



Northumberland

Northumberland County Council

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

SPORTS FACILITY STRATEGY



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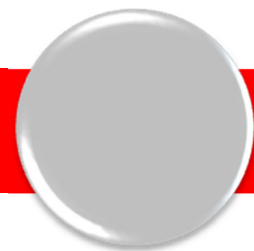
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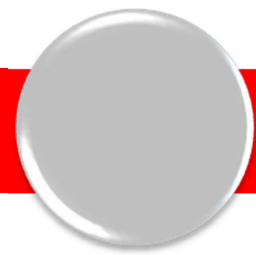
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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

TERMS	EXPLANATION
ASSESSING NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES GUIDANCE (ANOG)	The Sport England guidance on preparing and developing needs assessments for built sports facilities, which provides the evidence to support a Local Plan.
COMMUNITY USE	A facility has community use if it is open for use by sports clubs/community groups.
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE PAY AND PLAY USE	A facility has community accessible pay and play use if it is open for use by individuals in the community.
COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT (CUA)	A CUA is a formal agreement between an education facility and a local authority (and sometimes also Sport England) for community use of a sports facility on an education site out of school hours
FACILITY PLANNING MODEL (FPM)	The FPM is a facility modelling toolkit, developed by Sport England to inform the current and future need for provision of sports halls, swimming pools and all-weather pitches.
NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF)	The national planning policy framework which sets out guidance for plan making and the consideration of planning applications.
SPORTS FACILITY CALCULATOR (SFC)	The SFC is a facility modelling toolkit, developed by Sport England to calculate the future need for provision of sports halls, swimming pools and indoor bowls, based on a specified population increase in an identified location.
STRATEGIC SIZE	Strategic size refers to either a sports hall of minimum 3 badminton courts, or a pool of a minimum 160 sqm (as per Sport England Guidance).



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Northumberland is England's northern most county, stretching from the Scottish Border in the north and west to Tyneside and County Durham in the south. The County is flanked by Cumbria, the Cheviot Hills and North Pennines to the west and by the North Sea to the east.
- 1.2. The County, the largest unitary authority by geographic coverage, is also the most sparsely populated in England with only 63 people per square kilometre. Home to around 318,000 people, Northumberland remains largely rural, with its largest settlements having no more than 40,000 residents. Northumberland has the largest area of Green Belt, of any Local Planning Authority.
- 1.3. The south east of the County is the most densely populated, with the three largest towns, Blyth, Cramlington and Ashington. These act as the main employment and service centres for much of the area. Beyond the south east, the County's main settlements are located along the Tyne Valley corridor, and on a north-south axis across the lowland coastal strip; both areas incorporate main roads and rail lines. Morpeth, Hexham, Prudhoe, Berwick-upon Tweed and Alnwick are the main market towns, all of which have large rural hinterlands. The predominantly rural areas of the County are interspersed with smaller towns, some with their own hinterlands, as well as numerous villages, hamlets and isolated farmsteads.
- 1.4. Areas in the south of the County have the strongest relationship with the Tyne and Wear conurbation. Tyneside attracts people from Northumberland, who travel into the area for work, education, cultural activity and shopping. To a lesser extent, areas in the north and west of the County have relationships with the Scottish Borders, Edinburgh and the Lothians and Carlisle.
- 1.5. The County is divided into four service areas for the purpose of strategic planning; each has a distinct profile which are detailed in this strategy in Section 3.

CONTEXT

- 1.6. Northumberland County Council (NCC) is in the process of preparing a new Local Plan to guide new development and land use up to 2031. This Indoor Facilities Strategy is one of two related studies (a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) being the other) comprising the evidence base for the protection of existing provision and the allocation of new open space, sport and recreational facilities within the Local Plan over this timeframe.
- 1.7. The Council undertook a local needs assessment and audit of playing pitches, open space, sport and recreation facilities across the County in 2011, in accordance with the requirements of Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 (Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation, July 2002) and its Companion Guide (September 2002); this has provided the evidence base for policy making and implementation in relation to these subject areas in the existing Local Plan, known as the Local Development Framework (LDF).



- 1.8. The LDF comprises of the Core Strategy, the Development Policy DPD, and the Allocations DPD.
- 1.9. The Core Strategy identifies existing recreational facilities and amenity open spaces as critically important resources for the County.
- 1.10. This is reflected in Strategic Objective 12 of the Northumberland Core Strategy which sets out to “...**Leisure, tourism, cultural and community activities are important elements of a vibrant mix particularly within town centres. Many types of leisure-time activity are well catered for within Northumberland’s centres, but evidence and opinion shows the need to ensure their retention and encourage further diversification.**”
- 1.11. The 2011 studies are now out of date and a new local needs assessment and audit of open space, sport and recreation facilities which is in accordance with the NPPF, NPPG and Sport England’s guidance is needed to support the preparation of a new Local Plan.
- 1.12. Overall, this study will help the Council meet a key priority set out in the Council’s Corporate Plan 2013-17; “**We will encourage lifestyles that result in low levels of obesity – with individuals actively participating in sport, leisure and cultural activities and following healthy diets**”. The Local Plan is a key mechanism for delivering this priority.

STRATEGY PURPOSE

- 1.13. The purpose of the Indoor Sports Facility Strategy is to provide a robust future action plan for indoor sports facilities in Northumberland and to support the preparation of the Local Plan. The work will enable the Council to adopt a clear vision and priorities for the future (based on local need) and a direction for the allocation of resources. The study will help to ensure that the current and future demand for sports and recreation facilities are planned for holistically, and that the needs of the current and growing population of Northumberland can be fully addressed.
- 1.14. The study will:
- **Provide evidence to justify the provision of new open space, sport and recreation provision or enhancement of existing;**
 - **Help assess the merits of planning applications and guide planning obligations;**
 - **Help direct expenditure of any future Community Infrastructure levy monies and Section 106 planning contributions for sport;**
 - **Support the development of sport and physical activity in the County by ensuring a high-quality facility infrastructure exists; and**
 - **Support the strategic case for applications to funding organisations.**



1.15. Key elements addressed by the Indoor Sports Facility Strategy include:

- **QUANTITY** - Are there enough facilities with sufficient capacity to meet needs up to 2031 (in line with the Northumberland Local Plan)
- **QUALITY** - Are the facilities fit for purpose for the users? Do the facilities provide the level of play needed, and does the quality meet the users' and NGBs' expectations?
- **ACCESSIBILITY** - Are the facilities in the right physical location for users?
- **AVAILABILITY** - Are the facilities available at the right time to users who want to use them?

STRATEGY SCOPE

1.16. In terms of geographical scope, the assessment covers the whole County of Northumberland, including that within the Northumberland National Park. In terms of provision, the assessment includes the following:

- **Indoor sports facilities**
 - For indoor sports, the audit considers indoor swimming pools, indoor tennis facilities, sports halls and appropriate school and local community facilities and health and fitness facilities. Indoor sports and facilities which are relevant to the County including but not limited to: indoor sports hall sports; swimming; health and fitness; squash; bowls; tennis and athletics.

STRATEGY STRUCTURE

1.17. The Strategy has been developed using the Sport England Assessing Needs and Opportunities guidance (ANOG), published in 2014; the Strategy structure reflects the stages set out in this guidance.



COUNTY PROFILE

Table 1.1: Summary of Northumberland's Demographic Characteristics

RELEVANT LOCAL FACTORS	KEY ISSUE	NARRATIVE ON KEY ISSUE
CURRENT POPULATION 2017 (2012 SNPP ONS)	319,600 (2017)	Population growing
FUTURE POPULATION BY 2031 (2012 SNPP ONS)	324,195 Increasing older population	Population growth of 1.44% by 2031. The largest growth will be in those aged 65 and over which is estimated to increase by 52.6%, those aged 70-79 is projected to increase by 48.8%. There is a notable 25.4% decrease in the 20-64 age group (-22,130)
NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	1,176 new homes per annum until 2031, total of 23,520	Need identified as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northumberland's population is growing. • People are living much longer, with increasing life expectancy. • Household sizes are falling. • Helping to maintain a local labour supply and support economic growth.
KEY PROFILE/DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS - CURRENT	Predominantly Rural District Low level of deprivation Excess weight an issue for both adults and children. Overall activity levels tend to show a decline and are below the regional and national averages.	<p>Northumberland is England's northern most county, stretching from the Scottish Border in the north and west to Tyneside and County Durham in the south. The County is flanked by Cumbria, the Cheviot Hills and North Pennines to the west and by the North Sea to the east.</p> <p>The County, the largest unitary authority by geographic coverage, is also predominantly rural and is the most sparsely populated in England with only 63 people per square kilometre. Home to around 318,000 people, Northumberland remains largely rural, with its largest settlements having no more than 40,000 residents. Northumberland has the largest area of Green Belt, of any Local Planning Authority.</p> <p>The south east of the County is the most densely populated, with the three largest towns, Blyth, Cramlington and Ashington. These act as the main employment and service centres for much of the area. Beyond the south east, the County's main settlements are located along the Tyne Valley corridor, and on a north-south axis across the lowland coastal strip; both areas incorporate main roads and rail lines. Morpeth, Hexham, Prudhoe, Berwick-upon Tweed and Alnwick are the main market towns, all of which have large rural hinterlands.</p>



RELEVANT LOCAL FACTORS	KEY ISSUE	NARRATIVE ON KEY ISSUE
		<p>The predominantly rural areas of the County are interspersed with smaller towns, some with their own hinterlands, as well as numerous villages, hamlets and isolated farmsteads.</p> <p>The BME profile of the County ranges by service area from 97.8 - 99.1% white British.</p> <p>Overall low level of deprivation, but some pockets, particularly in the South East.</p> <p>There are currently a range of between 67.1% and 71.1% of people who are economically active depending on service area.</p> <p>A range of between 2.8% - 6.3% by service area of the economically active are unemployed which is significantly higher in the South East than the national rate 5.7%.</p> <p>Excess weight and obesity are an issue for the County.</p> <p>The number of adults with excess weight in Northumberland (69.5%) is higher than the England average (64.6%).</p> <p>Excess Weight in 10 and 11 year olds in Northumberland (19.8%) is significantly higher than England (19.1%).</p> <p>SE APS 10 Q2 once a week participation levels are slightly below regional and national averages.</p> <p>SE APS 10 Q2 3 x week participation levels are significantly lower than the regional and national averages.</p> <p>The implications of the Market Segmentation analysis are that there is need to ensure provision of quality facilities for keep fit/gym, swimming and football with opportunities to participate in cycling, running and golf; this will address participation needs of the most dominant segments, Tim, Philip, Ralph and Phyllis, Chloe and Elaine.</p>
KEY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS - FUTURE	<p>Increasing population</p> <p>Ageing population</p>	<p>The population is due to rise from 319,600 in 2017 to 324,195 in 2031.</p>



RELEVANT LOCAL FACTORS	KEY ISSUE	NARRATIVE ON KEY ISSUE
	Latent demand for sport reducing	<p>An ageing population by 2031, 31% of the population of Northumberland is projected to be over 65 (compared to 25% in the North East and 22% in England)</p> <p>Projections 2012 to 2031 show a significant increase in the over 65 age group, an increase of 52.6%.</p> <p>During the same period the 70 to 79 age group is also predicted to increase by 48.8%, with the 80 to 89 age group increasing by 90%, and the 90+ age group experiencing the most significant increase, 162%.</p> <p>Those aged 60 and over which is estimated to reach 38,200 an increase of 37%, those aged 75 and over is projected to increase by 83% by 2035</p> <p>Gradual decline over the last 10 years of people participating in sport and physical activity</p>
HEALTH (2016 HEALTH PROFILE)	<p>Life expectancy for women is significantly lower than the England average at 82.5 years compared to 83.2 years. Life expectancy for men is 79.4 years in line with the England average of 79.5 years.</p> <p>Life expectancy is variable across the County reaching a low as 51 years for men in the South East (Director of Public Health report 2015)</p> <p>Excess weight in adults is high and worse than the England average at 69.5% compared with 64.6%.</p> <p>Children in year 6 classed as obese are worse than the England average (19.1%), with 19.8% classed as obese. This has risen since the 2015 report from 17.7%.</p> <p>GCSE attainment is 56.8% worse than the England average of 57.3%.</p>	<p>The health of people in Northumberland is generally slightly worse than the England average.</p>



RELEVANT LOCAL FACTORS	KEY ISSUE	NARRATIVE ON KEY ISSUE
	Early death from heart disease and stroke, 69.5%, is better than the England average, 75.7%. Whilst recorded levels of diabetes are 7.3% significantly worse than the average of 6.4%.	
PARTICIPATION	<p>Active Lives Year 1 data for Northumberland highlights the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 76.5% of Northumberland's residents aged 16+ took part in sport and physical activity at least twice in the 28 days prior to the survey being undertaken• 24.4% of the Northumberland population is inactive – i.e. they had undertaken less than 30 minutes' physical activity or sport in the last 28 days• 12.2% of the County's population had undertaken at least 30-149 minutes' physical activity or sport in the last 28 days• 63.4% of the County's population had undertaken at least 150 minutes' physical activity or sport in the last 28 days (including gardening)	This data further highlights that many in the County are physically active, the regularity of this could still increase, and there is still almost a quarter of the population who are not active enough to gain any health benefits
OVERALL IMPLICATIONS FOR SPORTS FACILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The population is ageing which means facilities will need to be accessible and provide appropriately for older people e.g. day time access will be important because some elderly people do not like going out at night and travel by public transport may be easier during the day	



RELEVANT LOCAL FACTORS	KEY ISSUE	NARRATIVE ON KEY ISSUE
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focussed areas of deprivation mean that sports facilities need to be well-located to public transport and local communities, and be accessible and affordable, so those without private transport can still get to them• The high level of adult excess weight in the County, and levels of childhood obesity which means sports facilities need to be welcoming and accessible to all, to encourage and facilitate increased levels of physical activity• There is a need to ensure provision of quality facilities for keep fit/gym, swimming and football with opportunities to participate in cycling, running and golf.• The geographical scale of the County can present access issues to the larger sports facilities therefore this rural factor must be considered when considering the value of new or improved local facilities within communities.

Source: All statistics quoted in Table 1.1 are taken from data in Section 3



STRATEGY ANALYSIS

1.18. Based on the findings and analysis undertaken to develop this Strategy, the key issues in terms of future provision are:

- **Co-ordinated and strategic local partnership working – to invest in provision, support the voluntary sector, develop informal and formal participation opportunities, and make optimum use of all available resources**
- **Partnership working with education to better use the existing facilities, and increase sustainable community access (particularly pay and play)**
- **Partnership working with public health and the CCG to develop an ‘offer’ targeted at the least inactive, using informal places and spaces, just to increase their levels of activity**
- **An extended offer for young people**
- **Better linkages between programmes and activities in leisure centres and clubs and participants using the great outdoors**
- **Investment in the voluntary sector to develop more coaches and leaders to support and develop the club network**



PRIORITY INVESTMENT NEEDS

1.19. Priority investment needs and the options to deliver these are set out in Table 1.2.

Table 1.2: Priorities for Future Provision of Sport and Leisure Facilities in Northumberland

PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
SPORTS HALLS				
PROVIDE	Sports halls	None a current over supply of +31.80 badminton courts (2017)	None a projected over supply of 30.56 badminton courts by 2031	<p>There is a need to maintain the quality of existing provision, to ensure existing participation levels are retained as a minimum, and where possible, grow. There could be the opportunity when considering the replacement of ageing facilities (as highlighted within this section) to assess on an individual project basis the need for sports hall provision where there are sufficient other available sports halls in the 20-minute catchment used.</p> <p>It is likely that planned developments in Berwick upon Tweed, Morpeth and Ponteland would not be in a position to do this but the proposed Blyth Sports Centre replacement facility (which currently has an 8 court sports hall) could be considered for a reduction in the number of courts to 4 courts or less.</p>
ENHANCE	Sports halls			Increased community (club and pay and play) access to existing sports halls on education sites which could facilitate changes to existing facility mixes under proposals for replacement (as outlined above)
SWIMMING POOLS				
PROTECT	Swimming Pools	None a current over supply of 406 sqm of water space (2017)	None a projected over supply of 315 sqm by 2031.	<p>Replace ageing facilities: Blyth Sports Centre is the priority pool for replacement in the short to medium term, as the oldest in the County. Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth; Ponteland Leisure Centre and the Swan Centre for Leisure, Berwick upon Tweed are a priority for replacement in the medium term.</p> <p>The FPM identifies the need for more water space in the South East service area and the proposed replacement facility in Blyth could achieve this. The resident club at Blyth has clearly articulated the requirement to retain existing pool capability to allow as many aqua activities to take place.</p>



PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
ENHANCE -	Swimming Pools			Blyth should be considered for any provision of a competition pool ahead of any other potential facility replacement sites. Even though there is a clearly identified need for more water space in Morpeth (through club and previous customer feedback) and the potential for the town to have a county central competition venue as part of any redevelopment of Riverside Leisure Centre there is no requirement for nearly doubling the exiting water space in Morpeth.
HEALTH AND FITNESS				
PROVIDE	Fitness Suites	Under supply of -242 fitness stations	Under supply of - 255 fitness stations	Increase existing levels of pay and play provision through the proposals for the replacement of four of NCC's facilities which has the potential to add up to 200 new fitness stations. The remainder would be provided through a combination of new private health and fitness provision and local community provision.
PROVIDE	Fitness Suites			<p>Consider areas of most identified demand that wouldn't potentially be enhanced by replacement proposals and consider how this demand could be met. The only area identified that wouldn't be covered by this is demand for additional stations is in the Alnwick area.</p> <p>Consideration should be given as to whether the existing offer at Willowburn Sports Centre, Alnwick could be enhanced with additional stations.</p> <p>Consider provision of fitness stations in community /village halls to increase supply and local access.</p>
SQUASH COURTS				
PROTECT	Squash Courts	Retain existing provision No strategic need identified	Retain existing provision No strategic need identified	There is a need to maintain the quality of existing provision, to ensure existing participation levels are retained as a minimum, and where possible, grow.



PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
INDOOR BOWLS				
PROTECT	Indoor Bowls	Under supply of - 27.80 rinks (2017)	Under supply of - 28.20 rinks by 2031	Protect existing provision in Berwick (4 rink)
ENHANCE	Indoor Bowls			In addition to provision in neighbouring authorities in the south of the County consider in conjunction with England Bowls how to address the under supply in the County.
ATHLETICS/RUNNING				
PROTECT	Athletics	Retain existing provision.	Retain existing provision.	
PROVIDE		Running trails/tracks and infrastructure to facilitate the continued growth of this sport in the County.	Running trails/tracks and infrastructure to facilitate the continued growth of this sport in the County.	Development of safe running trails/routes; these could be 'shared' with walkers and to a certain extent, cyclists. Consider the need identified for track provision in Alnwick as highlighted in club consultation
INDOOR TENNIS				
PROVIDE	Indoor Tennis Courts	No existing provision No strategic need identified	No existing provision. No strategic need identified	



VISION

1.20. The Vision for future provision of sport and leisure in Northumberland is:


‘To facilitate development of sustainable, high quality, well-located, accessible sport and leisure facilities and opportunities in partnership, to encourage increased participation in sport and physical activity, and contribute to improved community health and wellbeing outcomes across the County.

1.21. As a minimum, NCC wishes to see accessible community sport and leisure facilities, places and spaces for swimming, fitness and sports hall sports/activities available for all residents. This includes both formal and informal spaces e.g. community halls in which to play sport and be physically active.

AIMS

1.22. The aim of providing sufficient high quality, fit for purpose and accessible provision, places and spaces is to:

- **Increase the amount of regular physical activity undertaken by individuals, and particularly by those who are currently inactive**
- **Develop additional facility provision where need is evidenced e.g. as a result of population growth**
- **Encourage new participants to start taking part in physical activity**
- **Enable opportunities for participation to be provided in a wider range of places and spaces, and particularly at a very local level, open spaces**
- **Facilitate the development of healthier lifestyles across Northumberland’s communities**
- **Create active environments where the opportunity to be more physically active is an integral part of everyday life**
- **Support and provide opportunities for local sports clubs and community groups**
- **Maximise opportunities to take part in physical activity in areas where population is more sparse**

- 
- 1.23. The provision of high quality and accessible facilities, the opening up of education facilities, and development of new provision, will contribute to healthier lifestyles in Northumberland, across all age groups. Facilitating opportunities to be more physically active, more often is also important, to help reduce health inequalities, and help people to live and age better.
- 1.24. Sustainability of high quality, and critically, accessible facility provision is key to maintaining these opportunities; NCC needs to plan now for the investment requirements of its existing facilities, and work in partnership with other providers and stakeholders to address the other priorities identified through this Strategy.

PRINCIPLES FOR FUTURE PROVISION

- 1.25. Analysis of existing provision identifies some principles that should underpin all future sport and leisure facility development in the County. These are to:
- **Ensure residents in all areas of the County have pay and play access to good quality, local, accessible and affordable provision, whether it is a formal sports hall or a community hall,**
 - **Aim to ensure that existing, and any new, sports facilities on education sites provide a balance of opportunities (through a formal agreement) for community access – both pay and play and club use**
 - **Replace / refurbish ageing facilities where new provision is needed; all new and refurbished provision should be designed and developed based on Sport England and NGB guidance, and be fully inclusive**
 - **Rationalise existing provision where new fit for purpose facilities can replace/improve existing buildings (existing levels of sports hall provision need to be maintained as a minimum, given the levels of existing facility under-supply)**
 - **Make better use of all existing facilities, irrespective of provider; an example would be extending access to existing facilities on education sites, which are only operational for limited periods**
 - **Invest in existing provision to improve quality**
 - **Invest strategically to ensure economic viability and sustainability of provision.**
 - **Take the rural nature of the County into account when considering facility provision.**



ACTION PLAN

1.26. The Action Plan underpinning the Strategy is summarised in the table overleaf:

Table 1.3: Strategy Action Plan

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 1 (R1) NCC and its partners prioritise investment into maintaining and where possible improving the quality of sports hall provision to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that identified current surplus of provision of pay and play access to sports hall provision +31.80 now, and +30.56 courts by 2031 does not become a deficit. This to be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement of ageing facilities – specifically Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre, Swan Centre for Leisure and Ponteland Leisure to ensure the provision of accessible, fit for purpose facilities (PROVIDE)	Ensure the need for continued quality pay and play sports hall provision is reflected in the Local Plan	NCC	Short term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
	Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the funding requirements for the County	NCC	Short term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
	Commence the forward planning for replacement of ageing facilities and to finalise facility mixes for each new replacement facility	NCC	Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers, Sport England.
RECOMMENDATION 2 (R2) NCC works with education, parish councils and health and well-being partners to better	NCC review existing sports hall programming to identify opportunities to extend and develop access for a range of day time uses, particularly targeted	NCC	Medium Term		Officer time - NCC leisure officers



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
use the available capacity in existing sports and activity halls (PROTECT AND ENHANCE)	at those who are inactive, and those who may not have access to private transport.				
RECOMMENDATION 3 (R3) NCC and its partners work with relevant education partners to review, revise and implement CUAs which provide a better balance of pay and play and club use, to meet on going need for access to sports hall space. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCC works with local schools, and Sport England to review, revise and re-implement formal community use agreements in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Schools where they are currently in place, to increase opportunities for pay and play community access ➤ New education facilities provided as required in relation to new developments/ planning permissions NCC works with local schools, to review, revise and improve current operational arrangements, to better manage and 	NCC and its partners work with relevant educational organisations to review, revise and implement CUAs which provide a better balance of pay and play and club use.	NCC, All new education sites	Short term		Officer time - NCC leisure officers Time costs for developing CUAs (legal, possibly external support)
	Develop a partnership approach to discussions with identified schools to increase pay and play community access to the existing sports facilities	NCC to initiate	Ongoing		Officer time - NCC leisure officers, Sport England, relevant local schools
	NCC and its partners work to extend opportunities at existing identified education sports halls with capacity for increased community use	NCC to initiate	Ongoing		Officer time - NCC leisure officers, Sport England, relevant local schools Time costs for developing CUAs (legal, possibly external support)
	NCC and its partners work with local schools, and Sport England to review, revise and re-implement formal community use agreements in: Any new schools as part of Planning Conditions	NCC	Short to Medium		NCC leisure and planning officers, Sport England Time costs for developing CUAs (legal, possibly external support)



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
deliver community bookings (PROTECT AND ENHANCE)	The aim should be to review SLAs /CUA Agreements and to find ways of increasing usage capacity, to enable provision of better balanced accessibility and to include community pay and play use.				
RECOMMENDATION 4 (R4) NCC and its partners prioritise investment into pay and play swimming provision to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace ageing facilities in order of priority being Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre (Morpeth). Swan Centre for Leisure (Berwick upon Tweed) and Ponteland Leisure Centre (ENHANCE AND PROTECT)	Commence the forward planning for replacement of ageing facilities, and undertake relevant technical feasibility work as required to explore the potential for site re-development/re-location Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the funding requirements for the County.	NCC, external consultants	Short/Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers, external consultants, Sport England.
RECOMMENDATION 5 (R5) If the need in the County is clearly identified for a purpose built 8 lane competition pool, then NCC to consider supporting this development when considering the replacement of Blyth Sports Centre. (PROVIDE)	Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the Blyth Sports Centre proposals for replacement	NCC	Short term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
		NCC	Short/Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers, external consultants, Sport England



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 6 (R6) NCC and its partners prioritise the need to address the current (-242) and future (-255 by 2031) under – supply of fitness stations in the County. Extension of the fitness suite offers at Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre, Swan Centre for Leisure and Ponteland Leisure Centre are priority investment projects NCC and its partners facilitate, where possible, increased access to pay and play fitness and studio facilities/space where studio activities can take place e.g. other NCC centres, community facilities, open space, parks green gyms) etc. (PROVIDE)	<p>Ensure the need for additional provision is reflected in the Local Plan</p> <p>Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the funding requirements for the County.</p>	NCC	Short/Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
RECOMMENDATION 7 (R7) In conjunction with England Bowls, NCC considers how to address the under supply of indoor bowls rinks in the County. Address identified current need for provision of Indoor Bowls rinks: 27.80 rinks now, and 28.20 rinks by 2031 (PROVIDE)	To facilitate initial discussion with England Bowls	NCC	Medium/Long term		NCC leisure and planning officers, NGB, Sport England; local bowls clubs;



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 8 (R8) Where appropriate, NCC and its partners seek to secure CIL/S106 contributions that could contribute towards the development of additional leisure facilities, safe walking, running and cycling routes, and where possible to open up other informal, multipurpose places and spaces where people can be active. (PROVIDE, AND PROTECT)	Use the Strategy evidence base to inform investment opportunities	NCC	Short		NCC planning and leisure officers
RECOMMENDATION 9 (R9) NCC and its partners identify the level of capital funding required to address the identified investment needs for sports facilities and investigate the various sources available for capital funding. (PROVIDE)	Work with NCC planning colleagues to identify potential levels of capital funding from residential development	NCC leisure officers	Medium		NCC planning and leisure officers
	Working with partners to identify all potential sources of capital funding to support new facility provision in the County.	NCC leisure officers	Medium		NCC leisure officers, NCC partners, external funding



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 10 (R10) NCC and its partners prioritise investment in the development of high quality community sports facilities, in partnership with Public Health and other local partners. Increasing available capacity and therefore opportunities to take part in regular physical activity, in the local community, will contribute to reduced health inequalities, increased participation and better community cohesion. (PROVIDE AND ENHANCE)	NCC to continue to work internally with Public Health and any relevant and identified community partners to ensure provision of, and access to, appropriate community sports facilities, and opportunities to be physically active.	NCC leisure and community development officers;	Medium		NCC leisure officers, NCC partners, potential use of planning contributions, plus other health, community development and external funding; Sport England potentially
RECOMMENDATION 11 (R11) There should be on-going monitoring of this Strategy through its implementation, but as a minimum, progress should be reviewed and refreshed every five years. On-going monitoring should include partnership working with neighbouring local authorities to keep aware of facility changes and developments. (PROTECT)	Establish monitoring process Ensure ongoing dialogue with neighbouring local authorities	NCC	Ongoing		NCC leisure officers



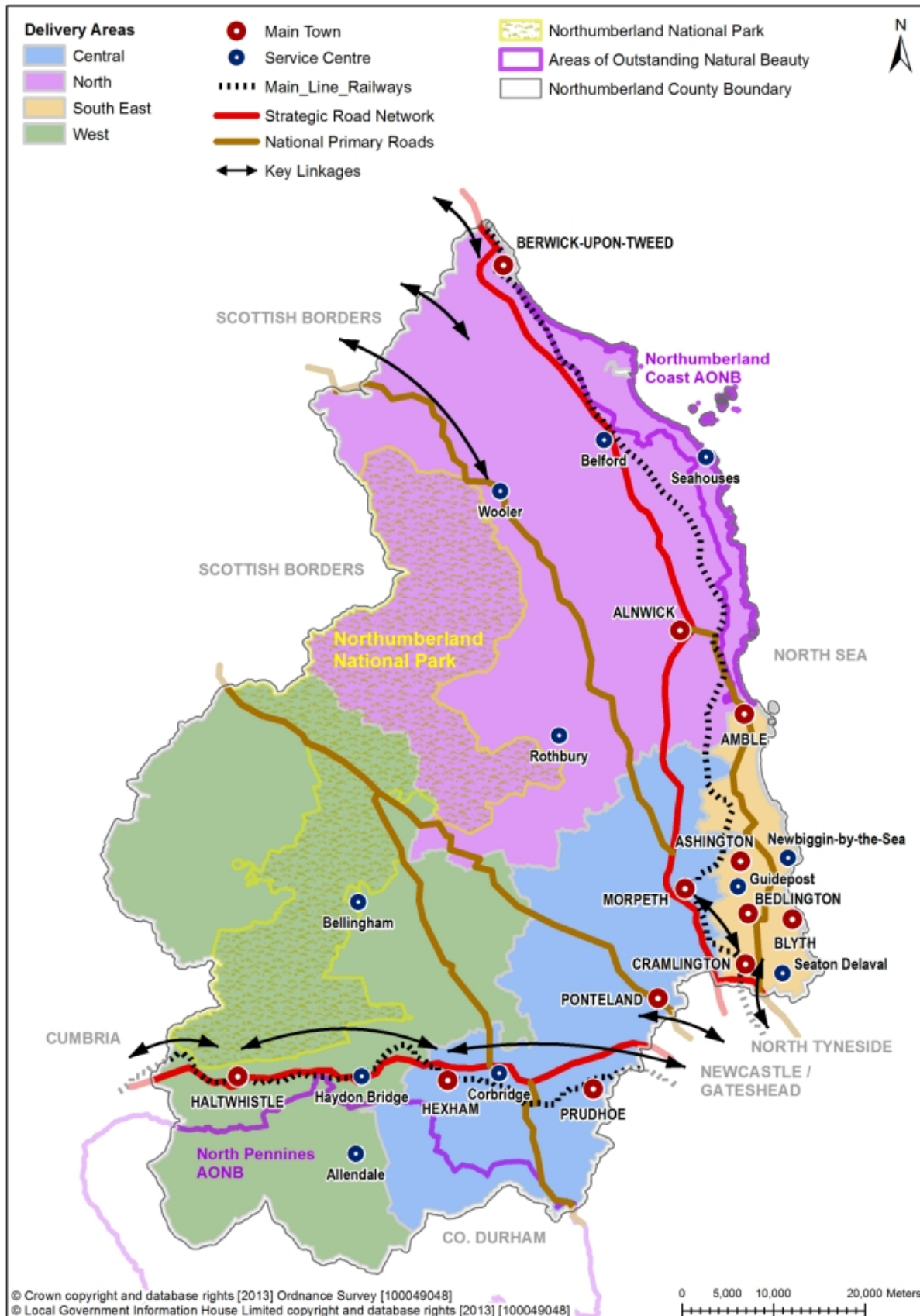
2. ANOG STAGE A- INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

INTRODUCTION

- 2.1. Northumberland is England's northern most county, stretching from the Scottish Border in the north and west to Tyneside and County Durham in the south. The County is flanked by Cumbria, the Cheviot Hills and North Pennines to the west and by the North Sea to the east.
- 2.2. The County, the largest unitary authority by geographic coverage, is also the most sparsely populated in England with only 63 people per square kilometre. Home to around 318,000 people, Northumberland remains largely rural, with its largest settlements having no more than 40,000 residents. Northumberland has the largest area of Green Belt, of any Local Planning Authority.
- 2.3. The south east of the County is the most densely populated, with the three largest towns, Blyth, Cramlington and Ashington. These act as the main employment and service centres for much of the area. Beyond the south east, the County's main settlements are located along the Tyne Valley corridor, and on a north-south axis across the lowland coastal strip; both areas incorporate main roads and rail lines. Morpeth, Hexham, Prudhoe, Berwick-upon Tweed and Alnwick are the main market towns, all of which have large rural hinterlands. The predominantly rural areas of the County are interspersed with smaller towns, some with their own hinterlands, as well as numerous villages, hamlets and isolated farmsteads.
- 2.4. Areas in the south of the County have the strongest relationship with the Tyne and Wear conurbation. Tyneside attracts people from Northumberland, who reach into the area for work, education, cultural activity and shopping. To a lesser extent, areas in the north and west of the County have relationships with the Scottish Borders, Edinburgh and the Lothians and Carlisle.
- 2.5. The County is divided into four service areas for the purpose of strategic planning, each has a distinct profile which are detailed in this strategy in section 3. The service area and key service centres in Northumberland are identified in map 1.



Map 1: Northumberland service areas and key service centres





PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES IN DEVELOPING A SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

- 2.6. The rationale for developing a Sports Facility Strategy for the County has both a national and local context. At national level, National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraphs 73 and 74 outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities:

“Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required”

‘Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or**
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or**
- The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.”**

- 2.7. At local level, the purpose in developing the Sports Facility Strategy is:

The purpose of the study is to inform, provide evidence for and make recommendations in relation to:

- An evidence-based assessment of need for indoor sports facilities that meets existing and anticipated future demand**
- A clear understanding of the overall surpluses and deficiencies across the County and any specific geographical and/or individual facility needs**
- Establish the principles to help inform where future resources should be focused**
- Production of a strategy which is compliant with Sports England guidance.**



In addition, the information contained in the strategy will provide information to:

- **Provide a robust evidence base for the development and application of planning policies**
- **Inform and influence S106 and CIL funding from developments**
- **Inform the authority's approach to infrastructure planning for future provision of sports facilities in terms of number, type, scale, location and accessibility**
- **Inform development management decisions on planning applications**
- **Provide the evidence base for funding bids.**

2.8. The key local drivers prompting Northumberland County Council to produce a Sports Facility Strategy are the need to:

- **Establish a clear picture of facilities within Northumberland in terms of; quality, accessibility and availability of facilities.**
- **Establish a clear understanding of what the current and future demand of facilities are across Northumberland, taking into account the local population profile, sports participation, unmet, latent, dispersed and future demand and sports specifics priorities.**
- **Assessment of potential surplus and deficiencies in sports and leisure assessments in relation to quality, quantity, accessibility and availability.**
- **Identify recommendations for future provision and investment in facilities.**
- **Ensure a strategic approach with a robust methodology which matches the developing Northumberland Local Plan and will inform planning policy in terms of developer contributions and other sources of funding.**



PROPORTIONATE APPROACH

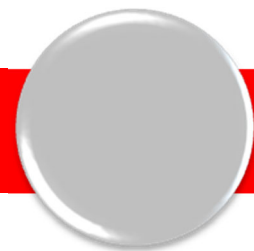
2.9. The brief developed by Northumberland County Council identified the key objectives of the strategy as:

- **Developing a framework to support medium to long-term strategy and the financing of sport and leisure facilities in Northumberland, both indoor and outdoor.**
- **Providing clear needs analysis for developers regarding future sport and recreation facility needs across the county taking into consideration the challenges of the Northumberland landscape. Identify current supply and demand issues for sport and leisure provision across the county.**
- **Identify priorities for sports within Northumberland based on the National Governing Body targets and local community needs.**
- **Provide robust evidence to identify priorities for sport and leisure in the medium term to enable the Local Authority to direct potential capital investment through a clear strategic framework.**
- **Provide robust evidence to guide and support bids to external funding partners to support the delivery of sport and leisure facilities both in the development of new sites and enhancement and improvement of existing sites.**
- **To contribute to the Council's Local Plan objectives by providing detailed and robust data for the development of indoor and outdoor sport and leisure provision.**

- **Provide a priority list of investments and resources to be secured through such schemes as Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).**
- **Identify the role of other key service providers including education in supporting community sport and leisure provision.**
- **Identify the role that high quality sport and leisure facilities can play in overcoming health inequalities and community cohesion across the county.**

STRATEGY STRUCTURE

2.10. The Strategy has been developed using the Sport England Assessing Needs and Opportunities guidance (ANOG), published in 2014.



2.11. The overall document is essentially in two parts:

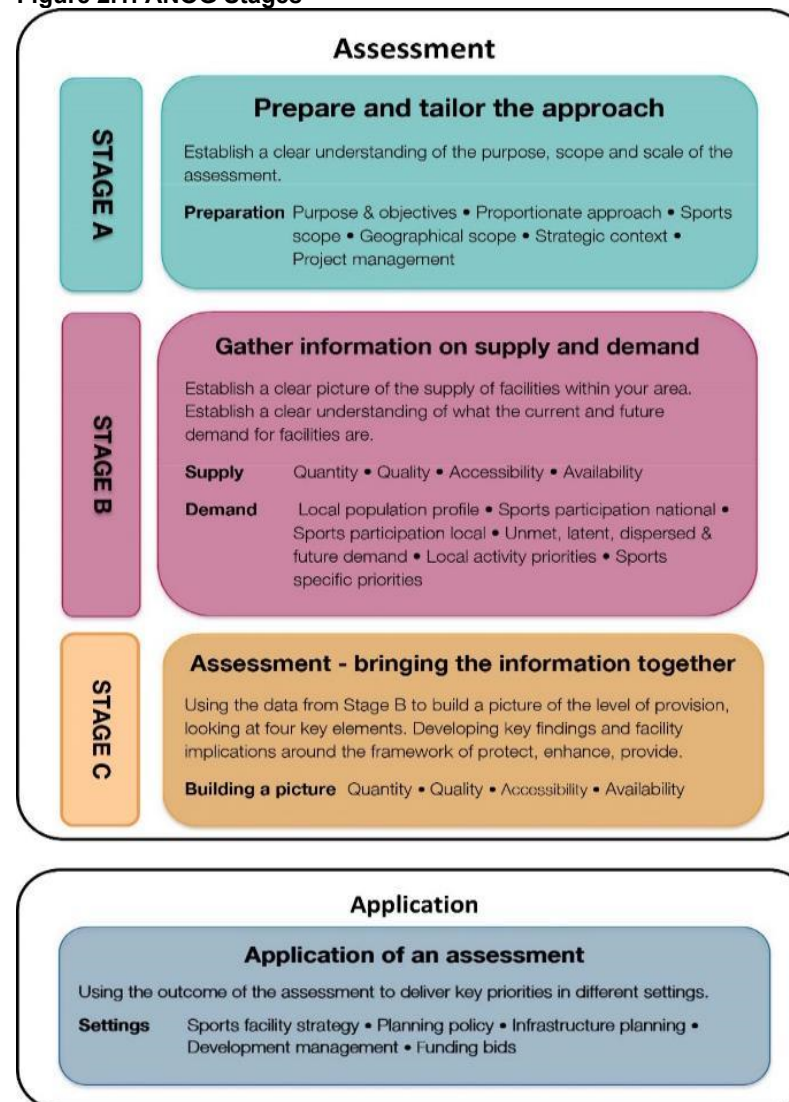
- The **Assessment** of Need – developed based on the ANOG approach, as set out in Figure 2.1 opposite:
- The **subsequent** Strategy- this sets out the proposed response to the issues identified in the Needs Assessment

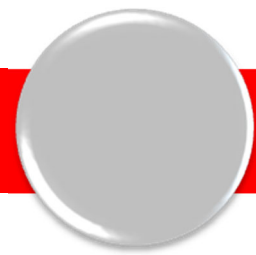
SPORTS AND GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

2.12. The scope of the study includes analysis of provision for the following sports/activities across Northumberland.

- **Sports Halls**
- **Swimming Pools**
- **Health and Fitness Facilities including Studios**
- **Squash Facilities**
- **Indoor Bowls**
- **Athletics facilities**
- **Indoor Tennis Facilities**

Figure 2.1: ANOG Stages





2.13. It will:

- **Present information and findings that will help the Council to make informed decisions about the future of their leisure stock** [SEP]
- **Provide a needs-driven evidence base that will identify strategic actions and priorities for the County**
- **Provide robust information about the future of facility provision across the County**
- **Provide indicative capital considerations and potential funding opportunities for facility projects within Northumberland** [SEP]

2.14. In addition to purpose built leisure facilities, consideration is given to the role of the following in meeting local need:

- **Community assets (community halls)**
- **Education facilities**

2.15. The Sports Facility Strategy has been developed in parallel with a Playing Pitch Strategy; both documents will provide an evidence base for the Northumberland Local Plan 2016-2036 and underpin future priorities for provision.

2.16. The Strategy covers the geographical area of Northumberland but references areas outside the County boundaries as appropriate.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

2.17. The development of this Strategy has been informed and influenced by a number of key national and local strategies and policies. The majority of the national policies and references are summarised in Appendix 1. Other key policies and strategies are summarised below and referenced in subsequent sections of the Strategy, as appropriate.



3. STRATEGIC POLICY AND CONTEXT

INTRODUCTION

NATIONAL LEVEL

- 3.1 There are a number of key national and local strategies and policies which inform and influence the development of these strategies. The majority of the national documents are summarised in Appendix 1, but the main ones are summarised below. These national policies inform the approach to current and future provision of sports facilities, linked to health improvement, increased participation, and the appropriate levels of provision of facilities to meet local needs. From a planning perspective, the national agenda makes the link between national planning policy, a Local Plan and population growth at local level, and the need to plan for increased demands for infrastructure and provision, linked to Protect, Enhance and Provide.


NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF)

- 3.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the requirement of local authorities to establish and provide adequate and proper leisure facilities to meet local needs. Paragraphs 73 and 74 outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities:

“Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required”.

“Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or**
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or**
- The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.”**

- 
- 3.3 Sport England is a statutory consultee on all planning applications that affect sports facilities; it looks to improve the quality, access and management of sports facilities as well as investing in new facilities to meet unsatisfied demand. Sport England requires local authorities to have an up-to-date assessment of sports facility needs and an associated strategy including a recommendation that the evidence base is reviewed every five years.
- 3.4 The key drivers for the production of the strategy as advocated by Sport England are to protect, enhance and provide sports facilities, as follows:
- **Protect:** To provide evidence to inform policy and specifically to support Site Allocations and Development Management Policies which will protect sports facilities and their use by the community, irrespective of ownership
 - **Enhance:** To ensure that sports facilities are effectively managed and maintained and that best uses are made of existing resources - whether facilities, expertise and/or personnel to improve and enhance existing provision – particularly in the light of pressure on local authority budgets
 - **Provide:** To provide evidence to help secure external funding for new facilities and enhancements through grant aid and also potentially through CIL (if on the Regulation 123 List) and Section 106 agreements. Sport England and local authorities can then use the strategies developed and the guidance provided in making key planning decisions regarding facility developments in the area and to support or protect against loss in relation (refused planning application) to planning applications brought forward by developers.

A NEW STRATEGY FOR SPORT – DEPARTMENT FOR CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT

- 3.5 The Department for Culture, Media and Sport, following a consultation paper in 2015, launched the new strategy 'Sporting Future: A new Strategy for an Active Nation' in 2016. The development of the new strategy reflects a need to re-invigorate the nation's appetite for participation in sport following what appears to be a significant reduction in participation (highest profile being swimming), following the upsurge after the 2012 London Olympics.
- 3.6 The sport strategy is targeting five outcomes which each sports organisation, public or private sector, will be measured against:
- **Physical wellbeing**
 - **Mental wellbeing**
 - **Individual development**
 - **Social and community development**
 - **Economic development.**



3.7 Government funding will go toward organisations which can best demonstrate that they will deliver some or all of the five outcomes.

3.8 The Delivery of the outcomes will be through three broad outputs:

- **More people from every background regularly and meaningfully taking part in sport and physical activity, volunteering and experiencing live sport**
- **A more productive, sustainable and responsible sports sector**
- **Maximising international and domestic sporting success and the impact of major sporting events.**

SPORT ENGLAND STRATEGY 2016- 2021 TOWARDS AN ACTIVE NATION'

3.9 The Vision for this Strategy is:

'We want everyone in England regardless of age, background or level of ability to feel able to engage in sport and physical activity. Some will be young, fit and talented, but most will not. We need a sport sector that welcomes everyone – meets their needs, treats them as individuals and values them as customers.'

3.10 The Sport England Strategy 'Towards an Active Nation' puts the policies set out in 'A new Strategy for an Active Nation' into practice. This will mean significant change for Sport England and for their partners.

3.11 This strategy sets out Sport England will deliver this task. The key changes Sport England will make are:

- Focusing more money and resources on **tackling inactivity** because this is where the gains for the individual and **for** society are greatest ^[L]_{SEP}
- Investing more in **children and young people from the age of five** to build positive attitudes to sport and activity as the foundations of an active life
- **Helping those who are active now to carry on, but at lower cost to the public purse over time.** Sport England will work with those parts of the sector that serve the core market to help them identify ways in which they can become more sustainable and self-sufficient ^[L]_{SEP}



- **Putting customers at the heart** of what we do, responding to how they organise their lives and helping the sector to be more **welcoming and inclusive, especially of those groups currently under-represented in sport** ^[L]_[SEP]
- Helping sport to keep pace with the **digital expectations** of customers ^[L]_[SEP]
- Working nationally where it makes sense to do so (for example on infrastructure and workforce) but **encouraging stronger local collaboration** to deliver a more joined-up experience of sport and activity for customers
- Working with a **wider range of partners**, including the private sector, using our expertise as well as our investment to help others align their resources
- Working with the sector to encourage innovation and share best practice particularly through applying the principles and practical learning of **behaviour change**

3.12 The remaining national policy context is summarised in Appendix 1, National Level.

REGIONAL POLICY

- 3.13 The establishment of North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) is still in discussion stages but it is hoped to be established by April 2018 as a new legal body that brings together the three councils which serve Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland. This north of Tyne devolution area could in the future represent a significant opportunity to influence any capital investment decisions for Northumberland and the wider devolved area moving forward.
- 3.14 The Combined Authority has a leading role to play working closely with the Local Enterprise Partnership in creating the conditions for economic growth and new investment. It is committed to collaboration within the combined area but also with neighbours in Tees Valley and elsewhere on key issues such as transport and economic development.



LOCAL LEVEL

3.15 A number of current strategic policies, strategies and factors influence current and future supply and demand for sport and recreation facilities in Northumberland. As well as providing the context for future facility provision, e.g. health improvement, improving accessibility, increasing participation, these strategies provide opportunities to link priority areas and needs, and ensure that outcomes are aligned with identified local objectives. The relevant strategies and policies include:

- **Northumberland County Council Corporate Plan 2013-2017**
- **Northumberland Sustainable Community Plan 2011**
- **The emerging Northumbria Local Plan –2016-2036**
- **Strategic Housing Market Assessment October 2015**
- **5 year supply of deliverable housing sites 2016-2021**
- **Local Transport Plan 2011-2026**
- **Draft Walking and Cycling Strategy 2016**
- **Northumberland Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Update (JSNA) 2015**
- **Joint Health and Well Being Strategy 2014-2017**
- **Children and Young Peoples Plan**
- **Northumberland Sport (CSP) - Strategic Plan 2014-2017 - Bringing Sport to Life**
- **Northumberland Sport (CSP) - A Strategic Plan for Physical Activity 2010-2015**

3.16 These are summarised in Appendix 14.



FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY

- 3.17 A key factor influencing the future provision of sports facilities in the County (what, and where) is the scale and location of future housing development, which impacts on population density and also levels and nature of community demand.
- 3.18 Taken from the emerging Northumberland Local Plan 2017-2031, and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) 2011-2031 and the 5-year Supply of Deliverable Housing sites 2016-2021, the housing supply is summarised in tables 3.1 and 3.2 below. The focus of new housing development will be in the main towns and service centres across Northumberland.

Table 3.1: Summary of Housing Supply SHMA 2011-2031

SERVICE AREAS	SOUTH EAST	CENTRAL	NORTH	WEST	TOTAL
AVERAGE ANNUAL NET DWELLING PROVISION	627	284	195	70	1,176
TOTAL DELIVERY OVER PLAN PERIOD (2011 TO 2031)	12,540	5,680	3,900	1,400	23,520

Table 3.2: Summary of Housing Supply Components as at March 2016

SERVICE AREAS	SOUTH EAST	CENTRAL	NORTH	WEST	NORTHUMBERLAND
FIVE YEAR HOUSING SUPPLY REQUIREMENT 2016-2021 (APPLYING 20% BUFFER TO HOUSING REQUIREMENT)	4162	1996	1304 9	465	7919
IDENTIFIED FIVE YEAR DELIVERABLE SUPPLY OF HOUSING (NUMBER OF UNITS)	4467	3283	1874	322	9946
KEY SITES WITH PLANNING CONSENT	Blyth 1,066 Ashington 536 Cramlington 356 Bedlington 116	Morpeth 1,031 Ponteland 200 Hexham 193	Berwick 505 Alnwick 334 Rothbury 60	Haltwhistle 95	All sites 7,052
KEY SITES WITHOUT PLANNING CONSENT	Cramlington 1,046 Bedlington 159	Ponteland 340 Prudhoe 120 Hexham 143	Rothbury 57		All sites 2,894

- 3.19 Housing development is projected to exceed the deliverable requirements by 2021 with an overall supply of 126% across Northumberland.
- 3.20 The current housing stock is made up of 82.7% of owner occupiers or privately rented accommodation.



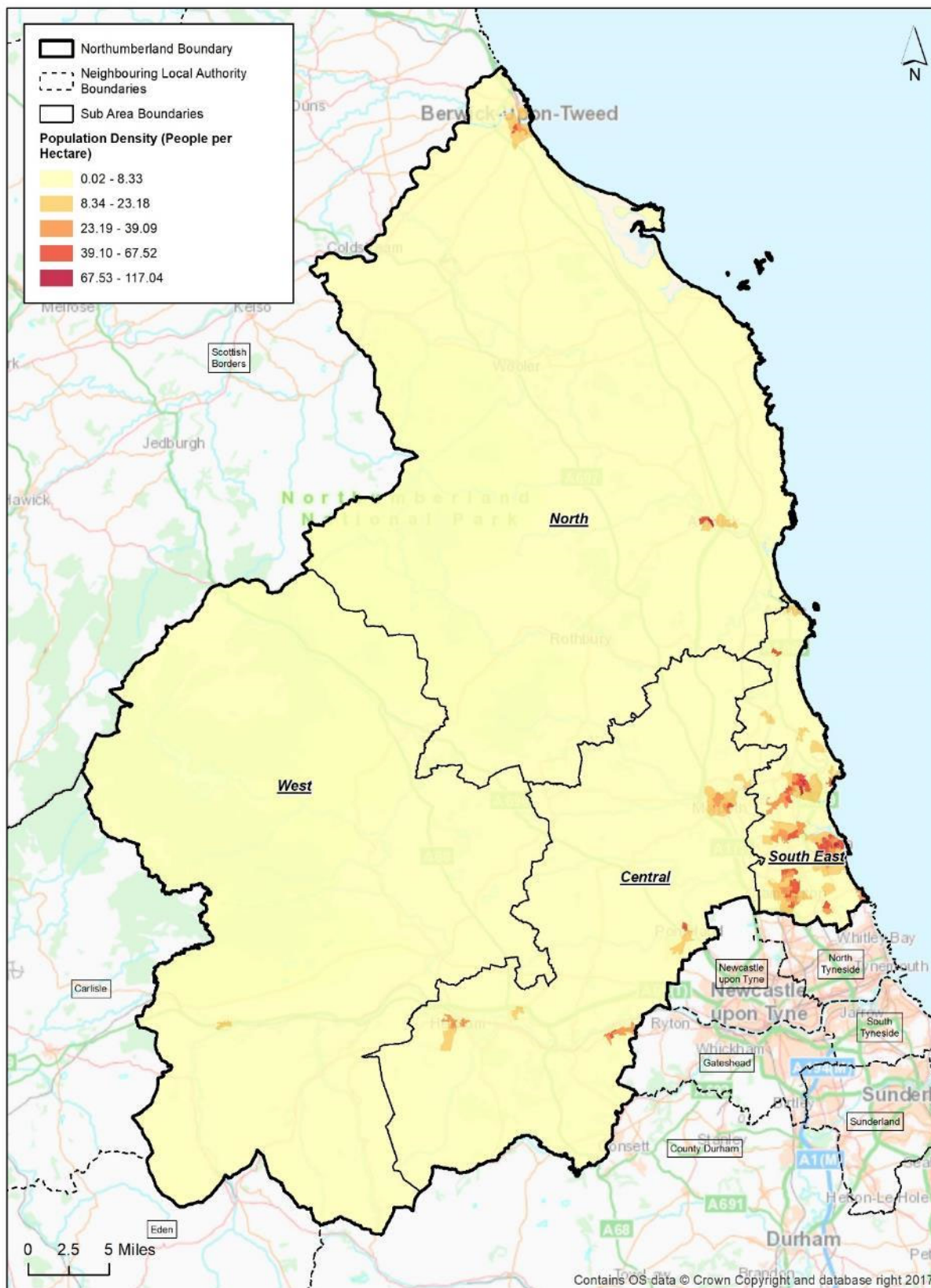
POPULATION PROFILES AND PROJECTIONS

3.21 The population profile of Northumberland County, the future growth projections and the location of growth is important to understand in planning for the future provision of sports facilities.

3.22 The Local Plan highlights the key demographical changes projected through to 2031:

- **The population is due to rise from 319,600 in 2017 to 324,195 in 2031.**
- **An ageing population by 2031, 31% of the population of Northumberland is projected to be over 65 (compared to 25% in the North East and 22% in England)**
- **Projections 2012 to 2031 show a significant increase in the over 65 age group, an increase of 52.6%.**
- **During the same period the 70 to 79 age group is also predicted to increase by 48.8%, with the 80 to 89 age group increasing by 90%, and the 90+ age group experiencing the most significant increase, 162%.**
- **Between 2012-2031 the core working age population (20 to 64 year olds) is projected to decrease from 181,695 to 159,545 (-22,150).**
- **Northumberland has the lowest percentage of children under 16 in the region (17%)**
- **Net inward migration is the only reason the County's population has increased over recent years.**
- **There are high levels of out migration from people aged 25 to 64, who account for 52% of the Northumberland population.**
- **The consequences of the projections are that Northumberland's ability to provide a labour force for existing or potential employers in County with a subsequent potential impact on the sustainability and resilience of Northumberland's communities.**

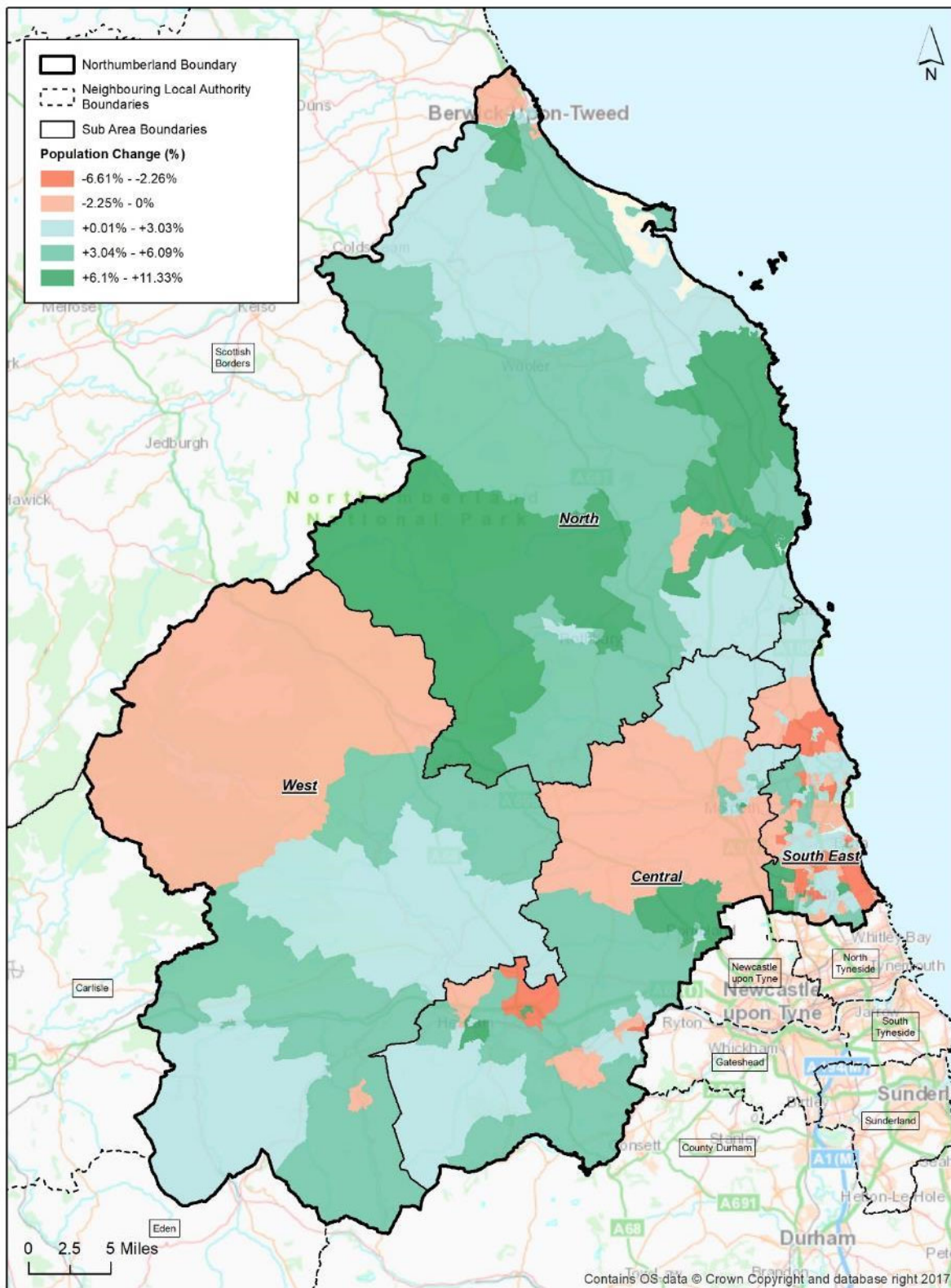
Map 3.1: Current Population Distribution in Northumberland



Usual resident population density by lower super output area in Northumberland (2017)



Map 3.2: Population growth in Northumberland



Percentage change in population by lower super output area
in Northumberland (2017 - 2031)





POPULATION PROFILE – SERVICE AREAS

3.23 The four service areas each have distinct profiles; these are summarised below in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3: Summary of service areas

SERVICE AREA	NORTH	WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH EAST
GEOGRAPHY	Bounded to the north by the Scottish Border, to the west by the Cheviot Hills, south by the Simonside Hills and the Coquet Valley. The east coast, designated an AONB	Straddles the southern part of the Northumberland National Park. It includes the Kielder area to the north-west of the National Park, the North Tyne Valley, the South Tyne Valley and parts of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and the North Pennines AONB.	Extends north and west from the boundary with Tyne and Wear. The south west of the area includes part of the North Pennines AONB.	Extends inland from the coast, from its southern boundary with North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne, to Amble in the north.
MAIN TOWNS	Alnwick, Berwick-upon-Tweed	Haltwhistle	Hexham, Morpeth, Ponteland, Prudhoe	Amble, Ashington, Bedlington, Blyth, Cramlington
SERVICE CENTRES	Belford, Rothbury, Seahouses, Wooler	Haydon Bridge, Allendale, Bellingham	Corbridge	Guidepost/Stakeford/Choppington, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Seaton Delaval/New Hartley/Seghill/Holywell.
POPULATION DENSITY	Area is sparsely populated, overall density of 26.3 people per km ² .	The most sparsely populated in the county, with 11.2 people per km ² .	Population density is 83 per km ² .	Most densely populated part of Northumberland at 737 people per km ² .
POPULATION (2011 CENSUS)	53,585 Age 0-15 years 15.4% 16-64 years 60.9% 65+ years 23.7%	20,228 Age 0-15 years 15.5% 16-64 years 63% 65+ years 21.5%	78,976 Age 0-15 years 16.8% 16-64 years 61% 65+ years 22.1%	163,239 Age 0-15 years 17.9% 16-64 years 64.5% 65+ years 17.6%
ETHNICITY	White 98.99%	99.1%	97.8%	98.5%
TRANSPORT (2011 CENSUS)	No car 18.8% One or more cars 81.2%	No car 13.8% One or more cars 86.2%	No car 16.5% One or more cars 83.5%	No car 26.8% One or more cars 73.2%



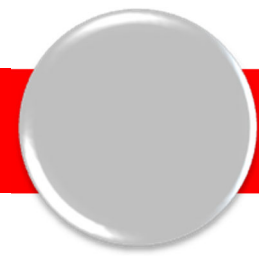
SERVICE AREA	NORTH	WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH EAST
EMPLOYMENT	<p>The towns of Berwick-upon-Tweed and Alnwick have large industrial estates, with smaller ones in settlements such as Wooler and Belford.</p> <p>The port of Berwick-upon-Tweed is important to the wider area. There are a number of small harbours in the area which primarily support the local fishing industry.</p>	<p>The economy of the area is dominated by agriculture, forestry and tourism. Although the area has a high percentage of people of working age (63%), the population is ageing.</p>	<p>Many jobs are in the public sector, particularly within Local Government and health services. In the Tyne Valley, at Hexham and Prudhoe wood processing industries are major employers. The towns of Hexham, Morpeth, Prudhoe and Ponteland contain successful industrial estates.</p>	<p>Area faces particular challenges; social and environmental deprivation arising from unemployment and poverty continue to frustrate the ability of communities to emerge from the post-industrial, coal mining legacy into sustained and sustainable growth.</p>
POPULATION ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE (2011 CENSUS)	68.0%	71.1%	68.5%	67.1%
POPULATION ECONOMICALLY IN ACTIVE (2011 CENSUS)	<p>32% of which 21.1% retired, 3.1% long term sick or disabled</p> <p>3.1% never worked or long term unemployed</p>	<p>28.9% of which 18.7% retired, 2.7% long term sick or disabled</p> <p>2.8% never worked or long term unemployed</p>	<p>31.5% of which 20% retired, 3.1% long term sick or disabled</p> <p>3.2% never worked or long term unemployed</p>	<p>32.9% of which 17.6% retired, 5.7% long term sick or disabled</p> <p>6.3% never worked or long term unemployed</p>



SERVICE AREA	NORTH	WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH EAST
RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER AREAS	<p>The Area is influenced by the Tyne and Wear conurbation in terms of travel to work, but not to the same extent as the Central and South East areas.</p> <p>The north of the Area, in particular Berwick-upon-Tweed, is influenced by the Edinburgh City-Region, which extends across the Scottish Borders and which is the focus of a strategic growth strategy.</p>	<p>There are strong social, economic and cultural relationships with Hexham in the Central Northumberland Service area, with residents looking to the town for key Services.</p> <p>The eastern part of the Service area is on the periphery of the main Tyneside commuter zone.</p> <p>Links with Carlisle and Cumbria are stronger here than elsewhere in the County.</p>	<p>The close proximity of the Main Towns and Service Centres to Tyneside means they have a strong relationship with the conurbation and they provide popular locations for commuters.</p> <p>The influence of Hexham and Morpeth extends into the West and North Areas with the towns providing employment and services for wide hinterlands.</p> <p>Morpeth has a strong relationship with Cramlington and the South East area.</p>	<p>The close proximity, and good road links, area is closely linked with the Tyneside conurbation to the south. Links are not so strong with the wider Central and North Areas, the market towns of Morpeth and Alnwick both provide employment and housing opportunities and also provide a workforce for major employers in Cramlington and Blyth.</p>

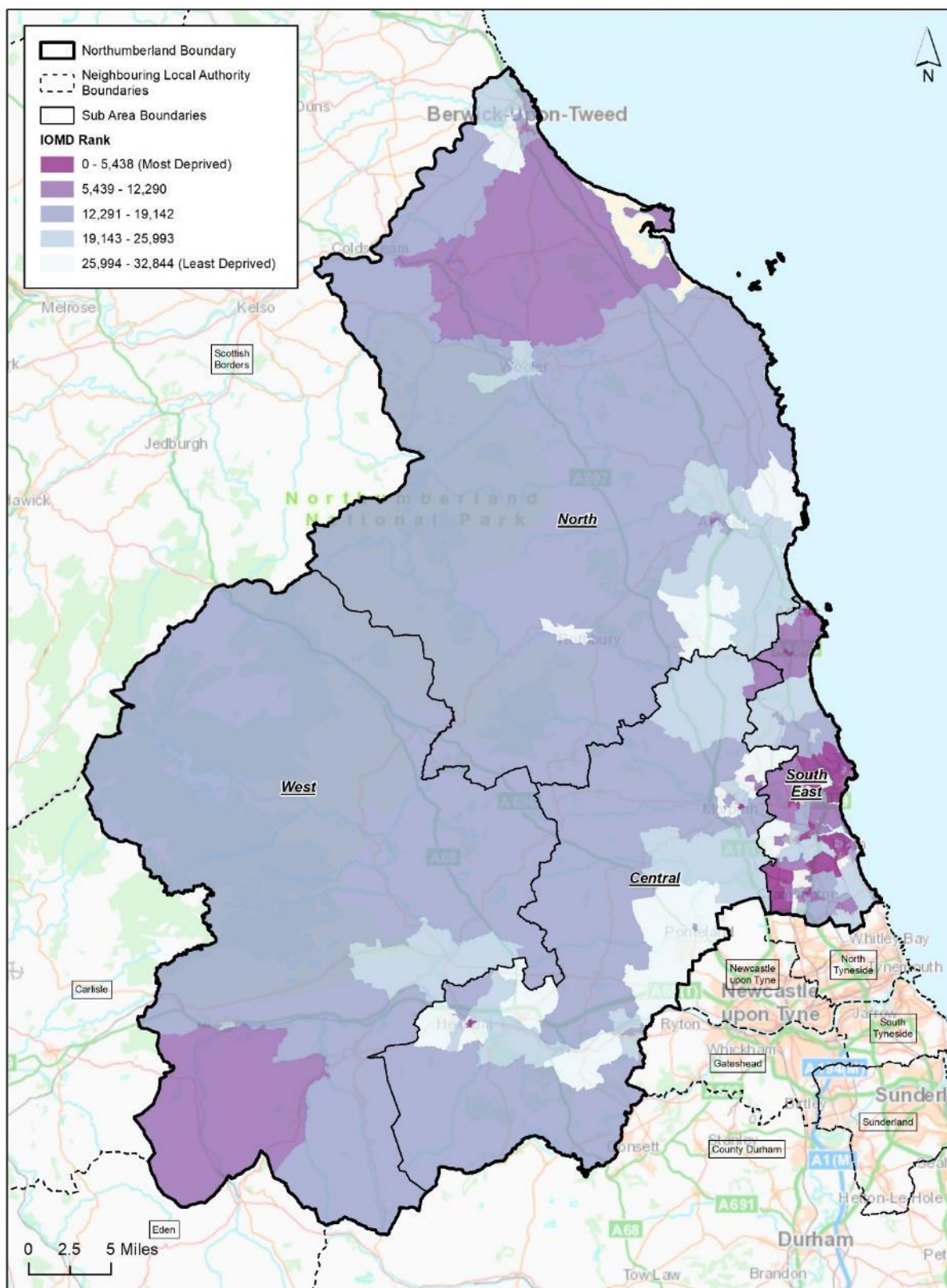
POPULATION PROFILE - DEPRIVATION

- 3.24 The population of Northumberland is concentrated in the larger settlements in the south east of Northumberland and the market towns. The rest of the county tends to be large rural areas interspersed with smaller settlements.
- 3.25 The County is ranked 155th most deprived out of 353 local authorities in England (Indices of Multiple Deprivation, 2015), although there are there are areas in the south east of the County where deprivation is much higher such as Cramlington, Blyth and Woodhorn.



- 3.26 13.2% of the population live in one of the 10% most deprived areas of England compared to 16.98% in the North East and 9.9% across England (2015). 20.8% of the population are classed as income deprived and 25.4% are employment deprived. (2015 IMD) (Source: Northumberland Knowledge Bulletin February 2017)
- 3.27 Being a County with large rural areas car ownership is high with 78% of the population owning at least one car. 22% of the population do not own a car, those who do not own a car are mainly in the south east where the population is denser and greater access to public transport. Households do not own a car (North East 31.5%, England 25.8%).
- 3.28 Map 3.4 shows the areas of deprivation in the County; the darker colours are the areas of highest deprivation.

Map 3.3: Deprivation Areas in Northumberland



Index of multiple deprivation by lower super output area in Northumberland (2015)





HEALTH PROFILE

- 3.29 In general, the health of people in Northumberland is varied, the 2011 census indicated that 44% of the population rated their general health as very good and 34% good. Day to day activities not being limited by health conditions was 79.3%. This information correlates with the deprivation in Northumberland being lower than the England average.
- 3.30 However, health inequalities in the County do exist. The 2016 Public Health Profile for Northumberland highlights:
- **Life expectancy for women is significantly lower than the England average at 82.5 years compared to 83.2 years. Life expectancy for men is 79.4 years in line with the England average of 79.5 years.**
 - **Life expectancy is variable across the County reaching a low as 51 years for men in the South East (Director of Public Health report 2015)**
 - **Excess weight in adults is high and worse than the England average at 69.5% compared with 64.6%.**
 - **Children in year 6 classed as obese are worse than the England average (19.1%), with 19.8% classed as obese. This has risen since the 2015 report from 17.7%.**
 - **GCSE attainment is 56.8% worse than the England average of 57.3%.**
 - **Early death from heart disease and stroke, 69.5%, is better than the England average, 75.7%. Whilst recorded levels of diabetes are 7.3% significantly worse than the average of 6.4%.**
- 3.31 Table 3.4 shows the health costs of physical inactivity for the County, compared to those at regional and national level. This highlights that the costs in Northumberland are high compared to national levels, which underpins the need to get more people more active more regularly in the County, to have an impact on health at individual and community level.



Table 3.4: Health Costs of physical inactivity

DISEASE CATEGORY	NORTHUMBERLAND	NORTH EAST	ENGLAND
CANCER LOWER GI	£402,880	£3,858,400	£67,816,189
CANCER BREAST	£361,130	£2,926,990	£60,357,887
DIABETES	£1,437,900	£11,447,850	£190,660,420
CORONARY HEART DISEASE	£3,036,460	£27,444,290	£491,095,943
CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	£717,000	£6,411,840	£134,359,285
TOTAL COST	£5,955,370	£52,089,370	£944,289,723
COST PER 100,000 POPULATION	£1,887,812	£2,016,905	£1,817,285

Source: Sport England commissioned data from British Heart Foundation Health Promotion Research Group for PCTs, reworked into estimates for LAs by TBR.
Measure: Health costs of physical inactivity, split by disease type. Time period(s): 2009/10

Table 3.5: Summary of Demographic Profile Northumberland

SERVICE AREA	NORTH	WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH EAST
LOCAL DESCRIPTION	Bordered to the north by the Scottish Border, to the west by the Cheviot Hills, south by the Simonside Hills and the Coquet Valley. The east coast, designated an AONB	Straddles the southern part of the Northumberland National Park. It includes the Kielder area to the north-west of the National Park, the North Tyne Valley, the South Tyne Valley and parts of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and the North Pennines AONB.	Extends north and west from the boundary with Tyne and Wear. The south west of the area includes part of the North Pennines AONB.	Extends inland from the coast, from its southern boundary with North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne, to Amble in the north.
POPULATION DENSITY	Sparsely populated	The most sparsely populated in the county	Mix of densely and sparsely populated areas	Most densely populated
POPULATION (2011 CENSUS)	53,585 Lowest number of 0-15 years Highest number of 65+ years 0-15 years 15.4% 16-64 years 60.9% 65+ years 23.7%	20,228 Higher number of working age population 0-15 years 15.5% 16-64 years 63% 65+ years 21.5%	78,976 Age 0-15 years 16.8% 16-64 years 61% 65+ years 22.1%	163,239 Highest number of 0-15 years. Higher number of working age Lowest number of 65+ years 0-15 years 17.9% 16-64 years 64.5% 65+ years 17.6%
ETHNICITY	White 98.99%	99.1%	97.8%	98.5%
HOUSING	Sparsely populated Housing need 3,900 dwellings	Most sparsely populated Housing need, 1,400	Significant population Housing need, 5,680	Most densely populated Housing need, 12,540
DEPRIVATION	No wards in the top 10 least deprived and most deprived LSOA's of Northumberland	No wards in the top 10 least deprived and most deprived LSOA's of Northumberland	Hosts 6 of the 10 least deprived LSOA's of Northumberland: Morpeth North, Morpeth Kirkehill, Bywell, Hexham West and Ponteland South with Heddon	Hosts all 10 of the most deprived LSOA's in Northumberland. Most deprived area is Croft in Blyth. The other most deprived areas are College, Newsham, Ashington Central, College, Hirst, Newbiggin Central and East



SERVICE AREA	NORTH	WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH EAST
				Cramlington North has 4 of the 10 least deprived LSOA's in Northumberland
SPORTS ASSETS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swan Centre Berwick upon Tweed • Willowburn Sports Centre Alnwick • Rothbury Pool and Gym 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haltwhistle Leisure Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morpeth Leisure Centre • Ponteland Leisure Centre • Prudhoe Waterworld • Wentworth Leisure Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blyth Sports Centre • Concordia Leisure Centre • Druridge Bay Fitness Centre • Hirst Welfare Centre • New Ashington Leisure Centre • Newbiggin Sports Centre • Northburn Sports and Community Centre • Bedlington Sports Club • Prudhoe Football and Sporting Club • Sporting Club Blyth • Sporting Club Cramlington
OVERALL IMPLICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A growing population will mean increased demand for facilities • The population is ageing which means facilities will need to be accessible and provide appropriately for older people e.g. day time access will be important because some elderly people do not like going out at night and travel by public transport may be easier during the day • The high levels of deprivation, particularly in the South East of the County, mean that sports facilities need to be well-located to public transport and local communities, and be accessible and affordable, so those without private transport can still get to them • There is low car ownership in parts of the County facilities therefore need to locate where they can be easily reached by public transport. • The level of childhood obesity and overweight in adults in the County is high which means sports facilities need to be welcoming and accessible to children and adults, to encourage and facilitate increased levels of physical activity. • The geographical scale of the County can present access issues to the larger sports facilities therefore this rural factor must be considered when considering the value of new or improved local facilities within communities. 			

Source: All statistics quoted in Table 3.4 are informed by data in Section 3.



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND PARTICIPATION

THE VALUE OF PARTICIPATION

- 3.32 The value of participation in sport and physical activity is significant, and its contribution to individual and community quality of life should not be underestimated. This is true for both younger and older people; participation in sport and physical activity delivers:
- **Opportunities for physical activity, and therefore more ‘active living’**
 - **Health benefits – cardio vascular, stronger bones, mobility**
 - **Health improvement**
 - **Mental health benefits**
 - **Social benefits – socialisation, communication, inter-action, regular contact, stimulation**
- 3.33 In addition, participation in sport and physical activity can facilitate the learning of new skills, development of individual and team ability / performance, and provide a ‘disciplined’ environment in which participants can ‘grow’ and develop.
- 3.34 The benefits of regular and active participation in sport and physical activity will be important to promote in relation to future sport, leisure and physical activity in Northumberland. There is an existing audience in the County, which already recognises the advantages of participation, and a latent community who are ready to take part.
- 3.35 The sport, physical activity and leisure offer in the County can support the delivery of the desired outcomes across a number of County Strategic priorities and objectives.

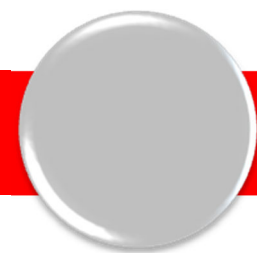
CURRENT PARTICIPATION RATES

- 3.36 In terms of the Public Health England definition for physical activity (150 minutes or equivalent of at least moderate intensity activity per week) 55.2% of adults aged 16+ years are classed as being active.

Table 3.6: Physically active and inactive adults

RATE	NORTHUMBERLAND	NORTH EAST	ENGLAND
% ACTIVE	55.2%	52.8%	57%
% INACTIVE	31.8%	34.4%	28.7%

(Source: Public Health England - Public Health Outcomes Framework. Measure: percentage of physically active and inactive adults. Time period(s): 2014)



3.37 The Sport England Active People Survey (APS) shows an overall decrease in participation with some minor fluctuations since 2005/06 APS for once a week participation in sport for adults age 16+ years. Participation decreased from 33.3% in 2005/06 to 27.7% in 2015/16. Throughout the ten-year APS period the County's participation rates have generally been below both the regional and national averages. Whilst regional and national rates have increased over the ten-year period Northumberland has seen a decrease with a significant drop off in participation in 2015/15. Table 3.7, and Figure 3.1.

Table 3.7: Adult (16+) Participation in Sport (at least once a week), by year

YEAR	NORTHUMBERLAND	NORTH EAST	ENGLAND
2005/06	32.3 %	32.9 %	34.6 %
2007/08	37.0 %	34.8 %	36.6 %
2008/09	35.3 %	35.4 %	36.5 %
2009/10	36.3 %	35.8 %	36.2 %
2010/11	31.8 %	33.5 %	35.6 %
2011/12	35.1 %	36.0 %	36.9 %
2012/13	33.1 %	35.2 %	36.6 %
2013/14	31.1 %	34.0 %	36.1 %
2014/15	35.8 %	33.1 %	35.8 %
2015/16	27.7 %	32.7 %	36.1 %

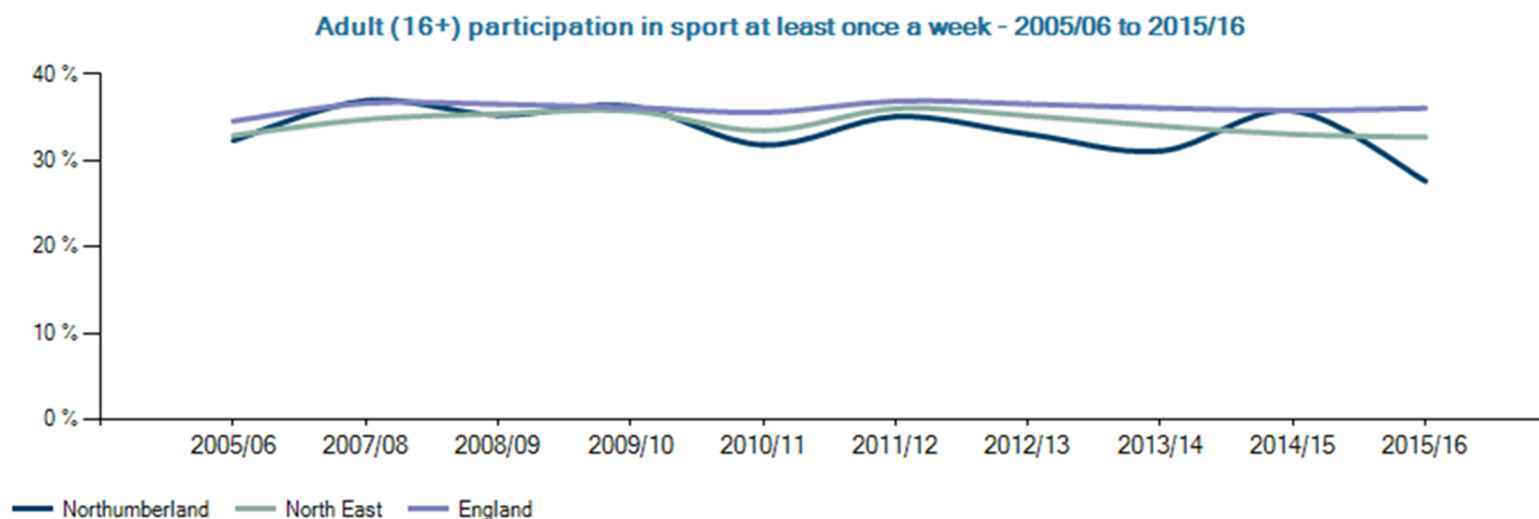
Source: Active People Survey. Measure: Adult (16+) participation in sport (at least once a week) by year, one session per week (at least 4 sessions of at least moderate intensity for at least 30 minutes in the previous 28 days). Time period(s): 2005/06, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16

Source: Sport England Local Sports Profile



3.38 The green highlighted figures show where participation rates are higher than regional and national averages.

Figure 3.1: Adult (16+) Participation in Sport (at least once a week), by year

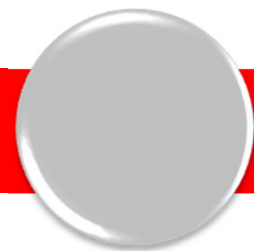


3.39 Participation by the population age 14+ years, Table 3.8, indicates a similar pattern to that described above. Participation is below the national and regional rates, although these have seen a marginal decrease there has been a more significant decrease in Northumberland from 33.8% to 28.5%.

Table 3.8: Adult (14+) Participation in Sport (at least once a week)

YEAR	NORTHUMBERLAND	NORTH EAST	ENGLAND
2012/2013	33.8 %	35.6 %	37.5 %
2013/2014	32.6 %	34.9 %	37.1 %
2014/2015	36.3 %	34.0 %	36.7 %
2015/2016	28.5 %	33.3 %	36.9 %

Source: Active People Survey. Measure: Adult participation aged 14+, one session per week (at least 4 sessions of at least moderate intensity for at least 30 minutes in the previous 28 days). Time period(s): 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016.



3.40 Three times a week participation levels are shown in table 3.9 and are below the regional and national rates overall. There has been an increase in female participation from 19.6% in 2005/06 to 21.6% in 2014/16 both figures are above the regional and national rates for females. In contrast male participation has decreased from 25.4% to 21.6% and is below the regional and national rates.

Table 3.9: Sport England Former N18 Participation 3 x a week, by year

KPI1 3 x 30 – PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PER WEEK	YEAR	NORTHUMBERLAND			NORTH EAST			ENGLAND		
		ALL	MALE	FEMALE	ALL	MALE	FEMALE	ALL	MALE	FEMALE
	2005/06	22.4%	25.4%	19.6%	20.8%	25%	16.9%	21.3%	24%	18.7%
	2014/16	21.6%	21.6%	21.6%	23.2%	27.3%	19.4%	23.5%	26.6%	20.6%

- 3.41 The number of adults wanting to do more sport is not available for Northumberland. The regional figure is marginally below the (57.6%) and national figures (58%).
- 3.42 Club membership has decreased from between 22.9% and 19.6%, below both the regional and national averages. Participation in tuition and coaching is above both the regional and the national levels and shows an increase from 12.7% to 15.1%. Participation in competition is also above both regional and national averages and has increased from 13.2% to 17.6%. The figures indicate that the way in which people are participating and the type of participation is changing.
- 3.43 Satisfaction levels with local sports provision has remained stabilised at 61.2% from following a severe decline in 2013/14 to 47.4 %. It is currently above both regional and national averages.



SPORT ENGLAND KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

3.44 Sport England, the Government's agency for sport, measure 4 key areas in relation to sport activity. Table 3.10 sets out the performance of Northumberland compared with the North East Region and England.

Table 3.10: Comparison with Sport England KPIs – Northumberland

INDICATOR	NORTHUMBERLAND				NORTH EAST				ENGLAND			
	2012/2013	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
KPI3 - CLUB MEMBERSHIP IN THE LAST 4 WEEKS	22.9 %	15.6 %	22.7 %	19.6 %	20.7 %	18.8 %	21.8 %	18.8 %	21.0 %	21.6 %	21.8 %	22.2 %
KPI4 - RECEIVED TUITION / COACHING IN LAST 12 MONTHS	12.7 %	11.5 %	15.0 %	15.1 %	13.3 %	14.1 %	12.7 %	12.8 %	15.8 %	16.4 %	15.6 %	15.6 %
KPI5 - TOOK PART IN ORGANISED COMPETITION IN LAST 12 MONTHS	13.2 %	13.1 %	14.5 %	17.6 %	12.3 %	12.3 %	11.7 %	10.8 %	11.2 %	13.3 %	13.3 %	13.3 %
KPI6 - SATISFACTION WITH LOCAL PROVISION	66.4 %	47.4 %	66.1 %	66.6 %	62.8 %	62.5 %	63.1 %	62.5 %	60.3 %	61.6 %	61.8 %	62.1 %

Source: Local Sports Profile Active People Survey, Year: 2012/13-2015/16, Measure: Key Performance Indicators 13, 14,15,16

SPORTS ACTIVITY

3.45 The Active People Survey 10 (APS10) identifies that Swimming (9.6%), Gym sessions (7.8 %), Cycling (7.3 %), and athletics are the top sports in which people participate at least one a month in the Northumberland. Top sports by local area are based on the assumption that these are aligned to those sports which have the highest participation nationally, so data has only been run for those sports which have the highest participation at national level.



3.46 The Active Lives Survey will replace the APS in the future. Active Lives Year 1 data for Northumberland highlights the following:

- **76.5% of Northumberland's residents aged 16+ took part in sport and physical activity at least twice in the 28 days prior to the survey being undertaken**
- **24.4% of the Northumberland population is inactive – i.e. they had undertaken less than 30 minutes' physical activity or sport in the last 28 days**
- **12.2% of the County's population had undertaken at least 30-149 minutes' physical activity or sport in the last 28 days**
- **63.4% of the County's population had undertaken at least 150 minutes' physical activity or sport in the last 28 days (including gardening)**

3.47 This data further highlights that whilst many in the County are physically active, the regularity of this could still increase, and there is still almost a quarter of the population who are not active enough to gain any health benefits.

MARKET SEGMENTATION

3.48 Sport England has developed nineteen sporting segments to provide a better understanding of people's attitudes to sport, their motivations and barriers. The key data sources were the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), 'Taking Part' survey and Active People. Further data was added from Experian Mosaic databases. Population data is used for people aged 18 and over.

3.49 The segmentation model consists of 19 segments – each segment has a distinct sporting behaviour and attitude. A summary of each market segment is provided in Appendix 12.

3.50 Understanding the dominant market segments in Northumberland is important as it can help direct sports provision and focus programming. The dominant market segments can be seen from the table below (Table 3.11). In Northumberland, the dominant market segments are



Table 3.11: Market Segmentation Summary - Northumberland

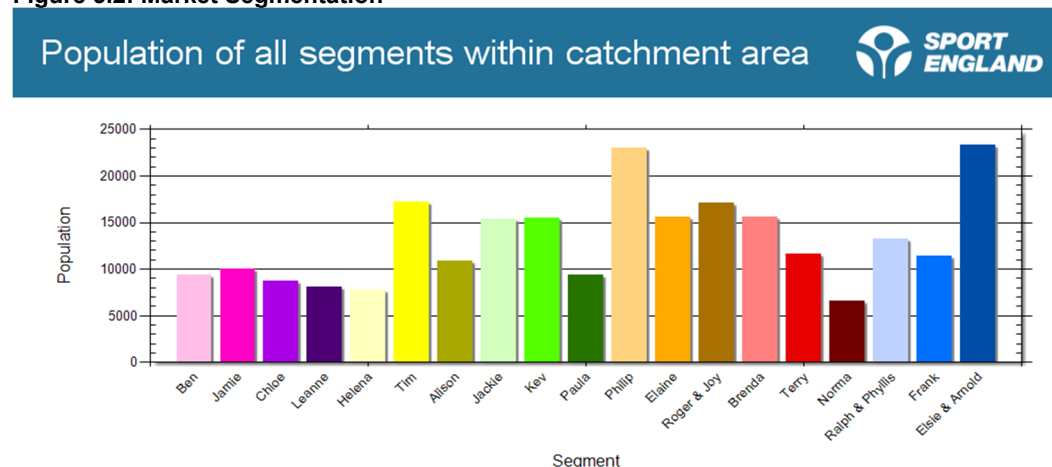
MARKET SEGMENT	KEY CHARACTERISTICS	% IN NORTHUMBERLAND	ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS THAT APPEAL TO THE SEGMENT
TIM	Sporty male professionals (aged 26-45), buying a house and settling down with partner.	13.2%	Cycling, keep fit/ gym, swimming, football, athletics and golf.
PHILIP	Mid-life professional (aged 46-55), sporty males with older children and more time for themselves	9.6%	Cycling, keep fit/ gym, swimming, football, golf
RALPH AND PHYLLIS	Retired couples (aged 66+), enjoying active and comfortable lifestyles.	9.5%	Keep fit/gym, swimming, Golf
CHLOE	Young women (aged 18-25) image-conscious females who enjoy keeping fit and trim.	8.5%	Keep fit/gym, swimming, Athletics
ELAINE	Mid-life professionals who have more time for themselves since their children left home (aged 46-55).	7.6%	Keep fit/gym, swimming, cycling, athletics or running, tennis and badminton.

3.51 The implications of the above analysis are that there is a need to ensure continued provision of quality facilities for athletics (running), badminton, cycling, fitness, keep fit/gym, football, golf, swimming and tennis.

3.52 The overall market segmentation is illustrated in Figure 3.2:

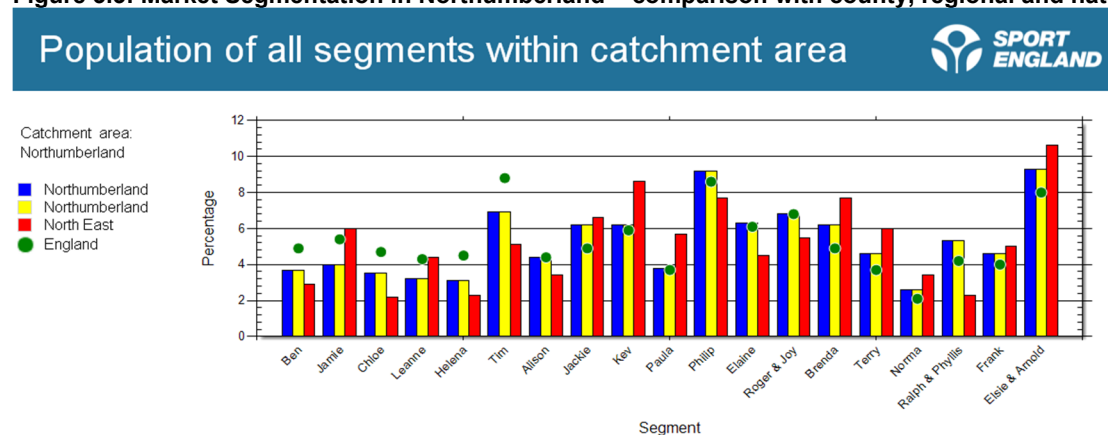


Figure 3.2: Market Segmentation



3.53 Figure 3.3 compares the dominant market segments as a percentage of the population in Northumberland with the regional and national percentages.

Figure 3.3: Market Segmentation in Northumberland – comparison with county, regional and national percentages



3.54 In terms of geographic distribution Roger and Joy, Ralph and Phyllis dominate the north. The central and south west is dominated by Tim with Elsie and Arnold and Kev being dominant in the south east. Figure 3.4 shows the geographic distribution of the dominant segments.



Figure 3.4: Dominant Market Segmentation by Population North Northumberland

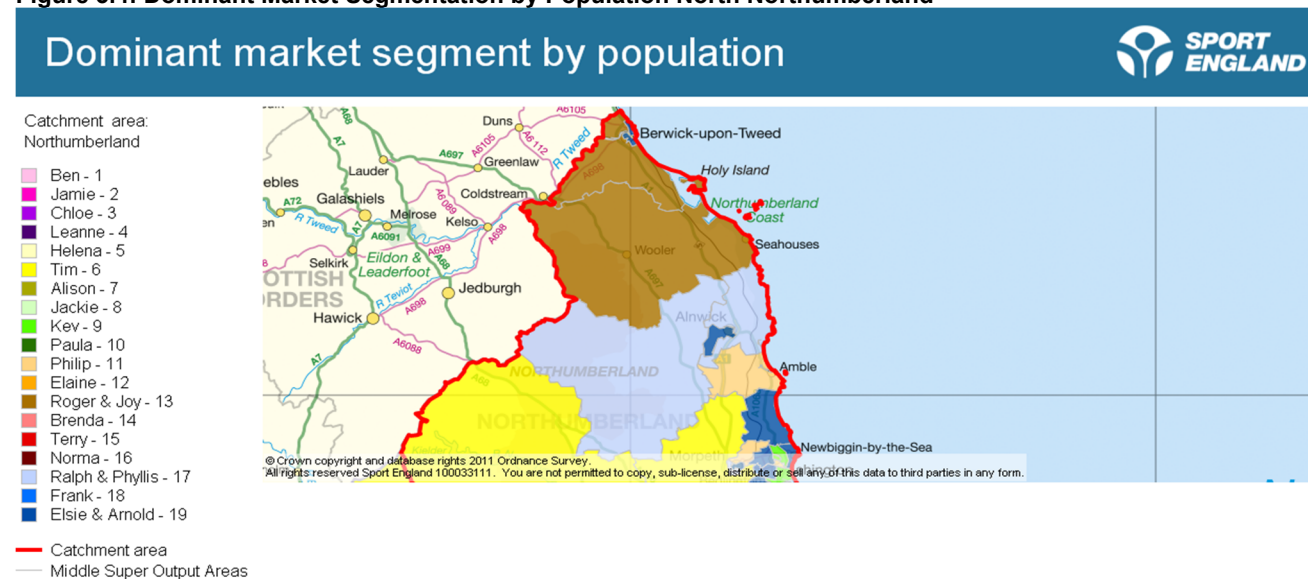



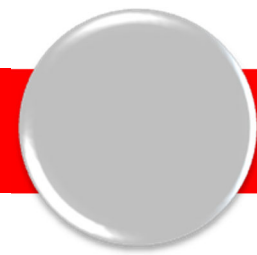
Figure 3.5: Dominant Market Segmentation by Population South Northumberland



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- 3.55 The market segmentation illustrates, in sports participation terms, the diversity of the County, and therefore the need to ensure that future provision addresses local needs, based on population age, structure, health inequalities, and current participation levels, as well as interest, and existing facility infrastructure.

THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF SPORT

- 3.56 Sport has a valuable role to play in benefitting the health and social economy of the nation and at local level. It is estimated (Source: Sport England Local Profile 2015, and the Economic Value of Sport, 2013) that sport makes an £11.3 billion contribution to the health economy of England. In 2013, sport contributed gross value-add (GVA) of £20.3 billion to the economy in England. In Northumberland, the total GVA value was £102m (£82.4m accounts for participation in sport. Overall, sport generates £103m of health benefits in the County.



4. STAGE B - EXISTING FACILITY PROVISION

INTRODUCTION

- 4.1. The current level and nature of indoor sports facility provision in Northumberland, has been assessed across the County. The population base used for the assessment and analysis are the 2014 Sub-National projections, as set out in detail in Section 3. This puts the 2017 population at circa 319,600, with an increase expected to 324,195 by 2031.

SUPPLY OF FORMAL SPORT AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.2. The following summarises the existing indoor sports facilities across Northumberland:

Table 4.1: Existing Indoor Sports Facilities – Northumberland

FACILITIES	NORTHUMBERLAND
SPORTS HALL (3+ COURTS)	32
SWIMMING POOLS	23
HEALTH AND FITNESS (FITNESS SUITES AND DANCE STUDIOS)	98
SQUASH COURT FACILITIES	23
INDOOR TENNIS	0
INDOOR BOWLS	1
TOTAL	

N.B Outdoor facilities are covered in the 2016/17 Northumberland Playing Pitch Strategy and the 2017 Open Space Strategy i.e. athletics tracks, golf, bowls, tennis, skateparks, AGPs, grass pitches, lakes

- 4.3. It is important to highlight from the outset that this Strategy is not just about formal sports facility provision, but also looks at opportunities for increased use of informal places and spaces. Community halls can be used for sport and physical activity even if they are not purpose designed nor marked for such use and can often provide an introductory experience of sport and physical activity, or a more accessible option for those who are older, have no access to private transport, or who have commitments which make it hard for them to travel to formal facilities.



- 4.4. Increased use of the outdoors, open spaces, parks, recreation grounds, and community halls also has significant potential to contribute to increasing levels of participation in physical activity at a very local level; and to addressing rising levels of obesity and other health inequalities.
- 4.5. Based on the Active Places database, the Sport England Facility Planning Model (FPM), the local sports profile data (Sport England), and the audit undertaken to inform this Strategy, the maps used in the following facility assessments show the extent of existing sport and leisure built facility provision in Northumberland.
- 4.6. Active Places allows sports facilities in an area to be identified. Nationally, it contains information regarding 50,000 facilities, across eleven facility types.
- 4.7. Users of sport and recreation facilities do not recognize administrative boundaries and will use facilities that are convenient and/or provide a quality/value for money experience. Ownership and management are, in this context, a minor consideration for most users.
- 4.8. The availability of facilities in neighbouring areas can and does influence sports facility usage patterns; however, in Northumberland, it is more than likely that there will only be cross-border use of neighbouring authority facilities, in the Newcastle and North Tyneside conurbations and the Scottish Borders due to its geography. The high level of satisfied use in Northumberland suggests that the majority of those who want to access sports facilities – sports halls and swimming pools are able to do so.

CATCHMENT AREAS

- 4.9. Catchment areas for different types of provision provide a means of identifying areas currently not served by existing indoor sports facilities. It is however, recognised that catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day, hour to hour, and are also very different in rural and urban areas. This problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchment', defined as the distance travelled by around 75-80% of users. The Maps in Section 4 demonstrate catchment areas for facility provision in Northumberland, based on this approach. Two catchment area drive times have been used which reflect the rural nature of some part of Northumberland as follows:
 - **Hexham, Berwick upon Tweed, Alnwick, and Rothbury** - A 30 minute catchment area is appropriate based on the location of the settlement itself, the location and nature of the existing sports facility in the area (i.e. wet and dry), the distance to the nearest sports facility, the designation of the town in the developing Local Plan i.e. Key Service Centre, the rurality of the area, and the population of the town and its immediate hinterland.
 - **Morpeth, Ashington, Blyth, Cramlington, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Ponteland and Prudhoe** - A 20 minute catchment area is more appropriate, because these are more urban areas or are within reach of them. The catchment area is also based on location and distance from other similar facilities, the designation of these towns in the developing Local Plan and the nature of the facilities themselves, which impacts on how far users tend to travel.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

4.10. In Northumberland, car ownership levels and access to a car varies across the County as follows:

Table 4.2: Car ownership

NORTH	WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH EAST
No car 18.8%	No car 13.8%	No car 16.5%	No car 26.8%
One car 81.2%	One car 86.2%	One car 83.5%	One car 73.2%
Two cars 27.1%	Two cars 32.5%	Two cars 32.2%	Two cars 23.2%
Three cars 5.9%	Three cars 8.2%	Three cars 7.3%	Three cars 4.3%

- 4.11. Car ownership levels vary considerably across the four county service areas as a whole. With nearly 33% of households in the Central and Western areas having two or more and approximately 1 in 13 households having 3 or more cars. The South East has nearly 24% with two cars and the North 27%. When looking at 3 cars both the South East and the North both have approximately 1 in 17 households.
- 4.12. When considering the percentage of those without cars, the South East has a significantly higher percentage than the three other areas – 8% higher than any other area. It also has the lowest percentage of one car ownership of all the areas being 8% lower than any other area. There is therefore a need to be able to access sports facilities on foot or by public transport in all areas.

STAGE B (ANOG) - ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING SPORTS FACILITY PROVISION IN NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY

4.13. This section sets out the Stage B information required by the ANOG process. It provides a detailed picture of existing facilities in Northumberland County:

- **QUANTITY** – how many of each type of facility there are
- **QUALITY** – their age and condition
- **ACCESSIBILITY** – who owns and operates the facilities, facility location and catchment areas
- **AVAILABILITY** – whether the facilities are available to all residents, and whether there is pay and play access



- 4.14. Given the inter-related nature of these four key areas, Section 4 covers each facility type in turn, and assesses it in terms of these four key areas. Section 5 then pulls together all the data collected to provide an overall summary of each facility type, current and future provision. Section 6 applies the analysis of the provision to identified needs in Northumberland, and Section 7 sets out the recommendations to be implemented through the Action Plan, to address these identified needs and gaps.
- 4.15. Given the range of facilities in Northumberland, each type is summarised below and assessed separately, to provide a more detailed picture of the current supply and demand, and critically future need.
- 4.16. As per the study brief, the formal indoor facility types assessed are:
- **Sports Halls**
 - **Swimming Pools**
 - **Health and Fitness Facilities (Fitness Suites and Studios)**
 - **Squash**
 - **Indoor Bowls**
 - **Indoor Tennis**
- 4.17. In addition to the above, reference is also made to the various village/community halls in the area, which provide informal space for a wide range of physical activity and recreational activities.
- 4.18. It is important to highlight that community use, and specifically pay and play access is the focus of the facility assessment. Community use applies to clubs, the public and community associations/groups; pay and play access refers to the public. The latter is really important because those who are inactive are highly unlikely to join a club to use a facility; therefore, it is only by ensuring there is sufficient pay and play community access to formal and informal facilities, that participation is likely to increase, and particularly amongst those who are currently inactive.

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL (NCC) FACILITIES

- 4.19. Active Northumberland, a charitable trust, delivers the operational management of Northumberland County Council's leisure facilities and manages the following facilities:
- **Bedlington Sporting Club**
 - **Blyth Sports Centre**
 - **Concordia Leisure Centre, Cramlington**
 - **Druridge Bay fitness centre, Hadston**
 - **Morpeth Leisure Centre**
 - **New Ashington Leisure Centre**
 - **Newbiggin sports and community centre**
 - **Northburn sports and community centre, Cramlington**
 - **Ponteland Leisure Centre**
 - **Prudhoe Football and Sporting Club**
 - **Prudhoe Waterworld**
 - **Sporting Club Blyth**
 - **Rothbury Pool and Gym**
 - **The Swan Centre, Berwick upon Tweed**
 - **Wentworth Leisure Centre, Hexham**
 - **Willowburn Sports Centre, Alnwick**
 - **Sporting Club Cramlington**



- 4.20. Also, Hirst Welfare Centre is operated under a management agreement between Active Northumberland and Ashington Joint Welfare Scheme, with no NCC involvement

QUALITY AUDITS

- 4.21. The quality audits comprise an independent visual assessment of the quality and condition of the facilities; results are recorded on the ANOG assessment sheet, developed by Sport England, and scored, based on the Sport England system set out in Table 4.3. Details of the audits undertaken are included in Appendices 2a – 2s. The audit scores are based on a numerical value, detailed on each assessment sheet, as follows:

Table 4.3: Audit Scoring System

KEY	RATING
>80%	Excellent
60% - 80%	Good
40% - 59%	Average
20%-39%	Poor
<20%	Very Poor

- 4.22. A facility scoring highly in terms of visual quality and condition is likely to require less investment than one which in a poorer visual condition. The combination of the scores results in the facility rating, and identification of investment need (significant, moderate etc.).



Table 4.4: Summary of Main Facilities in Northumberland – Quality Audits

FACILITY	QUANTITATIVE AUDIT SCORE	QUALITATIVE AUDIT SCORE	NEED FOR INVESTMENT	COMMENTS
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL FACILITIES				
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	66%	Good	Significant	• Ageing facility in need of modernisation
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	82%	Excellent	Moderate	• Some investment in swimming facilities may be required in the medium term
DRURIDGE BAY FITNESS CENTRE	61%	Good	Moderate	• A combination of new build wrapped around ageing facilities. Community hall may require some investment in the medium term
HIRST WELFARE CENTRE	84%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
MORPETH LEISURE CENTRE	68%	Good	Significant	• Ageing facility in need of modernisation
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	93%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
NEWBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	60%	Good	Significant	• Ageing facility in need of modernisation
NORTHBURN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	81%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	68%	Good	Significant	• Ageing facility in need of modernisation
PRUDHOE WATERWORLD	87%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
ROTHBURY POOL AND GYM	70%	Good	Minimal	• Good, fit for purpose facility. Some investment in the swimming pool may be required in the medium/long term
THE SWAN CENTRE, BERWICK UPON TWEED	68%	Good	Significant	• Ageing facility in need of modernisation
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	87%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
WILLOWBURN SPORTS CENTRE	87%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
EDUCATION FACILITIES – JOINT USE (WITH INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES)				
BEDLINGTON SPORTING CLUB	79%	Good	Minimal	• Good, fit for purpose facility. Some investment may be required in the medium/long term
PRUDHOE FOOTBALL AND SPORTING CLUB	88%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
SPORTING CLUB BLYTH	68%	Good	Moderate	• Some investment in sports hall and ancillary hall may be required in the medium term
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	93%	Excellent	Minimal	• Modern, fit for purpose facility
OTHER SPORTS FACILITIES				
HALTWHISTLE LEISURE CENTRE	74%	Good	Minimal	• Good, fit for purpose facility. Some investment in swimming pools may be required in the medium/long term



ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL FACILITY TYPES

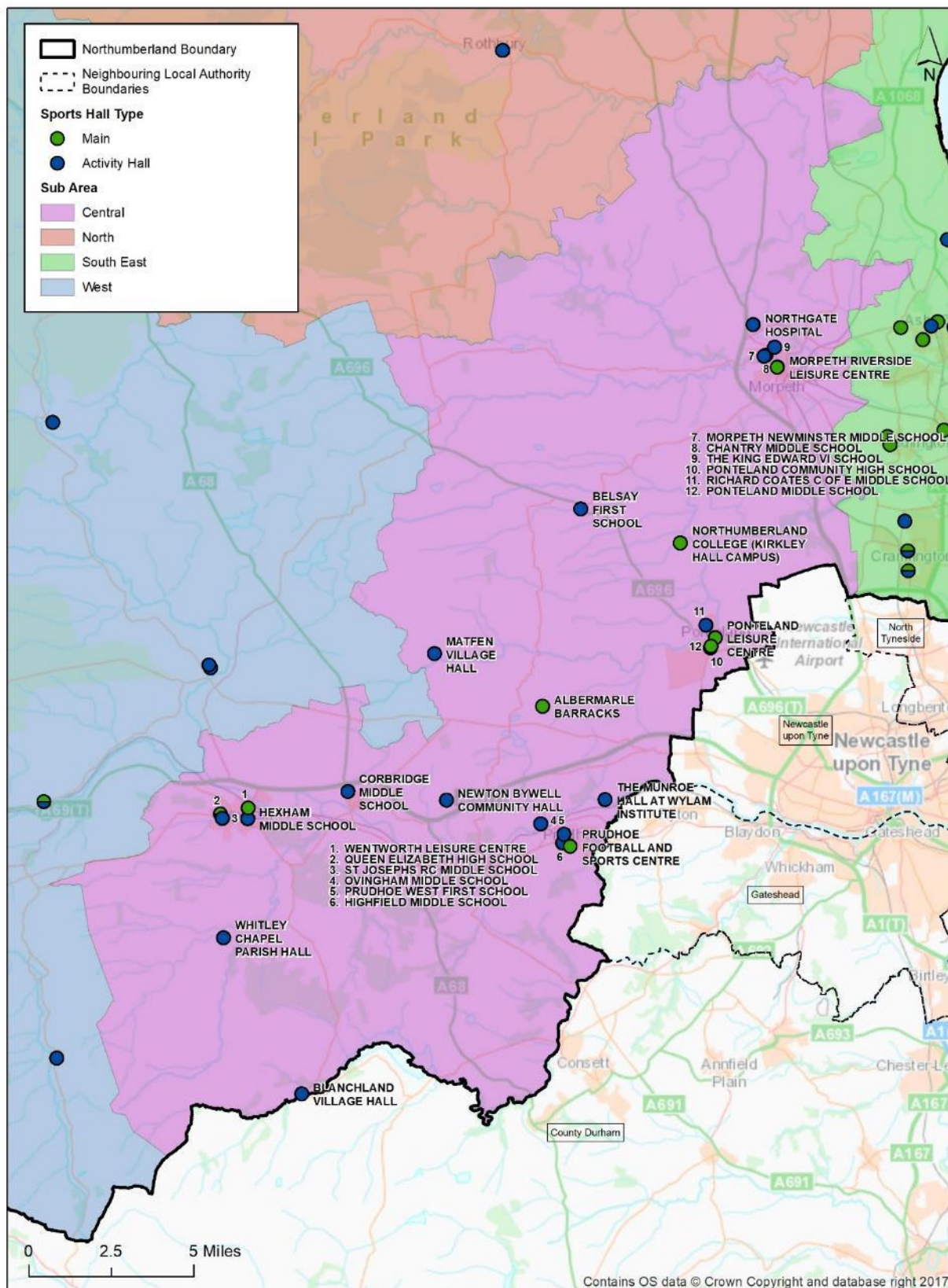
SPORTS HALLS

- 4.23. Indoor, multi-sports halls are defined as areas where a range of sport and recreational activities are carried out. They are at least 10m x 18m (e.g., the size of one badminton court including surrounding safety area) and include specifically designed venues such as leisure centres and school sports halls. The definition also applies to halls where activities can take place, such as school assembly halls, community buildings and community centres (the main ones are included in Table 4.5 below). Specialist centres, e.g. dance centres, are not included. 1 badminton court halls are only included as facilities where they are provided on the same site as a minimum 3 badminton court sports hall.
- 4.24. There are other community centres in Northumberland, but these either are not at least 1 badminton court size, or they are not on the site of a strategic size sports hall. Strategic sized sports halls are a minimum size of 3 badminton courts.

QUANTITY- SPORTS HALLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY

- 4.25. The supply analysis identifies that Northumberland has a total of 36 sports halls across 36 sites. Appendix 7 details the overall sports hall supply in Northumberland (Source SE Active Places Feb 2017).
- 4.26. There are:
- **A total of 36 sports halls and 57 activity halls across 78 sites**
 - **32 main halls in total (all strategic size i.e. 3 courts+)**
 - **17 community accessible pay and play sports halls (all strategic size i.e. 3 courts+)**
 - **73 community accessible sites i.e. available for sports club use and 20 not available (private use only)**
- 4.27. The sports halls are operated through the Council's leisure operator, by education, community associations, or youth service providers.
- 4.28. The overall supply of sports halls and activity halls is shown in Appendix 7, Table 4.5 and Maps 4.1 - 4.4.
- 4.29. 3 + court sports halls (i.e. strategic size) are shown in Table 4.6 with those available for pay and play community usage highlighted in orange. Table 4.7 shows activity halls with those available for community use highlighted in yellow.

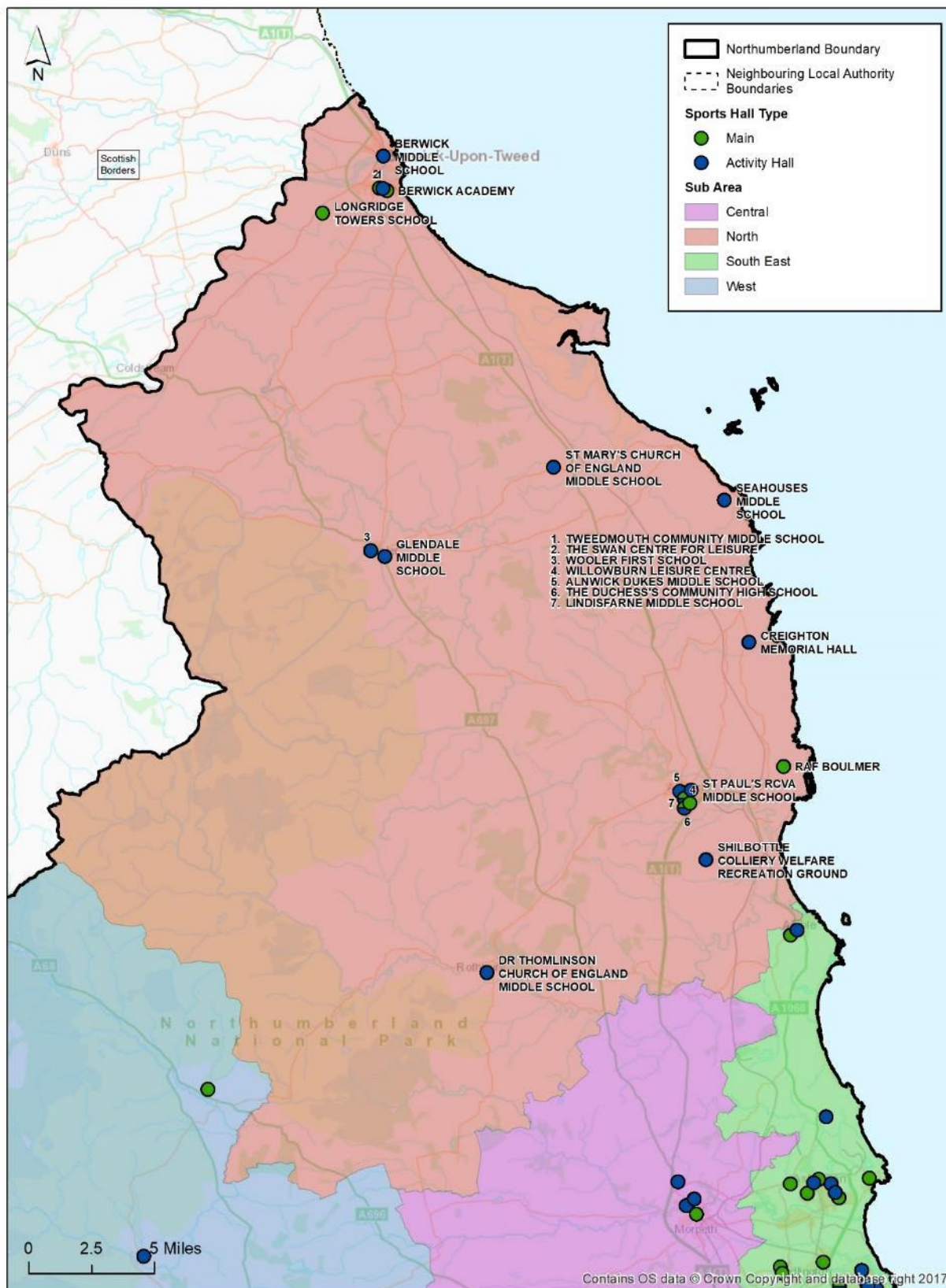
Map 4.1: Sports Halls and Activity Halls in Northumberland (Central)



Sports Halls by type in Northumberland (Central)



Map 4.2: Sports Halls and Activity Halls in Northumberland (North)

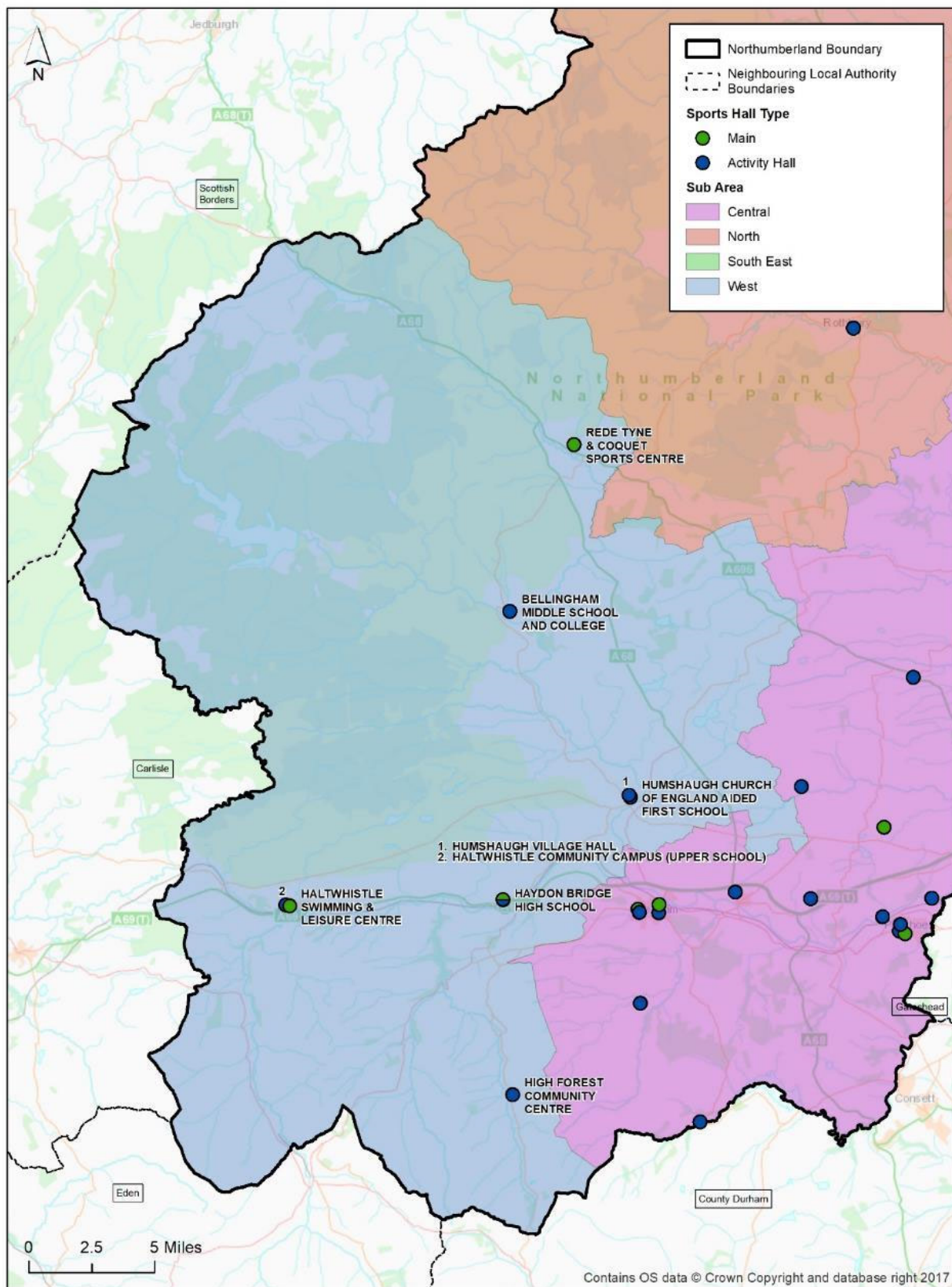


Sports Halls by type in Northumberland (North)





Map 4.4: Sports Halls and Activity Halls in Northumberland (West)



Sports Halls by type in Northumberland (West)





Table 4.5: Supply of Sports Halls and Activity Halls (Sports halls facilities are highlighted in green, activity halls in yellow)

SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ALBERMARLE BARRACKS	NE15 0RF	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	MOD	MOD	1997	n/a
ALNWICK DUKES MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE66 1UN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1985	n/a
ASHINGTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE63 8DH	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1965	2004
ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE25 0BP	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	2000	n/a
BEDE ACADEMY (NORTH)	NE24 2SY	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2009	n/a
BEDLINGTONSHIRE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	NE22 7DS	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1974	2016
BELLINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE	NE48 2EN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1950	n/a
BELLINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE	NE48 2EN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1950	n/a
BELSAY FIRST SCHOOL	NE20 0ET	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	n/a	n/a
BERWICK ACADEMY	TD15 2JF	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1970	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
BERWICK MIDDLE SCHOOL	TD15 1LA	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1920	n/a
BLANCHLAND VILLAGE HALL	DH8 9UA	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Other	Community Organisation	1998	n/a
BLYTH MORPETH ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL	NE24 5TQ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	2011	n/a
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Sports Hall	Main	8	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1979	2006
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1981	n/a
BOTHAL PRIMARY SCHOOL	NE63 8NT	Sports Hall	Main	3	Private Use	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	1963	2009
BOTHAL PRIMARY SCHOOL	NE63 8NT	Sports Hall	Main	3	Private Use	Foundation School	School/College/University (in house)	1963	2009
CHANTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RQ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1960	n/a
CHANTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RQ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1960	n/a
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Sports Hall	Main	3	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	2002



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	2016
CORBRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE45 5HX	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1960	n/a
CREIGHTON MEMORIAL HALL	NE66 3UP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	1900	n/a
CROFTWAY PRIMARY ACADEMY	NE24 2HP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2003	n/a
DR THOMLINSON CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE65 7RJ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1965	n/a
ELLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	NE61 5HL	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1986	n/a
GLENDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE71 6QF	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1953	n/a
HALTWHISTLE COMMUNITY CAMPUS (UPPER SCHOOL)	NE49 9BA	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1961	2013
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Other	Trust	2003	2013
HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	NE47 6LR	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1968	2002



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	NE47 6LR	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1998	n/a
HEXHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE46 1BU	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	n/a	n/a
HIGH FOREST COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE47 9AD	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Community Organisation	n/a	n/a
HIGHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE42 6EY	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1977	n/a
HIRST WELFARE CENTRE	NE63 9HN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	2004	n/a
HUMSHAUGH CHURCH OF ENGLAND AIDED FIRST SCHOOL	NE46 4AA	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1980	2008
HUMSHAUGH VILLAGE HALL	NE46 4AT	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Other	Trust	n/a	n/a
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (ACKLINGTON ROAD)	NE65 0NG	Sports Hall	Main	5	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1975	2013
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (SOUTH AVENUE)	NE65 0ND	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1967	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
JOSEPHINE BUTLER CAMPUS (PRIMARY)	NE63 9SA	Sports Hall	Main	3	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1980	2002
LINDISFARNE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE66 1AX	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1986	2005
LINDISFARNE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE66 1AX	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1930	n/a
LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL	TD15 2XQ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)	1993	2006
MATFEN VILLAGE HALL	NE20 0RP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Commercial	Community Organisation	n/a	n/a
MEADOWDALE ACADEMY	NE22 6HA	Sports Hall	Main	4	Private Use	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1976	n/a
MORPETH NEWMINSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RH	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1965	n/a
MORPETH NEWMINSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RH	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1965	n/a
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	NE61 1PR	Sports Hall	Main	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Trust	1967	n/a
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Sports Hall	Main	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
NEWBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE64 6HG	Sports Hall	Main	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1973	2008
NEWTON BYWELL COMMUNITY HALL	NE43 7UL	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	n/a	n/a
NORTHBURN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE23 3YT	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2005	n/a
NORTHGATE HOSPITAL	NE61 3BP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Private Use	Health Authority	Health Authority	2011	2012
NORTHGATE HOSPITAL	NE61 3BP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Health Authority	Not Known	2009	n/a
NORTHUMBERLAND COFE ACADEMY (JOSEPHINE BUTLER CAMPUS)	NE63 9RZ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2012	n/a
NORTHUMBERLAND COLLEGE (KIRKLEY HALL CAMPUS)	NE20 0AQ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Further Education	School/College/University (in house)	1988	n/a
OVINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE42 6DE	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1977	n/a
PONTELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE20 9EY	Sports Hall	Main	3	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1980	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
PONTELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE20 9EY	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1980	n/a
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1974	2008
PONTELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE20 9EY	Sports Hall	Main	3	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	n/a	n/a
PRUDHOE FOOTBALL AND SPORTS CENTRE	NE42 5LJ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2016	n/a
PRUDHOE WEST FIRST SCHOOL	NE42 6HR	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	Trust	2003	n/a
QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL	NE46 3JB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1976	n/a
QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL	NE46 3JB	Sports Hall	Main	3	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1976	n/a
RAF BOULMER	NE66 3JF	Sports Hall	Main	6	Sports Club / Community Association	MOD	MOD	1992	n/a
REDE TYNE AND COQUET SPORTS CENTRE	NE19 1HE	Sports Hall	Main	3	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Community Organisation	1988	2006
RICHARD COATES C OF E MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE20 9QB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1958	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
SEAHOUSES MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE68 7YF	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1960	n/a
SEATON SLUICE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE26 4JS	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1970	n/a
SHILBOTTLE COLLIERY WELFARE RECREATION GROUND	NE66 2XN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Local Authority (in house)	2010	n/a
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	NE23 6BN	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2002	n/a
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	NE23 6BN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2002	n/a
ST BENEDICTS RC MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE63 9LR	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Voluntary Aided School	Other	1970	2008
ST BENET BISCOP HIGH SCHOOL	NE22 6ED	Sports Hall	Main	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1960	2003
ST JOSEPH'S RC MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE46 2DD	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1976	n/a
ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE70 7NX	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1962	n/a
ST PAUL'S RCVA MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE66 2NU	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	2010	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ST WILFRIDS ROMAN CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL	NE24 2LE	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1914	n/a
THE BLYTH ACADEMY	NE24 4JP	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1975	1993
THE BLYTH ACADEMY	NE24 4JP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2002	n/a
THE DUCHESS'S COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE66 2DH	Sports Hall	Main	3	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	2016	n/a
THE DUCHESS'S COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE66 2DH	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	2016	n/a
THE KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL	NE61 1DN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Voluntary Controlled School	School/College/University (in house)	1970	n/a
THE KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL	NE61 1DN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Private Use	Voluntary Controlled School	School/College/University (in house)	1970	n/a
THE MUNROE HALL AT WYLAM INSTITUTE	NE41 8AP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	1898	n/a
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	2016



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
TWEEDMOUTH COMMUNITY MIDDLE SCHOOL	TD15 2DJ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1955	n/a
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Sports Hall	Main	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1986	2004
WHITLEY CHAPEL PARISH HALL	NE47 0HB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Trust	1937	2009
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	NE66 2JH	Sports Hall	Main	5	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2003	n/a
WOOLER FIRST SCHOOL	NE71 6QF	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1960	n/a
ASHINGTON? YMCA (NORTHUMBERLAND)	NE63 9XQ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Pay and Play	Other	Community Organisation	1990	2004
				203					

4.30. 3 + court sports halls (i.e. strategic size) are shown in Table 4.6; those available for pay and play community usage are highlighted in orange. Maps 4.5-4.8 shows the sports halls which are available for pay and play use, not those that only offer access to sports clubs and associations.

Table 4.6: Strategic size sports halls (i.e. 3+ courts) available for Community Use (Pay and Play community accessible, and community use for clubs and groups). Pay and Play community accessible halls are highlighted in orange.

SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ALBERMARLE BARRACKS	NE15 0RF	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	MOD	MOD	1997	n/a
ASHINGTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE63 8DH	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1965	2004
ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE25 0BP	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	2000	n/a
BEDE ACADEMY (NORTH)	NE24 2SY	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2009	n/a
BEDLINGTONSHIRE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	NE22 7DS	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1974	2016
BERWICK ACADEMY	TD15 2JF	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1970	n/a
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Sports Hall	Main	8	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1979	2006
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Sports Hall	Main	3	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	2002



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Other	Trust	2003	2013
HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	NE47 6LR	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1968	2002
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (ACKLINGTON ROAD)	NE65 0NG	Sports Hall	Main	5	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1975	2013
JOSEPHINE BUTLER CAMPUS (PRIMARY)	NE63 9SA	Sports Hall	Main	3	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1980	2002
LINDISFARNE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE66 1AX	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1986	2005
LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL	TD15 2XQ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School	School/College/University (in house)	1993	2006
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	NE61 1PR	Sports Hall	Main	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Trust	1967	n/a
NEW ASHLINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Sports Hall	Main	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	n/a
NEWBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE64 6HG	Sports Hall	Main	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1973	2008



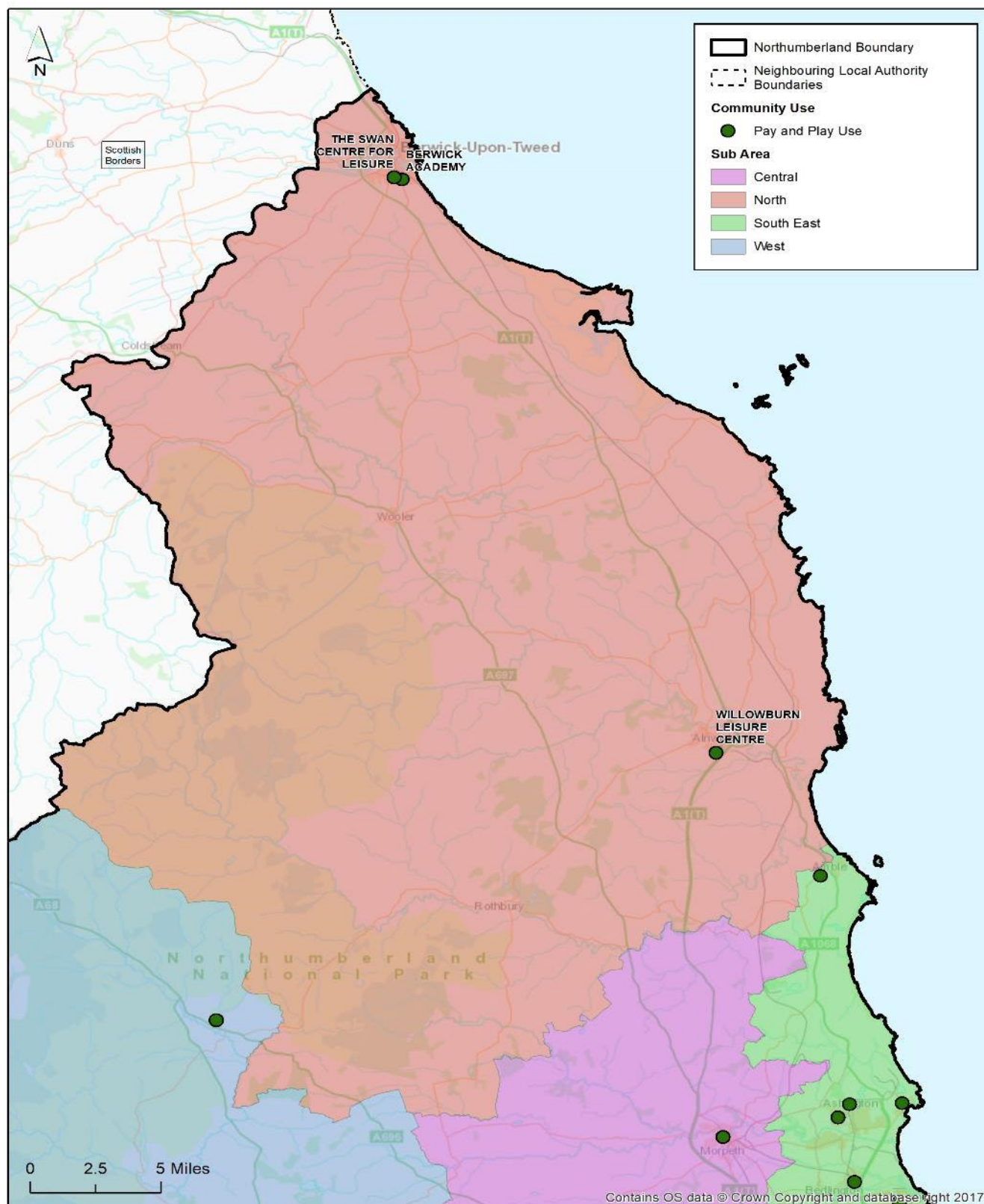
SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
NORTHUMBERLAND COFE ACADEMY (JOSEPHINE BUTLER CAMPUS)	NE63 9RZ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2012	n/a
NORTHUMBERLAND COLLEGE (KIRKLEY HALL CAMPUS)	NE20 0AQ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Further Education	School/College/University (in house)	1988	n/a
PONTELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE20 9EY	Sports Hall	Main	3	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1980	n/a
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1974	2008
PONTELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE20 9EY	Sports Hall	Main	3	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	n/a	n/a
PRUDHOE FOOTBALL AND SPORTS CENTRE	NE42 5LJ	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2016	n/a
QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL	NE46 3JB	Sports Hall	Main	3	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1976	n/a
RAF BOULMER	NE66 3JF	Sports Hall	Main	6	Sports Club / Community Association	MOD	MOD	1992	n/a
REDE TYNE AND COQUET SPORTS CENTRE	NE19 1HE	Sports Hall	Main	3	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Community Organisation	1988	2006



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NO OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	NE23 6BN	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2002	n/a
ST BENET BISCOP HIGH SCHOOL	NE22 6ED	Sports Hall	Main	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1960	2003
THE BLYTH ACADEMY	NE24 4JP	Sports Hall	Main	4	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1975	1993
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Sports Hall	Main	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	2016
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Sports Hall	Main	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1986	2004
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	NE66 2JH	Sports Hall	Main	5	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2003	n/a
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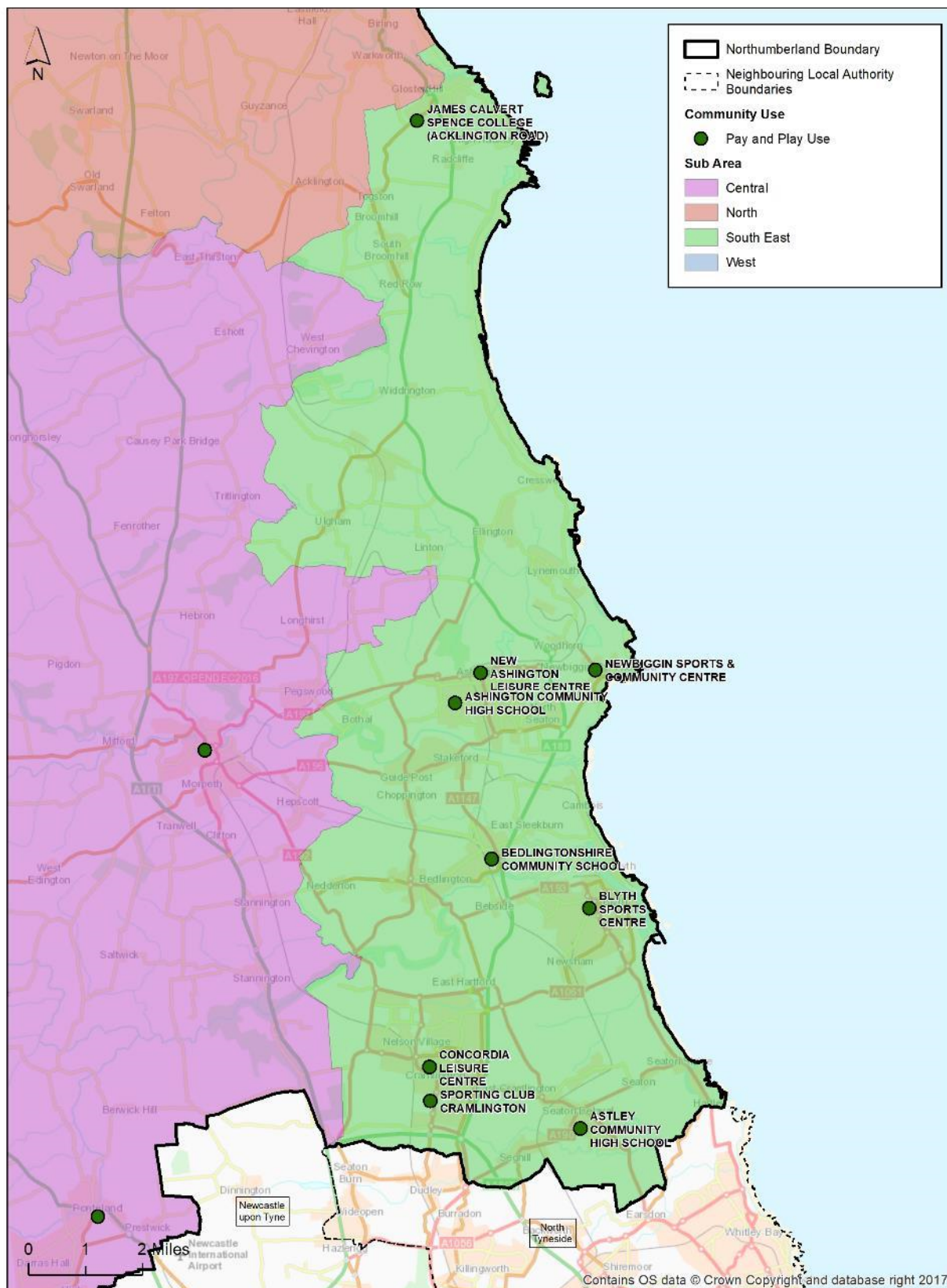
Map 4.6: Sports Halls in Northumberland (North)



Sports Halls Pay and Play use in Northumberland (North)



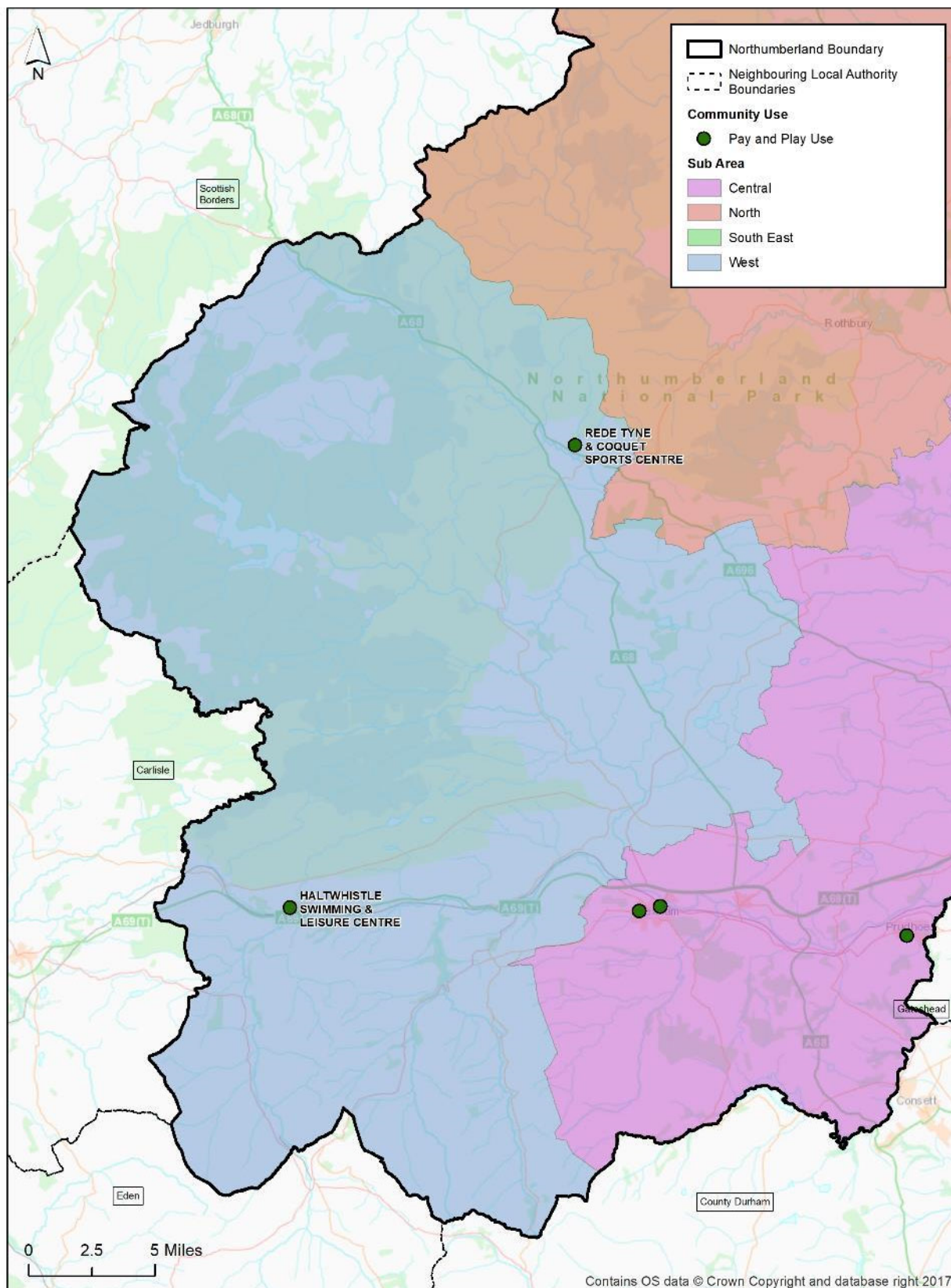
Map 4.7: Sports Halls in Northumberland (South East)



Sports Halls Pay and Play use in Northumberland (South East)

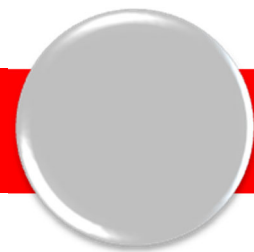


Map 4.8: Sports Halls in Northumberland (West)



Sports Halls Pay and Play use in Northumberland (West)





4.31. In addition to the 36 formal sports halls, there are 57 activity halls, 4 of which are operated on a community accessible pay and play basis. The facilities are managed through the education sector, local authority, or community organisations.

4.32. Activity halls are shown in Table 4.7; those with pay and play community access are highlighted in orange. Maps 4.9- 4.13 show the pay and play community accessible activity halls, not those that offer use for sports clubs and groups.

Table 4.7: Activity Halls with Community Access (those available for pay and play community usage are highlighted in orange)

SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
BELLINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE	NE48 2EN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1950	n/a
BELLINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE	NE48 2EN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1950	n/a
BELSAY FIRST SCHOOL	NE20 0ET	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	n/a	n/a
BLANCHLAND VILLAGE HALL	DH8 9UA	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Other	Community Organisation	1998	n/a
CHANTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RQ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1960	n/a
CHANTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RQ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1960	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	2016
CREIGHTON MEMORIAL HALL	NE66 3UP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	1900	n/a
CROFTWAY PRIMARY ACADEMY	NE24 2HP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2003	n/a
DR THOMLINSON CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE65 7RJ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1965	n/a
GLENDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE71 6QF	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1953	n/a
HALTWHISTLE COMMUNITY CAMPUS (UPPER SCHOOL)	NE49 9BA	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1961	2013
HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	NE47 6LR	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1998	n/a
HEXHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE46 1BU	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	n/a	n/a
HIGH FOREST COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE47 9AD	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Community Organisation	n/a	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
HIGHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE42 6EY	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1977	n/a
HUMSHAUGH CHURCH OF ENGLAND AIDED FIRST SCHOOL	NE46 4AA	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1980	2008
HUMSHAUGH VILLAGE HALL	NE46 4AT	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Other	Trust	n/a	n/a
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (SOUTH AVENUE)	NE65 0ND	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1967	n/a
LINDISFARNE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE66 1AX	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1930	n/a
MATFEN VILLAGE HALL	NE20 0RP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Commercial	Community Organisation	n/a	n/a
MORPETH NEWMINSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RH	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1965	n/a
MORPETH NEWMINSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE61 1RH	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1965	n/a
NEWTON BYWELL COMMUNITY HALL	NE43 7UL	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	n/a	n/a

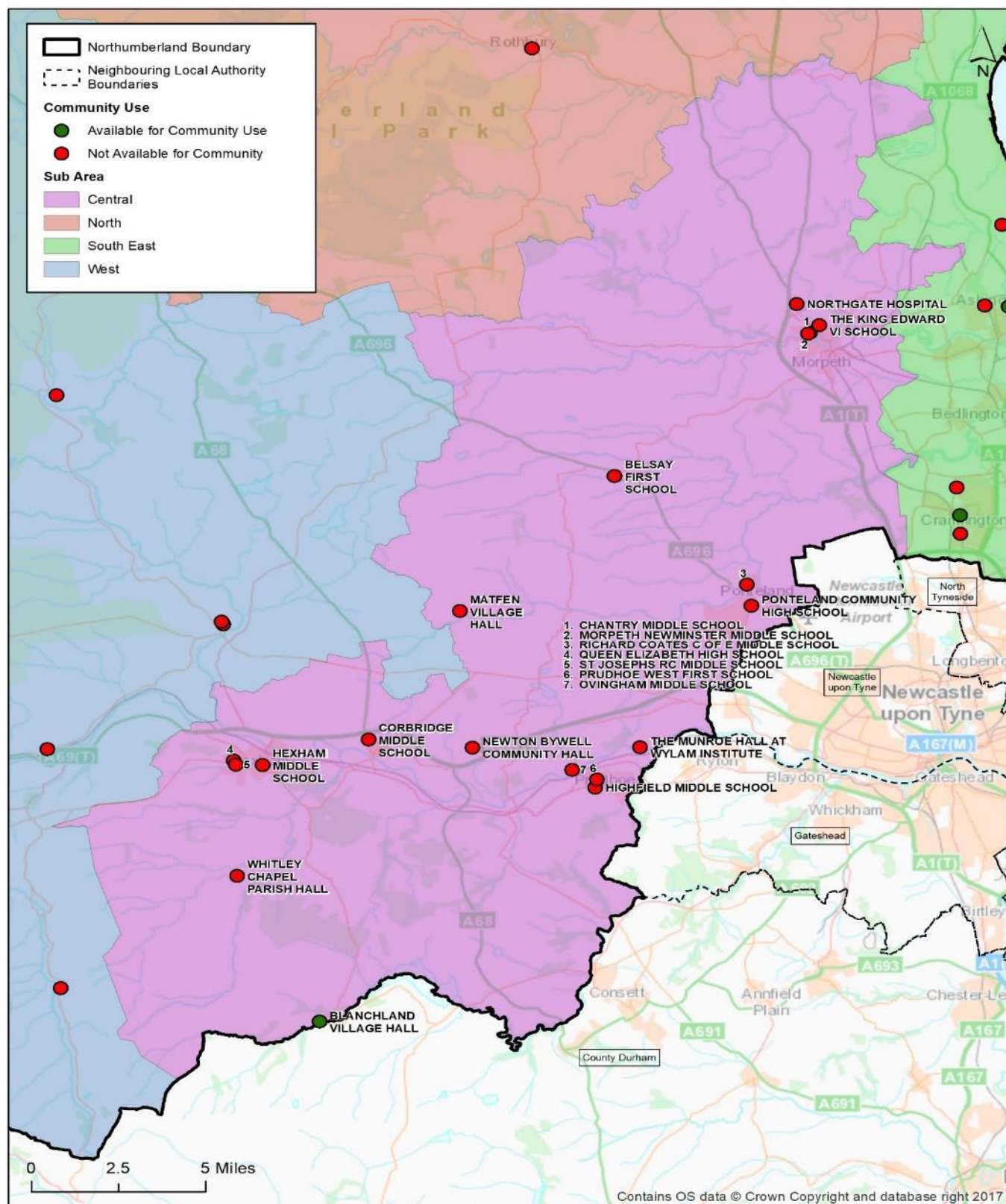


SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
NORTHBURN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE23 3YT	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2005	n/a
PONTELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE20 9EY	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1980	n/a
PRUDHOE WEST FIRST SCHOOL	NE42 6HR	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	Trust	2003	n/a
QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL	NE46 3JB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1976	n/a
RICHARD COATES C OF E MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE20 9QB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1958	n/a
SHILBOTTLE COLLIERY WELFARE RECREATION GROUND	NE66 2XN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Local Authority (in house)	2010	n/a
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	NE23 6BN	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	2	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2002	n/a
ST JOSEPH'S RC MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE46 2DD	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1976	n/a
ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE70 7NX	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	1962	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER OF BADMINTON COURTS	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
THE BLYTH ACADEMY	NE24 4JP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2002	n/a
THE MUNROE HALL AT WYLAM INSTITUTE	NE41 8AP	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	1898	n/a
TWEEDMOUTH COMMUNITY MIDDLE SCHOOL	TD15 2DJ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1955	n/a
WHITLEY CHAPEL PARISH HALL	NE47 0HB	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Trust	1937	2009
YMCA (NORTHUMBERLAND)	NE63 9XQ	Sports Hall	Activity Hall	0	Pay and Play	Other	Community Organisation	1990	2004
				33					

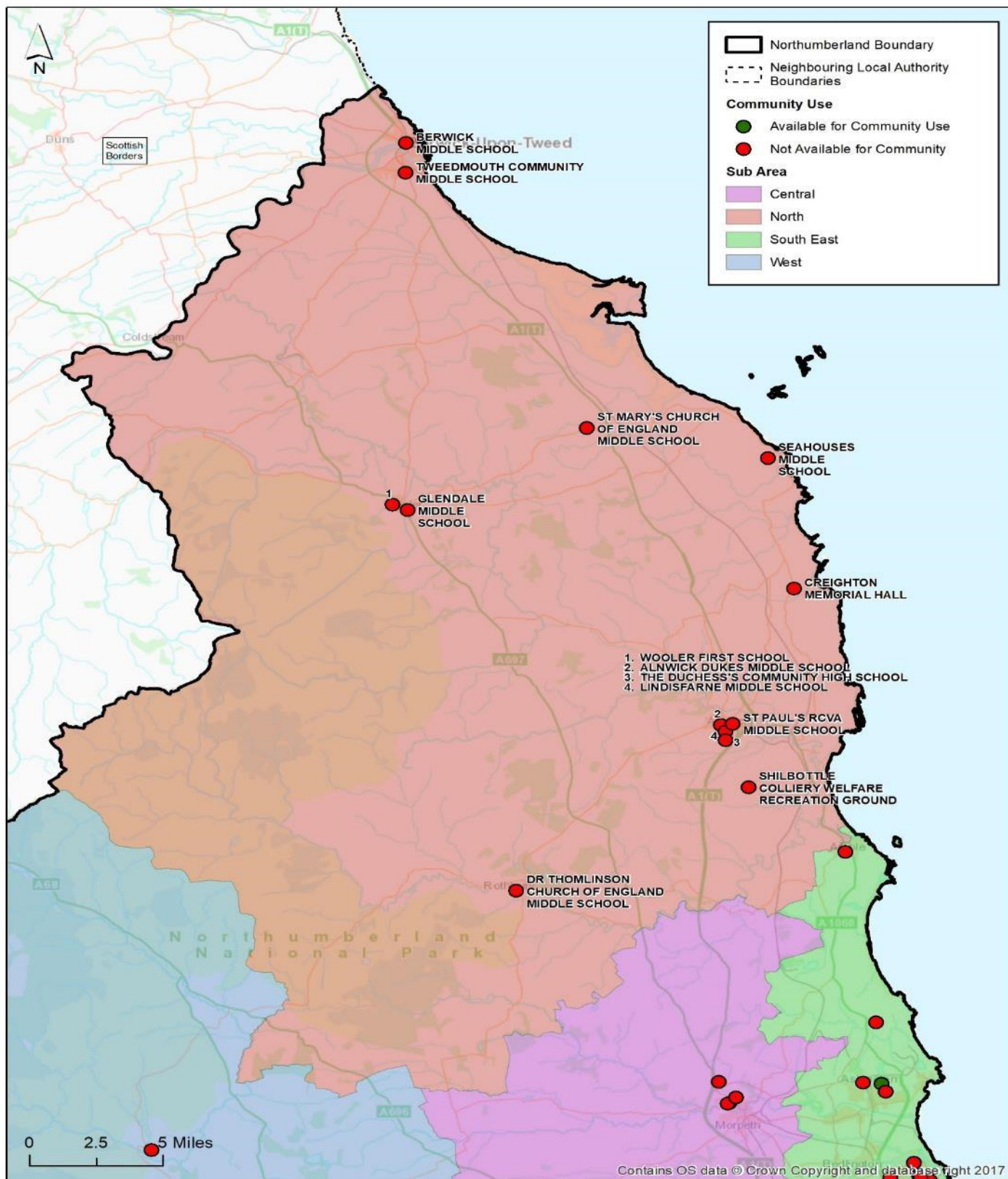
Map 4.9: Pay and play Community Accessible Activity Halls in Northumberland (Central)



Activity Halls by community use availability in Northumberland (Central)



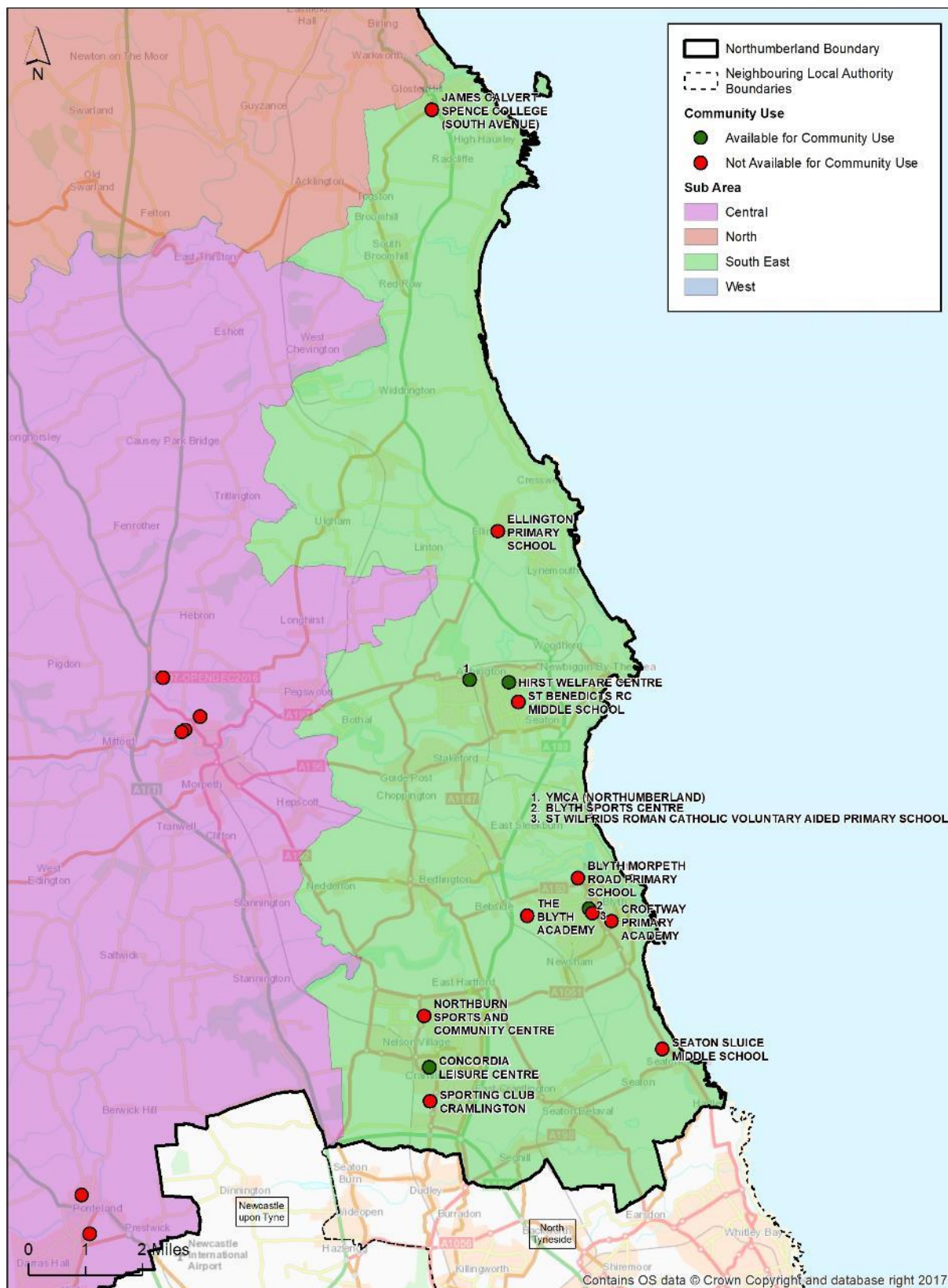
Map 4.10: Pay and play Community Accessible Activity Halls in Northumberland (North)



Activity Halls by community use availability in Northumberland (North)



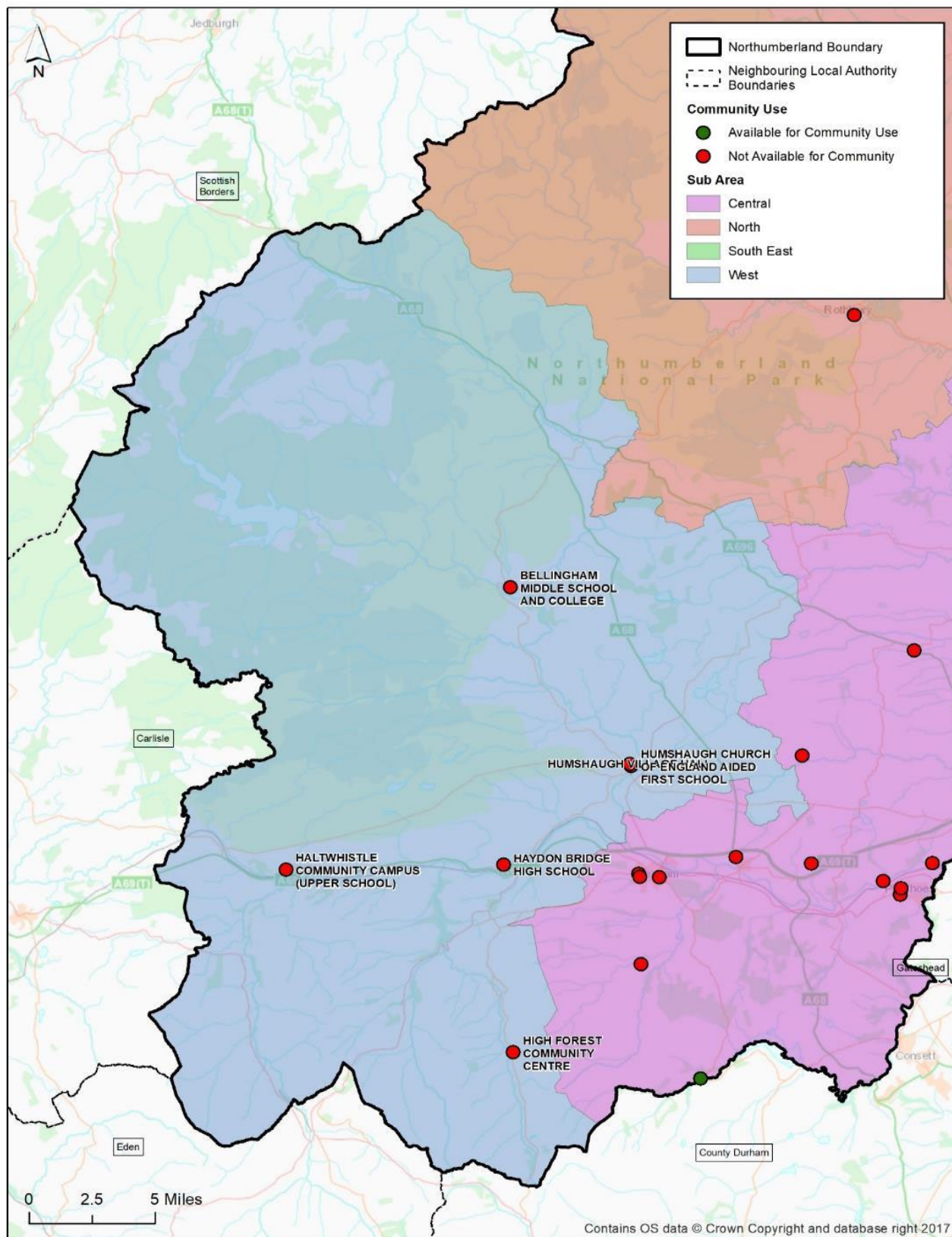
Map 4.11: Pay and play Community Accessible Activity Halls in Northumberland (South East)



Activity Halls by community use availability in Northumberland (South East)



Map 4.12: Pay and play Community Accessible Activity Halls in Northumberland (West)



Activity Halls by community use availability in Northumberland (West)





4.33. A summary of sports hall and activity hall supply in Northumberland is set out in Table 4.8:

Table 4.8: Summary of Sports Hall and Activity Hall Supply in Northumberland

	TOTAL EXISTING PROVISION	AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE (PAY AND PLAY AND SPORTS CLUBS/ASSOCIATIONS)	AVAILABLE FOR PAY AND PLAY COMMUNITY USE
TOTAL BADMINTON COURTS (SPORTS HALLS AND ACTIVITY HALLS)	203	174	83
TOTAL SPORTS HALLS (STRATEGIC SIZE I.E. 3 COURT +)	32	32	17
BADMINTON COURTS IN STRATEGIC SIZE SPORTS HALLS	141	141	77
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE 3 COURT HALLS	6	6	3
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE 4 COURT HALLS	17	9	8
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE 5 COURT HALLS	2	2	2
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE 6 COURT HALLS	6	3	3
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE 8 COURT HALLS	1	1	1
TOTAL ACTIVITY HALLS 2 COURTS OR LESS	57	42	4

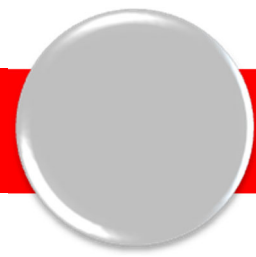
4.34. It is clear from Table 4.8 that there are 6, 3 court sports hall, 17, 4 court halls, 2, 5 court halls and 6, 6 court halls and only one 8 court sports hall in Northumberland. Just over half of all of the badminton courts available in strategic size sports halls i.e. 3 courts plus, are available for pay and play community use.

4.35. There are eight, 4 court halls and three 6 court halls that do not offer community access.

QUALITY - SPORTS HALLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

4.33 Detailed quality assessments have been undertaken on all NCC indoor sports facilities in the County. Quality assessments were undertaken by way of a site visit and visual assessment of the facilities. These are provided in Appendix 2a – 2s and are summarised in Table 4.4.

4.34 The quality of the Council's sports halls is mixed with New Ashington Leisure Centre, Wentworth Leisure Centre, Willowburn Leisure Centre and Concordia Leisure Centre offering good, modern facilities. The remaining facilities are all over 25 years old, are tired and in need of upgrading or replacement to bring the current and future offer up to the same standard or better than the current modern facilities offered by NCC. Of the remainder, available for Community pay and play use, the facilities at school sites and forming a raft of Sporting Clubs are all relatively new.



4.35 A key issue is the age and condition of the Blyth Sports Centre, Morpeth Riverside Leisure Centre, the Swan Leisure Centre, Berwick upon Tweed and Ponteland Leisure Centre with all facilities built between 1967 and 1991.

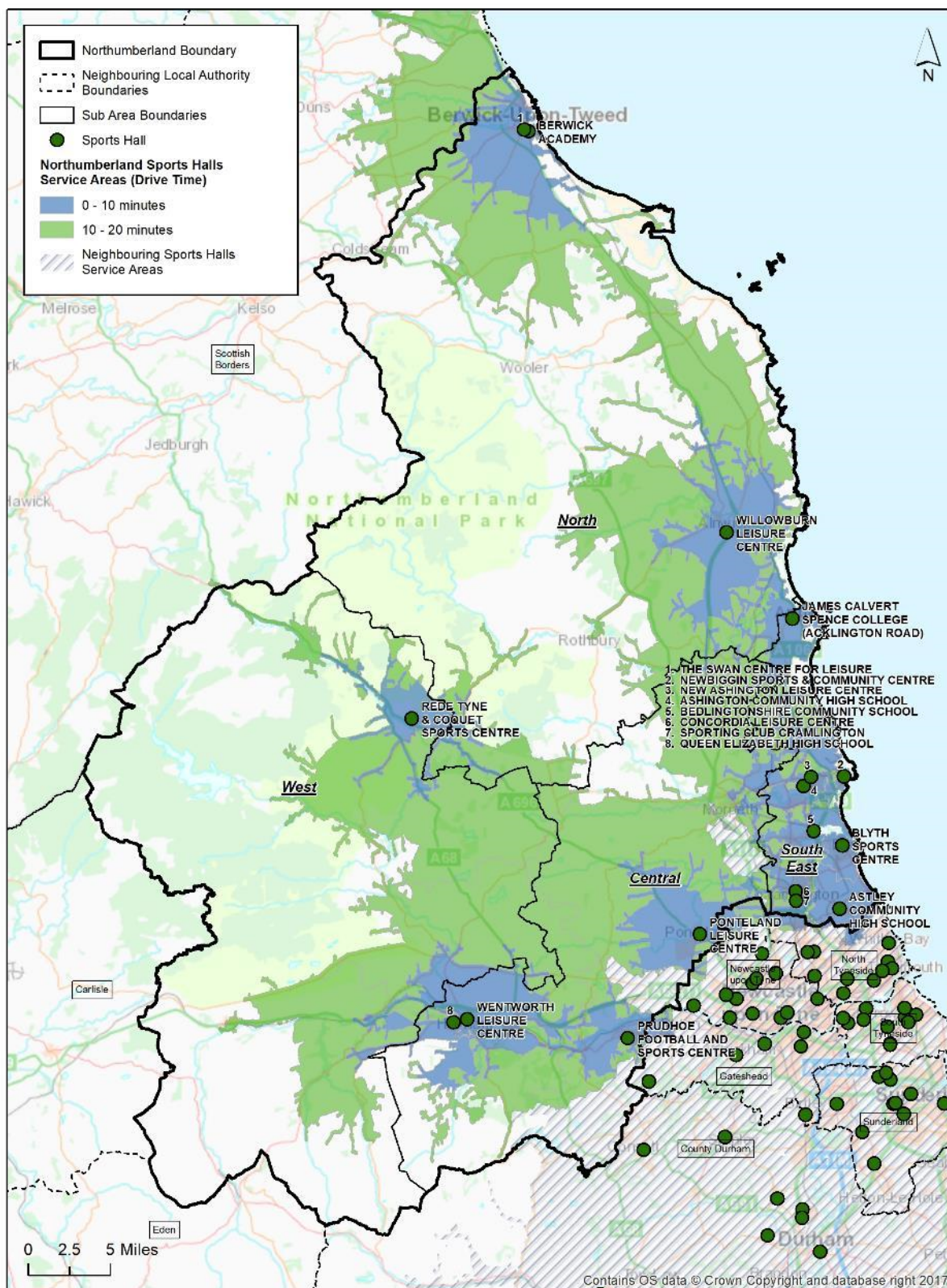
4.36 Planning for the future replacement of these facilities needs to be considered now.

ACCESSIBILITY - SPORTS HALLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

4.37 Sports halls are located fairly evenly across the County, however, there are few sports halls in the North and West compared to the South East which has a number of facilities. There are two areas outside the 20 minute drivetime catchments of these sports halls, the far west of the North service area and far west of the West service area.

4.38 Map 4.13 shows the geographic distribution of the strategic size (3 courts +) pay and play community accessible sports halls in Northumberland, with a catchment area for each of 20 minutes drivetime.

Map 4.13: Sports Halls with 20 minute drivetime catchment area



Sports Halls with community use availability service areas in Northumberland (up to 20 minutes drive time)



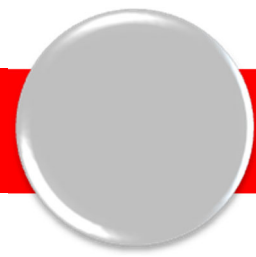


AVAILABILITY - SPORTS HALLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.39 Map 4.13 illustrates that the majority of residents in Northumberland have access to a strategic size sports hall which offers pay and play access within a 20 minute drivetime, with the exception of the west of the North and west of the West service areas. The challenge is there is a range of between 13.8 and 26.8% across the population in the County's service areas that do not have access to a car and so are dependent on walking, cycling or public transport to access facilities.
- 4.40 40% of all badminton courts are available for pay and play use. Map 4.13 illustrates the geographical and accessibility impact of strategic size sports halls having pay and play access, with 55% of strategic size courts (3 court+) being available for pay and play use and 100% offering access either through pay and play or sports clubs/community association use.
- 4.41 Of the 32 strategic size sports halls, only 10 are accessible for daytime use. The rest of the centres do not offer access to a strategic size sports hall during the day, because the majority of sports halls are on education sites.
- 4.42 Access to informal halls and other spaces is important to ensure access to physical activity opportunities, when there are fewer formal facilities available.
- 4.43 A further aspect of accessibility is programming, opening hours and whether facilities offer pay and play usage.
- 4.44 Not everyone is, can be, or wants to be a member of a sports club, so this type of access does not actually provide for the whole community, and is unlikely to address the needs of the most inactive, or those from the areas of highest deprivation, who are also likely to be those experiencing significant health inequalities.
- 4.45 There is role for the existing informal hall space across the County, as well as potentially increasing capacity for community accessible pay play usage of existing education-based facilities, which provide for sports clubs and associations.

EDUCATION FACILITIES

- 4.46 Many of the schools in Northumberland, have a good range of dry sports facilities. There is limited pay and play community access to these facilities. There is however significant use of these facilities by local sports clubs/associations and three sites that NCC work in partnership with to provide sporting clubs with formal dual use agreements.
- 4.47 Some education sites have limited, and/or ageing sports facilities, both indoor and outdoor provision, but generally, facility quality is good. There is, however, some inequity across the County as to the sporting experience enjoyed by young people; this is an important issue to address, as early experience can impact on future participation in sport, and physically activity levels.



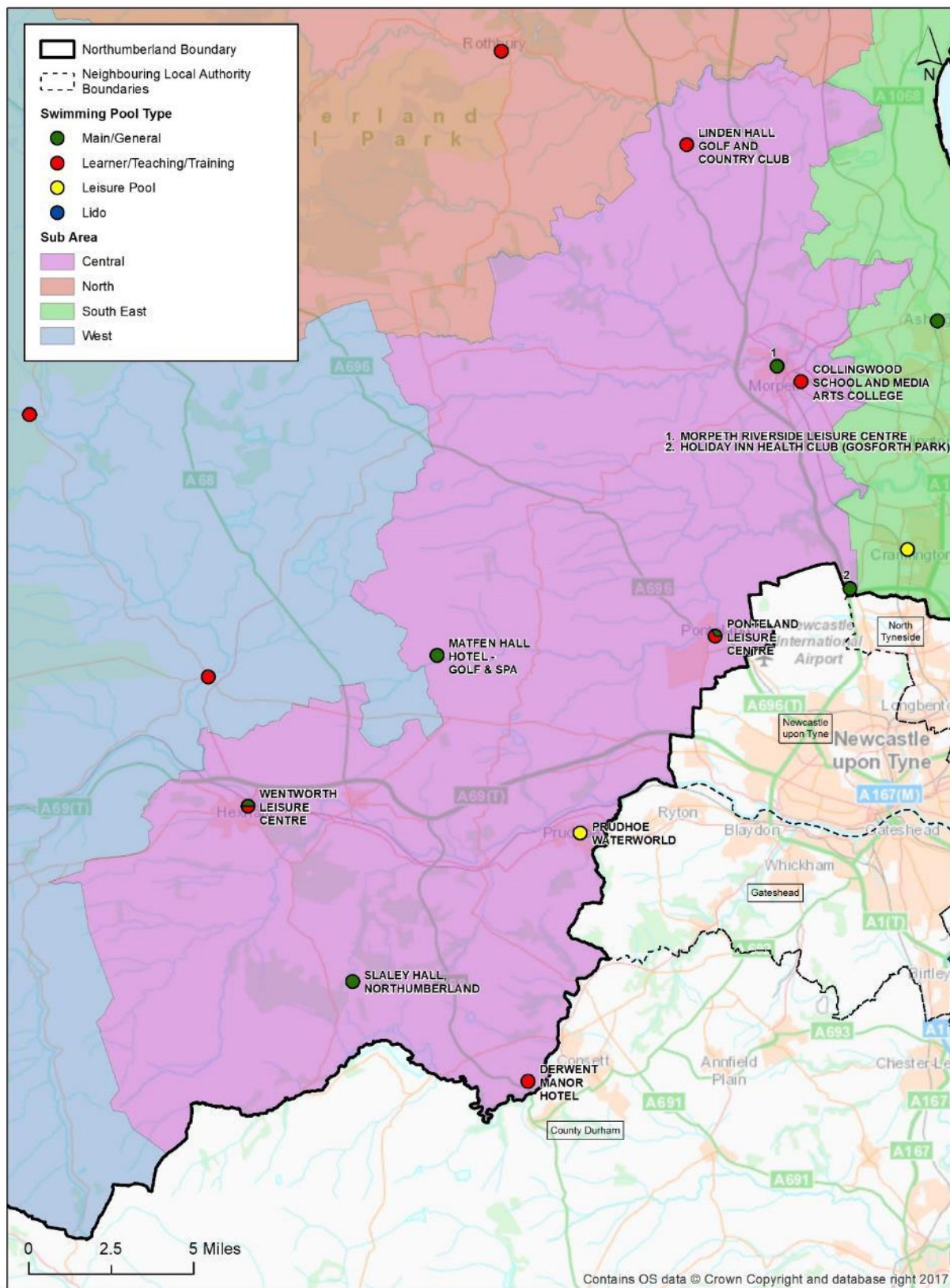
- 4.48 The sports halls (3 court +), provided by NCC (Blyth Sports Centre, Concordia Leisure Centre, Morpeth Riverside Leisure Centre, New Ashington Leisure Centre, Berwick Swan Leisure Centre, Wentworth Leisure Centre and Willowburn Leisure Centre) are important in ensuring both daytime access is available, and that this caters for pay and play access, as well as clubs.

SWIMMING POOLS

QUANTITY- SWIMMING POOLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.49 The supply analysis identifies that Northumberland has an overall total of 35 swimming pools across 26 sites. Appendix 8 details the overall pool supply in Northumberland; data source SE Active Places December 2016. These pools are shown in Table 4.8 and Maps 4.14 - 4.17 Strategic sized pools are those of 160 sq m +.
- 4.50 Pools with community use (pay and play and sports club/community associations) are highlighted in orange in Table 4.9.

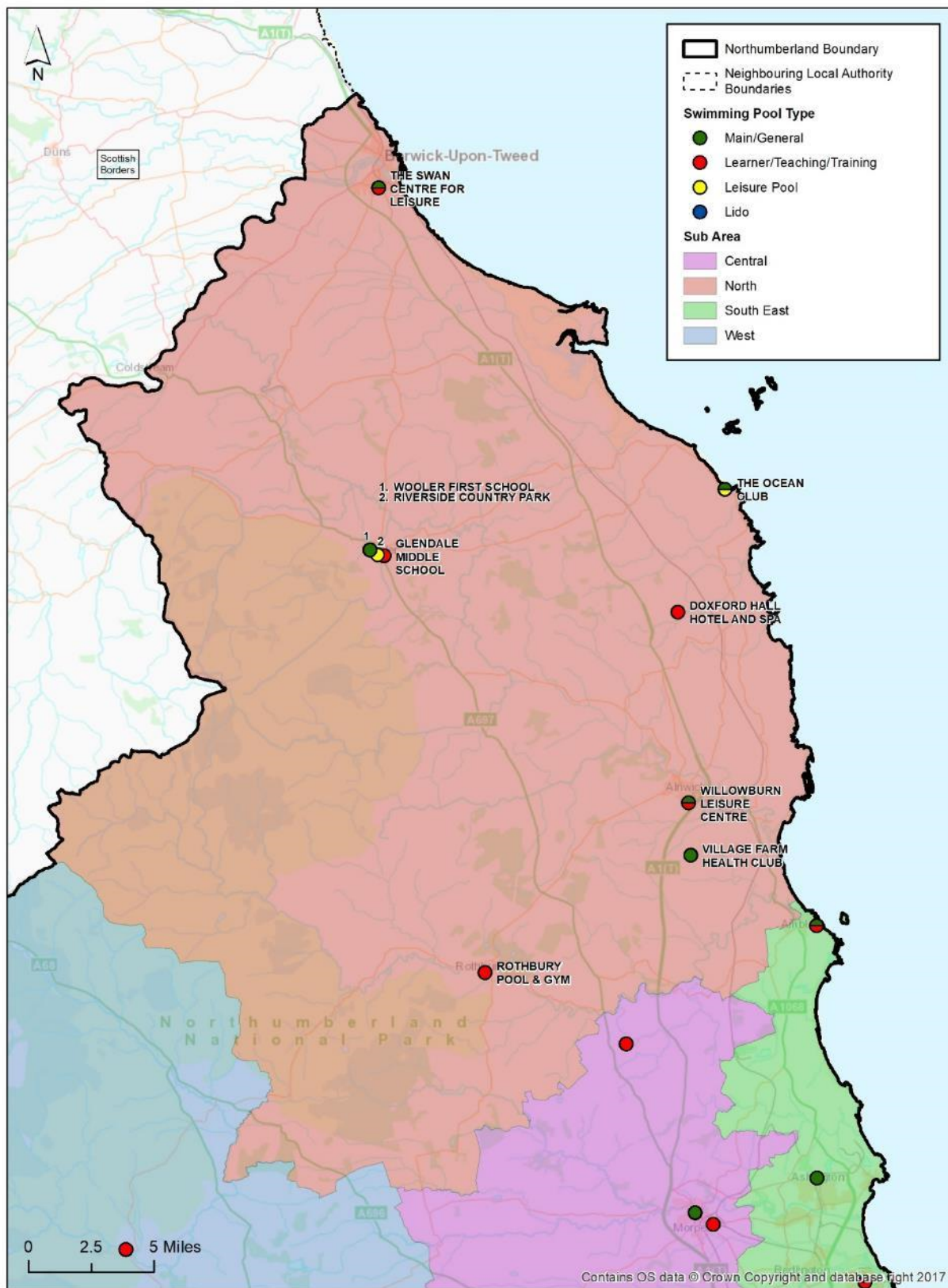
Map 4.14: All Swimming Pools in Northumberland (Central)



Swimming Pools by type in Northumberland (Central)



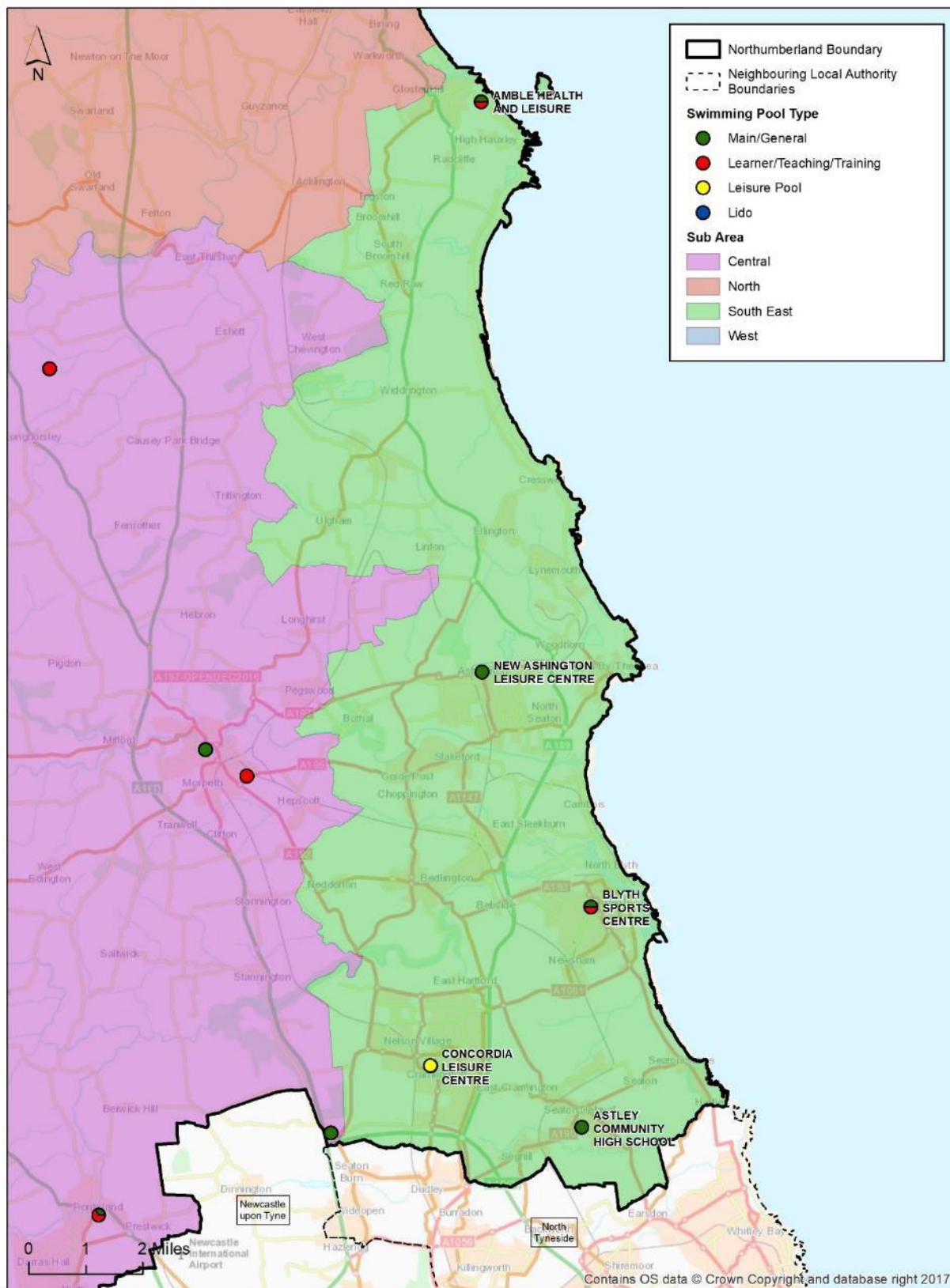
Map 4.15: All Swimming Pools in Northumberland (North)



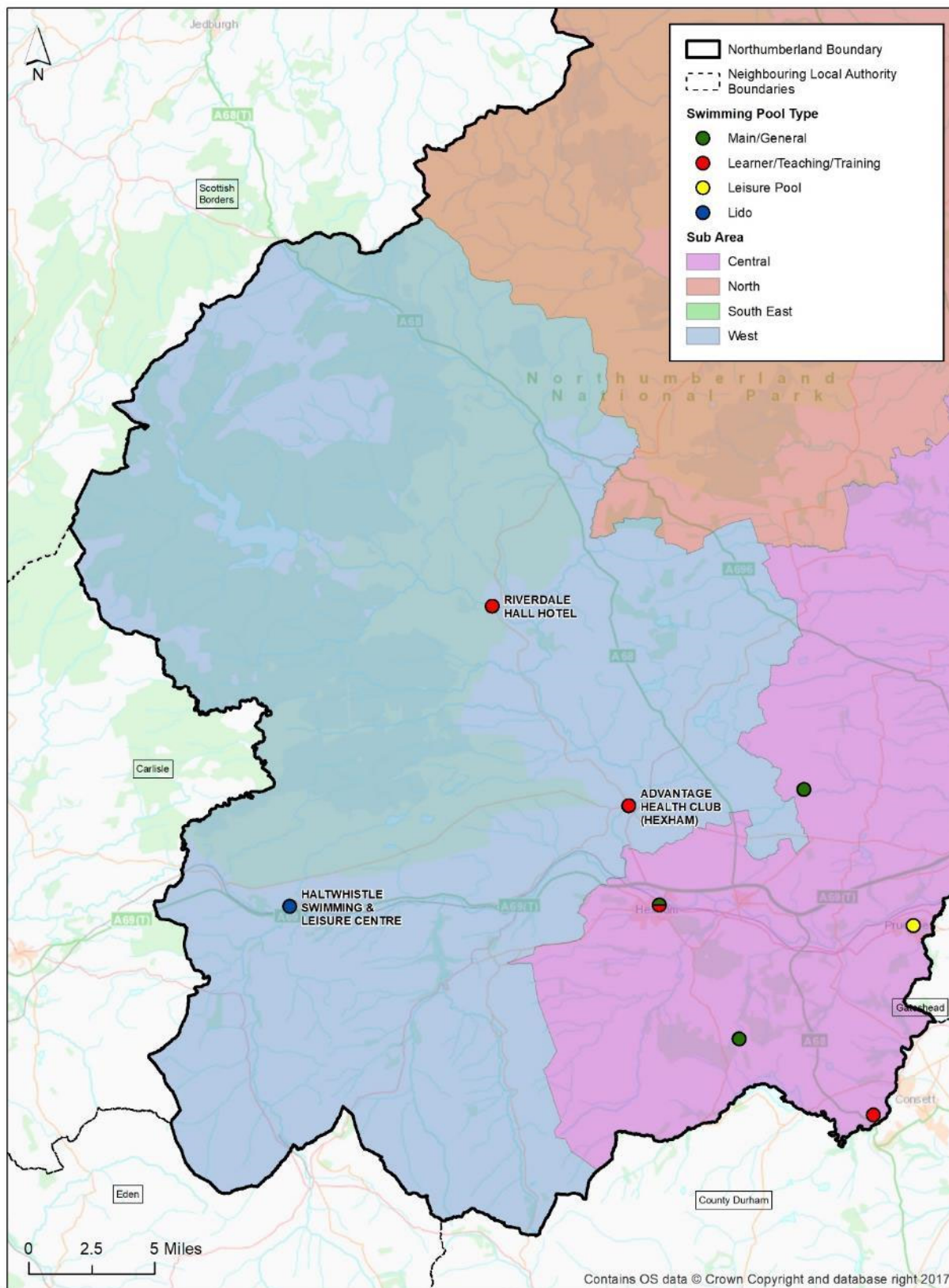
Swimming Pools by type in Northumberland (North)



Map 4.16: All Swimming Pools in Northumberland (South East)



Map 4.17: All Swimming Pools in Northumberland (West)



Swimming Pools by type in Northumberland (West)





Table 4.9: All Swimming Pools in Northumberland

SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ADVANTAGE HEALTH CLUB (HEXHAM)	NE46 4EW	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1982	2009
AMBLE HEALTH AND LEISURE	NE65 0SD	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2005	n/a
ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE25 0BP	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	4	Pay and Play	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1965	2013
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1967	2007
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1967	n/a
COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL AND MEDIA ARTS COLLEGE	NE61 2HA	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Special School	School/College/ University (in house)	1958	2005
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Swimming Pool	Leisure Pool	Lanes	3	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	n/a
DOXFORD HALL HOTEL AND SPA	NE67 5DN	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2007	n/a
GLENDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL	NE71 6QF	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1953	n/a
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Swimming Pool	Lido – Main Pool	Lanes	5	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	1975	2003



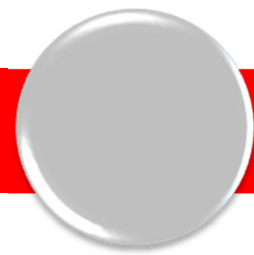
SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Swimming Pool	Lido – Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	1975	2003
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Swimming Pool	Lido - Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	1975	2003
HOLIDAY INN HEALTH CLUB (GOSFORTH PARK)	NE13 6BP	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1974	2009
LINDEN HALL GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB	NE65 8XF	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1991	2008
MATFEN HALL HOTEL - GOLF AND SPA	NE20 0RH	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2004	n/a
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	NE61 1PR	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1967	n/a
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2015	n/a
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2015	n/a
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	5	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	1998
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	1998
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	1998



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
PRUDHOE WATERWORLD	NE42 5DQ	Swimming Pool	Leisure Pool	Lanes	4	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	2007
RIVERDALE HALL HOTEL	NE48 2JT	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1983	2015
RIVERSIDE COUNTRY PARK	NE71 6NJ	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Private Use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1993	n/a
ROTHBURY POOL AND GYM	NE65 7RJ	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Voluntary Aided School	Trust	2006	n/a
SLALEY HALL, NORTHUMBERLAND	NE47 0BX	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1995	2008
THE OCEAN CLUB	NE68 7SP	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2005	n/a
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	5	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1995	n/a
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	1998
VILLAGE FARM HEALTH CLUB	NE66 2XS	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1998	2007
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2008	n/a
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2008	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	NE66 2JH	Swimming Pool	Main/General	Lanes	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2003	n/a
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	NE66 2JH	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2003	n/a
WOOLER FIRST SCHOOL	NE71 6QF	Swimming Pool	Learner/Teaching /Training	Lanes	0	Private Use	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1990	n/a



4.51 The analysis of the overall swimming pool supply in Northumberland, is as follows:

Table 4.10: Analysis of Swimming Pool Supply in Northumberland

SWIMMING POOLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY	NO OF POOLS	NO OF SITES
TOTAL NUMBER OF POOLS		
Community Accessible Swimming Pools (pay and play and sports clubs/community associations)	23	22
Community Accessible Swimming Pools (pay and play)	21	20
Main Pools	9	9
Learner Pools	21	20
Diving	0	0
Leisure	2	2
Lidos	3	1
Education Sector (Sports Clubs and Associations)	2	2
Education/Private Use	2	2
NON-COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE POOLS		
Private Sector	10	10

4.52 It is clear from Table 4.11 below that there are no 8 lane swimming pools in the County. There are four pools of 6 lanes; two pools of 5 lanes and two 4 lane pools.

4.53 65% of the pools provide pay and play community access i.e. 23 of the 35; there are 10 commercial facilities which all require membership prior to use. There are also 2 education/private use pools and 2 sports club/community association pools.



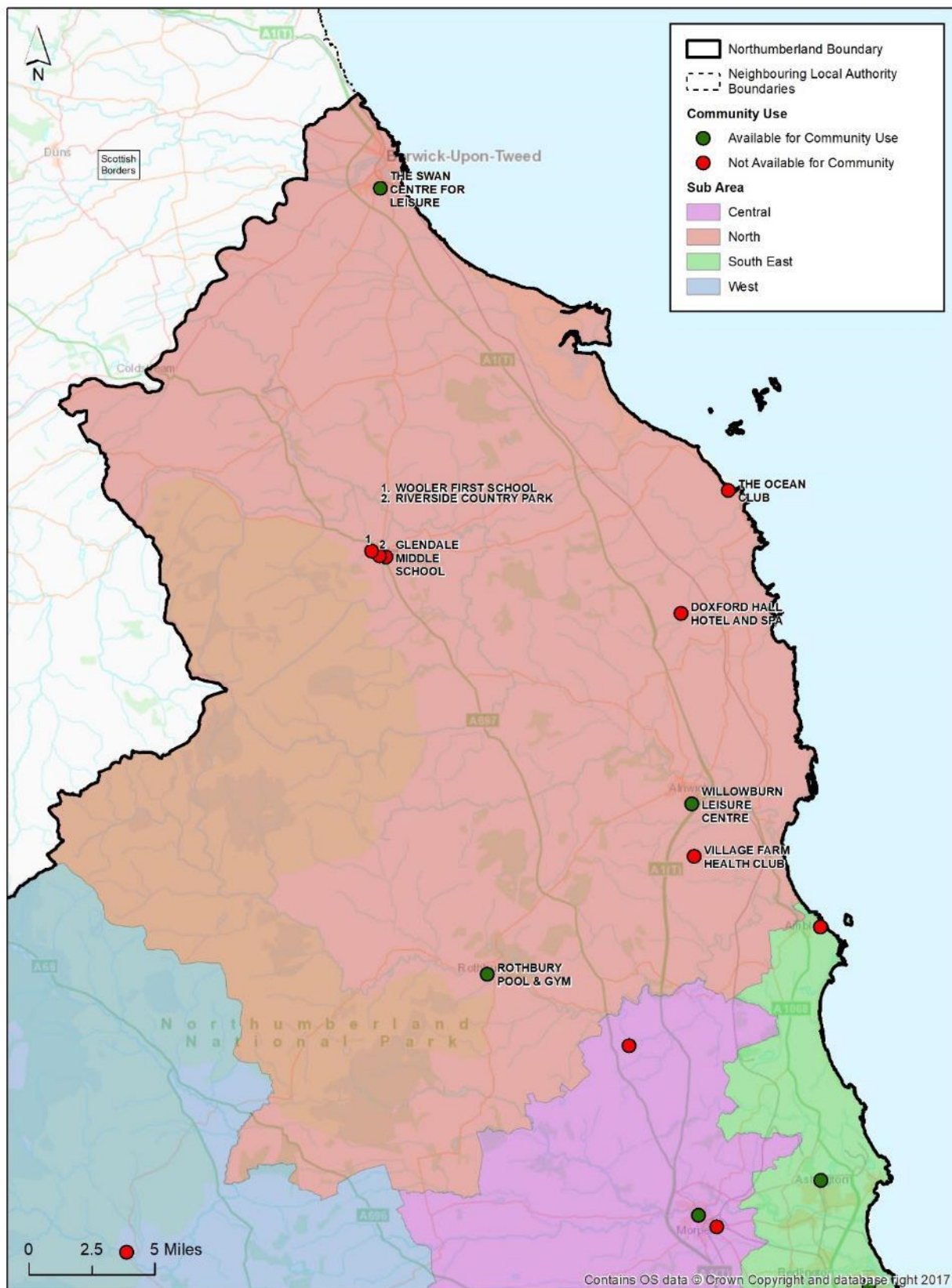
Table 4.11: Community Accessible i.e. pay and play Swimming Pools in Northumberland

FACILITY NAME	POOL TYPE				LANES	LENGTH	WIDTH	AREA SQM
	MAIN	LEARNER	LEISURE	LIDO				
ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	Y				4	20	8	160
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	Y				6	25	13	325
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE		Y				12.8	6	77
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE			Y		3	25	19	475
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	Y			Y	5	25	10	250
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE		Y		Y		10	8	80
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE			Y	Y		3	3	9
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	Y				4	25	10	250
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	Y				6	25	13	325
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE		Y				13	8	104
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	Y				5	25	10	250
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE		Y				11	10	110
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE		Y				12	7	84
PRUDHOE WATERWORLD			Y		4	25	9	225
ROTHBURY POOL AND GYM	Y					13	8	104
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	Y				5	25	12.5	312.5
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE		Y				10	5	50
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	Y				6	25	13	325
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE		Y				15	7	105
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	Y				6	25	13	325
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE		Y				10	8	80
TOTAL COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE SWIMMING POOLS	10	8	3	3				4,025.5

4.54 Maps 4.18 – 4.11 show all the pay and play community accessible swimming pools in Northumberland.



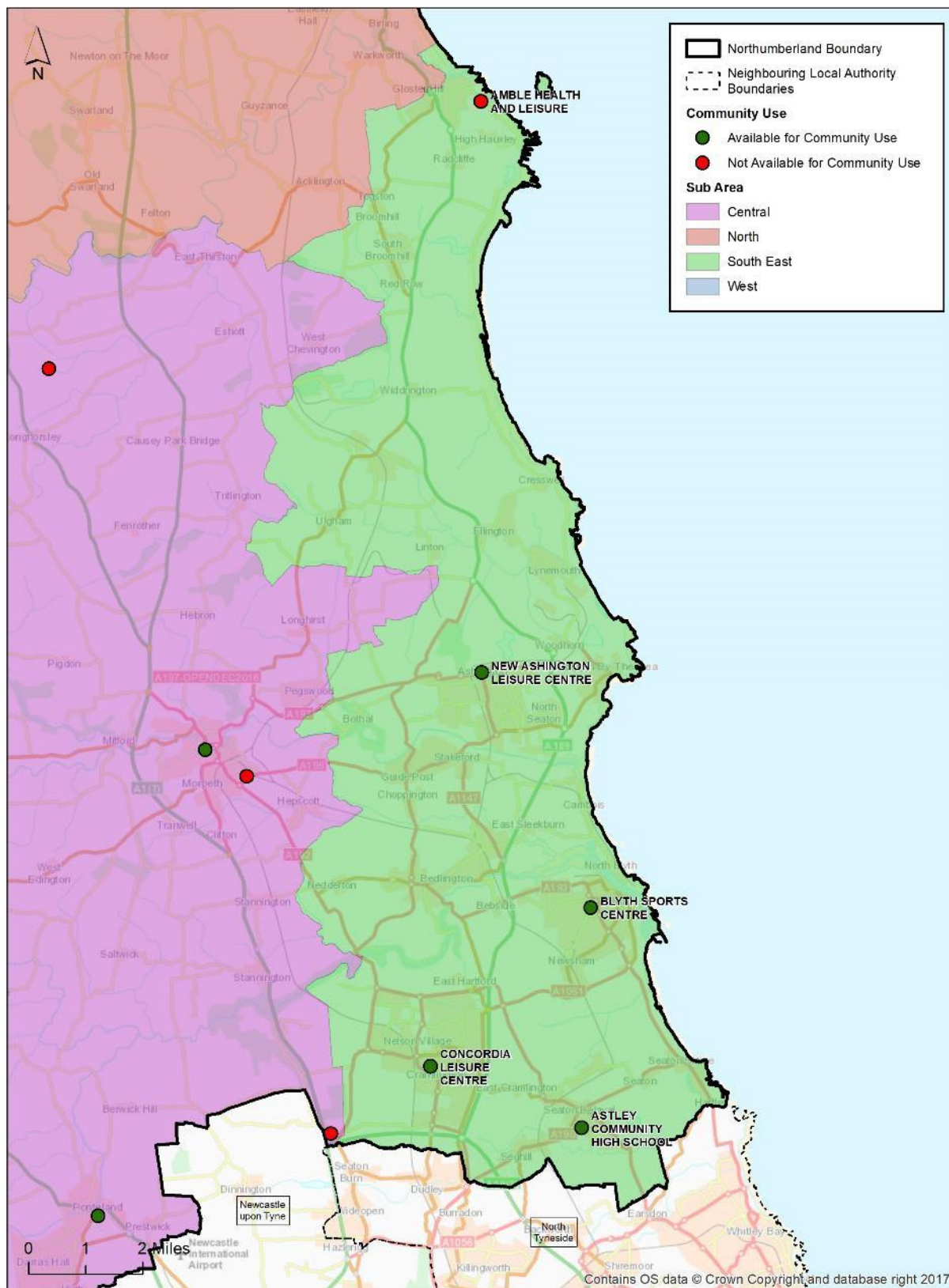
Map 4.19: All Pay and play Community Accessible Swimming Pools in Northumberland (North)



Swimming Pools by community use availability in Northumberland (North)



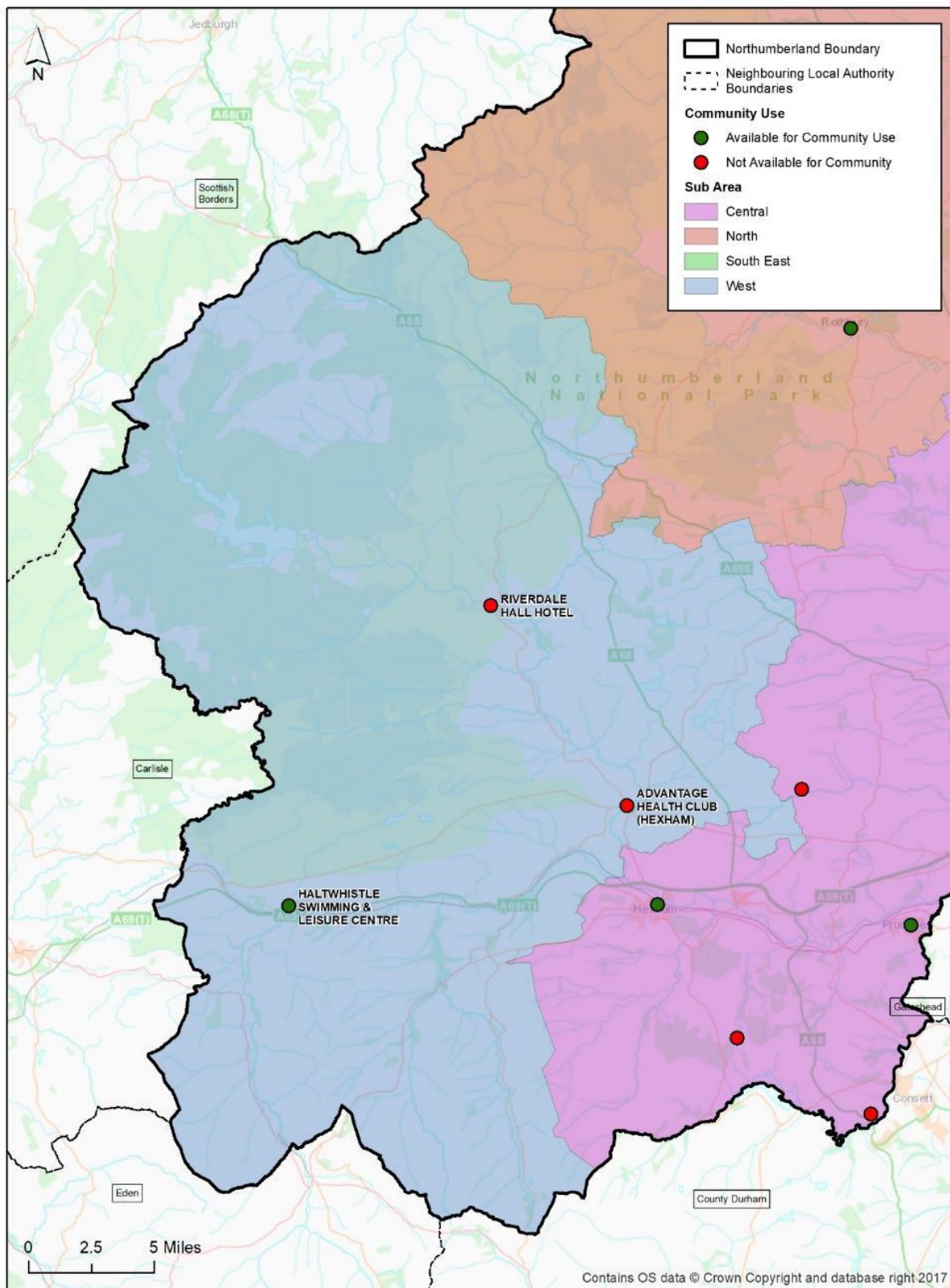
Map 4.20: All Pay and play Community Accessible Swimming Pools in Northumberland (South East)



Swimming Pools by community use availability in Northumberland (South East)



Map 4.21: All Pay and play Community Accessible Swimming Pools in Northumberland (West)



Swimming Pools by community use availability in Northumberland (West)





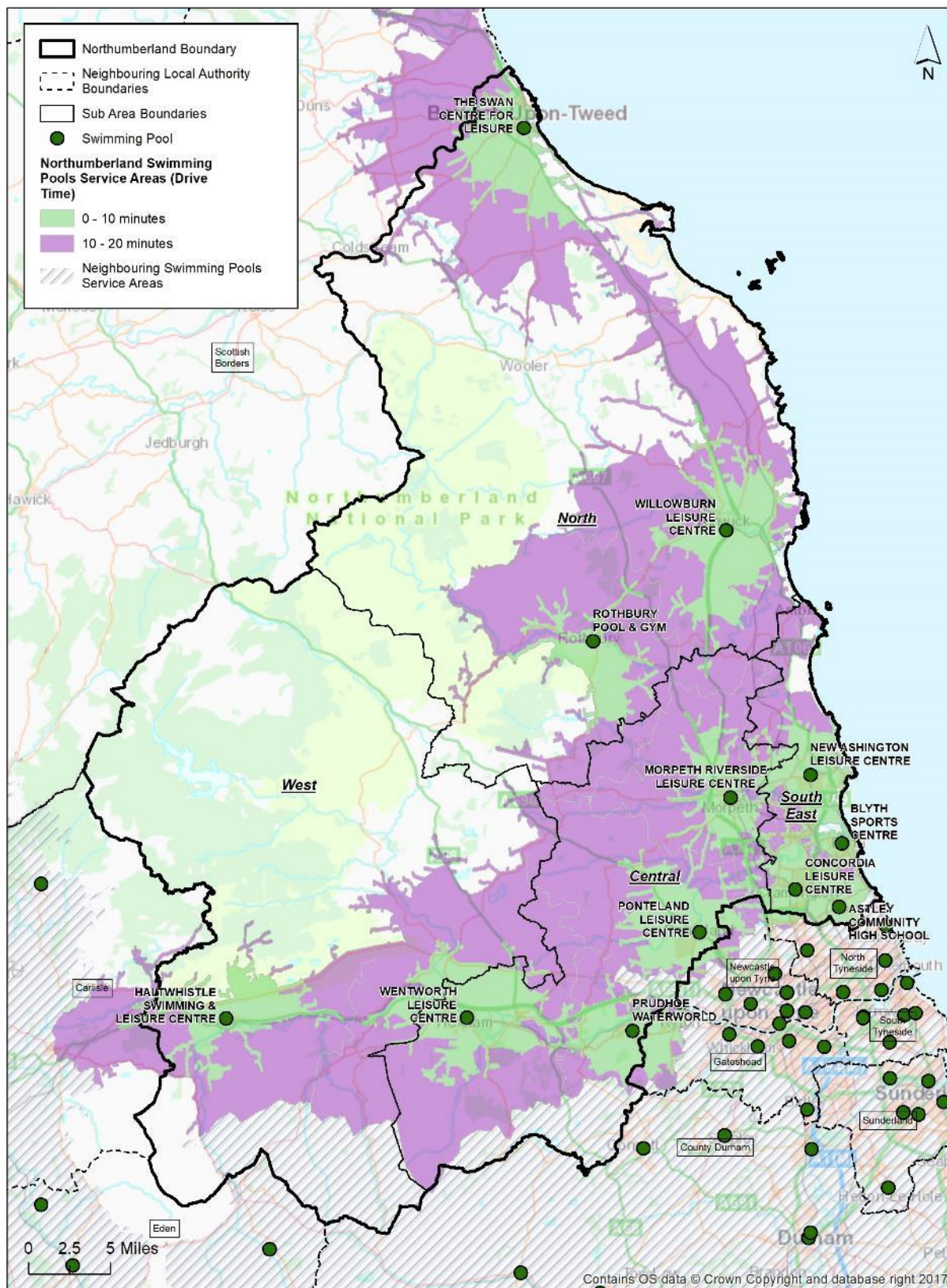
QUALITY- SWIMMING POOLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.55 Detailed quality assessments have been undertaken on all Northumberland County Council pools, plus a number of other key facilities. These are provided in Appendices 2a – 2s and are summarised in Table 4.4.
- 4.56 All NCC pools are kept in good condition, but Blyth Leisure Centre pool, built in 1967 is ageing and was last refurbished in 2007. The Swan Centre at Berwick, built in 1990 is also ageing and was last refurbished in 1998 along with Ponteland Leisure Centre which was built in 1991 and was last refurbished in 1998. Morpeth Leisure Centre built in 1994 and refurbished in 2009 is no longer fit for purpose due to its limited design and current levels of demand. Although built earlier than some of the aforementioned facilities, Prudhoe Waterworld (built 1990 and refurbished in 2007) does not appear to be in need of replacement in the near future.
- 4.57 The quality of swimming pools varies across the County but is generally good . Although offering good quality provision there are a few ageing facilities:
- **NCC's facilities: Blyth Sports Centre (built 1967) - there is a need to consider future provision of this facility, given its age and condition.**
 - **Education sites: Astley Community High School in Seaton Delaval (1965 – refurbished 2013) and Collingwood School in Morpeth (1958 – refurbished 2005).**
 - **Other pools: Haltwhistle (1975 – refurbished 2003) and the Holiday Inn near Seaton Burn (1974 – refurbished 2009).**
- 4.58 Most the other pools in the County were built between the late 1990's and the present day. Two NCC facilities were built earlier than this: the Swan Leisure Centre in Berwick upon Tweed (1990 - refurbished in 2008) and Morpeth Riverside Leisure Centre (1967) and the future provision of these facilities needs to be considered.

ACCESSIBILITY- SWIMMING POOLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

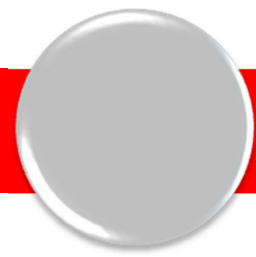
- 4.59 The location of community accessible pools in the County are shown in Map 4.22.

Map 4.22: Community Accessible Swimming Pools in Northumberland with a 20 minute drivetime catchment area



Swimming Pools with community use availability service areas in Northumberland (up to 20 minutes drive time)





- 4.60 It is clear from Map 4.22 that the existing swimming facilities (strategic size pools) which are community accessible have catchment areas which cover most of the County; with the exception of significant areas in the west of the North and west of the West service areas.
- 4.61 The only conurbation area that appears not to be within a 20 minute catchment of exiting provision is Wooler located in the North service area.

AVAILABILITY – SWIMMING POOLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.62 There is a good stock of provision in the County.
- 4.63 All the pay and play community accessible pools are 25m in length, so are of strategic size, and are of 4 lanes or more except for the 3 lane provision at Concordia Leisure Centre which is incorporated as part of the leisure pool.
- 4.64 It is clear that community accessible swimming pools are well-located in the County; most are on public transport routes, and their catchment areas provide access to virtually all residents. In addition to these pay and play community accessible pools, there are other facilities which are also used by residents, so over all there is a good stock of provision.
- 4.65 All the major pay and play community accessible pools are a minimum of 160 sqm so are of strategic size (can be used for casual, learn to swim and club training), except Rothbury Pool.
- 4.66 In terms of increasing pay and play access to pools in the County, there is an option at Wooler first school, which has a 20m x 10m pool, which is already used by clubs but not by public pay and play. If community pay and play use was to be developed there may be the need for investment.
- 4.67 Clearly the commercial pool facilities in the County also provide for some residents' use, although these may be unaffordable for some.
- 4.68 In terms of other water space, the outdoor lidos at Haltwhistle Pool provides seasonal access to an outdoor pool.
- 4.69 NCC is committed to developing new sports facilities; current proposals are being considered to replace swimming facilities at the Swan Centre, Berwick upon Tweed; Blyth Sports Centre, Ponteland Leisure Centre and Morpeth Leisure Centre.



HEALTH AND FITNESS FACILITIES

QUANTITY - HEALTH AND FITNESS SUITES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.70 The supply analysis identifies that overall there are 57 health and fitness suites (56 sites) and 41 studios (29 sites) in Northumberland with a total of 1767 stations. All facilities require some form of payment/membership payment before use. However, some operate on a community accessible pay and play basis, as opposed to a more commercial outlook. All fitness facilities are shown in Table 4.12 with pay and play facilities shown highlighted in orange. Further details are included in Appendix 9.

Table 4.12: Summary of overall Fitness Provision in Northumberland

FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ADVANTAGE HEALTH CLUB (HEXHAM)	NE46 4EW	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	8	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1982	Yes
ALBERMARLE BARRACKS	NE15 0RF	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	14	Private Use	MOD	MOD	1997	No
ALNWICK RFC	NE66 1BE	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	5	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	2004	Yes
ALNWICK SQUASH CLUB LTD	NE66 1PR	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	20	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1975	Yes
AMBLE HEALTH AND LEISURE	NE65 0SD	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	30	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2005	Yes
ASHINGTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE63 8DH	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	22	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	2006	No



FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE25 0BP	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	21	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1985	Yes
BEDE ACADEMY (NORTH)	NE24 2SY	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	30	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/ University (in house)	2011	No
BERWICK ACADEMY	TD15 2JF	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	25	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/ University (in house)	2008	No
BLUEPRINT HEALTH AND FITNESS	NE23 8AD	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	35	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2001	No
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	77	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1981	No
BODY-TEC HEALTH STUDIO	NE24 2ED	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	30	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1988	Yes
CHANGES HEALTH AND FITNESS CLUB	NE23 6RB	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	54	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1992	Yes
CHANGES HEALTH AND FITNESS CLUB	NE23 6RB	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	26	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1992	Yes
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	92	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	Yes
CURVES FOR WOMEN (ASHINGTON)	NE63 0YH	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2016	Not Known



FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
CURVES FOR WOMEN (CRAMLINGTON)	NE23 1WG	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	9	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	n/a	Yes
DERWENT MANOR HOTEL	DH8 9BB	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	13	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2003	No
DOXFORD HALL HOTEL AND SPA	NE67 5DN	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	5	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2007	No
FELTON VILLAGE HALL	NE65 9PT	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	7	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation	Community Organisation	2004	Yes
FIT 2 BE (LADIES ONLY)	NE24 2EL	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	38	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2005	Yes
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	22	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	2003	Yes
HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	NE47 6LR	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	20	Private Use	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1998	No
HEALTHLANDS (LADIES ONLY) CLUB (MORPETH)	NE61 1NS	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	26	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2010	No
HIRST WELFARE CENTRE	NE63 9HN	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	44	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	2005	No
HOLIDAY INN HEALTH CLUB (GOSFORTH PARK)	NE13 6BP	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	18	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1974	Yes



FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (ACKLINGTON ROAD)	NE65 0NG	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	8	Private Use	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	2013	No
LINDEN HALL GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB	NE65 8XF	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	5	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1997	Yes
MATFEN HALL HOTEL - GOLF AND SPA	NE20 0RH	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	34	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2004	No
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	NE61 1PR	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	54	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	Yes
MORPETH RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED	NE61 1RJ	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	10	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	1999	No
NEW ASHLINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	100	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	No
NEUBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE64 6HG	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	21	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1973	Yes
NO LIMITS HEALTH AND FITNESS	NE46 1LU	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	32	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2000	Yes
NO LIMITS HEALTH AND FITNESS STUDIO (ALNWICK)	NE66 1HR	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	26	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1997	Yes
NORTHGATE HOSPITAL	NE61 3BP	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	20	Private Use	Health Authority	Health Authority	2009	No



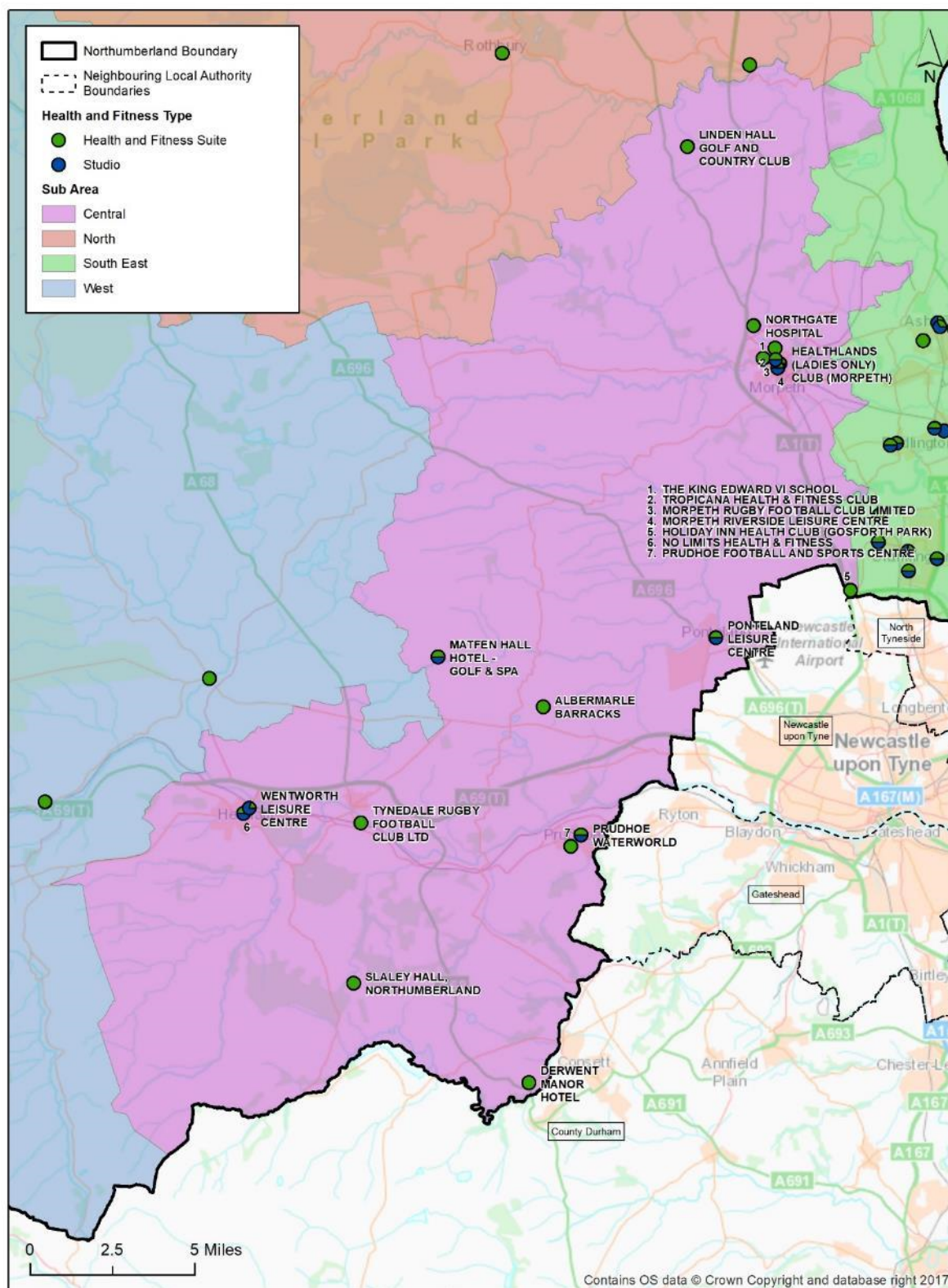
FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
OASIS HEALTH CLUB	NE63 9AE	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	60	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1993	Yes
PARAMOUNT HEALTH AND FITNESS	NE22 6JT	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	50	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1996	Yes
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	32	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	Yes
PRUDHOE FOOTBALL AND SPORTS CENTRE	NE42 5LJ	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	14	Registered Membership use	Community school	Trust	2016	No
PRUDHOE WATERWORLD	NE42 5DQ	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	48	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2000	Yes
RAF BOULMER	NE66 3JF	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	50	Private Use	MOD	MOD	1975	Yes
REAL FITNESS	NE66 2NN	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	26	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	n/a	No
ROTHBURY POOL AND GYM	NE65 7RJ	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	24	Pay and Play	Voluntary Aided School	Trust	2008	No
SLALEY HALL, NORTHUMBERLAND	NE47 0BX	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	18	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1995	Yes
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	NE23 6BN	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	24	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2002	Yes
ST BENET BISCOP CATHOLIC ACADEMY	NE22 6ED	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	7	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/ University (in house)	1975	Yes



FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
THE DUCHESS'S COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	NE66 2DH	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	8	Private Use	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	2016	No
THE EVOLUTION GYM AND TRAINING CENTRE	NE22 5HB	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	75	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1986	Yes
THE KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL	NE61 1DN	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	16	Private Use	Voluntary Controlled School	School/College/ University (in house)	1995	Yes
THE OCEAN CLUB	NE68 7SP	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	28	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2005	No
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	53	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	Yes
TROPICANA HEALTH AND FITNESS CLUB	NE61 1BQ	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	68	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1997	Yes
TYNEDALE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB LTD	NE45 5AY	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	9	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	Sport Club	2008	Yes
VILLAGE FARM HEALTH CLUB	NE66 2XS	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	30	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1998	Yes
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	76	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2001	Yes
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	NE66 2JH	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	49	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2003	No

4.71 Maps 4.23-4.26 show all fitness suite facilities in Northumberland by service area.

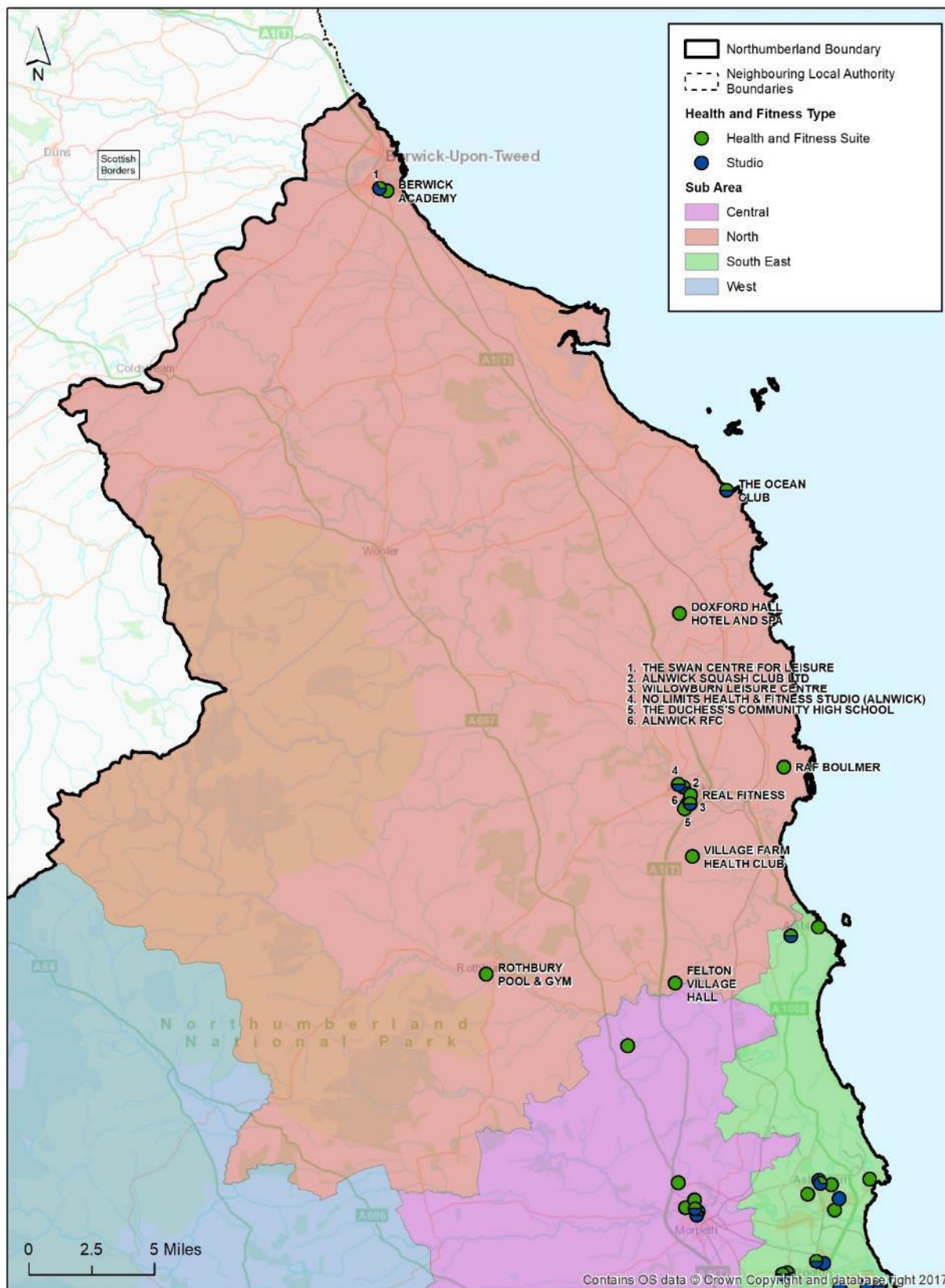
Map 4.23: Fitness Facilities in Northumberland (Central)



Health and Fitness by type in Northumberland (Central)



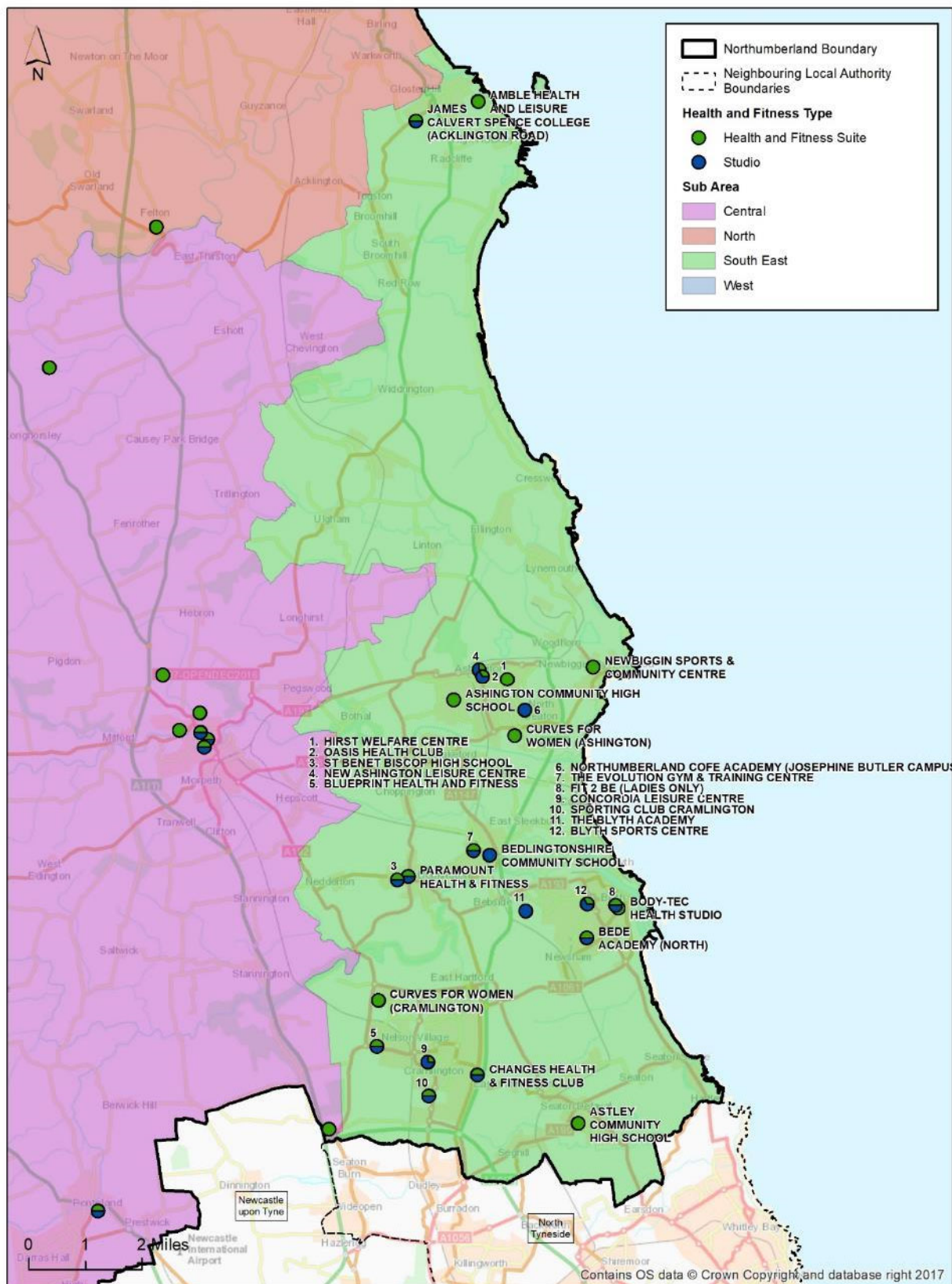
Map 4.24: Fitness Facilities in Northumberland (North)



Health and Fitness by type in Northumberland (North)



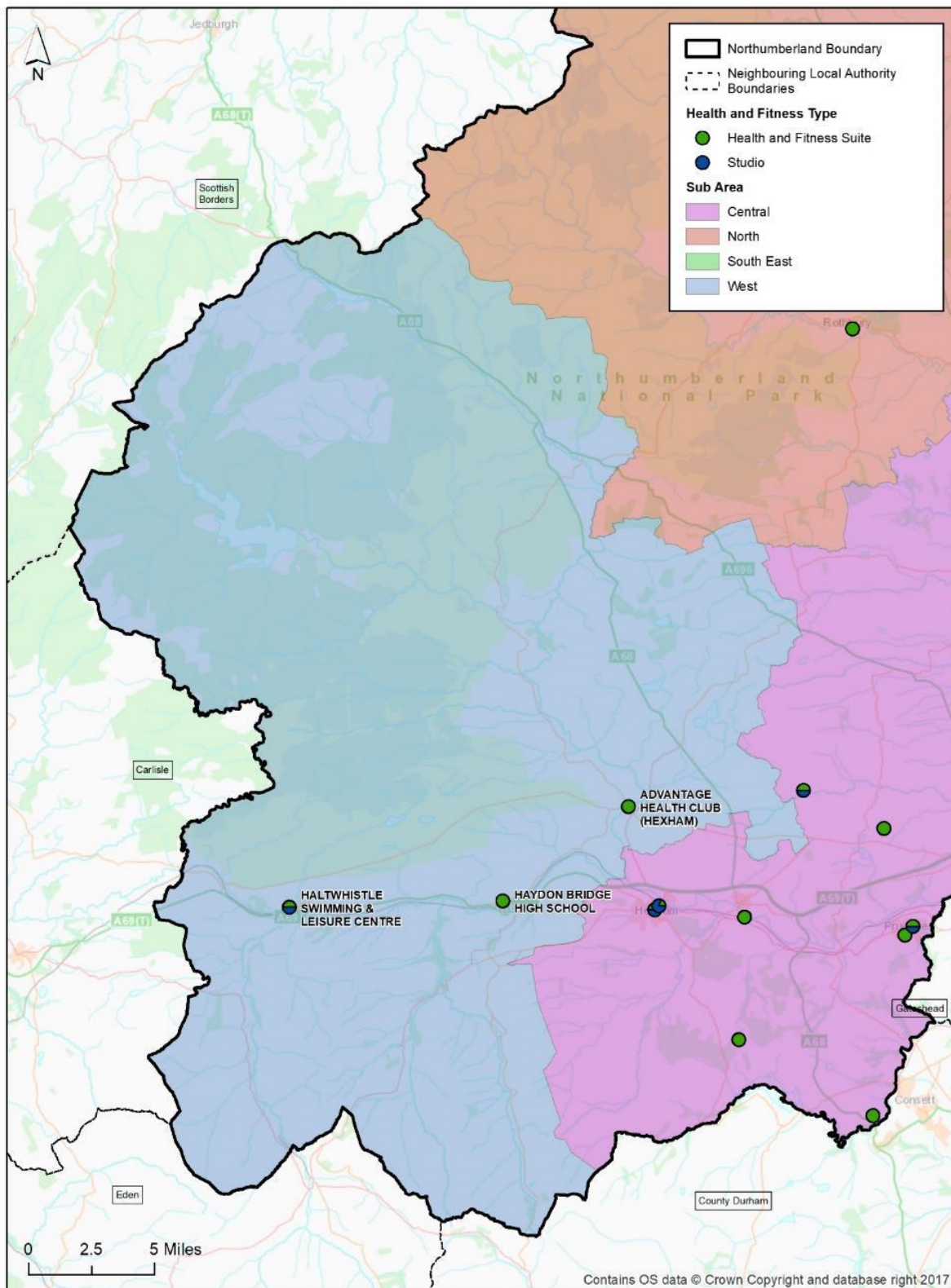
Map 4.25: Fitness Facilities in Northumberland (South East)



Health and Fitness by type in Northumberland (South East)



Map 4.26: Fitness Facilities in Northumberland (West)



Health and Fitness by type in Northumberland (West)



- 4.72 The community pay and play accessible fitness suites are mainly operated by the local authority trust (14 of the 23 facilities, 716 stations, 82.5% of community pay and play accessible supply). The remainder is provided by a combination of education, community association and sport club provision
- 4.73 There is only one fitness suite with 100 stations or more at the New Ashington Leisure Centre. The largest community accessible pay and play fitness suite sites in addition to this are 92 stations at Concordia Leisure Centre, 77 stations at Blyth Sports Centre and 76 stations at Wentworth Leisure Centre. The Swan Centre (53 stations), Willowburn Leisure Centre (49 stations) and Prudhoe Waterworld (48) all have approximately 50 stations. The remaining NCC facility run by the trust, Ponteland Leisure Centre only has 32 stations. The average number of stations per commercial fitness suite is 28.85, significantly lower than the majority of commercial fitness chains, which would usually have an average of around 75+ stations. This is because there are no large chains operating in Northumberland.
- 4.74 Commercially operated fitness suites require registered membership. Some indicate they provide an element of pay and play access but in reality, all operate pre-registered, pre-paid/DD membership schemes.
- 4.75 The commercial sector comprises small, independent fitness suites as opposed to large commercial brands. The largest commercial fitness suite has 75 stations – the Evolution, with the next largest provision at the Tropicana having 68 stations and Changes 54 stations. Analysis of the overall supply of fitness suites summarised in Table 4.12 highlights the following:

Table 4.13: Analysis of overall Fitness Suite Provision in Northumberland

TOTAL FITNESS SUITES	57
TOTAL FITNESS STATIONS	1,767
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE FITNESS SUITES (All require some form of prior payment/membership Ownership Local Authority/ Sports Club /Community Organisation)	24
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE FITNESS STATIONS	867
COMMERCIAL SECTOR FITNESS SUITES	27
COMMERCIAL SECTOR FITNESS STATIONS	765
EDUCATION SECTOR FITNESS SUITES (PRIVATE USE))	4
EDUCATION SECTOR FITNESS STATIONS (PRIVATE USE)	52
MOD FITNESS STATIONS (PRIVATE USE)	1
MOD FITNESS STATIONS (PRIVATE USE)	50
HEALTH SECTOR FITNESS STATIONS (PRIVATE USE)	1
HEALTH SECTOR FITNESS STATIONS (PRIVATE USE)	20



Table 4.14: Summary of Fitness Suite Size

NUMBER OF FITNESS STATIONS	NO. FITNESS SUITES
150+	0
100 - 149	1
50 - 99	11
30-49	12
29 or less	33

4.76 The supply of community accessible fitness suites is summarised in Table 4.15.

Table 4.15: Pay and play Community Accessible Fitness Suites in Northumberland

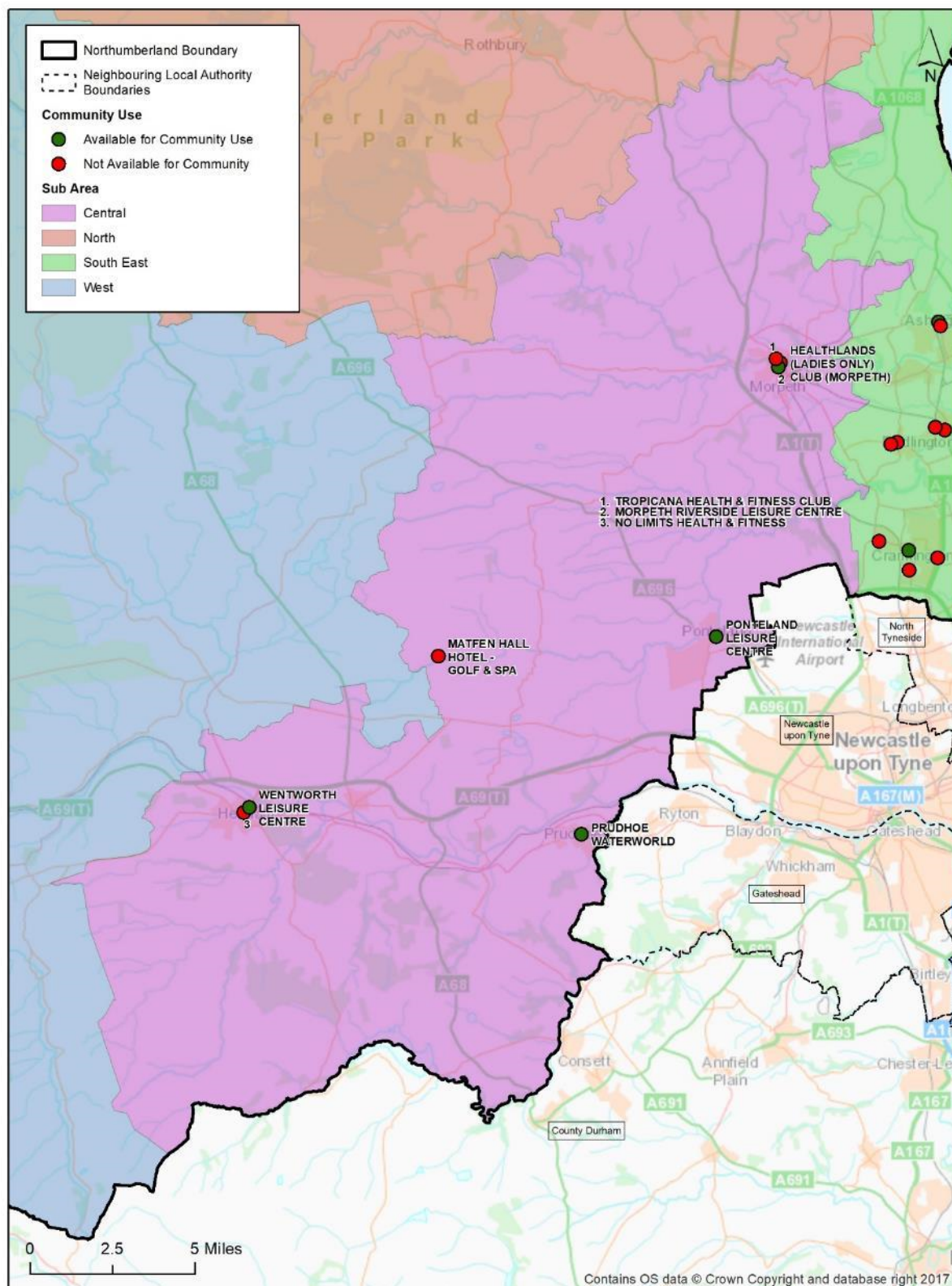
FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	77	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1981	No
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	92	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	Yes
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	22	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	2003	Yes
HIRST WELFARE CENTRE	NE63 9HN	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	44	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	2005	No
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	NE61 1PR	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	54	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	Yes
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	100	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	No



FACILITY NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	77	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1981	No
NEWBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE64 6HG	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	21	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1973	Yes
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	32	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	Yes
PRUDHOE WATERWORLD	NE42 5DQ	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	48	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2000	Yes
ROTHBURY POOL AND GYM	NE65 7RJ	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	24	Pay and Play	Voluntary Aided School	Trust	2008	No
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	NE23 6BN	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	24	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2002	Yes
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	53	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	Yes
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	76	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2001	Yes
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	NE66 2JH	Health and Fitness Suite	Health and Fitness Suite	Stations	49	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2003	No

4.77 Maps 4.27 – 4.30 shows the community accessible dance studios in Northumberland

Map 4.27: Studios in Northumberland (Central)

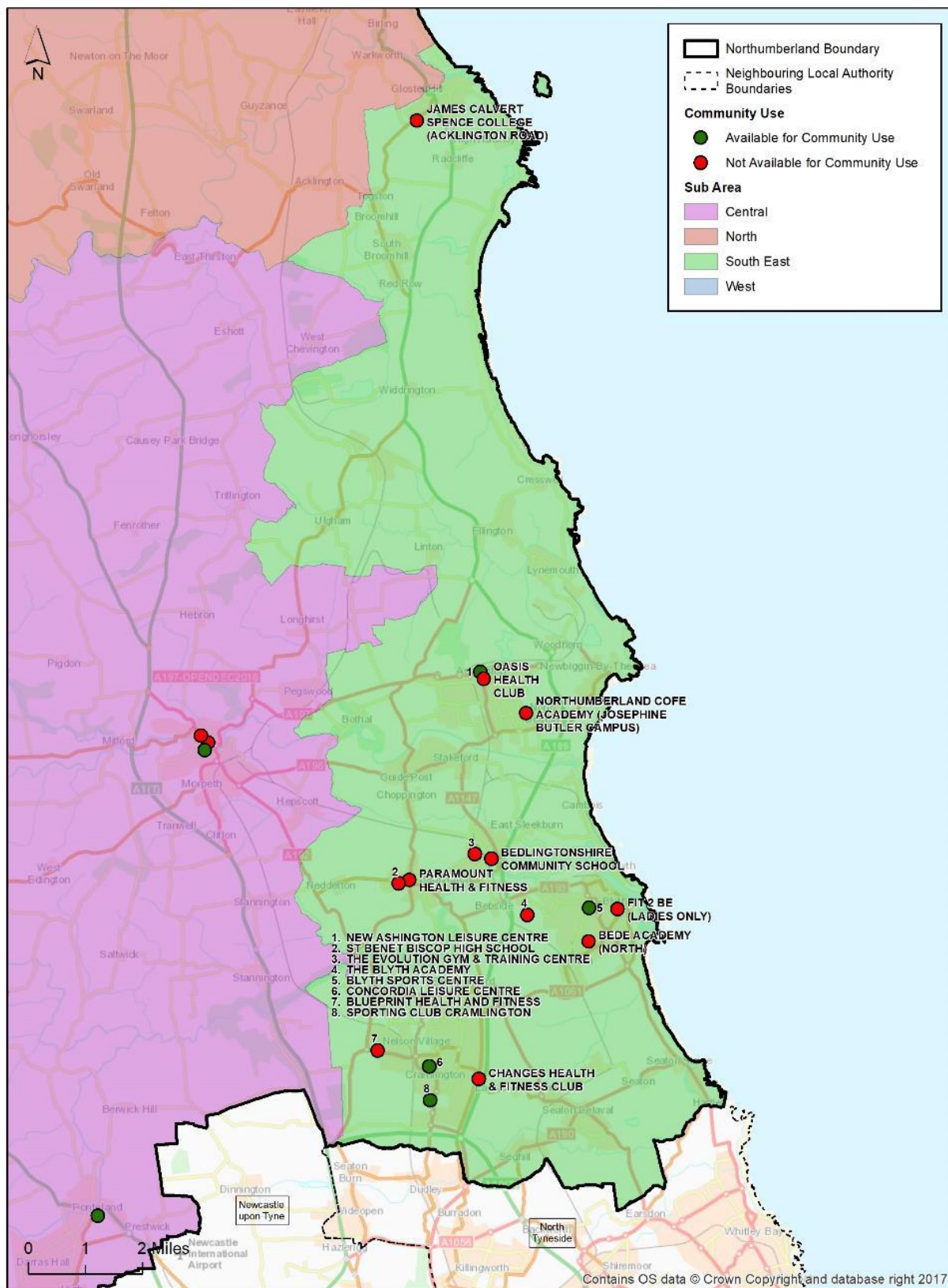


Studios by community use availability in Northumberland (Central)





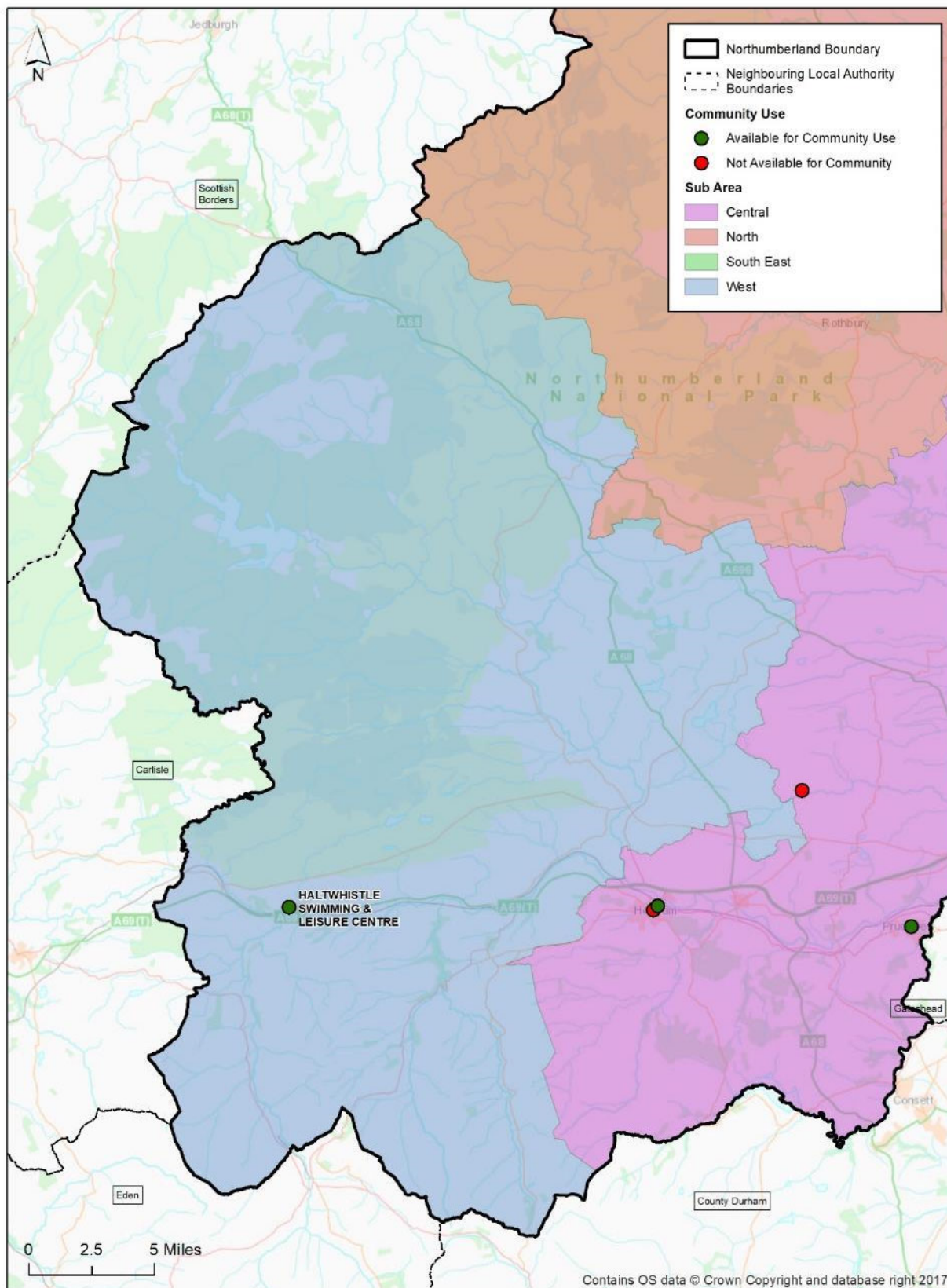
Map 4.29: Studios in Northumberland (South East)



Studios by community use availability in Northumberland (South East)

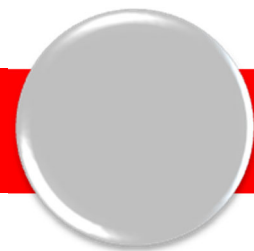


Map 4.30: Studios in Northumberland (West)



Studios by community use availability in Northumberland (West)





4.78 The community accessible studios are summarised in Table 4.16.

Table 4.16: Community Accessible Studios in Northumberland

SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ALNWICK SQUASH CLUB LTD	NE66 1PR	Studio	Studio	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2002	No
BEDE ACADEMY (NORTH)	NE24 2SY	Studio	Studio	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2009	No
BEDLINGTONSHIRE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	NE22 7DS	Studio	Studio	0	Private Use	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1974	No
BLUEPRINT HEALTH AND FITNESS	NE23 8AD	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2001	2009
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Studio	Studio	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1979	No
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Studio	Studio	2	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1981	No
CHANGES HEALTH AND FITNESS CLUB	NE23 6RB	Studio	Studio	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1992	2002
CHANGES HEALTH AND FITNESS CLUB	NE23 6RB	Studio	Studio	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2015	No
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1977	1998
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	No



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	No
FIT 2 BE (LADIES ONLY)	NE24 2EL	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2006	No
HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	NE49 9DP	Studio	Studio	1	Pay and Play	Other	Trust	2013	No
HEALTHLANDS (LADIES ONLY) CLUB (MORPETH)	NE61 1NS	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2010	No
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (ACKLINGTON ROAD)	NE65 0NG	Studio	Studio	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	2013	No
MATFEN HALL HOTEL - GOLF AND SPA	NE20 0RH	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2004	No
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	NE61 1PR	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2000	2009
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	No
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	No
NEW ASHINGTON LEISURE CENTRE	NE63 9JY	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2016	No
NO LIMITS HEALTH AND FITNESS	NE46 1LU	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2000	2006
NO LIMITS HEALTH AND FITNESS STUDIO (ALNWICK)	NE66 1HR	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2014	No



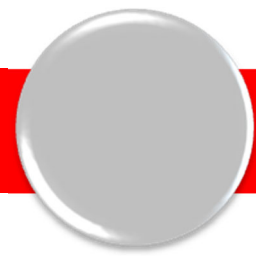
SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
NORTHUMBERLAND COFE ACADEMY (JOSEPHINE BUTLER CAMPUS)	NE63 9RZ	Studio	Studio	0	Private Use	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2012	No
OASIS HEALTH CLUB	NE63 9AE	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1993	2014
OASIS HEALTH CLUB	NE63 9AE	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	n/a	No
PARAMOUNT HEALTH AND FITNESS	NE22 6JT	Studio	Studio	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1996	2002
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1991	2000
PRUDHOE WATERWORLD	NE42 5DQ	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2000	2016
SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	NE23 6BN	Studio	Studio	1	Pay and Play	Community school	Trust	2002	No
ST BENET BISCOP HIGH SCHOOL	NE22 6ED	Studio	Studio	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2002	No
THE BLYTH ACADEMY	NE24 4JP	Studio	Studio	0	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2002	No
THE EVOLUTION GYM AND TRAINING CENTRE	NE22 5HB	Studio	Studio	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1986	2011
THE OCEAN CLUB	NE68 7SP	Studio	Studio	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Sport Club	2015	No



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	2004
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2014	No
TROPICANA HEALTH AND FITNESS CLUB	NE61 1BQ	Studio	Studio	0	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	2008	2011
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2008	No
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2008	No
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1986	2001
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1986	2007
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	NE66 2JH	Studio	Studio	0	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	2008	

QUALITY – HEALTH AND FITNESS FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.79 Detailed quality assessments have been undertaken at all Northumberland County Council sports facilities. These are provided in Appendix 2a – 2s and summarised in Table 4.4 above.
- 4.80 The quality of the community accessible pay and play health and fitness facilities is generally good; 28 facilities have been built since 2000 and all but 5 facilities built prior to 2000 have been refurbished.



- 4.81 The age of fitness facilities ranges from those built in 1974, to 2016. The commercial facilities although some were built some time ago have been refurbished as with many of the public pay and play facilities having been refurbished within the last 10 years.

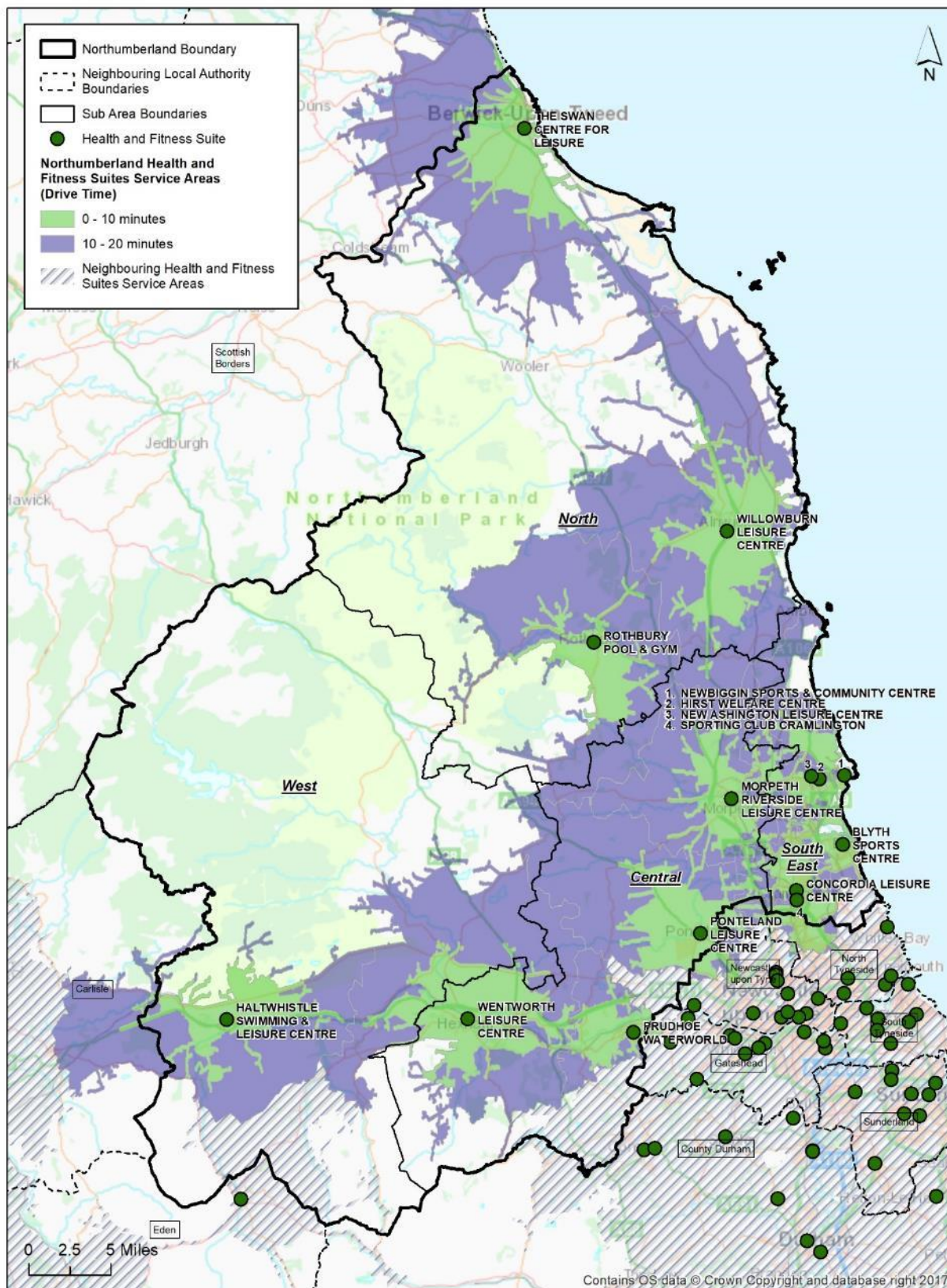
ACCESSIBILITY- HEALTH AND FITNESS FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.82 Map 4.31 illustrates that most Northumberland residents are within 20 minutes' drive time of a pay and play community accessible fitness suite, with the exception of those in the west of the North and the west of the West delivery areas.
- 4.83 The pay and play community accessible fitness suite facilities are located across the County, but predominantly in the more urban areas, reflecting where population is most dense. These are complemented by commercial sector provision across the County.

AVAILABILITY – HEALTH AND FITNESS FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.84 Very little existing fitness provision in the Borough is made through the major commercial operators; the commercial sector provides 47% of existing fitness facilities.
- 4.85 It is important to highlight that at least some of the existing commercial sector fitness suite provision in Northumberland will be used by residents; this will, however depend on affordability to a certain extent. Given the commercial provision is mostly small independent centres, the commercial provision does not present as much competition to the NCC facilities as would be the case if large commercial chains were operating in the County; smaller independent centres cannot offer the same economies of scale over membership fees etc.
- 4.86 This means there is significant opportunity for the NCC facilities to dominate the market and generate significant income; there is also opportunity to expand the current offer.

Map 4.31: Fitness Suites in Northumberland – Pay and Play – Service Areas



Health and Fitness Suites with community use availability service areas in Northumberland (up to 20 minutes drive time)





STUDIOS

QUANTITY - STUDIOS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.87 There are 41 studios in the County; the majority are provided as part of a health and fitness offer within facilities. Studios provide a space in which a range of aerobic, fitness and dance classes plus activities such as yoga and Pilates, can take place as well as martial arts, and boxing. Although requiring some specialist equipment for martial arts and boxing, it is also possible to do a form of these activities in an informal space such as a community hall. Informal halls can also accommodate a range of fitness and dance classes, often run by dance schools.
- 4.88 Many village and community hall facilities are used by dance schools, and the smaller halls often available on education sites have significant potential to be used for fitness classes.
- 4.89 Maps 4.23 -4.26 show studios as part of the overall health and fitness offer in Northumberland.
- 4.90 Of the 41 studios in the County, 15 are provided by NCC's trust operator, 14 are provided by commercial operators, 6 at education sites and 1 at a sports club. 14 studios are accessible for pay and play community use.
- 4.91 The overall supply of studios is summarised in Table 4.17.
- 4.92 Pay and play community accessible studios are highlighted in orange and bold font in Table 4.16.
- 4.93 34% of all studios are provided by commercial operators as part of an overall fitness offer; these providers are the same as those operating commercial fitness suites.
- 4.94 The analysis of the overall studio supply in Northumberland is as follows:

Table 4.17: Analysis of overall Studio Supply – Northumberland

TOTAL STUDIOS	41
COMMUNITY ACCESSIBLE STUDIOS	20
COMMERCIAL SECTOR STUDIOS	14
EDUCATION SECTOR STUDIOS (3 of which are not available for pay and play community use)	6
SPORTS CLUB (not available for pay and play community use)	1



QUALITY - STUDIOS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.95 Detailed quality assessments have been undertaken on all Northumberland County Council sports facilities in the County. These are provided in Appendix 2a – 2s and summarised in Table 4.4 above.
- 4.96 The quality of studios is generally good; most facilities have been built since 2000.

ACCESSIBILITY - STUDIOS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.97 Health and fitness facilities are located across the County, in areas of highest population, given that the majority of potential users will be resident in these areas. Most studios are part of an overall fitness offer, although there are some stand-alone facilities on sport club sites. There are fewer facilities in the North and West service areas of the County.

AVAILABILITY - STUDIOS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.98 A comprehensive programme of fitness classes, and other sporting activities is offered at the pay and play facilities run by NCC's leisure trust.
- 4.99 Most Northumberland residents are within a 20 minute drive time of a pay and play community accessible studio, and therefore a programme of activities.

SUMMARY – STUDIOS

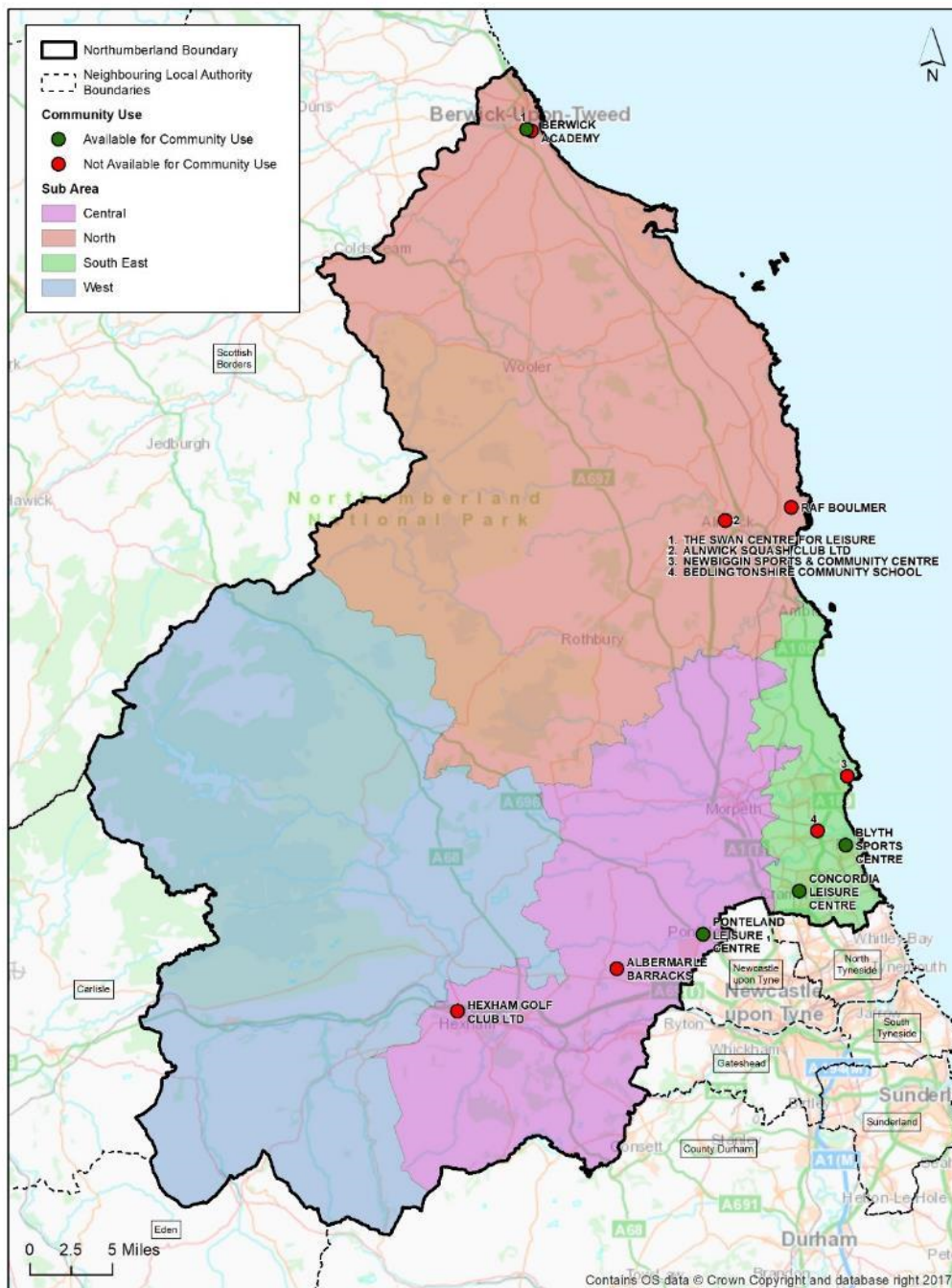
- 4.100 There are 14 pay and play community accessible studios in the County. These fitness facilities are available during the day, evening and weekends.
- 4.101 All pay and play community accessible fitness suites are in excellent condition, and the majority of the pay and play community accessible studios are also in good condition.
- 4.102 Most Northumberland residents are within a 20 minute drive time of a pay and play community accessible studio, and therefore a programme of activities

SQUASH

QUANTITY - SQUASH COURTS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.103 There are 23 squash courts (11 facilities) in Northumberland. Of these 23 courts, 7 are glass back courts (2 Albemarle Barracks, 1 Alnwick Squash Club, 3 Concordia Leisure Centre and 1 Swan Leisure Centre). These courts are shown on Map 4.32 below.

Map 4.32: Squash Courts in Northumberland



Squash Courts by community use availability in Northumberland



- 4.104 The overall supply of squash courts is summarised in Table 4.18. Glass-back courts are highlighted in bold. Community accessible courts are highlighted in orange.

Table 4.18: Squash Courts in Northumberland

SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
ALBERMARLE BARRACKS	NE15 0RF	Squash Courts	Glass-backed	2	Private Use	MOD	MOD	1997	n/a
ALNWICK SQUASH CLUB LTD	NE66 1PR	Squash Courts	Normal	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1975	1995
ALNWICK SQUASH CLUB LTD	NE66 1PR	Squash Courts	Glass-backed	1	Registered Membership use	Commercial	Commercial Management	1975	1995
BEDLINGTONSHIRE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	NE22 7DS	Squash Courts	Normal	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/University (in house)	1974	n/a
BERWICK ACADEMY	TD15 2JF	Squash Courts	Normal	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	1970	n/a
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	NE24 5BT	Squash Courts	Normal	2	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1979	2006
CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	NE23 6YB	Squash Courts	Glass-backed	3	Sports Club / Community Association	Local Authority	Trust	1995	2005
HEXHAM GOLF CLUB LTD	NE46 3RZ	Squash Courts	Normal	2	Sports Club / Community Association	Commercial	Commercial Management	1970	2013
NEWBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	NE64 6HG	Squash Courts	Normal	3	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1973	n/a
PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	NE20 9EG	Squash Courts	Normal	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1974	n/a



SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
RAF BOULMER	NE66 3JF	Squash Courts	Normal	2	Private Use	MOD	MOD	1980	2012
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Squash Courts	Normal	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	n/a
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	TD15 2AS	Squash Courts	Glass-backed	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1990	n/a

QUALITY - SQUASH COURTS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.105 Detailed quality assessments have been undertaken for Northumberland County sports facilities. These are provided in Appendix 2a – 2s and are summarised in Table 4.18 above.
- 4.106 The quality of existing squash courts is generally of a reasonable to good standard; however, all courts are now ageing. The majority of courts were built before the 1980's with only 7 courts built after 1980. Six of the courts built in the 1970's have been refurbished. The newest courts are the 3 glass backed courts at Concordia Leisure Centre, built in 1995.

ACCESSIBILITY - SQUASH COURTS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.107 Geographical distribution of squash courts is summarised in Map 4.32; this illustrates that the majority of the existing squash courts are located in and around the main areas of population in the County. Courts are distributed evenly throughout the County. There are some courts in neighbouring local authorities, particularly to the South.

AVAILABILITY - SQUASH COURTS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.108 There are 8 pay and play community accessible squash courts (4 facilities). There are 3 commercially operated squash courts (3 facilities).
- 4.109 The only pay and play community accessible glass-back court is at the Swan Leisure Centre and Concordia Leisure Centre.



INDOOR BOWLS

QUANTITY - INDOOR BOWLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.110 There is only one indoor bowling facility in the County. This is a 4 rink facility at the Swan Leisure Centre in Berwick. This is an underused facility which was built in 1990 and refurbished in 2005.
- 4.111 A number of indoor facilities have changed from indoor bowls to ten pin bowling such as those at Concordia and Wentworth Leisure Centres.

QUALITY- INDOOR BOWLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.112 The indoor bowling facility is of reasonable quality and was refurbished in 2005.

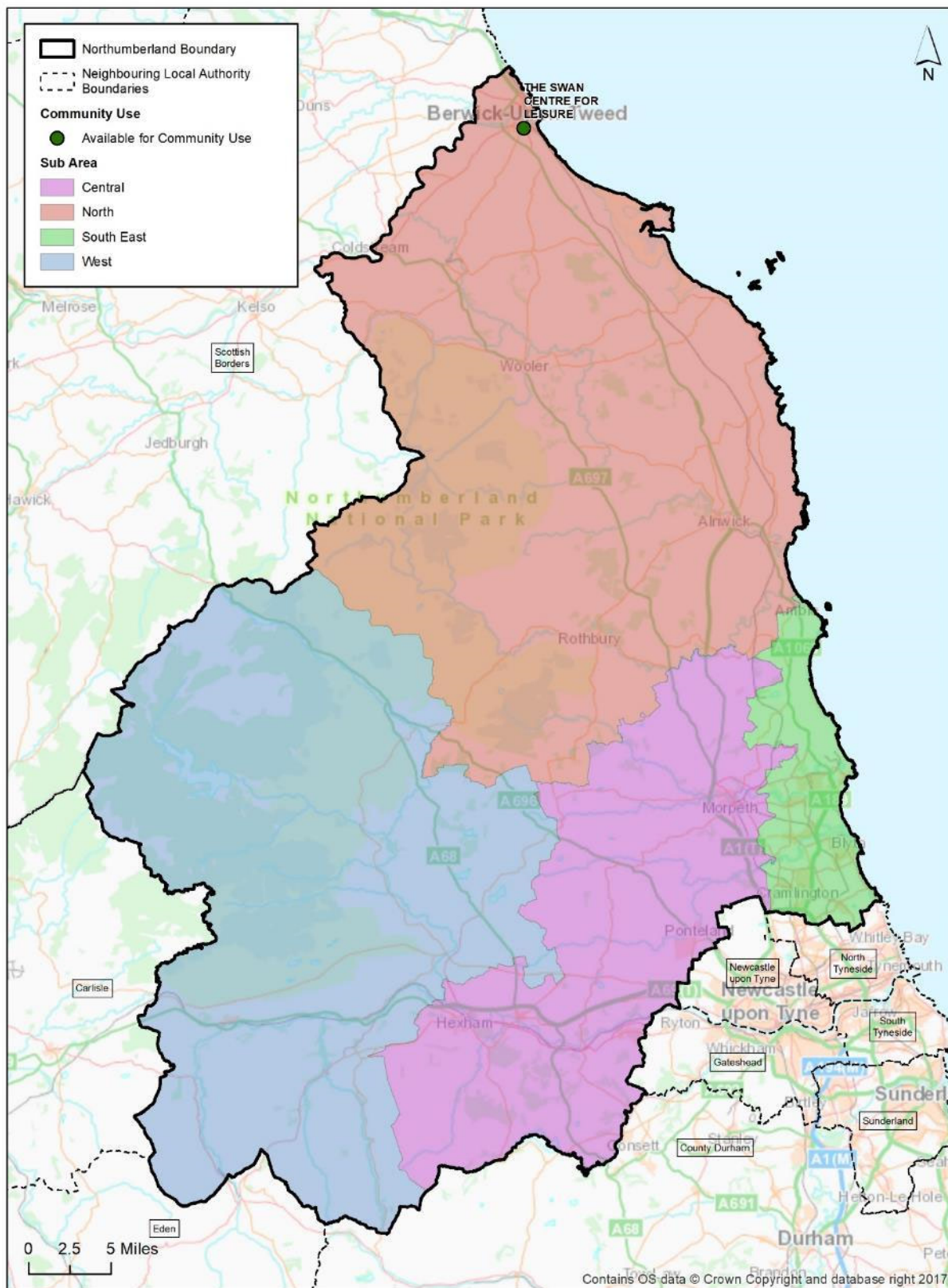
ACCESSIBILITY - INDOOR BOWLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.113 Map 4.33 shows the location of the indoor bowls facility. This is located at the far north of the County. There are no facilities in the Central, South East and West service areas.
- 4.114 The nearest indoor bowls facility is located at just across the County's southern border at Westerhope Bowls club a community run facility.

AVAILABILITY - INDOOR BOWLS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.115 The indoor bowls facility at Berwick is available for pay and play bookings as well as league and club use.

Map 4.33: Indoor Bowls Facility, Northumberland



Indoor Bowls by community use availability in Northumberland



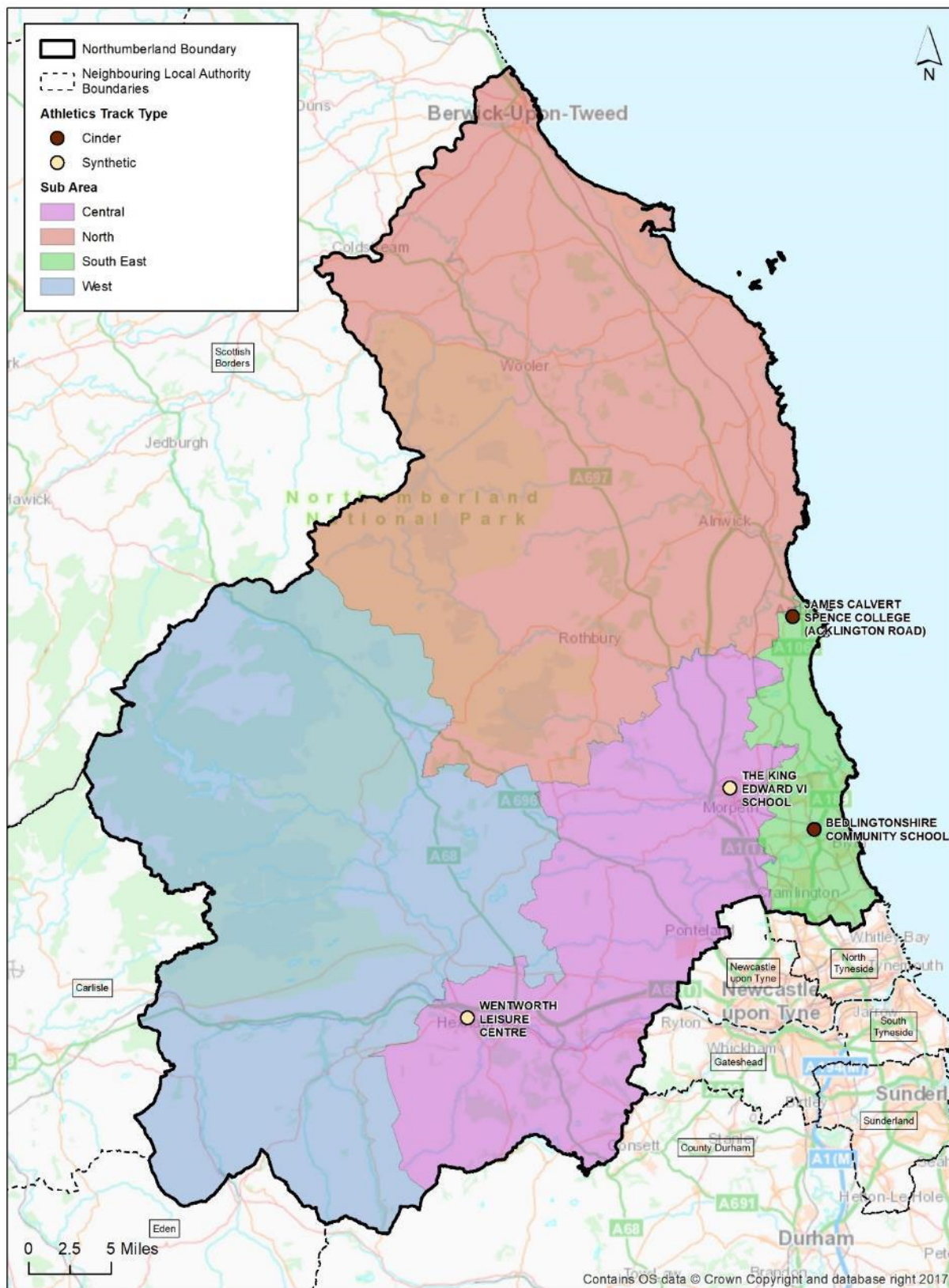


ATHLETICS TRACKS

QUANTITY - ATHLETICS FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.116 There are four athletics facilities in Northumberland, all of these are 6 lane tracks. Two of the tracks are synthetic (King Edward VI School in Morpeth and Wentworth Leisure Centre in Hexham) and two are cinder (James Calvert Spence College in Amble and Bedlingtonshire Community School in Bedlington)
- 4.117 Map 4.34 shows the location of Athletics tracks by type.

Map 4.34: Athletics Track Facilities by Type, Northumberland



Athletics Tracks by type in Northumberland





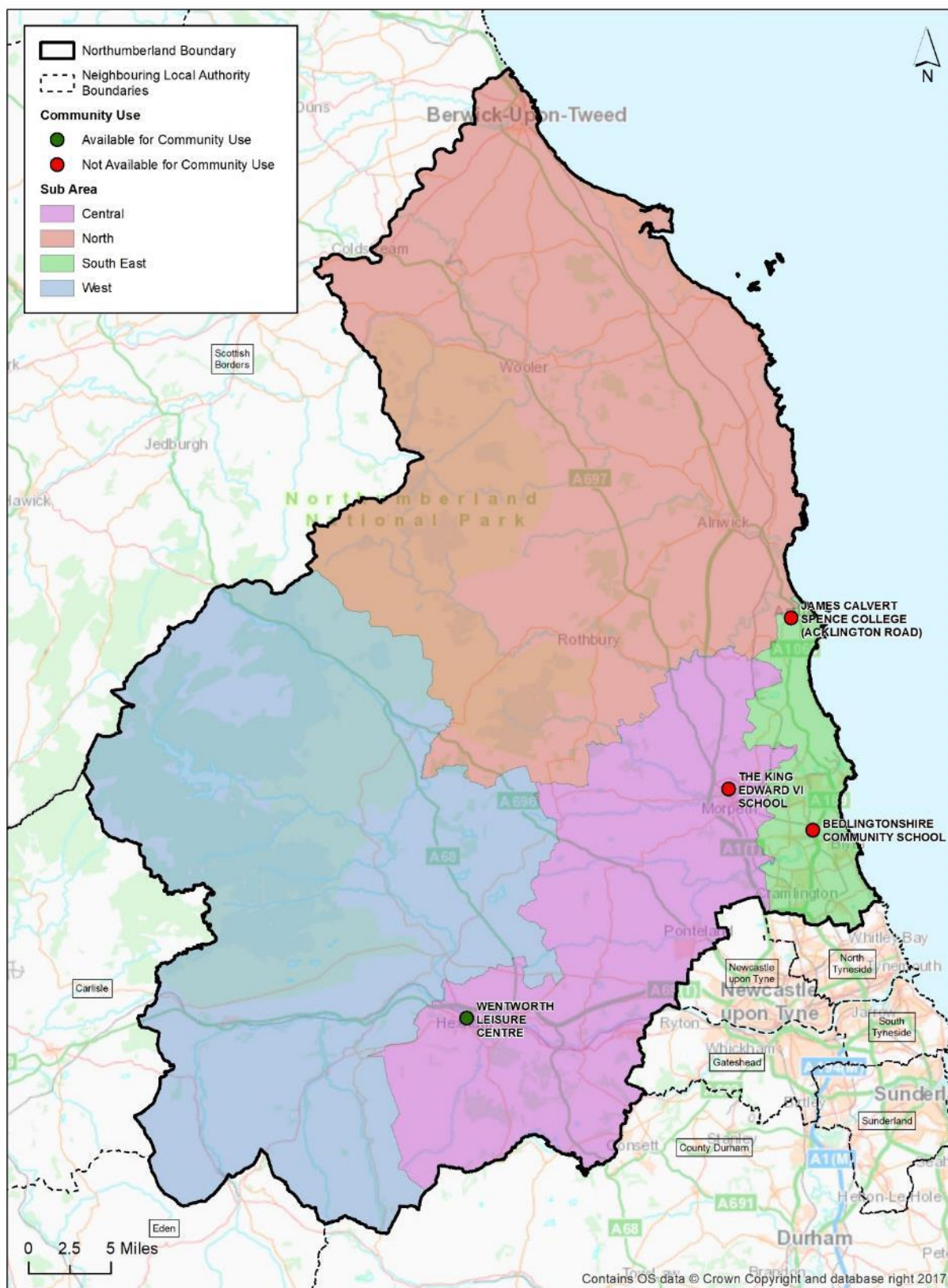
QUALITY - ATHLETICS FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.118 The Athletics tracks vary in age ranging from the most modern facility at King Edward VI School (2012) to the oldest, Bedlingtonshire Community School (1972). The other two facilities were built in 1985 (James Calvert Spence College) and 1996 (Wentworth Leisure Centre).

ACCESSIBILITY - ATHLETICS FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.119 Map 4.35 shows the location of the athletics track facilities in Northumberland.

Map 4.35: Athletics Track Facilities, Northumberland



Athletics Tracks by community use availability in Northumberland





- 4.120 There are no athletics track facilities in the North and West service areas in Northumberland. The four facilities service the main areas of population in the Central and South East service areas as well as parts of the other two service areas. Berwick upon Tweed and Alnwick seem to be the only significant conurbations that are not within a reasonable drive time of an Athletics facility

AVAILABILITY – ATHLETICS FACILITIES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- 4.121 The overall supply of Athletics facilities is summarised in Table 4.19. Community accessible facilities are highlighted in orange.

Table 4.19: Athletics Facilities in Northumberland

SITE NAME	POST CODE	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY SUB TYPE	UNIT	NUMBER	ACCESS TYPE	OWNERSHIP TYPE	MANAGEMENT TYPE	YEAR BUILT	YEAR REFURBISHED
BEDLINGTONSHIRE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	NE22 7DS	Athletics Tracks	Cinder	Lanes	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1972	n/a
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (ACKLINGTON ROAD)	NE65 0NG	Athletics Tracks	Cinder	Lanes	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school	School/College/ University (in house)	1985	n/a
THE KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL	NE61 1DN	Athletics Tracks	Synthetic	Lanes	6	Sports Club / Community Association	Voluntary Controlled School	School/College/ University (in house)	2012	n/a
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	NE46 3PD	Athletics Tracks	Synthetic	Lanes	6	Pay and Play	Local Authority	Trust	1996	2008

INDOOR TENNIS

- 4.122 There are currently no indoor tennis facilities in the County. There are indoor tennis facilities in the North Newcastle and Gateshead areas; these are the nearest provision.



5. STAGE C - SUMMARY FACILITY CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Stage C of ANOG brings together all the data detailed in Stage B; based on the analysis undertaken, the summary conclusions for current and future provision of each facility type assessed in Northumberland is set out in Table 5.1. This also reflects the local context and the fact that the majority of the County's population growth will be in the South and central areas of Northumberland. Analysis also takes into account the Facility Planning Model (FPM) data provided by Sport England; this data is checked and challenged through the analysis process, based on local knowledge and research. A summary of the FPM analysis reflected in the analysis is set out below.

SPORTS HALLS

CONSULTATION

SCHOOLS

- 5.2 The main secondary schools in Northumberland were contacted and asked to complete a survey about their existing sports facilities, their plans/aspirations for future provision, and the extent and nature of community use of the facilities. The survey response was low despite several reminders (see Appendix 5).
- 5.3 A summary of the schools' responses is set out in Table 5.1. Appendix 5 contains full details. Given that there are already SLAs and dual-use arrangements in place for a number of secondary schools the responses received are more about future facility development, than opening up facilities for community use.

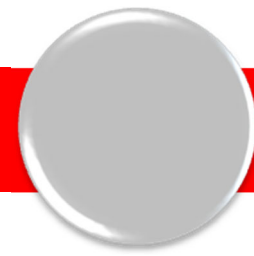


Table 5.1: Summary of Consultation with Schools

EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT	AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY?	FORMAL COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT?	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY ON SITE	WEEKDAY HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	WEEKEND HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	OCTOBER-MARCH		APRIL-SEPTEMBER		CLUBS ON SITE	AMBITION TO INCREASE COMMUNITY USE	MOST POPULAR SPORTS ON SITE	PLANS TO DEVELOP CURRENT FACILITIES	IS FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR INCREASED HOURS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIODS?
						CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)	CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)					
ACOMB FIRST SCHOOL	No									N/A				
ACKLINGTON FIRST SCHOOL			The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site											
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE	Yes	No	Sports Hall	5.30pm-9.30pm	9am-9pm dependent on staffing	60%	0%	20%	0%	Amble Juniors Tavern FC Felton Juniors St Cuthbert's FC Yoga Groups NE Dance Co	Yes – always promoting community use and happy to increase	Football	Yes – proposed plans of new build with better outdoor facilities and a floodlit all weather football pitch	Yes – use all day and evening
			Dance Studio			20%	0%	15%	0%					
			Fitness Suite			No answer	No answer	No answer	No answer					
			Climbing Wall			No answer	No answer	No answer	No answer					
			Netball Courts			20%	0%	20%	0%					
ASTLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL	Yes	Yes	Sports Hall	5pm-10pm	9am-10pm	70%	100%	70%	100%	Walking Netball Newcastle United Football (junior development) Cramlington Juniors FC	Yes – would like to have more weekend bookings	Football Swimming Cricket Netball	No current plans	Yes
			Small hall	5pm-10pm	9am-10pm	20%	100%	20%	100%					



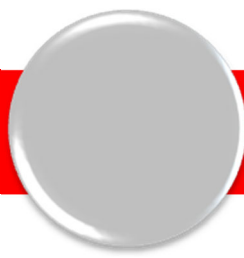
EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT	AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY?	FORMAL COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT?	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY ON SITE	WEEKDAY HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	WEEKEND HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	OCTOBER-MARCH		APRIL-SEPTEMBER		CLUBS ON SITE	AMBITION TO INCREASE COMMUNITY USE	MOST POPULAR SPORTS ON SITE	PLANS TO DEVELOP CURRENT FACILITIES	IS FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR INCREASED HOURS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIODS?
						CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)	CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)					
			Swimming Pool	4.30pm-8pm	9am-8pm	70%	100% (all Learn 2 Swim block bookings)	70%	100% (all Learn 2 Swim block bookings)					
BEDE ACADEMY BLYTH	Yes	Yes	Sports Hall	6pm-9pm	Saturday 9am-5pm / Sunday closed	40%	100%	20%	100%	The school does not publish this information	Yes	Football Athletics Fitness classes	No	Yes – daily from 9am to 5pm
			Dance Studio			25%	100%	25%	100%					
			Fitness Suite		No answer									
			All weather Pitch											
BEDLINGTON WEST END FIRST SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site													
BEDLINGTON WHITLEY MEMORIAL CE FIRST SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site													



Education Establishment	Available to the Community?	Formal Community Use Agreement?	Indoor Sports Facility on Site	Weekday Hours Available for Community Use	Weekend Hours Available for Community Use	October-March		April-September		Clubs on Site	Ambition to Increase Community Use	Most Popular Sports on Site	Plans to Develop Current Facilities	Is Facility Available for Increased Hours during School Holiday Periods?
						Current Usage of Facility during Community Hours (Estimated %)	Block Booking of Facility (Estimated % against Casual Pay and Play US)	Current Usage of Facility during Community Hours (Estimated %)	Block Booking of Facility (Estimated % against Casual Pay and Play US)					
Berwick Academy	Yes	No formal agreements in place, rights of use to certain clubs	Dining Hall	4pm-10pm	No answer	70%	90%	45-50%	90%	Football, Badminton and Squash clubs	Not currently but would be open to more community use	Football Fitness classes Badminton Squash	No – facilities are new and to a good standard, no current need to improve	No, hours are reduced during holiday periods
			Squash Courts (2)											
			Sports Hall											
			Fitness Gym			Not Available								
Berwick St Mary's CoE First School	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site													
Bothal Primary School	Yes	No	Gym	4 hours	Not Available	0%	N/A	10%	100%	Only a Karate Club	Plans to have Ashington Hirst running club using the school as a base,	Karate	No	No – reduced availability
			Dinner Hall	4 hours	Not Available	0%	N/A	10%	100%					



EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT	AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY?	FORMAL COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT?	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY ON SITE	WEEKDAY HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	WEEKEND HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	OCTOBER-MARCH		APRIL-SEPTEMBER		CLUBS ON SITE	AMBITION TO INCREASE COMMUNITY USE	MOST POPULAR SPORTS ON SITE	PLANS TO DEVELOP CURRENT FACILITIES	IS FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR INCREASED HOURS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIODS?
						CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)	CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)					
											which would mean a huge increase in usage			
BROOMHILL FIRST SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site													
BURNSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL	Yes	Yes	School Hall	4pm-9pm	Not available	40% (2 out of 5 nights per week – term time only)	No answer	40% (2 out of 5 nights per week – term time only)	No answer	Grassroots Gymnastics	No	Scouts Gymnastics	No	No
CORBRIDGE CoE AIDED FIRST SCHOOL	Yes	No	Sports Hall	7 hours	Full days both Saturday and Sunday	Less than 5%	Less than 5%	Less than 5%	Less than 5%	Molly Stroyan Dance Club Newcastle Community Football	Yes, would like to increase lettings of hall and sports field	Dance Football Karate	No	Yes – available for full days
DARRAS HALL FIRST SCHOOL	Yes	No	Upper Hall	6pm-12am	7am-12am	80% (not on weekends)	100%	80%	100%	Wylam Karate Club PatricTucker Judo Grassroots Guymnastics Irish Dancing Phil Hall Badminton Premier Sports Newcastle Community Football	Almost at capacity, the only night available would be Friday or weekends	Karate Gymnastics Dancing Badminton Football	No, current new school build planned for 2018	Facilities are available during school holidays when caretakers are not on annual leave
			Lower Hall	6pm-12am	7am-12am	80% (not on weekends)	100%	80%	100%					
DUCHESS COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	No	N/A									Yes, once facilities have been built	N/A	N/A	No



EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT	AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY?	FORMAL COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT?	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY ON SITE	WEEKDAY HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	WEEKEND HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	OCTOBER-MARCH		APRIL-SEPTEMBER		CLUBS ON SITE	AMBITION TO INCREASE COMMUNITY USE	MOST POPULAR SPORTS ON SITE	PLANS TO DEVELOP CURRENT FACILITIES	IS FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR INCREASED HOURS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIODS?
						CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)	CURRENT USAGE OF FACILITY DURING COMMUNITY HOURS (ESTIMATED %)	BLOCK BOOKING OF FACILITY (ESTIMATED % AGAINST CASUAL PAY AND PLAY US)					
GLENDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL	Yes	No legal agreement but long term agreement between users and school	Gym	4 hours	Not Available	80%	100%	60%	100%	Badminton Boxing Bowls Keep Fit	No, would not be able to increase much more due to limitation on space	Boxing and Bowls	No	No, hours are reduced
			Sports Hall	4 hours	Not Available	70%	100%	40%	100%					
HEXHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL	Yes	Yes	Sports Hall	6pm-9pm	Dependent on caretaker	1%	No answer	0%	No answer	Zumba Tynedale Ladies Hockey Club Football in the community	It has not been discussed	Zumba	No	Yes, the school often have Football Week held on site through the holidays
HIGHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site													
HOLY ISLAND CoE FIRST SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site													
KIELDER FIRST SCHOOL	Yes	Unknown	Sports Hall	No answer		Used for badminton 1 night a week				No answer	Only if the facility is run by a separate committee. The school does not have staffing or financial capacity to manage this	No answer	No answer	No answer



EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT	AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY?	FORMAL COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT?	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY ON SITE	WEEKDAY HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	WEEKEND HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	OCTOBER-MARCH		APRIL-SEPTEMBER		CLUBS ON SITE	AMBITION TO INCREASE COMMUNITY USE	MOST POPULAR SPORTS ON SITE	PLANS TO DEVELOP CURRENT FACILITIES	IS FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR INCREASED HOURS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIODS?
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LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL	No	Private school – no community usage on site												
LOWICK FIRST SCHOOL	Yes	No	Gym	4pm-9pm	Not Available	8%	100%	8%	100%	Lowick Archery Club	No answer	Archery	No answer	No answer
MEADOWDALE ACADEMY	Yes	No	Small Hall	5pm-7pm Tuesday to Thursday	Not Available	No answer	No answer	Available during term time only		No indoor use	Yes, have recently welcomed community groups to the site (scouts, fitness clubs)	Football (outdoor)	Yes, but mainly outdoor facilities	No
NORTHUMBERLAND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY	Yes	Yes	Sports Hall	5pm-10pm	9am-5pm	85%	85%	50%	50%	Bedlington Netball Club Ashington Juniors FC Bedlington Juniors FC Guidepost Juniors FC	Yes, but a private contractor has been appointed for rentals	Football	Not currently	N/A
			3G Pitch	5pm-10pm	9am-5pm	60%	60%	50%	50%					
ROTHBURY FIRST SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site. However, their dining hall is booked by community organisations to deliver ballet, Zumba and yoga at different times in the year													
SEATON SLUICE MIDDLE SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site. They have a small hall that is used for assemblies, dining and occasional gym lessons (not adequate for sports use due to its size)													
SLALEY FIRST SCHOOL	No	N/A												



EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT	AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY?	FORMAL COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT?	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY ON SITE	WEEKDAY HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	WEEKEND HOURS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE	OCTOBER-MARCH		APRIL-SEPTEMBER		CLUBS ON SITE	AMBITION TO INCREASE COMMUNITY USE	MOST POPULAR SPORTS ON SITE	PLANS TO DEVELOP CURRENT FACILITIES	IS FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR INCREASED HOURS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIODS?
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ST BENET BISCOP CATHOLIC ACADEMY	Yes	No	Sports Hall	4 hours	Not available	80%	100%	Not available due to exams season		Bedlington Town FC	No answer	Football	Current project to refurbish the sports hall. The school has a partnership with Bedlington Town FC and are currently exploring potential funding sources to develop facilities	Potentially, but funding would be needed to support access as the site team have other duties during holiday times
			Gym	4 hours	Not available	0%	N/A	0%	N/A					
ST MARY’S CE VA MIDDLE SCHOOL, BELFORD	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site													
THE DALES SPECIAL SCHOOL	Yes	No	The school has a gym that is not available for community use							N/A	Willing to consider applications	N/A	No	No
TWEEDMOUTH WESTS FIRST SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site. Only a school/dinner hall that is not available for community use													
WHITFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL	The school does not have indoor sports facilities on site. There is a small hall that is open to the community but not currently used													
WYLAM FIRST SCHOOL	Yes	No	School Hall	3.15pm-4.30pm	Not available	1 hour per week during term time only and 10 days during school holidays				Seiken Ryu Karate Association Newcastle Community Football	Not currently	Karate Football	No	Yes, as long as a school caretaker is available



NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES (NGBS)

- 5.4 Consultation was undertaken with National Governing Bodies (NGB's), to identify their views on the need for sports hall provision in Northumberland (See Appendix 3). The views of NGBs who responded are included below. N.B All NGBs were contacted several times and asked for their input to this strategy.

Table 5.2: Summary of National Governing Body Consultation – Sports Hall Sports

NGB	CURRENT FOCUS	FUTURE FOCUS/ PRIORITIES	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
BASKETBALL ENGLAND	Newcastle Eagles Community Programme use the Cramlington Learning Village. Delivery in curriculum and after school sessions. Club in Morpeth	Eagles Community Foundation have wanted to deliver at Ponteland Leisure Centre but no hoops. Basketball England have struggled to find funding for installation. Would be a priority for any future investment in the north east	The cost of hall hire at Cramlington Learning Village which is due to increase. Other delivery on school sites is at nil cost as offset by curriculum delivery. Morpeth Basketball Club are struggling with costs and have such started to merge sessions.
BADMINTON ENGLAND	There are 7 affiliated clubs, and 9 non-affiliated clubs on the Badminton England database. Ashington, Concordia Leisure Centres and Sporting Club Cramlington are registered play badminton and no strings badminton centres There are a number of primary schools registered to the Rat Pack Programme. There are 10 registered coaches on the NGB database	No specific badminton needs for this area.	



NGB	CURRENT FOCUS	FUTURE FOCUS/ PRIORITIES	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
ABA - BOXING	<p>Current work is club led, does not have much contact from Northumberland Clubs.</p> <p>Aware that Glendale ABC have set up a satellite club in the school.</p> <p>8 clubs in the County, none have own facilities.</p>	<p>Aware that there may be a need in the Hexham area which is not as yet being met.</p>	
BRITISH TAEKWONDO		<p>British Taekwondo does not have a facilities strategy, nor at present does it have a geographical strategy.</p> <p>It relies on the work of the CSP network to support clubs through club development initiatives</p>	
ENGLAND NETBALL	<p>There are 22 venues for netball in the County which include 22 indoor courts. The provision of indoor courts is similar to the national average.</p> <p>5% of venues are on educational sites.</p> <p>There are 12 affiliated clubs. Back to Netball, Walking Netball programmes are being delivered in addition to adult and junior leagues and competitions.</p>	<p>To support the development of new sports halls at Prudhoe School and Ashington Leisure Centre as venues for recreational netball programmes.</p> <p>Scope to develop and introduce further activity. The main constraint is facility access. Target areas for new sessions are west Northumberland (Hexham, Haydon Bridge)</p>	



NGB	CURRENT FOCUS	FUTURE FOCUS/ PRIORITIES	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
ENGLAND CRICKET BOARD (ECB) NORTHUMBERLAND CRICKET BOARD	<p>Delivery in schools. However, many of the school halls double up as assembly halls, dining halls or where there are sports halls they are too small and outdated for the needs of the sport.</p> <p>Indoor winter softball cricket for both male and females across the county.</p> <p>Introduction of more activities aligned to the All Stars cricket programme for age 5+ years</p>	<p>Ashington Leisure Centre has helped reduce the shortfall of facilities but many clubs still move out of the areas to access provision. Berwick has poor provision.</p> <p>Much of our work is centred around engaging with the new school's facilities which are being built, however access to these are proving difficult at Prudhoe and Duchess High Schools.</p> <p>Earlier engagement with the planning phase would provide a huge opportunity to ensure the correct provision is available (suitable lighting, not wood sprung flooring, provision of cricket nets and mats etc). The same will be the case whatever the outcome of the new school development in Ponteland.</p>	
BRITISH GYMNASTICS AND TRAMPOLINING	<p>Six clubs in the County of which four (Hexham, Wansbeck, Cramlington, Tynedale) take place at non-dedicated facilities and two (Northern GC, DG GC)</p>	<p>Supporting the clubs to maximise their use of space and time and to assist in identifying both satellite and dedicated spaces.</p> <p>Operational support including club structure and business planning are key factors needed to increase capacity.</p>	<p>Northern Gymnastics Club are in the process of trying to identify a larger dedicated space. They are currently at capacity and have upwards of 500 on their waiting list. They have identified a possible site for a new build/lease back option. Any support for this from the council would be greatly accepted.</p> <p>Wansbeck have a large member base and are currently in a non-dedicated space. The club have not communicated a need for a dedicated venue to us but it may be likely that this is the next step for the club to increase their capacity.</p>



NGB	CURRENT FOCUS	FUTURE FOCUS/ PRIORITIES	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
DISABILITY SPORT – REPRESENTED BY SMILE THROUGH SPORT	<p>Work across Northumberland with disabled adults, primarily with physical disabilities or those with mental health conditions.</p> <p>Sessions in Berwick, Amble, Alnwick, Blyth, Ashington, Cramlington, Hexham</p>	<p>Extending our work to include children and teenagers and to include more areas. Our focus will always be on the hardest to reach groups and so generally those places with the smaller facilities or no facilities.</p> <p>We tend to use Northumberland facilities when we hold one of big events and so this will continue in the future.</p>	



SPORTS CLUB CONSULTATION

- 5.5 Consultation was also undertaken at local level with local sports clubs who were asked their views on the current facilities they use, whether they are likely to increase their membership in the future, and what the main issues are for them in terms of facilities in Northumberland.
- 5.6 A summary of feedback from sports clubs and organisations using sports hall facilities is set out below. Overall 56 responses were received to the online survey. Detailed feedback is included at Appendix 4.

SUMMARY OF SPORTS HALL SPORTS CLUB VIEWS

- 5.7 Responses were received from the following sports hall sports clubs:

- **Tynedale Volleyball Club**
- **DC Gymnastics**
- **Tynedale Netball**
- **Prudhoe Netball Club**
- **Concordia Satellite Club**
- **Hexham Badminton Club**
- **Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation**
- **John Watt Badminton Academy**
- **Blyth Running Club**
- **Hotspur Badminton Club**
- **Tynedale Netball**
- **Wandsbeck Gymnastics and Trampolining Club**
- **England Netball**
- **Whitley Chapel Table Tennis Club**
- **Cramlington Table Tennis Club**
- **Morpeth Basketball Club**
- **Empire School of Boxing**
- **Berwick and district badminton league**
- **Hunter Theatre Arts**
- **Kaizen Karate Club**
- **Astley Netball Club**
- **Sinderhope Table Tennis Club**
- **Matfen Table Tennis Club**
- **Butokokan Judo**
- **Ponteland No Strings Badminton**
- **Northern Gymnastics Club**
- **Berwick Badminton Club**
- **Morpeth Netball Club**
- **Bedlington Netball club**
- **Glendale Amateur Boxing and Fitness Club**



- 5.8 Table 5.4 summarises the feedback to the survey received from sports hall clubs; the detailed survey analysis, which informs this and all subsequent facility assessments, is in Appendix 4.
- 5.9 Cricket clubs (8) and county officers (2) also responded, to identify needs for indoor training. Table 5.3 below outlines the responses:



Table 5.3: Summary of Cricket clubs/organisations view

CLUB/ORGANISATION	COMMENTS
DIRECTOR OF CRICKET, NORTHUMBERLAND CRICKET BOARD	<p>Specific issue with the new facility at Duchess High School in Alnwick, they have built the hall with cricket nets but the plaster board type finish on the walls mean that nobody can use hard balls in the facility which seems very strange, we are also struggling to gain access as don't seem to have a booking system for their community use agreements</p> <p>Prudhoe High School shortly as have heard there is a similar issue</p>
CRICKET DEVELOPMENT OFFICER – WEST NORTHUMBERLAND	<p>1. The main concern for me would be the number of accessible sport facilities with cricket nets in the area (e.g. Main sports centre in the area, Wentworth Leisure Centre in Hexham doesn't have net facilities). Quite a few clubs travel into Newcastle / Durham to use facilities there.</p>
ACTIVE NORTHUMBERLAND AND NORTHUMBERLAND CRICKET BOARD	<p>2. The main facility used for indoor nets in the West is Haydon Bridge High School but the lighting and mats quality I would describe as poor at best.</p>
TYNEDALE CC	<p>The opportunity to use nets in the West of Northumberland is non-existent. We don't have any provision at all. We have to use either South North or Durham (we use Durham as it is cheaper) - the cost is prohibitive and the cub has to subsidise the cost and the they are very busy. There is very little winter or out of season net practice (other than a very expensive county programme for the "best kids")</p>
ALNMOUTH AND LESBURY CRICKET CLUB	<p>Regarding the Indoor Facilities in Alnwick:</p> <p>1. The Willowburn Sports and Leisure Centre is well used, particularly at evenings – but the floor is not suitable for hard ball cricket. Booking for softball cricket is difficult to secure, due to other use.</p> <p>2. The Future of the Lindisfarne Sports Hall has been the subject of some debate this year – it was suggested that it would be demolished as part of a redevelopment of the former middle school site. This proposal now seems to have been shelved mainly because of pressure from a large number of user groups who could not access alternative accommodation. The Hall is a vital indoor space for the town and area and is listed in the now approved Alnwick and Denwick Neighbourhood Plan as a key building which should be protected (Policy CF1). The Hall is used by a wide range of sporting clubs (for Football, Cricket, Athletics, etc). It is need of investment, it holds the only indoor cricket nets in the Alnwick Area and from a cricket perspective the lighting levels are very poor – higher illumination is needed, and the wall colour does not give good sight of a cricket ball. Under the 'old-school' arrangements due to long term bookings, access during the week was difficult and bookings at weekends when there was availability was expensive (£35 per hour, min of 2 hours) – hopefully this will be addressed by NCC in the post middle school era. It should be noted that in 2017, Alnwick, Alnmouth and Lesbury and Warkworth Cricket Clubs all of whom have previously used the facility, chose to go elsewhere as the facility was expensive, difficult to book and of moderate/poor standard.</p>



CLUB/ORGANISATION	COMMENTS
	<p>3. Duchess's Community High School. A Community Use Agreement was supposed to be in place before the school opened. This was a planning condition, but has not yet happened, Sport England set out the detailed requirements that it had to contain. I presume this would have applied to the indoor facilities, as well as outdoor. Given that construction work continues I can understand why this is delayed but this needs to be finalised as intended and the indoor sports hall facilities need to be accessible to the community. It is disappointing that from a cricket point of view, the sports hall is unsuitable for hard ball cricket.</p> <p>4. Given that the High School is now taking years 7 and 8 (from this week), it is likely that more indoor sports facilities will be needed. Lindisfarne Sports Hall could help satisfy the need particularly during the day and is a justification for further investment.</p>
TILLSIDE CC	<p>I am also Chair of the North Northumberland Cricket Development Group (NNCDG), who meet quarterly and who administer local junior leagues, and who spend their time trying to promote the game to young players male and female, and facilitating Coach Education, as well as offering help to senior clubs such as they can.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nearest “purpose built” nets are in Ashington, some 50 odd miles away • In the Berwick area, the Swan Leisure Centre has a sports hall; there are nets which do not pull out beyond half way, and there are no backdrop nets. The floor was 'resprung' for the purposes of the footballers, leaving an almost unplayable low bounce for the senior cricketers. Aside from these obvious safety issues, and notwithstanding the lights have been improved, the single largest issue is access. Plans to renovate have recently been shelved. There is a local private school from whom we can hire their hall, (Longridge Towers School), but this is dark, and the net equipment is of low quality. • In Alnwick, the Lindisfarne Middle School Sports Hall is very difficult to gain access to and similarly has issues surrounding the quality of the nets etc. It is also likely to disappear following the change to two tier structure for local schools, rendering the old middle school site now redundant. In the main sports centre, The Willowburn Sports Centre, one of the two halls has been turned into a soft play area, and the other has no nets. The local school The Duchess High School is not able to allow cricket in the hall. <p>We have in the north clubs: Berwick, Tillside, Wooler, Warenford, Rock, Alnwick, Alnmouth and Warkworth. Of these there are a total of 14 Saturday league teams, two ladies league teams, 13 junior league teams and a further 6 U9 sections. 2 teams also field Under 19 T20 sides. Five clubs have taken part in the All Stars programme, delivering to a total of 175 x 5-8 year old children.</p> <p>There is a demand on hall space to allow cricket to be provided, both open space for young junior cricket and also net facilities that are adequate and safe; the availability locally falls a long way short of that unless you want to travel up to a 100 mile round trip, assuming you can get a slot.</p>



CLUB/ORGANISATION	COMMENTS
	<p>Our ideal would be a facility in the north that would tick these boxes. As a group, the NNCDG commissioned a study to try and identify costs for an upgrade to the Lindisfarne MS facility, but this was halted when the County Council was unable to give any confirmation as to whether or not the hall was to be retained or demolished.</p> <p>I hope this information is useful, and I also hope that attention can be turned to this part of the country which is finding appropriate indoor facilities wanting.</p>
ALNWICK CRICKET CLUB	<p>Alnwick is served by the Lindisfarne sports centre, which is currently on a reprieve from demolition and its long term future is yet to be secured. The facilities at Willowburn are not suitable for cricket, particularly due to the restricted space available and the cost of hire to our volunteer run amateur club.</p> <p>Alnwick Cricket Club aims to provide winter opportunities for adults and children in order to maintain their interest and long term participation in the sport. Lindisfarne sports centre is tired with many lights not working, which makes facing bowling in the nets difficult and potentially dangerous. Furthermore, we have experienced great difficulty in booking slot times as we are not an all year round user, such as the Harriers and junior football, who get priority due to financial pressures.</p> <p>This has become such a problem for us that we have used St. Paul's school gym for the Under 9 age group for 3 years, which is less than ideal and severely restricts the numbers we can allow to participate due to the small size of the venue. Our senior players also no longer use Lindisfarne due to the poor lighting, and availability, and instead have used the limited facilities of RAF Boulmer.</p> <p>We had hoped to use the new facilities at the Duchess High School in Alnwick, but we have not been permitted to do so due to their concerns about the fabric of the building and public access. The wonderful new Ashington complex is too far from Alnwick for most of our players and juniors.</p> <p>Many sporting clubs are facing a big challenge in recruiting and retaining teenagers, as highlighted by Sport England. Being able to maintain their interest during the closed season is vital and indoor facilities that are fit for purpose, and available at reasonable cost, are vital for the future of cricket in order to keep young people engaged in sport. Sadly, the facilities in the Alnwick area do not currently meet the criteria.</p>
HUMSHAUGH CC	<p>Humshaugh CC have used Haydon Bridge High School sports hall for over 20 years, generally without problem.</p> <p>When we started indoor nets for 2017 back in February we had severe issues over first 2-3 weeks concerning access to the equipment cupboard and the condition of the mats. In spite of our protests things did not improve.</p>



CLUB/ORGANISATION	COMMENTS
	<p>They billed us for the whole amount which we have refused to pay, instead we have offered a reduced amount which we feel is fair considering that the first week was a write off and on subsequent weeks the mats were sub-standard.</p> <p>As yet I have not had a reply from HBHS.</p>
MATFEN HALL CRICKET CLUB	Haydon Bridge High School gym, which is used for the West Tyne Indoor league, has pretty awful lighting and matting.
ASHINGTON RUGBY CC	Would have liked to stay at Ashington as it is local to most of our members and the facilities are good, however due to the time slots some of our members said it was not practical to train up to 10.00 at night and then have to travel into Newcastle or Durham to get home.
Rock CC	A shortage of quality facilities in North Northumberland and the ones that are available are too busy to get a time to suit our players, expensive for the services provided and in the case of Lindisfarne in Alnwick poorly lit to the point of being dangerous for hard ball practice. The new high school has net facilities but won't allow the use as they are concerned over the damage which could be caused to the walls by hard balls. Ashington Sports Centre and South Northumberland CC are the only options for quality facilities and these are hardly convenient for those North of Morpeth.

5.10 There clearly is an issue with regards indoor cricket net facilities and access in the North and West service areas.

5.11 In relation to overall feedback, which informs this and all subsequent facility assessments, the key issues for clubs are:

- **The availability of suitable space and time**
- **Value for money – increasing costs - hire facilities**
- **Funding**

Table 5.3: Summary of Sports Club Consultation – Sports Hall Sports

SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT.	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION, PLEASE PROVIDE THEM IN THE BOX BELOW.
TYNEDALE VOLLEYBALL CLUB	Wentworth Leisure Centre	No Referee stand on net. Members find ability to pay increasingly difficult. We would like to play matches on another evening and transfer juniors from qi high school	Centre management has been excellent and supportive throughout our 25+ years based at Wentworth	
TYNEDALE NETBALL	Queen Elizabeth High School	Football has priority over the majority of facilities in the area.	The main facility that we can only get access to, is 10ft too short and 2 ft too narrow, with no room at the edge of the court for throw-ins.	Netball is never the priority in this area, even though it is an increasingly growing sport. Football is prioritised at every facility and the only full sized facility does not accommodate the netball, they make it difficult for us to gain access to training there.
PRUDHOE NETBALL CLUB	Prudhoe high school	Would like hall 6-9 if we could		
CONCORDIA SATELLITE CLUB	Blyth Sporting Club	Concern rising costs of sports hall would mean we would not cover costs		I hope that sport across the region can remain funded to increase participation
HEXHAM BADMINTON CLUB	Wentworth Leisure Centre, Hexham	court rental costs rising		
NEWCASTLE EAGLES COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	Cramlington Sporting Club	Local authorities everywhere are becoming too expensive discouraging families from being active		
JOHN WATT BADMINTON ACADEMY	Sporting Club, Cramlington	Walls the wrong colour for badminton. Ponteland LC has a better colour in blue. Bad England recommend a jade. Our old block booking rate is £7.50. At that rate we can do our bit of growing the sport. £10 is sickening. Half hour books at off-peak times	Please keep me in the loop	Loads. Please keep me in the loop.
TWEED TRIATHLON CLUB	Swan centre, Berwick upon tweed	No running track for 40 miles plus. static bikes are out of date and provide insufficient data.	The current proposal for a new and fully updated Leisure Centre is the proffered option and the only way we will get the fully upgraded facilities.	As previously mentioned the provision of a new multi-use leisure facility would be the preferred option.
HOTSPUR BADMINTON CLUB	Willowburn	The courts are expensive per hour - about twice what it costs to book a court for 1 hour at Tyneside Badminton Centre. We struggle to get a block booking for the number of courts we need since the soft play was put in at Willowburn. And we have had trouble booking courts. We booked courts for a match in February but when we and our opponents from North Shields turned up we found they'd been double-booked.		
TYNEDALE NETBALL	Queen Elizabeth High School		We do not have a main facility. we train wherever we can find a free court. our position is extremely frustrating	Netball really needs better facilities in the Tynedale area. our club currently trains at Q.E.H.S. but the court is too small. Wentworth leisure centre seems to be unwilling to move the sports hall boards to facilitate the netball court. When they do the hall is not big enough for the current posts to be correctly positioned. also, the costs are too high. we have become first division county champions against all odds.



SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT.	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION, PLEASE PROVIDE THEM IN THE BOX BELOW.
WANDSBECK GYMNASTICS AND TRAMPOLINING CLUB	Ashington Leisure Centre	<p>we are very specialised and have a lot of equipment and cannot run easily at the same time as cricket due to the layout of nets and our apparatus. Further availability for us can only come when cricket not in but difficult to set up extra squad or classes when you cannot run for 12 weeks of the year when they are in.</p> <p>Our Rig for the trampoline is in an impractical place so we cannot use it for advanced training easily or when cricket is in and we are at the point now where we have advance trampolinists looking to compete at a National Level and work towards national squads this will hold them back. We also have to visit another facility to use the sprung floor and tumble track as we cannot have one ourselves due to no more available storage. We need our own permanent facility.</p>	will and have recommended the venue for trampolining competitions, regional training sessions and for British Gymnastics to host UKCC courses	
CRAMLINGTON ARCHERS	Cramlington Sporting Club	<p>The Wednesday indoor session is too short for a scoring round, so must be practice only. Before long this hall will limit the size of the club due to access and safety concerns. As the club grows it would be nice to be able to offer more shooting times, which will be required if we are to train and retain top archers.</p> <p>We spend over £100 per week for 4 hours in the sports halls, this is a very high financial load for a club that is just starting and has not reached the target membership required to pay the fees (but also see the point about club size made earlier).</p>	Generally, the staff are helpful and have provided storage facilities for the club equipment without which the club could not exist. It is unfortunate for us that the facilities are fully booked at all suitable times, as this may limit the size of the club in the future.	Cramlington is underserved with sporting provision, with only 2 sports halls available for general hire for the entire population.
ENGLAND NETBALL	Cramlington Sporting Club	<p>We struggle to book facilities for the growing demand in the sport due to time available. The ease of booking has not been good especially in the last few months. I work alongside Northumberland County Netball Association who have tried on numerous occasion with Blyth Sports Centre to contact bookings service regarding their current booking and also extending this however in over 2 months there has been 0 communication to NCNA regarding the enquires other than sending the bills every month.</p> <p>A lot of the surfaces in the county have gradually deteriorated over the years and are no longer adequate and some facilities do not have adequate space of a netball post to be positioned off the court. Facilities do not always remove football goals from behind the netball posts which for umpires is a health and safety risk.</p>	Our main facility is Cramlington Sporting Club and all comments regarding improvements are not applicable to that facility. We have no issues with Cramlington. These relate to other facilities across the county. We would recommend Cramlington every time.	



SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT.	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION, PLEASE PROVIDE THEM IN THE BOX BELOW.
CRAMLINGTON TABLE TENNIS CLUB	Sporting Club Cramlington		School and community venue. We have storage space for equipment which is often difficult to access due to school not putting their equipment away in a tidy manner	Northumberland and Tyne and Wear are Cinderella's of table tennis compared to areas such as Teesside (at least 2 dedicated 24/7 TT centres) and Yorkshire. Within our club there are social players and league players of all ages and abilities mixing with each other. Table tennis is a sport that can be played by all ages and abilities and offers a good healthy participation in body as well as mind. Until we have a dedicated centre that can provide for social and league players we will never reach the potential that the sport offers. And deserves.
BLYTH HIGH JUMP ACADEMY	Bede Academy Sports Hall	The main limitation we have is that we would prefer to train on a synthetic athletics track surface to enable the use of spiked shoes, to replicate competition conditions. I appreciate this is not a realistic proposition though.		
MORPETH BASKETBALL CLUB	Riverside Leisure Centre	Proposed increases for court hire (doubling our current costs) will have a massively detrimental effect on the club	Leisure centre appears to have been neglected over a period of years	
EMPIRE SCHOOL OF BOXING	Empire gym Cowpens road Blyth	We would like to take more less abled people in but we need to upgrade the facilities to allow this to happen	We have bag areas two sparring rings and a very experienced coaching team who produce national champions every year	We are a progressive sports science boxing club who looks at the latest physiological development and apply them to our boxers. I think better sporting facilities in Blyth would help xx
BERWICK AND DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE	Swan centre	Unacceptable 100% price increase when there is no other option.	The staff are active Northumberland are trying to run down the facility	Give sports centre managers power to set pricing and get the centre used
KAIZEN KARATE CLUB	Ashington Leisure Centre	My Overheads for my two classes increased by 100% from the old sports centre		
ASTLEY NETBALL CLUB	Sporting Club Cramlington	We could have more clubs using the facility if we had more outside courts useable all year	The staff couldn't be more helpful 😊	
SPORTING CLUB BLYTH	3GFTP			
PONTELAND ARCHERS	Ponteland Leisure Centre (Indoors winter months: Outdoors summer months)			We use facilities indoors and outdoors at the Leisure Centre the replies above apply to indoor only. We use indoors once a week during winter, field facilities are used three times a week during summer.
SMILE THROUGH SPORT CIC	We use several Active Northumberland sites - Most this year Blyth Sporting club	We book facilities based on location in county as we move our sessions around. Over the last 12 months I have gone to an alternative facility provider 6 times after waiting over 4 weeks for a facility booking confirmation. We cannot use online system and by phone no one seems to know who can book the sport shall for one off events/activities. Tend to be passed person to person and then we just go somewhere else.	The facilities we have used are all great once inside. There needs to be a clear understanding of who is booking the facilities and that person must be contactable and not so busy it takes weeks to get an answer.	
BUTOKOKAN JUDO	Newbiggin sports centre			



SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT.	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION, PLEASE PROVIDE THEM IN THE BOX BELOW.
PONTELAND NO STRINGS BADMINTON	Ponteland Leisure Centre	High staff turnover, best tend to leave. Discrepancies/anomalies in Active N/Land pay structure, no annual reviews.	Old site and building, central community location, ticks over. Concentrates on Swim and Gym only.	Run a "Northumberland Badminton" event. Driven by the Health agenda, cheap and accessible to all ages/abilities.
ALNWICK HARRIERS	Lindisfarne sports hall	As of September, the junior section of the club will have to shut if new facilities cannot be found. Alnwick town needs a running track.	there has been no club involvement in the decision to get rid of Lindisfarne or the dropping of the plans to include a running track in Alnwick	Alnwick harriers are willing to put time an energy in to getting a running track for the area. We have been fighting for this for 8 years but have been blocked at every opportunity such as the new high school being built, the new football and rugby facilities provided.
BERWICK BADMINTON CLUB	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Swan Centre	The facility meets our needs	The swan centre is a great venue that we need to keep not close	When the nearest county council sports hall is 30 miles away in Alnwick it is not feasible to walk or use public transport.
MORPETH NETBALL CLUB	Sports Halls	For many years we have been trying to get an earlier time slot to encourage younger girls to training, without success. Maintaining value for money is important to our members. It is vital we keep a full sized sports hall in Morpeth so team sports like netball and basketball can still be played in the Morpeth area.	We use Riverside Sports facilities which has a great sports hall but poor gym, toilet and general facilities with many obstructions in allowing more flexibility in booking a different time slot.	Morpeth sports facilities are very limited and with the number of new properties being built it is essential that sport provision for team and individual sports is high on the agenda.
BEDLINGTON NETBALL CLUB	NCEA			
GLENDALE AMATEUR BOXING AND FITNESS CLUB	Glendale Community Middle School	We use two parts of the school. The school gym is adequate in every respect. The autonomous boxing gym we use has limited space for growth and we need to invest to build an extension unit. We have to provide value for money in order that we are accessible to everybody wishing to take part and also as we seek funding for some projects. A good floor is key to most of our activities - the boxing gym flooring is expensive.	The only reason we would not recommend it is because further use by other groups might compromise our use of it and therefore the sustainability of our club.	Northumberland Sport are a credit to the sports industry and without them we would not be a club. Anybody thinking of setting up any sport provision in Northumberland should seek their advice and guidance.



FPM ANALYSIS

- 5.12 Strategic Leisure was provided with Sport England's Facilities Planning Model National Run (May 2017 report, based on January 2017 National Run data) for Sports Hall provision in Northumberland.
- 5.13 The Sport England FPM report sets out an assessment of the current situation regarding sports hall supply, based on a 2017 population of 319,600. The key findings are summarised below. The full report can be accessed at Appendix 7. This includes all details of the FPM parameters and assumptions/exclusions.



SPORT ENGLAND FACILITY PLANNING MODEL (FPM)

Strategic Leisure was provided with Sport England's Facilities Planning Model National Run (May 2017 report, based on January 2017 National Run data) for sports hall provision in Northumberland.

NORTHUMBERLAND

The Sport England FPM report sets out an assessment of the current situation regarding sports hall supply, based on a population of 316,618. The key findings are summarised below. The full report can be accessed at Appendix 7. This includes all details of the FPM parameters and assumptions/exclusions.

SUPPLY

The Sport England Facilities Planning Model analysis for Northumberland identifies 37 halls (8 activity halls) across 29 sites in the County. This figure reflects the strategic size sports halls and a number of activity halls which are on the same site as a sports hall with a minimum of 3 courts +. This means the FPM is modelled on slightly different parameters i.e. 37 sports halls as opposed to 32.

The data on which the modelling is based is comparable to that analysed earlier in this section; the difference is that the FPM excludes the new sports hall at Ashington Leisure Centre, (built 2015, which offers access to sports clubs). The FPM is based only on those sites where there is community use (pay and play and sports club) e.g. sports halls with private use are excluded from the supply.

The halls modelled in the FPM are those identified as being accessible to the community (see Table 4.4) and take into account court availability. (Table 4.5 identifies all strategic sports halls, and therefore includes sports halls which are only available for private use).

The FPM identifies 29 community accessible sports halls in the County (see Appendix 7), whereas Table 4.5, reflecting Active Places, identifies 32, of which 17 provide pay and play access. In reality, these are very minor differences, given the fact that there is a significant over-supply of courts in the County against current demand.

The total supply of marked out courts equates to 150.2, when opening times and peak periods are taken into account, this reduces to 116.90, or the equivalent of 31,918 visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp).

This may not specifically relate to the number of courts available but reflects the space available in each hall and what this equates to in equivalent court space. The Sport England FPM model identifies peak time as follows for sports halls: Weekday: 9:00 to 10:00; 17:00 to 22:00; Saturday: 09:30 to 17:00; Sunday: 09:00 to 14:30, 17:00 to 19:30; Total: 45.5 hours in the peak period.

There is a slightly higher level of sports hall provision in Northumberland at 4.70 courts per 10,000 residents, compared to England, where the average level of provision is 4.30 courts per 10,000 people. The level of provision in Northumberland is lower than that in the north-east region (5.2), and all neighbouring local authorities. Also, the majority sports hall supply in Northumberland is on education sites, with limited day time accessibility (16 of the identified 29 sites). When looking at individual areas in Northumberland the south east area is less well served by sports halls with 3.7 courts per 1000. This rises to 6.4 courts per 1000 people in the west of the county.

CURRENT DEMAND

The Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM) analysis estimates that the 2017 population (316,618) generates a demand for 85.10 courts and 18,594 visits per week during peak periods (vpwpp). (This is based on a comfort factor of 80%; above 80% usage the FPM says a sports hall is uncomfortably busy, which means it may be difficult to have further usage in that hall. Clearly, with current community accessible sports hall provision at 116.90 courts there is a current significant over-supply of sports halls in Northumberland of 31.80 courts.

Although there is what seems a significant over-supply of courts in Northumberland, it is important to highlight the following:

- 17 sports halls provide community pay and play access; this actually equates to 77 courts, which is less than the supply demanded by the 2017 population i.e. an under-supply of -8.10 courts (this could be even lower, given that the 'comfort factor modelled in the FPM is not taken account of in this calculation), or 2 x 4 badminton court halls; the future growth in population will increase demand for sports halls and this actual under-supply will be exacerbated
- The majority of sports halls are on school sites with limited day time access
- There are some secured community use arrangements in place, but still a significant number that haven't (12)
- Northumberland is predominantly a very large rural county but with some significant urban areas in the south east of the County and with 21.1% of the population having no access to a car then the provision of sports halls needs to reflect varying levels of accessibility across the County
- Population growth in the area will increase demand for sports hall provision and therefore the apparent significant over-supply will in reality be a little lower
- In addition, given the coastal nature of the area, communities in the south east and east do not have convenient access to sports hall provision in neighbouring local authorities.



Currently, 85.30% (15,864 vpwpp) of all demand for sports hall provision in Northumberland is anticipated as being met; this is lower than the English average (90.70%, and regional average (90.6%). The majority of this satisfied demand consists of visits made by car, 12%, lower than the English average (16.5%) and regional average (20.3%). A low level of sports hall use is made by people walking to facilities, 7%, lower than the England average (9.3%) and the regional average (11.5%); this reflects the fact that Northumberland is a large rural county where large number of the population have to rely on car usage with only 21.1% of the population not having access to a car.

Retained demand (the total amount of demand satisfied from Northumberland residents using sports halls in Northumberland), is assessed as being 85.3%, indicating that some residents do travel outside the council area to access a sports hall.

Exported demand equates to 11.3%; this is a high figure and may reflect the fact that there is insufficient provision in South East area.

21.1% of Northumberland residents do not have access to a car; this figure is reflected in the low levels of use at facilities undertaken by foot and public transport. It is the people without cars, likely to be living in areas of deprivation (both rural and urban) who are the real concern, as they may not be able to access facilities, and therefore this impacts on their ability to participate in sport and physical activity and therefore potentially, their health.

14.70%, (or 2,730 vpwpp) of demand is anticipated as being unmet by the current provision of community accessible sports halls. This equates to 12.5 courts i.e 3 x 4 court sports halls.

The FPM assesses this demand as being unmet for two reasons; firstly, existing sports halls lack capacity 1% of demand cannot be met because existing sports halls lack capacity), and secondly, people live outside the catchment area of an existing sports hall (99%). There is no unmet demand due to lack of capacity in the south east. Table 5.5 summarises the analysis described above

Table 5.5: Summary of 2017 Supply and Demand Analysis

2017 DEMAND FOR COURTS	2017 SUPPLY OF COURTS	SURPLUS (+)/ DEFICIENCY (-) OF COURTS	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD (VPWPP) DEMANDED BY CURRENT POPULATION	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD (VPWPP) SATISFIED	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD (VPWPP) UNSATISFIED	DEMAND MET IN NORTHUMBERLAND	DEMAND UNMET IN NORTHUMBERLAND
85.10	116.90	+31.80	18,594	15,864	2,730	85.3%	14.7%

The used capacity of the existing sports halls is interesting; used capacity averages at 48.2%, which is much lower than the English average (66.10%) and the regional average (55.10%), and perhaps reflects two factors: i) there could be low levels of day time use of sports halls with pay and play community access in more rural areas which lowers used capacity even though peak periods are busy, and ii) accessibility to other halls is a key factor. Based on the assessment of need undertaken for this Strategy, it appears that available capacity in sports halls is poorly used, because there are a number with limited day time access.

Table 5.6: Used Capacity of Sports halls (strategic size) in Northumberland (based on 2017 FPM Report)

NAME OF FACILITY	TYPE	% OF CAPACITY USED	NAME OF FACILITY	TYPE	% OF CAPACITY USED
BERWICK ACADEMY	Main	20	CONCORDIA LEISURE CENTRE	Main	52
JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE (ACKLINGTON ROAD)	Main	49	NEWBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	Main	77
LINDISFARNE MIDDLE SCHOOL	Main	17	SPORTING CLUB CRAMLINGTON	Main	64
LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL	Main	25	ST BENET BISCOP CATHOLIC ACADEMY	Main	52
MORPETH RIVERSIDE LEISURE CENTRE	Main	98*	THE BLYTH ACADEMY	Main	39
RAF BOULMER	Main	21	ALBERMARLE BARRACKS	Main	17
THE DUCHESS'S COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	Main	18	HALTWHISTLE SWIMMING AND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	41
THE SWAN CENTRE FOR LEISURE	Main	73	HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	Main	15
WILLOWBURN LEISURE CENTRE	Main	37	NORTHUMBERLAND COLLEGE (KIRKLEY HALL CAMPUS)	Main	7
ASHINGTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	Main	86	PONTELAND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	Main	22
ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	Main	57	PONTELAND LEISURE CENTRE	Main	49
BEDE ACADEMY (NORTH)	Main	45	PONTELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	Main	20
BLYTH SPORTS CENTRE	Main	72	PRUDHOE FOOTBALL AND SPORTS CENTRE	Main	100
REDE TYNE AND COQUET SPORTS CENTRE	Main	18	QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL	Main	24
WENTWORTH LEISURE CENTRE	Main	71			

*It should be noted that although the FPM states Morpeth Riverside Leisure Centre has a used capacity of 98% operational figures suggest this is nearer an average of 50% and therefore would have the impact of potentially increasing the identified surplus figure



Table 5.6 shows (in bold font) the used capacity at each facility. Prudhoe Football and Sports Centre operate at 100%. Morpeth Riverside Leisure Centre and Ashington Community High School are operating at over the Sport England 80% 'comfort factor'. Four sites are operating above 70%; The Swan Centre for Leisure, Blyth Sports Centre, Newbiggin Sports and Community Centre and Wentworth Leisure Centre. All other sports hall facilities are operating below 70% with a number being poorly used.

This suggests that there is available capacity in existing sports halls, which could be used. Improving accessibility to existing facilities and increasing access to other informal places and spaces at very local level are key if more people are to become active using sports halls or informal, multi-purpose hall space. Equally, optimising the use of community and community halls could provide a means of increasing overall hall capacity, and addressing the gap between supply and demand for both current and future populations.

The vast majority (99%) of the unmet demand equivalent to 2739 vpwpp is due to being outside of catchment areas of a sports hall. Just 1% is due to lack of capacity which is equivalent to the regional average and better than the national average. The majority of the lack of capacity is due to busier sites in the west of the county. There is no unmet demand due to lack of capacity in the south east.

Unmet demand is equivalent to 12 courts or 3 x 4 court halls. This is spread geographically across the county with no areas evident where access to a sports hall is an issue.

It should be noted that the FPM does not include 4 court halls at Bedlingtonshire and Josephine Butler Campus and have been excluded from calculations. Of these 8 courts, 4 at Bedlingtonshire are available for use and Josephine Butler campus does have access. When added to the excluded courts at the new Ashington Leisure Centre (6 courts) this means that the FPM was missing as total of 14 courts which would have the effect of increasing the current surplus of courts.

5.14 Table 5.7 summarises the overall supply and demand analysis for Sports Halls in Northumberland.

SUPPLY AND DEMAND ANALYSIS

5.15 Table 5.7 sets out the supply and demand analysis for sports hall provision, based on the data in Section 4 and the consultation in Section 5.

Table 5.7: Summary Analysis – Sports Hall Supply and Demand

FACILITY TYPE	SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS
SPORTS HALLS	<p>SUPPLY AND DEMAND ANALYSIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FPM identifies a significant over-supply of badminton courts in Northumberland (31.80); however, although there is what seems a significant over-supply of courts in Northumberland, it is important to highlight the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 17 sports halls provide community pay and play access; this actually equates to 77 courts, which is less than the supply demanded by the 2017 population i.e. an under-supply of -8.10 courts (this could be even lower, given that the 'comfort factor modelled in the FPM is not taken account of in this calculation), or 2 x 4 badminton court halls; the future growth in population will increase demand for sports halls and this actual under-supply will be exacerbated ➤ The majority of sports halls are on school sites with limited day time access ➤ There are some secured community use arrangements in place, but still a significant number that haven't (12) ➤ Northumberland is predominantly a very large rural county but with some significant urban areas in the south east of the County and with 21.1% of the population having no access to a car then the provision of sports halls needs to reflect varying levels of accessibility across the County ➤ Population growth in the area will increase demand for sports hall provision and therefore the apparent significant over-supply will in reality be a little lower ➤ In addition, given the coastal nature of the area, communities in the south east and east do not have convenient access to sports hall provision in neighbouring local authorities. The main issues to address are accessibility and facility quality (of old stock) moving forward; 21.1% of the local population do not have access to a car, so increased provision to informal places and spaces at local level, where sports hall sports and activities can take place is key to increasing participation and contributing to a reduction in health inequalities, and identified health and well-being outcomes



FACILITY TYPE	SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">NGBs and local sports clubs raise a number of operational issues e.g. more club time in facilities, increased access and time for clubs, and cost but strategically the priorities are increasing capacity, and secured access for pay and play and overall community access <p>FUTURE DEMAND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Sport England Facility Planning Model (FPM) analysis undertaken does not identify future demand. The population of Northumberland will increase by 4,595 by 2031.Using the Sport England Facility Calculator (SFC), it is possible to estimate overall future demand for provision of sports halls, swimming pools and indoor bowls rinks, based on this population increase.Using the SFC provides a quantitative estimate of future need, but unlike the FPM the analysis does not identify specific locations for future provision. That needs to be informed by the nature and location of future housing development, local geography and accessibility, and critically the location of existing facilities.This is because future demand may have the potential to be addressed through facility extension, or refurbishment, as well as new build.Future demand will also need to reflect the current supply and demand analysis. Clearly, if there is under-supply of a specific facility type now, the level of undersupply is going to increase by 2031, given population growth and increased levels of participation.The SFC for Northumberland identifies the following future facility demand (Table 4.11), based on a population increase of 4,595 by 2031. <p>Table 5.9: Future Facility Demand (2031) – Northumberland</p> <table><tr><th>FACILITY TYPE</th><th>UNIT</th><th>FACILITY</th><th>ADDITIONAL VPWPP</th></tr><tr><td>SPORTS HALL</td><td>1.24 Badminton Courts</td><td>0.31 x 4 Badminton Court Sports Halls</td><td>271</td></tr></table> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Using the SFC, the future demand for sports halls and badminton courts generated by 4,595 additional residents is 0.31 sports halls, equivalent to 1.24 courts.Based on the FPM model, there is a current over-supply of sports hall space of 31.80 badminton courts; on this basis, future demand for 1.24 badminton courts to 2031 can be accommodated within the existing supply of community accessible sports halls (sports clubs and pay and play access). This means there is no need for additional sports hall provision needed in relation to the over-supply of 30.56 badminton courts by 2031.	FACILITY TYPE	UNIT	FACILITY	ADDITIONAL VPWPP	SPORTS HALL	1.24 Badminton Courts	0.31 x 4 Badminton Court Sports Halls	271
FACILITY TYPE	UNIT	FACILITY	ADDITIONAL VPWPP						
SPORTS HALL	1.24 Badminton Courts	0.31 x 4 Badminton Court Sports Halls	271						



FACILITY TYPE	SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It should also be noted that there is currently under-utilisation of available capacity in some existing sports halls, and particularly those which are ageing with a number of school sites built before 1980. A number of NCC facilities are also ageing with Blyth Sports Centre built in 1979, Ponteland in 1974, Newbiggin in 1973, Concordia in 1977, Wentworth in 1986, the Swan Centre in 1990 and Morpeth in 1991. The proposals to replace Blyth Sports Centre, the Swan Centre, Ponteland and Morpeth will go some way to address the issue of ageing facilities and could offer the opportunity, particularly at Blyth to take a view with regards the over-supply of sports halls across the County and to look specifically in the south east service area and consider whether the current 8 court facility could be reduced to 4 court in a new build. A purpose-built, modern facility is more likely to attract usage than the existing ageing facility. Future need is actually likely to be somewhere between both the above assessments; if need is based on pay and play access there is a need for additional provision – not necessarily new build facilities, but increased access to existing facilities, particularly on education sites. If future need is based on general community access, there is sufficient existing sports hall provision to 2031; however, it would still be beneficial to increase secured access to education facilities. The above scenarios assume there will be no loss of sports halls in the County; this is crucial, given that sports halls are used for much more than sport.
QUANTITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 93 halls in the County, over 78 sites (sports halls and activity halls) 32 of these are strategic sized sports halls i.e. 3 courts +
QUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of sports halls were built in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Only 8 having been built since 2000. The quality of the Council's sports halls is mixed with New Ashington Leisure Centre, Wentworth Leisure Centre, Willowburn Leisure Centre and Concordia Leisure Centre offering good, modern facilities. The remaining facilities are all over 25 years old, are tired and in need of upgrading or replacement to bring the current and future offer up to the same standard or better than the current modern facilities offered by NCC. Of the remainder, available for Community pay and play use, the facilities at school sites and forming a raft of Sporting Clubs are all relatively new. A key issue is the age and condition of the Blyth Sports Centre, Morpeth Riverside Leisure Centre, the Swan Leisure Centre, Berwick and Ponteland Leisure Centre with all facilities built between 1974 and 1991. Planning for the future replacement of these facilities needs to be considered now.



FACILITY TYPE	SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS
ACCESSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 40% of all badminton courts are available for pay and play use. Map 4.2 illustrates the geographical and accessibility impact of strategic size sports halls having pay and play access, with 55% of strategic size courts (3 court+) being available for pay and play use and 100% offering access either through pay and play or sports clubs/community association use.• Virtually all residents in Northumberland have access to a strategic size sports hall which offers pay and play access within a 20 minute drivetime, with the exception of the west of the North and west of the West service areas. The challenge is there is a range of between 13.8 and 26.8% across the population in the County's service areas that do not have access to a car and so are dependent on walking, cycling or public transport to access facilities.• Geographically, Sports halls are located fairly evenly across the County, except for the North and West service areas which have few and the South East service area which has a number of facilities. There are two areas outside the 20 minute catchments of these sports halls, the west of the North and west of the West service areas.
AVAILABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The majority of the strategic size halls are on education sites with limited daytime access; there are some but a limited number formal dual-use arrangement in place• Of the 32 strategic size sports halls, only 10 are accessible for daytime use. the rest of the centres do not offer access to a strategic size sports hall during the day, because the majority of sports halls are on education sites.• There are 57 activity halls, of which 4 offer pay and play access; 34 offer community access but tend to be used by clubs and organisations in the County which are used for a wide range of cultural, leisure and social uses



SWIMMING POOLS

CONSULTATION

SCHOOLS

5.16 No schools raised any issues/comments in relation to current or future swimming pool provision in the County.

NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES (NGBS)

5.17 Consultation was undertaken with National Governing Bodies (NGB's), to identify their views on the need for swimming pool provision in Northumberland. The views of the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) are summarised in Table 5.8.

Table 5.8: Summary of National Governing Body Consultation – Aquatic Activities

NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY	CURRENT FOCUS/PRIORITIES	FUTURE FOCUS/PRIORITIES
AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION (ASA)	<p>Clubs are all engaged and participate in the Club Network which is facilitated by the ASA. Clubs are working together and have established a training hub as part of the athlete development pathway. The hub moves around the county to different venues.</p> <p>The clubs in the County are all at a similar level of performance and are feeding swimmers as appropriate through to the larger clubs outside of the County, mainly in Tyne and Wear.</p> <p>Clubs have been developing their coaches through a range of courses.</p> <p>Nationally, ASA Club Strategy Year 1 is currently looking to consolidate work on Swim 21, Club Networks, Developing sustainable Income tool kits e.g. sponsorship, award sales.</p> <p>Work is being undertaken reviewing the memberships offers e.g. social memberships, potentially developing a social swim product along the lines of Park Run.</p>	<p>There is no pool in the County which is capable of hosting anything other than inter club galas. Although the new pool at Ashington has an electronic starting and timing system there is insufficient spectator capacity for large events. Blyth pool hosts local galas and time trials.</p> <p>Clubs have indicated that they did not consider that they were consulted on the design of the facility.</p> <p>Any swimming pool developments in the future should have a clarity on the purpose for what the pool is to serve. Clubs would not want to lose training pool capacity and a pool which they can run competitions from in the County would be good.</p> <p>Club Strategy year 2-4 priorities and actions in the planning stage.</p>



COUNTY SWIMMING ASSOCIATION – DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND

5.18 Following initial discussions with regards the lack of a County competition venue for swimming with the Amateur Swimming Association who were contacted to ascertain the views of the County Swimming Association on the need for this facility within Northumberland. The following information was provided:

- **Approximately three of both Level 3 and Level 4 Club competitions take place in Northumberland.**
- **The facilities used for Level 3 competitions: Hexham – Wentworth Leisure Centre, Blyth Leisure Centre.**
- **Clubs run their own internal club competitions at pools in Morpeth, Alnwick, Ashington, Ponteland, Hexham and Blyth.**
- **Key issues with the facilities are seating capacity around poolside and spectators.**
- **Regional and County competitions are held at the Sunderland Aquatics Centre in Sunderland.**
- **A number of competitions take place outside Northumberland**

5.19 The opportunity to provide a competition level pool (8 lane, with appropriate seating) in the County would be there if any of the facility developments take place but there is no identified need with swim meets taking place outside of Northumberland either in Durham or adjacent districts such as Sunderland, where the nearest 50m pool is located.

SUMMARY OF AQUA SPORTS CLUB VIEWS

5.20 A summary of feedback from sports clubs using swimming pool facilities is set out below. Detailed feedback is included at Appendix 4.

5.21 A questionnaire was sent to identified indoor sports clubs in Northumberland. Responses were received from the following aqua sports clubs:

- **Alnwick and District ASC**
- **Ponteland Runners (including Ponteland Tri)**
- **Tri Northumberland**
- **Ashington Swimming Club**
- **Blyth Lifeguard and Swimming Club**
- **Duchess's Canoe Club (British canoeing)**
- **Tweed Triathlon Club**
- **Morpeth Amateur Swimming Club**

5.22 Table 5.9 summarises the overall feedback received from clubs to the survey; the detailed survey analysis is in Appendix 4. Where there is no information against the Club in Table 5.11, the Club responded, but only provided basic information and made no specific comments.

Table 5.9: Summary of Sports Club Consultation – Aqua Sports

SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION
ALNWICK AND DISTRICT ASC	Willowburn	Even though we have lots of people on the waiting list we have no space available to increase the size of the club. To do so more pool time would be needed. Due to lack of available funding we have recently purchased replacement anti turbulence Lane ropes at a cost of £3000. We have also replaced diving blocks and are looking to buy a replacement timing system. These would have previously been funded by the pool as they are for the pools general use. The value for money has reduced due to recent changes. The monthly payment per dolphin to the pool no longer permits them to swim at other times than just dolphin sessions. No general swimming is included.		
PONTELAND RUNNERS (INCLUDING PONTELAND TRI)	Ponteland Leisure Centre	The leisure centre cannot give us any pool time during the week even though the pool is underutilised for most of the week. The cost of booking the pool has doubled in the past 2 years and is now at a level where the cost is prohibitive for community clubs to use. The leisure centre management is unhelpful in trying to accommodate pool time for our club even though there is growing demand for the sport.	A lot of the staff at the centre are very unhelpful and uncooperative. The facilities are in a very bad state of repairs and the cleanliness is appalling.	As a triathlon club, we need to use tarmac surfaces to provide cycle coaching for children. With the new leisure facilities being built in Ponteland, it would be good to be consulted with respect to the new facilities and whether these will support the needs of the club both now and as the club continues to grow. A tarmac circuit in the facilities would provide excellent run and cycle facilities for the community as well as our club.



SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION
TRI NORTHUMBERLAND	Ashington Leisure Centre			
TRI NORTHUMBERLAND	Blyth Leisure Centre	Facility is generally in poor condition with regularly cold showers.		
ASHINGTON SWIMMING CLUB	Ashington Leisure Centre	Limited to 3 lanes due to public always having access to the pool. Lack of dry side for training - no studio space available gym limited to 14+ even for cardio training.		
BLYTH AND LIFEGUARD SWIMMING CLUB	Swimming pool	section for lifesaving requires dry land facilities for teaching resus water safety and first aid storage for 30 adult junior baby resus manikins to cover 40 people. and lifesaving sport requires extra lifesaving equipment storage for 20 manikins, 20 torpedo buoys, ASA galas storage for electronic timing pads, starting blocks anti wave lane markers, computer equipment. Beach Lifeguard HQ for voluntary beach lifeguard patrols first aid, lost children and training as well as storage for rescue equipment	Swimming club has been in existence since 1932. Request by the council when the Blyth pool opened to be the host swimming club providing lifesaving and swimming tuition to the general public. The club became very successful in lifesaving and train a number of elite athletes who compete in international lifesaving competitions and also gain employment within Active Northumberland through the club lifeguard training plan. Therefore, the facilities we have at the moment are very adequate for our sport. Meet the requirements of the ASA and RLSS governing bodies to hold short course competitions including spectators' facilities to support at galas.	There is only one pool in Northumberland classified as a 25m short course sports pool which is Hexham due to its specification. Please ensure there will be a second pool to promote the sport of swimming and to ensure the on-going success of elite athletes in lifesaving in Blyth. Through ensuring a good design of a 25m 6 lane sports pool being the minimum standard with spectator availability for 100. A good moveable floor to allow access to deep water preferably 3 metres to allow manikin pick-ups to be practiced, allow access for sub aqua if required and canoeing, maximise shallow water available to increase income through learn to swim classes. There are high numbers of young people in Blyth who cannot swim.



SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION
			Please ensure ASA swimming competition requirements are not eliminated therefore reducing income to the new sports centre due to competition not being able to be run. The club brings £10000 income in pool hire per year. Also, over £20000 pool entry fees per year so please ensure adequate evening team changing area for children to cover child protection, with secure aquatic area that can be segregated for private event use	
DUCHESS'S CANOE CLUB (BRITISH CANOEING)	Willowburn Sports Centre	The booking is done by a third party which often makes mistakes causing problems on the night. eg too many students for the session. I have sourced the equipment yet Willowburn have made all the profit nothing has been given back to the sessions. The Kayaking sessions are very popular some people are turned away maybe we could provide more sessions?		
TWEED TRIATHLON CLUB	Swan Centre	equipment: big opportunity to improve the studio cycles. we use spinning during the winter but the data is limited. If the equipment was upgraded to wattbike for example it would be much improved and used more frequently		



SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION
MORPETH AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB	Riverside Leisure Centre Morpeth	The pool is too small for the training requirements. We have to turn away members as it is too full to really train well	A replacement facility should really have been built 20 years ago, nothing could really be upgraded, a new facility is desperately required to stop people going elsewhere. Our best swimmers go to Newcastle clubs for better facilities and more training time.	

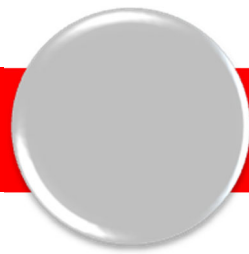


PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY

5.23 There were no specific swimming-related comments raised through consultation with the parish councils.

SPORT ENGLAND FACILITY PLANNING MODEL (FPM)

- 5.24 Strategic Leisure was provided with Sport England's Facilities Planning Model National Run (May 2016 report, based on January 2017 National Run data) for swimming pool provision in Northumberland.
- 5.25 The Sport England FPM report sets out an assessment of the current situation regarding sports hall supply, based on a population of 316,618. The key findings are summarised below. The full report can be accessed at Appendix 8. This includes all details of the FPM parameters and assumptions/exclusions.



SUMMARY OF FPM REPORT

21 individual swimming pools on thirteen sites in Northumberland in 2016. The total supply of water space available for public use is 3,641 sqm of water.

The resident population of Northumberland in 2017 generates a demand for 3,235 sqm of water meaning there is a slight over supply of 406 sqm of water.

Table 5.10: Summary of 2017 Supply and Demand Analysis

2017 DEMAND FOR POOLS SQM	2017 SUPPLY OF POOLS SQM	OVER SUPPLY (+) / UNDER SUPPLY (-) OF POOLS SQM	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD (VPWPP) DEMANDED BY CURRENT POPULATION	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD (VPWPP) SATISFIED	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD (VPWPP) UNSATISFIED	DEMAND MET IN THE DISTRICT	DEMAND UNMET IN THE DISTRICT
3,235	3,641	+406 SQM	19,493	15,582	3,911	84.40%	15.60%

Swimming pool supply and the swimming offer in Northumberland is very extensive at 13 sqm per 1000 population. The North East Region average is 12 sqm of water and the England average is also 12 sqm of water per 1000 population.

In terms of neighbouring authorities Northumberland provision is higher than both Newcastle upon Tyne and County Durham but less than Cumbria and North Tyneside.

Facilities are spread throughout the County with the sub area of Northumberland North having the greater number of pools with 9 of the 21 in this area. Lowest number of pools are in the south and east with just 5 pools. (Astley Community School, Blyth, Concordia and Ashington)

In 2017 some 85% of the total demand for swimming from Northumberland residents is being satisfied/met.

Residents use the nearest pool to where they live. In 2017, some 79.9% of the total 85% of the total Northumberland demand for swimming which is met/satisfied, is by a Northumberland resident using a pool located in the County. This is a high level of retained demand, with nearly eight out of ten visits to a pool by a Northumberland resident, being to a pool located in the County.

Northumberland retains 13,226 of the 15,582 visits. 2,356 visits per week in the peak period are exported. This compares with 1,803 visits per week that are imported from neighbouring authorities. Northumberland is a net exporter of demand with more people travelling out of the county boundary for a swim than coming in.

In 2017 the facilities in Northumberland are used to 49% capacity suggesting that pools therefore should have spare capacity. However, the overall picture does not reflect the position when looking at individual sites. Two centres are modelled at capacity (Morpeth and New Ashington) while others are modelled as being busy (Blyth, Prudhoe and Astley Community High School). Over 70% capacity being used is considered busy on a pool site. This is within the Sport England pools full comfort level of 70%.

6.6% of unmet demand is due to lack of capacity. This is lower than the national average but higher than the north east average. Lack of capacity is greater in the south east (13%) than in the west of the borough (just 0.2%).

The average age of the sites are approx. 24 years old. The oldest pool site is at Blyth in the South East of Northumberland. This was built in 1967 but was refurbished in 2007. The newest pool is located at Ashington (Built 2015).

It should be noted that the FPM excludes Haltwhistle Pools (339sqm) but includes Amble Leisure (212 sqm), Ocean Club (400 sqm) and Slaley Hall (160sqm) as accessible. The analysis clearly shows that Hatlwhistle Pools are accessible and the other 3 facilities have access limited to membership. The net effect of this reversal is minimal when taking into account these factors and has been treated as such.

5.26 Table 5.11 summarises the overall supply and demand analysis for swimming pools in Northumberland.

Table 5.11 Summary Analysis – Swimming Pool Supply and Demand

FACILITY TYPE		ASSESSMENT FINDINGS					
SWIMMING POOLS							
QUANTITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are 23 swimming pools in the County, over 22 sites (main pools, learner pools, one leisure pool, and three lido)7 of these are strategic sized swimming pools i.e. 160 sqm+All NCC swimming pools are 25m in length, except Concordia Leisure Centre; there is a 3 lane,25m area in the leisure pool however, which is used for learn to swim						
	Supply and Demand Analysis						
	Current Supply and Demand						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The FPM identifies an over-supply of water space in the County around 306 sqm of water space. This is equivalent to approximately one 25m pool with 5 lanes (circa 312.5 sqm)Although there is what seems an over-supply of water space in Northumberland, it is important to highlight the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There are pay and play community accessible swimming pools across the County which ensure that nearly all of the residents from major catchments are within 20 minutes drivetime of an accessible pool facility. The only catchment that isn't is Wooler.➤ Need to maintain the flexibility (Lifesaving, competitive swimming, sub aqua) and capability (spectator seating, galas) of the current Swimming Pool at Blyth Sports Centre highlighted by the Blyth Lifeguard and Swimming Club➤ Morpeth Swimming Club identify the need for more water space now and in the future➤ The ASA highlights that there is no pool in the County which is capable of hosting anything other than inter club galas. Although the new pool at Ashington has an electronic starting and timing system there is insufficient spectator capacity for large events. Blyth pool hosts local galas and time trials.➤ Population growth will increase the demand for swimming provision, particularly in and around major conurbations and particularly in the South East service area.						
	Future Demand						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The population of Northumberland will increase from 2017 to 2031 by 3,169 (319,600 to 324,195).Using the Sport England Facility Calculator (SFC), it is possible to estimate overall future demand for provision of sports halls, swimming pools and indoor bowls rinks, based on this population increase.Using the SFC provides a quantitative estimate of future need, but unlike the FPM the SFC model analysis does not identify specific locations for future provision. That needs to be informed by the nature and location of future housing development (where locations are known), local geography and accessibility, and critically the location of existing facilities. This is because future demand may have the potential to be addressed through facility extension, or refurbishment, as well as new build.Future demand will also need to reflect the current supply and demand analysis. Clearly, if there is under-supply of a specific facility type now, the level of undersupply is going to increase by 2031, given population growth and increased levels of participation.						
	Table 5.12: Future Need for Swimming Pools in Northumberland						
	FACILITY TYPE		UNIT	LANES	SWIMMING POOLS	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD	OVER (+)/UNDER SUPPLY (-) SQM
	SWIMMING POOL		3,325.25 sqm	62.59	15.65	19,493	+315 sqm
	Other comments						
Based on the 2017 population there is a current demand for 3,235 m ² of water space. Based on this demand and a projected population of 324,195 in 2031, there would be demand for 3,326 m ² of water spaces resulting in an over-supply of +315 m ² based on current provision.							
The challenging findings relate to the age of the pools, with an average age of the pool sites being 24 years.							
It is evident there is a need in the medium term, to consider the future of the ageing pools at Blyth Sports Centre, Swan Centre for Leisure in Berwick upon Tweed and in the medium to long term those at Ponteland Leisure Centre and Riverside Leisure Centre. Morpeth (due to both age and capacity).							



FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no need to consider any changes to current levels of swimming pool provision to meet current and future demand, in fact careful consideration should be given to potentially reducing provision in some areas and potentially increasing in other areas if new build replacement facilities are being considered However, it should be recognised that in the future there will be a need to modernise the centres, or, based on age and condition it maybe more cost effective to re-provide pools. Blyth should be the priority for future refurbishment or rebuild due to its age and the current under supply of water space could offer the opportunity if considering a new build to increase the amount of water space in line with the identified met demand and lack of provision in the South East area. Other sites such as the Swan Centre and Ponteland Leisure Centre should be considered in the medium term due to their age along with the pool at Concordia Leisure Centre in the medium to long term. Replacement of the Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth should be considered for replacement due to its age in the medium to long term but also due to its limited capacity to service the surrounding catchment in the medium term.
QUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All NCC pools are in good condition, but Blyth Sports Centre pools are ageing. Blyth Sports Centre pool is 51 years old and was last refurbished in 2007. The Swan Centre, Berwick upon Tweed and Ponteland Leisure Centre are also ageing and Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth is ageing as well as being too small to meet demand from its catchment. The newest pool is New Ashington Leisure Centre built in 2015.
ACCESSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 25m x 6 lane pools in Ashington, Hexham, Alnwick and Blyth, and 25m x 5 lane pools in Berwick upon Tweed, Ponteland and Haltwhistle (Outdoor). There are 4 lane pools at Prudhoe, Morpeth and Cramlington. There are nine learner pools in the County. The leisure water area at Concordia Leisure Centre includes an area which can be used for Learn to Swim. The majority of the residents in the County can access a pay and play accessible sports hall within a 20 minute drivetime; areas outside this catchment area have limited access to pay and play swimming pools in neighbouring local authority areas. Those in the south of the County have access to pools in the Newcastle conurbation whilst those living in the north of the County, have access to pools in Scotland which may be perceived as being of a better quality (ie: Berwick upon Tweed and the Scottish Borders). The only significant conurbation outside a 20-minute drive time to a community accessible pool in the County is Wooler. Although not community accessible, Wooler First School has a swimming facility.
AVAILABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 21 community accessible swimming pools in the County, all providing provide pay and play access. Given the population is ageing, it is important to ensuring maximum accessibility to all pools wherever possible, to facilitate local participation opportunities in swimming. In terms of used capacity, Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth and New Ashington Leisure Centre are the busiest pool facilities (the FPM assesses capacity at 70% or above). Blyth Sports Centre, Prudhoe Waterworld and Astley Community High School in Seaton Delaval are modelled as having a busy capacity.



HEALTH AND FITNESS FACILITIES

CONSULTATION

- 5.27 Consultation did not identify any specific issues or needs for future provision of health and fitness facilities from schools, parish councils or NGBs. Three sports clubs highlighted the need for potential future development of facilities as follows:

Table 5.12: Health and Fitness Facilities Sports Clubs responses

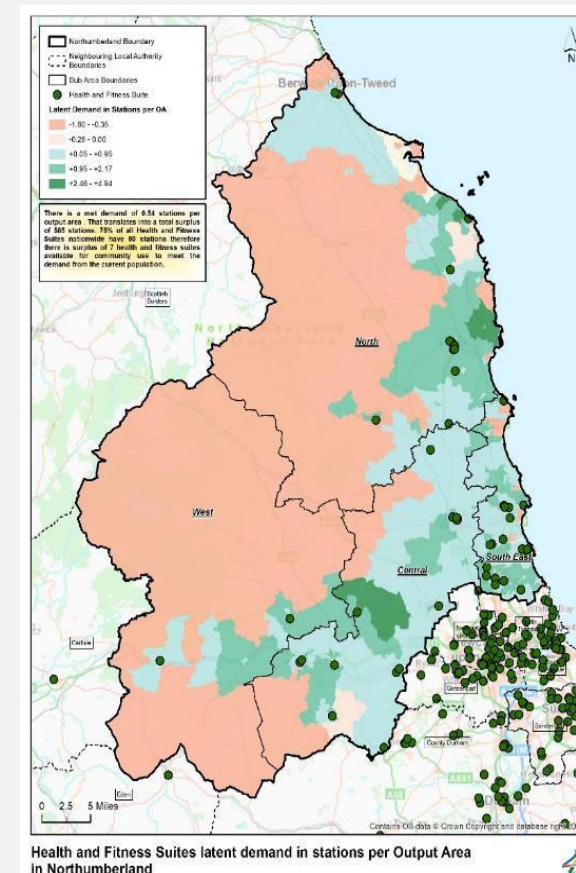
SPORTS CLUB	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION
EMPIRE SCHOOL OF BOXING	Empire Gym Cowpen Road, Blyth	We would like to take more less abled people in but we need to upgrade the facilities to allow this to happen	We have bag areas two sparring rings and a very experienced coaching team who produce national champions every year	We are a progressive sports science boxing club who looks at the latest physiological development and apply them to our boxers. I think better sporting facilities in Blyth would help.
ASHINGTON SWIMMING CLUB	Ashington Leisure Centre	Lack of dry side for training - no studio space available gym limited to 14+ even for cardio training.		
PARKHEAD WEIGHTLIFTING CLUB	Ashington Hirst Welfare	Short of space at peak periods		
GLENDALE AMATEUR BOXING AND FITNESS CLUB	Glendale Community Middle School	We use two parts of the school. The school gym is adequate in every respect. The autonomous boxing gym we use has limited space for growth and we need to invest to build an extension unit. We have to provide value for money in order that we are accessible to everybody wishing to take part and also as we seek funding for some projects. A good floor is key to most of our activities - the boxing gym flooring is expensive.	The only reason we would not recommend it is because further use by other groups might compromise our use of it and therefore the sustainability of our club.	Northumberland Sport are a credit to the sports industry and without them we would not be a club. Anybody thinking of setting up any sport provision in Northumberland should seek their advice and guidance.

SUPPLY AND DEMAND ANALYSIS

Table 5.13: Summary Analysis – Health and Fitness Supply and Demand

FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS
HEALTH AND FITNESS (FITNESS SUITES AND STUDIOS)	
QUANTITY	<p>There are 57 fitness suites in the County, with a total of 1,767 fitness stations. NCC facilities provide 36.5% of all fitness stations in the County. NCC plans to increase fitness provision at four centres: Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth; Swan Centre, Berwick, Ponteland Leisure Centre and Blyth Sports Centre.</p> <p>There are 41 studios in the County, 12 of which are pay and play community accessible.</p> <p>Supply and Demand Analysis</p> <p>Current Supply and Demand</p> <p>Based on there being 867 pay and play community accessible fitness stations in Northumberland, there is a current under-supply of -242 stations, given demand is for 1,109 fitness stations (See Appendix 12). In reality, given there is some commercial provision in the area and the fact that it is a similar cost to local authority facilities, there will be people using the commercial health and fitness facilities. Therefore, under-supply is likely to be less than -242 stations.</p> <p>However, what this does highlight is that there is a need to ensure there is more pay and play community accessible and affordable fitness stations in the County.</p> <p>Map 5.1 illustrates the supply and demand analysis for fitness stations in the County. Although this map is predicated on slightly different assumptions to those used in Appendices 12 and 13 (these use the 15+ population of the County), essentially the same picture emerges i.e. there is some unmet demand for fitness provision across the County. The dark green area is that with highest demand i.e. the North and Central service areas, close to Alnwick and Ponteland.</p>

Map 5.1 Latent Demand for Fitness Stations in Northumberland





FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS
	<p>Future Demand</p> <p>Future demand for pay and play community accessible fitness stations is calculated at 1,125 fitness stations (See Appendix 13). Based on current provision of 867 pay and play community accessible fitness stations this means there would be an under-supply of -258 stations by 2031, assuming no new facilities are opened, and no facilities close.</p> <p>Given the identified unmet demand, there is potential to look at addressing the need for additional fitness stations in a number of ways. These but could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of existing fitness facilities • Development of new facilities • Provision of green gyms, particularly in the rural areas, and sited in locations which can be easily accessed/where there is e.g. already an informal indoor space, or existing children's play equipment (clearly use of green gyms is weather dependent so is not a total solution to unmet demand for fitness provision) • Providing fitness equipment (circa 5-6 stations) in village/community halls to provide more local participative opportunities, particularly in more rural communities. Users would need to undergo an induction, as with any fitness facilities, but could then use provision at a very local level.
QUALITY	<p>All NCC fitness suite facilities are rated as good/excellent. Commercial facilities are also good quality.</p> <p>NCC studios are generally rated as good/excellent. The commercial facilities would also be good quality.</p>
ACCESSIBILITY	<p>Fitness Suites are located across the County; all major conurbations have a community accessible fitness suite. There are a number of commercial fitness facilities, but no big commercial chains, which provide for at least some of the Northumberland community.</p> <p>The vast majority of the County's residents have access to a pay and play community accessible fitness suite and a studio within a 20 minute drivetime.</p>
AVAILABILITY	<p>There is community pay and play access to fitness suites during the day, as well as evenings and weekends, in all major conurbations. There are also a number of education SLAs in place for facilities including fitness suites, but this does not significantly reduce, or impact on, community pay and play access.</p> <p>The studio fitness facilities are available during the day, evening and weekends</p>



SQUASH

CONSULTATION

PARISH COUNCILS AND SCHOOLS' CONSULTATION

5.28 Consultation undertaken with schools and parish councils did not identify any specific needs for/comments on, squash court provision.

NGB CONSULTATION

5.29 England Squash and Racketball was contacted and the response received is detailed below:

SPORTS CLUB CONSULTATION

5.30 A questionnaire was sent to identified indoor squash clubs in Northumberland. There was no response received from Squash clubs.

Table 5.14: Summary Analysis – Squash Courts Supply and Demand

FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS
SQUASH COURTS	
QUANTITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 23 squash courts (11 facilities) in Northumberland.• Of these 23 courts, 7 are glass back courts (2 Albemarle Barracks, 1 Alnwick Squash Club, 3 Concordia Leisure Centre and 1 Swan Leisure Centre). <p>Future Demand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is no specific methodology for assessing the current and future need for squash courts. Overall participation in squash is falling at national level, but the leagues in local areas remain strong.• Competitive squash is predominantly now played in clubs, from a club facility.• Current supply of squash courts is sufficient to meet current and future demand.



FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS
SQUASH COURTS	
QUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The quality of the existing courts is average to good; all existing courts are ageing, as a large number (14) were built in the 1970's and the majority on or before 1990.
ACCESSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geographical distribution of squash courts shows that the majority of existing squash courts are located in and around the main areas of population in the County.• Courts are distributed evenly throughout the County
AVAILABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 8 pay and play community accessible squash courts located in Leisure Centres. The rest of the courts are located either in sports clubs and require membership for use or with limited access on school sites. Four (MOD facility) courts are for private use only



INDOOR BOWLS

CONSULTATION

PARISH AND SCHOOLS' CONSULTATION

5.31 Consultation feedback from schools and parish councils did not identify any specific issues regarding indoor bowls.

NGB CONSULTATION

Table 5.15: Summary of NGB Response

NGB	CURRENT FOCUS	FUTURE FOCUS/PRIORITIES	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
INDOOR BOWLS (EIBA)	There is only one purpose built indoor bowls facility in the County.	<p>The Population figures provided by the Sport England "Local Sport Profile Tool" indicate that the older population (55+) will increase in the next few years.</p> <p>As such there is a need for an "Indoor Bowls facility" within the Northumberland County Council area.</p> <p>EIBA Objectives 2013-2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A growth in participation across the adult population in local Communities. Targeted work to increase Female participation• A growth in participation in the 14-25 age range, plus working with Primary Schools (Year 3 and 4 – age 7 to 9)• The provision of an excellent sporting experience for new and existing participants• A growth in Indoor Bowls participation by people who have disabilities <p>Running alongside our work is the Sport England Funded Development work provided jointly by the Indoor NGB (EIBA);</p> <p>Outdoor NGB (Bowls England) and the "Bowls Development Alliance" (BDA). Each NGB has two Directors on the Board of BDA.</p>	<p>The two Bowls NGB's and BDA are currently in discussion with Sport England with regards to Funding for 2017-21.</p> <p>Sport England has just advised that "Bowls" will receive £1,628,512 for the next four years to help us to keep more people playing the sport well into later life.</p> <p>In the new Play Bowls Strategy 2017 - 2021 strategy, delivery of which will commence in April, there will be a real focus on supporting clubs to not only recruit more members but to help them to sustain membership and to make bowls clubs somewhere people want to spend their leisure time.</p>



NGB	CURRENT FOCUS	FUTURE FOCUS/PRIORITIES	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
		<p>BDA work is summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The plan focuses on working in identified Hot Spot areas where there is both a high density of those 55 years and over and a proven latent demand for bowls.• The Plan concentrates on the following areas:• a growth in participation across the adult population (55+) an excellent sporting experience for existing participants to keep them playing Indoor Bowls a growth in participation of those who have disabilities	

SPORTS CLUB CONSULTATION

5.32 A questionnaire was sent to identified bowls clubs in Northumberland and the Northumberland Bowls Association. No responses were received from clubs but the Bowls Association identified the following

- Until recent years we had 3 indoor clubs in Northumberland – Hexham, Concordia in Cramlington and Ashington. Each of these was housed in a Leisure Centre in the respective town.
- The club at Berwick tends to affiliate with Bowls Scotland.
- Commentary provided on the closure of Cramlington Indoor Bowls. The views expressed concerns over the consultation process and that the club membership was sizable at 285.
- Suggestions made that an alternative building might be found to develop a bowling centre, although club not sure of the feasibility but understand no further investigation was undertaken.
- Some Club members have relocated to Clubs in North Tyneside and Newcastle

Table 5.16: Summary Analysis – Indoor Bowls Supply and Demand

FACILITY TYPE		ASSESSMENT FINDINGS		
INDOOR BOWLS				
QUANTITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There is 1 indoor bowls facility in the north of the County, based at the Swan Centre in Berwick. There are indoor bowls facilities located just across the County's southern border at Westerhope Bowls Club. Access to these facilities is difficult for those residents living in the Central section of the County.Using the SFC, the level of provision to meet current need (2017) is:			
	Table 5.17: Summary of Provision Levels/Access to Provision Levels required by 2017 Population – Indoor Bowls			
	FACILITY TYPE	RINKS	CENTRES (BASED ON A 4 RINK CENTRE)	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD
	INDOOR BOWLS FACILITIES	27.80 rinks	4.63	4,366
	Future Demand			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Northumberland has an ageing population.Although bowls is not just played by older people, they do make up a significant element of the participation base. Bowls is a great physical activity and sport, and also an opportunity for social interaction. It is therefore an important activity to maintain in the County, both for its health benefits, but for those living in the rural areas, particularly on their own, it can also help to address social isolation.Currently there would appear to be insufficient bowling greens to meet demand. It is clear that there is a need to invest in facilities to support participation, particularly for older people.Population increases to 2031 will be greatest in and around the South East service area and market towns.The growth in the number of older people is likely to increase demand for participation in activities like bowls, both for purposes of physical activity, but also socialisation.On the basis of the population growth to 2031, there will be a need to provide/facilitate access to:			



FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS			
INDOOR BOWLS				
	Table 5.18: Summary of Provision Levels/Access to Provision Levels required by 2031 Population – Indoor Bowls			
	FACILITY TYPE	RINKS	CENTRES (BASED ON A 4 RINK CENTRE)	VISITS PER WEEK IN THE PEAK PERIOD
	INDOOR BOWLS FACILITIES	28.20 rinks	4.70	4,398
	• The NGB’s view is that there is insufficient provision of indoor bowls facilities in the County to meet both current and future demand.			
	• There is a need to provide purpose built indoor bowls facilities in the County at this time and to meet future demand.			
QUALITY	• One dedicated indoor bowls facility in existence, of good quality.			
ACCESSIBILITY	• One dedicated indoor bowls facility in existence, based in the far North of the County and not within easy reach by the majority of the County’s population.			
AVAILABILITY	• One dedicated indoor bowls facility in existence in the County. There are several outdoor bowling greens in the County, where clubs are active.			



ATHLETICS

CONSULTATION

PARISH AND SCHOOLS' CONSULTATION

5.33 Consultation feedback from schools and parish councils did not identify any specific issues regarding athletics tracks.

NGB CONSULTATION

Table 5.19: Summary of NGB Response

NGB	CURRENT FOCUS	FUTURE FOCUS/PRIORITIES
ENGLAND ATHLETICS	<p>For a general overview of our ambitions and guidance around facilities as an NGB in partnership with UK Athletics</p> <p>A national perspective on what we feel are the needs of the sport in relation to facilities, broadly speaking linked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintaining and preserving existing facility stock.• Supporting clubs and community groups with facility viability plans and where appropriate guidance around asset transfers.• Support the development of compact facilities creating a Hub-and-Spoke model of facility usage across club networks. <p>Advise and offer guidance to partners looking to develop marked running routes linked to an increase in participation in running.</p>	<p>We are also going through a consultation of our own about a proposed restructure following our recent settlement from Sport England so at present everyone is otherwise engaged in that process.</p>



SUMMARY OF SPORTS CLUB VIEWS

5.34 A questionnaire was sent to identified indoor sports clubs in Northumberland. Responses were received from the following athletics/running clubs:

- **Blyth Running Club**
- **Tynedale Harriers**
- **Blyth Running Club**
- **Blyth High Jump Academy**
- **Alnwick Harriers**

5.35 Table 5.20 summarises the overall feedback received from clubs to the survey; the detailed survey analysis is in Appendix 4. Where there is no information against the Club in Table 5.20, the Club responded, but only provided basic information and made no specific comments.



Table 5.20: Summary of Sports Club Consultation – Athletics/Running Clubs

CLUB	FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY	PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT	FURTHER COMMENTS	COMMENTS IN RELATION TO WIDER SPORT PROVISION
BLYTH RUNNING CLUB	Running Track				
TYNEDALE HARRIERS	Running Track	Wentworth running track			
BLYTH RUNNING CLUB	School Playing Fields	Bede Sports Centre			As an athletics club we use Sports Centre as our base, lack of bar facilities means most members go elsewhere after training. Facilities have not been upgraded or modernised for a few years and the building looks old. Ideally we would like a track with changing facilities built in the area
BLYTH HIGH JUMP ACADEMY	Sports Halls	Bede Academy Sports Hall	The main limitation we have is that we would prefer to train on a synthetic athletics track surface to enable the use of spiked shoes, to replicate competition conditions. I appreciate this is not a realistic proposition though.		
ALNWICK HARRIERS	Sports Halls, Running Track	Lindisfarne sports hall	As of September, the junior section of the club will have to shut if new facilities cannot be found. Alnwick town needs a running track.	there has been no club involvement in the decision to get rid of Lindisfarne or the dropping of the plans to include a running track in Alnwick	Alnwick harriers are willing to put time an energy in to getting a running track for the area. We have been fighting for this for 8 years but have been blocked at every opportunity such as the new high school being built, the new football and rugby facilities provided.

Table 5.21: Summary Analysis – Athletics Facilities Supply and Demand

FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS
ATHLETICS	
QUANTITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 4 existing athletics tracks in the County, 2 synthetic and 2 cinder tracks. Within the Tyne and Wear CSP area, which borders the County, there are athletics tracks in Newcastle and Gateshead. Access to these facilities in neighbouring areas is relatively easy; the local population is mobile and the majority of residents have access to a car. <p>Future Demand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given the nature of the area, and the available access to the ‘great outdoors’, running (informally) is a key sport in the County, and clearly, an important activity for many local residents, including young people. There is clearly the opportunity to develop safe running routes in the County, and these initiatives would be supported by the NGB. There is potential, given the identified needs for similar provision investment into routeways.
QUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 4 existing athletics tracks in the County, generally of a reasonable to good standard.
ACCESSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the 4 existing athletics tracks in the County, all are located in the South East and Central service areas. There are none located in the West or North service areas. It could be argued that the facility at Wentworth Leisure Centre in Hexham services both the Central and West service areas due to it being located in the far west of the Central service area, but the North service areas is poorly served with a long distance drive required to the nearest County facility
AVAILABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the 4 existing athletics tracks in the County, 3 are located on education sites with only 1 at Wentworth leisure Centre in Hexham providing pay and play and daytime usage.



TENNIS

CONSULTATION

PARISH AND SCHOOLS' CONSULTATION

5.36 Consultation feedback from schools and parish councils did not identify any specific issues regarding tennis facilities.

NGB CONSULTATION

5.37 The NGB were contacted but no response was forthcoming

SUMMARY OF SPORTS CLUB VIEWS

5.38 A questionnaire was sent to identified indoor sports clubs in Northumberland. No responses were received from tennis clubs:

Table 5.22: Summary Analysis –Tennis Facilities Supply and Demand

FACILITY TYPE	ASSESSMENT FINDINGS
TENNIS	
QUANTITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are currently no indoor tennis facilities in the County. There are indoor tennis facilities in the North of Newcastle area being the nearest provision <p>Future Demand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">It is clear from the number of clubs in the County that there is interest in tennis in the County and therefore an implied need to improve existing outdoor facilities but no strategic need has been identified for indoor provision.
QUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are no existing indoor tennis courts in the County.
ACCESSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are no existing indoor tennis courts in the County.
AVAILABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are no existing indoor tennis courts in the County.



6. PENULTIMATE STAGE - APPLYING THE ASSESSMENT ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

CONSULTATION WITH NEIGHBOURING LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 6.1 In determining the nature, level and location of sports facility provision required for the future in Northumberland, it is also important to be aware of how neighbouring local authorities are planning for the future. Given that communities use sports facilities in areas other than where they live, the development of new or improved provision can impact significantly on both participation levels and capacity cross-boundary.
- 6.2 Neighbouring local authorities provide sport and leisure facilities, some of which e.g. Newcastle, Gateshead, North Tyneside and the Scottish Borders are very close to the North and South County borders. The mobility of the majority of the residents in the County (car ownership is 78%) also means that facilities in neighbouring areas are accessible.
- 6.3 Based on the consultation feedback and informed by the FPM, it does seem however, that residents (except those in the south, close to the border with Newcastle, Gateshead and North Tyneside, and those on the border with Scotland in the north), tend to use the facilities in the County. Northumberland's sports halls are modelled at just 48% which is lower than all comparators except Cumbria. Individually sites modelled at or close to capacity include Morpeth Riverside (98% - although it should be noted that current operational data has this nearer an average of 50%) and Prudhoe (100%) while some sites - Newbiggin, Ashington Community High School - are modelled as being "Busy". In 2017, some 84.90% of the total 79.9% of the total Northumberland demand for swimming which is met/satisfied, is by a Northumberland resident using a pool located in the County. This is a high level of retained demand, with over eight out of ten visits to a pool by a Northumberland resident, being to a pool located in the County. When considering the South East service area overall satisfied demand rises to nearly 90% (**Source: Sport England FPM October 2017 report, swimming**).
- 6.4 Table 6.1 summarises the consultation undertaken with neighbouring local authorities to inform this Strategy. All neighbouring local authorities were contacted and sent a short survey; follow up contact was made to encourage responses, but no direct responses were received, despite chasing. Information summarised below is therefore based on SLL's own local knowledge, and research.

Table 6.1: Summary of Neighbouring Local Authorities' Consultation

LOCAL AUTHORITY	COMMENTS
NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL	<p>Within Newcastle City Council's Indoor Built Facility Assessment Report (March 2015) it highlights in relation to swimming pools, that Newcastle has a small deficit of water space. Regarding sports halls, the city has a good level of provision across a range of sectors, with halls distributed in such a way that there are very few populated areas that are not within reach of a hall.</p> <p>Health and fitness facilities across the city are plentiful and any new facilities should only be considered as part of a larger offer and located to support health providers alongside additional services and sporting opportunities. The overall conclusion is that no new facilities are required in the foreseeable future.</p>
NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL	<p>North Tyneside Council does not appear to have a sports facilities strategy, but recently adopted a new Playing Pitch Strategy, to run to 2025</p>
GATESHEAD COUNCIL	<p>Gateshead Council's Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy and Action Plan (2016 – 2026) states that there has been significant investment in the sports hall stock within the Council managed and school facilities.</p> <p>Although Gateshead has a shortfall in swimming provision it should firstly develop an improved approach to the management of its existing stock before considering whether or not there is a need to provide an additional pool to accommodate increased demand from the rise in population.</p> <p>When comparing the number of community accessible stations currently available (1,559) even future population growth indicates that the current number of stations will meet demand from the population. Considering the recent (£45 million) investment in community sports facilities by Gateshead Council it is unlikely that the Council will undertake any additional investment in its community infrastructure; therefore, the focus will be making most efficient and effective use of the current stock.</p>
CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL	<p>The City Council's Sports Facilities Strategy 2013-2025 is a framework for the development of indoor facilities across the city and has been designed and developed to support and enable the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy. The strategy focuses on three key areas:</p> <p><u>Sports halls:</u> Lower levels of supply which cannot meet continuing demand – based on predicted population growth, this trend is set to increase. Shortage of consistently available space due to dual use of The Sands Centre. This means that there is a demonstrated need for additional hall space.</p> <p><u>Swimming pools:</u> Supply of swimming pools is currently meeting demand; however, issues exist around the level of pool space available for community use, along with the “unwelcoming and dated nature of The Pools”. With this in mind, the strategy notes that there is demonstrable need for a new eight lane pool and new teaching pool.</p>



LOCAL AUTHORITY	COMMENTS
	<p><u>Health and fitness:</u> The strategy states that more needs to be done to meet the needs of more deprived communities in terms of health and fitness, and to improve the overall quality of fitness provision in the district. This means that there is demonstrable need to improve the offer.</p> <p>Any future development is unlikely to impact on Northumberland due to the rural nature of the Carlisle area which surrounds the Northumberland Border</p>
EDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL	Eden District Council does not appear to have a sports facilities strategy.
DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL	The 2016-19 service plan states that the Council is currently developing its sports facility strategy which will review Culture and Sport's built facility stock and develop a future model for a sustainable approach.
SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL	Scottish Borders Facilities and Pitches Strategy 2011 states the need to maintain the current level of Swimming Pool provision and work with partners towards the provision of a quality multi-sport Games Hall within each cluster area required in the Borders.

- 6.5 It is clear from the above that there would be minimal impact for Northumberland residents due to the fact that there is no planned significant development of any new facilities in neighbouring authority areas.
- 6.6 Consultation with various NCC officers identifies the following planned facility developments in the County, which will provide new and extended participation opportunities and could offer opportunity to address any identified issues in relation to future facility provision:

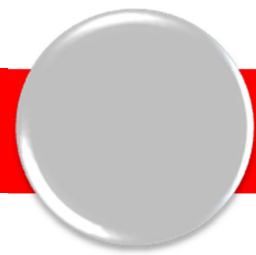
PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

- 6.7 As part of a fit for purpose assessment, NCC has recently invested heavily in new sports facilities and have plans for future improvement of its facility portfolio. Recent developments have included the New Ashington Leisure Centre,
- 6.8 Further new facility developments to replace existing provision have been identified as a priority and these are as follows:
- **Morpeth (To replace the existing Riverside Leisure Centre)**
 - **Blyth (To replace Blyth Sports Centre)**
 - **Berwick (To replace the Swan Centre for Leisure)**
 - **Ponteland (To replace Ponteland Leisure Centre)**
- 6.9 The following are the proposed indoor facility mixes being considered by NCC for inclusion in each facility and informed by public consultation:



Table 6.2: NCC proposals for future facility development/replacement

FACILITY	MORPETH	BERWICK	BLYTH	PONTELAND
MINIMUM CORE PROPOSED FACILITY MIX	6 lane, 25m pool (movable floor)	6 lane, 25m pool (movable floor)	6 lane, 25m pool (movable floor)	6 lane, 25m pool (movable floor)
	Learner Pool (movable floor)	Sports Hall (4 court)	Learner Pool (movable floor)	Learner Pool (movable floor) + Aquatic Toddler Play Area
	Sports Hall (4 court)	Fitness Suite (100 stations)	Fitness Suite (100 stations)	Fitness Suite (100 stations)
	Fitness Suite (100 stations)	Fitness studios (2)	Fitness studios (2)	Fitness studios (2)
	Fitness studios (2)	Spinning studio	Spinning studio	Spinning studio
	Spinning studio	Soft play	Soft play	Soft Play (three tier)
	Soft play	Café	Cafe	Sports Hall (4 court)
	Café	Changing and ancillary	Changing and ancillary	Changing and ancillary
	Changing and ancillary	Ten pin bowling		Clip and Climb (16 challenges)
	Library	Clip n climb		Library
	200 seat theatre			Sports Bar
POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL FACILITIES	Spa	Learner Pool (movable floor)	Sports Hall (4 court)	Spa
		Leisure Water (Flume / Waves / Lazy River)	Spa	
		Flow Rider		
		Spa		



6.10 The final facility mixes for each proposed new leisure centre have not yet been decided and the NCC capital programme is currently being reviewed following the local elections in May 2017 and subsequent change in administration and senior management structure. It is anticipated that the capital programme will be finalised towards the middle to end of 2018. Whatever the outcome of this process is, this strategy can help to inform the core facility requirements for each of the three proposed centres in relation to the amount and type of swimming pool water and the size of the sports hall. Commentary is also provided on proposals for fitness suites and studios. It will be important when deciding any potential new facility developments to consider the increase or decrease of provision by sub area and the likely impact on existing provision in each sub are being considered for new/replacement facilities.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING – PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

6.11 Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has priorities in its 5-year strategy outlined in the 2015/16 commissioning plan which focus on the following:

- **Focusing on tackling some of the main causes of health problems in the county**
- **Targeting at risk individuals**
- **Partnership working to improve the health and wellbeing of local people**
- **Working to improve the lives of people with long term health conditions and the social inclusion of disabled people**

6.12 Consultation was carried out as part of this study with a number of organisations and groups who have an interest in health and wellbeing and Table 6.3 provides a summary of health and wellbeing priorities.

Table 6.3: Summary of Health and Wellbeing priorities

CCG	<p>Northumberland's Health and Wellbeing Board Vision for 2018/19 is to create a culture that allows the aspirations of residents and communities to be fulfilled by improving how health and social care and other public services work in a joined up way. Northumberland's Health and Wellbeing Board has adopted a strategy based on five key priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Targeting children and families who might be at risk of not achieving their full potential 2. Focusing on tackling some of the main causes of health problems in the county 3. Supporting people with long term conditions to be independent and have control 4. Making sure that all public services support the independence and social inclusion of disabled people and people with long term health conditions 5. Making sure that all partners work well together and are clear about what they themselves need to do to help improve the health and wellbeing of local people <p>The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) commissioning plan, which encompasses system wide aspirations to fully integrate health and care services across the county, has been considered and endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The CCG report progress in our overall direction of travel as well as in individual programmes of work to the Board.</p>
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL	<p>Health and Well Being</p> <p>Aim: to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to lead healthy, independent lives for as long as possible and to safeguard our most vulnerable residents in a way that maintains their dignity and confidence.</p> <p>To achieve this, NCC will use all the levers available to them, including new public health powers, to deliver integrated, well-managed, and targeted services to allow all residents to access the support they are entitled to.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>NCC will promote public health and wellbeing in the community by, investing in early intervention and prevention activities</p> <p>NCC will support non-health based organisations to understand their contribution to creating health and wellbeing gain</p> <p>NCC will also encourage lifestyles that result in low levels of obesity – with individuals actively participating in sport, leisure and cultural activities and following healthy diets. This will include offering additional support and treatment to those who need it.</p>
NORTHUMBERLAND SPORT	<p>Work with NCC on health and wellbeing programmes</p>



FUTURE FACILITY PROVISION

6.13 From the supply and demand analysis, the following facility provision is needed in Northumberland to 2031:

Table 6.4: Priorities for Future Provision of Sport and Leisure Facilities in Northumberland

PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
SPORTS HALLS				
PROVIDE	Sports halls	None a current over supply of +31.80 badminton courts (2017)	None a projected over supply of 30.56 badminton courts by 2031	There is a need to maintain the quality of existing provision, to ensure existing participation levels are retained as a minimum, and where possible, grow. There could be the opportunity when considering the replacement of ageing facilities (as highlighted within this section) to assess on an individual project basis the need for sports hall provision where there are sufficient other available sports halls in the 20-minute catchment used. It is likely that planned developments in Berwick upon Tweed, Morpeth and Ponteland would not be in a position to do this but the proposed Blyth Sports Centre replacement facility (which currently has an 8 court sports hall) could be considered for a reduction in the number of courts to 4 courts or less.
ENHANCE	Sports halls			Increased community (club and pay and play) access to existing sports halls on education sites which could facilitate changes to existing facility mixes under proposals for replacement (as outlined above)
SWIMMING POOLS				
PROTECT	Swimming Pools	None a current over supply of 406 sqm of water space (2017)	None a projected over supply of 315 sqm by 2031.	<p>Replace ageing facilities: Blyth Sports Centre is the priority pool for replacement in the short to medium term, as the oldest in the County. Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth; Ponteland Leisure Centre and the Swan Centre for Leisure, Berwick upon Tweed are a priority for replacement in the medium term.</p> <p>The FPM identifies the need for more water space in the South East service area and the proposed replacement facility in Blyth would help alleviate some of this unmet demand but not entirely given the coastal location in relation to the unmet demand spread across the South East of the County.</p>



PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
				<p>Any future water space should be considered carefully in relation to this unmet demand.</p> <p>The resident club at Blyth has clearly articulated the requirement to retain existing pool capability to allow as many aqua activities as possible to take place.</p>
ENHANCE	Swimming Pools			<p>If NCC wish to consider the provision of a competition pool in the County then Blyth should be considered ahead of any other potential facility replacement sites.</p> <p>Even though there is a clearly identified need for more water space in Morpeth (through club and previous customer feedback) and the potential for the town to have a county central competition venue as part of any redevelopment of Riverside Leisure Centre there is no requirement for nearly doubling the existing water space in Morpeth.</p>
HEALTH AND FITNESS				
PROVIDE	Fitness Suites	Under supply of -242 fitness stations	Under supply of -255 fitness stations	<p>Increase existing levels of pay and play provision through the proposals for the replacement of four of NCC's facilities which has the potential to add up to 200 new fitness stations. The remainder would be provided through a combination of new private health and fitness provision and local community provision.</p>
PROVIDE	Fitness Suites			<p>Consider areas of most identified demand that wouldn't potentially be enhanced by replacement proposals and consider how this demand could be met. The only area identified that wouldn't be covered by this is demand for additional stations is in the Alnwick area. Consideration should be given as to whether the existing offer at Willowburn Sports Centre, Alnwick could be enhanced with additional stations.</p> <p>Consider provision of fitness stations in community /village halls to increase supply and local access.</p>



PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
SQUASH COURTS				
PROTECT	Squash Courts	Retain existing provision No strategic need identified	Retain existing provision No strategic need identified	There is a need to maintain the quality of existing provision, to ensure existing participation levels are retained as a minimum, and where possible, grow.
INDOOR BOWLS				
PROTECT	Indoor Bowls	Under supply of -27.80 rinks (2017)	Under supply of -28.20 rinks by 2031	Protect existing provision in Berwick upon Tweed (4 rink)
ENHANCE	Indoor Bowls			In addition to provision in neighbouring authorities in the south of the County consider in conjunction with England Bowls how to address the under supply in the County.
ATHLETICS/RUNNING				
PROTECT	Athletics	Retain existing provision.	Retain existing provision.	
PROVIDE		Running trails/tracks and infrastructure to facilitate the continued growth of this sport in the County.	Running trails/tracks and infrastructure to facilitate the continued growth of this sport in the County.	Development of safe running trails/routes; these could be 'shared' with walkers and to a certain extent, cyclists. Consider the need identified for track provision in Alnwick as highlighted in club consultation
INDOOR TENNIS				
PROVIDE	Indoor Tennis Courts	No existing provision No strategic need identified	No existing provision. No strategic need identified	



PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

- 6.14 When considering NCC's proposals for future facility development in Morpeth (To replace the existing Riverside Leisure Centre); Berwick upon Tweed (To replace the Swan Centre for Leisure); Blyth (To replace Blyth Sports Centre) and Ponteland (To replace Ponteland Leisure Centre) and taking into account the future facility need above then the strategy helps to inform and confirm future facility requirements with regards these proposals in relation to core facility mix are as follows:

Table 6.5: Future facility development - strategy confirmed core facility mix proposals

FACILITY	MORPETH	BERWICK UPON TWEED	BLYTH	PONTELAND
CORE FACILITY MIX	As per table 6.2 with no requirement to increase main pool size to 8 lane, but requirement for minimum 6 lanes	As per table 6.2 with a maximum of 6 lane pool with potential to consider a 5 lane pool	As per table 6.2 with requirement for minimum 6 lanes but consideration should be given to meeting the requirement for more water space in the South East service area and to potentially provide a competition pool with an 8 lane pool	As per table 6.2 with a maximum of 6 lane pool with potential to consider a 5 lane pool
	Even though a current over supply of sports hall space – 4 court hall required for 20-minute catchment	Even though a current over supply of sports hall space – 4 court hall required for 20-minute catchment Opportunity to address the lack of appropriate Indoor Cricket Net facilities to serve the North and West areas	Even though a current over supply of sports hall space – 4 court hall required for 20-minute catchment	Even though a current over supply of sports hall space – 4 court hall required for 20-minute catchment
	As per table 6.2 which will help to meet the under supply of fitness stations	As per table 6.2 which will help to meet the under supply of fitness stations	As per table 6.2 which will help to meet the under supply of fitness stations	As per table 6.2 which will help to meet the under supply of fitness stations

It should be noted that co-location of facilities should be considered for any new facilities with the new Ashington Leisure Centre being an example of how shared locations have already been successfully used in the County



7. FINAL STAGE - CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

- 7.1. Overall, Northumberland has a good range of existing sport and leisure facilities across the County; however, some are now ageing, and will require replacement. This is particularly true of sports facilities in Berwick upon Tweed (Swan Centre), Morpeth (Riverside Leisure Centre), Ponteland (Ponteland Leisure Centre) and Blyth (Blyth Sports Centre). The priority in the short to medium term is the replacement and potential enhancement of facilities in Blyth as well as optimising access to, and use of, existing sports halls facilities (currently only 48% full).
- 7.2. In Northumberland, there is sufficient pay and play swimming pool provision to meet current and future demand. There is also sufficient pay and play sports hall provision to meet both current and future demand.
- 7.3. There are a number of SLAs in place between NCC and individual schools with regards community use of leisure facilities.
- 7.4. Northumberland's population will grow over the next 15 years, particularly in and around the South East of the County and market towns (although not to the same extent), so there is a particular need in these areas to ensure sufficient provision of accessible, quality and affordable facilities – formal and informal, to meet local need.
- 7.5. It is particularly important that there is increased access to opportunities for physical activity at local level, so it is easy for residents, particularly those who are currently inactive, and those without access to private transport, to participate, and become physically active. Linking facility provision, informal and formal, to opportunities for active travel, and informal places.
- 7.6. There is some potential to utilise community halls, and other informal places and spaces better for sports hall activities, which could provide at a more local level, and therefore facilitate participation by those who are elderly, do not have access to a car, have young children, or have a disability.
- 7.7. This is very important given the need to retain and grow existing levels of physical activity in the County, and to address the health inequalities in the County.
- 7.8. There is a range of facility providers in Northumberland, although the main providers of core provision i.e. swimming pools, sports halls and fitness are NCC and education sites, with NCC providing community accessible swimming and sports opportunities. It is important that NCC continues to work with partners moving forward, given funding restraints, to develop and deliver facility provision. NCC can no longer be the provider and funder of last resort but needs to adopt more of an enabling and facilitating role.



VISION

7.9. The Vision for future provision of sport and leisure in Northumberland is:


‘To facilitate development of sustainable, high quality, well-located, accessible sport and leisure facilities and opportunities in partnership, to encourage increased participation in sport and physical activity, and contribute to improved community health and wellbeing outcomes across the County.

7.10. As a minimum, NCC wishes to see accessible community sport and leisure facilities, places and spaces for swimming, fitness and sports hall sports/activities available for all residents. This includes both formal and informal spaces e.g. community halls in which to play sport and be physically active.

AIMS

7.11. The aim of providing sufficient high quality, fit for purpose and accessible provision, places and spaces is to:

- **Increase the amount of regular physical activity undertaken by individuals, and particularly by those who are currently inactive**
- **Develop additional facility provision where need is evidenced e.g. as a result of population growth**
- **Encourage new participants to start taking part in physical activity**
- **Enable opportunities for participation to be provided in a wider range of places and spaces, and particularly at a very local level, open spaces**
- **Facilitate the development of healthier lifestyles across Northumberland’s communities**
- **Create active environments where the opportunity to be more physically active is an integral part of everyday life**
- **Support and provide opportunities for local sports clubs and community groups**
- **Maximise opportunities to take part in physical activity in areas where population is more sparse**

- 
- 7.12. The provision of high quality and accessible facilities, the opening up of education facilities, and development of new provision, will contribute to healthier lifestyles in Northumberland, across all age groups. Facilitating opportunities to be more physically active, more often is also important, to help reduce health inequalities, and help people to live and age better.
- 7.13. Sustainability of high quality, and critically, accessible facility provision is key to maintaining these opportunities; NCC needs to plan now for the investment requirements of its existing facilities, and work in partnership with other providers and stakeholders to address the other priorities identified through this Strategy.

PRINCIPLES FOR FUTURE PROVISION

- 7.14. Analysis of existing provision identifies some principles that should underpin all future sport and leisure facility development in the County. These are to:
- **Ensure residents in all areas of the County have pay and play access to good quality, local, accessible and affordable provision, whether it is a formal sports hall or a community hall.**
 - **Aim to ensure that existing, and any new, sports facilities on education sites provide a balance of opportunities (through a formal agreement) for community access – both pay and play and club use.**
 - **Replace / refurbish ageing facilities where new provision is needed; all new and refurbished provision should be designed and developed based on Sport England and NGB guidance, and be fully inclusive.**
 - **Rationalise existing provision where new fit for purpose facilities can replace/improve existing buildings (existing levels of sports hall provision need to be maintained as a minimum, given the levels of existing facility under-supply).**
 - **Make better use of all existing facilities, irrespective of provider; an example would be extending access to existing facilities on education sites, which are only operational for limited periods.**
 - **Invest in existing provision to improve quality.**
 - **Invest strategically to ensure economic viability and sustainability of provision.**
 - **Take the rural nature of the County into account when considering facility provision.**



PRIORITY INVESTMENT NEEDS

7.15. Priority investment needs and the options to deliver these are set out in Table 7.1, and paragraph 7.17.



Table 7.1 Priorities for Future Provision of Sport and Leisure Facilities in Northumberland

PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
SPORTS HALLS				
PROVIDE	Sports halls	None a current over supply of +31.80 badminton courts (2017)	None a projected over supply of 30.56 badminton courts by 2031	There is a need to maintain the quality of existing provision, to ensure existing participation levels are retained as a minimum, and where possible, grow. There could be the opportunity when considering the replacement of ageing facilities (as highlighted within this section) to assess on an individual project basis the need for sports hall provision where there are sufficient other available sports halls in the 20-minute catchment used. It is likely that planned developments in Berwick upon Tweed, Morpeth and Ponteland would not be in a position to do this but the proposed Blyth Sports Centre replacement facility (which currently has an 8 court sports hall) could be considered for a reduction in the number of courts to 4 courts or less.
ENHANCE	Sports halls			Increased community (club and pay and play) access to existing sports halls on education sites which could facilitate changes to existing facility mixes under proposals for replacement (as outlined above)
SWIMMING POOLS				
PROTECT	Swimming Pools	None a current over supply of 406 sqm of water space (2017)	None a projected over supply of 315 sqm by 2031.	<p>Replace ageing facilities: Blyth Sports Centre is the priority pool for replacement in the short to medium term, as the oldest in the County. Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth; Ponteland Leisure Centre and the Swan Centre for Leisure, Berwick upon Tweed are a priority for replacement in the medium term.</p> <p>The FPM identifies the need for more water space in the South East service area and the proposed replacement facility in Blyth could achieve this. The resident club at Blyth has clearly articulated the requirement to retain existing pool capability to allow as many aqua activities to take place.</p>
ENHANCE	Swimming Pools			Blyth should be considered for any provision of a competition pool ahead of any other potential facility replacement sites. Even though there is a clearly identified need for more water space in Morpeth (through club and previous customer feedback) and the potential for the town to have a county central competition venue as part of any redevelopment of Riverside Leisure Centre there is no requirement for nearly doubling the exiting water space in Morpeth.
HEALTH AND FITNESS				



PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
PROVIDE	Fitness Suites	Under supply of -242 fitness stations	Under supply of - 255 fitness stations	Increase existing levels of pay and play provision through the proposals for the replacement of four of NCC's facilities which has the potential to add up to 200 new fitness stations. The remainder would be provided through a combination of new private health and fitness provision and local community provision.
PROVIDE	Fitness Suites			<p>Consider areas of most identified demand that wouldn't potentially be enhanced by replacement proposals and consider how this demand could be met. The only area identified that wouldn't be covered by this is demand for additional stations is in the Alnwick area.</p> <p>Consideration should be given as to whether the existing offer at Willowburn Sports Centre, Alnwick could be enhanced with additional stations.</p> <p>Consider provision of fitness stations in community /village halls to increase supply and local access.</p>
SQUASH COURTS				
PROTECT	Squash Courts	Retain existing provision No strategic need identified	Retain existing provision No strategic need identified	There is a need to maintain the quality of existing provision, to ensure existing participation levels are retained as a minimum, and where possible, grow.
INDOOR BOWLS				
PROTECT	Indoor Bowls	Under supply of - 27.80 rinks (2017)	Under supply of - 28.20 rinks by 2031	Protect existing provision in Berwick (4 rink) .
ENHANCE	Indoor Bowls			In addition to provision in neighbouring authorities in the south of the County consider in conjunction with England Bowls how to address the under supply in the County.



PLANNING IMPACT	FACILITY TYPE	CURRENT NEED	FUTURE NEED	OPTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED NEED
ATHLETICS/RUNNING				
PROTECT	Athletics	Retain existing provision.	Retain existing provision.	
PROVIDE		Running trails/tracks and infrastructure to facilitate the continued growth of this sport in the County.	Running trails/tracks and infrastructure to facilitate the continued growth of this sport in the County.	Development of safe running trails/routes; these could be 'shared' with walkers and to a certain extent, cyclists. Consider the need identified for track provision in Alnwick as highlighted in club consultation
INDOOR TENNIS				
PROVIDE	Indoor Tennis Courts	No existing provision No strategic need identified	No existing provision. No strategic need identified	



7.16. It is clear from the above that future provision can be delivered through:

- **Development of replacement facilities**
- **Opening up access to existing formal sports facilities, predominantly on education sites**
- **Increasing and diversifying access to existing community halls**
- **Specialist new build provision e.g. Indoor Bowls etc., led by the local club network, in partnership with National Governing Bodies, and NCC**

OTHER PRIORITIES AND NEEDS

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

7.17. The strategic analysis highlights that there is a need for some capital investment in Northumberland to address both current and future needs. Whilst some of this investment relates to additional facility provision, there is also a need to start planning now for the replacement of ageing stock; increased participation is more likely to be achieved if the environment in which people take part is good quality and fit for purpose.

7.18. It is also clear that delivery of the levels of investment required will only result from a local partnership approach. The development of improved sports facilities and physical activity environments will facilitate increased participation, which in turn will benefit individual and community health. The challenge is that the greatest health benefit will be gained by encouraging the inactive, to become active.

7.19. In relation to getting more people active, it is important to highlight the following issues:

- **The majority of the strategic size halls on education sites have limited daytime access, but offer community use in the evenings and weekends; there are a number of SLAs in place**
- **Only 10 strategic size sports halls are accessible in the daytime**
- **Some of the existing facility portfolio is ageing (facilities at Blyth Sports Centre; Riverside Leisure Centre, Morpeth; Swan Centre for Leisure, Berwick and Ponteland Leisure Centre; quality is likely to deteriorate over time)**
- **Increasing population will put additional demands on the capacity of existing facilities**
- **Increasing participation will increase demand on existing facilities**



7.20. These issues all highlight the need to continue to work on securing community access (pay and play and club) at education sites.

IMPROVED LOCAL PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH EDUCATION SITES

7.21. The key issue to address initially is that of partnership with education sites to review, revise and implement CUAs which provide better balanced access for the community on a pay and play basis. Increasing capacity to offer and deliver increased participative opportunities, particularly for those who are currently inactive, could contribute significantly to increased participation and improved health in the County.

PLANNING POLICY AND SECURING DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

S106 OBLIGATIONS AND THE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - AN OVERVIEW

- 7.22. Planning obligations, often referred to as developer contributions, and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) can be used to 'mitigate' the impact of a development proposal. Outlined below is the basic relevant legislation and operating guidance provided to Local authorities wishing to use Section 106 Agreements and develop a Community Infrastructure Levy. Both tools can be used to help procure infrastructure to meet the needs of new communities. S106 agreements are focused on site specific mitigation. CIL has been developed to address the broader impacts of development
- 7.23. Sport and leisure facilities can, in the correct circumstances, be funded through S106 agreements and the CIL, it is however up to the Local Authority to establish a CIL and the priority of developments required to support new development. S106 agreements are negotiated on a site by site basis as applications come forward.

LEGISLATION

7.24. Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), commonly known as S106 agreements, are a mechanism which make a development proposal acceptable in planning terms, that would not otherwise be acceptable. They are focused on site specific mitigation of the impact of development. S106 agreements are often referred to as 'developer contributions' along with highway contributions and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/106>

7.25. The common uses of planning obligations are to secure affordable housing, and to specify the type and timing of this housing; and to secure financial contributions to provide infrastructure or affordable housing. However, these are not the only uses for a S106 obligation.



7.26. A S106 obligation can:

- 1. restrict the development or use of the land in any specified way**
- 2. require specified operations or activities to be carried out in, on, under or over the land**
- 3. require the land to be used in any specified way; or**
- 4. require a sum or sums to be paid to the authority (or, to the Greater London Authority) on a specified date or dates or periodically.**

7.27. A planning obligation can be subject to conditions, it can specify restrictions definitely or indefinitely, and in terms of payments the timing of these can be specified in the obligation.

7.28. If the S106 is not complied with, it is enforceable against the person that entered into the obligation and any subsequent owner. The S106 can be enforced by injunction.

7.29. In case of a breach of the obligation the authority can take direct action and recover expenses.

7.30. The planning obligation is a formal document, a deed, which states that it is an obligation for planning purposes, identifies the relevant land, the person entering the obligation and their interest and the relevant local authority that would enforce the obligation. The obligation can be a unitary obligation or multi-party agreement.

7.31. The obligation becomes a land charge.

7.32. The legal tests for when you can use a S106 agreement are set out in regulation 122 and 123 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 as amended.

7.33. The tests are:

- 1. necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms**
- 2. directly related to the development; and**
- 3. fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.**



7.34. As of April 2015, there are restrictions on the pooling of planning obligations. Local authorities can no longer pool more than five S106 obligations together (dating back to March 2010) to pay for a single infrastructure project or type of infrastructure.

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF) – POLICY TESTS

7.35. As well as the legal tests, the policy tests are contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):

7.36. "203": Local planning authorities should consider whether otherwise unacceptable development could be made acceptable through the use of conditions or planning obligations. Planning obligations should only be used where it is not possible to address unacceptable impacts through a planning condition.

7.37. "204": Planning obligations should only be sought where they meet all of the following tests:

- **necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms**
- **directly related to the development; and**
- **fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development."**

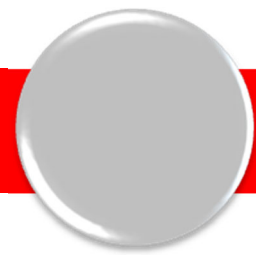
NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF) - LOCAL AUTHORITIES' POLICY CONSIDERATION

7.38. Over the last few years there has been growing concern about delivery of development and development viability. This is reflected in the NPPF:

7.39. *"205. Where obligations are being sought, or revised, local planning authorities should take account of changes in market conditions over time and, wherever appropriate, be sufficiently flexible to prevent planned development being stalled."*

PLANNING PRACTICE GUIDANCE (PPG) - AMENDED MARCH 2015

7.40. The Government in response to its consultation on measures to speed up the negotiation and agreement of S106; and on affordable housing contributions and student accommodation has made significant changes to the Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) particularly the **S106 section** but also related areas including the **viability guidance**.



- 7.41. The PPG changes emphasise the S106 legal and policy tests and relationship with the development plan (including neighbourhood plans). In terms of the process- the changes focus on early engagement by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) with applicants and infrastructure providers and S106 being part of the pre-application process. There are also a number of suggested improvements to the way LPAs approach S106 e.g. standard templates and working with other authorities to pool expertise. There is a greater emphasis on public access to information and the S106 being available as part of the planning register. Further guidance has been provided on the operation of the vacant building credit.
- 7.42. In addition, following the ministerial statement on **starter homes**, the guidance states that LPAs should not seek section 106 affordable housing contributions from developments of **starter homes** (but can still seek S106 that mitigates the development impacts).

S106 - AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS – CHANGES

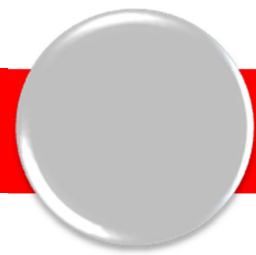
- 7.43. Under the Planning Act S106 (A) a person bound by the obligation can seek to have the obligation modified or discharged after five years.
- 7.44. The Town and Country Planning (Modification and Discharge of Planning Obligations) Regulations 1992 set out the procedure for making an application to amend planning obligations, including standard forms. The principles for modifying an obligation are that it *"no longer serve a useful purpose"* or *"continues to serve a useful purpose equally well"*

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1992/2832/contents/made>

GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACT (26 APRIL 2013) – AFFORDABLE HOUSING MODIFICATION

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2013/27/contents/enacted>

- 7.45. The Growth and Infrastructure Act (clause 7) inserts new clauses into S106 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act that introduces a new application and appeal procedure for the review of planning obligations on planning permissions which relate to the provision of affordable housing. The changes require a council to assess the viability arguments, to renegotiate previously agreed affordable housing levels in a S106 and change the affordable housing requirement or face an appeal.
- 7.46. An appeal can be made if the authority does not modify the planning obligation as requested or fails to make a determination within a specified time. Obligations which include a "requirement relating to the provision of housing that is, or is to be made available, for people whose needs are not adequately served by the commercial housing market" are within scope of this new procedure.



- 7.47. The application and appeal procedure will assess the viability of affordable housing requirements only. It will not reopen any other planning policy considerations or review the merits of the permitted scheme.
- 7.48. These new application and appeal procedures don't replace existing powers to renegotiate Section 106 agreements on a voluntary basis. In addition, this provision related to affordable housing does not replace the provisions to modify an obligation set out in the 1992 regulations and updated by the 2013 regulations (see above).

SECTION 106 AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS - REVIEW AND APPEAL

- 7.49. DCLG have issued a guidance document to support the changes in the Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013 that provides more detailed information on what is required to modify, and assess requests to modify, the affordable housing provision in any section 106 obligations. This is guidance on the format of the application, appeal and evidence; particularly what viability evidence will be required and how it should be assessed:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/section-106-affordable-housing-requirements-review-and-appeal>

S106 AGREEMENTS AND CIL

- 7.50. The Government viewed S106 as providing only partial and variable response to capturing funding contributions for infrastructure. As such, provision for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is now in place in the 2008 Planning Act.
- 7.51. In terms of developer contributions, the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has not replaced Section 106 agreements, the introduction of CIL resulted in a tightening up of the s 106 tests. S106 agreements, in terms of developer contributions, should be focused on addressing the specific mitigation required by a new development. CIL has been developed to address the broader impacts of development. There should be no circumstances where a developer is paying CIL and S106 for the same infrastructure in relation to the same development.
- 7.52. The balance between the use of S106 and CIL will be different depending on the nature of the area and the type of development being undertaken. There is further guidance on the balance between S106 and CIL set out in the CIL Guidance April 2014:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-infrastructure-levy>



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

- 7.53. CIL is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new developments in their area. The money should be used to support development by funding infrastructure that the council, local community and neighbourhoods want.
- 7.54. It is usually a cash contribution but also payment in kind - land or infrastructure. The payment falls due on commencement of the development but the Charging Authority can agree to payment by instalments.
- 7.55. CIL can be progressed in advance of an adopted, up to date local plan. However, to do this requires up to date, relevant evidence. Tandridge CIL is an example of where a CIL has been successful at examination based on an old development plan (2008). This was unsuccessfully challenged in the courts. Since then there are examples of CIL charging schedules succeeding at examination where there is not a post NPPF adopted development plan and where the evidence was considered to be robust. These include Southend Borough Council and Birmingham City Council.
- 7.56. CIL is to help pay for infrastructure needed to support new development. It is not to be used to remedy existing deficiencies unless the new scheme will make it worse. Councils must spend the income on infrastructure. The authority decides what infrastructure and this can change over time.
- 7.57. Some CIL basics:
- **£ per square metre on net additional (internal) floorspace**
 - **Rates can vary by geographic area or use or size**
 - **Payment is due when the development starts (or phases or instalments- the charging authority decide)**
 - **It is index linked (using BCIS index – only available through RICS)**
 - **The landowner is responsible for paying it**
 - **The local planning authority is the charging authority (and sets the CIL)**
- 7.58. CIL applies to all development except:
- **‘buildings that people do not normally go into’**
 - **development of less than 100 sqm gross internal floor space unless this is a residential dwelling in which case the levy is payable.**



7.59. When setting a CIL the authority needs to strike the appropriate balance between the desirability of funding the infrastructure gap to support the development of the area from CIL and the potential effects (taken as a whole) of the imposition of CIL upon the economic viability of development across the area (Regulation 14 CIL regs).

7.60. To set up a CIL a Local Authority will require:

- **Evidence on future growth**
- **Up to date development plan is desirable but not essential**
- **Evidence on infrastructure funding gap – aggregate gap**
- **Evidence on viability**
- **All evidence is ‘appropriate available evidence’**
- **Rates should be consistent with viability evidence across the area – to avoid accusations of state aid.**

7.61. Viability Rate Setting:

- **Take a strategic approach**
- **Look at the effect on the whole area of the rates on the whole area – but focus on where your development will take place, do not waste time looking at areas where there is not planned development and very likely to be much**
- **Sampling is advisable particularly if you have strategic sites or a high level of differentiation of rates**
- **The rate may put some development at risk**
- **There is no requirement to use any particular viability models – but make sure it is transparent and you understand it.**
- **You can set differential rates – but rates can only be differentiated on viability grounds (not policy grounds)**



RECOMMENDATIONS

SPORTS HALLS

RECOMMENDATION 1 (R1)

NCC and its partners prioritise investment into maintaining and where possible improving the quality of sports hall provision to:

- Ensure that identified current surplus of provision of pay and play access to sports hall provision +31.80 now, and +30.56 courts by 2031 does not become a deficit.

This to be achieved by:

- **Replacement** of ageing facilities – specifically Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre, Swan Centre for Leisure and Ponteland Leisure to ensure the provision of accessible, fit for purpose facilities

(PROVIDE)

RECOMMENDATION 2 (R2)

NCC works with education, parish councils and health and well-being partners to better use the available capacity in existing sports and activity halls

(PROTECT AND ENHANCE)



RECOMMENDATION 3 (R3)

NCC and its partners work with relevant education partners to review, revise and implement CUAs which provide a better balance of pay and play and club use, to meet on going need for access to sports hall space.

- NCC works with local schools, and Sport England to review, revise and re-implement formal community use agreements in:
 - **Schools where they are currently in place, to increase opportunities for pay and play community access**
 - **New education facilities provided as required in relation to new developments/ planning permissions**
- NCC works with local schools, to review, revise and improve current operational arrangements, to better manage and deliver community bookings

(PROTECT AND ENHANCE)

SWIMMING POOLS

RECOMMENDATION 4 (R4)

NCC and its partners prioritise investment into pay and play swimming provision to:

- Replace ageing facilities in order of priority being Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre (Morpeth). Swan Centre for Leisure (Berwick upon Tweed) and Ponteland Leisure Centre

(ENHANCE AND PROTECT)

RECOMMENDATION 5 (R5)

If the need in the County is clearly identified for a purpose built 8 lane competition pool, then NCC to consider supporting this development when considering the replacement of Blyth Sports Centre.

(PROVIDE)



HEALTH AND FITNESS

RECOMMENDATION 6 (R6)

NCC and its partners prioritise the need to address the current (-242) and future (-255 by 2031) undersupply of fitness stations in the County. Extension of the fitness suite offers at Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre, Swan Centre for Leisure and Ponteland Leisure Centre are priority investment projects.

NCC and its partners facilitate, where possible, increased access to pay and play fitness and studio facilities/space where studio activities can take place e.g. other NCC centres, community facilities, open space, parks, green gyms etc.

(PROVIDE)

OTHER SPORTS FACILITIES

RECOMMENDATION 7 (R7)

In conjunction with England Bowls, NCC considers how to address the under supply of indoor bowls rinks in the County.

Address identified current need for provision of Indoor Bowls rinks: 27.80 rinks now, and 28.20 rinks by 2031

(PROVIDE)

RECOMMENDATION 8 (R8)

Where appropriate, NCC and its partners seek to secure CIL/S106 contributions that could contribute towards the development of additional leisure facilities, safe walking, running and cycling routes, and where possible to open up other informal, multipurpose places and spaces where people can be active.

(PROVIDE, AND PROTECT)



RECOMMENDATION 9 (R9)

NCC and its partners identify the level of capital funding required to address the identified investment needs for sports facilities and investigate the various sources available for capital funding.

(PROVIDE)

RECOMMENDATION 10 (R10)

NCC and its partners prioritise investment in the development of high quality community sports facilities, in partnership with Public Health and other local partners. Increasing available capacity and therefore opportunities to take part in regular physical activity, in the local community, will contribute to reduced health inequalities, increased participation and better community cohesion.

(PROVIDE AND ENHANCE)

RECOMMENDATION 11 (R11)

There should be on-going monitoring of this Strategy through its implementation, but as a minimum, progress should be reviewed and refreshed every five years. On-going monitoring should include partnership working with neighbouring local authorities to keep aware of facility changes and developments.

(PROTECT)



ACTION PLAN

7.62. The Action Plan underpinning the Strategy is summarised in Table 7.2:

Table 7.2: Strategy Action Plan

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 1 (R1) NCC and its partners prioritise investment into maintaining and where possible improving the quality of sports hall provision to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that identified current surplus of provision of pay and play access to sports hall provision +31.80 now, and +30.56 courts by 2031 does not become a deficit. This to be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement of ageing facilities – specifically Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre, Swan Centre for Leisure and Ponteland Leisure to ensure the provision of accessible, fit for purpose facilities (PROVIDE)	Ensure the need for continued quality pay and play sports hall provision is reflected in the Local Plan	NCC	Short term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
	Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the funding requirements for the County	NCC	Short term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
	Commence the forward planning for replacement of ageing facilities and to finalise facility mixes for each new replacement facility	NCC	Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers, Sport England.



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 2 (R2) NCC works with education, parish councils and health and well-being partners to better use the available capacity in existing sports and activity halls (PROTECT AND ENHANCE)	NCC review existing sports hall programming to identify opportunities to extend and develop access for a range of day time uses, particularly targeted at those who are inactive, and those who may not have access to private transport.	NCC	Medium Term		Officer time - NCC leisure officers



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 3 (R3) NCC and its partners work with relevant education partners to review, revise and implement CUAs which provide a better balance of pay and play and club use, to meet on going need for access to sports hall space. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCC works with local schools, and Sport England to review, revise and re-implement formal community use agreements in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools where they are currently in place, to increase opportunities for pay and play community access New education facilities provided as required in relation to new developments/ planning permissions NCC works with local schools, to review, revise and improve current operational arrangements, to better manage and deliver community bookings (PROTECT AND ENHANCE)	<p>NCC and its partners work with relevant educational organisations to review, revise and implement CUAs which provide a better balance of pay and play and club use.</p>	NCC, All new education sites	Short term		<p>Officer time - NCC leisure officers</p> <p>Time costs for developing CUAs (legal, possibly external support)</p>
	<p>Develop a partnership approach to discussions with identified schools to increase pay and play community access to the existing sports facilities</p>	NCC to initiate	Ongoing		<p>Officer time - NCC leisure officers, Sport England, relevant local schools</p>
	<p>NCC and its partners work to extend opportunities at existing identified education sports halls with capacity for increased community use</p>	NCC to initiate	Ongoing		<p>Officer time - NCC leisure officers, Sport England, relevant local schools</p> <p>Time costs for developing CUAs (legal, possibly external support)</p>
	<p>NCC and its partners work with local schools, and Sport England to review, revise and re-implement formal community use agreements in:</p> <p>Any new schools as part of Planning Conditions</p> <p>The aim should be to review SLAs /CUA Agreements and to find ways of increasing usage capacity, to enable provision of better balanced accessibility and to include community pay and play use.</p>	NCC	Short to Medium		<p>NCC leisure and planning officers, Sport England</p> <p>Time costs for developing CUAs (legal, possibly external support)</p>



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 4 (R4) NCC and its partners prioritise investment into pay and play swimming provision to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace ageing facilities in order of priority being Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre (Morpeth). Swan Centre for Leisure (Berwick upon Tweed) and Ponteland Leisure Centre 	Commence the forward planning for replacement of ageing facilities, and undertake relevant technical feasibility work as required to explore the potential for site re-development/re-location	NCC, external consultants	Short/Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers, external consultants, Sport England.
	Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the funding requirements for the County.	NCC	Short term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
(ENHANCE AND PROTECT) RECOMMENDATION 5 (R5) If the need in the County is clearly identified for a purpose built 8 lane competition pool, then NCC to consider supporting this development when considering the replacement of Blyth Sports Centre.	Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the Blyth Sports Centre proposals for replacement	NCC	Short/Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers, external consultants, Sport England
(PROVIDE)					



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 6 (R6) NCC and its partners prioritise the need to address the current (-242) and future (-255 by 2031) under – supply of fitness stations in the County. Extension of the fitness suite offers at Blyth Sports Centre, Riverside Leisure Centre, Swan Centre for Leisure and Ponteland Leisure Centre are priority investment projects NCC and its partners facilitate, where possible, increased access to pay and play fitness and studio facilities/space where studio activities can take place e.g. other NCC centres, community facilities, open space, parks green gyms) etc. (PROVIDE)	Ensure the need for additional provision is reflected in the Local Plan	NCC	Short/Medium term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers
	Ensure identified facility needs are reflected in the funding requirements for the County.	NCC	Short term		Officer time - NCC Planning and leisure officers



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 7 (R7) In conjunction with England Bowls, NCC considers how to address the under supply of indoor bowls rinks in the County. Address identified current need for provision of Indoor Bowls rinks: 27.80 rinks now, and 28.20 rinks by 2031 (PROVIDE)	To facilitate initial discussion with England Bowls	NCC	Medium/Long term		NCC leisure and planning officers, NGB, Sport England; local bowls clubs;
RECOMMENDATION 8 (R8) Where appropriate, NCC and its partners seek to secure CIL/S106 contributions that could contribute towards the development of additional leisure facilities, safe walking, running and cycling routes, and where possible to open up other informal, multipurpose places and spaces where people can be active. (PROVIDE, AND PROTECT)	Use the Strategy evidence base to inform investment opportunities	NCC	Short		NCC planning and leisure officers



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 9 (R9) NCC and its partners identify the level of capital funding required to address the identified investment needs for sports facilities and investigate the various sources available for capital funding. (PROVIDE)	Work with NCC planning colleagues to identify potential levels of capital funding from residential development	NCC leisure officers	Medium		NCC planning and leisure officers
	Working with partners to identify all potential sources of capital funding to support new facility provision in the County.	NCC leisure officers	Medium		NCC leisure officers, NCC partners, external funding
RECOMMENDATION 10 (R10) NCC and its partners prioritise investment in the development of high quality community sports facilities, in partnership with Public Health and other local partners. Increasing available capacity and therefore opportunities to take part in regular physical activity, in the local community, will contribute to reduced health inequalities, increased participation and better community cohesion. (PROVIDE AND ENHANCE)	NCC to continue to work internally with Public Health and any relevant and identified community partners to ensure provision of, and access to, appropriate community sports facilities, and opportunities to be physically active.	NCC leisure and community development officers;	Medium		NCC leisure officers, NCC partners, potential use of planning contributions, plus other health, community development and external funding; Sport England potentially



RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE		RESOURCES
			SHORT	= 1 – 5 YEARS	
			MEDIUM	= 5 - 10 YEARS	
			LONG TERM	= 10+ YEARS	
RECOMMENDATION 11 (R11) There should be on-going monitoring of this Strategy through its implementation, but as a minimum, progress should be reviewed and refreshed every five years. On-going monitoring should include partnership working with neighbouring local authorities to keep aware of facility changes and developments. (PROTECT)	Establish monitoring process Ensure ongoing dialogue with neighbouring local authorities	NCC	Ongoing		NCC leisure officers



DISCLAIMER

Forecasts and recommendation in any proposal, report or letter are made in good faith and on the basis of the information before the Company at the time. Their achievement must depend, among other things, on effective co-operation of the Client and the Client's staff. In any consequence, no statement in any proposal, report or letter is to be deemed to be in any circumstances a representation, undertaking, warranty or contractual condition