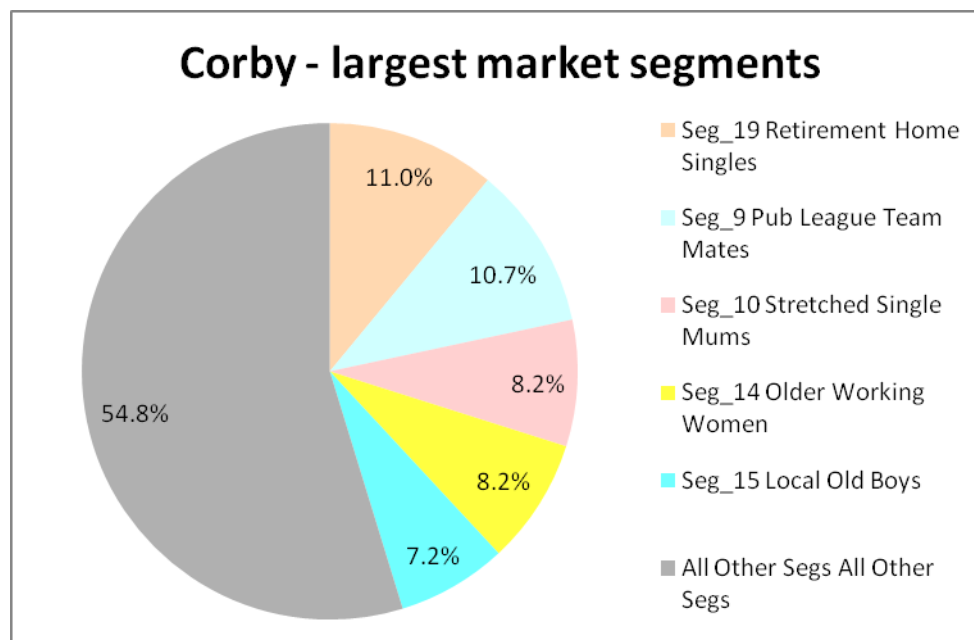
## Health

112. The health of people in Corby is generally lower than the national average and as such Corby is designated as one of 70 'Spearhead areas' in England. These areas have higher inequalities and are the focus for faster improvements in life expectancy and the reduction of premature deaths caused by heart disease and cancer.
113. Whilst levels of obesity in children are higher than the national average, levels of obesity in adults are significantly lower. In addition, the number of physically active children is significantly lower than the average whilst the amount of physically active adults is just below the national average.

## Market Segmentation

114. An analysis of Corby's population reveals the largest market segments to be as follows:

*Figure 4: Market Segmentation in Corby Borough*



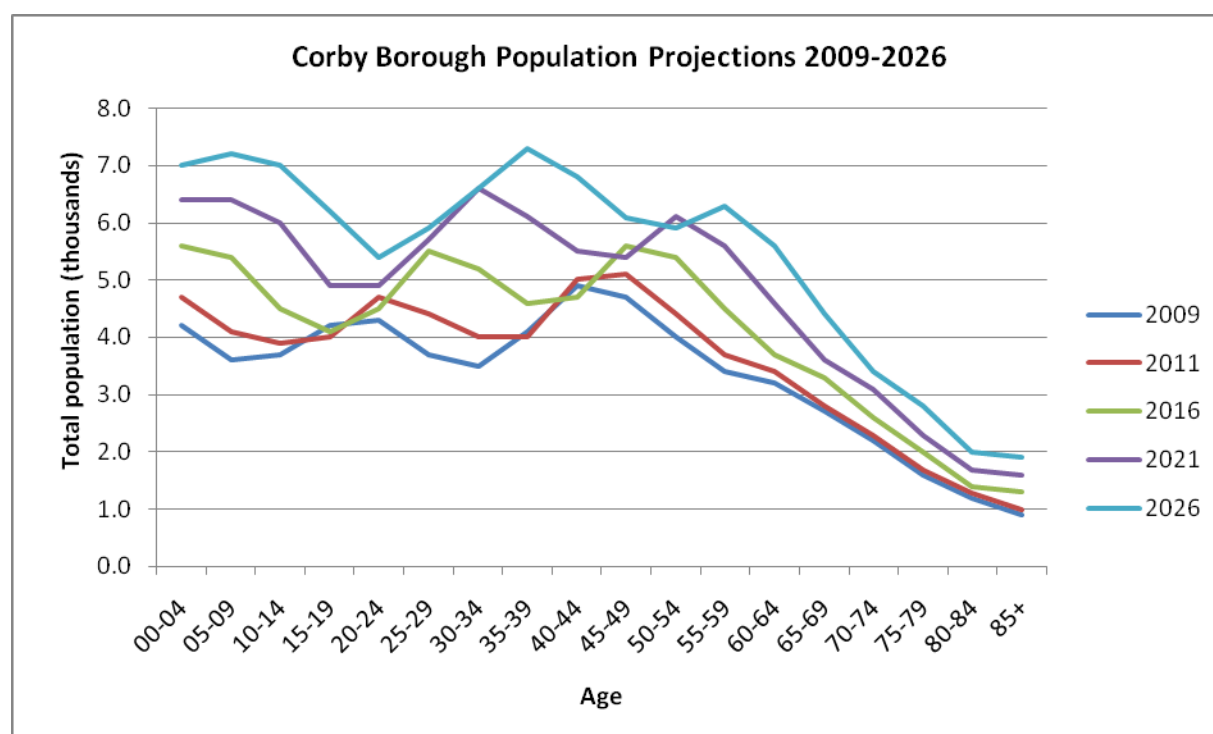
115. It can be seen that no one group is significantly larger than the others and there is a relatively even spread across those segments which comprise people mainly from social groups D and E.

## Future Population

116. Figure 5 shows how the population of Corby is expected to increase up to 2026. The increase of 37,800 people between 2009 and 2026 equates to a 63% increase in total population.

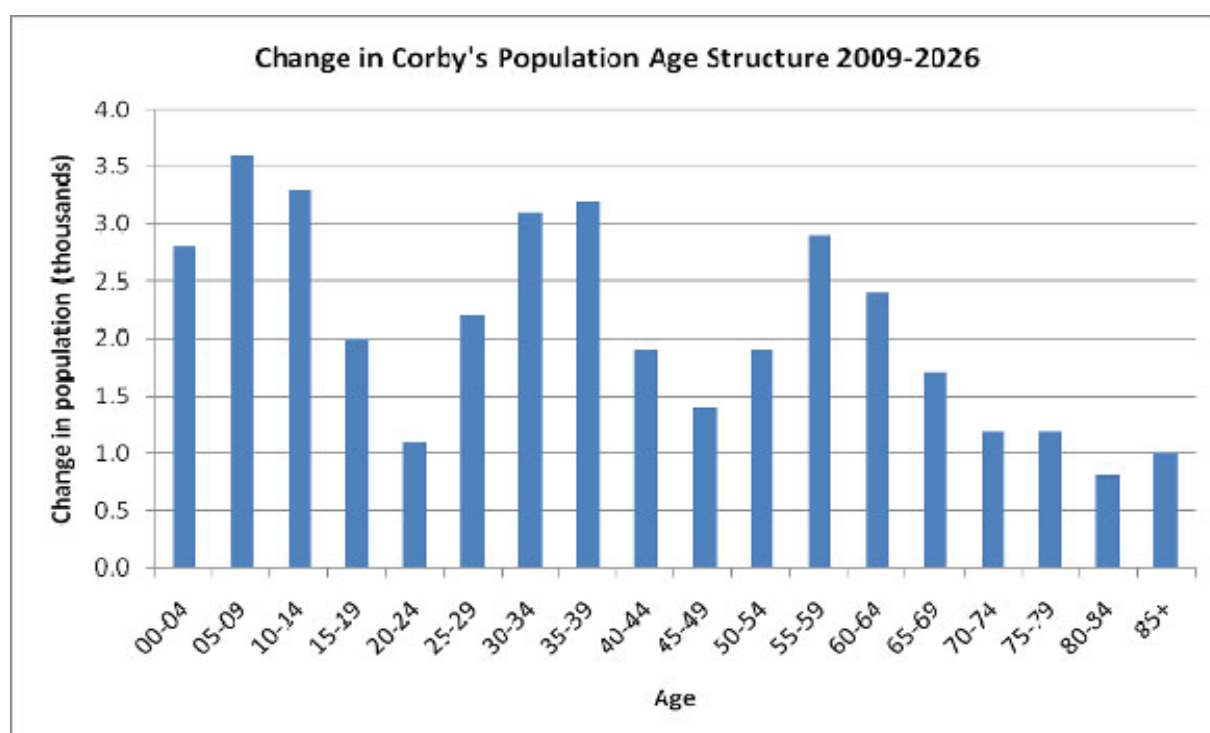
Figure 5: Corby total population projections 2009 – 2026  
(Source: NCC and ONS)

Year	2009	2011	2016	2021	2026
Estimated total population	60,100	64,400	73,700	86,400	97,900



117. Figure 6 shows that all age groups are forecast to increase with the highest increases within the 5-9, 10-14 and 35-39 age groups.

Figure 6: Corby change in age structure up to 2026  
(Source: NCC and ONS)



### New Housing & Locations for growth

118. During the plan period (2001-21), the Borough has an indicative housing requirement of 16,800 new dwellings. The majority of these will be concentrated at the growth town in the form of sustainable urban extensions (SUEs). The housing requirements that the local planning authority is working towards are as follows:

Figure 7: Corby housing requirements 2001-2021

	INDICATIVE HOUSING REQUIREMENT (NET ADDITIONAL DWELLINGS 2001-2021)	OF WHICH HOUSING COMPLETIONS 2001-2006
Growth Town	15,510	
Rural Areas	1,290	
<b>Corby Total</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>1,491</b>

Source: North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008)

119. Policy 9 of the CSS states that the initial SUE will be located to the north-east of Corby. Up to 5,100 dwellings, 3,000 jobs and a range of health, leisure and community facilities are planned, although development has slowed due to the economic downturn. The development also includes the new Corby Academy which opened in September 2008.
120. An outline application for 1,000 houses east of Weldon was submitted in June 2007 and the council has resolved to grant planning permission subject to a S106 Agreement being signed.
121. Once this SUE has been successfully established, a further SUE to the west of Corby has been identified with potential for up to 4,000 dwellings. . In line with Policy 7 of the CSS, work on this development is not due to commence until after 2011. Both SUEs will have the potential to grow beyond 2021.
122. The housing requirement figure for the rural areas of Corby includes a development of 970 dwellings to the west of Stanion known as Little Stanion. Work started at this site in 2006 and the first phase of homes was released in May 2008.

## Education/BSF

123. Corby Business Academy opened in September 2008 and Brooke Weston, formally a City Technology College, became an Academy in September 2008.
124. A new building is currently being constructed at Kingswood School. It is anticipated that the school will open in 2010 as Kingswood Arts College, with specialist dance facilities. Sports facilities will include a 4 court sports hall and full size sand based all weather pitch.
125. Maplefield Special School on the former Beanfield Primary School site is likely to be rebuilt with a four court sports hall and full size sand based all weather pitch.
126. The remaining secondary school in Corby is Lodge Park Technology College. The school has been highlighted as one of the Northamptonshire's five priorities for BSF funding.
127. Northamptonshire County Council have consulted on schools organisation in the county (consultation closed in April 09). Based on pupil projections, NCC consulted on the possibility of a) expanding existing secondary schools b) building 1 new secondary school and expanding existing schools, and c) building 2 new secondary schools.
128. Tresham Institute has plans to relocate from its current base in George Street to the site of the former Corby Community College on Oakley Road. This 14-acre site will be a key building on the eastern approach into the regenerated town centre and is located next to the new railway link. The Institute is currently negotiating the



purchase of the site, currently owned by Northamptonshire County Council, with the intention of building a new £42million campus.

129. The Learning and Skills Council has recently identified the Corby campus as one of thirteen colleges nationwide to move on to the next stage of its further education building programme. However, funding is dependent upon Tresham Institute reducing costs on their initial project plan.
130. There may be opportunities to provide sports facilities on the site which meet both the needs of the students and the local community. At the time of writing the exact nature of the sports facilities proposed for the site were still to be determined and were the subject of a planning application. However, consideration should be given to the provision of a 4/6 court sports hall.

## East Northamptonshire

### Introduction

131. East Northamptonshire shares its boundaries with all the other local authorities in the North Northamptonshire area, alongside Rutland to the north, Peterborough to the north east, Huntingdonshire to the east and Bedford to the south.
132. East Northamptonshire is predominantly rural, although there are six small towns in the district: Rushden, Raunds, Thrapston, Oundle, Higham Ferrers and Irthlingborough.
133. The towns in the district are connected to larger towns in the county by frequent bus services. Most villages experience either a daily service or a less frequent service.

### Existing Strategies

134. In January 2006 PMP produced an Open Space, Recreation, and Sport Study for East Northamptonshire Council. This document used 2001 census data as the basis for its population figures and levels of demand (for sports halls) were calculated for the year 2005. It is therefore possible that levels of demand will have changed. None the less the key findings are as follows:-
  - In 2006 there was a shortfall of 8.75 badminton courts (roughly equivalent to two 4 court sports halls;
  - There is an uneven distribution of sports hall provision across the area with the majority of residents in the south urban area able to access a sports hall with a travel time of 15 minutes. However there is significantly less provision further north and people living in Oundle and the rural areas are not served by sports halls in East Northamptonshire;
  - There was adequate water space to cater for the population in 2005;
  - There was a shortfall of 58 health and fitness stations in 2005.

### Sports Facilities

135. The main sports facilities in the district are:

Name	Facilities
Manor School and Sports College	4 badminton court sports hall
	Full size 3G STP
Oundle School Sports Centre	6 lane synthetic athletics track

	4 badminton court sports hall
	43m x 6 lane pool
	2 x full size sand based STPs
Pemberton Leisure and Conference Centre (closing 2010/2011)	4 badminton court sports hall
	80 station fitness suite
Prince William School	Full size sand based STP
Rushden and Diamonds Sports and Exhibition Centre	4 badminton court sports hall
Rushden Town Indoor Bowls Club	6 rink indoor bowls centre
Splash Leisure Pool Rushden (closing 2010/2011)	25m x 6 lane pool, 8m x 4m teaching pool and leisure pool
The Nene Centre	25m x 5 lane pool and 10m x 5m teaching pool
Manor Park Leisure Centre (opening end 2010/start 2011- replacing Pemberton Centre and Splash Pool)	25m x 6 lane pool, 10m x 5m teaching pool (tbc)
	6 badminton court sports hall
	100 station fitness suite
Ferrers School	3 badminton court sports hall
Rushden Community College	3 badminton court sports hall

## Facility Aspirations

136. Consultation with local authority staff has revealed the following aspirations for East Northamptonshire:

- Manor Park Leisure Centre will replace the current Pemberton Centre and Splash Pool. Proposals for the site currently include a 6 lane, 25-metre swimming pool and a teaching pool, as well as a 6 court sports hall, dance/exercise studios and a health and fitness suite.
- The Football Foundation has identified the need for a 3G STP which could be located at the new Manor Park Leisure Centre or Higham Ferrers School. This concept is at a very early stage;
- A dual use 4 court sports hall located on land partly on Council land and partly on King John School, Thrapston. The site is next to the council offices and the Nene Centre. The BSF wave is not until 2013 but as this is a middle school it is unknown how this will be affected, however there is an aspiration to increase the health and fitness facility to 50+ stations.
- Kings Cliffe Community Sports Project – 2 grass pitches, BMX, MUGA and funding for changing provision. There is a desire to provide a for 4 court sports hall as part of the final phase of the project.

## Issues

137. The projected demographic profile of the population is perhaps one of the key issues facing East Northamptonshire. Figure 11 demonstrates clearly that the population is an ageing one and this should be borne in mind when planning facilities to meet the needs of the future population.
138. The pool at Oundle School is the only swimming facility in the northern part of the district. At 43m in length it will fulfil any training need from local clubs but will not be suitable for competition as it does not meet the national governing body's requirements in terms of size. Community access is limited and there is no secure community use agreement with the school.
139. The rural nature of the District inevitably means that access to facilities will be an issue. There are already a number of sports facilities located on school sites and where appropriate this should be developed further, in order to maximise resources.

## Current Population

140. The latest population projections estimate that the total population of the borough is around 86,100.
141. The 2001 census showed that over 75% of the population lived within the six town wards, the rest being distributed over the remaining 58 villages.

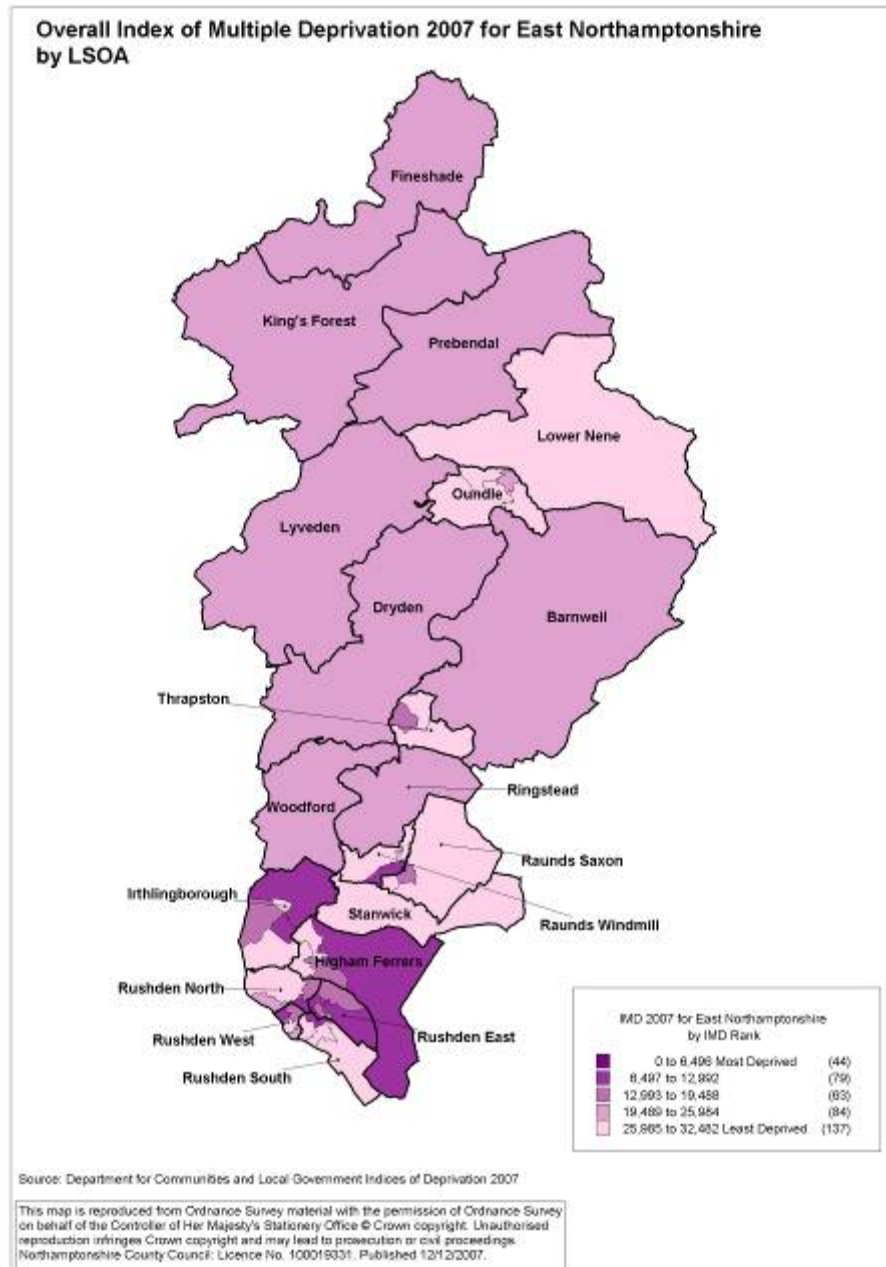
## BME Population

142. The following key facts arose from the 2001 Census:
  - The population of East Northamptonshire is predominantly White British (95.5%);
  - The BME population accounts for only 4.5% of the total population - the smallest number of the authorities within the North Northamptonshire area;
  - The largest ethnic groups are Other White (1.9%), White Irish (0.8%) and Indian (0.3%).

## Indices of Deprivation 2007

143. Key findings:
  - East Northamptonshire has no LSOAs within the top 20% most deprived in England;
  - The most deprived areas in the district are located in the south around the urban areas of Rusden, Higham, Irthlingborough and Raunds.

*Figure 8: Overall index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 by LSOA for East Northamptonshire*



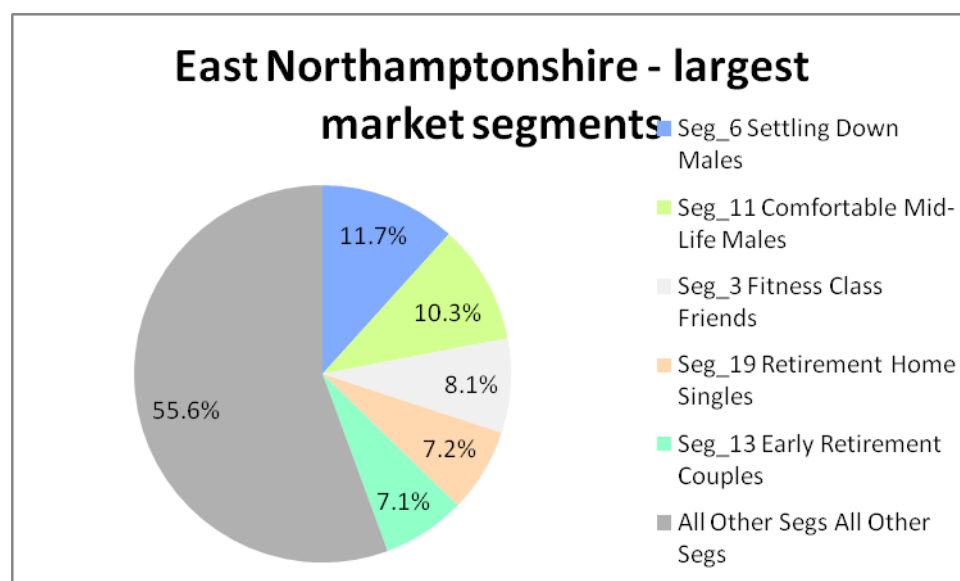
## Health

- 144. The health of people in East Northamptonshire is generally higher than the national average.
- 145. The number of deaths from heart disease has decreased in East Northamptonshire over the last ten years and is still below the England average.
- 146. Whilst the number of physically active children is significantly above the national average, the number of obese children is not significantly different.
- 147. The amount of obese adults is lower than the England average but higher than the regional average. The number of physically active adults is fractionally higher than England as a whole.

## Market Segmentation

- 148. An analysis of East Northamptonshire's market segmentation data shows the highest segments are predominantly from social groups ABC1.

*Figure 9: Market Segmentation in East Northamptonshire*



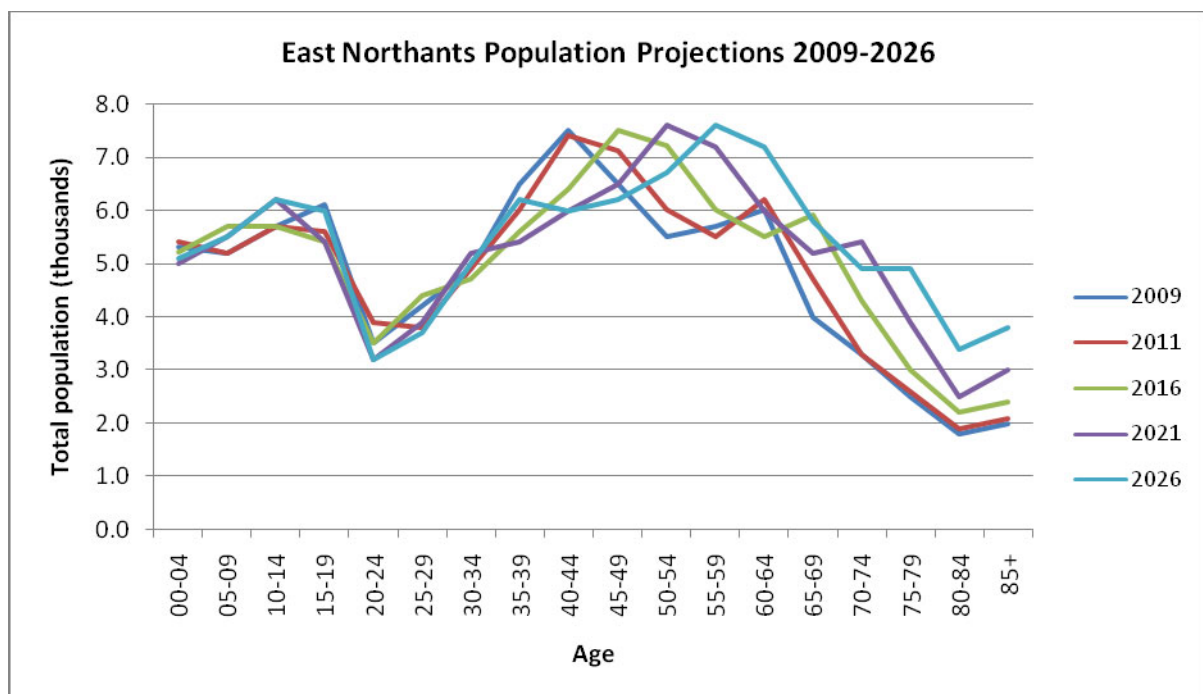
## Future Population

- 149. An analysis of the population characteristics in East Northamptonshire shows that at present just under 25% fall into the over 50 category. This reflects the demographic predictions illustrated in Figure 11.

150. Figure 10 shows how the total population of East Northamptonshire is expected to increase up to 2026. The rise of 11,400 people between 2009 and 2026 equates to a 13% increase in total population.

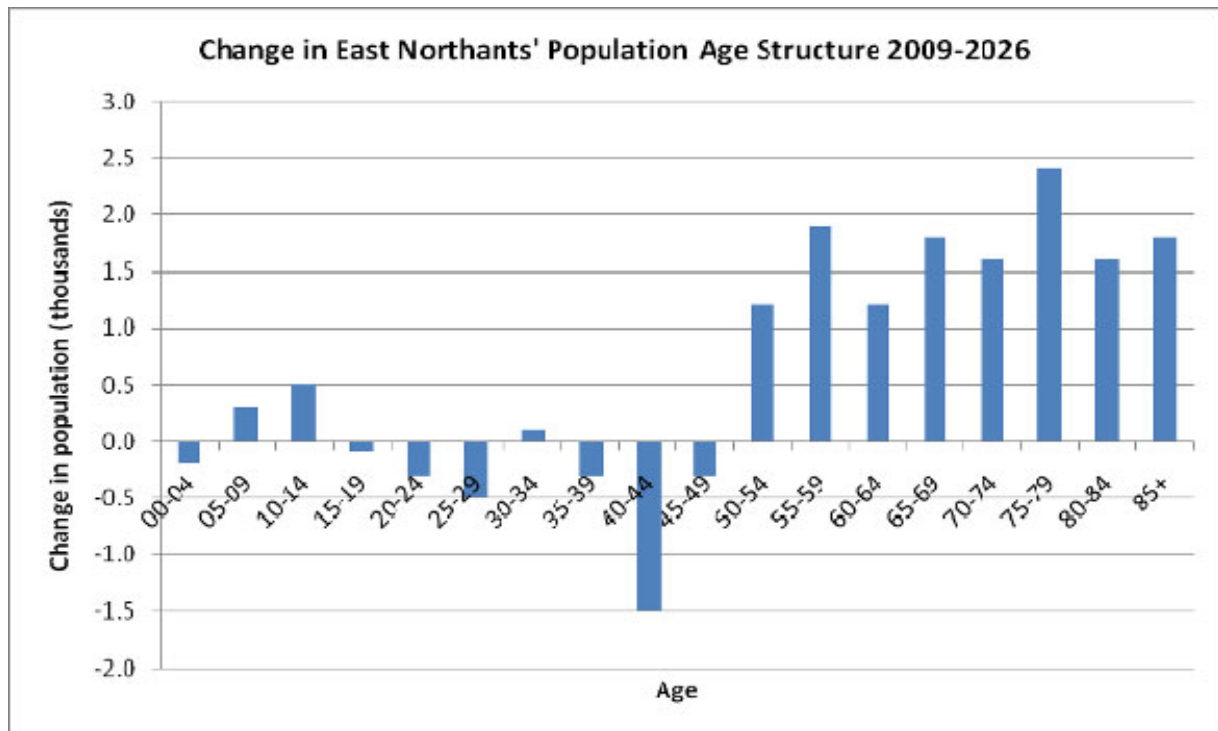
*Figure 10: East Northamptonshire total population projections, 2009 – 2026  
(Source NCC and ONS)*

Year	2009	2011	2016	2021	2026
<b>Estimated total population</b>	86,100	87,300	90,600	93,200	97,500



151. The most noticeable change in population will be the increase in the older age groups (50+). The majority of the age groups under 50 are set to decrease except ages 5-9, 10-14 and 30-34 which only have slight increases. This will mean there will be an ageing population in the district.

Figure 11: East Northamptonshire change in age structure up to 2026  
(Source: NCC and ONS)



### New Housing & Locations for growth

152. The levels of new housing in East Northamptonshire will be lower than the other authorities, although still significant. In fact, it is stated in the North Northamptonshire CSS that the “high rates of development experienced in recent years is unsustainable.”
153. During the CSS plan period (2001-21), the authority has an indicative housing requirement of 9,400 new dwellings, which have been distributed as follows:



*Figure 12: East Northamptonshire housing requirements 2001-2021*

	SETTLEMENT / AREA	INDICATIVE HOUSING REQUIREMENT (NET ADDITIONAL DWELLINGS 2001-2021)	OF WHICH HOUSING COMPLETIONS 2001-2006
<b>Smaller Towns</b>	Rushden		1,008
	Higham Ferrers	5,090	466
	Irthlingborough		469
<b>Rural Service Centres</b>	Raunds	1,100	110
	Thrapston	1,140	353
	Oundle	610	137
<b>Rural Areas</b>	East Northamptonshire rural	1,460	282
<b>East Northamptonshire Total</b>		<b>9,400</b>	<b>2,825</b>

## Education/ BSF

154. East Northamptonshire is unlikely to be involved in BSF until post 2012 and so as yet no plans have been made. In Irthlingborough there may be a requirement for increased provision as a result of the Wellingborough East developments. In the Higham/Rushden area it is likely that consideration will be given to extending The Ferrers School. In Oundle a small increase in capacity at Prince William is likely.
155. However provision on school sites can have a vital role to play, particularly in rural areas around Oundle. There does not appear to be any formal agreement with Oundle School about community use of its facilities but the sports hall, swimming pool and all weather pitch on the school site are the only such facilities in the area. This issue is debated further in the individual sport sections of this report.

## Kettering

### Introduction

156. Kettering is located to the north of Wellingborough, south of Corby and west of East Northamptonshire. It also shares a boundary with Harborough to the North West.
157. Kettering town is the main settlement in the borough with Desborough, Rothwell and Burton Latimer being other small towns. These are directly linked to other towns in the county by frequent bus services. Kettering is also connected to Corby, Wellingborough and Market Harborough by train. It also has direct rail links to London & Leicester.

### Existing Strategies

158. In 2007 Kettering Borough Council commissioned a PPG17 study which dealt with all open space typologies. At the time of writing the authority is in the process of producing a sports facilities strategy covering built facilities. The document, in draft form at the time of writing, has the following recommendations:
- Secure a permanent home for Kettering Gymnastics Club that is suitable for regional gymnastics and trampoline competition;
  - A new leisure centre for Desborough, including a regional squash centre;
  - Increase water space in Kettering through the extension of the Kettering swimming pool;
  - An additional full size 3<sup>rd</sup> generation astro turf pitch in Kettering;
  - Secure a facility for Kettering Rugby Club that meets the RFU model venue and criteria.

### Sports Facilities

159. The main sports facilities in the Borough are:

Name	Facilities
Balance Health Club (Kettering)	80 station fitness suite
Bishop Stopford Sports Centre	4 badminton court sports hall
Bodyshapers	62 station fitness suite
Desborough (N) Indoor Bowls Club	6 rinks
Desborough Leisure Centre *	4 badminton court sports hall
Ise Community College	3 badminton court sports hall
Kettering Athletics Track	8 lane synthetic athletics track Full size sand based STP

Kettering Conference Centre	12 badminton court sports hall
Kettering Lodge Bowling Club	4 rinks
Kettering Swimming Pool	25m x 6 lane pool
LA Fitness (Kettering)	85 station fitness suite
Montagu Community Sports Centre	4 badminton court sports hall 3 badminton court sports hall
Montsaye Community College	4 badminton court sports hall Full size 3G STP
Southfield School Sports College	4 badminton court sports hall
Tresham Institute of Further and Higher Education	4 badminton court sports hall
* To be replaced with Grange Leisure Centre (to be built in 2 phases)	4 badminton court sports hall Fitness suite 3 squash courts

160. Consultation with local authority officers has revealed that aspirations for the Borough are as follows:

- There is a desire to develop a dedicated gymnastics facility for the long term which is suitable for regional competition and training. The governing body has identified a need for improved facilities in Kettering that would serve the local requirements as well as satisfy the need for a new county facility. They have also identified a need for a permanent trampoline facility in the borough with a borough wide catchment. It is stated that these are both supported by the local club;
- Improvements are needed to the Weekley Glebe football site pavilion;
- There is potential to develop a regional squash centre at the new leisure centre in Desborough. It is stated that the sport's governing body has identified a need for a facility in the borough with county and regional catchment and that this is supported by Desborough Squash Club;
- RFU model venue III facility is required;
- There is a single ring, changing accommodation, meeting room and training area at the Northampton Road pavilion. This is home to a successful club and should be retained with the possibility of developing it into a martial arts centre to serve the existing Tae Kwon Do club and Judo club;
- Tresham Institute has planning permission for a full size floodlit 3G pitch.

## Current Population

161. The latest population projections estimate that the total population of the Borough is around 91,900.
162. The 2001 census showed that 62% of the population lived within Kettering town wards (including Barton Seagrave) with a further 27% of the population living in Desborough, Rothwell and Burton Latimer. The remaining 11% lived within the surrounding villages.

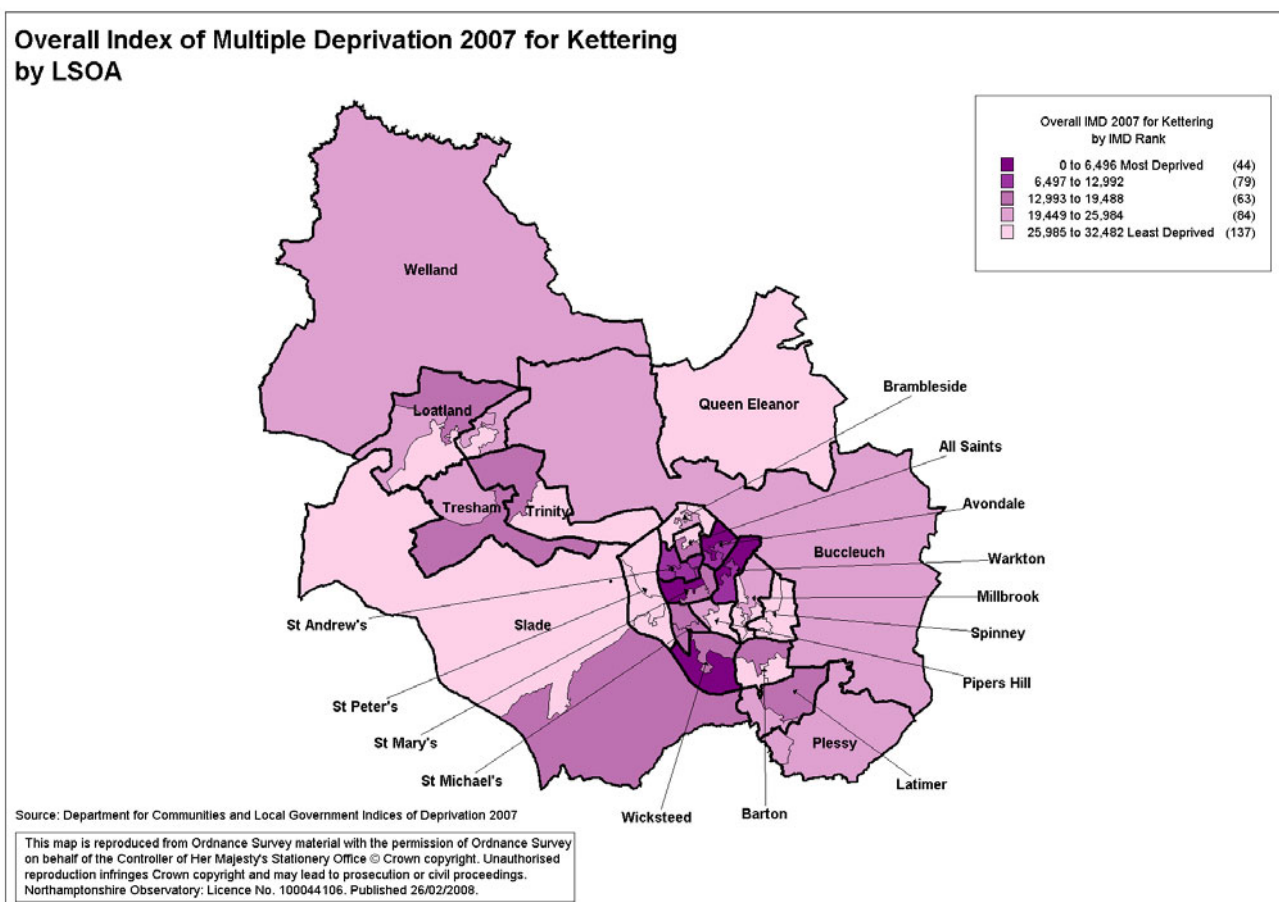
## BME Population

163. The following key facts arose from the 2001 Census:
  - The population of Kettering is predominantly white British (93.8%);
  - The BME community is small and accounts for only 6.2% of the population;
  - The largest BME groups in the district are other white (1.9%), Indian (1.4%) and white Irish (1.0%).

## Indices of Deprivation 2007

164. The key findings were:
  - Only one LSOA is within the top 10% most deprived nationally and three LSOAs in the top 20%;
  - The most deprived LSOAs are all located within Kettering town.

Figure 13: Overall index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 by LSOA for Kettering



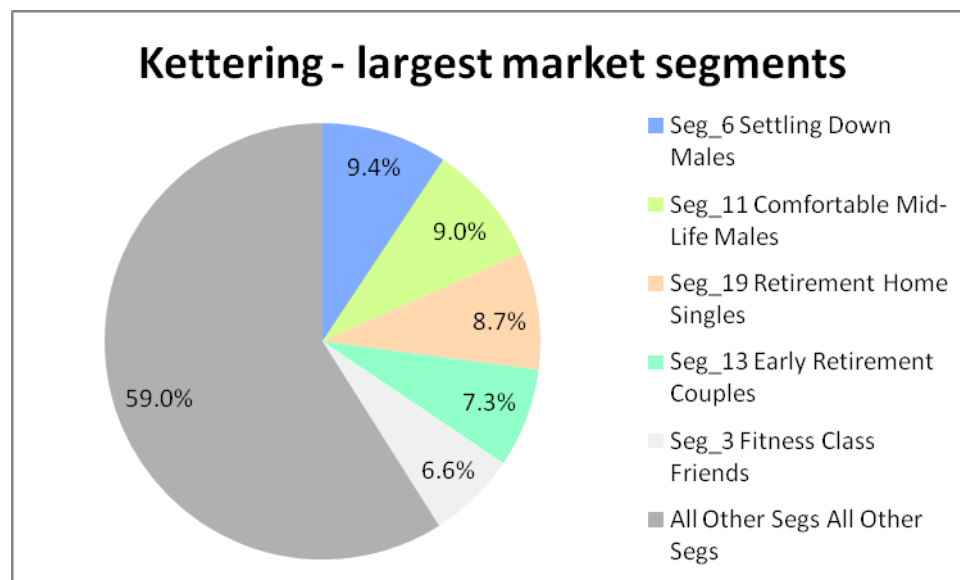
## Health

165. The health of people in Kettering is generally better than the national average.
166. Deaths from all health related causes have decreased in the last ten years in Kettering but remain close to the England average.
167. The levels of physically active children are significantly higher than the national average and the numbers of obese children closely follow the national and regional averages.
168. The number of physically active adults and healthy eating adults is lower than national averages although not to a significant degree. The numbers of obese adults are however better than the regional average but lower than the national figure.

## Market Segmentation

169. An analysis of the population in Kettering shows that no one segment is dominant and therefore a “mixed economy” in relation to facility provision is most appropriate.

*Figure 14: Market Segmentation in Kettering Borough*

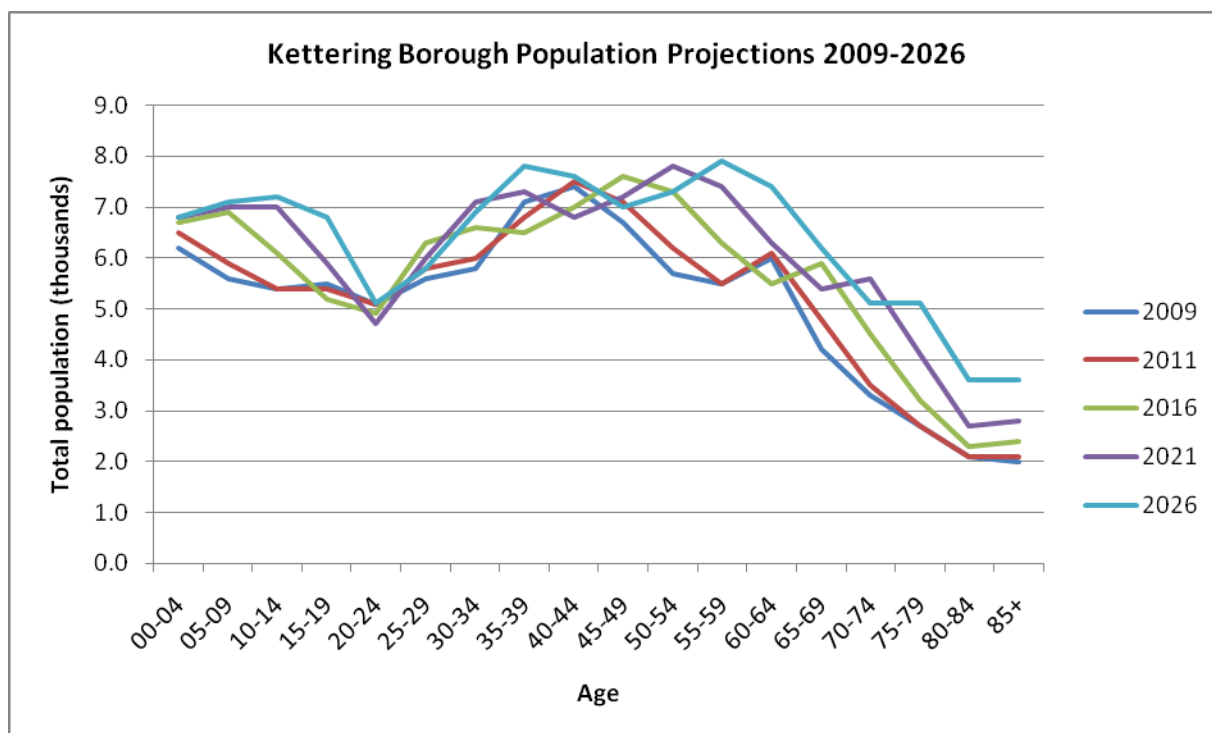


## Future Population

170. Figure 15 shows how the population of Kettering is expected to increase up to 2026. The rise of 22,400 between 2009 and 2026 equates to a 24% increase in total population.

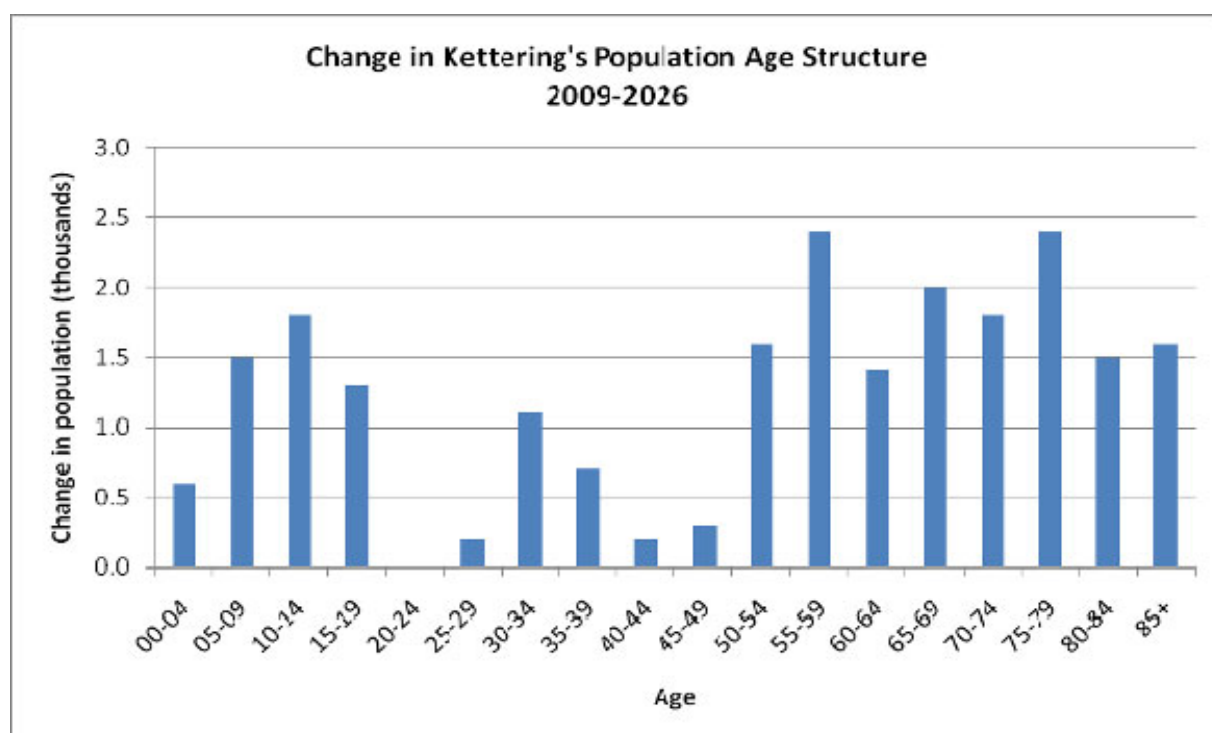
*Figure 15: Kettering total population projections 2009 – 2026  
(Source NCC and ONS)*

Year	2009	2011	2016	2021	2026
Estimated total population	91,900	94,400	101,200	107,900	114,300



171. The age groups with the greatest increase in Kettering are the 55-59 year olds and 75-79 year olds. There is very little change, though, in the 20-29 and 40-49 age groups.

*Figure 16: Kettering change in age structure up to 2026  
(Source: NCC and ONS)*



## New Housing & Locations for growth

172. During the plan period (2001-21), the Borough has an indicative housing requirement of 13,100 new dwellings, which have been distributed across the Borough as follows:

*Figure 17: Kettering housing requirements 2001-2021*

	SETTLEMENT / AREA	INDICATIVE HOUSING REQUIREMENT (NET ADDITIONAL DWELLINGS 2001-2021)	OF WHICH HOUSING COMPLETIONS 2001-2006
<b>Growth Town</b>	Kettering	7,500	1,023
<b>Smaller Towns</b>	Burton Latimer	700	161
	Desborough	1,940	407
	Rothwell	1,320	126
<b>Rural Areas</b>	Kettering rural	1640	636
<b>Kettering Total</b>		<b>13,100</b>	<b>2,353</b>

Source: North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008)

173. Over half of the Borough's new dwellings will be located in the growth town of Kettering. Policy 9 of the CSS identifies a SUE to the east of Kettering, whilst Policy 7 shows broadly 4,200 dwellings will be concentrated there in the period up to 2021. There is the potential for more homes after this period.
174. An outline application for a development consisting of 5,500 homes, up to 3,000 new jobs, a new secondary school, new primary schools and health, leisure and community facilities was submitted in June 2007 and the authority resolved to grant planning permission in January 2010 subject to the signing of a S106 Agreement.
175. In addition, smaller urban extensions are planned at Desborough and Rothwell. The local planning authority is producing a Rothwell and Desborough Urban Extension Area Action Plan which will shortly be submitted to the Secretary of State. The preferred option for both developments is for Sustainable Urban Extensions at each town of 700 new dwellings.



## Education/BSF

176. Kettering schools will be in the early Northamptonshire tranche of BSF. East of Kettering town a new secondary school is included in Phase 1 of the masterplan. The existing Henry Gotch Primary & Ise Community Science College are due to close on 31 August 2009 and the Kettering Science Academy will be established, initially on the existing premises. A new £25 million building, constructed on the existing site, is planned to open in 2012.
177. Avondale Infants, Avondale Juniors and Montagu School are also due to be closed on 31 August 2009. The schools will form the new Kettering Buccleuch Academy, initially established on the existing premises. It is hoped that new buildings for the Academy will be complete by 2012. The school will specialise in sport (in addition to maths and computing).
178. The Northamptonshire County Council Schools Organisation consultation document states that due to new homes in Rothwell and Desborough (and a possible change to Brooke Weston admission policy) Montsaye will most probably require an extension of 1 form entry which should be funded by developer contributions.
179. With regard to the remaining increase in schools places, NCC is consulting on the following options:
  - a) Enlarging some or all of the existing secondary schools on their current sites;
  - b) Enlarging one of the existing schools and re-locating it onto the area of new development;
  - c) A combination of A and B;
  - d) Establishing a new school east of Kettering town.

## Wellingborough

### Introduction

180. Wellingborough shares boundaries with all other Northamptonshire authorities except Corby. To the south it also shares boundaries with Milton Keynes and Bedford.
181. Data from the 2001 Census shows the majority of the borough's population (65%) lives in Wellingborough town with the rest of the population (35%) living in the 18 rural villages.
182. Transport links are good to the borough with easy access to the M1 and A14.
183. Wellingborough train station is on the midland mainline and trains into London St Pancras take approximately 50 minutes.

### Existing Strategies

184. In 2008 the Borough Council commissioned a Sports Facilities Strategy, which incorporated built facilities and playing pitches. Key recommendations from the Strategy are in the table and bullet point list below. The last column of the table follows the hierarchy diagram in Figure 1.

Facility	What	Where	Hierarchy of facility
Swimming pool	6 lane x 25 m pool plus teaching pool	Sports village	Strategic
Sports hall	6 court sports hall	Sports village	Strategic
	4 court sports hall	School site (Wellingborough East)	Hub
STP	3G full size pitch	Sports village	Strategic
	sand based full size pitch	School site (Wellingborough East)	Hub
	3 small sided/1 full size	School site, or commercial site, or club	Satellite
Football	4.5 grass pitches	Town (north)	Satellite
	2.5 senior grass pitches	Wellingborough East	Satellite
	2.5 senior grass pitches	Wellingborough East	Satellite
	2 mini, 4 junior, 2 senior	Earls Barton FC	Hub
Cricket	1 pitch	Town (north)	Satellite
	2 pitches	Wellingborough East	Satellite
	1 pitch	Earls Barton	Hub
Rugby	3 pitches + training	Wellingborough East	Strategic

Outdoor bowls	4 greens	Queensway / Brickhill	Satellite
		WEAST	Satellite
		West	Satellite
		Wollaston	Satellite
Outdoor tennis	4 courts	School site (east)	Hub
	3 courts	Commercial site	Satellite
Athletics outdoor training	Outdoor training site	Existing secondary school/dual-use location	Hub
Cycling and walking routes	Off-road and traffic free strategic routes	Borough-wide	All levels
Regional Facilities	Outdoor Adventure Centre	tbc	tbc

- to improve the walking and cycling networks, particularly off-road/traffic free;
- to improve the facilities at Redwell Leisure Centre, including the cricket pitch, outdoor courts, bowling green, and sports hall;
- to improve community sports facilities at Wollaston School;
- to significantly extend the site for the Earls Barton FC / Earls Barton CC, or relocate to a new larger site;
- to consider the need for and feasibility of developing a multi-pitch football site in Irchester;
- to consider the development of a full-size flood-lit synthetic turf pitch at a school site, geographically away from the existing pitches;
- to improve pitch and pavilions at key football sites within the town.

## Sports Facilities

185. The main sports facilities in the District are:

Name	Facilities
Bannatynes Health Club	20m x 2 lane pool
	98 station fitness suite
Club Diana	20m x 10m pool
Redwell Leisure Centre	5 badminton court sports hall
	40 station fitness suite
Scott Bader Swimming Pool	20m x 4 lane pool
Sir Christopher Hatton School	3 badminton court sports hall
Waendel Leisure Centre	25m x 6 lane pool plus 10m x 15m teaching pool
	80 station health and fitness suite

Weavers Leisure Centre	5 badminton court sports hall (includes specialist table tennis centre)
Wellingborough Bowling Club	6 rinks indoor
Wellingborough School	4 badminton court sports hall
	Full size sand based STP
Wrenn School *	Full size sand based STP

\*There are plans for a new 4 court sports hall under the BSF programme

186. Consultation with local authority officers has revealed that aspirations for the Borough are as follows :

- New athletics facilities;
- A 3 court indoor tennis facility at Wrenn School (a bid for funding from WBC and the LTA was submitted in early 2009);
- A new 4-6 court sports hall at Wrenn School, hoping to be funded by the BSF programme;
- A new swimming pool as part of the Sports Village;
- Full size 3G STP in sports village.

## Current Population

187. The latest population projections estimate that the total population of the borough is around 77,700.

## BME Population

188. The following key facts arose from the 2001 Census:

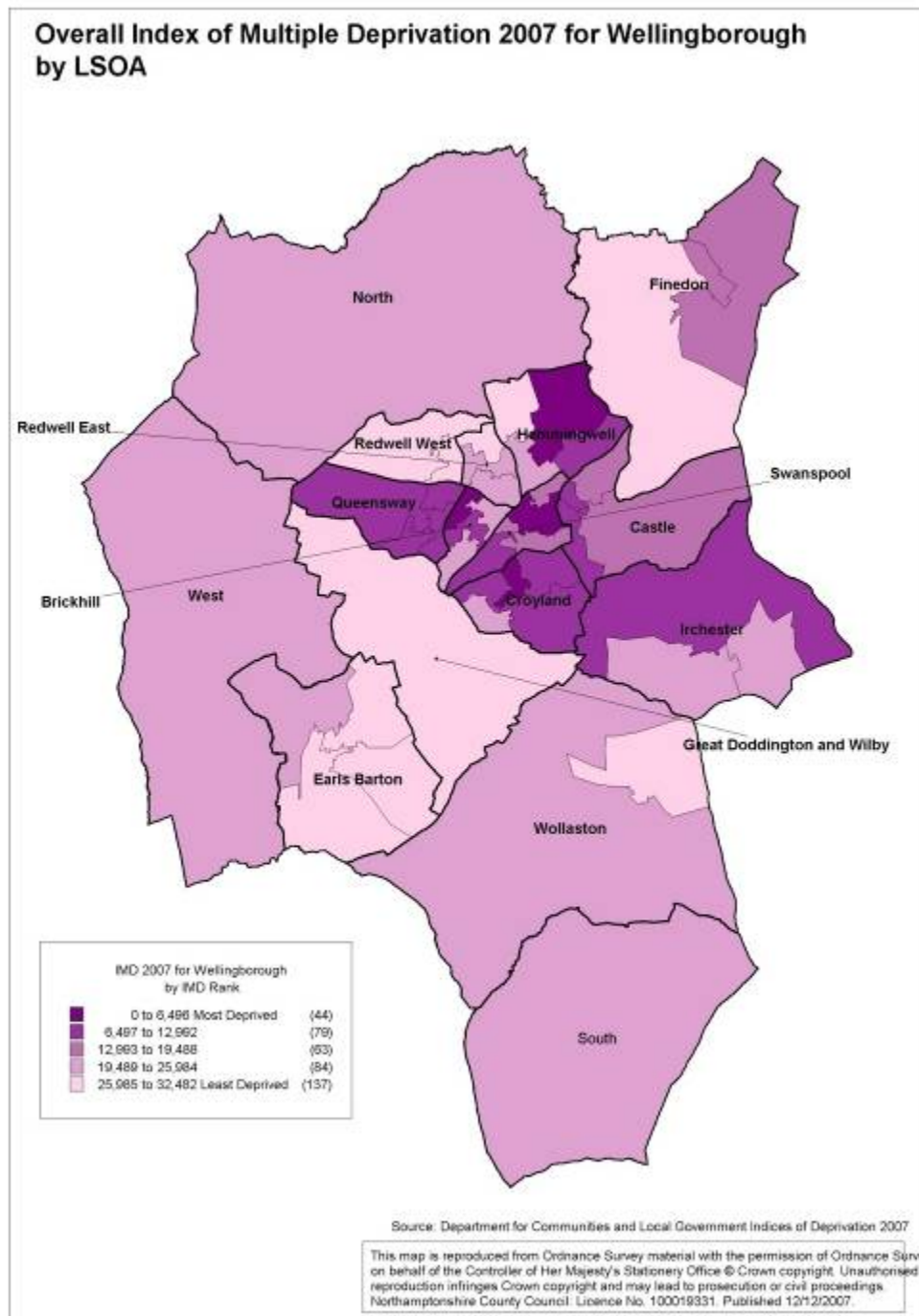
- The population of Wellingborough is predominantly White British (88.3%);
- The BME community is relatively small and accounts for 11.7% of the population, however this is the largest proportion in North Northamptonshire;
- The largest BME groups in the district are Indian (3.7%), Caribbean (1.9%) and Other White (1.5%).

## Indices of Deprivation 2007

189. Key findings:

- Wellingborough has one LSOA in the top 10% most deprived in the country and four LSOAs in the top 20% nationally;
- The most deprived areas are all located within Wellingborough town.

Figure 18: Overall index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 by LSOA for Wellingborough



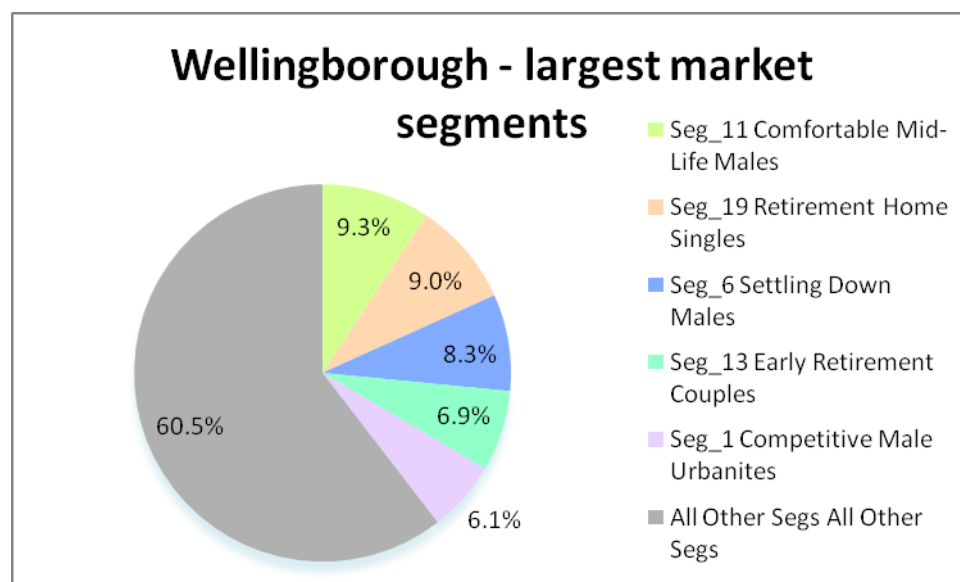
## Health

190. The health of people in Wellingborough is generally better than the England average.
191. Deaths from all health related causes have decreased in the last ten years but remain close to the national average.
192. The numbers of physically active children are significantly higher than the national and regional averages in Wellingborough but numbers of obese children are significantly worse than the national and regional levels.
193. Physically active and healthy eating adults are lower than the national average but not significantly so. Obese adults are however significantly worse than the national average.

## Market segmentation

194. An analysis of the population in Wellingborough shows that no one segment is dominant and therefore a “mixed economy” in relation to facility provision is most appropriate.

*Figure 19: Wellingborough Market Segmentation*

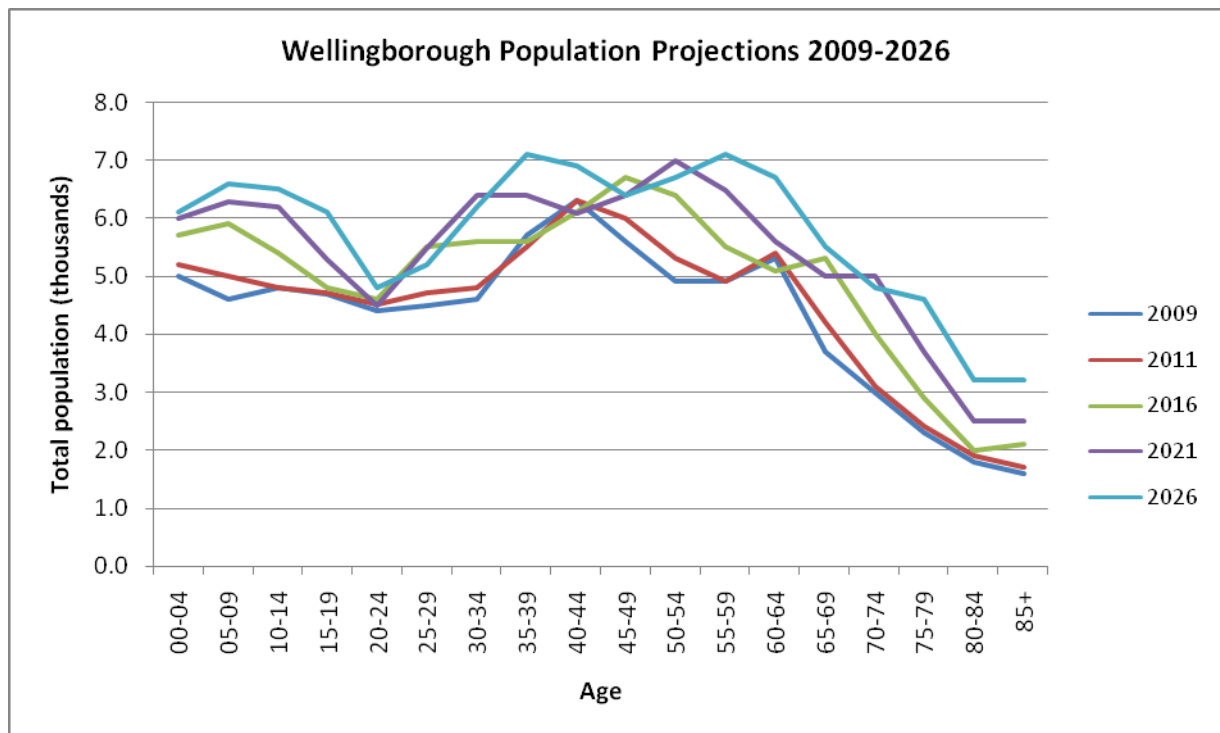


## Future Population

195. Figure 20 shows how the population of Wellingborough is expected to increase up to 2026. The increase of 26,100 people between 2009 and 2026 equates to a 33.6% increase in total population.

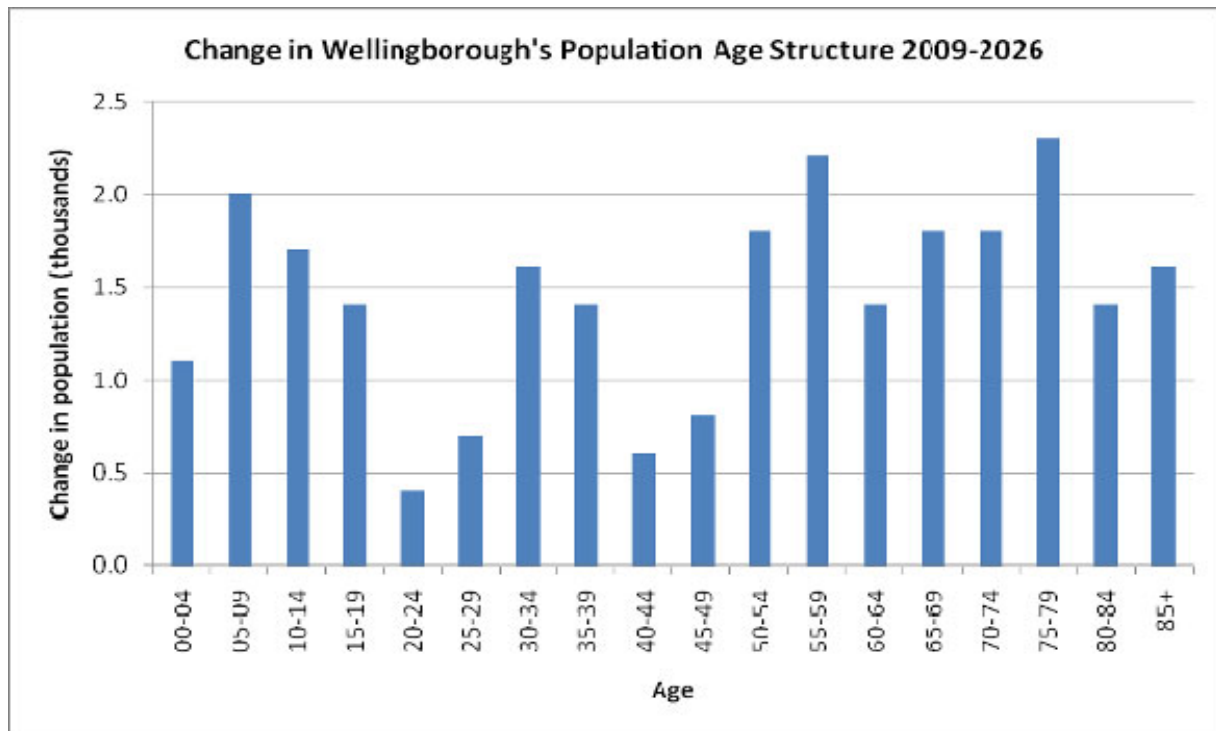
Figure 20: Wellingborough total population projections, 2009 – 2026  
(Source NCC and ONS)

Year	2009	2011	2016	2021	2026
Estimated total population	77,700	80,600	88,900	96,900	103,800



196. All age groups are set to increase however, the age groups with the highest increases are the 75-79 year olds, 55-59 year olds and the 5-9 year olds (see Figure 21).

Figure 21: Wellingborough change in age structure up to 2026  
(Source: NCC and ONS)



## New Housing & Locations for growth

197. During the plan period (2001-21), the Borough has an indicative housing requirement of 12,800 new dwellings. The majority of these will be concentrated at the growth town in the form of sustainable urban extensions. The exact housing requirements that the local planning authority is working towards are as follows:

Figure 22: Wellingborough housing requirements 2001-2021

	INDICATIVE HOUSING REQUIREMENT (NET ADDITIONAL DWELLINGS 2001-2021)	OF WHICH HOUSING COMPLETIONS 2001-2006
Growth Town	11,590	1,037
Rural Areas	1,210	484
<b>Wellingborough Total</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>1,521</b>

Source: North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008)



198. Policy 9 of the CSS states that the initial SUE will be located to the east of Wellingborough. Outline planning consent has been granted subject to planning agreement and conditions, for a development including 3,200 homes, 110ha of employment land and a neighbourhood centre.
199. Once this SUE has been successfully established, a further SUE to the north-west of Wellingborough is planned, where up to 2,300 dwellings have been identified in the period up to 2021. In line with Policy 7 of the CSS, work on this development is not likely to commence until after 2011. Both SUEs will have the potential to expand beyond 2021.

## Education/ BSF

200. The 3 Wellingborough secondary schools will be part of Northamptonshire's first BSF wave and it is anticipated that building will start in 2013/2014. As previously mentioned, Wrenn School is a priority for the County's BSF programme and the current proposals for the site include a 4 badminton court sports hall.
201. A new secondary school is included in the Wellingborough East master plan and it is envisaged that this will have a full sized all weather pitch and a 4 court sports hall. The Northamptonshire County Council Schools Organisation consultation document states that "the timing of the establishment of this school will need to take into account the rate of housing completions in Wellingborough and the growth in the neighbouring towns of Kettering and Northampton."
202. The same document also predicts that the existing schools in the Borough will be able to accommodate additional pupils resulting from the new housing until around 2020.

## Assessing Demand

### Methodologies

203. Each of the 4 authorities within North Northamptonshire has existing sports strategies of one form or another. However, some of these are not fully up to date, a number use data based on 2001 census information and some have not taken account of the population projections for the area. The key findings from each document have been summarised in the previous section but need to be viewed in the light of other analysis tools and information.
204. In attempting to determine facility requirements, our approach has been to look at the findings from a range of modelling tools specifically the Sports Facilities Calculator, Facilities Planning Model, Active Places Power and the Nortoft Calculator.
205. Given that there is no one simple solution, our approach, which has been agreed with Sport England, has been to look at the findings arising from each of the models and then to factor in the following information:
- The policies and objectives of the local authorities, NNJPU and other key partners in relation to raising participation and supporting elite sport;
  - The location of facilities on the boundaries and future proposals;
  - The provision per 1000 population of comparator authorities identified by the Office for National Statistics (ONS);
  - The results of consultation from strategies undertaken by the NN authorities e.g. household surveys of residents, key issues, concerns, sports development aspirations from clubs surveys;
  - National Governing Body officer consultation;
  - National Governing Body reviews of strategies and plans;
  - Trends in the relevant sports;
  - The current proposals in relation to school sites, linked to the Building Schools for the Future programme;
  - Proposals relating to Further and Higher Education in the area.
  - Implications in relation to the planned growth;
  - Implications of likely demographic trends;
  - The location of current and proposed facilities, including the implications of barriers to movement such as major roads, railway lines and canals.
206. An increase in participation has been assumed in all of the methodologies. This is in line with the CSP target of increasing participation by 1% pa and with the **government target of seeing 1million people more active by 2012.**

207. In sports development terms, the brief of this report is to focus on 10 sports which are seen as key in North Northamptonshire. Details of each sport are provided in their individual sections along with details about the facility needs and aspirations.
208. This report is not intended to set standards at local authority level, as this should be done via local PPG17 assessments, but to identify broad issues in relation to facility provision and opportunities to enhance facilities and to make recommendations about larger strategic facilities.
209. The following paragraphs provide a detailed explanation of each methodology.
210. The facility sections which follow suggest potential locations for delivery. Ultimately, however, the number, size and location will need to be determined by more detailed feasibility work, possibly at local authority level and tested through the planning process.

## Sports Facilities Calculator

211. The Sports Facility Calculator (SFC) has been developed by Sport England to help local planning authorities quantify how much additional demand for the key community sports facilities (swimming pools, sports halls and indoor bowls) is generated as a result of new growth, development and regeneration areas.
212. The SFC was first developed to help estimate the facility needs of the new communities in Dartford's Eastern Quarry Development and the Milton Keynes future growth areas. It has been used to help local authorities in infrastructure planning, devising supplementary planning documents and negotiating Section 106 agreements.
213. The SFC gives the user the ability to consider the impact of changes to demand. This could reflect sport development policies and programmes within an area that could drive up the demand for use of facilities. In this report it has been assumed that there will be a 1% pa increase in participation. The SFC only enables the user to increase demand in 5 year blocks therefore the calculations for the period up to 2021 have been increased by 10% despite the fact that the period covers a 12 year time frame.
214. The features of the SFC are that it :
  - Expresses demand as facilities, e.g. 400 square metres of water space;
  - Uses local authority population profiles/projections from the 2001 Census;
  - Allows the creation of population profiles (in this case based on housing growth estimates);
  - Enables the effect of changes in levels of participation to be tested;
  - Converts the need for facilities into a financial cost;
  - Includes up to date regional building cost variations.

215. Whilst the SFC can be used to estimate the swimming and sports hall needs for small areas of population such as sustainable urban extensions, it should not be used for whole local authorities or strategic sports facility gap analysis, since it has no spatial dimension. The figure that is produced is a total demand figure for the chosen population and does not take account of:
- Facility location compared to demand;
  - Capacity and availability of facilities (it assumes facilities are fully open and accessible);
  - Cross boundary movement of users;
  - Travel networks and topography;
  - Attractiveness and quality of facilities.
216. For this reason it is most suitable for use in relatively small specific areas where population changes are known.
217. Each local authority section examines the results emerging from the SFC and uses these to give a **broad indication** of the likely levels of sports hall and swimming pool provision required in each of the growth areas. It should be emphasised that this is only one of several tools which will be used and that these findings must be viewed in conjunction with the FPM and Nortoft Calculator results.

## Nortoft Calculator

218. Nortoft has developed a calculator which forecasts future need for each facility type based upon both changes in the population and the anticipated growth in participation.
219. The Nortoft Calculator is a simplistic tool, treating each facility type on a 'provision per 1000' basis. The authority is treated as an island and no account has been taken of facility quality as this information is not available from the Active Places Power database.
220. The provision per 1000 calculations use the East Midlands average as a multiplier. This figure is supplied by Sport England and can differ from year to year depending on levels of facility provision. It does however use population figures from the 2001 census.
221. The Nortoft Calculator is useful because it enables:
- updated facility provision information to be included with immediate effect (without the need to wait for Active Places to be formally updated);
  - facilities other than those held on the Active Places database to be treated in a similar way (although comparison with other authorities is not possible at this time, as the information is not available);

- 'testing' of facility scenarios, by including /excluding facilities;
- 'testing' of different total population scenarios;
- 'testing' of the implications of increasing demand for facilities (e.g. at 1% pa, or other figure if the client wishes);
- 'testing' using standards derived from benchmark authorities, or against the national or regional rates of provision.

It also:

- Provides an initial, automatically calculated assessment of future provision needs for each facility type;
- Provides an initial, automatically calculated, assessment of provision per 1000 population which can be used as a starting point for standards;
- Provides a clear overview of the implications of a 'do nothing' approach to facility provision;
- Is flexible, since it can enable comparisons, at a simplistic level, of provision across different sub-areas of a large authority.

## Active Places Power

### Provision per 1000 population

222. This tool is available for most built sports facilities, and is an estimate of the number or area of facilities against the population in 2001 within an administrative area. This is expressed as a unit of a facility, e.g. pools are expressed as square metres of water space per 1000 population, and athletics tracks by the number of lanes. It is a simple tool which is a useful starting point for assessing the provision of facilities within an authority.
223. Active Places Power also enables comparisons of levels of facility per 1000 head of population across similar authorities using ONS comparator groupings. It is not however appropriate to use this function to compare sports hall and swimming pool provision as the calculations include **all facilities** within these types irrespective of size. For example, the tool includes 1 badminton court halls whereas the regional, national and FPM analysis only includes larger facilities, i.e. 3 badminton courts and above. Provision per 1000 figures for these facility types have therefore been calculated manually based on the larger facilities only.
224. The disadvantages with this tool are that it treats each authority as an island. No account is taken of facilities just over the border or of any movement of people in and out of the authority. It also takes no account of commuter or tourist demand.

## Local Supply and Demand Balance

- 225. This tool is available from Sport England for swimming pools, sports halls and indoor bowls. It is a calculation of the capacity available against the expected demand from the residents.
- 226. As with the above assessment of provision per 1000, this tool also treats the authority as an island and takes no account of commuter or tourist demand, or cross border movements.
- 227. This figure compares total demand against total supply and expresses it as a percentage of supply. In order to calculate this figure, the capacity of the facilities is assessed as the number of visits per week in the peak period. The capacity takes account of the size and opening hours of each of the facilities, and the results can be provided by different facility ownership and management regimes. For the purposes of the Framework, we have generally only included those facilities with community use.

## Personal Share of Facilities

- 228. This tool is available from Sport England for swimming pools, sports halls and indoor bowls.
- 229. This shows the relative availability of the facilities for the residents of each super output area. It takes into account the amount of facility space at peak time, the characteristics of the authority's population, and the distance to facilities. This is a more sophisticated tool than the local supply and demand balance, and is particularly useful for mapping.
- 230. This assessment does not treat the authority as an island – it takes account of facilities over the border, and demand coming into the authority from surrounding areas. However, it is still unable to take account of commuter or tourist demand.

## Travel time maps

- 231. Based on the data available from Active Places Power it has been possible to produce maps which indicate the **approximate** travel times by car to a range of facilities, these take account of facilities in adjoining authorities. Maps have been produced for each facility type and are located in the relevant sections of this report along with an explanation of the implications.

232. The way in which the information is provided by Active Places has meant that the data has been rounded up or down as appropriate. The travel times have been approximated based on the Active Places information and for both these reasons the maps illustrate **indicative rather than actual travel times**.
233. Sport England research has identified that the optimum travel time to most facilities is 20 minutes either on foot or by car. This criteria has therefore been used in this report as the basis for determining whether facilities are sufficiently accessible.

## Facilities Planning Model

234. The Facilities Planning Model was developed as a planning tool by Sport England to inform the process of deciding if and where swimming pools and sports halls are needed. The modelling provides an objective assessment of the balance between the supply of sports facilities and those required to meet the highest levels of demand for community sport, which is in the evenings Monday-Friday, and during the daytime at weekends.
235. The FPM assessments for North Northamptonshire have considered both 2009 and 2019. The maps are drawn from the National Runs undertaken by Sport England in early 2009, based on the facility information contained within the Active Places database, including the opening hours of each facility. The assessments also take account of key factors influencing participation at the local level, including; the age profile of residents, levels of deprivation, and car ownership.
236. The sports hall and swimming pool assessments for 2009 should generally be taken as a sound reflection of the current situation, including movements over the borders between authorities, and outside North Northamptonshire. The assessments have therefore been given a strong level of weighting in the 'current situation' sections of the report for sports halls and swimming pools.
237. The 2019 assessments are less accurate because they assume that the growth in population is evenly spread across each individual authority, rather than focussed on specific growth points.
238. There is also an issue in that the ONS population projections used for the FPM do not reflect the latest population projections from Northamptonshire County Council. The differences are given in the table below. The underestimation in relation to Corby is the equivalent of an underestimation of need of approximately two 4 court sports halls, or in the case of East Northamptonshire, an oversupply of one 4 court sports hall. The difference in the figures for Kettering and Wellingborough are not sufficiently significant to affect the outcomes of the FPM model in relation to total demand for sports facilities.

*Figure 23: Population projection comparison*

	Projection for 2019 (thousands people)		Difference (thousands people)
	ONS (2006 base)	NCC (2008 report)	
Corby	61.0	81.5	20.5
East Northamptonshire	103.0	92.2	-10.8
Kettering	106.8	105.6	-1.2
Wellingborough	86.7	93.6	6.9

239. Although the 2019 FPM assessment does not take account of the implications of the target of increasing participation by 1% per annum, the overall results are a useful indicator of the impact of new housing growth up to 2019. There are no FPM assessments available beyond this date.
240. As the 2019 FPM assessments have a number of weaknesses, they have been given a lesser weighting than the Sports Facilities Calculator and Nortoft Calculator in the consideration of facility needs up to 2021 and to 2026.
241. At the draft report stage the detailed FPM reports with the anticipated total demand, export/import across borders, and reasons for demand being unmet are awaited from Sport England.

## Population information

242. The population projections used throughout this report are taken from the 'Northamptonshire Demographic Model v3: 2006-based Population Forecasts' produced by Northamptonshire County Council, this was published in February 2008.
243. When calculating the new population for a specific area of growth such as a Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE), the housing numbers from the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008) have been used. These figures have been multiplied by 2.5 persons per dwelling to calculate the population generated by the new growth in that area. This multiplier is higher than the average household size across an authority area, however in facility terms there is very little difference between the two. Young families are typically the most common household types in these areas and generally they have a larger household size than the average. This multiplier is also the figure recommended by Sport England for evaluating demand for sports facilities using their Sports Facilities Calculator.



## SECTION 4: SPORTS HALLS

### Introduction

- 244. The standard methodology for measuring sports halls is by the number of badminton courts contained within the floor area. However it is recognised that there is extensive use of these types of facility by a wide range of other sports including basketball, volleyball, handball etc.
- 245. Sports halls are generally considered to be of greatest value if they are of at least 3+ badminton court size, and with sufficient height to allow games such as badminton to be played.
- 246. A spread of 4 court halls is often the most effective way of achieving the greatest accessibility for general community use. However, the space required for many indoor team games exceeds the space provided by a standard 4 court hall and in general terms the higher the standard of play the larger the space required. The playing area is usually the same size but increased safety margins and clear height may be required, as well as additional space requirements for spectators, teams and officials during competitions. Larger halls i.e. 6+ courts are therefore often able to accommodate higher level training and/or competition as well as meeting day to day needs.
- 247. Larger halls also provide the option for more than one pitch/court which increases flexibility for both training and competition. The following table, taken from the Sport England Design Guidance Note on Sports Hall Size and Layout identifies the hall size required to accommodate a range of sports at different levels of play. The table omits sports that need less space.

*Figure 24: Sports hall size and sports specific requirements*

	Four-court hall 33 x 18 x 7.6m 594m <sup>2</sup>			Six-court hall 33/4 x 27 x 7.6m 918m <sup>2</sup>			Eight-court hall 37 x 33/4 x 7.6/9.1m 1221m <sup>2</sup>			Nine-court hall 51 x 27 x 7.6/9.1m 1377m <sup>2</sup>			Twelve-court hall 54 x 33 x 9.1m high 1782m <sup>2</sup>		
Sport	Standard of play			Standard of play			Standard of play			Standard of play			Standard of play		
	C R	Cy	N	C R	Cy	N	C R	Cy	N	C R	Cy	N	C R	Cy	N
Badminton and short tennis	4	–	–	6	3	3 9.1m ht	8	3/6*	3/6*	9	6	6	12	6/9*	6
Basketball	C(LD) 1	–	–	C(TD) 1 2P	C(TD) 1 2P	1	C(LD) 2	C(TD) 1 2P	1	C(LD) 1/2P	C(TD) 1/3P	1	C(LD) 3	C(TD) 1/2*	1/2*
Gymnastics	P	–	–	P	–	–	1	P	–	2P	1	1	3P	1	1
Five-a-side football	1	P	–	2	1	–	2	1	–	3	1	P	3	3	1
Handball	1 Mini	–	–	1	–	–	2	1 9m ht	–	2	1 9m ht	1 9m ht	3	1	1
Indoor hockey	1 Unihoc	–	–	1	–	–	2	P	–	2	1	1	3	1	1
Korfball	P	–	–	P	–	–	1	–	– 2P	1	1 9m ht	1 9m ht	3P	1	1
Netball	P	–	–	P	–	–	2P	1	–	1/2P	1	1	2P	1/2*	1/2*
Volleyball	1	1	–	2	1/2P	–	2	2	1/2 10.5m ht	4	2/3*	1/3 10.5m ht	4	2/4*	2/3 10.5m ht
Sports hall athletics	P	P	–	P	1	–	2P	1	1	1	1	1	2P	1	1
Notes															
* Maximum number of courts, without spectator seating, for preliminary rounds															
P Below space standard for competition play recommended by the governing body, but suitable for practice and training															

The abbreviations used denote:

**R:** recreational **P:** practice **C:** club **LD:** lower divisions, local league

**TD:** top divisions, local league **Cy:** county **Rg:** regional

248. For the purposes of calculating levels of provision, data on 3+ courts has been included (as per FPM methodology). The following information is based on Active Places data which has been subsequently confirmed by each local authority.

## Current provision

249. The vast majority of sports hall within the North Northamptonshire area are 4 court halls.
250. They vary in age and quality, and also in relation to their availability for community use. All the facilities **with community use** are listed in Figure 25. These have been used by Sport England as the dataset for the Facilities Planning Model assessment of February 2008 and have been confirmed with staff from each of the 4 North Northamptonshire authorities.

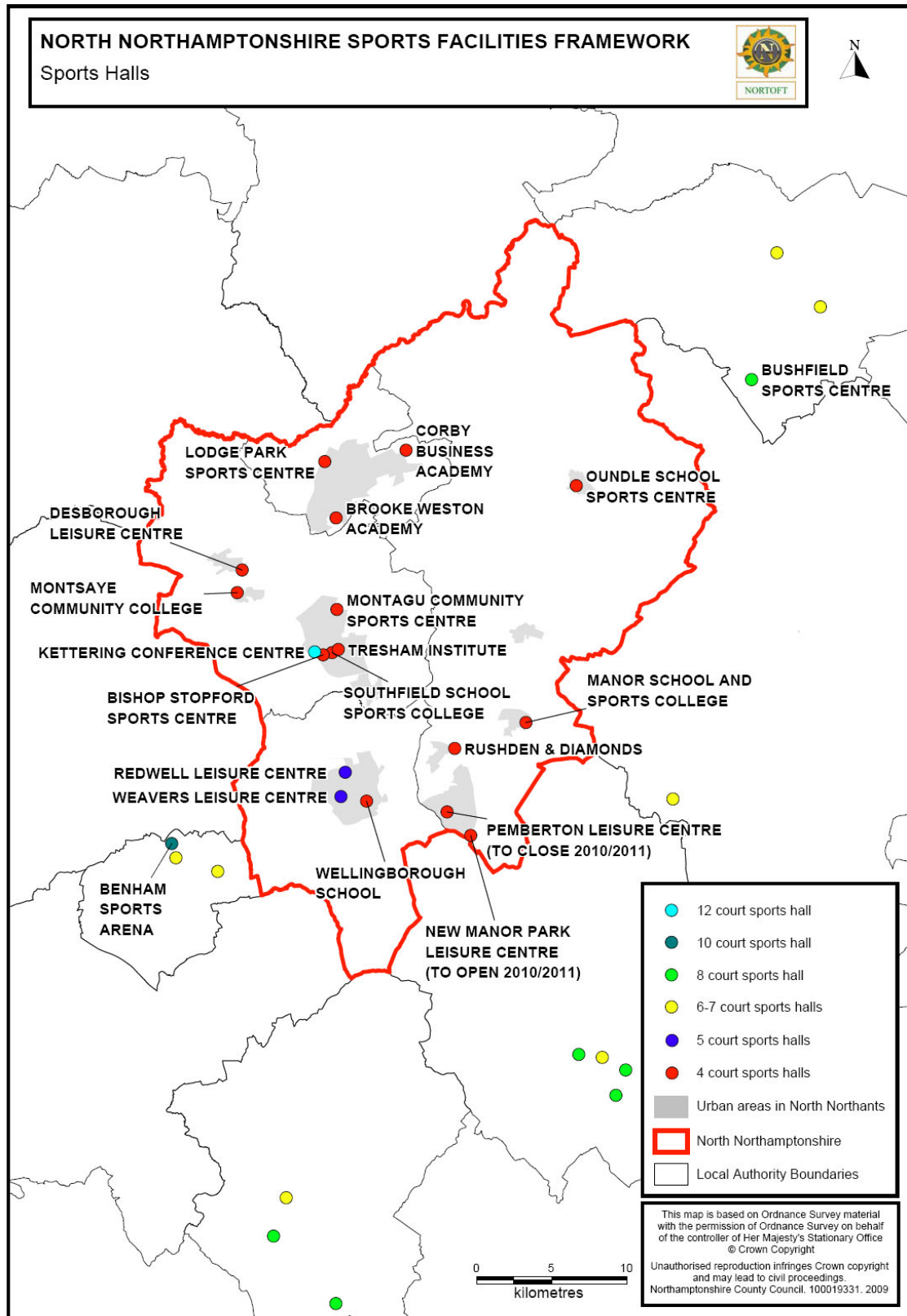
*Figure 25: Sports Halls in North Northamptonshire*

	No. of badminton courts	Comments
<b>CORBY</b>		
BROOKE WESTON ACADEMY	4	
CORBY BUSINESS ACADEMY	4	High degree of community use but no formal dual use agreement
LODGE PARK SPORTS CENTRE	4	Full dual use facility
THE KINGSWOOD SCHOOL	3	New 4 court hall being built as part of refurbishment. Intention to encourage community use but no formal agreement envisaged
<b>EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</b>		
FERRERS SCHOOL SPORTS HALL	3	
MANOR SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE	4	
NEW MANOR PARK LEISURE CENTRE (to open 2010/2011)	6	Originally planned as a 4 court hall, now to be 6 courts.
OUNDLE SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	4	Degree of community use unclear. No formal agreement
RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS SPORTS AND EXHIBITION CENTRE	4	Degree of community use unclear
RUSHDEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3	
<b>KETTERING</b>		
BISHOP STOPFORD SPORTS CENTRE	4	
DESBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE	4	
ISE COMMUNITY SCIENCE COLLEGE	3	
KETTERING CONFERENCE CENTRE	12	
MONTAGU COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE	4	
MONTAGU COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE	3	
MONTSAYE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	
SOUTHFIELD SCHOOL SPORTS COLLEGE	4	
TRESHAM INSTITUTE OF	4	Degree of community use unclear

FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION		
<b>WELLINGBOROUGH</b>		
REDWELL LEISURE CENTRE	5	
SIR CHRISTOPHER HATTON SCHOOL	3	
WEAVERS LEISURE CENTRE	5	Full dual use facility
WELLINGBOROUGH SCHOOL	4	
WOLLASTON SCHOOL	3	

251. Figure 26 shows the location of all 4+ court halls with community use in North Northamptonshire and its neighbouring authorities.

Figure 26: Sports hall location and size



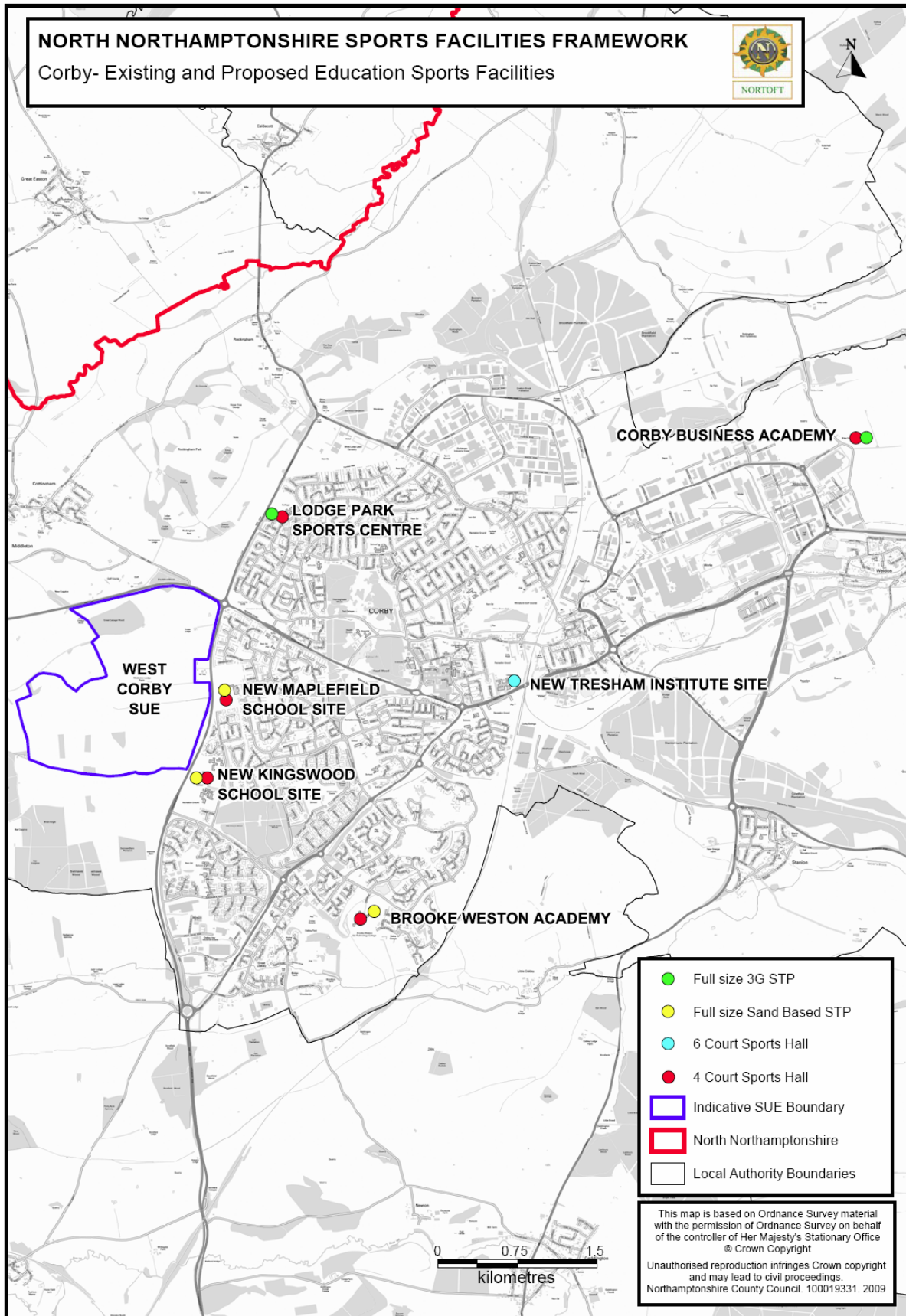
## Sports hall summary by local authority up to 2021

### Corby

- 252. The current level of sports hall provision in Corby is below the regional and national average. The town currently has three 4 court and one 3 court hall (equivalent to 15 badminton courts). By 2021 the town will need the equivalent of nine 4 court halls (equivalent to 36 badminton courts). This assumes a 1% per annum increase in participation.
- 253. The FPM modelling indicates that a significant number of people currently travel from Corby to Kettering to use sports halls. As the population in Kettering grows it is likely that the facilities in Kettering town will be at capacity and therefore there will be a need to provide for Corby's population within Corby itself.
- 254. The town wide review of education sites means that decisions about most of the secondary school sites have already been taken. However, in the spring of 2009 Northamptonshire County Council consulted on the following options for Corby a) expanding existing schools, b) building 1 new secondary school and expanding existing schools or c) building 2 new secondary schools.
- 255. The remodelling of the Beanfield School site will result in the creation of a new school – Maplefields School. This will have a new 4 court sports hall but it is not clear whether use of this facility by the community will be governed by a formal dual use agreement
- 256. The replacement for Kingswood School will include a new 4 court hall but as with Maplefields, it is not clear whether community use of this facility will be governed by a formal dual use agreement.
- 257. There is community use of the sports halls at Corby Business Academy and Brooke Weston Academy but there does not appear to be formal agreements governing this.
- 258. There are plans to relocate part of Tresham Institute onto the old Corby Community College site. As yet the design and layout have not been agreed but the site is 14 acres and, assuming there are no objections from Sport England, there may be an opportunity to provide much needed town centre dry side facilities on this site.
- 259. The socio economic make up of Corby means that there are relatively high levels of demand for day time use. This is likely to come from shift workers, older people and parents with young children. It will therefore be important to ensure a mix of provision i.e. dual use, local authority and private sector to enable all sectors of the community to access facilities at the most appropriate time.

260. In sports development terms it is desirable to provide access to at least one larger hall of 6+ badminton courts as this supports a much greater range of sports and can cater for higher level training and competition. Currently all the sports halls in Corby are 4 badminton court size or smaller. At the present time the residents of Corby have access to a large hall in Kettering. However over time this is likely to become less available due to increases in the population in Kettering also; this will therefore reduce access for Corby residents. The situation will be exacerbated if the proposals to develop a national volleyball training centre at KLV come to fruition.
261. The redevelopment of Tresham Institute may provide an opportunity for a high quality town centre “leisure village” comprising a 6 court hall and 100 + station health and fitness facility. The site’s location close to the railway station would make it attractive to the private sector and the facility could potentially be funded as well as operated by the private sector.
262. From a governing body perspective there is a desire to see the creation of 6+ court facility which can be used largely for badminton in the Corby area. However because of the specification in terms of lighting and wall colour, facilities which are used largely for badminton are not always suitable for use as multi-purpose leisure centres. It would therefore seem most sensible to locate such a facility on a school site.
263. The design of sports facilities on school sites is critical to ensuring effective use by the community. Developer contributions could be used to “enhance” the design of the facilities at Maplefield and Kingswood Schools in order to maximise community use.
264. Figure 27 shows the location of existing and proposed education sites with sport facilities available to the community. The Corby West S.U.E (indicative boundary) is located to the west of Corby on the opposite side of the A6003 Uppingham Road. This road is currently the boundary of Corby’s development to date. Lodge Park Sports Centre, the new Maplefield School and the new Kingswood School are all located adjacent to this road and their sports facilities would be accessible for residents in the new development within a 20 min drive time.
265. Any new sports provision should therefore ideally be located away from existing provision but in reality this is likely to be determined by the location of any further S.U.E’s.

Figure 27: Existing and proposed education sports facilities in Corby





<b>Corby Sports Hall Requirements- 21 badminton courts by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> New Kingswood School - 4 court sports hall New Maplefields School - 4 court sports hall New Tresham Institute - 6 court sports hall (linked to health and fitness, possibly private sector) New secondary school (location TBC) - 6 courts sports hall (suitable for badminton)
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Formal community use agreements should be drawn up for use of the facilities on education sites

## East Northamptonshire

266. The current level of sports hall provision in East Northamptonshire is below the regional and national average. The area currently has four 4 court sports halls and two 3 court halls. By 2021 there will be a need for an additional 17 badminton courts or just over four 4 court halls. This assumes a 1% pa increase in participation.
267. Large areas of the borough are rural and have low levels of population density. It is not possible or practical to try and provide facilities to meet the needs of all rural communities. However it is apparent that the population in and around Oundle is reliant entirely upon the facilities at Oundle School. The degree of community access to these facilities is limited and there is no formal community use agreement.
268. Prince William School in Oundle currently has 2 small indoor spaces both built in 1970. This presents an opportunity to rationalise provision on this site and potentially provide a 4 court hall with full community access.
269. The proposals for the new Manor Park Leisure Centre in Rushden currently include a 6 court hall but as this facility will replace the Splash and Pemberton Centres there is no net gain.
270. In sports development terms it is desirable to provide access to at least one larger hall of 6+ badminton courts as this supports a much greater range of sports and can cater for higher level training and competition. Currently all the sports halls in East Northamptonshire are 4 badminton court size or smaller. The travel time map at Figure 29 shows that those people living in the Rushden area currently have to travel more than 20 mins to reach a 6 court hall.
271. From a national governing body perspective there is demand for both indoor (and outdoor) archery facilities in the North Northamptonshire area. This could be provided in a 4 court hall on a school site, and a hall adapted with specialist netting.

272. The following table excludes the 6 court hall in the new Manor Park Leisure centre which will serve the south of the District

<b>East Northamptonshire Sports Hall Requirements- 15 badminton courts by 2021</b>	
<b>Potential Locations</b> Prince William School – 4 court sports hall King John School (linked to Nene Centre) – 4 court sports hall Kings Cliffe Community Sports Project – 4 court sports hall	
<b>Other Recommendations</b> A further 3 courts still to be located. Formal community use agreement should be sought for facilities at Oundle School	

## Kettering

273. Kettering has significantly more sports hall provision than the national and consequently its regional average, and also more than any of its ONS comparator authorities. The facilities also appear to be underutilised. Almost 20% of users of sports halls in Kettering come from Corby according to the FPM figures.
274. The town currently has six 4 court sports halls plus the 12 courts located within the Kettering Conference Centre. As these facilities are used more by the increasing population of Kettering and as the population becomes more active there will be a need for a further 3 badminton courts by 2021.
275. Volleyball England has recently established National Volleyball Training Centre at the Conference Centre. This means that a number of hours of peak time use will be allocated for elite training and competition each year. The Facilities Planning Model defines peak time use as evenings and weekends and states that community facilities should be open for a minimum of 40.5 hours per week. The current arrangement with Volleyball England runs up to 2013 (see Appendix 2) and is unlikely to have a negative impact on community use. If it is continued beyond that time there may be a need for additional sports hall space (roughly equivalent to one badminton court) over and above the 3 courts identified. This will need to be reviewed nearer the time.
276. The education review being undertaken in Kettering will result in the building of a new secondary school and the creation of 2 new Academies, one of which will be have a specialist sports focus. The facilities for the Academies will be built on a staged basis over the next five years. These sites may provide suitable locations for new sports hall provision.

277. There is currently a badminton performance “cell” based at Montagu School in Kettering at which 40 of the strongest players in the County receive coaching. However the facilities are not adequate and the national governing body would welcome a 6 + court hall with appropriate lighting and flooring at which to base this type of activity. Given that it is unlikely that a 6 court hall will be developed in Kettering consideration could be given to moving this to Corby as set out in the recommendations above. Alternatively consideration could be given to accommodating the requirement for a badminton performance cell at Kettering Conference centre although any proposals would need to take into account the existing use by volleyball and the potential impact on community use of the combined requirements of the 2 sports.

<b>Kettering Sports Hall Requirements- 3 badminton courts by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> Secondary School east of Kettering town - 4 court sports hall
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Link sports hall to other sports provision at a separate Leisure Centre on the school site east of Kettering town and provide formal community use agreement

## Wellingborough

278. There are currently three sports halls of 4 or more badminton courts and two 3 court halls (equivalent to a total of 20 badminton courts). By 2021 there will be a need for the equivalent of 40 badminton courts i.e. 20 more. This assumes a 1% pa increase in participation. Current proposals include a new 6 court hall as part of the Wellingborough Sports Village<sup>1</sup> and a 4 court hall at the new secondary school located within Wellingborough East.
279. The calculations for Wellingborough are based on the assumption that the area should have the same level of provision per thousand head of population as the average for the East Midlands as a whole i.e. 0.37 badminton courts per thousand. This figure has been provided by Sport England and, depending on population changes and changes in facility numbers, can differ from year to year. The recent Wellingborough Sports Facilities Strategy takes the same approach but at the time of writing the average figure for the East Midlands was 0.28 badminton courts per 1000 which resulted in a lower number of sports halls (equivalent to 10 badminton courts) being identified. As a consequence this report suggests that a higher number of facilities will be required than was originally proposed in the Wellingborough Sports Facilities Strategy.

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<sup>1</sup> It is assumed that the Sports Village will be linked with the North West SUE

<b>Wellingborough Sports Hall Requirements- 20 badminton courts by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> New Wellingborough Sports Village- 6 court sports hall New Wellingborough East Secondary School- 4 court sports hall Wrenn School- 4 court sports hall Location TBC- further 6 courts required. Configuration to be determined by sports development priorities.
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Formal community use agreements should be drawn up for use of the facilities on new school sites

## General recommendations - Accessibility criteria

280. Whilst the network of 4 court halls is reasonably well spread, there is a lack of the larger 6+ court halls that are able to fulfil a more strategic function and potentially cater for elite/high level use. It is, therefore, proposed that a network of 6+ court halls should be developed across the North Northamptonshire area with the exception of Kettering which already has the 12 court hall at Kettering Conference Centre.
281. The maps at Figure 26 and Figure 29 show that there is a reasonable geographical spread of provision of 4 court halls but that access to 6 court facilities is patchy.

## Detailed methodology findings

282. The following sections provide more detail about the methodologies used and the findings emerging from these.

## Sports Facilities Calculator Findings by local authority (Sports Halls)

283. The tables below show the results for each of the 4 local authorities in North Northamptonshire. The table below shows the predicted population growth within the Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUEs) in each local authority area up to 2021, and the amount of sports hall space required to meet the needs of these **new populations**.

284. The Sports Facility Calculator (SFC) is the most accurate and robust tool for assessing the required provision for each SUE. In some areas there is growth planned **outside** the SUEs, which is often spread across the whole local authority area. The SFC is less accurate in this instance as it will underestimate the amount of provision required.
285. The population numbers are based on the housing growth projections from the Core Spatial Strategy and use a multiplier of 2.5 persons per dwelling.
286. The amount of space needed is expressed in terms of the number of badminton courts. The figures **do not** take account of existing levels of provision.

#### Corby

- North East Corby SUE requires 4 badminton courts. The new 4 court sports hall at the Corby Business Academy now caters for the demand in this area.
- Corby West SUE will require just over 3 courts. N.B. the proximity to existing/planned secondary school provision should be borne in mind when considering this area.

#### East Northamptonshire

- There will be a requirement for a 3 court hall in the Higham/Rushden/Irthlingborough area;
- The remaining demand is spread across the 4 growth areas and is not sufficient to justify a 4 court hall in any one area.

#### Kettering

- There will be a requirement for a 3 court hall in the urban extension east of Kettering town;
- The remaining demand is spread across the 3 growth areas and is not sufficient to justify a 3 or 4 court hall in any one area.

#### Wellingborough

- There is a need for 3 or 4 badminton courts in the Wellingborough East SUE which will be met by the 4 court hall at the proposed secondary school.
- There is only limited growth planned in the North West urban extension. This will generate demand of 2 courts which should be met via the proposed sports village.

<b>Corby</b>	<b>West Corby SUE</b>	<b>North East Corby SUE</b>
Population growth to 2021	10,000	12,750
Number of badminton courts required to meet increase in population.	3.12	3.98
Equivalent number of 4 court halls	0.78	0.99

<b>East Northamptonshire</b>	<b>Rushden/ Higham/ Irthlingboro'</b>	<b>Raunds</b>	<b>Thrapston</b>	<b>Oundle</b>
Population growth to 2021	8,618	2,475	1,968	1,183
Number of badminton courts required to meet increase in population.	2.47	0.71	0.57	0.34
Equivalent number of 4 court halls	0.62	0.18	0.14	0.08

<b>Kettering</b>	<b>Kettering East SUE</b>	<b>Burton Latimer</b>	<b>Desborough</b>	<b>Rothwell</b>
Population growth to 2021	10,500	1,348	3,833	2,985
Number of badminton courts required to meet increase in population.	3.14	0.40	1.15	0.85
Equivalent number of 4 court halls	0.79	0.10	0.27	0.29

<b>Wellingborough</b>	<b>East SUE</b>	<b>NW SUE</b>
Population growth to 2021	10,875	5,750

Number of badminton courts required to meet increase in population.	3.27	1.73
Equivalent number of 4 court halls	0.82	0.43

### Nortoft Calculator Findings by local authority (Sports Halls)

287. Figure 28 shows the likely level of provision required assuming rates of provision grow by 1% per annum. This is in line with national and CSP level targets. The estimates are for the authority as a whole and assume that the population growth is spread evenly across the area.

Figure 28: Nortoft Calculator- sports halls

Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase and 1% pa increase in participation											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021							
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768							
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384							
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848							
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528							
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	Current number of facilities (badminton courts)	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average			Net change in level of provision proposed (existing <b>plus</b> new)		
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Sports Halls</b>		No courts			0.37						
England average = 0.38	<b>Corby</b>		15	0.25		9	14	21	24	29	36
EM average = 0.37	<b>East Northants</b>		22	0.26		11	14	17	33	36	39
	<b>Kettering</b>		42	0.46		-6	-2	3	36	40	45
	<b>Wellingborough</b>		20	0.26		10	15	20	30	35	40



288. Corby

- The results for Corby show that the current level of provision is below both the national and regional averages;
- The projected population growth and increase in participation will create demand for an additional 21 badminton courts by 2021.

289. East Northamptonshire

- The results for East Northamptonshire show that the current level of provision is below both the national and regional averages;
- The projected population growth and increase in participation will create demand for the equivalent of four or five new 4 court sports halls by 2021.

290. Kettering

- The results for Kettering show that there is currently surplus provision but that by 2021 there will be demand for the equivalent of approximately 3 new badminton courts. This assumes that the Kettering Conference Centre remains fully available for general community use. If used **extensively** for volleyball, additional space will be needed.

291. Wellingborough

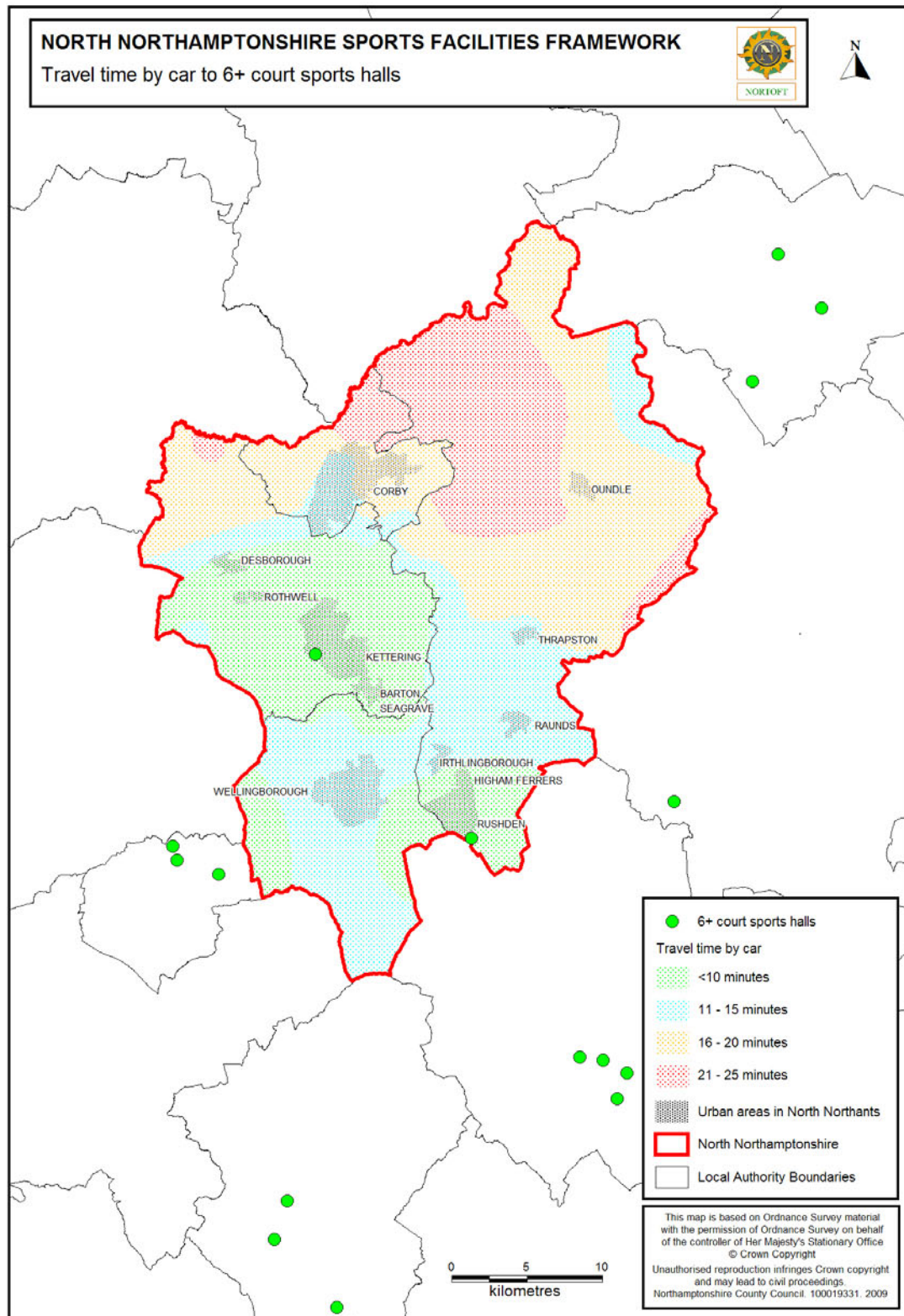
- The results for Wellingborough show that the current level of provision is below both the national and regional averages;
- The projected population growth and increase in participation will create a need for up to five 4 court sports halls (or the equivalent) by 2026. The location of some of these is already being considered within the Wellingborough Sports Village and new secondary school proposals.

## Travel time maps

292. Sport England has conducted research that shows that the optimum travel time to most facilities is 20 min (by whatever method of transport).

293. Figure 29 shows the estimated travel time to sports halls of 6 + badminton court size. The existence of the 12 court hall at Kettering Conference Centre means that many people within North Northamptonshire are within 20 minutes travel time of this type of facility. However there is a significant proportion of East Northamptonshire and Corby which fall outside this category.

Figure 29: 6+ court sports halls- travel time



## FPM findings by local authority (Sports Halls)

### Corby

ONS population projection for 2019 = 61,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 81,500 (see paragraph 234 for an explanation of the different sets of figures)

Halls or Pools and year	FPM map (National Run series)	Analysis	Comment
Halls 2009	Unmet demand	The maximum unmet demand in any part of the authority is less than 1 badminton court. However the unmet demand is located within/close to the walking catchments of the 2 facilities, suggesting a lack of capacity is the issue, rather than the ability to reach a facility (even for those without access to a car).	The new facility at the Corby Business Academy is not included in the FPM map. However even without it the FPM 2009 halls maps suggest that no additional sports hall space is required or justified at this time.
	Aggregated demand	There is no one place where an additional sports hall is justified in relation to community provision alone. Even in the centre of Corby, there is only unmet aggregated demand for 1 court.	The number of badminton courts is low in Corby, but this does not show up as an issue. By implication, it seems likely that a high proportion of users from Corby are using facilities outside of the authority – particularly in Kettering where there is a high level of provision. If the facilities in Kettering become less available for community use (e.g. in relation to the volleyball proposals for Kettering Conference Centre) there will be an impact on Corby residents.
Halls 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	The aggregate demand map shows an increase in unmet demand.	ONS (2006 base) projections have been used for these maps, but there is significant under estimation of the population – approx the equivalent of 2 x 4-court halls (see population figures above). The increased unmet demand in these maps is likely to be a result of less availability of the Kettering facilities as Kettering grows as fills up its available space.

### East Northamptonshire

ONS population projection for 2019 = 103,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 92,000

Halls or Pools and year	FPM map (National Run series)	Analysis	Comment
Halls 2009	Unmet demand	There are no significant pockets of unmet demand across the whole of East Northamptonshire.	The map includes 3-court halls and above. It seems likely that some of the authority's demand is met by Kettering as the supply of hall space in East Northamptonshire is relatively low compared with the regional and national averages.
	Aggregated demand	There is no one place where any additional facilities are justified. There is slightly higher demand	

		on the eastern border towards Peterborough than elsewhere, but this less than 2 courts equivalent in any one area.	If the facilities in Kettering become less available for community use (e.g. in relation to the volleyball proposals for Kettering Conference Centre) there will be an impact on East Northamptonshire residents.
Halls 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	The FPM maps spread the growth across the whole of the authority area.	<p>The growth in East Northamptonshire is proposed to be concentrated in the south of the authority, which will focus more of the demand there. Some additional provision is likely to be needed.</p> <p>The ONS population projections are higher than the NCC figures, the equivalent of about 1 sports hall (4 courts).</p>

### **Kettering**

*ONS population projection for 2019 = 107,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 106,000*

Halls or Pools and year	FPM map (National Run series)	Analysis	Comment
Halls 2009	Unmet demand	There is very little unmet demand for hall space in the authority.	There is a proposal to use Kettering Conference Centre as a volleyball performance centre. This would have a significant impact on the availability of this site for community use. If the proposal goes ahead then new facilities will be required in the longer term to equal the 'lost capacity'. It would also reduce the 'import' of users from Corby, Wellingborough and East Northamptonshire.
	Aggregated demand	There is no one place where any additional sport hall space is needed, the aggregated unmet demand only reaching half of 1 badminton court in any place.	
Halls 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	The 2019 aggregated demand map is notably different from the 2009 map, as all areas have higher levels of aggregated unmet demand.	<p>The increase in population across Kettering will effectively 'fill' the existing facilities with local residents, and conversely reduce the use of the facilities by those living outside the authority. This finding is very much in line with that arising from the Nortoft Calculator result. However if the KLV hall is taken out of community use for significant periods of time, the equivalent amount of space/capacity needs to be made available.</p> <p>The difference in the population projections between the ONS and NCC figures is not significant.</p>

## **Wellingborough**

*ONS population projection for 2019 =87,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 94,000*

Halls or Pools and year	FPM map (National Run series)	Analysis	Comment
Halls 2009	Unmet demand	There is very little unmet demand for hall space in the authority.	It is likely that Wellingborough residents are using the Kettering facilities as there is a relatively low level of provision of sports hall space in Wellingborough compared to the national and regional averages. If the facilities in Kettering become less available for community use (e.g. in relation to the volleyball proposals for Kettering Conference Centre) there will be an impact on Wellingborough residents.
	Aggregated demand	There is no one place where any additional sport hall space is needed, the aggregated unmet demand only reaching half of 1 badminton court in any place.	
Halls 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	The 2019 aggregated demand map is notably different from the 2009 map, as all areas have higher levels of aggregated unmet demand.	The increase in population across Wellingborough will lead to the need for more sports halls. There is probably a need for an extra 3 court hall over and above the FPM assessment as the ONS figures are approx 7000 below the NCC population forecasts.

## SECTION 5: SWIMMING POOLS

### Introduction

294. There is a mix of public and private water space across the North Northamptonshire area. There are a number of pools which are located within hotel and conference venues and therefore have limited access for the general public. These pools and those where the total area of water space on a site is below 160m<sup>2</sup> have been excluded from the calculations relating to levels of provision and future demand.
295. As with sports halls, the aspiration to make swimming as accessible as possible to the largest number of people possible would suggest that a network of small pools would be best. However, small pools limit flexibility in terms of the range of activities that can be undertaken, the ability to operate more than one activity at any time and the level of performance that can be accommodated. General community needs should be balanced with the wider sports development needs which include developing and supporting clubs to offer opportunities in a wide range of pool-based activities including:
- Swimming
  - Water Polo
  - Synchronised swimming
  - Canoeing
  - Lifesaving
  - Diving
  - Sub Aqua
296. In general, the higher the level of performance the greater the demands on pool size, depth and specific competition requirements such as spectator capacity and specialist equipment. For example, a 25m x 6 lane pool can accommodate local/club level swimming galas but a 25m x 8 lane pool with electronic timing is required for county galas and league events.
297. Moveable bulkheads that can sub-divide pools and more recent innovations like moveable floors that can vary water depth can significantly increase a pool's flexibility.
298. Learner pools provide the opportunity to offer a wide range of activities catering for the maximum number of users possible. Learner pools can be maintained at a slightly higher temperature than main pools making them suitable for use by young children, non swimmers and those with a disability. They offer income generating potential not only through pool parties and other hirings but also by reducing the impact on programming in the main pool. A teaching pool significantly enhances the local authority's ability to deliver its Learn to Swim programme and therefore it is seen as desirable that there should be at least one in each major centre of population.

299. As this report focuses on hub level facilities and above, only pools larger than 25m x 6 lane have been considered in the recommendations. In general a 25m x 6 lane pool is approx 325m<sup>2</sup>. With the addition of a learner pool this would typically increase by 160 m<sup>2</sup> giving a total of 485 m<sup>2</sup>.
300. In determining the best locations for new swimming pool provision a number of factors need to be considered. Ideally they should be accompanied by other facilities such as a fitness suite to help ensure financial viability. It is possible to locate pools on school sites but such options need very careful planning if they are to succeed. Sites should be as accessible as possible and ideally be located close to public transport links.
301. The following section sets out the findings from the various methodologies available and suggests potential locations for delivery. Ultimately, however, the number of pools and where they are to be sited will need to be determined by more detailed feasibility work, possibly at local authority level.

## Current Provision

302. There is a broad range of pool types across the North Northamptonshire area. They vary in age and quality and also in relation to their availability for community use. All of the pools listed in Figure 30 have or will have some community use or operate a registered membership scheme.

*Figure 30: Swimming pools in North Northamptonshire*

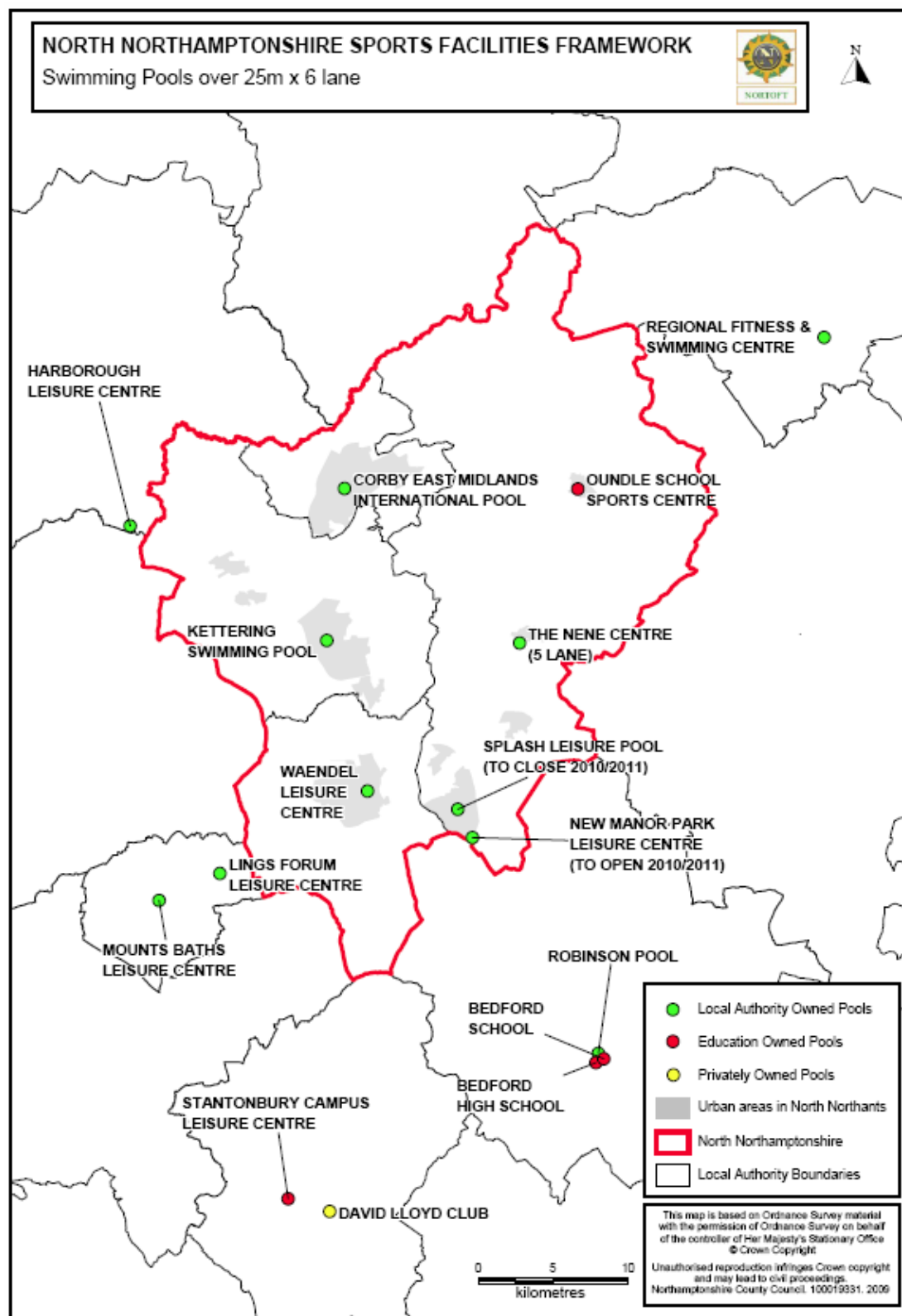
	Pool size and layout	m <sup>2</sup>	Comments
<b>CORBY</b>			
CORBY EAST MIDLANDS INTERNATIONAL POOL	20m x 8.5m teaching pool	170	Opened July 2009
CORBY EAST MIDLANDS INTERNATIONAL POOL	50m x 8 lane pool	925	Opened July 2009
<b>EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</b>			
NEW MANOR PARK LEISURE CENTRE	10m x 16m teaching pool	160	Proposed
NEW MANOR PARK LEISURE CENTRE	25m x 6 lane pool	325	Proposed
OUNDLE SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	43m x 6 lane pool	435	Degree of community use unclear
THE NENE CENTRE	5m x 10m teaching pool	52	
THE NENE CENTRE	25m x 5 lane pool	262	
<b>KETTERING</b>			
KETTERING SWIMMING POOL	25m x 6 lane pool	325	

LA FITNESS	10m x 16m pool	160	
MONTSAYE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	22m x 4 lane pool	154	
<b>WELLINGBOROUGH</b>			
BANNATYNES HEALTH CLUB	8m x 20m pool	160	
CLUB DIANA	10m x 20m pool	200	
WAENDEL LEISURE CENTRE	25m x 6 lane pool	325	
WAENDEL LEISURE CENTRE	10m x 15m teaching pool	150	



303. Figure 31 shows the pool network across the area and indicates the ownership.

*Figure 31: Swimming pool provision and ownership*



## Swimming pools summary by local authority up to 2021

### Corby

304. The small amount of unmet demand in Corby will be fully catered for by the newly opened 50m pool.

**Corby Swimming Pool Requirements-** no additional water space required

### East Northamptonshire

305. There will be a small amount of unmet demand up to 2021 but the new Manor Park Leisure Centre pool will meet this need.

**East Northamptonshire Swimming Pool Requirements-** minimal shortfall- no action required

### Kettering

306. Kettering has a shortfall in the amount of water space required to meet the needs of the **current population**. It is anticipated that by 2021 Kettering will require 1571 m<sup>2</sup> of water space.
307. The current town centre pool (325m<sup>2</sup>) is in need of refurbishment/replacement but the detail of the proposals have yet to be agreed. With this in mind and given the fact that the Borough is in the process of producing a sports facilities strategy, specific suggestions for potential locations and size of facilities have not been put forward as part of this document.
308. It is anticipated that the Borough Council will commission a Facilities Planning Model run for swimming pools which will help to identify the best possible locations for future pool provision.

**Kettering Swimming Pool Requirements-** 1086m<sup>2</sup> additional water space by 2021

**Potential Locations**

To be determined following the production of FPM report.

**Other Recommendations**

Ideally a minimum of one teaching pool should be provided within the Borough.

## Wellingborough

309. The FPM modelling shows a shortfall in provision even with the underestimation in the population figures. The recent Wellingborough Sports Facilities Strategy identifies the need for a 6 lane 25m pool by 2021. The location of this new facility is not yet determined but it is envisaged that it will be part of a new sports village which will contain a mix of provision to provide revenue support to the pool.

<b>Wellingborough Swimming Pool Requirements- 576m<sup>2</sup> water space by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b>
New Wellingborough Sports Village- 6 lane x 25m pool plus teaching pool

## Detailed methodology findings

310. The following sections provide more detail about the methodologies used and the findings emerging from these.

## Sports Facilities Calculator Findings by local authority (Swimming Pools)

311. The tables below shows the predicted population growth within the Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUE) in each local authority area up to 2021 and the amount of water space required to meet the needs of these **new populations**.
312. The population numbers are based on the housing growth projections from the Core Spatial Strategy and use a multiplier of 2.5 persons per dwelling.
313. The amount of space needed is expressed in terms of the number of square metres of water space. A typical 25m 6 lane pool is approximately 325m<sup>2</sup>. The figures **do not** take account of existing levels of provision.

### Corby

- The population growth in the West Corby North East Corby SUEs will generate the need for the equivalent of between two and three lanes of water space by 2021. Because the majority of the population will be able to access the new 50 m pool within approx 10 minutes there is no demand for additional water space in the town.

### East Northamptonshire

- The level of population growth will be insufficient to generate demand for a pool within the Borough. The proposed pool at the new Manor Park Leisure

Centre will also ensure that the quality and attractiveness of facilities remains high.

#### Kettering

- The majority of demand will come from the housing growth within the Kettering East SUE. There will be very limited demand generated by the other growth areas.

#### Wellingborough

- There will be sufficient demand for the equivalent of 2 or 3 lanes within the Wellingborough East SUE. A small amount of additional demand will be created within the NW SUE.

<b>Corby</b>	<b>West Corby SUE</b>	<b>North East Corby SUE</b>
Population growth to 2021	10,000	12,750
Amount of water space required to meet increase in population (m <sup>2</sup> )	114.18	145.58
Number of lanes required	2.15	2.74
Number of pools required	0.54	0.69

<b>East Northamptonshire</b>	<b>Rushden/ Higham/ Irthlingboro'</b>	<b>Raunds</b>	<b>Thrapston</b>	<b>Oundle</b>
Population growth to 2021	8,618	2,475	1,968	1,183
Amount of water space required to meet increase in population (m <sup>2</sup> )	89.56	25.72	20.45	12.29
Number of lanes required	1.69	0.48	0.38	0.23
Number of pools required	0.42	0.12	0.10	0.06

<b>Kettering</b>	<b>Kettering East SUE</b>	<b>Burton Latimer</b>	<b>Desborough</b>	<b>Rothwell</b>
Population growth to 2021	10,500	1,348	3,833	2,985

Amount of water space required to meet increase in population (m <sup>2</sup> )	113.26	14.54	41.35	32.20
Number of lanes required	2.13	0.27	0.78	0.61
Number of pools required	0.53	0.07	0.19	0.15

<b>Wellingborough</b>	<b>East SUE</b>	<b>NW SUE</b>
Population growth to 2021	10,875	5,750
Amount of water space required to meet increase in population (m <sup>2</sup> )	117.39	62.07
Number of lanes required	2.21	1.17
Number of pools required	0.55	0.29

## Nortoft Calculator Findings by local authority (Swimming Pools)

314. Figure 32 shows the likely level of provision required assuming rates of participation grow by 1% per annum. This is in line with national and CSP level targets. The estimates are for the authority as a whole and assume that the population growth is spread evenly across the area.

Figure 32: Nortoft Calculator- swimming pools

Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase and 1%pa increase in participation											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021							
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768							
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384							
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848							
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528							
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	Current size of facilities (m <sup>2</sup> water space)	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average			Total provision proposed (existing <i>plus</i> new)		
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
Swimming pools		No m <sup>2</sup> water space			13.00						
England average = 13	Corby		1095	18.22		-241	-70	163	854	1025	1258
EM average = 13	East Northants		1234	20.53		-76	26	123	1158	1260	1357
	Kettering		485	8.07		767	923	1086	1252	1408	1571
	Wellingborough		835	13.89		234	402	576	1069	1237	1411

## Corby

- The results for Corby show that the current level of provision is above both the national and regional averages.
- The construction of the new 50m pool will mean that even with the projected population growth and increase in participation future demand will be fully catered for up to 2021.

## East Northamptonshire

- The current levels of provision in East Northamptonshire are above the national and regional average.
- The population growth and increase in participation will create demand for approx 120 square metres of additional water space by 2021. This equates roughly to half of a 6 lane 25m pool.

## Kettering

- Kettering has significantly less water space per 1000 than the national and regional averages.
- Given the likely growth in population and an increase in participation there will be a need for an additional 1080 square metres by 2021.

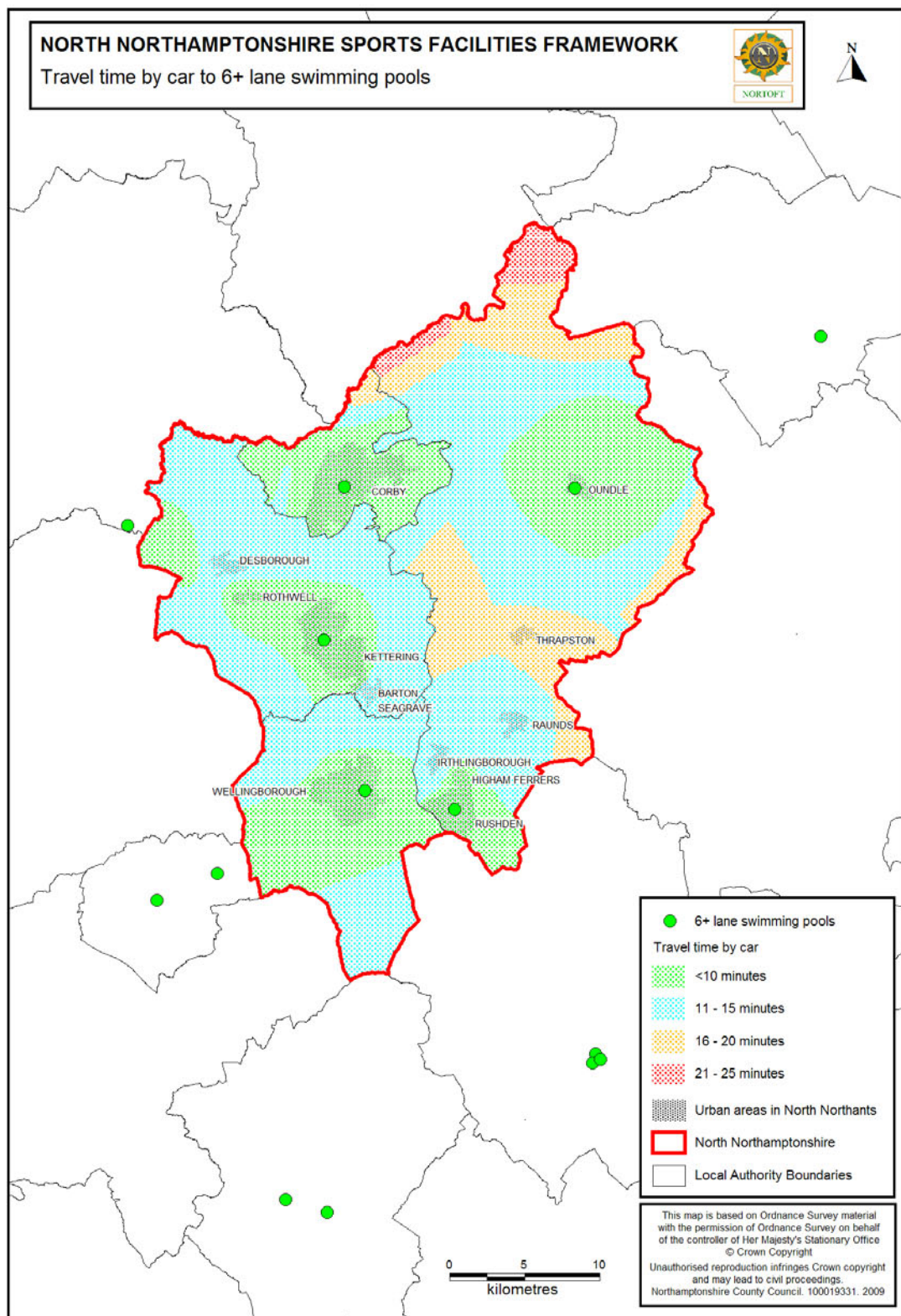
## Wellingborough

- The level of provision in Wellingborough is roughly in line with the national and regional averages. However the increase in population and participation will mean that by 2021 there will be demand for an additional 576 square meters of water space.

## Travel time maps

315. Figure 33 shows that the majority of the population within North Northamptonshire can currently access a 6 lane pool within 15 minutes travel time. A small number of people on the fringes of East Northamptonshire would have to travel between 16 and 25 minutes. However the picture in East Northamptonshire is based largely on the premise that there is community use of the pool at Oundle School. Whilst the information on Active Places indicates that this is the case there is a question mark about the actual amount of community access including family swim sessions and non club based sessions.
316. The travel time picture will not change significantly with the building of the 50m pool in Corby or the proposed pools at Rushden and Wellingborough as the locations will be similar to the existing facilities.

Figure 33: 6+ lane swimming pools- travel time





## Facilities Planning Model Assessment

### Corby

ONS population projection for 2019 = 61,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 81,500 (see para 234 for an explanation of the different sets of figures)

Pools 2009	Unmet demand	The model shows the old pool (6 lane 25m) rather than the new 50m pool. With the 25m pool there was a small amount of unmet demand, both within the walking catchment and outside of it. This suggests that a key issue was lack of capacity.	The 50m pool has a very large capacity. All demand on foot within the catchment area will be met, together with all of the demand by car within a 20 minute drive time.
	Aggregated unmet demand	The aggregated unmet demand as at 2009 around the location of the old pool (and 50m pool site) was about 37 sq m.	The 50m pool capacity, assuming full community use, is more than sufficient to meet today's swimming needs of Corby – and will probably attract users from Kettering as they will be within the 20 minute drive time.
Pools 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	This model shows very little change from 2009.	The 50 m pool will meet all of the expanded population's needs (even with the higher NCC population forecast).

### East Northamptonshire

ONS population projection for 2019 = 103,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 92,000

Pools 2009	Unmet demand	There is some unmet demand, mainly in the southern part of the authority.	No major new facilities are required to meet demand.
	Aggregated unmet demand	The highest aggregated unmet demand is in the south, with a figure of 28 sq m water space.	
Pools 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	The model shows increased unmet demand.	The proposed new pool at Wellingborough is likely to have a limited impact due to its distance and the fact that it will be catering for Wellingborough residents. The new Manor Park pool at Rushden will largely meet the demands from new growth.

## Kettering

ONS population projection for 2019 = 107,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 106,000

Pools 2009	Unmet demand	There is a small amount of unmet demand within the walking catchment areas of the existing pools.	The unmet demand in 2009 suggests that the key issue is a lack of capacity, particularly within Kettering itself. The lack of capacity will be a factor of both the amount of water space available, and its quality - particularly in relation to the Kettering town centre pool which needs refurbishment (or replacement).
	Aggregated unmet demand	There are a number of areas in the towns with aggregated unmet demand of over 25 sq m, with 2 areas with unmet demand of over 30 sq m.	The main areas of unmet demand are Kettering, Rothwell and Desborough.
Pools 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	If no changes are made to the facility stock the levels of unmet demand will increase, particularly in Kettering, Rothwell and Desborough.	The levels of aggregated unmet demand in the towns will increase. The impact of refurbishment/replacement of the existing pools will need to be considered, but that some additional pool space will be needed to meet the needs of the growing population.

## Wellingborough

ONS population projection for 2019 = 87,000; NCC population projection for 2019 = 94,000

Pools 2009	Unmet demand	There are a number of areas, mainly around the town with unmet demand, including within the walking catchment area of the new pool.	This map suggests that a lack of capacity is the main issue.
	Aggregated unmet demand	Much of the town has existing aggregated unmet demand of over 30 sq m, with the maximum being 40 sq m on the west side of the town. There is aggregated unmet demand of 15 sq m across much of the authority.	At present there is no one place across the authority where a new swimming pool could be justified, although overall there is a lack of pool provision
Pools 2019	Unmet and aggregated demand	The unmet demand map shows an increase across much of the authority.	It is clear that additional water space is needed, particularly in the town.  Account also needs to be taken of the needs of the additional 8,400 people now estimated to be resident compared to the ONS projection (approx 1/3 of 25m swimming pool)

## SECTION 6: SYNTHETIC TURF PITCHES

### Introduction

317. There are two types of Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs) in North Northamptonshire, sand based and 3G.
- **Sand-based/sand-filled** with short pile, which is most suited to hockey, but can be used for football and non-contact rugby training. The 'usual' surface for school sites, and the longest established;
  - **Rubber-crumb with long-pile often known as 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation or 3G**, this is the preferred surface for football and rugby but has limited use for hockey.
318. Water-based pitches have a specialist hockey surface but can also be used for football and non-contact rugby training. The nearest water based pitch is located at Moulton College (Pitsford). Figure 35 shows the location of all full sized pitches in North Northamptonshire and the adjoining authorities.

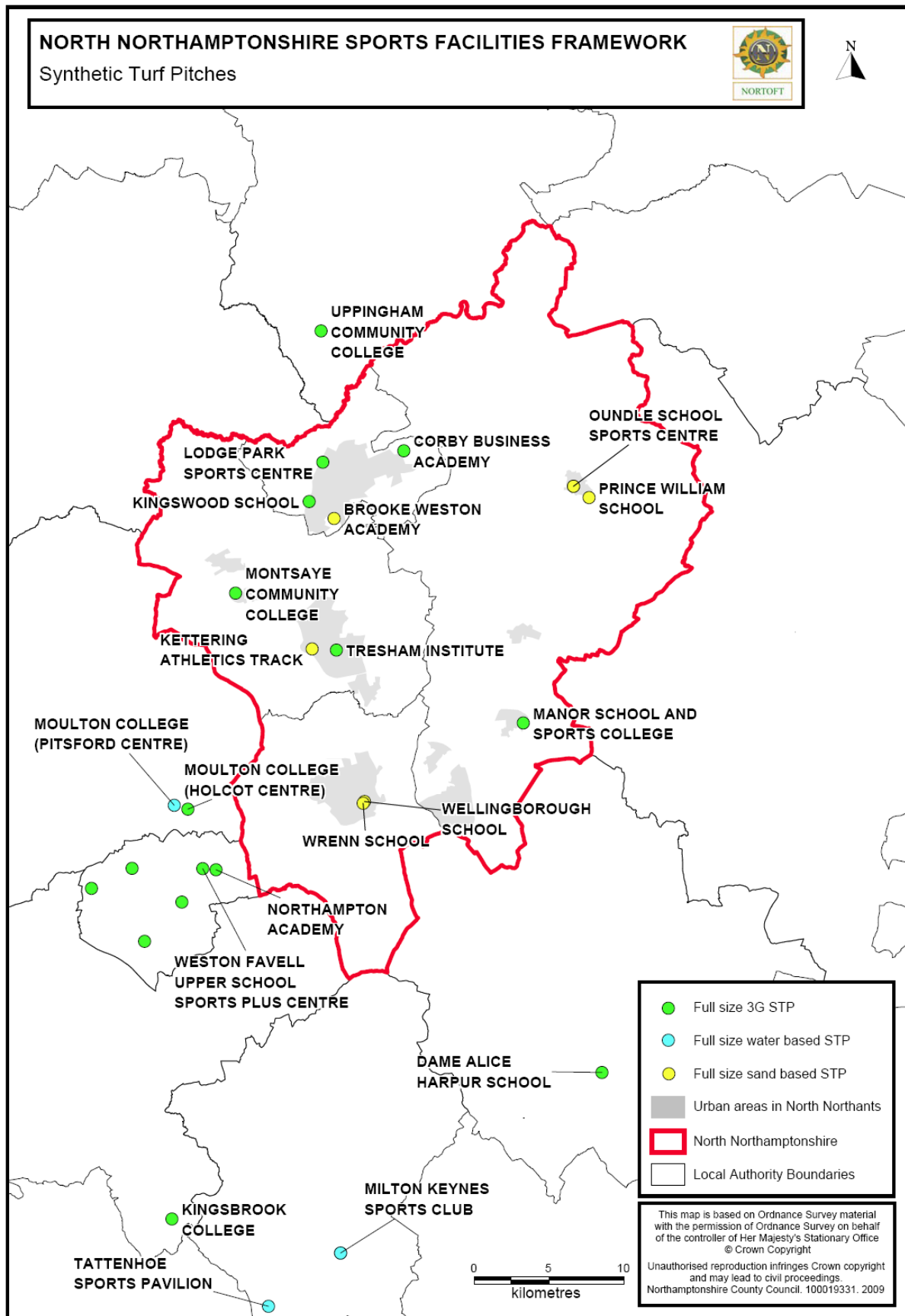
### Current Provision

319. Figure 34 shows the current synthetic turf pitch provision across North Northamptonshire.

*Figure 34: Synthetic turf pitches in North Northamptonshire*

	Pitch Type
<b>CORBY</b>	
LODGE PARK SPORTS CENTRE	3G
BROOKE WESTON ACADEMY	Sand Based
KINGSWOOD SCHOOL	3G
CORBY BUSINESS ACADEMY	3G
<b>EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</b>	
MANOR SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE	3G
PRINCE WILLIAM SCHOOL	Sand Based
OUNDLER SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	Sand Based
OUNDLER SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	Sand Based
<b>KETTERING</b>	
MONTSAIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3G
KETTERING ATHLETICS TRACK	Sand Based
<b>WELLINGBOROUGH</b>	
WELLINGBOROUGH SCHOOL	Sand Based
WRENN SCHOOL	Sand Based

Figure 35: Synthetic turf pitches by type and location



320. Unlike sports halls and swimming pools, there is limited modelling currently available in relation to STPs, and there is no guidance as to national standards of provision from the hockey or football NGBs. There is however a strong desire for such a facility by many schools who recognise the benefits for curriculum delivery, particularly where grass pitches are of poor quality.
321. There are differing policy approaches in relation to STPs, and in particular their role in meeting community needs for football. In some authorities there is a policy to provide STPs in preference to grass pitches for community football, and to eventually aspire to having all football being played on this surface.
322. On the other hand, there is the experience of authorities such as Milton Keynes, where it appears that the 'market' for STPs is not infinite. In this authority the sand-based full-size pitches are being under-used, due to a combination of a high level of supply, and the introduction of a large , commercial, small-sided football centre.
323. The future demand for STPs is difficult to predict as this is one of the fastest-changing markets in terms of sport, with a strong trend in football towards use of these surfaces instead of grass pitches. However the national governing body has an objective of trying to halt the decline in the 11 a-side game on grass and whilst, in theory, matches can take place on artificial surfaces the majority are still played on grass. Regular review of the provision will therefore be needed, and assessment undertaken at the local level to determine the viability of new proposals.
324. As a rule of thumb Sport England have worked on the basis of one pitch per 60,000 head of population although they are currently developing a modelling tool for STPs and it will be possible to use this to test different provision scenarios once this becomes available.
325. The impact of any commercial 5-a-side facilities also needs to be taken into consideration when trying to assess the numbers of facilities required. Any changes in the position of governing bodies in relation to the use of artificial surfaces for competition and training will additionally have an impact and for this reason a degree of flexibility is required

## Synthetic turf pitch summary by local authority

### Corby

326. The level of provision in Corby more than meets the needs of the current population. However as the population grows and levels of participation increase there will be a requirement for a further full size pitch post 2021. At present there are 2 schemes in Corby which have planning permission for a full size STP, Tresham Institute and Rockingham Triangle. The former is likely to be subject to change due to changes in

LSC funding. The plans for all weather provision at Rockingham Triangle are currently on hold. If either of these were to be implemented then the need post 2021 would be met. NB The refurbishment of Maplefields school will also include the provision of a “youth size”, floodlit STP.

327. However the trends in small sided football are changing rapidly and it is difficult to predict accurately what future demand will be so there may be an argument for some commercial small sided provision in the town, particularly in view of the high levels of mini and junior teams that exist.

**Corby Synthetic Turf Pitch Requirements** - no additional STPs required (N.B. may need to review in the light of market trends)

## East Northamptonshire

328. The picture in East Northamptonshire is similar to that in Corby with the authority currently having an over provision of STPs. However, this calculation includes 2 pitches at Oundle School for which there is no secure community use agreement and this should be addressed if possible. The majority of the housing growth is planned for the Rushden/ Higham/Irthlingborough areas, and on this basis, **IF** new provision should be considered in the future it should be located close to these areas of growth.

**East Northamptonshire Synthetic Turf Pitch Requirements-** no additional STPs required

## Kettering

329. Kettering has a current shortfall in STP provision and requires 2 additional large size pitches in the short term and a further additional pitch will be needed by 2021. Tresham Institute has already gained planning permission for a 3G pitch which would meet some of the demand, this will be suitable for use née both rugby and football

**Kettering Synthetic Turf Pitch Requirements-** 3 full size pitches by 2021

### Potential Locations

Tresham Institute- full size 3G STP

Secondary School east of Kettering town - full size 3G STP

Kettering Buccleuch Academy – full size 3G STP

### Other Recommendations

STP east of Kettering town linked to new sports provision at a separate Leisure Centre on the school site with a formal community use agreement

330. In December 2009 planning permission was applied for, for a full size 3G pitch at the new Kettering Buccleuch Academy. At the time of writing funding for this project has not been confirmed.

## Wellingborough

331. Wellingborough will require 2 new full sized pitches by 2021. Current proposals include a 3G pitch at the new Sports Village and a sand based pitch at the new secondary school.

<b>Wellingborough Synthetic Turf Pitch Requirements- 2 full size pitches by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> New Wellingborough Sports Village- Full size 3G STP New Stanton Cross secondary school – Full size sand based
<b>Other recommendations</b> None

## Nortoft Calculator Findings by local authority (Synthetic Turf Pitches)

332. Figure 36 shows the number of full size pitches which would be required based on the Nortoft calculator findings.

Figure 36: Nortoft Calculator – Synthetic turf pitches

Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase and 1% pa increase in participation											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021							
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768							
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384							
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848							
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528							
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	No of units	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average			Total provision proposed (existing <i>plus</i> new)		
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Synthetic Turf Pitches</b>		No full size pitches			0.04						
England average = 0.03	<b>Corby</b>		3	0.05		0	0	1	3	3	4
EM average = 0.03	<b>East Northants</b>		4	0.05		0	0	0	4	4	4
	<b>Kettering</b>		2	0.02		2	2	3	4	4	5
	<b>Wellingborough</b>		2	0.03		1	2	2	3	4	4



### Corby

- The results for Corby show that the current levels of provision across the authority is above the national and regional average and at present supply outstrips demand. Even as the population increases there will not be a need for new facilities.

### East Northamptonshire

- The picture in East Northamptonshire is similar to that in Corby with the authority currently having an over provision of STPs and no predicted unmet demand in the future up to 2021, if access to the Oundle pitches can be secured.

### Kettering

- Kettering has the lowest level of provision per 1000 of the 4 North Northamptonshire authorities. There is an existing shortfall and there will be a requirement for one additional full size pitch up to 2021 as the population grows and rates of participation increase.

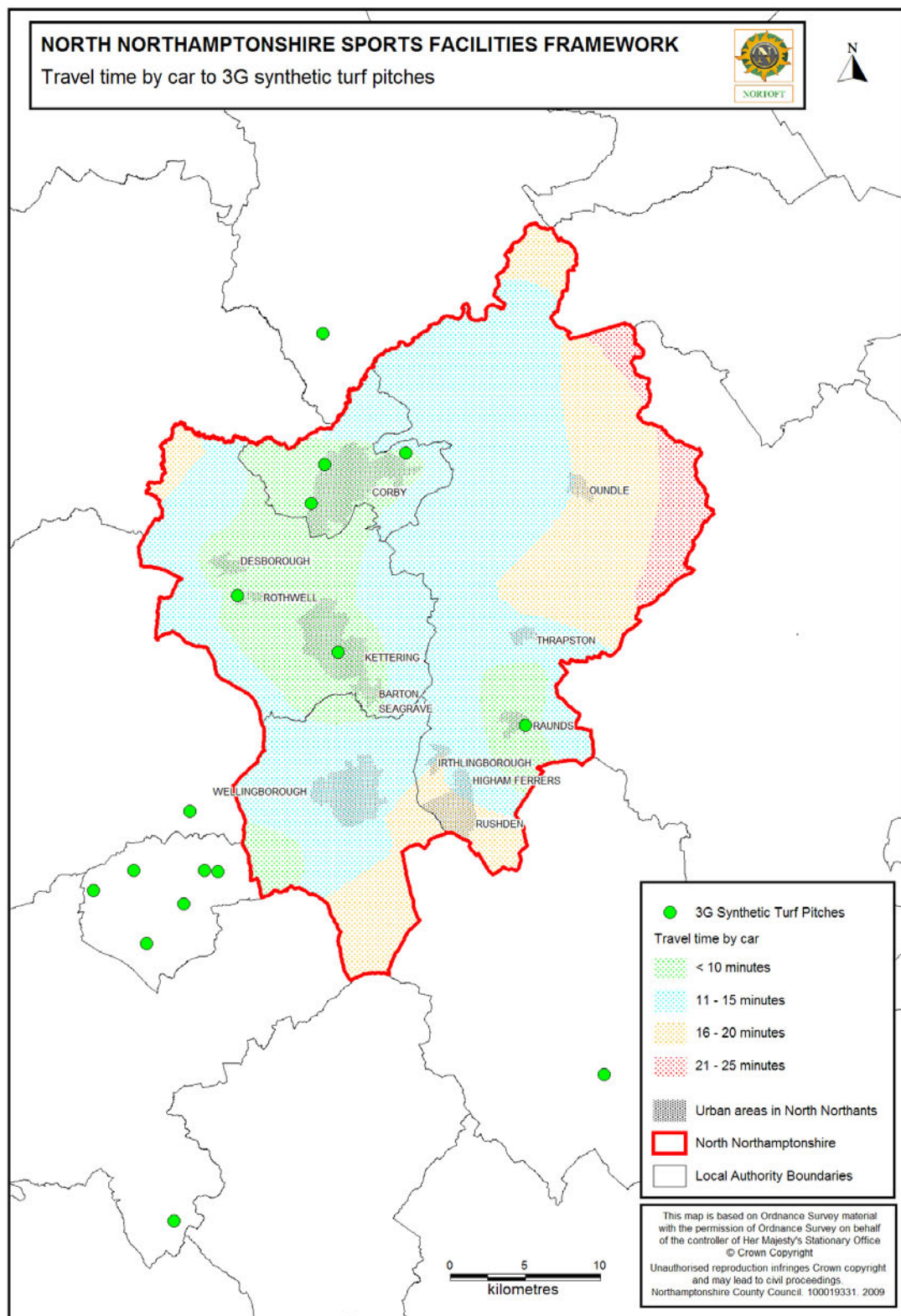
### Wellingborough

- The current level of provision in Wellingborough is the same as the East Midlands average. However the population growth and rates of participation increase mean there will be the need for a new full size pitch by 2011 and a further additional pitch by 2016.

## Travel time maps

333. Figure 37 shows that a high percentage of the population of the area is able to access a 3G pitch within a 20 minute drive time. However due to the absence of any 3G provision in Peterborough the residents of Oundle and the surrounding area are not. This again raises questions about the level of sports provision in this rural area.

Figure 37: Synthetic turf pitches – Travel time



## SECTION 7: INDOOR BOWLS

### Introduction

334. Bowls is one of the very few sports which primarily attract older people. For both outdoor and indoor bowls, participation peaks amongst women in their early 70s and in men in their late 70s. Indoor bowls appeals to men and women equally.
335. Bowls has very limited participation from black or ethnic minority groups. The indoor game draws the largest proportion of its players from the social groups A and C2DE.
336. Indoor bowls is not universally popular throughout England. There are significant regional variations in the provision of indoor bowls centres (IBCs) across the country. Historically, indoor bowls has proved more popular in areas of England where the outdoor game is “flat green” rather than “crown green”. Northamptonshire outdoor bowling is flat green, therefore the regional average provision per 1000 figure does not necessarily reflect the local position.

### Current provision

337. The spread of indoor bowls facilities across the North Northamptonshire area is patchy with no provision in Corby.

	Number of rinks
<b>EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</b>	
RUSHDEN TOWN INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	6
<b>KETTERING</b>	
DESBOROUGH (N) INDOOR BOWLS CLUB	6
KETTERING LODGE BOWLING CLUB	4
<b>WELLINGBOROUGH</b>	
WELLINGBOROUGH BOWLING CLUB	6

### Indoor bowls summary by local authority

#### Corby

338. Corby currently has no indoor bowls provision. With the increase in population and an increase in levels of participation there will be demand for one indoor facility of approx 6 rinks by 2021.
339. In view of the particular health issues in Corby it is important to provide as many different types of activity as possible to encourage an increase in participation in physical activity. There have been some issues relating to low car ownership in Corby

in the past. It is unclear what the current levels of car ownership are but it is likely that there could still be some issues so it is important to make facilities accessible on foot.

340. Whilst there may appear to be spare capacity in Kettering borough the current facility in Kettering town is only 4 rinks and as the population grows and ages the any spare capacity is likely to be absorbed. Therefore Corby should be providing a facility for its **own** residents.

<b>Corby Indoor Bowls Requirements-</b> 6 rink indoor bowls centre by 2021
<b>Potential Locations</b> Location TBC
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Should be provided by the private sector

## East Northamptonshire

341. East Northamptonshire currently has a higher rate of provision than the regional average. Even with the projected increase in population and an increase in levels of participation there will be insufficient demand to justify additional provision up to 2021.
342. The population of East Northamptonshire is, however, ageing rapidly and as indoor bowls is predominantly played by people over the age of 65 it would seem appropriate to provide this type of facility. As there is insufficient demand to justify a new specialist indoor centre, then short mat bowling provision should also be made available in village halls and community buildings.

<b>East Northamptonshire Bowls Requirements</b> - No additional provision required
<b>Other recommendations</b> Short mat bowling should be made available in village halls and community centres

## Kettering

343. Kettering currently has a higher level of provision than the East Midlands average and has the highest level of provision amongst the North Northamptonshire authorities. Even with the projected increase in population and an increase in levels of participation there will be insufficient demand to justify additional provision up to 2021, providing the existing facility is retained.

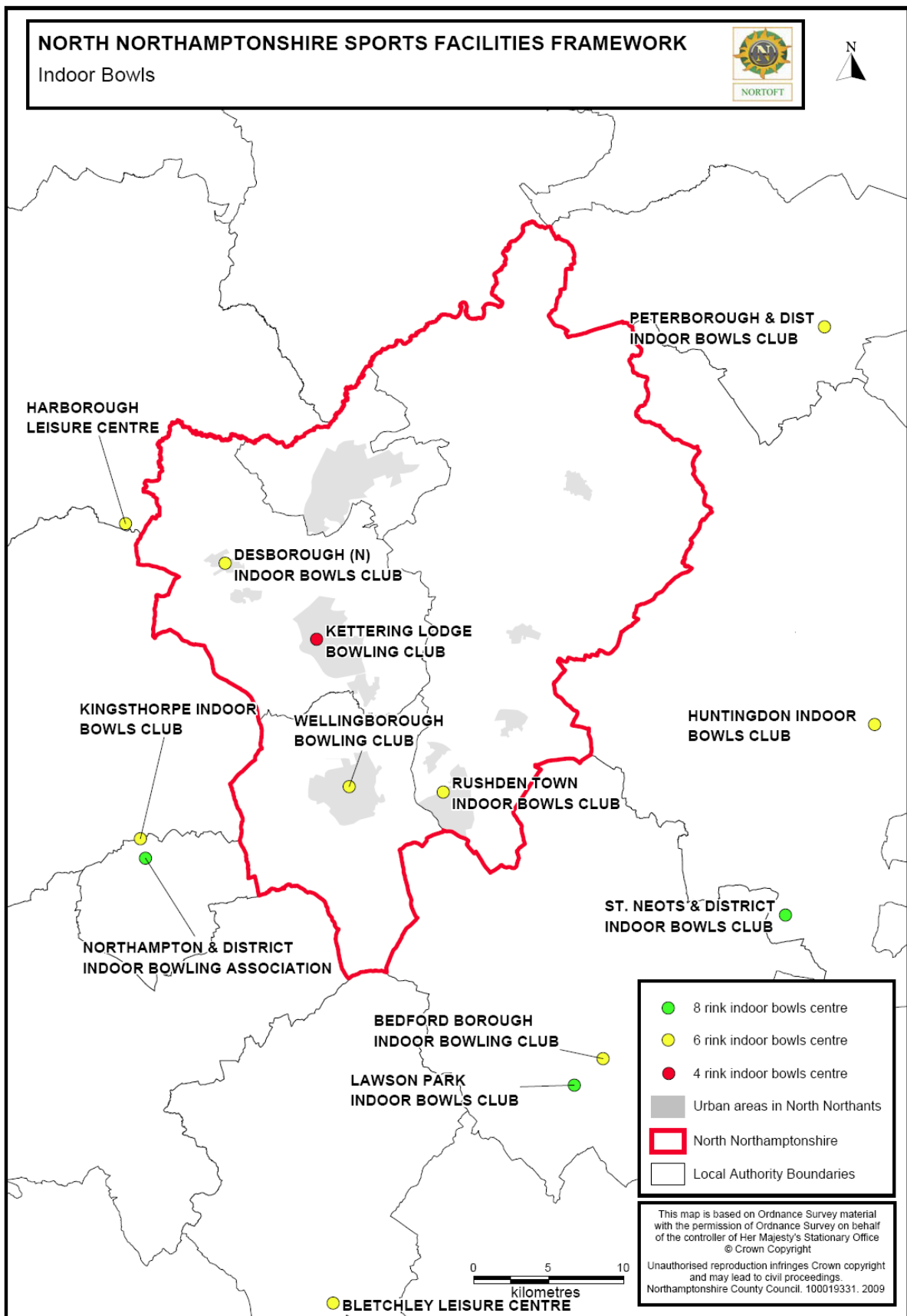
<b>Kettering Indoor Bowls Requirements-</b> No additional provision required
--

## Wellingborough

344. Wellingborough currently has a higher rate of provision 0.08 than the regional average, 0.06. The recently adopted Wellingborough Sports Facilities Strategy recognises this and uses the higher figure of 0.08 to determine future facility requirements. Using this figure no additional provision would be required up to 2021 but additional facilities would be needed between 2021 and 2026, see Figure 57.

**Wellingborough Indoor Bowls Requirements- No additional provision required**

Figure 38: Indoor Bowls in North Northamptonshire



## Nortoft Calculator Findings by local authority (Indoor Bowls)

345. In order to determine appropriate levels of provision for indoor bowls the Nortoft Calculator has been used. This is because FPM modelling and the Sports Facilities Calculator are not available and/or not suitable for this type of facility.

Figure 39: Nortoft Calculator – Indoor bowls

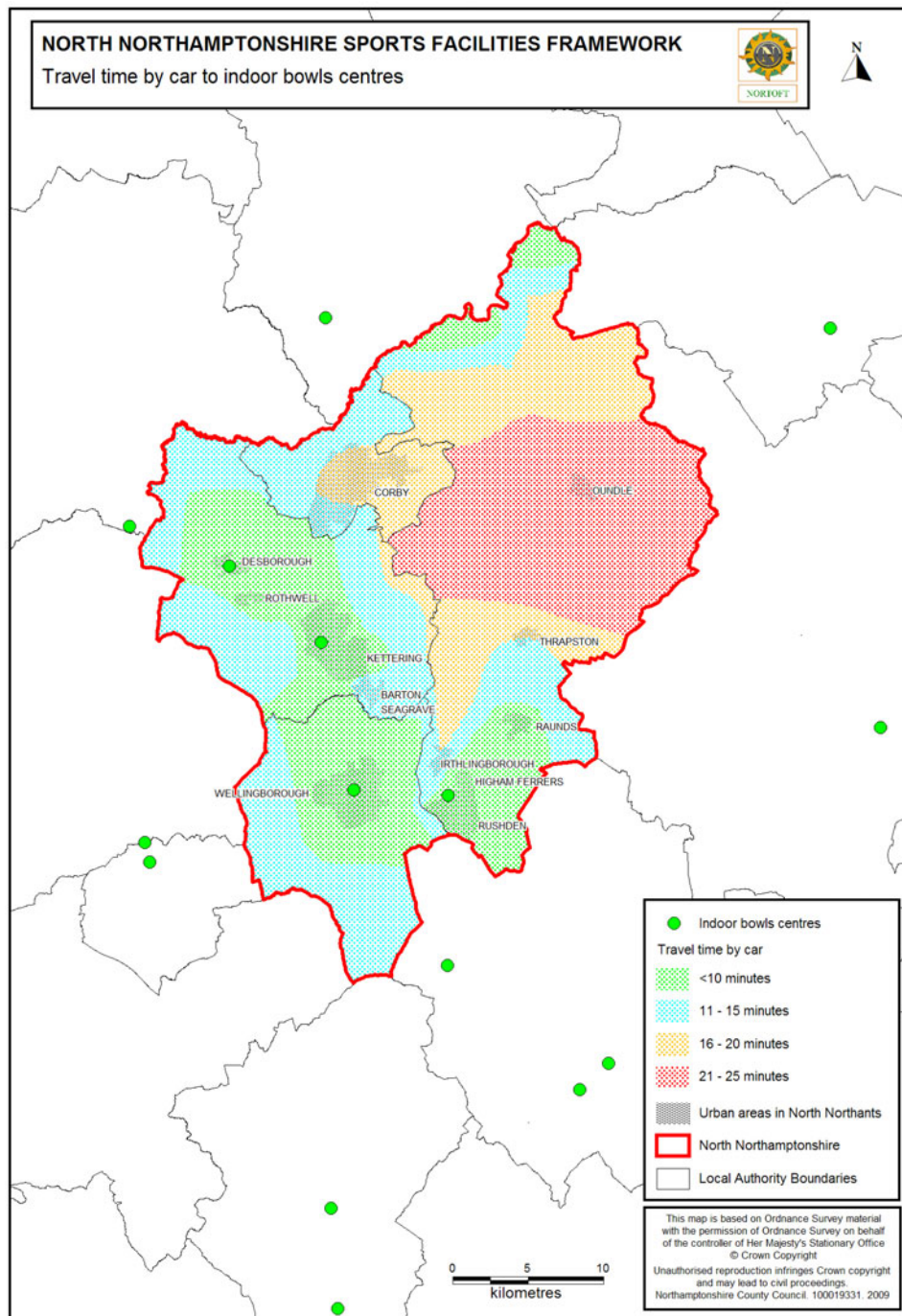
Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase and 1%pa increase in participation											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021	2026						
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768	114,543						
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384	114,075						
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848	133,731						
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528	121,446						
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	No of units	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average				Total provision proposed (existing <i>plus</i> new)	
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Indoor Bowls</b>		Number of rinks			0.06						
England average = 0.04	<b>Corby</b>		0	0.00		4	5	6	4	5	6
EM average = 0.06	<b>East Northants</b>		6	0.10		-1	0	0	5	6	6
	<b>Kettering</b>		10	0.17		-4	-4	-3	6	6	7
	<b>Wellingborough</b>		6	0.10		-1	0	1	5	6	7



## Travel Time maps

346. Figure 39 shows the travel times to indoor bowls facilities in the area. A large area of East Northamptonshire is outside the 20 minutes travel time.

*Figure 40: Indoor Bowls Centres – Travel time*



## ONS benchmark authorities

347. The table below shows the levels of provision in those authorities considered “similar” to those in North Northamptonshire.

348. There are some major differences between the authorities – with Corby having no provision (in line with its comparator authorities), and Kettering having relatively high levels of provision. There are some big differences between the comparator authorities, and no clear trends.

*Figure 41: Indoor bowls provision per 1000 - benchmarking*

Local Authority	Corby District	East Northamptonshire District	Kettering District	Wellingborough District
Number of rinks	0	6	10	6
Capacity Ratio Per 1000	0.00	0.078	0.122	0.083
Local Authorities considered by ONS to be similar	Redditch District <b>0</b>  0.00	South Kesteven District <b>12</b>  0.10	Rugby District <b>8</b>  0.09	Redditch District <b>0</b>  0.00
	Halton <b>0</b>  0.00	Huntingdonshire District <b>14</b>  0.09	East Northamptonshire District <b>6</b>  0.78	Rugby District <b>8</b>  0.09
	Tameside District <b>0</b>  0.00	South Beds <b>6</b>  0.05	St. Edmundsbury District <b>8</b>  0.08	Kettering District <b>10</b>  0.12
	Nuneaton and Bedworth District <b>0</b>  0.00	West Wilts <b>4</b>  0.03	West Wilts <b>4</b>  0.03	Northampton District <b>8</b>  0.04

N.B. The figures above are based on 2001 Census populations. The Nortoft Calculator uses population figures from 2009 for each local authority to calculate the provision per 1000.

## SECTION 8: INDOOR TENNIS

### Introduction

349. The following facts are taken from the Sport England Primary Offer Data Pack for Tennis – June 2008.
- Tennis is the 6<sup>th</sup> most played sport nationally, and attracts slightly more men than women;
  - The main players are from socio-economic groups ABC1 and the highest participation rates are among those aged 16-24 years;
  - 21% of tennis players are aged 16-19, this compares with 12% of all those that have taken part in sport or active recreation;
  - 48% of tennis players have an annual household income of above £52,000 compared to 37% of all those that take part in any sport and active recreation.
350. Whilst the optimum travel time to most sports facilities is considered to be 20 mins anecdotal evidence suggests that many people are prepared to travel greater distances to reach “specialist” facilities such as indoor tennis centres.
351. Indoor tennis centres are usually developed in association with outdoor courts and if they are to be viable should have large health and fitness provision (100+ stations) on site plus other income generating facilities.
352. Corby is the only local authority area that has indoor tennis provision in North Northamptonshire. Corby Indoor Tennis Centre has 8 courts under two hot air domes and is located to the north of Corby in the Rockingham Triangle Sports Complex.

	Number of Courts
<b>CORBY</b>	
CORBY INDOOR TENNIS CENTRE	8

## Indoor tennis summary by local authority

### Corby

353. The current 8 court indoor tennis centre in Corby provides for the needs of the current and future populations, at least up to 2021. The current provision per thousand (2009) is 0.13 courts per thousand which is much higher than the East Midlands average of 0.02 courts per thousand (2001). The addition of outdoor courts is a key priority for this site.

<b>Corby Indoor Tennis Requirements-</b> No further provision required
--

### East Northants

354. East Northants currently has no indoor tennis provision and there is already demand for two indoor courts up to 2021. Access to facilities outside the district would be at Corby Indoor Tennis Centre and Thorpe Wood Health and Racquets Club in Peterborough. Despite the existence of these facilities there still some parts of the authority which do not have access to such a facility within a 25 min drive time. As the district has three active tennis clubs, it is proposed to develop new provision in association with one of them.

<b>East Northamptonshire Indoor Tennis Requirements - 2 courts by 2021</b>
--

<b>Potential Locations</b>
----------------------------

Cover two existing courts or develop two new indoor courts linked to an existing accredited tennis club possibly Raunds Manor
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### Kettering

355. Kettering currently has no indoor tennis provision. Previously there were 3 covered courts at Kettering Conference Centre but these proved not to be financially viable and have subsequently been converted to outdoor courts. The majority of the borough is within 20 minutes drive time of an indoor tennis centre, either at Corby or Market Harborough. For these reasons it is not therefore considered appropriate to recommend new provision in Kettering.

<b>Kettering Indoor Tennis Requirements-</b> 2 courts by 2021
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<b>Potential Locations</b>
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N/A
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<b>Other Recommendations</b>
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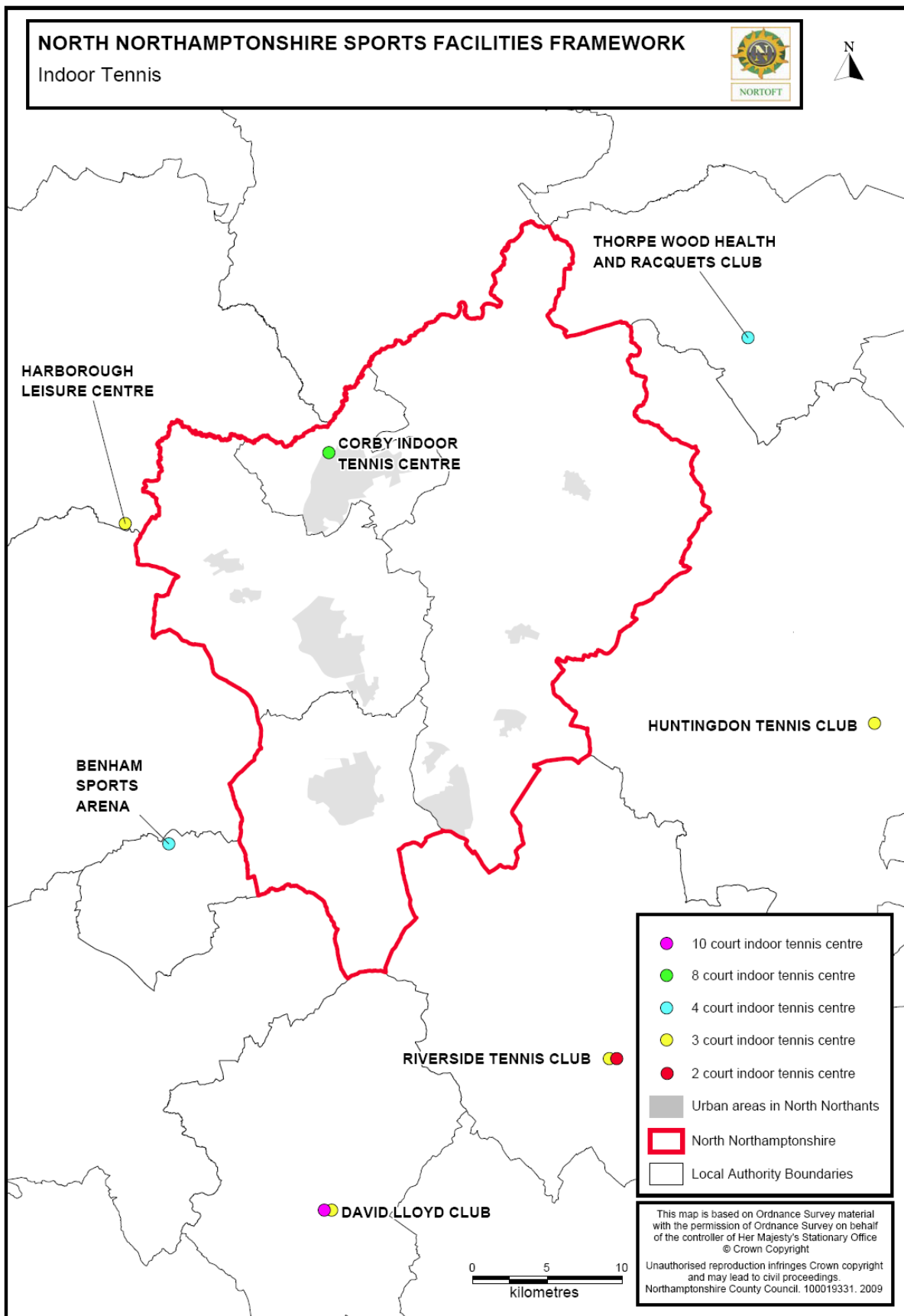
No action required
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## Wellingborough

356. Wellingborough currently has no indoor tennis provision but some residents can access indoor tennis in Northampton within 20 minutes drive. There is demand for two indoor courts up to 2021 however there does not appear to be a strong enough tennis club (in sports development terms) in the area to support an indoor facility and therefore any facilities are likely to be provided by the private sector.
357. Although the modelling indicates that just over 2 courts would be required by 2021 a minimum of 3 courts is required for competitive matches and therefore 3 courts may be required to ensure viability.

<b>Wellingborough Indoor Tennis Requirements – 2/3 courts by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> N/A
<b>Other Recommendations</b> No action required

Figure 42: Indoor tennis in North Northamptonshire



### Nortoft Calculator Findings by local authority (Indoor Tennis)

358. In order to determine appropriate levels of provision for indoor tennis the Nortoft Calculator has been used. This is because FPM modelling and the Sports Facilities Calculator are not available and/or not suitable for this type of facility.

Figure 43: Nortoft Calculator – Indoor tennis

Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021							
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768							
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384							
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848							
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528							
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	Current Provision (No of courts)	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average			Total provision proposed (existing <i>plus</i> new)		
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Indoor Tennis</b>		No of courts			0.02						
England average = 0.03	<b>Corby</b>		8	0.13		-7	-6	-6	1	2	2
EM average = 0.02	<b>East Northants</b>		0	0.00		2	2	2	2	2	2
	<b>Kettering</b>		0	0.00		2	2	2	2	2	2
	<b>Wellingborough</b>		0	0.00		2	2	2	2	2	2



### Corby

- Corby has significantly higher levels of provision than the rest of North Northants and indeed the East Midlands as a whole. This level of provision should be maintained but no additional provision will be required up to 2026.

### East Northamptonshire

- East Northamptonshire has no provision and calculations suggest that 2 courts should be provided by 2021.

### Kettering

- Kettering currently has no provision and calculations suggest that 2 courts should be provided by 2021.

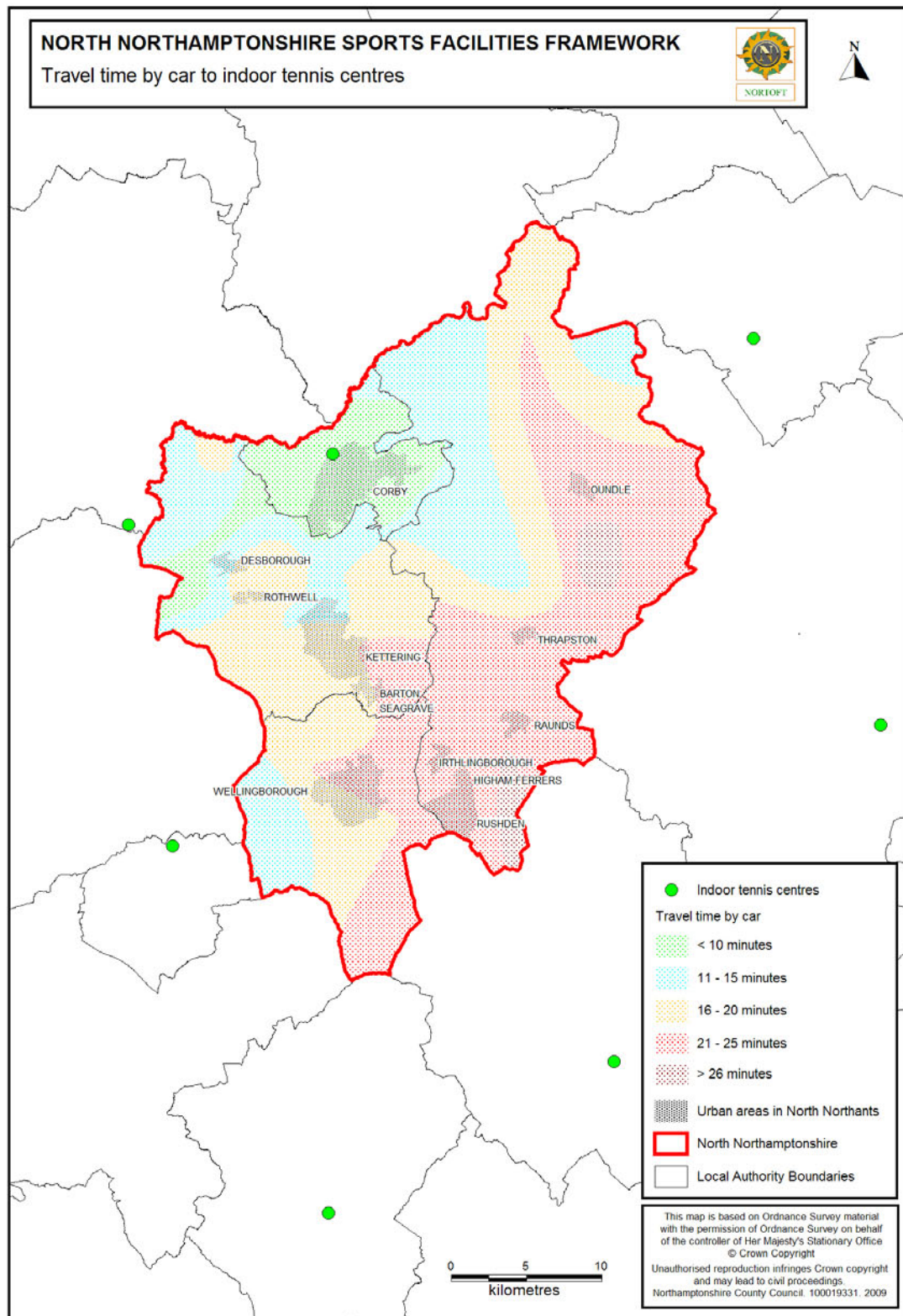
### Wellingborough

- Wellingborough currently has no provision and calculations suggest that 2 courts should be provided by 2021.

## Travel time maps

359. Figure 43 shows the travel times to indoor tennis facilities in the area. There are large areas in North Northamptonshire that do not have access to an indoor tennis centre within 20 minutes drive, these lie mostly within East Northants and the east and south of Wellingborough district.

Figure 44: Indoor tennis – Travel time



## ONS benchmark authorities

360. The table below shows the levels of provision in those authorities considered “similar” to those in North Northamptonshire.
361. Many of the comparator authorities have no indoor tennis provision much like East Northants, Kettering and Wellingborough. Only Corby has 8 indoor courts which compared to its similar authorities is very high.

*Figure 45: Indoor tennis provision per 1000 - benchmarking*

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Corby District</b>	<b>East Northamptonshire District</b>	<b>Kettering District</b>	<b>Wellingborough District</b>
Number of indoor courts	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Capacity Ratio Per 1000	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Local Authorities considered by ONS to be similar</b>	Redditch District <b>0</b>	South Kesteven District <b>0</b>	Rugby District <b>0</b>	Redditch District <b>0</b>
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Number of indoor courts</b>	Halton District <b>3</b>	Huntingdonshire District <b>3</b>	East Northamptonshire District <b>0</b>	Rugby District <b>0</b>
Capacity ratio per 1000	0.03	0.02	0.0	0.00
	Tameside District <b>0</b>	South Bedfordshire <b>0</b>	St. Edmundsbury District <b>4</b>	Kettering District <b>0</b>
	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00
	Nuneaton and Bedworth District <b>0</b>	West Wiltshire <b>0</b>	West Wiltshire <b>0</b>	Northampton District <b>4</b>
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02

N.B. The figures above are based on 2001 Census populations. The Nortoft Calculator uses population figures from 2009 for each local authority to calculate the provision per 1000.

## SECTION 9: ATHLETICS TRACKS

### Introduction

362. The participation information from Active People Survey 1 suggested that the demand for athletics on tracks (and for indoor training) is almost wholly from young people (under 25), and is mostly from white, black and mixed ethnic communities. The survey results indicated that track and field athletics primarily attract people from the social grades C2, D and E. There are also high levels of participation amongst people from social grade A. There is very limited participation from those in grades B and C1.
363. The Active People Survey 2 summary for “athletics” also includes running cross-country/road, running road, running ultra marathon, and jogging. The participation rates and profiles for track and field athletics cannot therefore be compared to the information provided in Active People Survey 1.
364. The following facts are taken from the Sport England Primary Offer Data Pack for Athletics – June 2008.
- The number of males taking part in athletics is significantly higher than the number of females (38% are female participants and 62% are male participants);
  - Only 3% of participants have a disability or long term limiting illness;
  - 43% of those participating have an annual household income of more than £52,000.

### Current Provision

365. There is a question mark over the long term future of the track at Sixfields in Northampton as its replacement/refurbishment has been highlighted as a priority in the recent West Northamptonshire Sports Facilities Framework.
366. The UK Athletics strategy identifies a need for an indoor training facility to be developed in Northampton and for the track at Sixfields to be relocated.

	Number of Lanes
<b>CORBY</b>	
ROCKINGHAM TRIANGLE SPORTS COMPLEX	8
<b>EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</b>	
OUNDLE SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE	8
<b>KETTERING</b>	
KETTERING ATHLETICS TRACK	6

## Synthetic tracks

367. Only synthetic tracks are now acceptable to the governing body of athletics for competition purposes. This section, therefore, concentrates upon their provision and generally excludes cinder tracks, except in relation to local training.
368. Synthetic athletics tracks are expensive facilities to build and can be expensive to manage, particularly unless the site is shared with other uses. At the same time, the number of users is relatively limited compared to the large throughputs of swimming pools and halls.

## Indoor training

369. The UK Athletics Facilities Planning and Delivery 2007 – 2012 proposes:

*“One regional centre, one regional 200m track and one indoor training centre are recommended per 500,000 population, within a 30 minute drive time (or 45 minutes for those living in rural locations)”*

## National Governing Body

370. The most up to date guidance available from UK Athletics, contains the following statement regarding outdoor track provision:

*One outdoor synthetic track (6 or 8 lanes) per 250,000 within 20 minutes drive (45 minutes in rural areas)*

371. In general, the current priority for UK Athletics is to increase the provision of indoor facilities to support outdoor facilities. There is no indoor athletic provision within Northamptonshire.

## Athletics Tracks summary by local authority

### Corby

372. Levels of provision in Corby are more than double the East Midlands average and even with an anticipated increase in population and rates of provision no further facilities will be required by 2021.
373. It could be argued that there is an over provision equivalent to 4 lanes but as Corby has a predominantly young population and young people are the primary users of athletics facilities then there is justification for their retention.

**Corby Athletics Requirements- no further provision required**

## East Northamptonshire

374. Levels of provision in East Northamptonshire are above the East Midlands average, however the track in East Northamptonshire is based at Oundle School and like the sports hall, STPs and pool is not subject to a formal community use agreement. The track has been recently refurbished and provides a high quality facility but the degree of community use is unclear. There does not appear to be an athletics club based at the school.
375. Modelling suggests that even with the increase in population and anticipated levels of participation there will be insufficient demand to justify an additional facility assuming community use of the Oundle School track continues.

**East Northamptonshire Requirements-** no further provision required

## Kettering

376. Levels of provision in Kettering are well above the East Midlands average and even with an anticipated increase in population and rates of provision no further facilities will be required by 2021.

**Kettering Athletics Requirements-** no further provision required

## Wellingborough

377. Wellingborough currently has no athletics provision. The travel time map indicates that large numbers of people from the area need to travel more than 20 minutes to reach an athletics facility. If the facility at Sixfields were to close these travel times would increase.
378. The Nortoft Calculator suggests that the equivalent of 5 lanes will be required but not until 2026. Therefore to ensure the club remains viable it is suggested that an outdoor training facility is provided to meet their needs in the interim.
379. Provision should be made for a 6 lane track post 2021. In order to ensure effective management, this should be located alongside other sports facilities at the new sports village with the land requirement planned in at the outset.

**Wellingborough Athletics Requirements-** no full size athletics track provision required up to 2021. 1 x training facility e.g. 6 lane x 100m straight or J track by 2021

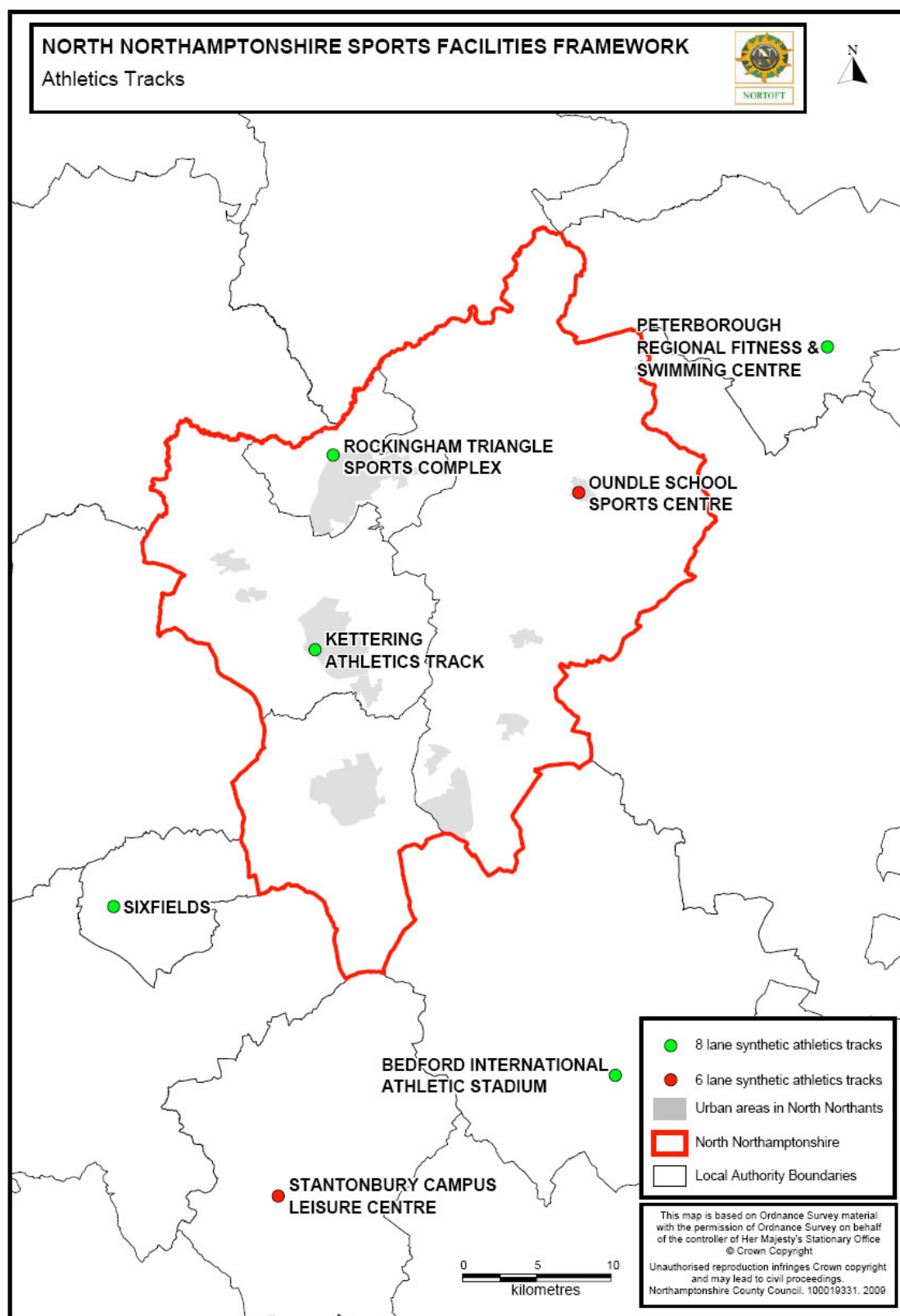
**Potential Locations**

Located on a school site

**Other Recommendations**

Full community use should be a requirement

Figure 46: Athletics Tracks in North Northamptonshire



## Nortoft Calculator findings by local authority (Athletics Tracks)

380. The Nortoft Calculator uses the East Midlands average of 0.04 lanes per thousand to calculate future provision. This figure is based on synthetic tracks only. The East Midlands average figure of 0.06 lanes per 1000 which is provided by Active Places includes both cinder and synthetic tracks. As the former cannot be used for competition and are gradually being phased out the decision has been taken to count synthetic tracks only.



Figure 46: Nortoft Calculator – Athletics Tracks

Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase and 1% pa increase in participation											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021							
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768							
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384							
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848							
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528							
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	Current Provision (No of lanes)	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average			Total provision proposed (existing <i>plus</i> new)		
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Athletics Track</b>		Number of lanes			0.04						
England average = 0.05	<b>Corby</b>		8	0.13		-5	-5	-4	3	3	4
EM average = 0.06	<b>East Northants</b>		6	0.07		-2	-2	-2	4	4	4
	<b>Kettering</b>		8	0.09		-4	-4	-3	4	4	5
	<b>Wellingborough</b>		0	0.00		3	4	4	3	4	4

### Corby

- Corby has the highest level of provision across the North Northants area but it is suggested that this level been maintained.
- 

### East Northamptonshire

- East Northants has higher levels of provision than the regional average and assuming there is full community access of existing facilities this level should be maintained.

### Kettering

- Kettering has higher levels of provision than the regional average but it is proposed that the existing facilities this level should be maintained

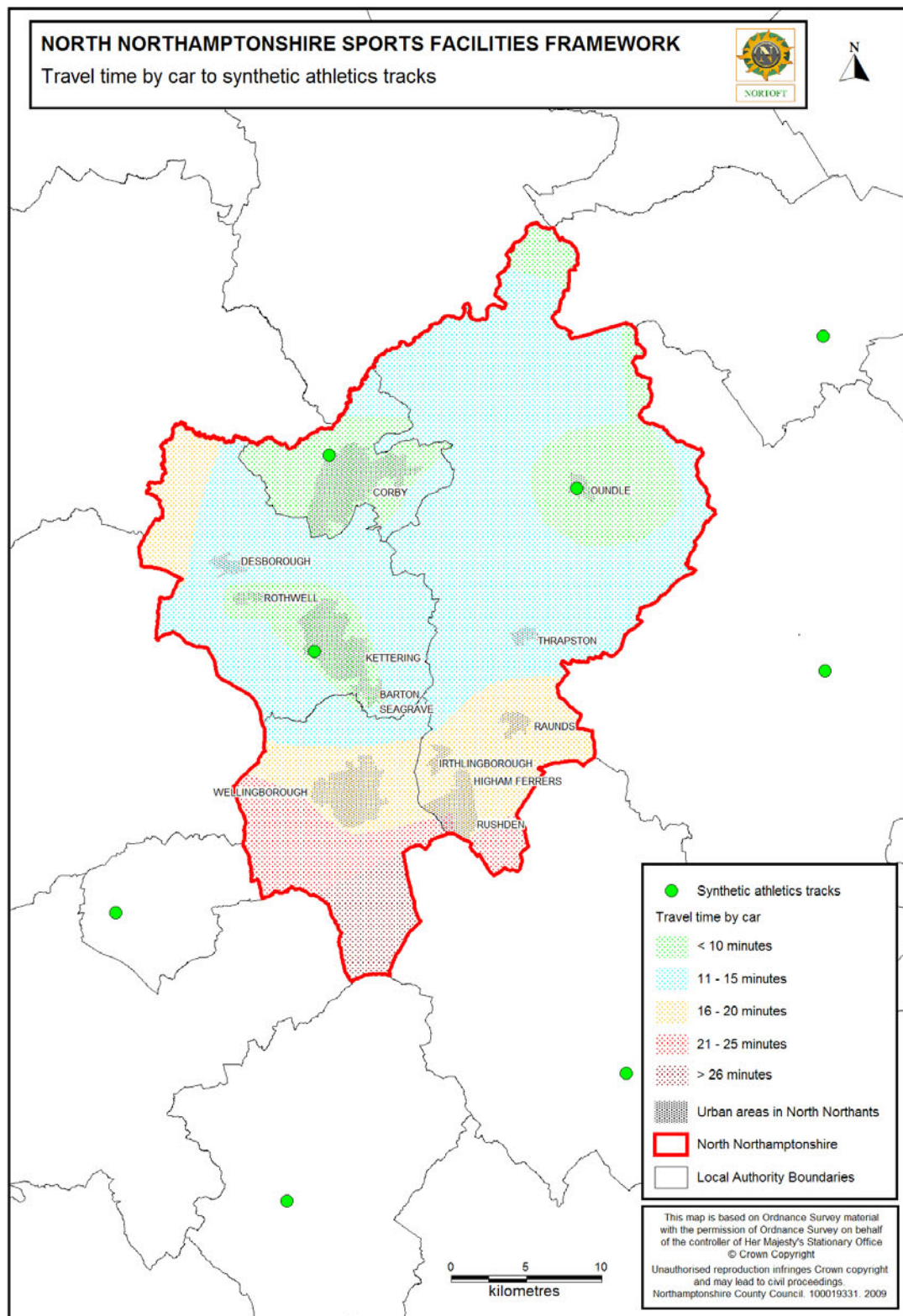
### Wellingborough

- Wellingborough currently no athletics provision and based on the projected population growth will not require any additional facilities before 2021. More detail on the proposals are set out in the 2021- 2026 section of this report.

## Travel time maps

381. Large parts of North Northants are served by the Corby track and can reach it or other facilities within a 15 min travel time.

Figure 47: Athletics tracks – travel time



## ONS benchmark authorities

382. The table below shows the level of athletics provision in those authorities considered “similar” to those in North Northamptonshire.
383. Other than for Wellingborough, all of the North Northamptonshire authorities have more provision for athletics than the national average of 0.05 lanes per 1000, and all of the existing tracks in the area are synthetic.

*Figure 48: Athletics tracks provision per 1000 - benchmarking*

Local Authority	Corby District	East Northamptonshire District	Kettering District	Wellingborough District
Number of lanes at synthetic tracks	8	6	8	0
Capacity Ratio Per 1000	0.15	0.08	0.10	0.00
<b>Local Authorities considered by ONS to be similar.</b>  <b>Number of lanes at synthetic tracks</b>  Track capacity ratio per 1000 (synthetic tracks only)	Redditch District <b>8</b>  0.10	South Kesteven District <b>8</b>  0.06	Rugby District <b>8</b>  0.09	Redditch District <b>8</b>  0.10
	Halton <b>6</b>  0.05	Huntingdonshire District <b>12</b>  0.08	East Northamptonshire District <b>6</b>  0.08	Rugby District <b>8</b>  0.09
	Tameside District <b>6</b>  0.03	South Beds <b>0</b>  0.00	St. Edmundsbury District <b>8</b>  0.08	Kettering District <b>8</b>  0.10
	Nuneaton and Bedworth District <b>8</b>  0.07	West Wilts <b>0</b>  0.00	West Wilts <b>0</b>  0.00	Northampton District <b>8</b>  0.04

N.B. The figures above are based on 2001 Census populations. The Nortoft Calculator uses population figures from 2009 for each local authority to calculate the provision per 1000.

## SECTION 10: HEALTH AND FITNESS

### Introduction

384. The provision of health and fitness facilities (typically including fitness stations) is potentially a key element in achieving increased participation in physical activity. The private sector plays a key role in facility provision and should be actively supported to continue to do so. Many companies are currently active in North Northants such as Bannatynes, David Lloyd, LA Fitness and Virgin Active, in addition to public provision at sites such as Lodge Park in Corby and Waendel Leisure Centre in Wellingborough.
385. There is no simple way of assessing participation in individual gym and fitness activities, nor the spaces they need. One method is however the analysis of the provision per 1000 people of the larger health and fitness facilities which have a number of 'stations'. (A station might be for example a single treadmill).
386. Health and fitness related activities make a major contribution to overall physical activity levels. The Active People Survey has a number of types of health and fitness, including 'gym', 'aerobics/keep fit', 'weight training' and 'conditioning activities'. When compared to all sports and activities, 'gym' comes out 4th most important behind recreational walking, cycling and swimming. 'Aerobics/keep fit' comes 9th out of all activities.
387. Health and fitness gyms attract all socio-economic groups, both males and females, and a wide spread of ages. However, there are more women, and most people are aged under 45 years. The private sector clubs most often provide for the social groups ABC1, whilst local authority facilities provide for a wider range, albeit with less facility investment. They are often best located with other sports facilities to help with the financial viability of pools and halls.
388. Taking account of the projections for population, there is anticipated to be an increase in the number of people aged 15-49 years by almost 120% up to 2021, and by 126% compared to 2007 by 2026. If health and fitness also increases its rate of participation by 1% per annum, this may mean an increase in demand of almost 135% by 2021, and demand of up to 150% of current by 2026. As a consequence, the number of facilities would need to increase by around 150%.

### Current provision

389. All local authority areas have health and fitness provision, with Kettering having the most number of stations and facilities. Corby has the least provision with only one suite at the new Corby East Midlands International Pool.

*Figure 49: Health & fitness stations –in North Northamptonshire  
(over 50 stations)*

	Number of Stations
<b>CORBY</b>	
CORBY EAST MIDLANDS INTERNATIONAL POOL	70
<b>EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</b>	
MANOR PARK LEISURE CENTRE(opening 2010)	100
<b>KETTERING</b>	
BALANCE HEALTH CLUB	80
BODYSHAPERS	62
LA FITNESS	85
<b>WELLINGBOROUGH</b>	
BANNATYNES HEALTH CLUB	98
WAENDEL LEISURE CENTRE	80

## Health and Fitness summary by local authority

### Corby

390. There is currently only one health and fitness suite with over 50 stations in Corby. It is a brand new facility within the new Corby East Midlands International Pool and opened in July 2009 with 70 stations. This gives a provision per thousand figure of 1.16 stations which is low compared to the East Midlands average of 2.85. Other centres in the area include Lodge Park Sports Centre which has a 40 station fitness centre and Triangle Health and Fitness, a small fitness centre with 28 stations.
391. Whilst this report focuses on health and fitness facilities with over 50 stations, it is suggested that future facilities in Corby are provided as a mix of small and large sites provided both by the commercial sector as well as the voluntary/public sector. Research from other areas with similar health and deprivation issues indicates that **small, local** provision is often a critical factor in encouraging participation in physical activity.
392. As part of the regeneration of the town there is an attempt to increase the number of professional and managerial jobs in the area. Those in these types of employment are more likely to use private sector provision and this is best located in high value/prestige locations such as the Tresham site or the new Sustainable Urban Extensions.

<b>Corby Health and Fitness Requirements- 206 stations by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> Tresham Institute 100+ stations linked to other facilities e.g. 6 court sports hall TBC- 2 or 3 smaller facilities to cater for “local” demand
<b>Other Recommendations</b> A mix of public, private and voluntary sector providers should be used. A mix of small and large facilities should be provided.

## East Northamptonshire

393. East Northamptonshire currently has only one fitness centre with over 50 stations at the Pemberton Leisure Centre in Rushden (80 stations), however this is likely to be replaced by a 100 station centre at the new Manor Park Leisure Centre. When this new centre is open the provision per thousand figure would be 1.66, also well below the East Midlands average of 2.85. There are also a further six smaller health and fitness centres which serve Oundle, Thrapston and Raunds as well as a further small fitness centre in Rushden.
394. The population of East Northants is concentrated largely in the south of the District and therefore it would seem appropriate to provide the majority of facilities in this area.

<b>East Northamptonshire Health and Fitness Requirements- 197 stations by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> 2 x 50 + station facilities located in Irthlingborough and Higham Ferrers 1 x 50 + station facility at Prince William School
<b>Other Recommendations</b> None

## Kettering

395. Kettering has three large fitness centres all of which are clubs that have registered membership access. The current provision per thousand is well above the East Midlands average (2.85) at 3.78 stations. There are also a further eight smaller health and fitness centres that serve Kettering, Desborough, Barton Seagrave and Burton Latimer. However, Kettering is due to experience rapid and substantial growth so demand will increase in line with this.

<b>Kettering Health and Fitness Requirements- 117 stations by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> 2 x 50 stations one ideally linked with other new sports provision at a separate Leisure Centre on the secondary school east of Kettering town with a formal community use agreement and one provided by private sector.
<b>Other Recommendations</b> None

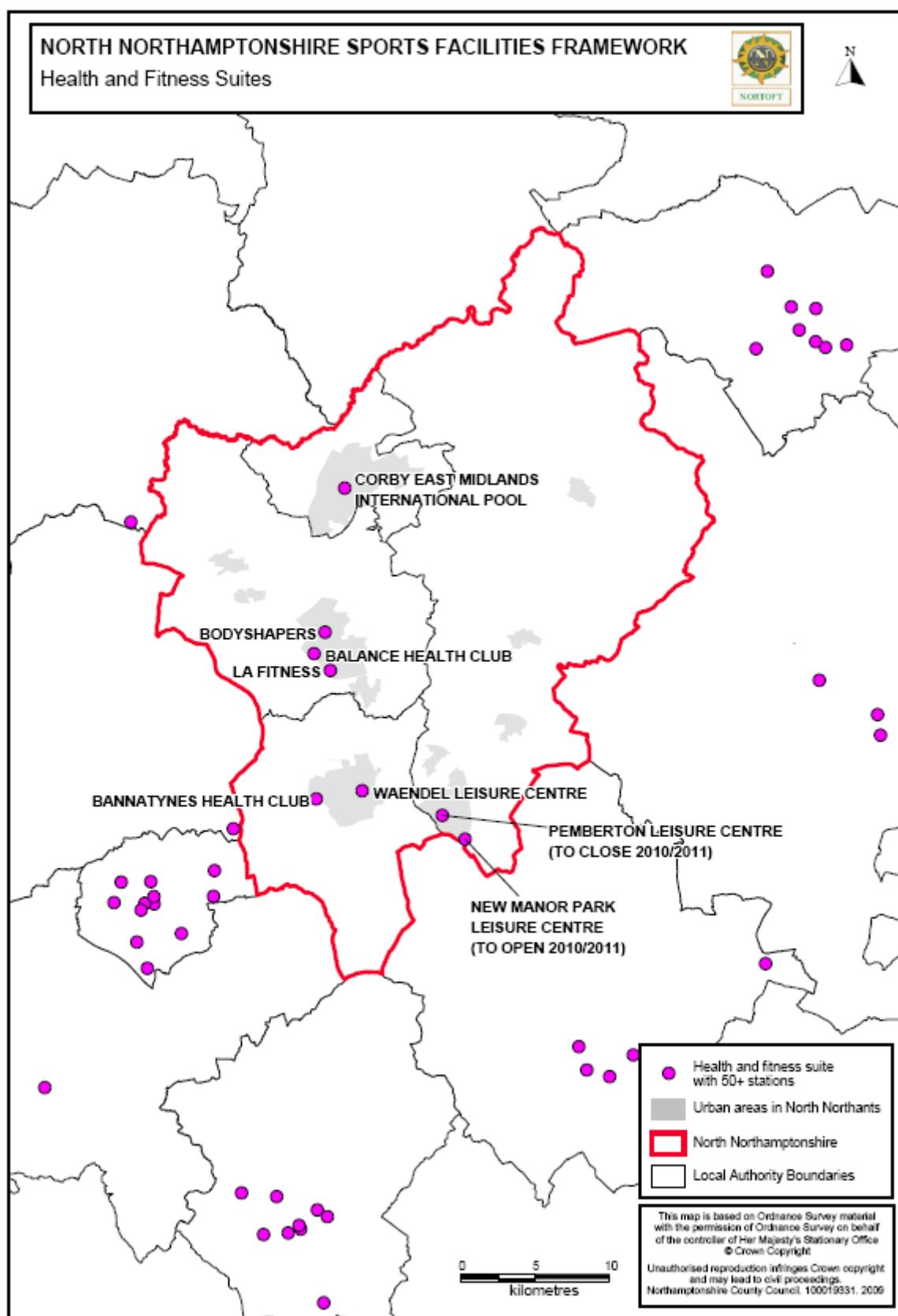
## Wellingborough

396. There are currently two large fitness centres in Wellingborough at the Waendel Leisure Centre and Bannatynes Health Club. There is also a 49 station centre at Club Diana and a 40 station centre at Redwell Leisure Centre. Provision per thousand is currently at 2.96, approximately level with the East Midlands average.

<b>Wellingborough Health and Fitness Requirements- 131 stations by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> Minimum of 100 stations to be provided at the new Wellingborough Sports Village
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Remaining provision to be market led



Figure 50: Health & fitness suites in North Northamptonshire  
(over 50 stations)



## Nortoft Calculator Findings by local authority (Health & Fitness Suites)

397. In order to determine appropriate levels of provision for health & fitness, the Nortoft Calculator has been used. This is because FPM modelling and the Sports Facilities Calculator are not available and/or not suitable for this type of facility.

Figure 51: Nortoft Calculator –health & fitness stations

Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021							
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768							
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384							
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848							
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528							
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	No of units	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average			Total provision proposed (existing <b>plus</b> new)		
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Health and Fitness</b>		No of stations			2.85						
England average	Corby		70	1.16		117	155	206	187	225	276
EM average = 2.85	East Northants		100	1.16		154	176	197	254	276	297
	Kettering		227	2.47		47	82	117	274	309	344
	Wellingborough		178	2.29		56	93	131	234	271	309

## Corby

- Corby has less than the East Midlands average in terms of number of stations per 1000 head of population. Calculations indicate that approx 200 additional stations will be required by 2021.

## East Northamptonshire

- East Northants has the same level of provision as Corby i.e. 1.16 stations per 1000 head of population. The regional average is 2.85 stations per 1000. It is therefore suggested that the District will require just under 200 additional stations by 2021.

## Kettering

- Kettering has the highest levels of provision within North Northants but it is still likely to require an additional 117 stations by 2021.

## Wellingborough

- Wellingborough has 2.29 stations per 1000 head of population but it is still likely to require an additional 131 stations by 2021.

## ONS benchmark authorities

398. The table below shows the levels of provision in those authorities considered “similar” to those in North Northamptonshire.

399. Health and Fitness provision varies widely across the comparator authorities, for Wellingborough the range is between 2.45 for Wellingborough itself up to 6.31 in Northampton.

*Figure 52: Health & fitness provision per 1000 - benchmarking*

Local Authority	Corby District	East Northamptonshire District	Kettering District	Wellingborough District
Number of stations (at suites with over 50)	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>178</b>
Capacity Ratio Per 1000	1.32	1.31	2.77	2.45
Local Authorities considered by ONS to be similar.  Number of stations ( at suites with over 50)  Capacity ratio per 1000	Redditch District <b>362</b> 4.59	South Kesteven District <b>285</b> 2.28	Rugby District <b>320</b> 3.66	Redditch District <b>362</b> 4.59
	Halton District <b>460</b> 3.89	Huntingdonshire District <b>387</b> 2.47	East Northamptonshire District <b>100</b> 1.31	Rugby District <b>320</b> 3.66
	Tameside District <b>864</b> 4.06	South Bedfordshire <b>288</b> 2.56	St. Edmundsbury District <b>449</b> 4.57	Kettering District <b>227</b> 2.77
	Nuneaton and Bedworth District <b>182</b> 1.53	West Wiltshire <b>153</b> 1.29	West Wiltshire <b>153</b> 1.29	Northampton District <b>1227</b> 6.31

N.B. The figures above are based on 2001 Census populations. The Nortoft Calculator uses population figures from 2009 for each local authority to calculate the provision per 1000.

## SECTION 11: GOLF DRIVING RANGES

### Introduction

400. Whilst golf is not one of the 10 sports this report is considering in detail, some information has been included about levels of provision which may help to shape future planning policies.
401. The following facts are taken from the Sport England Primary Offer Data Pack for Golf – June 2008:
- Only one in ten golfers are female, compared to 46% of those that take part in sport and active recreation;
  - 26% of golfers are retired compared to 13% of those that take part in any sport or active recreation;
  - 3% are from non-white backgrounds compared to 9% of all those that take part in some kind of sport and active recreation.
402. The traditional golf game is having problems in maintaining levels of participation, in remaining solvent and in attracting a wider section of the community. However golf is re-inventing itself in the municipal, voluntary and private sectors. It appears to have significant potential for increasing sports participation if new facilities, new approaches, a wider participation base, and a new image can be successfully delivered.
403. Golf provision is mainly considered in three different ways: standard 9 and 18 hole courses, Par 3 course and golf driving ranges. However other golf experiences are being developed elsewhere and could be copied in North Northamptonshire. These alternative and complimentary golf opportunities are aimed at driving up participation and widening access.
404. The largely non-traditional facilities include: Adventure Golf (a modern “cooler” form of miniature golf); conventional driving ranges as well as short “into-the-net” driving ranges, indoor miniature golf, virtual golf, pitch ‘n putt; short (3,6 and 9 hole) Par 3 courses; and temporary summer only facilities. Some of these facilities might use synthetic turf for tee and green areas thus reducing maintenance cost and extending the season. There are also large commercial multi-sport venues that focus on golf.
405. The English Golf Union (EGU) is leading the way on this re-invigoration of the sport, for example its key “Community Links” programme is designed to help clubs and facilities to actively engage with the community through work with individual schools, school sport partnerships, young people’s organisations and local authorities. A Community Links facility will offer taster sessions in local schools using “Tri-golf” (for the primary school aged), “Extreme Golf” for the secondary school

aged, and registration for their Junior Passport scheme (to help with links to clubs/facilities).

406. There are also a wider range of facilities that can be offered. These can be located at existing 18 hole courses (on spare land or by reducing an 18 hole course to say a 9 hole course); or be in parks, at leisure centres and/or school grounds.
407. Because the non-traditional game is still at an early stage of evolution, it is not appropriate to make specific reference in this report to its possible opportunities/needs. The standard courses are subject to market forces but do require appropriate local authority planning policies to enable their development. It is useful however to assess the potential need for driving ranges in more detail as these facilities are more 'urban' in nature and have can have larger impact locally. This report therefore focuses upon driving ranges only.
408. Golf facilities will be subject to market forces and are likely to be provided by the private sector. They should not be allocated formal standards of provision but planning policy should enable their development in appropriate locations.

## Current provision

409. Corby and Kettering and East Northants all have some driving range provision. The Blackthorn Wood Golf Complex is located just outside Corby town between Corby and Cottingham. The Pytchley Golf Lodge is located on the opposite side of the A14 from Kettering near to the village of Pytchley. The driving range adjacent to John White Golf Course in Rushden was, at the time of writing, up for sale. For the purposes of calculating demand it has been assumed that it will remain operational.

	Number of Bays
<b>CORBY</b>	
BLACKTHORN WOOD GOLF COMPLEX	26
<b>EAST NORTHANTS</b>	
JOHN WHITE GOLF CLUB	16
<b>KETTERING</b>	
THE PYTCHLEY GOLF LODGE	24

## Golf driving ranges summary by local authority

### Corby

410. Corby's driving range at the Blackthorn Wood Golf Complex has 26 bays which meets the need of the growing population at least up to 2021. This gives a provision per thousand figure of 0.43 bays; compared to the East Midlands and England averages of 0.24, this is almost double.

<b>Corby Driving Range Requirements-</b> no further provision required
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### East Northamptonshire

411. East Northamptonshire currently has one floodlit driving range with 16 bays and will have a requirement for a further 9 bays by 2021. Currently the nearest facilities are located in Corby and Kettering. Given the nature of the East Northants population, positive planning policies should be put in place to address its shortfall, either as a specialist stand-alone site or at a golf course.

<b>East Northamptonshire Driving Range Requirements-</b> 9 bays by 2021
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<b>Potential Locations</b>
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No specific location
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<b>Other Recommendations</b>
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A positive planning policy approach should be taken, within the Core Spatial Strategy, to enable the development of a golf driving range in a suitable location.
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### Kettering

412. The Pytchley Golf Lodge in Kettering has a 24 bay driving range which gives a provision per thousand figure of 0.26 bays, just above the East Midlands average of 0.24. This only meets the needs of the population until approximately 2012-13, with a further need for 5 bays at 2021. Consideration could be given to extending the current driving range or possibly adding a small range facility to an existing course.

<b>Kettering Driving Range Requirements-</b> 5 bays by 2021
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<b>Potential Locations-</b> linked to existing range or new facility at an existing course
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<b>Other Recommendations</b>
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None
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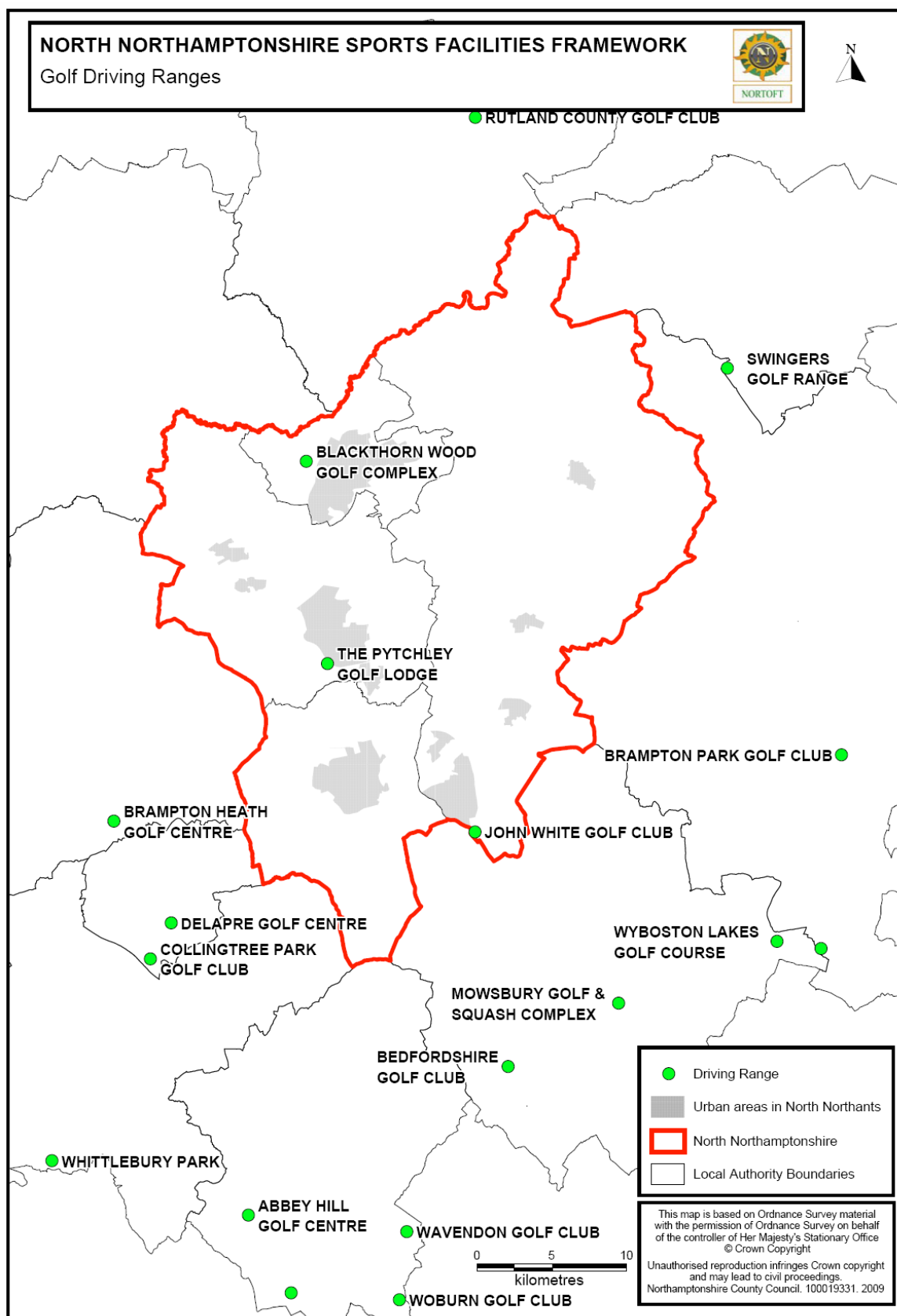


## Wellingborough

413. Wellingborough currently has no driving ranges and will have a requirement of 20 bays in 2011 rising to 26 in 2021. The nearest facilities are located in Northampton and Kettering, both within 20-30 minutes drive time.

<b>Wellingborough Driving Range Requirements- 26 bays by 2021</b>
<b>Potential Locations</b> No specific location
<b>Other Recommendations</b> A positive planning policy approach should be taken, within the Core Spatial Strategy, to enable the development of a golf driving range in a suitable location.

Figure 53: Golf driving ranges in North Northamptonshire



## Nortoft Calculator Results

414. In order to determine appropriate levels of provision for golf driving ranges, the Nortoft Calculator has been used. This is because FPM modelling and the Sports Facilities Calculator are not available and/or not suitable for this type of facility.

Figure 54: Nortoft calculator – Golf driving ranges

Assessment of change in facilities required - based on projected population increase											
	North Northants Projected Population										
	2009	2011	2016	2021							
Corby	60,100	65,688	78,859	96,768							
East Northants	86,100	89,046	96,942	104,384							
Kettering	91,900	96,288	108,284	120,848							
Wellingborough	77,700	82,212	95,123	108,528							
Facility type	Authority	Unit of measurement	No of units	Current units per 1000	EM provision per 1000	Change in provision required to bring levels in line with East Midlands average			Total provision proposed (existing <i>plus</i> new)		
						2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Golf</b>		No of bays			0.24						
<b>Driving ranges</b>	<b>Corby</b>		26	0.43		-10	-7	-3	16	19	23
England average = 0.24	<b>East Northants</b>		16	0.19		5	7	9	21	23	25
EM average = 0.24	<b>Kettering</b>		24	0.26		-1	2	5	23	26	29
	<b>Wellingborough</b>		0	0.00		20	23	26	20	23	26

## ONS benchmark authorities

415. The table below shows the levels of provision in those authorities considered “similar” to those in North Northamptonshire.

*Figure 55: Golf ranges provision per 1000 - benchmarking*

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Corby District</b>	<b>East Northamptonshire District</b>	<b>Kettering District</b>	<b>Wellingborough District</b>
Number of driving range bays	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>
Capacity Ratio Per 1000	0.43	0.19	0.26	0.00
<b>Local Authorities considered by ONS to be similar.</b>	Redditch District <b>12</b>	South Kesteven District <b>12</b>	Rugby District <b>105</b>	Redditch District <b>12</b>
	0.15	0.10	1.20	0.15
	Halton District <b>0</b>	Huntingdonshire District <b>108</b>	East Northamptonshire District <b>0</b>	Rugby District <b>105</b>
	0.00	0.69	0.0	1.20
	Tameside District <b>0</b>	South Bedfordshire <b>30</b>	St. Edmundsbury District <b>25</b>	Kettering District <b>24</b>
	0.00	0.27	0.25	0.29
Capacity ratio per 1000	Nuneaton and Bedworth District <b>20</b>	West Wiltshire <b>10</b>	West Wiltshire <b>10</b>	Northampton District <b>56</b>
	0.17	0.08	0.08	0.29

N.B. The figures above are based on 2001 Census populations. The Nortoft Calculator uses population figures from 2009 for each local authority to calculate the provision per 1000.

## SECTION 12: SPORT SPECIFIC FACILITY PROVISION

416. At the time of writing many national governing bodies were in the process of producing whole sport plans and few had clear aspirations in relation to facility requirements.
417. In conjunction with the County Sports Partnership 10 key sports were identified as being particularly important to the area, and consultation was undertaken with NGB officers to determine local priorities and aspirations.

### Archery

418. The following facts are taken from the Sport England Primary Offer Data Pack for Archery – June 2008.
- Less women participate in archery than men (30% are women);
  - 46% archery participants are aged 45 and over;
  - Participation rates are very similar between those with and without a limiting illness or disability. This is very unusual for a sport.
419. There are six clubs within North Northamptonshire. Four of the clubs have a good membership base with the 5<sup>th</sup> one working hard to catch up with the rest. The other club is a ladies only club which is very popular and is supported by CCP East Northamptonshire. The Rushden Inclusive Archery Club is based at the Pemberton Centre and caters for adults and young people with disabilities. The key clubs are Wellingborough Open Archery Club, Kettering Archers and Target Craft.
420. Kettering Archers currently shoot on land adjacent to Kettering Conference Centre and there may be an opportunity to explore creation of a performance centre by using a combination of these two facilities.
421. The majority of archers are social and take part in Club, Interclub and County competitions on a regular basis with probably 10% of the members shooting at Regional and National events. This is typical throughout the UK.
422. Two clubs in the area have Clubmark Status with two more working towards accreditation. This is higher than typical throughout the UK.
423. There is no club in the Corby area although two of the other clubs do have members from there.

424. The availability of facilities is an issue and 4 of the clubs are approaching capacity with their present indoor facilities.
425. The Grand National Archery Society (GNAS) has identified a need to develop a network of Centres of Excellence across the country. Currently the County and Regional Squads have to rely on the goodwill of local clubs to allow them to train at their venues thereby having to relinquish their own training sessions. The County Association would like to develop its own Centre of Excellence in the county which would incorporate both indoor and outdoor training facilities. The outdoor facilities would need to be a minimum of 160m in length and have sheltered shooting bays, similar to those found at a golf driving range. Indoor facilities would need to be approximately 30m by 30m but could be accommodated in an agricultural building with heating and lighting. Both would require storage facilities.
426. A key aspiration is for the provision of indoor facilities. Dedicated facilities would provide a venue for high level competition and training as well as catering for the wider community and school groups. At present most clubs use school facilities which have limited access. Currently supply is able to cater for demand but a lack of facilities will be an issue if the sport continues to grow.
427. There is a requirement for both Regional and National level training facilities within the Region.

<b>Archery Requirements-</b> one competition level facility with both indoor and outdoor ranges by 2021
<b>Potential Locations-</b> consider Moulton College
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Explore Kettering Conference Centre linked to Kettering Archers home ground.

## Athletics

428. There are two large Athletics clubs with facilities and a number of road running clubs in North Northamptonshire. The athletics clubs are based at Corby Athletics Stadium and Kettering Town Athletics Stadium. Corby Athletics Club shares its facilities with football clubs and this can cause problems with maintenance etc. Both sports are fairly strong but suffer from a lack of volunteers.
429. Current provision largely meets demands although there is a strong desire for an indoor facility. The ideal location would be in Corby.
430. The Whole Sport Plan is due to be completed shortly and will be available on the website. The plan involves getting clusters of local clubs to work together to increase funding streams, share facilities where possible, share coaching knowledge and expertise and generally work together to create one stronger entity. Northamptonshire does not have a Network formed yet.
431. UK Athletics has produced a facilities strategy for Athletics - Athletics Facilities Planning and Delivery (2007 – 12). The document identifies that:
- “A hierarchy of provision is required for competition and training purposes for both outdoor and indoor facilities”.*
432. As a rule of thumb there should be:
- One outdoor synthetic track (6 or 8 lanes) per 250,000 within 20 minutes drive (45 minutes in rural areas). Each County Athletics Association should have an eight lane track with covered spectator provision and floodlighting;
  - One indoor training centre per 500,000 people living within 30 minutes drive (45 minutes in rural areas).
433. There is a recognition that in some areas the criteria for a 6 or 8 lane track cannot be met, and therefore a smaller track perhaps a 300m oval, or a 200m J track<sup>2</sup> or a 110m straight may be provided. These ideally should be located on educational sites.
434. The UK Athletics strategy identifies a need for an indoor training facility to be developed in Northampton and for the track at Sixfields to be relocated.

<b>Athletics Requirements-</b> training facility e.g. 6 lane x 100m straight or J track by 2021
<b>Potential Locations</b> Wellingborough- located on a school site
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Full community use should be a requirement

<sup>2</sup> A J track is a 200m track in the shape of a J – or half a conventional 400m oval



## Badminton

435. There are two main badminton clubs in North Northamptonshire; Wellingborough Northampton Road and Kettering badminton clubs.
436. There is a performance “cell” based at Montague School in Kettering at which 40 of the strongest players in the County receive coaching.
437. Most clubs use school facilities largely because the lighting, wall colour and flooring in local authority leisure centres is unsuitable.
438. Kettering Conference Centre is used for schools competitions but is not suitable for club or high performance play. Similarly Redwell Leisure Centre is not used as the lighting is not appropriate.
439. There is a desire to see a 6 or 8 court specialist facility in the area. There was a proposal to link with Wren School in their bid for a new sports hall but the project has failed due to a lack of funds.
440. “Club Future” is Badminton England’s national strategy for club development; it was launched in 2007 and identifies a hierarchy of facilities based on its Club Accreditation programme. There are 6 levels to the structure:
- Affiliated Clubs
  - Foundation Clubs
  - Premier Clubs
  - Performance Centres
  - High Performance Centres
  - National Badminton Centre
441. The latter two are specialist facilities, with the National Badminton Centre being located in Milton Keynes. Northamptonshire as a County currently has four Premier Clubs in Kettering, Towcester, Wellingborough and Brixworth.
442. The County Development Officer states that the biggest issue facing the sport is being able to access affordable court time in existing school facilities or leisure centres. Costs are spiralling upwards and becoming prohibitive.

**Badminton Requirements-** 6 badminton court competition level sports hall by 2021

**Potential Locations-** New secondary school site in Corby

**Other Recommendations**

Facility needs to reflect National Governing Body requirements in terms of lighting and colour

## Cycling

443. Within cycling there are a number of different disciplines, all of which have differing facility needs.
444. British Cycling has identified two priority needs for track cycling. In order to build on the success of cyclists at World Championships and Olympic Games there is a need for more facilities to allow young people to learn to ride bikes and develop their cycling skills. The priorities are:
- Outdoor banked tracks
  - 1km closed road circuits
445. The governing body recommends that these should be available within 1 hour's drive of the population (size not stated). The nearest facilities of this type are available at Milton Keynes Bowl (road circuit) and Gosling Sports Park, Welwyn Garden City (banked track).
446. There are high levels of demand for recreational mountain biking. There are few facility requirements, but there are major issues with access. Mountain bike areas are restricted and not well suited to hosting race events, though there is a MTB section with Kettering cycle club. The nearest BMX facility is at Pineham in Milton Keynes, but this site is in need of redevelopment and is not in an ideal location. It also has problems with flooding.
447. British Cycling is keen to develop facilities in a multisport environment as some of the facilities such as the closed road circuit can be used by other sports. Examples of good practice include Shrewsbury Sports Village and Preston Sports Arena cycling facilities have become part of a multisport facility providing cross over training opportunities and exposure to a wider market. They are also very keen to develop facilities on school sites perhaps as part of a Building Schools for the Future project.
448. The number of cycling clubs registered with British Cycling in the North Northamptonshire area is fairly average. However there are no dedicated cycling facilities, not only in North Northamptonshire but in the whole county, which greatly limits development, particularly regards young people.
449. Northamptonshire is generally regarded as a desert for cycle sports despite there being two registered Go-Ride Clubs – Kettering Cycling Club and Corby Rockets (within Rockingham Forest Wheelers) who are struggling to deliver sessions to young people on grass recreation grounds. There is a big drop out after age 12 as there are no outlets to local race facilities. (Go Ride is the NGB youth development programme).
450. Adrenaline Alley at Corby is a highly popular indoor, nationally recognised beacon facility for BMX freestyle, but there is no local outlet into the Olympic sport of BMX. The nearest BMX race tracks are in Milton Keynes or Peterborough.

451. Lack of dedicated cycling facilities for clubs across all disciplines, limits the growth of the sport and in particular results in fewer young riders competing in cycling. The Go-Ride clubs in Kettering and Corby are struggling to retain young riders because of having no local race facility outlet.
452. There is some schools' work in primary schools around Kettering by the British Cycling Go-Ride Community Sports Coach (5 hrs pw), but schools have been slow to become engaged in the scheme.
453. Most schools can incorporate grass track (summer), cyclo-cross races (winter) and MTB skills into their PE curriculum.
454. Go-Ride school clubs could operate from school sites and small scaled race facilities could be built at any suitable school site. Road circuits could double up for use for Bike ability training as well as recreational riding for health and fitness.
455. Cycle speedway tends to be located around strong clubs and is popular in Coventry, Leicester and parts of the Black Country. If there were demand for a speedway track it would probably be most appropriately located adjacent to, or linked to, Adrenaline Alley.
456. Cyclo cross and time trialing do not require built facilities and therefore have not been considered in this document.
457. There is a purpose built BMX track at Kings Cliffe Community Sports project in East Northants.

<b>Cycling Requirements-</b> one closed road cycle track by 2021
<b>Potential Locations</b> Located on a school site somewhere within the North Northants area
<b>Other Recommendations</b> An innovative approach is required for BMX, cycling and related sports particularly in terms of the relationship to Adrenaline Alley. Opportunities to develop multi sport environments should be encouraged and explored further.

## Football

458. The Football Association has committed considerable resources to facility planning across the country. The following information comes from the “local area data sets” based on each local authority.
459. The following numbers of teams were registered in North Northamptonshire in 2007-2008 season.
- 156 Adult teams 11 v 11
  - 226 junior teams (U11 – U18) 11 v 11
  - 157 mini soccer teams (U7-U10) predominantly 7 v 7
460. From the data sheets it appears Kettering and Wellingborough have higher participation rates than Corby and East Northamptonshire. However with mini soccer being played at central venues and the data analysed at home grounds the mini soccer data may be distorted.
461. Small sided providers offering more flexible forms of football are leading to a decline in 11 v 11 weekend game. This situation is exacerbated by the state of many changing rooms, the lack of hot showers, and the fact that volunteers have to put up nets and clear grounds before kick off.
462. Corby Kingswood is one of the biggest clubs in the County with nearly 30 teams, followed by Earls Barton with 20 teams. Both these clubs have achieved The FA Charter Standard Community Clubs accreditation.
463. In addition the FA have prioritised changing facilities for both Corby Kingswood (Rockingham Triangle) and Earls Barton (The Grange) to both maintain and expand their current provision and Higham Town Colts need changing rooms.
464. To target adult provision there is a desperate need to renovate the facilities at Weekley Glebe Kettering which are in need of significant refurbishment. One option currently being considered for the remodelling of Buccleuch Academy (previously Montague School) involves the demolition of the changing rooms and the use of one of the pitches at Weekley Glebe. Should this proposal move forward the appropriate alternative pitch provision should be made.
465. The main facilities currently used in North Northamptonshire are a mixture of Local Authority sites, Parish Council, schools and club facilities. Including the Football Foundation funded facilities at Corby West Glebe, Finedon, Wilby, Grendon and Titchmarsh and the 2 x 3G pitches at Montsaye and Raunds.
466. Use of school sites is done on an ad hoc basis with individual clubs contacting local schools. The FA has produced guidance notes for BSF which they hope will enable local clubs to be able to utilise schools in a more coordinated approach however in reality there is rarely any spare capacity on school grass pitch sites.

<b>Football Requirements-</b> not possible to provide recommendations given the absence of playing pitch strategies at a local level.
<b>Potential Locations</b>
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Updated playing pitch strategies are required for Corby, East Northamptonshire and Kettering

## Gymnastics

467. There are 2 particularly strong clubs in the North Northamptonshire area:
- Kettering Olympic gymnastics club which caters for the whole gymnastics pathway from pre school to national level. The club has Clubmark and a strong volunteer base. It is based in an industrial unit which does not meet their needs in terms of space and has limited changing provision. The size and quality of the venue is a barrier to further development;
  - Corby Gymnastics club (and Corby Trampoline club) caters for pre school up to county/regional level. It attracts members from a wide geographic area including Rockingham and into Leicestershire. The gym club has Clubmark, is the larger of the 2 and has a long waiting list. Both clubs are based at Lodge Park Sport Centre. This causes a problem in that they have to get out and put away the equipment they need at every session and this takes approx 1 hour.
468. There are 2 clubs listed as operating in the East Northamptonshire. One based at Rushden and Diamonds, the other at the Pemberton Centre. Both have strong junior sections with waiting lists.
469. There is a need for a competition venue for artistic gymnastics somewhere in the County. At present the Phoenix Youth Centre in Daventry is used but this is not of a suitable quality and the site may be under threat from development.
470. There is a need for a training and competition venue for rhythmic gymnastics. There are currently four clubs in the East Midlands and three of these are in Northamptonshire and operate out of Weavers LC, Lings Forum and in the Billing area. There is no competition venue in the East Midlands and only two nationally one in Stoke and one in the South East. The British Champion is a member of the Nene Valley club but is forced to train at Lilleshall.
471. British Gymnastics Facilities Strategy aims to:
- Establish dedicated gymnastics centres (DGCs) for each county to encourage formation of county squads.
472. General criteria for the development of DGCs for each discipline include:
- 250,000 population and/or 30 minute drive (45 minutes in more rural areas);
  - Absence of competition facilities located within identified catchment, or
  - Clear evidence of latent / suppressed demand;
  - Rational and justifiable business / development plans.

473. Within the county, most of the clubs are based at sites where equipment has to be erected for each session. This means that time is limited and the range of equipment that can be offered, especially sprung floors is not available.
474. The County Association is very concerned about the long term sustainability of three clubs due to potential threats to their sites. Lings Forum Leisure Centre is the home to Lings Forum Gymnastics Club and Northampton Rhythmic Gymnastics Club, and with proposals to redevelop the leisure centre, the clubs are concerned as to whether they will have a long term future as a result.
475. In addition is the potential threat to Daventry Phoenix Gymnastics Club. The Club is located at the Phoenix Centre in Ashton Lane, Daventry. This site is part of a proposed new Learning Quarter for Daventry and as such the current site would be demolished and redeveloped. The Club currently attracts over 600 young people from a wide catchment area, as well as being the main competition venue for not only Northamptonshire, but also Leicestershire.
476. Kettering Borough Council has been working with Kettering Olympic Gymnastics Club regarding the potential of establishing a dedicated facility in the north of the town off the A6003. This would potentially provide a training and competition venue for both artistic and rhythmic gymnastics and could also cater for judo.

<b>Gymnastics Requirements-</b> Dedicated gymnastics centre incorporating rhythmic gymnastics competition venue by 2021
<b>Potential Locations-</b> to be determined by availability of land/funding and support from national governing body.
<b>Other Recommendations</b> Must meet NGB criteria in terms of size, layout etc

## Rugby Union

477. The National Facilities Strategy for Rugby Union in England (2007) has established a number of priorities for development. These priorities will:

- Increase the provision of integrated changing facilities that are child friendly and can sustain concurrent male and female activity at the club;
- Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches;
- Increase the number of Synthetic Turf Pitches (STP's);
- Improve the quality and quantity of Community Use floodlighting;
- Improve the quality and quantity of Competition floodlighting;
- Provide a safe environment for all rugby and sporting activity;
- Support central venues for player, coach, official and volunteer training;
- Support the development of multi-sports clubs;
- Other projects that assist clubs to become sustainable.

478. Based upon the above criteria the priorities for investment in East Midlands Rugby Union (EMRU) are as follows:

### Match Floodlights

Venue	MV Status	TYPE	Priority	Timescale
Kettering	3	New	2	2010/11

### Training Floodlights

Venue	MV Status	TYPE	Priority	Timescale
Oundle	2	New	2	2009/10
Rushden & Higham	2	New	4	2010/11

### STPs

Venue	MV Status	TYPE	Priority	Timescale
Kettering	3	Half size training	2	2012/3

### Changing Rooms

Venue	MV Status	TYPE	Priority	Timescale
Stewarts & Lloyds	2	Extend (2)	2	2009/10
Kettering	3	Refurb		
Oundle	2	Extend (2)	10	2011/12



## Pitch

Venue	MV Status	TYPE	Priority	Timescale
Stewarts & Lloyds	2	Extend (2)	2	2009/10
Kettering	3	Refurb		
Oundle	2	Extend (2)	10	2011/12

479. These priorities are based on an estimate that there will be an increase in participation in rugby of 6%. This will mean that there will be an additional half a million people taking part in the sport. The total cost of facilities required will be in the region of £605m over the next 10 years(RFU figures).
480. Rugby Union through Northampton Saints has a very strong development programme which goes across all levels from links with schools at the Steelback Centre through to the Academy which is based at Moulton College.
481. Despite the fact that not all local authorities have up to date playing pitch strategies it is possible to make an **estimate** of the requirements for rugby in the future. These figures should however be confirmed once up to date playing pitch strategies have been completed.
482. There are currently 7 community clubs based within North Northamptonshire:

	Local authority
Corby RFC	Corby
Kettering RFC	Kettering
Oundle RFC	East Northants
Rushden & Higham RUFC	East Northants
Stewarts & Lloyds RFC	Corby
Wellingborough O. G's RFC	Wellingborough
Wellingborough RFC	Wellingborough

483. Assuming that the number of clubs remains in proportion to the size of the population, and that demand increases by 1% per annum, there will be a need for the following:

Corby: 1 additional club site by 2016  
1 additional club site by 2026

East Northants: 1 additional club site by 2026

Kettering: 1 additional club sites by 2021

Wellingborough: 1 additional club site by 2021

The following table shows the calculations:

	Population (NCC forecast)				No of clubs in 2009	Clubs per 1000 in 2009	Number of clubs in future (with 1% pa growth in demand)		
	2009	2016	2021	2026			2016	2021	2026
Corby	60.1	73.7	86.4	97.9	2	30.05	3	3	4
East Northamptonshire	86.1	90.6	93.2	97.5	2	43.05	2	2	3
Kettering	91.9	101.2	107.9	114.3	1	45.95	2	3	3
Wellingborough	77.7	88.9	96.9	103.8	2	38.85	2	3	3

**Rugby Union Requirements-** support the development of Kettering Rugby Club to become a Model 3 Venue

**Potential Locations-** Kettering Rugby Club

**Other Recommendations**

Updated playing pitch strategies are required for Corby, East Northamptonshire and Kettering

## Squash

484. Consultation with national governing body officers has identified the following issues.
485. Levels of participation are increasing across the board. There is a clear strategy of increasing junior participation and this will lead to increased demand as youngsters get older. There are a number of grass roots programmes taking mini squash into schools.
486. Performance centres are where academies are held. These centres usually have a min of 4 courts (although there is no defined set of criteria for what constitutes a performance centre). Academy sessions would normally cater for up to 24 people young people from U 11s to U 19s , therefore a minimum of 4 courts is required.
487. The Layout of squash facilities is crucial. Traditionally it is a sport which has a strong social element so access to bar facilities is very important.
488. The most logical location for a possible performance centre would be club Diana in Wellingborough. It currently has 5 courts 4 of which are glass backed. Viewing is good and there are good ancillary facilities i.e. health and fitness facilities attached. The club has plans to apply for planning permission for a hotel/accommodation on site which would be considered highly desirable by the NGB as it would be easier to host players from across the region/country. This would therefore be the most sensible location for a performance centre.
489. The national governing body accreditation scheme grades clubs as either bronze, silver or gold. Gold standard clubs are those at which performance centres would normally be based and in the main these have 6 courts. Nationally there are no performance centres currently located in leisure centres.

<b>Squash Requirements-</b> 1 six court venue by 2021
<b>Potential Locations-</b> Club Diana Wellingborough
<b>Other Recommendations</b> None

## Volleyball

490. England Volleyball is in the process of finalising their draft facilities strategy. They have identified a number of levels at which the game is played, and these all have differing facility requirements. The aim of the strategy is to “achieve a network of facilities and venues which satisfy demand on both a geographical basis and respond to the needs of volleyball development.”
491. At a school level there are few specialist requirements beyond a space where a net can be erected. For community volleyball the priorities are for a hall with a minimum clear height of 7m with in a standard sports hall. Participation can be further encouraged if two full size courts in one venue are provided, which allows for use by varying standards of players or separately by men and women over different height nets.
492. England Volleyball is keen to develop a network of regional centres. These need to be for a minimum of two or preferably three courts being provided with spectator accommodation for competitions.
493. Above this is the need for facilities that can be used at a national level. These venues will need spectator seating for between 500 and 2500 people. A specific requirement has been identified for venues to host the National age group tournaments and festivals. These will require 4 courts. The other specific requirement is for National Performance training centres. These will have not only playing space, but also other back up facilities in terms of fitness monitoring, medical back-up, treatment area, lecture space, technical library, and preferably access to accommodation. These can be associated with English Institute for Sport hub sites e.g. Sheffield, Bath and Loughborough.
494. The National Training Centre has now been established at Kettering Conference Centre and an agreement has been reached between the local authority, the facility operators and Volleyball England which will run up to 2013. Beach volleyball is increasing in popularity in the UK and the proposals for the national training centre in Kettering also include the concept of an adjacent beach facility.

<b>Volleyball Requirements-</b> creation of a national training centre by 2021. No new facilities need to be built.
<b>Potential Locations-</b> Kettering Conference Centre
<b>Other Recommendations</b> None

## SECTION 13: FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS 2009-2021

*Figure 56: Summary of facility recommendations 2009 – 2021 by local authority*

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2009-2021 requirements	Potential Locations	Other Recommendations
<b>Sports Halls</b>			
Corby	21 courts	<p>New Kingswood School - 4 court sports hall</p> <p>New Maplefields School – 4 court sports hall</p> <p>New Tresham Institute- 6 court sports hall (linked to health and fitness, possibly private sector)</p> <p>New secondary school (location TBC)- 6 courts sports hall (suitable for badminton)</p>	<p>Formal community use agreements should be drawn up for use of the facilities on education sites.</p> <p>Facility should reflect National Governing Body requirements in terms of lighting and colour.</p>
East Northamptonshire	15 courts	<p>Prince William School – 4 court sports hall</p> <p>King John School (linked to Nene Centre) – 4 court sports hall</p> <p>Kings Cliffe Community Sports Project – 4 court sports hall</p>	<p>A further 3 courts still to be located.</p> <p>Formal community use agreement should be sought for facilities at Oundle School</p>
Kettering	3 courts	<p>Secondary School east of Kettering Town - 4 court sports hall</p>	<p>Link sports hall to other new sports provision at a separate Leisure Centre on school site and provide formal community use agreement.</p>

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2009-2021 requirements	Potential Locations	Other Recommendations
Wellingborough	20 courts	New Wellingborough Sports Village- 6 court sports hall  New Wellingborough East Secondary School- 4 court sports hall  Wrenn School- 4 court sports hall  Location TBC- 4-6 court sports hall	Formal community use agreements should be drawn up for use of the facilities on new school sites
<b>Swimming Pools</b>			
Corby	No requirement	N/A	None
East Northamptonshire	Minimal shortfall - no action required	N/A	None
Kettering	1571m <sup>2</sup> water space	Replacement/refurbishment of Kettering existing Town Centre facility 6(currently 325m <sup>2</sup> ).	A Facilities Planning Model run should be commissioned to help identify the best possible locations for future pool provision.
Wellingborough	576m <sup>2</sup> water space	New Wellingborough Sports Village- 6 lane x 25m pool plus teaching pool	None
<b>Synthetic Turf Pitches</b>			
Corby	No requirement	N/A	May need to review in the light of market trends
East Northamptonshire	No requirement	N/A	None
Kettering	3 full size pitches	Tresham Institute- full size 3G STP  Secondary School east of Kettering town Kettering – full size 3G STP	STP east of Kettering linked to other new sports provision at a separate Leisure Centre on the school site with a formal community use agreement

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2009-2021 requirements	Potential Locations	Other Recommendations
		Kettering Buccleuch Academy – full size 3G STP	
Wellingborough	2 full size pitches	New Wellingborough Sports Village- Full size 3G STP  New Stanton Cross secondary school - Full size sand based.	If developed as small sided pitches the surface should either be 3G or a mixture of sand and 3G
<b>Indoor Bowls</b>			
Corby	6 rink indoor bowls centre	Location TBC	Should be provided by the private sector
East Northamptonshire	No requirement	N/A	Short mat bowling should be made available in village halls and community centres
Kettering	No requirement	N/A	None
Wellingborough	No requirement	N/A	None
<b>Indoor Tennis</b>			
Corby	No requirement	N/A	None
East Northamptonshire	2 courts	Cover two existing courts or develop two new indoor courts linked to an existing accredited tennis club possibly Raunds Manor	None
Kettering	2 courts	Implementation not recommended due to majority of borough being within a 20 minute drive time of facilities at Corby and Market Harborough.	Requirement for a further 1 court post 2021 - therefore re-assess viability for a 3 court facility 2021 - 2026.

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2009-2021 requirements	Potential Locations	Other Recommendations
Wellingborough	2 courts	Implementation not recommended since there does not appear to be a strong enough tennis club (in sports development terms) in the area to support an indoor facility.	Implement 2 courts from 2009 – 2021 if sports development and market conditions are appropriate. Otherwise re-assess demand and sports development issues at 2021 to determine if viability of scheme has improved.
<b>Athletics Tracks</b>			
Corby	No requirement	N/A	None
East Northamptonshire	No requirement	N/A	None
Kettering	No requirement	N/A	None
Wellingborough	No full size athletics track provision required up to 2021. 1 x training facility e.g. 6 lane x 100m straight or J track	Located on a school site	Full community use should be a requirement
<b>Health and Fitness</b>			
Corby	206 stations	Tresham Institute 100+ stations linked to other facilities e.g. 6 court sports hall  TBC- 2 or 3 smaller facilities to cater for “local” demand.	A mix of public, private and voluntary sector providers should be used. A mix of small and large facilities should be provided.
East Northamptonshire	197 stations	2 x 50 + station facilities located in Irthlingborough and Higham Ferrers	None



Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2009-2021 requirements	Potential Locations	Other Recommendations
		1 x 50 + station facility at Prince William School	
Kettering	117 stations	2 x 50 stations one linked with other new sports provision at secondary school east of Kettering and one provided by private sector	None
Wellingborough	131 stations	Minimum of 100 stations to be provided at the new Wellingborough Leisure Village	Remaining provision to be market led
<b>Golf Driving Ranges</b>			
Corby	No requirement	N/A	None
East Northamptonshire	9 bays	No specific location	A positive planning policy approach should be taken, within the Core Spatial Strategy, to enable the development of a golf driving range in a suitable location.
Kettering	5 bays	Linked to existing range or new facility at an existing course	None
Wellingborough	26 bays	No specific location	A positive planning policy approach should be taken, within the Core Spatial Strategy, to enable the development of a golf driving range in a suitable location.
<b>Squash</b>			
1 six court venue by 2021	N/A	Club Diana, Wellingborough	
<b>Cycling</b>			

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2009-2021 requirements	Potential Locations	Other Recommendations
One closed road cycle track by 2021		Located on a school site somewhere within the North Northants area	An innovative approach is required for BMX, cycling and related sports particularly in terms of the relationship to Adrenaline Alley. Opportunities to develop multi sport environments should be encouraged and explored further.
<b>Gymnastics</b>			
Dedicated gymnastics centre incorporating rhythmic gymnastics competition venue	to be determined by availability of land/funding and support from national governing body	Possibility of a site in Kettering	Must meet NGB criteria in terms of size, layout etc

## **SECTION 14: FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS 2021-2026**

495. The bulk of the recommendations contained within this document relate to the period up to 2021.
496. The new dwelling figures for 2021-2031 are yet to be determined and because of the subsequent uncertainty about population growth the 2021-2026 facility recommendations have been set out separately below. In taking forward the post 2021 facility recommendations consideration should be given to the roles and relationships of centres and the potential cross-boundary impacts of facilities.

Figure 57: Facility recommendations 2021-2026

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2021-2026 requirements	Comments	Recommendation
<b>Sports Halls</b>			
Corby	6 courts	Community provision to support local needs in the form of 2 x 3 court halls	Develop two 3 court halls as community sports hall provision in locations where local need has been identified
East Northamptonshire	3 courts	Community provision to support rural needs. There is evidence of demand for a 3 court hall but 4 courts would provide greater flexibility	Develop a 4 court hall at a location to support local rural needs where identified, possibly the Nene Centre in Thrapston
Kettering	4 courts	Location tbc, linked to education provision if possible	Develop a 4 court hall linked to education provision if possible
Wellingborough	5 courts	TBC	
<b>Swimming Pools</b>			
Corby	394 m <sup>2</sup> water space	<p>This is roughly equivalent to a 6 lane x 25m pool but without a teaching pool. Given the moveable floor and separate teaching pool at the new 50m pool further teaching provision may not be justified.</p> <p>There is a need to see how the 50m pool is being used to be able to correctly identify demand for further provision. Further provision may be provided by the private sector.</p>	If new provision is to be developed it should be in the form of a 4-6 lane x 25m pool

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2021-2026 requirements	Comments	Recommendation
East Northamptonshire	126 m <sup>2</sup> water space	No further public provision is likely however development of smaller pools by the private sector should be supported where a market has been identified	Any new provision should be via the private sector
Kettering	168 m <sup>2</sup> water space	No further public provision is likely however development of smaller pools by the private sector should be supported where a market has been identified	Any new provision should be via the private sector
Wellingborough	168 m <sup>2</sup> water space	No further public provision is likely however development of smaller pools by the private sector should be supported where a market has been identified	Any new provision should be via the private sector
<b>Synthetic Turf Pitches</b>			
Corby	1 full size pitch	Current and planned facilities already meet this need beyond 2026	None
East Northamptonshire	1 full size pitch	1 full size 3G pitch to be located at in Higham area possibly at Ferrers School (this is in line with FA policy).	Secure community use would need to be confirmed.
Kettering	No requirement		None
Wellingborough	1 full size pitch or 3 small sided pitches	Either on a school or club site or potentially as part of a commercial facility.	If developed as small sided pitches surface should be either 3G or a mixture of both.

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2021-2026 requirements	Comments	Recommendation
<b>Indoor Bowls</b>			
Corby	1 rink	New indoor bowls centre to be developed up to 2021 so no justification for a further facility.	None if new indoor centre has been built
East Northamptonshire	1 rink	Insufficient enough demand for a new indoor centre	Continue to make short mat bowling available in village halls and community centres
Kettering	No requirement	Current facility meets the needs up to 2026	None
Wellingborough	No requirement	If local provision per 1000 fig is used there is a need for 4 rinks during this period.	Consideration should be given to planning a 6 rink centre as this size of facility is more viable in the long term.
<b>Indoor Tennis</b>			
Corby	No requirement	Existing tennis centre meets the needs beyond 2026	None
East Northamptonshire	No requirement	2 courts to be developed by 2021 so no further provision required	None
Kettering	1 court	2 courts required up to 2021 but implementation not recommended. 1 court required post 2021 therefore re-assess viability for a 3 court facility 2021 - 2026.	Potential for a 3 court facility which is demand from 2009 – 2021 plus demand from 2021 – 2026.
Wellingborough	No requirement	2 courts required up to 2021 but implementation not recommended Re-assess demand and sports development issues at 2021 to	Implement 2 courts from 2009 – 2021 if sports development and market conditions are appropriate.

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2021-2026 requirements	Comments	Recommendation
		determine if viability of scheme has improved.	
<b>Athletics Tracks</b>			
Corby	No requirement	Existing track caters for the needs beyond 2026	None
East Northamptonshire	No requirement	Existing track at Oundle School caters for the need up to 2021. With only one lane required up to 2026, there is no justification for a further track.	Confirm community use of the track at Oundle School
Kettering	No requirement	Existing track caters for needs up to 2026	None
Wellingborough	1 lane (total of 5 lanes between 2009 and 2026)	New athletics training facility to be developed up to 2021 with full 6 lane track to be developed post 2021.	6 lane synthetic athletics track at the Sports Village site
<b>Health and Fitness</b>			
Corby	50 stations	Any remaining requirement not developed up to 2021 should be added to the 2021-2026 requirements.	Development of health and fitness centres should be market led and are likely to be provided mainly by the private sector. A positive planning policy approach should support this.
East Northamptonshire	28 stations	Any remaining requirement not developed up to 2021 should be added to the 2021-2026 requirements.	Development of health and fitness centres should be market led and are likely to be provided mainly by the private sector. A positive planning policy approach should support this.
Kettering	37 stations	Any remaining requirement not developed up to 2021 should be	Development of health and fitness centres should be market led and are

Facility Type	Nortoft Calculator 2021-2026 requirements	Comments	Recommendation
		added to the 2021-2026 requirements.	likely to be provided mainly by the private sector. A positive planning policy approach should support this.
Wellingborough	37 stations	Any remaining requirement not developed up to 2021 should be added to the 2021-2026 requirements.	Development of health and fitness centres should be market led and are likely to be provided mainly by the private sector. A positive planning policy approach should support this.
<b>Golf Driving Ranges</b>			
Corby	1 bay	Limited shortfall- no action required	None
East Northamptonshire	2 bays	Limited shortfall- no action required	None
Kettering	3 bays	Limited shortfall- no action required	None
Wellingborough	3 bays	Limited shortfall- no action required	None

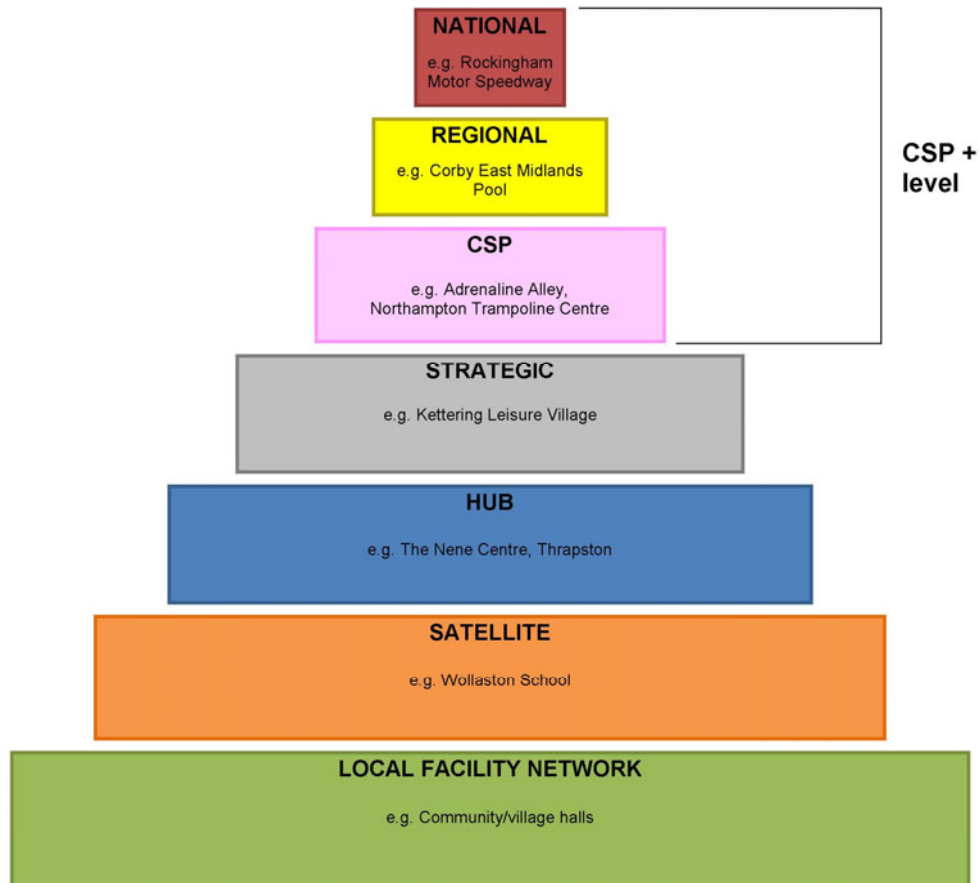


## **SECTION 15: COUNTY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP 'PLUS' LEVEL FACILITIES**

### **Rationale**

497. There are some sports facilities that service a market and/or operate at Northamptonshire level or above. Definitions of these facility types are listed in the “Facility types and hierarchy” part of Section 1 of this report. These higher level facilities are designated as “County Sports Partnership level PLUS or CSP level PLUS).”
498. Figure 59 identifies those existing facilities which should have this designation. These facilities should be afforded protection from negative development and referenced in the Core Spatial Strategies which will set a strategic framework to be interpreted at the local level through other documents within the Local Development Framework. Close working between relevant agencies will be required to consider the cross-boundary impacts of these facilities.
499. Figure 60 identifies those new facilities emerging from this report which will operate at CSP plus level and which may therefore be eligible for Section 106 contributions from major housing/employment developments across the County as a whole.

*Figure 58: County Sports Partnership 'Plus' Facility Hierarchy*



## CSP level Plus Criteria

500. The criteria for selecting “CSP level Plus” facilities is based on one or more of the following:

- The facility does or is very likely to attract a significant proportion of users who are from outside the local, District, North Northamptonshire or West Northamptonshire areas;
- The facility is, or is planned to be, a specialist facility recognised as being the CSP wide (or higher level) facility for a particular sport/activity;
- The facility plays, or could play, a very significant role in providing for both sport and wider community benefits (e.g. economic, inward investment, health or education);
- The facility caters for elite/high level training and competition.

## CSP level plus facilities role

501. Facilities identified on the “CSP Plus” list are of or will be of such a high level of strategic infrastructure importance that they should:
- be identified for strategic level developer contributions (s106/tariff/CIL etc) and as such draw down from all developer contributions across the County as a whole (for major housing and employment developments etc);
  - also be protected, for the proposed sports use, from other development and/or prioritised in strategic land use planning and masterplanning;
  - be referenced and recognised in County level policy and strategy documents. Reference will either be site specific (where the site already exists, or there are plans for its extension or a new site, have identified necessary land take, are well advanced and likely to be deliverable) or; reference will be for “County Plus” facilities that are known to be needed (e.g. through National Governing Bodies of Sport Whole Sport Plans) but for which no specific site has yet been identified. Relevant policies and strategies would include planning (e.g. CSS, DPDs, AAPs) and funding (e.g. developer contributions, infrastructure lists, POD / GAF type funding).
502. It is recommended that where the facilities are for community not-for-profit use, (as opposed to purely commercial activity) that these be given a high priority and be fully supported by the public sector for other funding. These would include Growth Area Funds, Lottery and other public funding sources.

*Figure 59: Existing facilities which should be designated "CSP plus"*

Facility	Comment	Reason
Kettering Conference Centre, Kettering	Includes Kettering Arena, Conference Centre and adjacent athletics track, STP, Tennis and Bowls centres, along with proposed facilities that might include: National Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Training Centre.	Only 12 court hall in the County and as such capable of hosting major sports events needing this space. National indoor and beach Volleyball training centres are a priority for the national governing body and negotiations are well underway.
Benham Sports Arena, Northampton	The wide mix of facilities on the site makes it suitable for designation	Second largest sports hall in the County (10 courts) and County Trampolining Centre
Nene Whitewater Centre, Northampton	Pumped, white water canoe slalom, rowing, rafting and other outdoor adventure. New climbing, ropes and artificial caving being considered.	Only pumped course in the region and only canoe slalom centre in the County. Key rowing facilities (river mile).
East Midlands International Pool, Corby	New 50m pool and associated water space.	Only 50m pool in County. Recognised as CSP Plus level by ASA.
Moulton College, Daventry	(Both Pitsford and Holcot sites) Equestrian Centre Fencing facilities (halls) Hockey STP Football and Rugby pitches	Equestrian, Hockey and Fencing 2012 Olympics training venue.
Adrenaline Alley	Caters for high level BMX and skating	Only facility of its kind in the East Midlands
County Table Tennis Centre	Currently based at Weavers Leisure Centre in Wellingborough.	
Silverstone Motor Racing Circuit	Commercial – therefore ineligible for Section 106 funding	Elite Performance and wider economic inward investment
Towcester Racecourse, South Northamptonshire	Commercial – therefore ineligible for Section 106 funding	Elite Performance and wider economic inward investment
Franklins Gardens, Northampton Saints RFC	Commercial – therefore ineligible for Section 106 funding	Elite Performance and wider economic inward investment
Northamptonshire County Cricket Ground, Northampton	Commercial – therefore ineligible for Section 106 funding	Elite Performance and wider economic inward investment
Rockingham Motor Speedway, Corby	Commercial – therefore ineligible for Section 106 funding	Elite Performance and wider economic inward investment

*Figure 60: Facilities emerging from framework which require CSP + designation*

Facility	Comment	Reason
County Badminton Centre	6 court hall based at new/refurbished secondary school site in Corby.	NGB has a desire to see a 6 or 8 court specialist facility in the area
County Squash Performance Centre	5 courts + Enhance Club Diana, Wellingborough. Existing site already has 5 courts.	NGB preferred site. <i>2/3 court facility also identified in West Northants Facilities Strategy.</i>
County or Regional Archery Centre	Outdoor facilities a minimum of 160m length, sheltered shooting bays. Indoor facilities - approx 30m by 30m, could be accommodated in an agricultural building with heating and lighting. Both would require storage facilities. Explore the possibility of Moulton College as a venue.	The County Association would like to develop its own Centre of Excellence which could incorporate both indoor and outdoor training facilities. <i>Also identified in West Northants Facilities Strategy.</i>
County Cycling Centre	Silverstone Motor Racing Circuit area has advanced proposals that are welcomed by the NGB.	NGB looking for: BMX Race track; 1 km closed road circuit, outdoor banked circuit); Mountain bike and cyclo cross circuit. <i>Also identified in West Northants Facilities Strategy</i>
County Dedicated Gymnastics centre	Site should incorporate competition venue for rhythmic gymnastics.  Location TBC but should be linked to strong existing club.	The County Association is very concerned about the long term sustainability of three clubs due to potential threats to their sites.
National volleyball training centre	Would be based in existing facility at Kettering Conference Centre.	Strong support from NGB and facility operator. <i>Beach volleyball training facility also identified in West Northants Facilities Strategy.</i>

*Figure 61: Additional “CSP wide” facilities identified by West Northants Strategy*

Facility	Comment	Reason
County Indoor athletics training facility	Location TBA	NGB has an aspiration to see one indoor centre per 450,000 people
Centre for modern pentathlon training	Explore possibility of using Moulton College	NBG aspiration

503. The Nene Outdoor Adventure Park is a multi-centre concept emerging from other work being undertaken in the County. It would encompass the proposed developments at the Waterside location in Northampton, the existing Nene White Water Centre, proposed Wellingborough outdoor adventure site, Frontier Camp (Irthlingborough), Irchester Country Park and Stanwick Lakes. Should this concept be developed further it would require CSP+ designation.

## Outdoor and Indoor Adventure, Countryside and Water Sports

### Introduction

504. There is a strong and continuing rise in most countryside, outdoor and indoor adventure sports such as canoeing, triathlon, skateboarding, BMX, mountain biking, trail walking, mountaineering, orienteering, adventure ropes courses, winter sports and open water swimming.
505. There is evidence (e.g. from NGB's memberships, Henley Centre for Forecasting's Foresight Centre and Active People) showing both the current and future markets for these sports are increasing. The market interest is in part driven by the links to perceived independent and environmentally sensitive lifestyles, rather than sport for its own sake, or for competition.
506. Participants often wish to undertake a variety of such sports, sometimes at the same location, and have the experience linked to a quality green environment. There is a strong link, and mutual interdependence between these sports and active lifestyles and Green Infrastructure, parks and open spaces.
507. The sports play an increasingly significant role in supporting the local economy through visits from tourists, day visitors as well as local communities. The jobs supported by the activities involved are often skilled jobs such as coaches, administrators, marketing and management.
508. A flexible approach should be taken for planning purposes, as facilities can often include a mix of each of these categories, as well as having a need for other related land uses (visitor attractions, cafe, restaurant, specialist retail, site management offices, meeting rooms etc).
509. Location for such facilities may be:
- specific, for example where it is best to expand, intensify or change the sport; activity mix on an existing facility;
  - environment linked, such as water sports on appropriate rivers or lakes;
  - area linked such as the Nene Valley;
  - in a general geographical area.

### Indoor Adventure Centres

510. Adrenaline Alley in Corby is identified as a CSP + facility and the proposals for the further development of the centre are fully endorsed by this facility framework.
511. Other proposals for indoor adventure facilities, which may have a mix of indoor and outdoor facilities, should be positively supported through the planning system,

especially where they can be located in main urban centres and be accessible to a wide section of the community, but particularly young people. The Waterside development in Northampton may offer the opportunity for such a facility.

512. Employment areas, community centres and educational establishments may all offer suitable locations for these types of facilities. Whilst normal planning policies may need to be applied, a flexible approach to land use designations should be considered. For example, facilities may be able to be planned into new employment land, or use redundant employment land that is unlikely to be used for the desired B-class employment. This is partially in recognition of the non-B class jobs these facilities create; this is in line with emerging SELA proposals. An innovative approach to some facilities may see them mixing well with retail centres (such as climbing walls).
513. In recognition of the often rapidly changing mix of activities at such centres, flexibility in any planning permissions should be considered. Some facilities with outdoor elements (such as climbing walls) may also need floodlighting to provide evening activity and enhance viability.

## Outdoor Adventure Sports

514. The Nene Whitewater Centre is identified as a CSP + facility and should be protected for its current uses. The expansion or intensification of the activities should also be supported. Some ancillary facilities may be appropriate such as a riverside cafe, so as to increase the wider viability of the operation and attract users and spectators to the site. Examples of intensification could include, ropes courses, artificial caving system, zip wires and a camping site.
515. There is a proposal for a Nene Outdoor Adventure Park, which would be part of any future Regional Park, should this be developed. It is based on a collection of adventure sports and outdoor activities in the wider Nene Valley Area.
516. A detailed feasibility plan for the Park should be undertaken, but the following facilities (not exclusive) may be considered as part of the potential proposed multi-centre mix:
  - Northampton Waterside and Becketts Park (canoeing, walking, cycling, skateboarding, boating);
  - Billing Aquadrome and area (canoeing, sailing, boating, sub aqua, fishing, camping);
  - Grendon Lakes (water skiing);
  - Nene Whitewater Centre;
  - potential Wellingborough outdoor adventure centre west of Little Irchester (cycling, BMX, climbing, caving, open water swimming, orienteering);
  - Frontier Camp at Irthlingborough (multi activity adventurous and water sports centre);



- Irchester Country Park (ropes course and other countryside activities);
  - Chester House Farm (walking, boating, access to river Nene and cycleway, potential walkers/cyclists hostel accommodation);
  - Stanwick Lakes (possibly in conjunction with The Frontier Centre) providing rowing, kayaking, sailing and windsurfing.
  - Fineshade Lodge (off road biking, orienteering and other forest sports activities);
  - Salcey Forest (off road biking, horse riding, orienteering and other forest sports activities);
  - Nene Valley Way (strategic walking route);
  - Linked integrated system of canoe portage and camping sites along the length of the river;
  - Enhancement of facilities for boating (moorings and services, chandleries, and at least two new large marinas with ancillary development, one at Northampton and one near Wellingborough).
517. The new operators of the Frontier Centre in Irthingborough have plans to develop the facility to significantly increase opportunities for water based activities. Early plans include a bridge over the Nene river to provide access to Stanwick Lakes and facilities long/canal boats. There are also **very early concept** plans for a national indoor climbing centre. These developments would link to the River Nene Regional Park via the Greenway walking and cycling network.
518. A County Cycling Centre at the Silverstone Motor Racing Circuit area has an advanced proposal that is welcomed by the NGB British Cycling. The NGB is looking for: a BMX Race track; 1 km closed road circuit, outdoor banked circuit; mountain bike and cyclo cross circuits. This would be a County Plus facility.
519. The County Archery Association is in need of a County or Regional Archery Centre, and would like to develop its own Centre of Excellence in the county which would incorporate both indoor and outdoor training facilities.
520. One key element for cycling and walking is the provision of safe, quality, accessible and linked routes. Urban areas should have quality access to, and along, major Green Infrastructure Corridors through continuous off-the-road cycling and walking routes with appropriate surfaces. Cycling paths would ideally need to be 3m wide in order for them to serve as quality routes for those needing to use pushchairs and wheelchairs.
521. The County has a large number of horse riders and an improvement of the bridleway network is needed. In particular there is a need to link the bridleway systems, provide safe crossings of major roads and ensure the master planning of major new roads to provide high quality, accessible crossings (which can also be used by walkers and cyclists).
522. Existing long distance walking, cycling and equestrian routes should be protected long term and opportunities for expansion and enhancement should be eligible for funding via developer contributions.

523. Existing watersports activities such as canoeing, sailing and waterskiing are limited in the County and these sites need to be protected against any use that might impede their current use.

## SECTION 16: REVIEW AND MONITORING

524. The facility proposals should be kept under review to enable them to be updated in the light of:
- Changes to housing allocations and progress in the house building programme;
  - Developments as a result of BSF- there are still a number of undetermined options which have the potential to impact significantly on the network of facilities for community sport and physical activity;
  - NGB whole sport plans/business plans- account should be taken of any emerging sports facility proposals;
  - Emerging local facility strategies;
  - Revised playing pitch strategies
  - Closure/opening of new facilities and the impact on provision.
525. The recommendations emerging from this document have been used to inform the POD and subsequent developer contributions SPD for North Northamptonshire
526. An update of this Framework should take place in line with reviews of relevant planning documents and should utilise the methodologies used in the framework.