Swimming Pool and Sports Hall Feasibility Study

Final Report

October 2013

www.lichfielddc.gov.uk

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1. Introduction and Context

Introduction

In March 2013 Neil Allen Associates (NAA) were appointed by Lichfield District Council to support the authority with a study into the feasibility of delivering a new stand alone leisure centre to serve Lichfield City and its hinterland.

The *potential* of developing a new centre first emerged from Facilities Planning Model (fpm) work the Council undertook in 2010 in partnership with Sport England. The 2009/2010 fpm work considered supply and demand for sports halls and swimming pools across Lichfield District and the outcomes were used to inform the authorities Spatial Strategy up to 2028. The Council now however have a different spatial strategy in train.

This study therefore reviews and updates the 2010 fpm work in the context of the different spatial strategy. The findings of the study in turn act as a basis for informing policy, investment and delivery decisions for the Council.

The study sets out a review of the Sport England 2010 Facility Planning Model (fpm) reports for both sports halls and swimming pools, focussing on changes made by Lichfield District Council to its projected population applied in the Local Plan up to 2026 and since the fpm analysis was undertaken in 2010. Based on this analysis the study sets out assessments of future need, scale and locations for both facility types across Lichfield and the implications policy and investment going forward.

The 2013 analysis provides an up to date *needs and evidence* base for planning purposes, which in turn makes recommendations about the feasibility of providing a new stand alone centre. The study also sets out indicative costs for delivering the appropriate swimming pool/sport hall solution and potential funding sources, particularly through the Community Infrastructure levy (CIL).

Finally as part of the study output, generic advice is provided on the range of management and delivery options that should be considered in the context of the final delivery solution. This is particularly relevant as the Council are currently embarked on a *fit for the future* programme, which is challenging all service areas to look at and consider alternative delivery models. It is evident that there is potential to bring investment into the Council's facilities through potential alternative management arrangements.

Context

As set out, in 2009 Sport England's Facilities Planning Model was originally commissioned by the Council to assess the supply and demand for sports hall and swimming pool provision in Lichfield. The outcome was used to inform the emerging Spatial Strategy for Lichfield District to 2028. The original assessment was undertaken in 2009/10 and it is now felt that further consideration of the recommendations would be appropriate to assess the feasibility of delivering a new stand alone leisure centre to serve Lichfield City and it's hinterland in the context of a more defined strategy that covers a different plan period. The outcomes of which should in turn help inform policy and investment and delivery decisions for the District Council.

The 2010 study outputs concluded the following in terms of swimming provision:

- Unmet demand in 2009/10 = 54sq metres of water and pools are full at 73% of capacity used
- Supply and demand as at 2026 = unmet demand of 60 sq metres of water and used capacity is 72%
- Supply and demand as at 2026 and with an annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 = unmet demand of 65 sq metres of water and used capacity of 78%

The analysis therefore concluded that the current pools were full (and would get fuller) and the Council needed to develop a strategy to bring down used capacity to below 70%. It also stated however that the unmet demand set out does not justify a *new additional pool*, (i.e. keeping the existing stock and adding new provision) but the replacement and expansion of existing water space. In terms of which existing pool to focus on, the analysis concluded that this did not really matter because all pools are accessible by car and the pools are quite close together.

The need to now update this work has a number of drivers. Lichfield District Council submitted the Local Plan Strategy in March 2013 for Examination. In addition, the District Council is currently considering a number of live planning applications for significant residential schemes around Lichfield City. The study outputs are required to inform plan making and decision taking as follows:

- **Plan Making:** This study is proposed to assist the justification of the emerging Local Plan Strategy and inform a more refined solution to sports hall/swimming pool need in a subsequent Local Plan Allocations document. The study is also intended to inform investment and delivery decisions that will sit outside the planning process. The solution to any swimming pool/sports hall need will also need to be identified within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP).

- **Decision Taking:** The Council is also in the process of preparing a draft CIL Charging Schedule and Regulation 123 List. However, in the interim there are developer pressures and the Council are currently considering a number of major housing schemes in and around Lichfield City in advance of the Local Plan Strategy and CIL Charging Schedule being adopted. This study is therefore intended to also form part of a robust case to seek contributions from proposed developments, having regard to the tests identified in the CIL regulations, namely:

    - Necessary to make development acceptable in planning terms
    - Directly related to the development; and
    - Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development

Outputs

Given the context set out the outputs of the study are therefore:

- Consideration of the recommendations of the previous fpm Report and whether they are still relevant. Focussing on any changes to population projections and the proposed spatial development strategy set out in the Local Plan Strategy. This is the principle output of the work and it should identify a range of solutions, including a preferred option, having regard to feasibility. One of the options considered should be the provision of a new stand alone swimming pool/sport hall centre.

- Identification of the costs for delivering an appropriate swimming pool/sport hall solution. This should be based on a benchmarking exercise which takes account of Sport England's Sports Facilities Calculator.

- Identification of an appropriate and reasonable developer contribution towards swimming/sports hall provision for the following strategic development allocations:

    - South of Lichfield: 450 homes
    - East of Lichfield (Streethay): 750 homes
    - Fradley remainder: 250 homes

- Provision of generic advice on the range of management and delivery options that should be considered if a new stand alone swimming pool/sports hall centre were to be considered the preferred option.

In terms of new home numbers the 1,450 new homes set out have potential to increase to up to 4,000 permissions by 2026. Whilst there are 4,000 houses in total in the Local Plan, some of these already have consents. For future planning purposes we have therefore used the figure of 2,000 figure, 1,450 plus 550 which do not have consents i.e. the total housing without consents of 2,000. In terms of projecting these for population we have used the factor of 2.3 people per household.

Demographic Context

Lichfield had a total population of 93,232 people at the 2001 census, which had increased from 91,679 at the previous census in 1991.

The largest concentrations of populations in the district are at the two main urban areas, Lichfield and Burntwood, which have populations of 27,900 and 27,361 respectively. The remaining population is spread across the large rural area which is home to a number of villages. The district profile roughly follows that of the UK average with a few exceptions. The district has less than the UK average within the 24-34 age group and above average numbers of people within the 50-70 age group, so it has a relatively older existing age profile and fewer in the 'child-bearing' age groups. This potentially implies an ageing population profile. In terms of gender there are slightly more females in the district. By 2026 the population of Lichfield District is estimated to have increased by 18, 921 since the 1991 census and by 14,900 since 2006. The number of households will have increased by 10,683 since 1991 and by 6,000 since 2006.

The sports participation profile is explored further below through an analysis of the participation data from Sport England Active People and Market Segmentation sources.

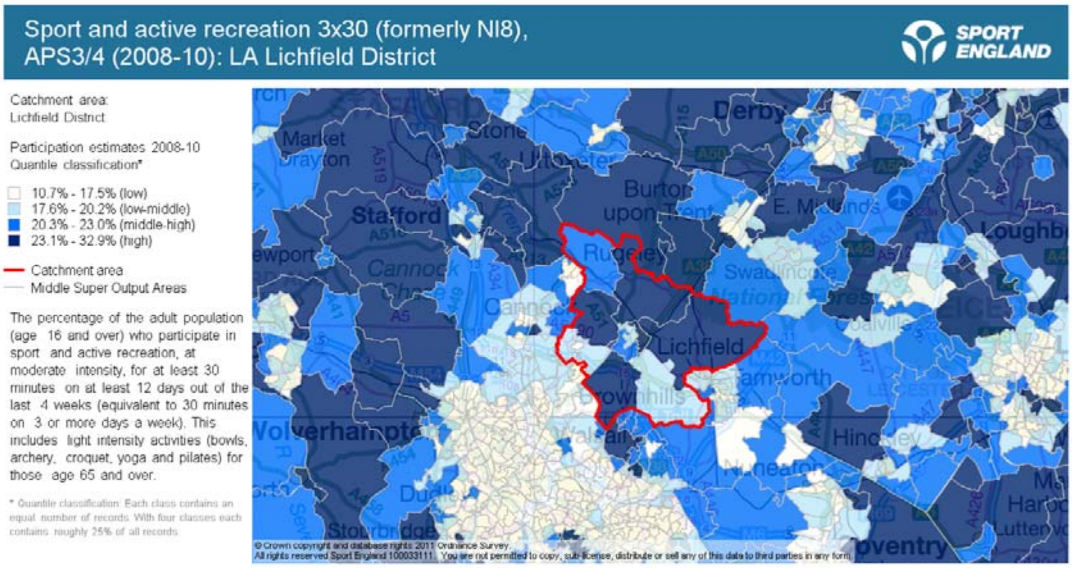
Sports Participation Context

The table below shows the adult participation (16 plus) in at least once per week sports participation. This is the definition now used by Sport England to measure sports participation. The table shows Lichfield has a growing level of participation, which is higher than both the regional and England average.

Year	Lichfield	West Midlands	England
2005/06	36.3%	31.9%	34.2%
2007/08	38.1%	33.4%	35.8%
2008/09	40.0%	33.6%	35.7%
2009/10	34.4%	32.9%	35.3%
2010/11	36.4%	32.7%	34.8%
2011/12	39.6%	33.5%	36.0%

In terms of a spatial analysis the map below highlights where in the district the higher levels of participation are. These are focussed in the darker blue areas. The light blue areas are the parts of the district with lower levels of participation.

Map 1.1 – Participation across Lichfield



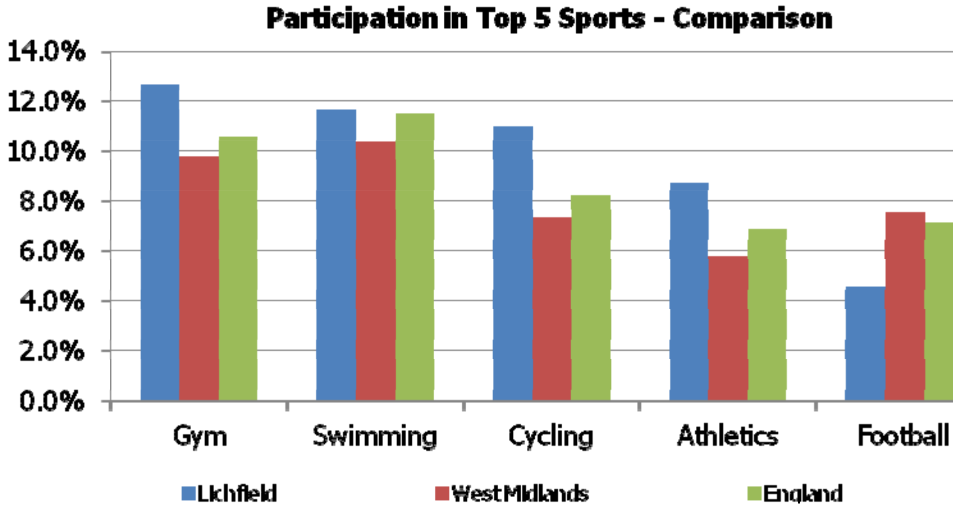
Modelled estimates of participation are based on data from Sport England's Active People Survey 3 (October 2008-October 2009) and Active People Survey 4 (October 2009-October 2010).

MSOA participation estimates are based on modelled or 'synthetic' estimates of participation. Synthetic or modelled estimates combine survey data from Active People with other data sources that are available at the area level (for example, health indicators, socioeconomic status etc) and through a three stage statistical modelling process, provide small area estimates of participation.

Middle Super Output areas (MSOA's) are a geography for the collection and publication of small area statistics. MSOA's have a minimum population of 5,000; and a mean population of 7,200.

The top 5 sports in Lichfield are Gym, Swimming, Cycling, Athletics and Football. Participation is above the national average participation rates in all of the 5 sports, apart from football as shown in Chart 1.1 below and the table overleaf.

Chart 1.1 – Participation across top 5 Sports



Top 5 sports in local authority with regional and England comparison						
Sport	**Lichfield**		**West Midlands**		**England**	
	No. (000s)	**Rate**	**No. (000s)**	**Rate**	**No. (000s)**	**Rate**
Gym	10.3	12.7%	427.6	9.8%	4,475.7	10.6%
Swimming	9.4	11.7%	452.7	10.4%	4,870.4	11.6%
Cycling	8.9	11.0%	322.4	7.4%	3,486.0	8.3%
Athletics	7.1	8.7%	252.6	5.8%	2,915.7	6.9%
Football	3.7	4.6%	331.0	7.6%	3,018.2	7.2%

Source: Active People Survey 6, Population data: ONS Annual Population Survey 2012

Measure: Participation rate of the top 5 sports and the number of adults (16+) that participate at least once per month

Gym participation is particularly significant when considering future development strategies. Swimming participation is generally in line with the national average.

Analysis of the market segmentation profile, set out below, provides a better understanding of the types of sports and activities and therefore begins to provide an understanding of the sports facility needs. Market Segmentation provides information on specific sports people play, their barriers and motivations to participation by segmenting the population into 19 'types.'

Map 1.2 illustrates the overall dominant market segments across Lichfield as a whole, Chart 2 illustrates these in chart form.

Map 1.2 – Dominant Market Segments across Lichfield (mapped)

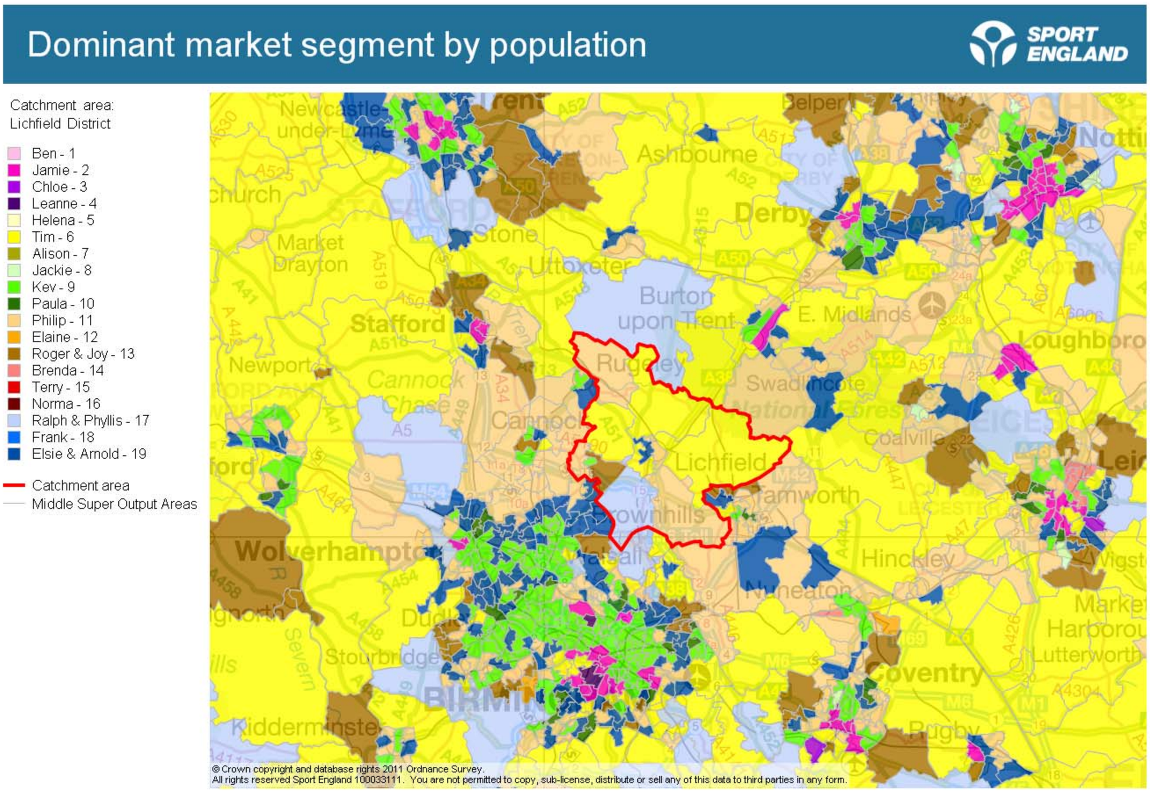
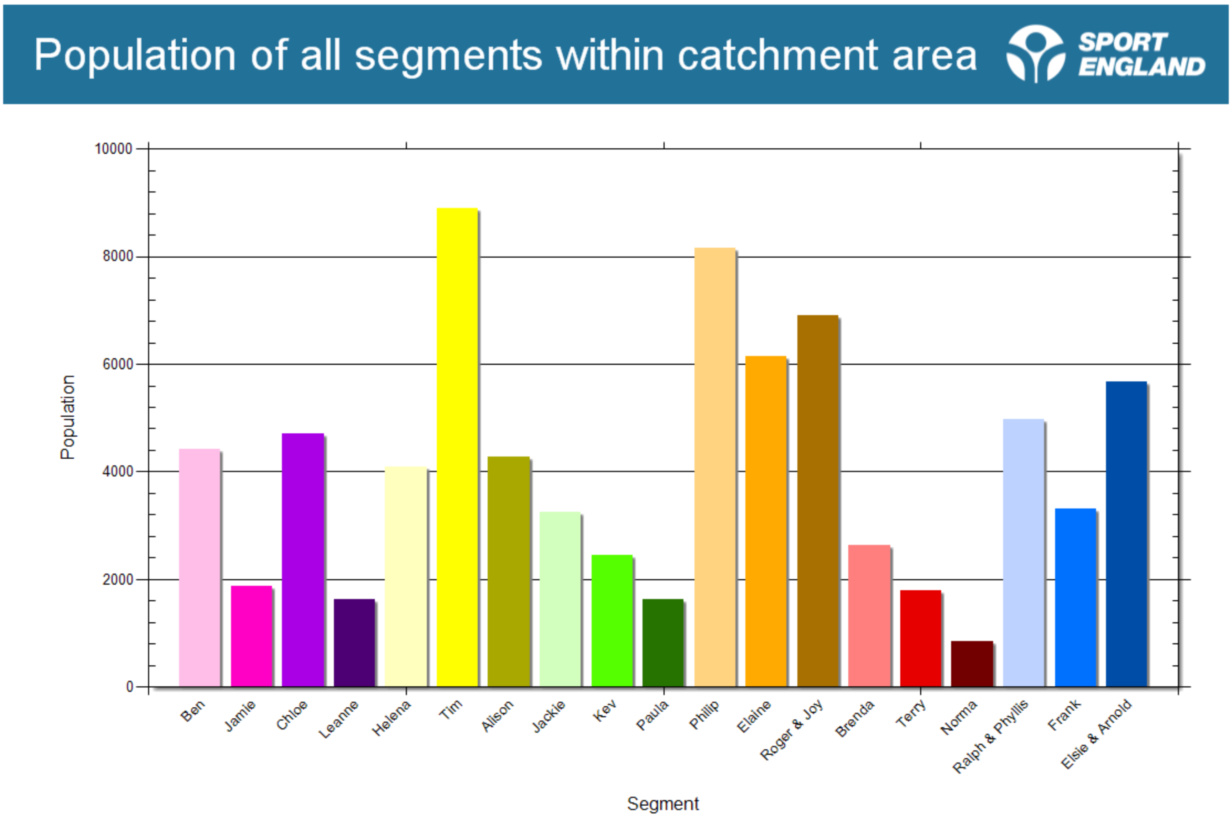


Chart 1.2 – Dominant Market Segments across Lichfield (chart)



Segment	Catchment Pop.	CSP Pop.	Rgn Pop.	Nat Pop.	Catchment %	CSP %	Rgn %	Nat %
Ben	4422	34684	172331	1989287	5.7	4.1	4.1	4.9
Jamie	1877	40153	224031	2162891	2.4	4.7	5.3	5.4
Chloe	4704	31475	158994	1896625	6.1	3.7	3.8	4.7
Leanne	1635	31181	178578	1711607	2.1	3.7	4.3	4.3
Helena	4099	33223	170239	1829866	5.3	3.9	4.1	4.5
Tim	**8904**	**64728**	**312880**	**3554150**	**11.5**	**7.7**	**7.4**	**8.8**
Alison	4276	32352	143215	1766560	5.5	3.8	3.4	4.4
Jackie	3259	43740	200719	1965002	4.2	5.2	4.8	4.9
Kev	2458	51341	293686	2386568	3.2	6.1	7	5.9
Paula	1636	30770	195439	1507276	2.1	3.6	4.7	3.7
Philip	**8163**	**81178**	**363846**	**3480166**	**10.5**	**9.6**	**8.7**	**8.6**
Elaine	6154	55487	250831	2444113	7.9	6.6	6	6.1
Roger & Joy	**6899**	**60145**	**271389**	**2723835**	**8.9**	**7.1**	**6.5**	**6.8**
Brenda	2639	50374	247196	1976776	3.4	6	5.9	4.9
Terry	1797	36455	194265	1484513	2.3	4.3	4.6	3.7
Norma	853	17053	101707	854962	1.1	2	2.4	2.1
Ralph & Phyllis	**4980**	**30243**	**160573**	**1700496**	**6.4**	**3.6**	**3.8**	**4.2**

Segment	Catchment Pop.	CSP Pop.	Rgn Pop.	Nat Pop.	Catchment %	CSP %	Rgn %	Nat %
Frank	3318	41401	183961	1612960	4.3	4.9	4.4	4
Elsie & Arnold	**5669**	**79705**	**377460**	**3206387**	**7.3**	**9.4**	**9**	**8**
Total	**77742**	**845688**	**4201340**	**40254040**	**100.2**	**100**	**100.2**	**99.9**

The Lichfield population is split between a young and active profile, and an elderly grouping who are less active.

Tim is one of the top segments across Lichfield as a whole. Tim is a very active type enjoying high intensity activities. Tim enjoys technical sports such as skiing, uninhibited by financial outlay. Both team games and individual activities feature high on his agenda and personal fitness activities are also popular. 21% of the Tim segment take part in cycling compared to 9% of all adults nationally; 20% of this segment takes part in keep fit/gym, compared to 17% of all adults nationally. Swimming, football and athletics or running are also popular sports for Tim. Tim is more likely than all adults to take part in football and athletics.

Philip is in his late forties and is the most active in his age group. Individuals in this segment are predominantly of White British (82%), or Other White (7%) origin; or may also be of Irish heritage (6%), Asian/Asian British (4%), Black/Black British (1%), Chinese (0.5%) or belong to another ethnic group (0.5%). The top sports that Philip participates in are:

- Cycling is the top sport that Philip participates in and 16% of this segment do this at least once a month, almost double the national average. Philip also enjoys keep fit/gym, swimming, football, golf and athletics (running). His participation in most of his top sports is above the national average, which is indicative of the priority he places on sport.

The remaining segments are more elderly:

- **Elsie and Arnold** are aged 66+, and are widowed and retired. Individuals in this segment are predominantly of White British (88%), or of Other White origin (5%); or may also be of Irish heritage (5%), Asian/Asian British (1%), Black/Black British (0.5%), Chinese (0.5%) or belong to another ethnic group (0.5%). The top sports Elsie and Arnold participate in are:
    - Keep fit/Gym is the top sport that Elsie and Arnold participate in, although only 10% of the segment does this, compared to the national average of 17%. Elsie and Arnold also enjoy Swimming and Bowls. Their participation is typically below the national average, an indication of their age. The main reason cited for barriers to taking part was health/injury/disability.
- **Roger & Joy** are slightly less active than the average adult population. Individuals in this segment are predominantly of White British (87%), or Other White (5%) origin; or may also be of Irish heritage (5%), Asian/Asian British (2%), Black/Black British (0.5%), Chinese (0.5%) or belong to another ethnic group (0.5%). The top sports that Roger & Joy participate in are:
    - Keep fit/gym and swimming are the most popular sports with 13% of the segment doing these, followed by cycling (8%), golf (6%) and angling (2%). Their participation levels are below average for all of these sports, with the exception of bowls and golf.
- **Ralph and Phyllis** are in their late sixties, retired and do sport to meet with friends, improve performance, and because they enjoy it. They take part in sports such as swimming, fishing and golf. Ralph & Phyllis are generally less active than the average adult population, but

their activity levels are higher than others in their age range. They are likely to be doing the same or less sport than 12 months ago, with health the main issue for those doing less.

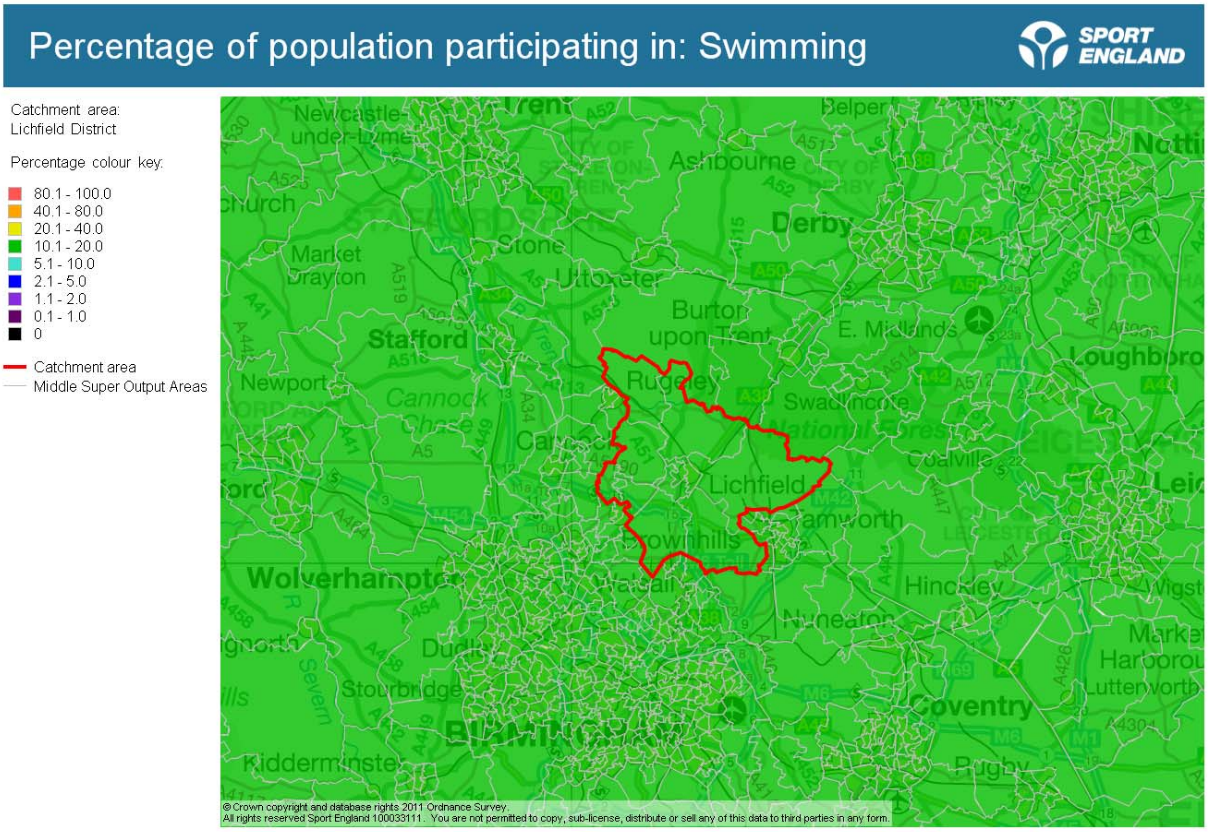
- The top sports that Ralph & Phyllis participate in are keep fit or gym, 9% swimming, 7%, play golf and bowls 4%.

It is evident that across Lichfield there is a split in active groups and less active members of the population. Whilst Tim and Phillip are above the national average, Elsie and Arnold, Roger and Joy and Ralph and Phyllis are more likely to participate in indoor / more passive activity based sports profile requiring flexible indoor spaces and casual opportunities. These groups do however have a propensity to swim in line with the national average.

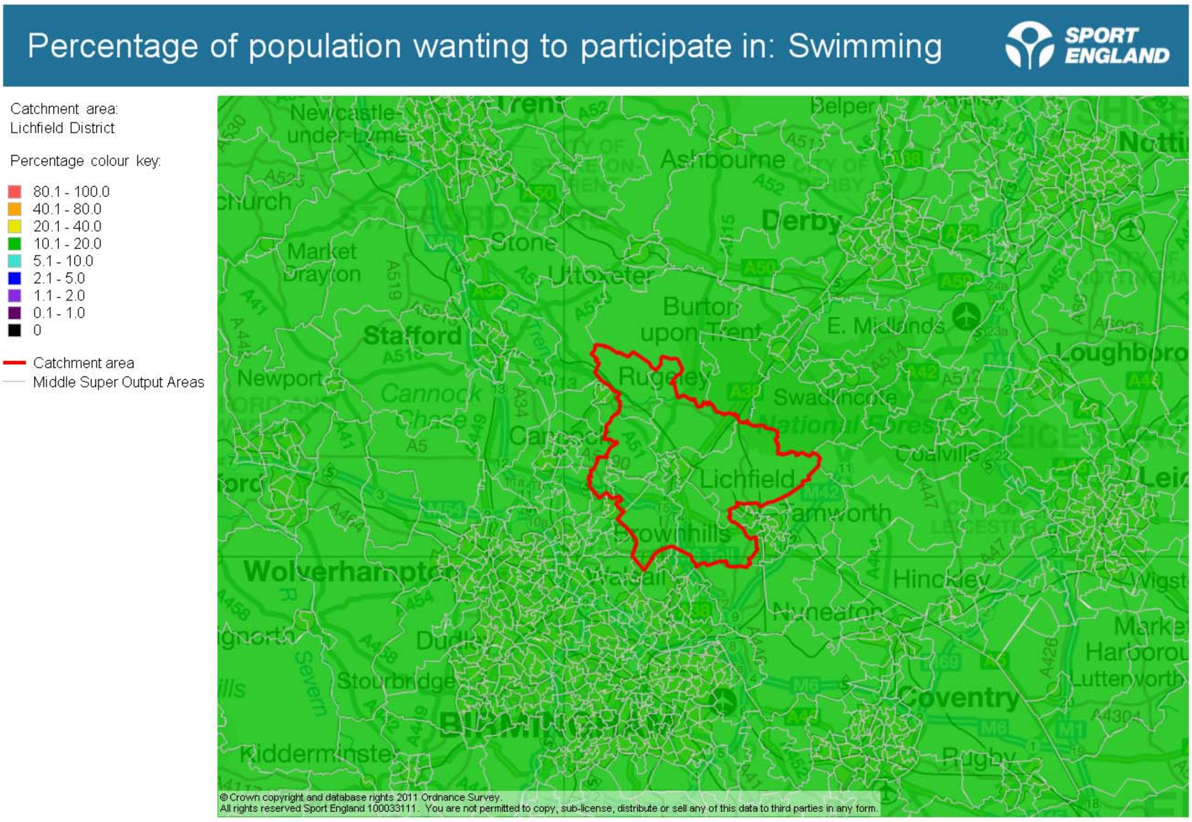
To understand individual sport motivations in more detail it is possible to analyse the propensity to participate in particular sport types.

Map 1.3 shows the percentage of people currently participating in swimming across Lichfield. It is evident participation is uniform, with no spatial differences.

Map 1.3 – Percentage of the Catchment Population participating in Swimming



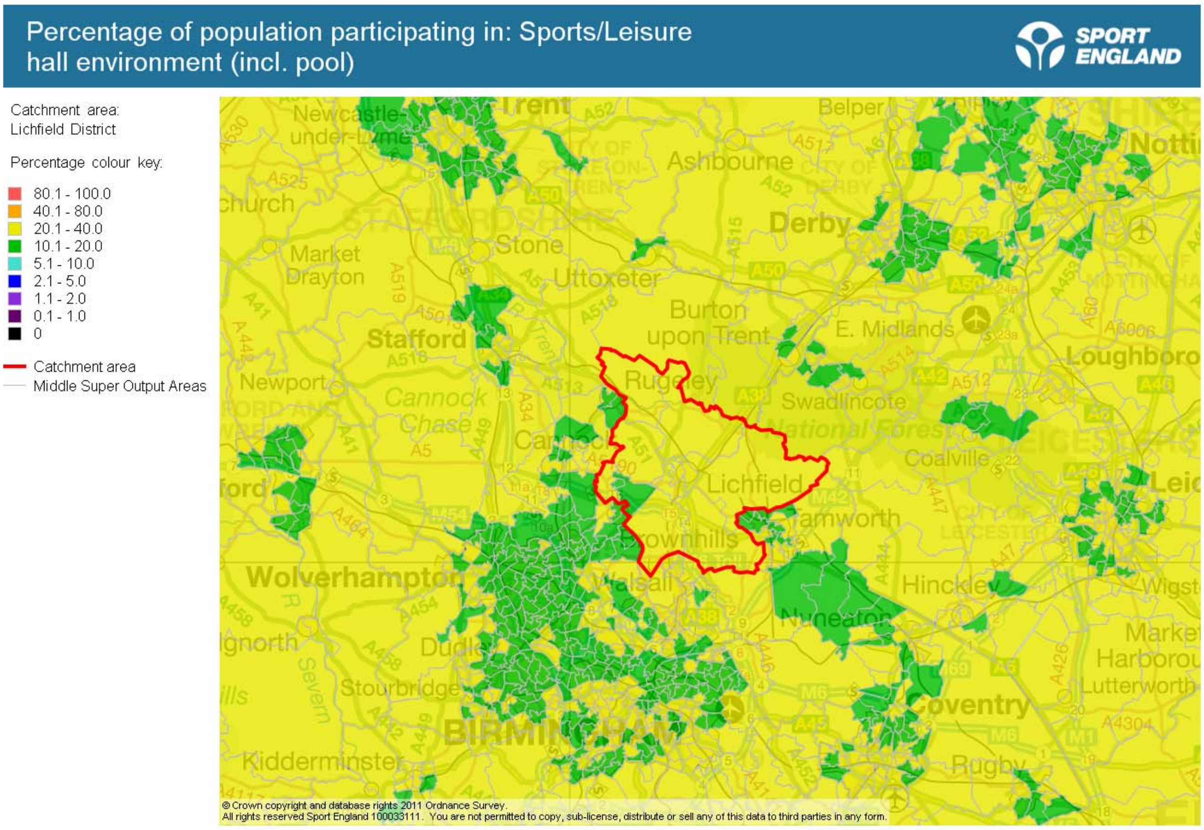
Map 1.4 – Percentage of the Catchment Population who would like to participate in Swimming



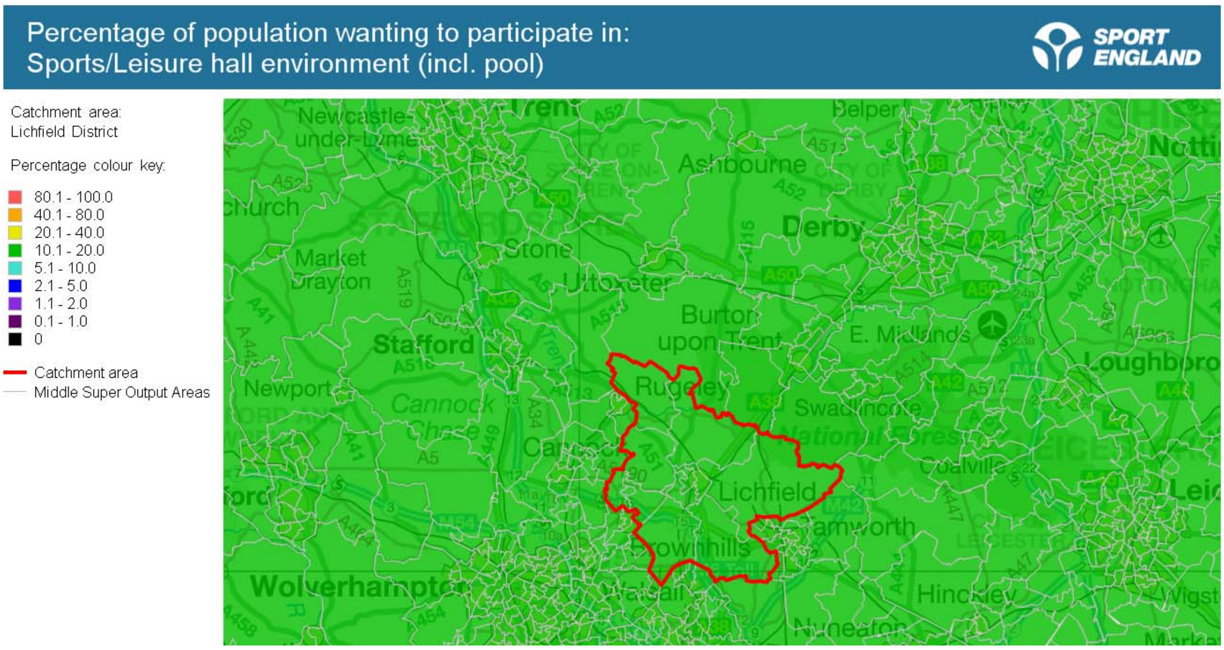
Map 1.4 illustrates the latent demand for swimming, which is also uniform across the district.

Map 1.5 below shows the number of people currently playing sports in a sports hall (including swimming pool environment) and illustrates again no real spatial variations other than in the west of Lichfield, where latent demand is smaller. This area is characterised by Roger and Joys.

Map 1.5 – Percentage of the Catchment Population participating in Hall Sports



Map 1.6 – Percentage of the Catchment Population who would like to participate in Hall Sports



The latent demand for playing sports in a sports hall (including swimming pool environment), as set out in map 1.6 above, is uniform.

Summary of Demographic and Participation Profile

Lichfield had a total population of 93,232 people at the 2001 census, which had increased from 91,679 at the previous census in 1991. There is a growing population. The largest concentrations of populations in the district are at the two main urban areas, Lichfield and Burntwood, which have populations of 27,900 and 27,361 respectively. The district has less than the UK average within the 24-34 age group and above average numbers of people within the 50-70 age group, so it has a relatively older age profile, which implies an ageing population profile.

The sports participation profile shows an active population, greater than regional and national averages but also highlights some contrasts and confirms the elderly profile, who are less likely to participate in sport. So whilst the population is growing if this growth maintains the elderly profile the impact on sports participation and therefore facility needs may not be significant.

Policy Context

The Key policy driver in the district is *A Plan for Lichfield District 2012-2016*. The plan for Lichfield District sets out what the authority is going to do over the next four years (2012 – 2016), and what the Council want to achieve. It also sets out how they are going to achieve the best for the district in partnership with organisations, including the police, the fire service, local colleges, local voluntary groups and others.

In the plan, key aims are grouped in three main themes, along with core principles, as follows:

- **Theme 1** - We'll support local people
- **Theme 2** - We'll shape local places
- **Theme 3** - We'll boost local business

The Council want to deliver an enhanced quality of life for people who live, work and visit the district, which relies on improved economic social and environmental well being across the district. This means sustainable development is at the heart of all the council will do. Finally, underpinning all the themes is the desire to be a good council that provides community leadership and delivers value for money services that people want.

The Local Plan is also a key driver for the work as set out earlier and will be key to the theme of *shaping local places.*

In terms of sustainability and value for money, the council have embarked on a 'fit for the future' programme, which is challenging all services to look at how they operate and provide and consider other delivery models to ensure they are providing the most efficient and cost effective service. In terms of leisure centres there may be alternative delivery options, which could provide some funding investment to deliver future needs.

Summary of Policy Context

Any future leisure provison must deliver Council priorities, be in line with the Local Plan and provide sustainable and value for money solutions.

Section Two of the study looks in more detail at specific needs in the area, focussing on the major output of the facilities planning model update.

2. Supply and Demand Assessment

Introduction

Whilst the previous section sets out the demographic participation and strategic context, the key driver for the development is the consideration of supply and demand issues and the updated fpm analysis. The data and assessments set out in this section are therefore taken from the fpm.

We have also used some of Sport England's other planning tools, namely Active Places Power, and the Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC) to help with the consideration of other facility types and assess future needs.

The supply and demand assessment has been produced in line with National Policy Planning Framework (NPPF), which requires that (Paragraph 73, page 18):

'………planning policies are based upon robust and up-to-date assessments of needs for open space, sport and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision…..'

The needs assessment work has looked at supply and demand, consultation and utilised Sport England planning tools to draw its policy conclusions.

Facilities Planning Model Update

This section provides a review of the findings from the Sport England assessment of the Lichfield District Council facility planning model (fpm) assessment. This assessment is based on reviewing the baseline 2009 findings (run 1) with the projected changes in swimming pool and sports hall supply and demand up to 2026 (run 2). These findings are then compared with the Sport England findings from their 2012 National Analysis of the supply and demand for swimming and sports halls results for Lichfield.

By this process it is intended to update the 2009 fpm findings to the 2012 National Analysis data and findings. Then see how the changes over this period compare to the much longer fpm projection of changes in supply and demand for swimming and sports halls up to 2026.

The fpm assessment also included a 2026 assessment (run 3) based on an annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 (a total 8.5% projected increase in swimming and hall sports participation between the two years). This report focuses on the run 2 assessment but also provides a commentary and compares these findings to the run 3 assessment where appropriate, for example, the increase in total demand from the projected increase in participation.

It is acknowledged this assessment is not a complete *like for like* comparison as the fpm assessment is much more detailed in its analysis and findings than the National Analysis data. Also the fpm assessment is specific for Lichfield and assesses the supply and demand for swimming pools based on Lichfield and the local authorities which border Lichfield. The National Analysis does however apply the same fpm methodology in its assessment and reports the findings under the same headings; however it reports the results in terms of individual local authority areas and is not a comparison of supply and demand within a defined study area which is the more detailed fpm assessment.

A difference for example is that the fpm assessment sets out how much of Lichfield's demand for swimming and sports halls is exported and satisfied at pools in neighbouring authorities – the total exported and how much goes to each authority. The National Analysis output for exported demand provides the export total only.

The final sections of the report for each of swimming pools and sports halls sets out:

- A summary of key findings from the assessment under each of the headings reviewed
- Options and way forward

Swimming Pools Assessment

The reporting of the findings follows the sequence of setting out the findings under the headings of total supply, total demand, satisfied demand, unmet demand and used capacity. For each heading the key data is set out and where it is not possible to set out comparable data there is an entry which says not available (n/a). This in the sequence of three columns – the first is the Lichfield findings from the 2012 National Analysis of swimming pools, followed by the 2009 fpm findings for swimming pools and finally the 2026 fpm assessment.

Each table is followed by a commentary on the findings and what has changed. Where maps from the fpm 2009 assessments remain valid in 2012, for example swimming pool locations then these maps are included.

Total Supply

Table 1 - Supply	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 1 (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Number of pools	5	5	5
Number of pool sites	4	4	4
Supply of total water space in sqm	1216.5	1216.5	1,216.5
Supply of publicly available water space in sqm (scaled with hrs avail in pp)	1073.6	1073	1073
Supply of total water space in VPWPP	9305	9,500	9500
Water space per 1000 population	12.04	N/A	N/A

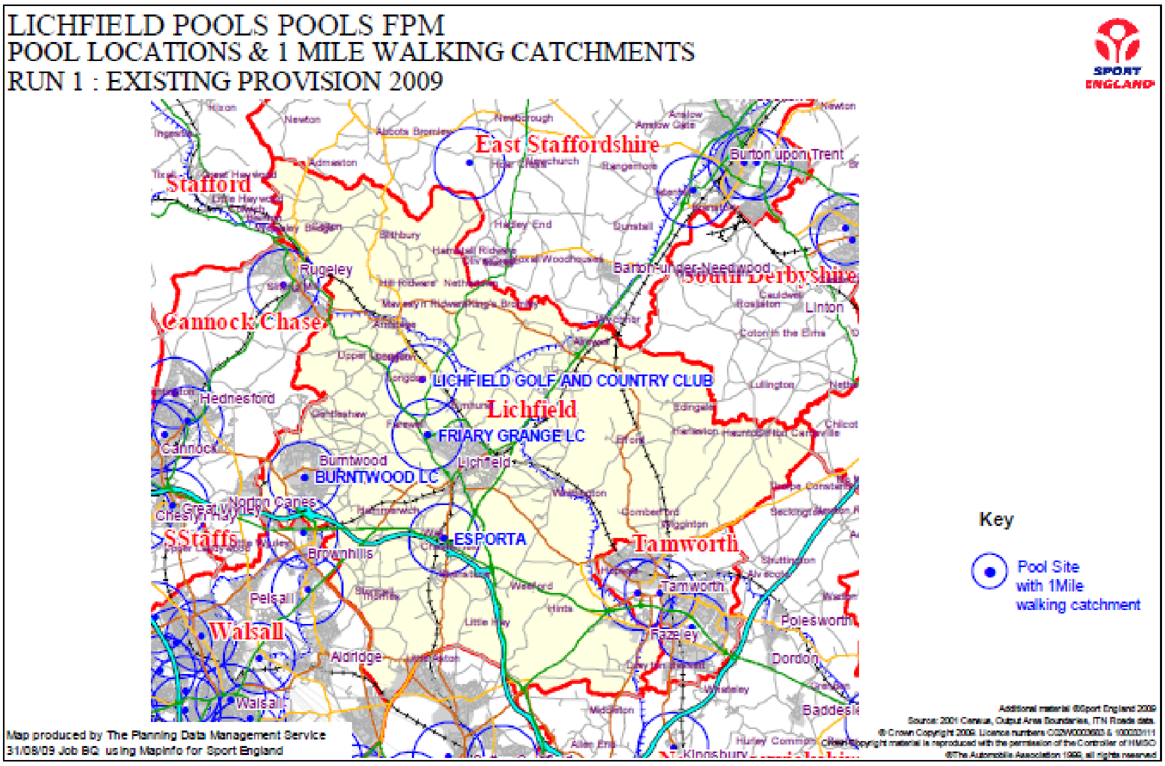
Commentary

The number of swimming pools themselves and the number of swimming pool sites is unchanged across all three assessments. So the total Lichfield supply of swimming pools from 2009 to 2026 is assessed on the basis of 5 swimming pools at four sites. Also the total supply of water space in sq metres of water is unchanged at 1073 sq metres of water. *(Note: the fpm assessment excludes Chase Terrace Tech College, Esporta Outdoor pool, Horizon School and Netherstowe School Pools as they are too small to provide full community swimming programmes).*

The supply of water space in terms of visits in the weekly peak period is 9,500 in both fpm assessments whilst the Lichfield 2012 assessment shows a very slight decrease of 195 visits to 9,300 visits, this is a 2% reduction in the supply in the fpm assessments. The reason for the change when the number of pools remains unchanged is because there could be a slight reduction in the opening hours for public use at peak times, or because there is slight change in the population totals applied in the different assessment. The important point is that the change in pool supply for public use at peak times amounts to 2%.

Given the number of pool sites remains unchanged the map in the 2009 swimming pool locations and their (illustrative) one mile/20 minutes walk to catchment area is valid in 2012 and this is set out below.

Map 2.1 Location of swimming pools in Lichfield District and illustrative 1 mile/20 minutes walk to catchment area



<u>*Changes in swimming pool supply between 2009 – 2026*</u>

The fpm assessment does not identify any changes in the swimming pool supply in Lichfield between 2009 – 2026. The fpm assessment for 2026 does identify some changes in swimming pool supply in neighbouring authorities the model assumes that, for example, *'Chase Leisure Centre in Cannock and Meadowside in East Staffordshire are replaced/refurbished in line with current commitments'* (2009 fpm report page 66). This will impact on Lichfield in terms of changes in satisfied demand, unmet demand and used capacity of the Lichfield pools and is reported on in those sections.

<u>*Access to swimming pools*</u>

The 2009 fpm assessment showed that the whole of the population of the District live within a 20-minute drive of more than two swimming pools. So there is good access to pools by car and 88% of all visits to pools are by car. Given there are no assessed changes in the number and locations of swimming pools in Lichfield up to 2026 then access to pools by the dominant travel mode of car remains good.

In terms of walking access to pools, the 2009 assessment showed that nearly 60% of Lichfield residents live outside a 20 minute walking catchment of any pool. Put a different way some 40% of the population could walk to a swimming pool if they wished to – this is important as is shows the current spread of pools does not provide walking access to pools for most of the population.

Again for the reason of no change in the number and locations of pools 2009 – 2026 then this finding remains valid. The important policy point to consider is if improvement to accessing pools by walking is important when only 8% of all visits to pools are by walking in the 2009 assessment and this is estimated to be 6% of all visits in the 2012 National Analysis assessment.

Total Demand

Table 2 - Demand	**Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings (2009)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)**
Population	101000	99,000	111600
Swims demanded –vpwpp	6324	5,350	5,700
Equivalent in waterspace – with comfort factor included	1042.5	N/A	N/A
% of population without access to a car	9.9	N/A	N/A

Commentary

The total demand for swimming in Lichfield is derived from the total population and the make-up of this population in terms of its age profile, gender and rates and frequencies of swimming participation applied in the assessments. The methodology for assessing demand is the same. However the demand figure will vary depending on the changes in the total population, plus, the changes in the number and age structure of the population over time. For example in 2012 there could be more of the Lichfield population who are in the age range and frequency of swimming participation than there were in 2009 – or vice versa. All these population factors combine to provide the estimate of total demand in each of the three assessments.

The 2009 fpm assessment had a Lichfield total population of 99,000 people. The 2012 National Analysis assessment has the Lichfield total population as 101,000 people, so an increase of 2,000 people between the years. The 2026 fpm assessment has a projected Lichfield total population of 111,600 people. The Lichfield District Local Plan proposed submission July 2012 has a Lichfield total population of 98,700 people (page 13). In discussions with the client there was a recognition this had increased and the 2012 National Analysis assessment of a Lichfield total population of 101,100 is more in line with the Local Plan now.

The total demand for swimming in the 2009 fpm assessment is 5,350 visits in the normal weekly peak period. This increases to 6,324 visits in the 2012 national analysis assessment. So the impact of an increase in total population, a 2% increase, plus the aging of the core resident population over that period creates an increase of 974 visits, or a significant 18.2% increase in total demand for swimming.

The big increase could be because of (1) the population increase combined with (2) the aging of the Lichfield population between 2009 and 2012. It could be that there are more people in 2012 than in 2009 in the age groups who swim more frequently.

Of note is that the total Lichfield projected population in 2026 of 111,600 visits generates a lower than 2012 total demand for swimming of 5,700 visits. This is most likely explained by the aging of the core resident population over this period with less people in the age groups who swim and swim less frequently – in short an aging population.

The amount of water space generated by the total demand of 6,324 visits in 2012 is 1,042 sq metres of water, allowing for the comfort factor. The comfort factor is a measure applied by Sport England to assess when pools are comfortably and uncomfortably full. A pool is assessed to be comfortably full when it reaches 70% of its total capacity. Above this level there is more pressure on the pool itself, changing areas and circulation so that the customer experience becomes less attractive and there are more demands on the pool operation and management.

The corresponding figures for water space in the 2009 and 2012 assessments are not available from the reports.

Projected 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026

Outside of the comparisons assessment but included to understand its relevance, is the impact of the projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026, a projected 8.5% increase in swimming participation between the two years.

This is run 3 in the 2009 fpm analysis and the impact of this projected increase in swimming participation is to increase total demand to 6,191 visits. Put another way, a projected annual increase of 0.5% in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 creates an additional 491 visits to a total Lichfield demand of 6,191 visits. This is over the projected total demand in 2026 of 5,700 visits, if swimming participation remains at the same level it is in 2009 through to 2026.

Satisfied Demand

Table 4 - Satisfied Demand	**Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings (2009)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)**
Total number of visits which are met	5944	5050	5,350
% of total demand satisfied	94	94	94
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	88.1	89	90
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	6.2	8	7
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	5.7	3	3
Demand Retained	3572	2841	3347
Demand Retained -as a % of Satisfied Demand	60.1	56.2	62
Demand Exported	2372	2197	2017
Demand Exported -as a % of Satisfied Demand	39.9	43.5	38

Commentary

Satisfied demand represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the swimming pools from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a pool. The 2009 fpm assessment calculates that 94% of the total demand for swimming pools in Lichfield is satisfied demand. This is unchanged in both the 2012 National Analysis assessment and the 20216 fpm assessment. This represents a very high and consistent level of satisfied demand. For comparisons the West Midlands Region and England wide levels of satisfied demand based on the 2012 National Analysis data are 90.3% and 90.5%, also very high levels of satisfied demand but Lichfield is higher.

The key overall finding on satisfied demand is that there is a supply of pools within Lichfield and within the authorities which surround Lichfield (and which is the nearest pool to where Lichfield residents live) to absorb some 94% of the total demand for swimming from Lichfield residents. This is over all three time periods of assessment. In short there is a very good supply of pools which are accessible to Lichfield residents and these pools have enough capacity to absorb 94% of the total demand for Lichfield residents. Applying the fpm findings and methodology over the period and assessments 2009 – 2026 this does not change.

Car travel is the predominate choice of travel mode to pools. In 2009 the fpm assessment has this as 89% of all satisfied demand visits to pools are by car. In the 2012 National Analysis this has gone down by 1% to 88% and by 2026 it is projected to be 90%. So by all three assessments there is very high percentage of visits to pools by car and this hardly varies. The percentages for car travel to pools for West Midlands Region and England based on the 2102 National Analysis are 74% and 75% respectively. So Lichfield has quite a higher percentage of visits to pools by car

In addition, the accessibility assessment has shown that there is very good access to pools by car, with over 2 pools accessible to all Lichfield residents based on a 20 minute drive time of where they live. It is only the 20 minute walk to catchment where there is possibly an issue of in accessibility, with 60% of the Lichfield population living outside the 20 minutes/1mile walking catchment of a pool in 2009. However to put this into some context walking to pools only accounts for 8% of all visits in 2009, 6% in 2012 and 7% of all visits in 2026. Also it is not reasonable to plan and provide for swimming pools on the basis of walking catchments.

Retained Demand

It is possible to estimate how much of the Lichfield satisfied demand for swimming is met by the swimming pools located in Lichfield and this is known as Lichfield retained demand. In the 2009 fpm assessment report this was estimated to be 56% in 2009. This increases to 60% in 2012, presumably based on the surrounding authorities increasing their swimming pool supply and being able to retain more of their own residents demand at their pools and more of the Lichfield demand being met within Lichfield. By 2026 the Lichfield retained demand is projected to increase a bit further to 62% of satisfied demand.

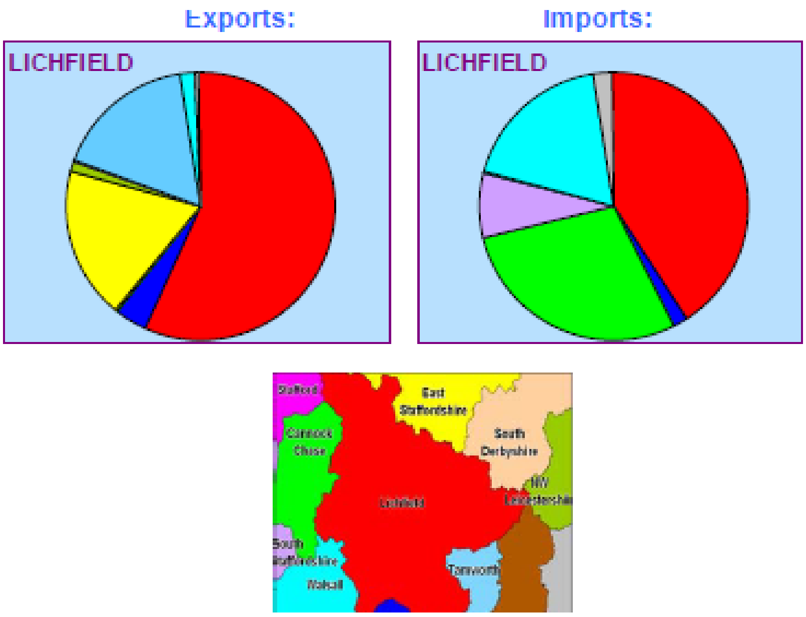
Exported Demand

This does mean however that Lichfield is exporting between 38% - 44% (depending on which year) of its own resident demand for swimming and which is being met outside of Lichfield. This is quite a high percentage and Lichfield is benefiting from the nearest pool for some of its residents being located outside the authority and there is enough capacity at these pools to absorb the Lichfield demand.

The 2009 fpm assessment assessed where the Lichfield demand is being exported to and how much. This is set out in the pie charts below (first pie chart refers to exports of Lichfield demand) together with a colour coded map for each of the authorities which surround Lichfield.

As can be seen from the first pie chart 56% of the pie is shaded red and this represents the 56% of the Lichfield demand for swimming which is met at Lichfield's pools. The remainder of the pie is the Lichfield exported demand and where it goes to. Most of the exported Lichfield demand goes to East Staffordshire (shaded yellow) with 19% of the Lichfield demand and to Tamworth (shaded light blue) and some 18% of the Lichfield demand. After that there is some 3% which goes to Birmingham (shaded dark blue) and around 2% to each of Solihull (shaded turquoise) and NW Leicestershire. It is not possible to produce the same pie charts for 2012 showing how much and where the Lichfield exported demand for swimming goes to. It is only possible to report on the total percentage of exported demand and which is 40% of the Lichfield total satisfied demand for swimming in 2012. (*Note the pie chart for imported demand will be reported on under the used capacity heading).*

Chart 2.1: FPM assessment 2009 - Lichfield retained and exported demand for swimming



Unmet Demand

Table 5 - Unmet Demand	**Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings (2009)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)**
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met	381	300	350
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	6	5.6	6
Equivalent in Water space m2 - with comfort factor	62.76	54	57
% of Unmet Demand due to ;			
Lack of Capacity -	2.4	0	0
Outside Catchment -	97.6	100	100
Outside Catchment;	97.6	100	100
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	75.7	83	84
% of Unmet demand who have access to a car	21.9	17.2	16
Lack of Capacity;	2.4	0	0
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	1.2	0	0
% of Unmet demand who have access to a car	1.1	0	0

Commentary

Unmet demand for swimming pools has two categories. The first is demand which cannot be met because there is too much demand for the capacity of any particular swimming pool within its catchment area to absorb. The second category is demand which is located outside the catchment area of any swimming pool and it is then classified as unmet demand.

Unmet demand for Lichfield in the 2009 fpm assessment all comes under the category 'located outside the catchment area' of a swimming pool. This is the unmet demand for swimming from people who live outside the walk to catchment area of a swimming pool. Whilst this is 60% of the Lichfield population in 2009, it is a low level of unmet demand and adds up to 300 visits or 5.6% of total demand for swimming. In water space it is 54 sq metres of water with the comfort factor (explained under total demand) included. For context a 25 metres x 4 lanes swimming pool is 210 sq metres of water. It is also low because these same residents if they have access to a car can travel to a pool by car and some 88% of all visits to pools are by car.

In short, the level of unmet demand is not high in 2009 and it is all defined by being located outside the catchment area of a pool, not because of lack of swimming pool capacity.

In the 2012 National Analysis assessment there is a slight shift in unmet demand. It has increased but only by 81 visits to a total of 381 visits, or 6% of the total demand for swimming in 2012 and which represents some 63 sq metres of water. Also there is now some 2% of this unmet demand, which is 7 visits in total which is due to lack of capacity and 98%, some 374 visits, which is due to it being located outside the catchment area of a swimming pool.

In the 2026 assessment unmet demand has hardly changed, it is estimated to be a total of 350 visits which is 6% of the total demand for swimming in 2026. It is all within the outside category of unmet demand and represents some 57 sq metres of water.

Overall across the 3 assessment dates unmet demand is low. It ranges between 300 – 381 visits in total and between 5.6% - 6% of total demand. It is all under the category of being located outside the catchment area of a pool not because of lack of swimming pool capacity. The only exception to this is in the 2012 National Analysis assessment when some 7 visits out of the total swimming pool demand of 6,324 visits are under the category of lack of swimming pool capacity.

Finally when the run 3 assessment of the impact of a projected annual increase of 0.5% in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 is assessed, this creates an additional 491 visits over the run 2 assessment of swimming participation being unchanged through 2009 -2026.

If there is only an increase of 491 visits in total demand with this projected increase in swimming participation and if unmet demand remains at 6% of total demand, then the swimming participation increase would create an additional 29 visits to add to the run 2 total of 350 visits – again not significant.

Used Capacity

Table 6 - Used Capacity	**Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings (2009)**	**Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)**
Total number of visits used of current capacity	5304	7000	6,800
% of overall capacity of pools used	57	73.4	72
% of visits made to pools by walkers	6.8	N/A	N/A
% of visits made to pools by road	93.2	N/A	N/A
Visits Imported;			
Number of visits imported	1732	4141	3463
As a % of used capacity	32.7	59	51

Table 6 - Used Capacity	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Visits Retained:			
Number of Visits retained	3572	2841	3349
As a % of used capacity	67.3	40.5	62

Commentary

Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput at swimming pools and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. As already referenced under the description of findings under total demand, the facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor' beyond which, in the case of swimming pools, the pools are too full. The model assumes that usage over 70% of capacity is busy and the swimming pool is operating at an uncomfortable level above 70% of total capacity being used.

In the 2009 fpm assessment the percentage of used capacity as an average across the 4 swimming pools sites in Lichfield is 73.4%. So the pools are estimated to be above the pools full comfort level. In the 2026 fpm assessment the impact of population change and aging of the core resident population but with no change in swimming pool supply the used capacity percentage is estimated to be 72%, so a slight reduction but still above the 70% pools full comfort level.

The 2012 NFA assessment of pool used capacity average is lower than the two fpm assessments at 57% of capacity used. In part this is because the data assumptions for the national analysis do vary by each year. The fpm assessment for 2009 would have been on the same basis as the National Analysis data sets for that year. However the 2012 analysis may well have some different assumptions.

Also there will be changes in swimming pool supply, closures and openings as well as modernisation. Demand will also change year by year as the population ages and in one year there may be more population in the age groups who swim more often than in other years. This change through aging of the resident population is more likely to show up in a comparison of data over say a 5 year period than annual change.

The reasons for the changes in the used capacity between the two assessments seems to be related to changes in demand and possibly the aging of the core resident population because the swimming pool supply in the fpm assessment and in the 2012 National Analysis is virtually unchanged.

The number of pool sites in both the fpm and the national analysis remains unchanged at 90 sites when it is reviewed against the 11 local authorities in the fpm assessments with the supply data for each of these 11 authorities in the National Analysis data. The number of actual pools does decrease by 3 pools from 116 in the fpm assessments to 113 in the National Analysis data. This seems to be because of a reduction in one pool in Walsall and modernisation at other swimming pool sites which has reduced the number of pools.

In Birmingham the University of Aston Woodcock Centre pool was modernised in 2011. In Cannock Chase the Chase Leisure Centre pool was modernised in 2012 and in South Derbyshire the Ibstock Leisure Complex was modernised in 2011, so overall some small changes in swimming pool modernisation. It is therefore most likely that differences in the demand for swimming between the fpm and National Analysis assessments is the reason for the differences in used capacity.

This is underlined by the fpm assessments which are based on the same 4 sites and 5 swimming pools in both 2009 and 2006 – so supply unchanged. Total population increases from 99,000 in the 2009 fpm assessment to 111,600 population in 2026, a 12.7% increase. Demand for swimming increases from 5,350 visits in 2009 to 5,700 visits in 2026, a 6.5% increase.

It is reasonable to assume that a 12.6% increase in population might create a bigger increase in swimming demand and the reason it is lower is because of the aging of the core resident population between 2009 – 2026 and how this also impacts/changes the demand for swimming. The 5,700 visits demand figure is a combination of the impact of both changes.

<u>Run 3 Impact of the projected 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026</u>

It is important to consider the impact of the projected annual 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 (8.5% increase in total) has on the projected used capacity of pools

This is set out under the run 3 findings in the fpm report. In terms of used capacity the Lichfield average goes from 73.4% in Run 1, to 72% in run 2 and with the projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026, this increases to 78% in Run 3.

As the fpm report says:

'.......pools in Run 1were already busy being 3% over the recommended comfortable level. By Run 3, with the total additional demand, the pools become even busier. In overall terms the District swimming pools will be too busy. As individual facilities the figures are set out below, but they show that all facilities get busier":

- *Burntwood Leisure Centre – 89% in run 3 and 82% in run 2*
- *Esporta – 86% in run 3 and 80% in run 2*
- *Friary Grange – 44% in run 3 and 40% in run 2*
- *Lichfield Golf and Country Club - 89% in run 3 and 82% in run 2" (fpm swimming pools report pages 70 -71)'*

So overall the Lichfield pools are already above the used capacity comfort level of 70% in 2009 at 73.4% and whilst this decreases a little to 72% in 2026 (goes down because of the aging of the core resident population between the two years), with the projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation then used capacity increases to 78%, as an average for the Lichfield four pool sites – in short the pools are estimated to be well above the pools full comfort level.

The exception to this District wide assessment of used capacity is that it does mask the assessment that the Friary Grange pool, even with the projected 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation in run 3, has an estimated used capacity of 44%. The 2012 National

Analysis assessment estimates the used capacity at Friary Grange to be 43%[1]. So this pool is estimated to have considerable spare capacity across all assessments.

Summary of Main Findings and Way Forward for Swimming Pools

Notwithstanding the above, based on the updated modelling, this section of the report sets out a summary of key findings from the assessment under each of the headings reviewed.

Total Supply

There are no changes in the swimming pool supply in Lichfield between 2009 – 2026. So the total number of visits is unchanged at 9,500 visits in the weekly peak period. It is assumed Chase Leisure Centre in Cannock and Meadowside in East Staffordshire are either replaced or refurbished between 2009 – 2026. This will impact marginally on Lichfield in terms of changes in imported and exported demand.

Access to swimming pools

The 2009 fpm assessment showed that the whole of the population of Lichfield District live within a 20-minute drive of more than two swimming pools. So there is good access to pools by car and 88% of all visits to pools are by car. Given there are no assessed changes in the number and locations of swimming pools in Lichfield up to 2026 then access to pools by the dominate travel mode of car remains good and unchanged.

In terms of walking access to pools, the 2009 assessment showed nearly 60% of Lichfield residents live outside a 20 minute walking catchment of any pool. Put a different way some 40% of the population could walk to a swimming pool if they wished to. Again for the reason of no change in the number and locations of pools 2009 – 2026 then this finding remains valid.

The important policy point to consider is if improvement to accessing pools by walking is important when only 8% of all visits to pools are by walking in the 2009 assessment.

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[1] There are concerns that this does not reflect the picture on the ground at Friary Grange. Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput at swimming pools and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. In effect, Friary Grange is estimated to have low used capacity because it is an old pool and will have a low weighting. This means the model assumes for participants who have a choice of pools to use (because swimming pool catchments overlap) that participants will choose to use more modern pools. So there will be more use of the more modern pools and less use of older pools. The travel patterns to pools are predominated by car and the 20 minute drive time provides good accessibility for Lichfield residents to pools located both inside (Burntwood as it is newer and more modern) and outside the district.

The other reason set out in the 2009 fpm report is that Friary Grange is a dual use facility and will have lower public use/access during daytime. So again the model will send participants to other pools where there is more daytime access. This however will be a very small reason for the estimated low used capacity estimate at Friary Grange because the model assumes that only around 37% of the weekly throughput is during off peak times which includes day time use.

The measurement of used capacity in the model does have these definitions and in practice many pools are managed differently to the model's assumptions. It could be that despite Friary Grange being an old pool that for reasons of choice by participants that it does have high usage. This could be simply because people like the pool and the management operation, or, that certain activities are programmed for times that suit/they like. It seems in this instance there are distinct differences between the model's assumptions about how participants will chose to use Friary Grange and what is happening on the ground with the actual management and operation of the pool. This will have to be borne in mind when assessing options.

Total Demand

The total demand for swimming in Lichfield is derived from the total population and the make-up of this population in terms of its age profile, gender and rates and frequencies of swimming participation applied in the assessments. The methodology for assessing demand is the same. However the demand figures will vary depending on the changes in the total population, PLUS, the changes in the number and age structure of the population over time. For example in 2012 there could be more of the Lichfield population who are in the age range and frequency of swimming participation than there were in 2009 – or vice versa. All these population factors combine to provide the estimate of total demand in each of the three assessments.

The total Lichfield population in the 2009 fpm assessment is 99,000 people. This increases by 2,000 to 101,000 in the 2012 National Analysis assessment for Lichfield. The 2026 fpm assessment has a projected Lichfield total population of 111, 600 people. (Note: The Lichfield District Local Plan proposed submission July 2012 has a Lichfield total population of 98,700 people (page 13). In discussions with the client there was a recognition this had increased and the 2012 National Analysis assessment of a Lichfield total population of 101,100 is more in line with the Local Plan now.

The total demand for swimming in the 2009 fpm assessment is 5,350 visits in the weekly peak period. This increases to 6,324 visits in the 2012 national analysis assessment. So the impact of an increase in total population, a 2% increase, plus the aging of the core resident population over that period creates an increase of 974 visits, or a significant 18.2% increase in total demand for swimming.

The total Lichfield projected population in 2026 of 111,600 generates a lower than 2012 total demand for swimming of 5,700 visits. This is most likely explained by the aging of the core resident population over this period with less people in the age groups who swim – in short an aging population.

Projected 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026

Outside of the comparisons assessment but included to understand its relevance, is the impact of the projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026, a projected 8.5% increase in swimming participation between the two years.

This is run 3 in the 2009 fpm analysis and the impact is to increase total demand to 6,191 visits. Put another way, a projected annual increase of 0.5% in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 creates an additional 491 visits to a total Lichfield demand of 6,191 visits, up from 5,700 visits without the projected increase in swimming participation – it is not a significant increase in demand.

Satisfied Demand

Satisfied demand represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the swimming pools from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a pool.

The 2009 fpm assessment calculates that 94% of the total demand for swimming pools in Lichfield is satisfied demand. This is unchanged in both the 2012 National Analysis assessment and the 20216 fpm assessment. This represents a very high and consistent level of satisfied demand.

In short there is a very good supply of pools which are accessible to Lichfield residents and these pools have enough capacity to absorb 94% of the total demand for Lichfield residents. Applying the fpm findings and methodology over the period and assessments 2009 – 2026 this does not change.

Car travel is the predominate choice of travel mode to pools. In 2009 the fpm assessment has this as 89% of all satisfied demand visits to pools are by car. In the 2012 National Analysis this has gone down by 1% to 88% and by 2026 it is projected to be 90%. So by all there assessments there is very high percentage of visits to pools by car and this hardly varies

Retained Demand

It is possible to estimate how much of the Lichfield satisfied demand for swimming is met by the swimming pools located in Lichfield and this is known as Lichfield retained demand. In the 2009 fpm assessment this was estimated to be 56%. This increases to 60% in 2012, presumably based on the surrounding authorities increasing their swimming pool supply and being able to retain more of their own residents demand at their pools and more of the Lichfield demand being met within Lichfield. By 2026 the Lichfield retained demand is projected to increase a bit further to 62% of satisfied demand.

Exported Demand

This does mean however that Lichfield is exporting between 38% - 44%. Depending on which year) of its own resident demand for swimming and which is being met outside of Lichfield. This is quite a high percentage and Lichfield is benefiting from the nearest pool for some of its residents are located outside the authority and there is enough capacity at these pools to absorb the Lichfield demand.

The 2009 fpm assessment identified that 19% of the exported Lichfield demand goes to East Staffordshire and 18% o Tamworth. After that 3% goes to Birmingham and around 2% to each of Solihull and NW Leicestershire.

The 2012 National Analysis does not breakdown where the exported Litchfield demand goes to, it just provides a total export of 40% of the Lichfield exported demand. By 2026 the estimate is that 38% of the Lichfield satisfied demand for swimming will be exported.

Overall between 2009 – 2026 it is estimated that Lichfield is exporting 44% of its own demand in 2009 and this has decreased to 38% in 2026 – still a high percentage but decreasing.

Unmet Demand

Unmet demand for swimming pools has two categories. (1) demand which cannot be met because there is too much demand for the capacity of any particular swimming pool within its catchment area to absorb and (2)demand which is located outside the catchment area of any swimming pool and it is then classified as unmet demand.

The 2009 fpm assessment is all the unmet demand is in the first category and is derived from people who live outside the walk to catchment area of a swimming pool. This represents 60% of the Lichfield population in 2009, but it is a very low level of unmet demand. It adds up to 300 visits or 5.6% of total demand for swimming. It is low because these same residents if they have access to a car can travel to a pool by car and some 88% of all visits to pools are by car.

In short, the level of unmet demand is not high in 2009 and it is all defined by being located outside the catchment area of a pool, not because of lack of swimming pool capacity.

In the 2012 assessment unmet demand has increased but only by 81 visits to a total of 381 visits, or 6% of the total demand for swimming in 2012 and which represents some 63 sq metres of water.

In the 2026 assessment unmet demand has hardly changed, it is estimated to be a total of 350 visits which is 6% of the total demand for swimming in 2026. It is all within the outside category of unmet demand and represents some 57 sq metres of water.

Overall across the 3 assessment dates unmet demand is low. It ranges between 300 – 381 visits in total and between 5.6% - 6% of total demand. It is all under the category of being located outside the catchment area of a pool

Finally when the run 3 assessment of the impact of a projected annual increase of 0.5% in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 is assessed, this creates an additional 29 visits to add to the run 2 total of 350 visits – again not significant.

Used Capacity

Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput at swimming pools and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. The model assumes that usage over 70% of capacity is busy and the swimming pool is operating at an uncomfortable level above 70% of total capacity being used.

The 2009 assessment showed used capacity as an average across the 4 swimming pools sites in Lichfield at 73.4%. So the pools are estimated to be above the pools full comfort level.

In the 2026 fpm assessment the impact of population change and aging of the core resident population but with no change in swimming pool supply, the used capacity percentage is estimated to be 72%, so a slight reduction but still above the 70% pools full comfort level.

The 2012 NFA assessment of pool used capacity average is lower than the two fpm assessments at 57% of capacity used. The reason for this seems to be related to the aging of the core resident population. This is said because the swimming pool supply in the fpm assessment and in the 2012 National Analysis is virtually unchanged.

It is unchanged completely in Lichfield and in the 11 local authorities included in the 2009 fpm assessment it is unchanged at 90 pool sites. The number of actual pools does decrease by 3 pools to 113 pools. This seems to be because of a reduction in one pool in Walsall and modernisation at other swimming pool sites which has removed pools. In 2011 pools modernised were the University of Aston Woodcock Centre pool in Cannock Chase the Chase Leisure Centre pool and in South Derbyshire the Ibstock Leisure Complex, so overall some small changes in swimming pool modernisation which has removed 2 further pools.

It is therefore more likely the bigger impact of the aging of the core resident population in Lichfield and probably in the other local authorities is more likely for the differences in between the fpm and National Analysis assessments in used capacity.

Impact of the projected 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 on used capacity

It is important to consider the impact of the projected annual 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 (8.5% increase in total) has on the projected used capacity of pools

This is set out under the run 3 findings in the fpm report. In Lichfield used capacity goes from 73.4% in 20091, to 72% in run 2 (2026) and with the projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation increases to 78% in run 3 (2026).

As the fpm report says:

'....pools in Run 1were already busy being 3% over the recommended comfortable level. By Run 3, with the total additional demand, the pools become even busier. In overall terms the District swimming pools will be too busy. As individual facilities the figures are set out below, but they show that all facilities get busier":

- *Burntwood Leisure Centre – 89% in run 3 and 82% in run 2*
- *Esporta – 86% in run 3 and 80% in run 2*
- *Friary Grange – 44% in run 3 and 40% in run 2*
- *Lichfield Golf and Country Club - 89% in run 3 and 82% in run 2" (fpm swimming pools report pages 70 -71)'*

The exception to this District wide assessment of used capacity is that it does mask the assessment that the Friary Grange pool, even with the projected 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation in run 3, has an estimated used capacity of 44%. The 2012 National Analysis assessment estimates the used capacity at Friary Grange to be 43%. So this pool is estimated to have considerable spare capacity across all assessments.

Overall the Lichfield pools are already above the used capacity comfort level of 70% in 2009 at 73.4%.In 2026 without the projected increase in swimming participation this decreases a little to 72% in 2026 (goes down because of the aging of the core resident population between the two years). However with the projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation then used capacity increases to 78%, as an average for the Lichfield four pool sites. In short the pools are estimated to be well above the pools full comfort level.

Way Forward for Swimming Pool Provision 2009 – 2026 and Beyond

The update of the 2009 fpm assessment report for swimming pools compared with the findings from the 2012 National Analysis has not identified any major changes. The baseline information in the 2009 report has followed a trend to 2012 and this continues to 2026.

The one exception to this is the estimated used capacity of swimming pools, which does dip in 2012 but comes back up again to 2026. The 2009 finding of the pools across the District being uncomfortable full is confirmed for 2026. Furthermore the impact of the projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation makes the pools even more full, the exception to this District wide finding being, as reported, that Friary Grange still has some unused capacity in 2026.

So overall the findings are:

- There is a good balance between overall supply and demand for swimming pools

- There is very good access to pools by car and which is by far the dominate travel mode

- Unmet demand for swimming is very low and is all because a low level of demand (6%) located outside the walking catchment of a pool (but only 7% of visits to pools are by walking).

So overall a good supply of pools, with catchment area locations which mean that 94% of total demand can get to a pool and there is enough capacity at the pools to absorb the swimming demand. So quantity and access look good and the update of the 2009 findings to 2012 confirms consistency in these findings.

The big issues are:

- Used capacity of pools is above the Sport England pools full level at 70% of pool capacity used in 2009 and this remains so by 2026. The projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 would make the pools very uncomfortably full – to 78% of pool capacity used

- The quality of pools will decrease in the building condition and attractiveness to customers between 2009 – 2026 and there are no proposals to modernise or replace existing pools. By 2026 Burntwood Leisure Centre will be 24 years old (opened in 2002) and Friary Grange will be 53 years old (opened in 1973 and has not had a major modernisation, until current scheme. *For information but not suggested for progression in the policy options*, the small pool at Lichfield Golf and County club will be 19 years old (opened in 2007) and the bigger pool at Lichfield Health and Racquets Club will be 26 years old (opened in 2000).

So the issues are the existing pools are too full in 2009 and even more full in 2026. The quality of the pools will decrease as they age and the public pools are old pools by 2026. The update of the 2009 fpm assessments to the 2012 national analysis assessments confirms these findings and trends to 2026.

The balance to be struck is between:

- There is not enough unmet demand, even with the projected 0.5% annual increase in swimming participation, to warrant new additional pool provision. This linked to the finding that the existing pool locations/catchment areas (plus those outside Lichfield) mean that 94% of the total Lichfield demand for swimming is met by 2026

- However Lichfield is *leaking* around 40% of its demand to pools outside the District up to 2026. To increase and meet more if its own demand for swimming within Lichfield, then there has to be an increase in swimming pool capacity

- However the pools are too full now and remain too full in 2026. So capacity has to be increased to get pool capacity down from the projected 72% used capacity in 2026 without the projected increase in swimming participation and 78% with it. To create some headroom used capacity should be reduced to around 60% -65% of pool capacity used.

What does this mean in policy terms:

- **Option 1** *Do nothing* or simply just move more of the Burntwood use to Friary Grange and get more of a balance across the two pools. This still however leaves a 50+ year old pool at Friary Grange, which would not meet the findings of the needs and evidence and need for refurbishment. We also know that in reality that Friary Grange has little or no spare capacity in its current form, whilst the Council are committed to look at programming in the short-terms and making improvements where possible, this option is likely to have a minimal impact.

- **Option 2** So whilst the option of increasing pool provision is not justified in meeting projected increases in total demand and the levels of unmet demand, it is justified in terms of creating some headroom and reducing used capacity of pools and improving the quality of pools. The scale of provision to reduce used capacity and create some headroom does not suggest that provision of a new pool is the most cost or sports effective option to pursue. The more focused option based on reducing used capacity is to increase the water area at one of the two public pools. This however is assuming that there is scope to do this on the existing sites. Based on evidence, the focus should be at Burntwood because the estimate is that 72% or 78% (with the annual 0.5% participation increase included) of capacity will be used by 2026. However this is a large pool already at a total of 442 sq metres of water and has a 117 sq metre learner pool already. Friary Grange therefore presents the better option.

- **Option 3** The other option is therefore to increase capacity at the smaller (and older) Friary Grange which is also a sizeable main pool at 313 sq metres of water. The site is considered to be a good well located site. The pool is however the exception in that used capacity is estimated to be only 42% of spare capacity in 2026. So on the face of it, it would seem to be increasing capacity at what is projected to be an *under used pool.* We know however that the fpm figures appear to mask the reality, as previously set out. Furthermore the evidence shows that access to pools by car is very good indeed and 90% of visits to pools are by car. So this high accessibility suggests both Burntwood and Friary Grange are *equally accessible* to the 90% of all visits to pools by car by Lichfield residents. The Council is committed to the Friary Grange and has just entered into a long term partnership with the school as part of the Sport England Improvement Fund funding.

- **Option 4** Develop a new pool at King Edwards School or a new site. However this is not in-line with the needs and evidence findings and the need for no additional provision. This would mean closure of either the Friary or Burntwood. The Friary is not in control of the Council and Burntwood is relatively new, well located and of good quality. No site is currently identified in the Local Plan for a new build pool and King Edwards is a constrained site with poor access. This option is not realistic.

Option three the refurbishment and extension of Friary Grange Pool therefore presents the way forward to deliver future swimming pool provision needs. This is in line with the needs assessment and presents a sustainable way forward. The Council are committed to Friary Grange through the current Sport England funded refurbishment. In the medium to long-term further investment should be prioritised at the site to increase the water area and therefore capacity with the addition of a shallow water training / learner pool. This longer term proposal alongside the current refurbishment plans will provide Lichfield with a modern pool in line with future needs.

Increasing water capacity at Friary Grange as a result of population growth pressures can in part be delivered through planning contributions.

Sports Halls Assessment

This section of the report presents the findings from the review of sports halls. It follows the same sequence of reporting as for swimming pools. Reporting the findings under the headings of total supply, total demand, satisfied demand, unmet demand and used capacity.

Again for each heading the key data is set out and where it is not possible to set out comparable data there is an entry which says not available (n/a). This in the sequence of three columns – the first is the Lichfield findings from the 2012 National Analysis of sports halls, followed by the 2009 fpm findings for sports halls and finally the 2026 fpm assessment. Each table is followed by a commentary on the findings and what has changed. Where maps from the fpm 2009 assessments remain valid in 2012, then these maps are included.

The final section of the report sets out a summary of key findings from the assessment under each of the headings reviewed, followed by the options and way forward for development.

Total Supply

Table 1 - Supply	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 1 (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Number of halls	8	6	6
Number of hall sites	6	5 or 6	5
Supply of total hall space in courts	28.8	20	26
Supply of publicly available hall space in courts (scaled with hrs avail in pp)	24.84	N/A	N/A
Supply of total hall space in VPWPP	5030	4,300	5500
Courts per 10,000	2.85	N/A	N/A

Commentary

The number of sports halls sites is 5 in the 2009 fpm assessment and this has increased to 6 sites in the 2012 National Analysis for sports hall supply. The additional site is the Erasmus Darwin Academy which is a 34m x 18m, 4 badminton court main hall. There is also another sports hall included in the 2012 assessment which is a secondary/ancillary hall at Chase College. So in the 2012 assessment there are 8 individual sports halls compared with 6 in 2009. The 2026 fpm report used the same supply base as the 2009 report and therefore relates to 6 sports halls at 5 sites.

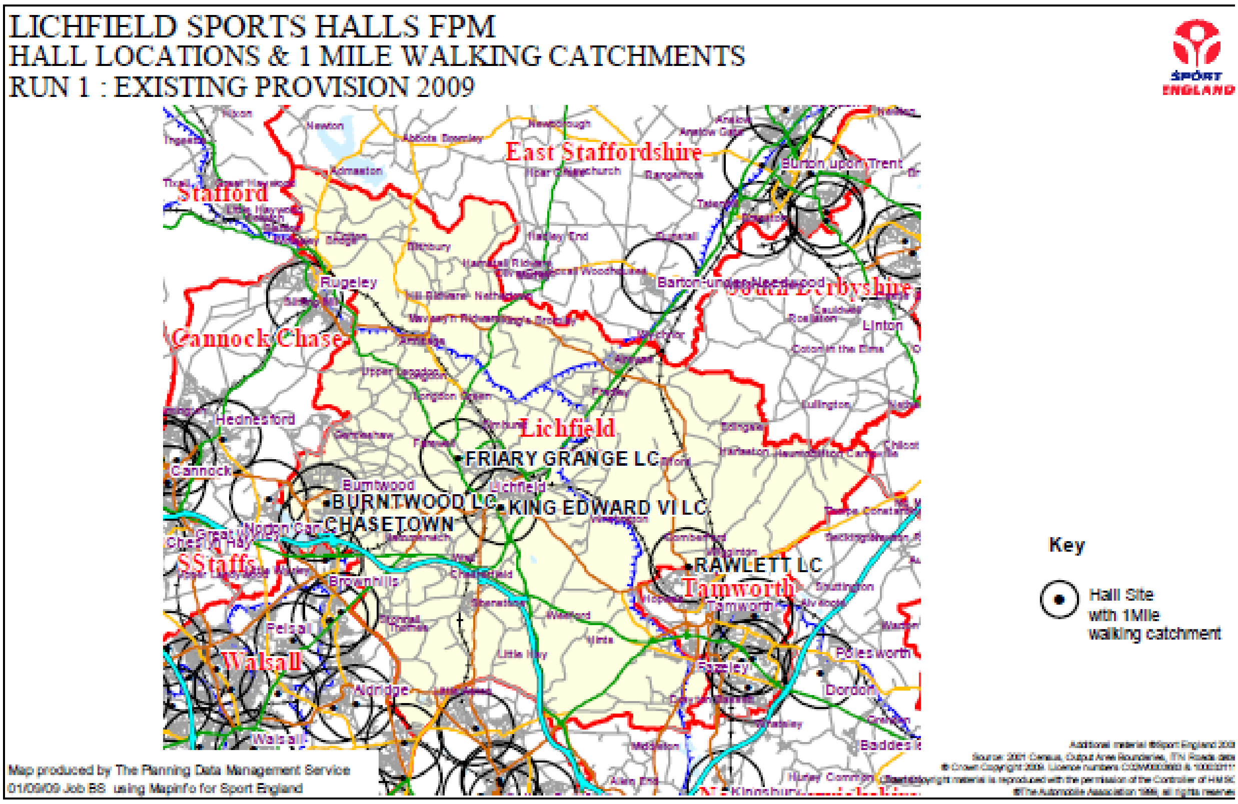
The total supply of badminton courts is just under 29 courts in the 2012 assessment compared to 20 and 26 identified in the 2009 and 2026 reports respectively.

When the badminton courts are assessed in terms of hours available for public use there are just fewer than 25 courts in the 2012 assessment. The same information would be part of the 2009 fpm assessment but it is not set out in the reports.

The key finding on sports hall supply is that the impact of the two additional sports halls in 2012 increases total supply to 5,030 visits in the weekly peak period for public use. This compares with 4,300 visits in the 2009 assessment and the projected total supply in 2026 of 5,500 visits.

The map of the sports halls in the 2009 fpm assessment in Lichfield and their (illustrative) one mile/20 minutes walk to catchment area is set out in map 2 below. Of note is the cluster of sports halls on the Lichfield, Walsall and South Staffordshire boundaries. South Staffordshire and Walsall had a combined 27 sports hall sites in 2009, compared with 5 in Lichfield.

Map 2.2: Location of sports halls Lichfield District and illustrative 1 mile/20 minutes walk to catchment area



<u>*Changes in sports hall supply between 2009 – 2026*</u>

By 2026 it is assumed that a number of committed projects will have been constructed and open for use. These include several new/replaced sports halls in Tamworth as a result of the former BSF programme. At the time of the 2009 fpm assessment it was considered these would happen and the 2026 assessment of supply reflects their inclusion. There is also one new sports hall in each of South Staffordshire, Birmingham and South Derbyshire. In Lichfield a new sports hall at Chase Terrace Technology College will have been opened and it is expected that Rawlett sports hall will have been replaced with a 6-court hall (currently 4) as a result of the Tamworth BSF proposals.

The number of sites will therefore increase from 5 to 6 and the number of courts available will increase from 20 to 26 providing a capacity for 5,500 visits per week in the weekly period, an increase of an additional 1,200 visits over the supply in 2009.

In updating the 2009 assessment, the supply list in the 2012 National Facilities assessment for Lichfield does, as reported above, include 2 additional sports halls and one additional sports hall site from the 2009 supply assessment. If this was to carry forward into the 2026 fpm assessment it would increase that supply total by another 730 visits to a new 2026 total of 6,230 visits.

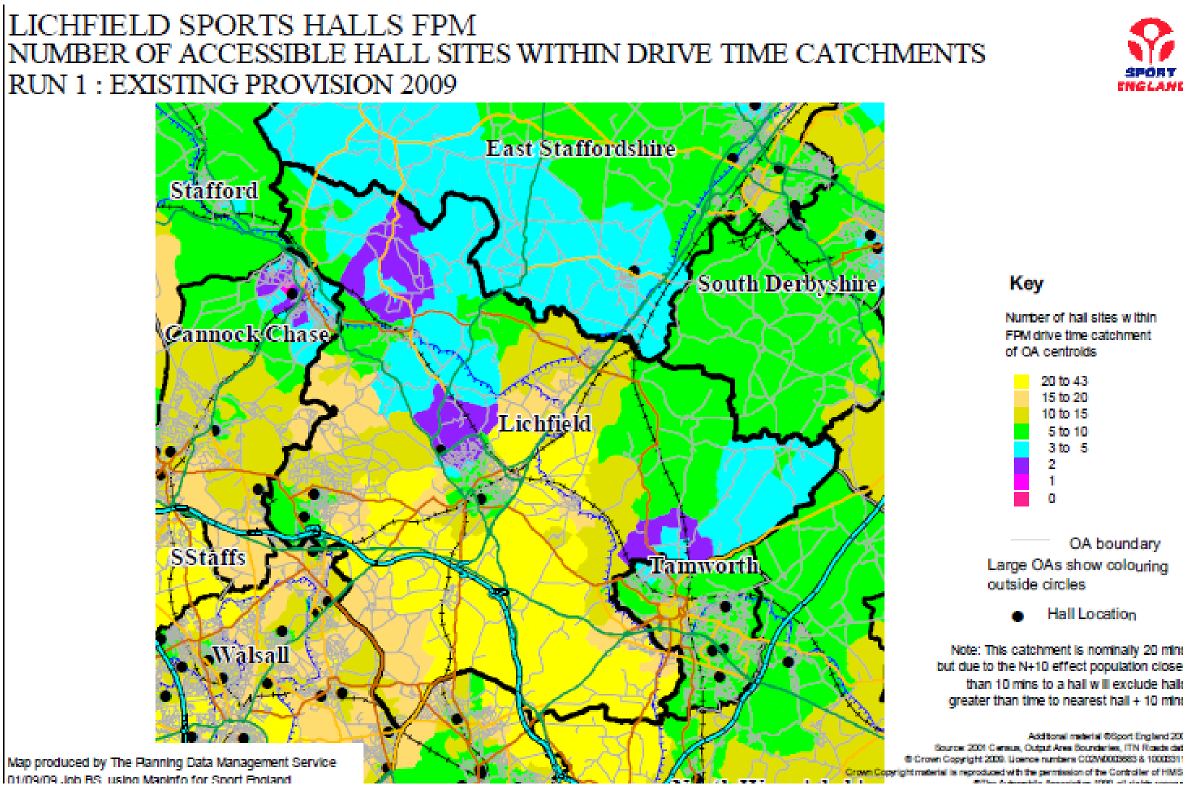
Access to sports halls

The 2009 fpm assessment identified that over 92% of all visits to sports halls were by car. The 2012 National Analysis assessment has visits to sports halls by car at 87%, still by far the dominate travel mode. The 2009 study also identified very good (high) accessibility to sports halls based on this dominate travel mode of car. This is shown in the map below from the 2009 report which illustrates how many sports halls are accessible to the Lichfield population (not all of these sports halls will be in Lichfield District) based on car travel. This map is shown again and is map 2.3 below.

As the map shows most of the district is shaded yellow and in these areas residents have access to over 20 sports halls, based on a 20 minute drive time of where they live. The areas shaded purple have the lowest accessibility to sports halls (2 sports halls) and the areas shaded turquoise have access to between 3 – 5 sports halls.

Apart from showing very high accessibility to sports halls across most of the District it is also showing that precise site locations for any new sports halls based on increasing access by drive time catchment areas is really focused on an area to the north ~~of~~ and south of Lichfield City itself. This is one of the areas of lowest accessibility. There are other areas of the District further north to the boundary with East Staffordshire and in a small area on the Tamworth boundary with the same lower level of accessibility. However the Lichfield City location is the better location because it is in the centre of the District and any increase in provision will be best located for more Lichfield residents, and will import less demand from neighbouring authorities.

Map 2.3: Number of sports halls accessible to the Lichfield population based on car travel



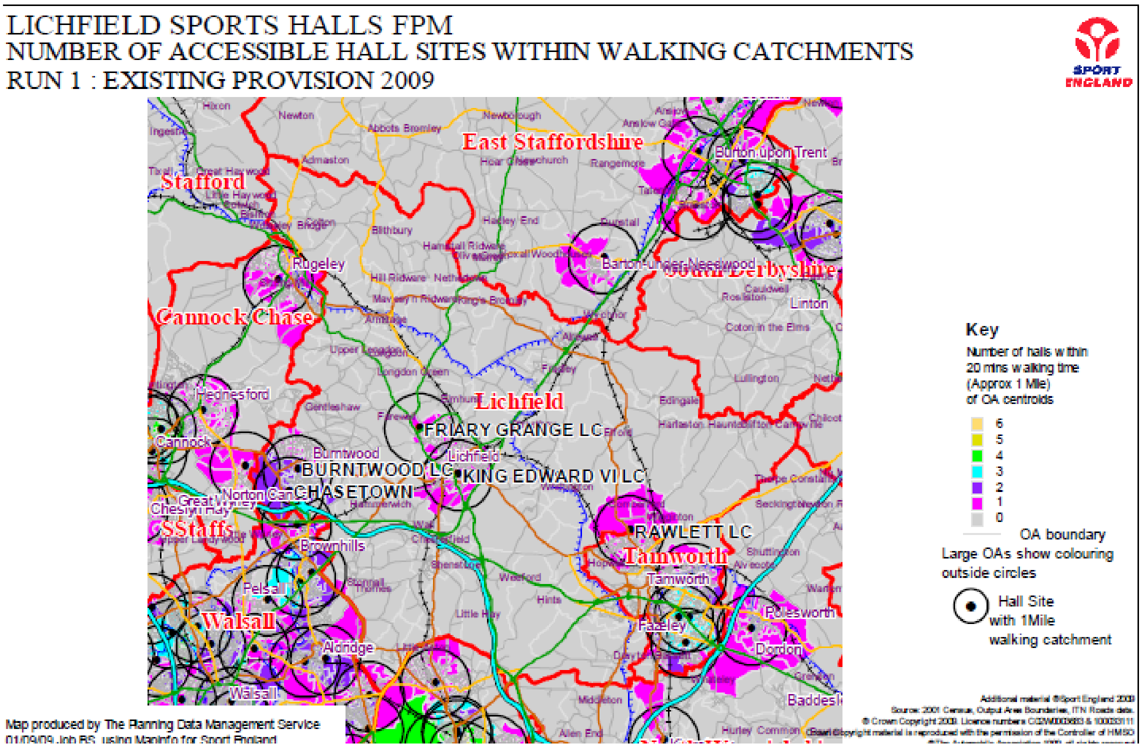
In terms of walking catchment access to sports halls the 2009 fpm assessment identified this to be 6.4% and the 2012 National Analysis identifies this as 8.4% of all visits to sports halls based on the 20 minutes/1mile walking catchment areas. Again this was mapped in the 2009 report and is set out below as map 4. By definition these are very tight catchments immediately around the location of sports halls.

In contrast to the car accessibility map, Lichfield City has (because of the location of Friary Grange Leisure Centre and the King Edward VI Leisure Centre) better access to sports halls than the majority of the District. Across the District the 2009 report assessed that 43% of the Lichfield population lived within the walking catchment area of one sports hall.

For the vast majority of the District the areas are shaded grey which show that in these areas there is no access to any sports halls by the walking catchment area. The 2009 study identified that 45% of the Lichfield population in 2009 lived in these areas – a much bigger land area but a far lower density. Whilst the geographic area showing no access to sports halls by walking catchment is significant, due to the rural nature of many of these areas, this only represents 45% of the overall District population.

Based on these findings if there are any increases in sports halls provision the locations should be around the existing more densely populated urban areas and presumably Lichfield City. This will benefit more residents because as the 2009 study showed the catchment area of the existing sports halls are very small in area but benefit 43% of the 2009 population. Whereas the much larger land area of the District which has no access to sports halls based on the walking catchment only covers 45% of the population. Any new sports hall in these locations is therefore going to benefit fewer residents.

Map 2.4: Number of sports halls accessible to the Lichfield population based on walking catchment areas



Total Demand

Table 2 - Demand	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 1 (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Population	101000	99,000	111,600
Visits demanded –vpwpp	4366	4,350	4,650
Equivalent in courts – with comfort factor included	26.95	26.5	27.1
% of population without access to a car	9.9	10	10

Commentary

As for swimming pools the total demand for sports halls is derived from the total population and the make-up of this population in terms of its age profile, gender and rates and frequencies of participation in hall sports and applied in the assessments. The methodology for assessing demand is the same. However the demand figure will vary depending on the changes in the total population, plus, the changes in the number and age structure of the population over time. For example in 2012 there could be more of the Lichfield population who are in the age range and frequency of playing hall sports than there were in 2009 – or vice versa.

Participation in hall sports is concentrated into a narrower age range than for swimming, predominately in the 16 – 45 age range, whereas swimming has a wider spread of higher participation by age. Also, participation in hall sports is higher by males than females, mainly because of the predominance of five a side football in sports halls. Swimming participation is in most age bands higher by female and is also a more family based activity. All these factors combine to provide the estimate of total demand in each of the three assessments.

As reported under swimming, the 2009 fpm assessment had a Lichfield total population of 99,000 people. The 2012 National Analysis assessment has the Lichfield total population as 101,000 people, so an increase of 2,000 people between the years. The 2026 fpm assessment has a projected Lichfield total population of 111, 600 people. The Lichfield District Local Plan proposed submission July 2012 has a Lichfield total population of 98,700 people (page 13). In discussions with the client there was a recognition this had increased to 101,100people in the March 2013 submitted Local Plan and the 2012 National Analysis assessment of a Litchfield total population of 101,100 is in line with the submitted Local Plan in March 2013.

There is very little variation in the total demand for hall sports over the 3 assessments and years. The 2009 fpm assessment assesses total demand for sports halls to be 4,350 visits in the normal weekly peak period. This increases very marginally to 4,366 visits in the 2012 national analysis assessment. By the 2026 fpm assessment the total demand for sports halls is 4,650 visits. So over the 2009 – 2026 period total demand for sports halls is only estimated to increase by 300 visits, or put another way a 6.8% increase between 2009 – 2026. So a 12,600 increase in population between the two years, which is a 12.7% increase in population there is a 6.8% increase in total demand for sports halls.

These findings illustrate the interaction of increased population growth of 12,600 with the aging of the 99,000 core resident population between 2009 – 2026, to produce the low level of projected increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026 of a total 300 visits.

The 2012 National Analysis assessment is the first part of this projected change and it is estimating an increase of 16 visits from the 2009 fpm assessment of total demand being 4,350 visits in the weekly peak period and increasing 4,366 visits in 2012.

The number of badminton courts generated by the total demand also changes very little over the period 2009 – 2026. There were 26.5 badminton courts in 2009, increasing to 27 badminton courts in 2012 and it remains at this level for 2026, allowing for the comfort factor. The comfort factor is a measure applied by Sport England to assess when sports halls are comfortably and uncomfortably full. A sports hall is assessed to be comfortably full when it reaches 80% of its total capacity. Above this level there is more pressure on the sports hall with less time for set up and take down of equipment between different activities. Plus more pressure/usage on the changing areas and circulation so that the customer experience becomes less attractive.

Finally if the sports hall is overly busy then some activities can be "programmed out" because of the time taken to do equipment changes e.g. gymnastics and martial arts need to factor in set up and take down time for matting of the sports hall. In contrast, a block programme of time for five a side football requires no set up/take down of equipment and can generate more income. So sports halls with very high levels of demand/used capacity can result in a less balanced programme of activities.

<u>Projected 0.5% annual increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026</u>

Outside of the comparisons assessment but included to understand its relevance, is the impact of the projected annual 0.5% increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026, a projected 8.5% increase in hall sports participation between the two years.

This is run 3 in the 2009 fpm analysis and the impact of this projected increase in hall sports participation is to increase total demand from run 2 by an additional 400 visits per week in the weekly peak period and gives a total increase in demand from both population and participation changes of 16% to 5,050 visits.

The percentage increase looks high, however in total visits numbers in the weekly peak period the range is 4,350 visits in 2009 to 5,050 visits in the weekly peak period in 2026, based on an annual 0.5% increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026, so not a high increase in terms of total number of visits. This is underlined by the Sport England estimates of the annual throughput of a 4 badminton court size sports hall being 67,500 visits.

Satisfied Demand

Table 4 - Satisfied Demand	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 1 (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Total number of visits which are met	4099	3900	4,050
% of total demand satisfied	93.9	90	87
% of demand satisfied who travelled by car	87.6	92	92
% of demand satisfied who travelled by foot	8.4	6	7
% of demand satisfied who travelled by public transport	4.1	2	1
Demand Retained	2558	1790	2,400

Table 4 - Satisfied Demand	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 1 (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Demand Retained -as a % of Satisfied Demand	62.4	46	59
Demand Exported	1541	2110	1666
Demand Exported -as a % of Satisfied Demand	37.6	54	41

Commentary

Satisfied demand represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the sports halls from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a facility. The 2009 fpm assessment calculates that 90% of the total demand for sports halls in Lichfield is satisfied demand.

In the 2012 National Analysis assessment this has increased to 93.9% and in the 2026 fpm assessment it is 87% of total demand which is estimated to be satisfied demand. In all three assessments the level of satisfied demand is very high. The reason for the decrease in the percentage of satisfied demand between 2012 and 2026 from 93.9% to 87% is because it is a percentage of a bigger population in 2026. The actual number of visits which are satisfied demand is virtually unchanged it is 4,099 in 2012 and 4,050 in 2026.

As with swimming pools the key overall finding on satisfied demand is that there is a supply of sports halls within Lichfield and within the authorities which surround Lichfield (and which the nearest sports hall to where some Lichfield residents live) to absorb around 90% of the total demand for sports halls from Lichfield residents over all three time periods of assessment. In short, there is a good supply of facilities which are accessible to Lichfield residents and there is enough capacity to absorb around 90% of the total demand for Lichfield residents. Applying the fpm findings and methodology over the period and assessments 2009 – 2026 this does not change.

However and again as with swimming, the assumption in the assessments is that the supply of sports halls is virtually unchanged over this period so whilst quantity and access is OK the quality of the sports halls will need to be maintained. Not only the building structure and plant but in adapting the sports halls to cater for changes in types of activities, for example the potential growth of more individual health and fitness based activities as distinct from team games in traditional sports halls.

In the fpm assessments there is an assumption that over the period in Lichfield a new sports hall at Chase Terrace Technology College will have been opened and it is expected that Rawlett sports hall will have been replaced with a 6-court hall (currently 4) as a result of the Tamworth BSF proposals.

These projects have not been progressed between 2009 and the 2012 assessment and as time goes on the existing sports halls will age and decrease in their attractiveness to customers and this will be reflected in lower levels of satisfied demand. The assumed new/replacement sports halls therefore remain important and they have been included in the 2026 fpm assessment of supply and demand.

As already reported under total demand car travel is the predominate choice of travel mode to sports halls. In 2009 the fpm assessment has this as 92% of all satisfied demand visits are by car. In the 2012 National Analysis this is 87.6%. The reason for the change could be because of a lower percentage of households having access to a car in 2012 than in the 2009 assessment.

The accessibility assessment under the total supply heading has shown that there is very good access to sports halls by car, with most of the District having access to around 20+ sports hall locations based on the car catchment area of 20 minutes. It is only the 20 minutes walk to catchment where there is possibly an issue of inaccessibilty, with 45% of the Lichfield population living outside the 20 minutes/1mile walking catchment of a sports hall in 2009 (figures not available for the 2012 assessment).

This finding has to be tempered by the estimate that in 2009 only 6.4% of all visits to sports halls were by walking and whilst this has increased to 8.4% in the 2012 assessment, it remains a low visit pattern.

Retained Demand

It is possible to estimate how much of the Lichfield satisfied demand for sports halls is met by the sports halls located in Lichfield and this is known as Lichfield retained demand. In the 2009 fpm assessment report this was estimated to be 46% in 2009. This increases to 62% in 2012, based on the two additional sports halls, described under the supply heading which are included in this assessment but were not included in the 2009 fpm assessment. By both assessments Lichfield is retaining a reasonable level of its own demand for sports halls within Lichfield.

Exported Demand

This does mean however that Lichfield is exporting between 38% - 54% (depending on which year) of its own resident demand for sports halls and which is being met outside of Lichfield. This is quite a high percentage and Lichfield is benefiting from the nearest sports halls for some of its residents being located outside the authority but there is enough capacity at these sites to absorb the Lichfield demand.

The 2009 fpm assessment assessed where the Lichfield demand is being exported to and how much. In essence this is 26% exported to East Staffordshire, 17% to Walsall and 8% to Cannock Chase. The high level of exported demand to East Staffordshire and Walsall is not surprising as they have 10 and 21 sports hall sites respectively. This is the highest of any authority after Birmingham's 46 sports hall sites.

The National Analysis data identifies the total level of exported demand but does not set out how much goes to individual authorities so it is not possible to update the 2009 fpm assessment. However it is reasonable to assume this will not have changed much in the proportions going to East Staffordshire and Walsall as there are no changes in sports all provision identified in these authorities at the time of the fpm assessment.

Any reductions in sports hall supply in either of these authorities, as seems very probable given they have very high numbers of sports halls and their own demand is greater than supply will impact on Lichfield. A reduced supply will decrease capacity for export of Lichfield's demand, pushing more of the Lichfield demand back into the authority in areas where residents can access alternative sports halls within a 20 minute drive time of where they live. This will increase the used capacity of Lichfield's sports halls and if these become too full then unmet demand will increase. This set of interrelated findings are set out in some detail because of the high levels of Lichfield's demand for sports halls which is exported in both the 2009 and 2012 assessments.

Unmet Demand

Table 5 - Unmet Demand	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 1 (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Total number of visits in the peak, not currently being met	267	450	600
Unmet demand as a % of total demand	6.1	10	13
Equivalent in Courts - with comfort factor	1.65	3	4
% of Unmet Demand due to ;			
Lack of Capacity -	6.7	38	53
Outside Catchment -	93.3	62	41
Outside Catchment;	93.3	62	41
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	81.2	54	N/A
% of Unmet demand who have access to a car	12.1	8	N/A
Lack of Capacity;	6.7	38	53
% Unmet demand who do not have access to a car	4.7	N/A	N/A
% of Unmet demand who have access to a car	2	N/A	N/A

Commentary

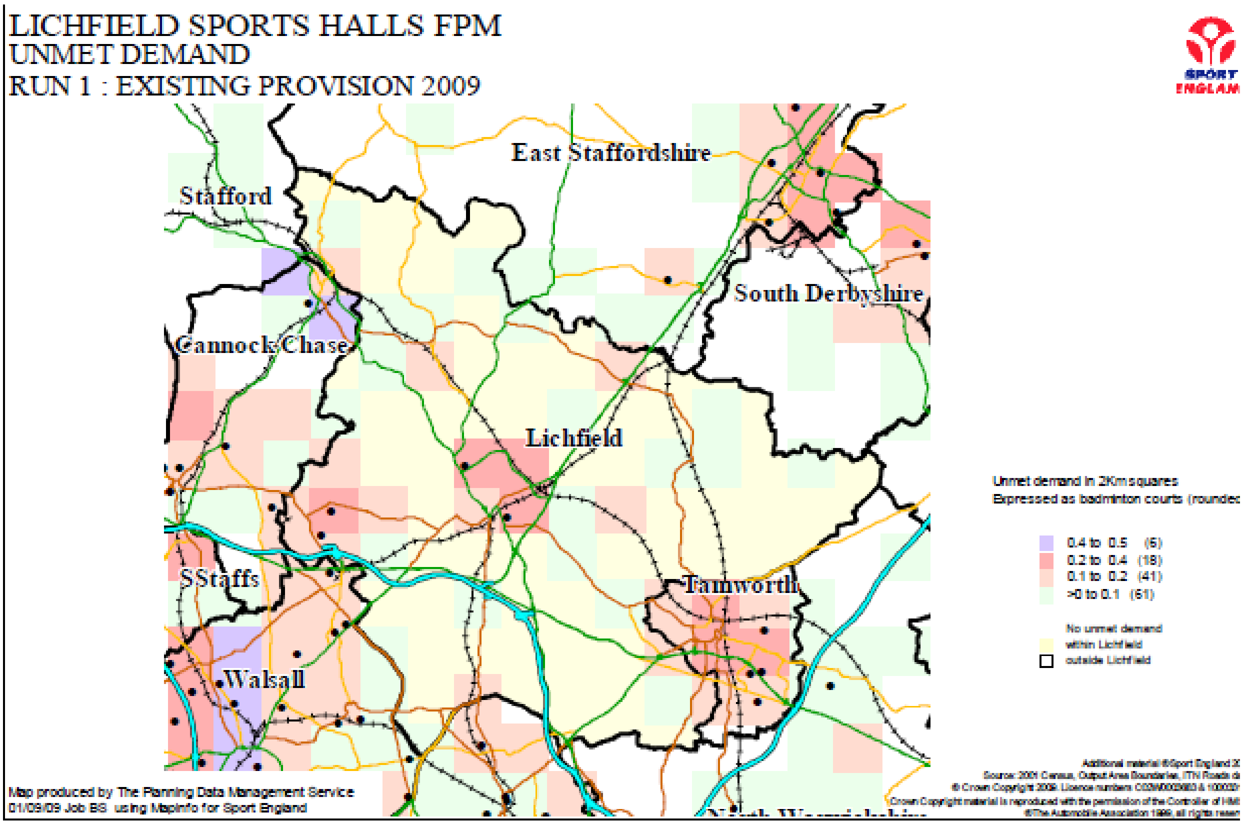
Unmet demand for sports halls has two categories. The first is demand which cannot be met because there is too much demand for the capacity of any particular sports hall within its catchment area to absorb. The second category is demand which is located outside the catchment area of any facility and it is then classified as unmet demand.

Unmet demand Lichfield in the 2009 fpm assessment is 38% because of lack of capacity and 62% because it is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall. The 2012 National Analysis shows a change to 7% of unmet demand is because of lack of capacity and 93% due to it being located outside the catchment area of a sports hall. The reason for the changes are because as reported the 2012 assessment includes 2 sports halls which were excluded in the 2009 assessment, thereby increasing capacity of sports halls in Lichfield.

The most important finding on unmet demand from both assessment and for both categories is that it is low. In 2009 unmet demand equated to 450 visits which equates to 3 badminton courts. In 2012 the total unmet demand is assessed to be 267 visits which is just over 1.5 badminton courts – so it is low in total both years and both categories.

The 2009 assessment mapped the scale and locations of unmet demand and showed it to be focused on the most populated urban areas in the north and east of Lichfield and the centre of Burntwood. This was set out in map 2.3 of that report, map 2.5 in this report and shows this area as shaded salmon pink. In this area the amount of unmet demand does however only account for between 0.2 – 0.4 of a badminton court.

Map 2.5: Scale and location of unmet demand for sports halls. Run 1 2009 fpm assessment.



The level of unmet demand located outside catchment relates to the walk to catchment and to those who do not have access to a car. This represents 54% of the unmet demand outside catchment in the 2009 assessment and 82% in the 2012 assessment. Findings on the scale and location have been set out under the supply heading.

Used Capacity

Table 6 - Used Capacity	Lichfield National Analysis Data (2012)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 1 (2009)	Lichfield FPM Report Findings Run 2 (2026)
Total number of visits used of current capacity	4079	3,650	4650
% of overall capacity of halls used	81.1	84.7	84
% of visits made to halls by walkers	9.8	9	8
% of visits made to halls by road	90.2	91	92
Visits Imported; Number of visits imported	1521	1866	2226
As a % of used capacity	37.3	51.1	47.8
Visits Retained:			
Number of Visits retained	2558	1715	2,400
As a % of used capacity	62.7	46	51.6

Commentary

Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput at sports halls and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. As already referenced under the description of findings under total demand, the facilities planning model is designed to include a 'comfort factor' beyond which sports halls are too full. The model assumes that usage over 80% of capacity is busy and the sports hall is operating at an uncomfortable level.

In the 2009 fpm assessment the percentage of used capacity as an average across the 6 sports halls in Lichfield is 84.7%. So the sports halls are estimated to be above the halls full comfort level. In the 2012 assessment the percentage of used capacity as a District wide average across the 8 sports halls is 81.1%. So a bit lower but still above the sports halls full level of 80% of capacity used. By 2026 the assessment is that with the sports hall changes built into the fpm assessment sports halls will be at 84% of capacity used. So on all three assessments the sports halls are estimated to be too full.

This does suggest that the trend is very much that sports halls are very full now and this is not going to change. To reduce used capacity to a level where there is some headroom (say 70% of capacity used) and also meet the District wide level of unmet demand which was 3 badminton courts in 2009 and 1.5 badminton courts in 2012 presents two options increasing hours of community use at existing sports hall venues – if there is scope to do this, or by new provision if there is not. In terms of locations the assessments for both 2009 and 2012 have not shown there to be one area which is a hot spot for unmet demand.

The scale of provision either new or by increased access to existing sports halls to meet both the unmet demand and create some headroom with lower used capacity overall across the District is a 4 badminton court size sports hall.

Run 3 Impact of the projected 0.5% annual increase in sports hall participation between 2009 – 2026 on used capacity

Before completing the used capacity assessment it is important to consider the impact of the projected annual 0.5% annual increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026 (8.5% increase in total) has on the projected used capacity of sports halls.

This is set out under the run 3 findings in the fpm sports halls report. It says:

'....The used capacity of sports halls unsurprisingly increases from 84% to 87% with the number of visits increasing from 4,650 to 4,750 visits per week in the weekly peak period. The sports halls are now exceedingly busy .Those facilities which are already full (Burntwood, King Edwards and Rawlett) cannot absorb additional demand therefore capacity used at Chase Terrace and Chase Town increase from 59% to 64% and the Friary from 71% to 77%' (page 40).

This assessment of the impact of a projected increase in sports participation further underlines that the sports halls will be full and there is effectively no headroom. If planning future provision is based on this projected increase in sports provision and allied to the other findings under used capacity and unmet demand, it does reinforce the need for more provision. This either by increased access to existing sports halls where there is less than full public use, or by new provision.

Imported Demand

Finally under used capacity is imported demand. This is reported under this heading because the demand imported is represented in the amount of use of Lichfield's sports halls. In the 2009 report this is assessed as being 46% of the used capacity of Lichfield's sports halls. So over half of the 84% of used capacity of sports halls is assessed to be imported. In the 2012 assessment this level increases to 62% of the total 81% of sports hall capacity used. The additional 2 sports halls in the 2012 assessment increase sports hall capacity and attract more imported demand.

Summary of Main Findings on Sports Halls and Way Forward

This section of the report sets out a summary of key findings from the assessment under each of the headings reviewed. This is followed by a section on the way forward

Total Supply

The 2012 National Analysis assessment includes to 2 sports halls not included in the 2009 fpm assessment. These are the Erasmus Darwin Academy which is a 34m x 18m, 4 badminton court main hall and which opened in 2005. Plus a second sports hall at the Chase Technology College. The supply of sports halls in badminton courts in 2012 is 28 compared with 20 in the 2009 fpm assessment.

The two additional sports halls in 2012 increases total supply to 5,030 visits in the weekly peak period, compared with 4,300 visits in the 2009 assessment and 5,500 visits in 2026. In terms of scaling the total number of badminton courts to hours available for public use then there are just under 25 courts. The same information would be part of the 2009 fpm assessment but it is not set out in the reports.

Access to sports halls

The 2009 fpm assessment identified that over 92% of all visits to sports halls were by car. The 2012 National Analysis assessment shows this to be 87%, so a bit less but car travel is still by far the dominant travel mode.

The 2009 study identified very high accessibility to sports halls based on car travel. Most residents have access to over 20 sports halls, based on a 20 minute drive time of where they live. The exception is areas to the north of Lichfield City up to the East Staffordshire boundary residents in this area have access to between 3 – 5 sports halls (map 2 in the report)

The findings in the 2009 fpm assessment report shows that 43% of the Lichfield population live within the 20 minutes/1 mile walking catchment area of one sports hall. However only 6.4% of all visits to sports halls are by walking and this increases to 8.4% of all visits in the 2012 assessment.

Total Demand

As for swimming pools the total demand for sports halls is derived from the total population and the make-up of this population in terms of its age profile, gender and rates/frequencies of participation in hall sports applied in the assessments.

Participation in hall sports is concentrated into a narrower age range than for swimming, predominately in the 16 – 45 age range. Also participation in hall sports is higher by males than females, mainly because of the predominance of five a side football.

The total Lichfield population in the 2009 fpm assessment was 99,000 people. The 2012 National Analysis assessment increases the Lichfield total population to 101,000 people. The 2026 fpm assessment has a projected Lichfield total population of 111, 600 people. The Lichfield District Local Plan proposed submission July 2012 has a Lichfield total population of 98,700 people (page 13). In discussions with the client there was a recognition this had increased to 101,100 people in the March 2013 submitted Local Plan and the 2012 National Analysis assessment of a Litchfield total population of 101,100 is in line with the submitted Local Plan in March 2013.

There is very little variation in the total demand for hall sports over the 3 assessments and years. The 2009 fpm assessment has total demand for sports halls at 4,350 visits in the normal weekly peak period. This increases very marginally to 4,366 visits in the 2012 assessment. By the 2026 fpm assessment total demand for sports halls is 4,650 visits.

So over the 2009 – 2026 period total demand for sports halls is only estimated to increase by 300 visits, or, put another way a 6.8% increase between 2009 – 2026. So a 12,600, which is 12.7% increase between the two years, creates a 6.8% increase in total demand for sports halls.

These findings illustrate the interaction of increased population growth of 12,600 with the aging of the 99,000 core resident population in 2009, to produce the low level of projected increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026 of a total 300 visits.

The number of badminton courts generated by the total demand also changes very little over the period 2009 – 2026. Total demand is 26.5 badminton courts in 2009, increasing to 27 badminton courts in 2012 and remains at this level for 2026.

Projected 0.5% annual increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026

The impact of the projected annual 0.5% increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026, (8.5% increase in total between the two years) is to increase total demand by an additional 400 visits per week to a total in 2026 of 5,050 visits.

So not a high increase in terms of total number of visits. For information the Sport England estimate of the annual throughput of a 4 badminton court size sports hall is 67,500 visits.

Satisfied Demand

Satisfied demand represents the proportion of total demand that is met by the capacity at the sports halls from residents who live within the driving, walking or public transport catchment area of a facility.

The 2009 fpm assessment calculates that 90% of the total demand for sports halls in Lichfield is satisfied demand. This increases to 93.9% in the 2012 assessment and in the 2026 fpm assessment it is 87%. So in all three assessments the level of satisfied demand is very high.

The reason for the decrease in the percentage of satisfied demand between 2012 and 2026 is because it is a percentage of a bigger population in 2026. The actual number of visits which are satisfied demand is virtually unchanged; it is 4,099 in 2012 and 4,050 in 2026.

The key overall finding on satisfied demand is that there is a supply of sports halls within Lichfield and within the authorities which surround Lichfield to absorb around 90% of the total demand for sports halls from Lichfield residents over all three time periods of assessment.

In short, there is a good supply of facilities which are accessible to Lichfield residents and there is enough capacity to absorb around 90% of the total demand for Lichfield residents. Applying the fpm findings and methodology over the 2009 – 2026 assessments this does not change.

As reported under total demand, car travel is the predominant choice of travel mode to sports halls. In the 2009 fpm assessment 92% of all satisfied demand is by car. In the 2012 assessment this is 87.6%. The reason for the change could be because of a lower percentage of households having access to a car in 2012 than in the 2009 assessment.

Retained Demand

It is possible to estimate how much of the Lichfield satisfied demand for sports halls is met by the sports halls located in Lichfield and this is known as Lichfield retained demand. In the 2009 fpm assessment this was estimated to be 46%. This increases to 62% in 2012, based on the two additional sports halls, described under the supply heading which are included in this assessment but were not included in the 2009 fpm assessment. The 2012 assessments show Lichfield is *retaining a reasonable level of its own demand for sports halls.*

Exported Demand

Lichfield is however exporting 38% of its own resident demand for sports halls in the 2012 assessment and this increases to 45% by 2026 - and which is being met outside of Lichfield.

The 2009 fpm assessment assessed where the Lichfield demand is being exported to and how much to which authority. 26% is exported to East Staffordshire, 17% to Walsall and 8% to Cannock Chase. The high level of exported demand to East Staffordshire and Walsall is not surprising as they have 10 and 21 sports hall sites respectively. This is the highest number of sports halls of any authority after Birmingham's 46 sports hall sites.

The 2012 National Analysis data identifies the total level of exported demand but does not set out how much goes to individual authorities so it is not possible to update the 2009 fpm assessment. However it is reasonable to assume this will not have changed much with the majority going to East Staffordshire and Walsall.

Any reductions in sports hall supply in either of these authorities, as seems very probable given they have very high numbers and their own demand is greater than supply will impact on Lichfield. A reduced supply will decrease capacity for export of Lichfield's demand, pushing more of the Lichfield demand back into the authority in areas where residents can access alternative sports halls within a 20 minute drive time of where they live.

This will increase the used capacity of Lichfield's sports halls and if these become too full then unmet demand will increase. This set of interrelated findings are set out in some detail because of the quite high levels of Lichfield's demand for sports halls which is exported.

Unmet Demand

Unmet demand for sports halls has two categories (1) demand which cannot be met because there is too much demand for the capacity of any particular sports hall within its catchment area to absorb (2) demand which is located outside the catchment area of any facility and it is then classified as unmet demand.

In the 2009 assessment unmet demand in Lichfield is 38% because of lack of capacity and 62% because it is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall. The 2012 National Analysis shows a change to 7% of unmet demand because of lack of capacity and 93% due to it being located outside the catchment area of a sports hall.

The reason for the changes are because as reported, the 2012 assessment includes 2 sports halls which were excluded in the 2009 assessment, thereby increasing capacity of sports halls in Lichfield.

The most important finding on unmet demand from both assessment and for both categories is that it is low. In 2009 unmet demand equates to 450 visits which equates to 3 badminton courts. In 2012 unmet demand is 267 visits which equates to just over 1.5 badminton courts.

The 2009 assessment mapped the scale and locations of unmet demand and showed it to be focused on the most populated urban areas in the north of Lichfield City (map 2.5 in the report).

Used Capacity

Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput at sports halls and estimates how well used/how full facilities are. Sport England considers that usage over 80% of capacity is busy and any sports hall operating above this level is then uncomfortably full.

In the 2009 fpm assessment, the percentage of used capacity as an average across the sports halls in Lichfield is 84.7%. So the sports halls are estimated to be above the halls full comfort level.

In the 2012 assessment the percentage of used capacity is 81.1%, so a bit lower but still above the sports halls full level of 80% of capacity used. By 2026 the assessment is that with the sports hall changes built into the fpm assessment between 2009 – 2026 in the surrounding authorities, sports halls will be at 84% of capacity used. So in all three assessments the sports halls are estimated to be too full.

Used capacity - impact of the projected 0.5% annual increase in sports hall participation between 2009 – 2026

The impact of the projected annual 0.5% annual increase in hall sports participation between 2009 – 2026 (8.5% increase in total) has used capacity of sports halls is best reported by the comments from the fpm report itself:

> *'The used capacity of sports halls unsurprisingly increases from 84% to 87% with the number of visits increasing from 4,650 to 4,750 visits per week in the weekly peak period. The sports halls are now exceedingly busy .Those facilities which are already full (Burntwood, King Edwards and Rawlett) cannot absorb additional demand therefore capacity used at Chase Terrace and Chase Town increase from 59% to 64% and the Friary from 71% to 77%' (page 40).*

This assessment of the impact of a projected increase in sports participation further underlines that the sports halls will be very full and there is effectively no headroom.

Imported Demand

Imported demand is reported under the used capacity heading because the demand imported is represented in the amount of use of Lichfield's sports halls. In the 2009 report this is assessed as being 46% of the used capacity of Lichfield's sports halls. Over half of the 84% of used capacity of sports halls is assessed to be imported.

In the 2012 assessment this level increases to 62% of the total 81% of sports hall capacity used. The additional 2 sports halls in the 2012 assessment increase sports hall capacity and attract more imported demand.

Way Forward for Sports Hall Provision 2009 – 2026 and Beyond.

The update of the 2009 fpm assessment report for sports halls compared with the findings from the 2012 National Analysis has not identified any major changes. The baseline information in the 2009 report has followed a trend to 2012 and this continues to 2026.

The 2012 analysis does include 2 more sports halls than in the 2009 assessment and this has affected findings on total supply and some changes in the levels of imported and demand and used capacity.

So the key findings are:

- There is a good balance between overall supply and demand for sports halls. Total supply is greater than total demand through the 2009 – 2026 period

- Total demand only increases by 6.9% over the period whilst total population increases by 12.9%

- Satisfied demand is high with 90% of the Lichfield demand for sports halls being met over the period

- There is very good access to sports halls by car and which is by far the dominate travel mode

- Unmet demand for sports halls is very low, being 3 badminton courts in 2009, reducing to 1.5 badminton courts in 2012 because of the 2 additional sports halls included in that assessment and increasing to 4 badminton courts in 2026. However by 2026 unmet demand is split evenly at 2 badminton courts each between lack of capacity and demand located outside the walking catchment area of any sports hall

So overall, there is a good balance between supply and demand, high satisfied demand, low unmet demand and good access to sports halls.

As with the swimming pool findings, quantity and access look good and the update of the 2009 findings to 2012 confirms consistency in these findings.

The big issues are:

- Used capacity of sports halls is above the Sport England halls full level of 80% of capacity being used throughout the period. It is between 81% - 84% of used capacity. If the assessment based on an annual 0.5% increase in sports participation between 2009 – 2026 is included then used capacity increases to 87%. In short the halls are very full.

- The quality of sports halls will decrease in the building condition and attractiveness to customers between 2009 – 2026. By 2026 Burntwood Leisure Centre will be 24 years old (opened in 2002) and Friary Grange will be 53 years old (opened in 1973. There is modernisation/expansion of some sites Chase Terrace Technology College and Rawlett but in general the sites are aging and the level of use is above the halls full level.

So the issues are the same as for swimming pools, the sports halls are too full in 2009 and even fuller in 2026. The quality of the buildings will decrease as they age and several of the sports halls will be old buildings by 2026. The update of the 2009 fpm assessments to the 2012 national analysis assessments confirms these findings and trends to 2026.

Again and as with swimming pools the balance to be struck is between:

- There is not enough unmet demand, even with the projected 0.5% annual increase in sports hall participation, of a scale to warrant new provision on its own. Unmet demand is within the 3 to 4 badminton courts range between 2009 – 2026.

- However Lichfield is *leaking* around 45% of its demand to sports halls outside the District by 2026. To increase and meet/retain more if its own demand for sports halls within Lichfield, suggests a need to increase capacity in Lichfield

- However the sports halls are full now and remain full to 2026. So sports hall capacity has to be increased to get sports hall used capacity down from the projected 84% used capacity in 2026 and 87% if the increase in hall sports participation does occur. Do this to create some headroom and reduce used capacity to around 70% -75% of sports hall capacity used.

What does this mean in policy terms:

- **Option 1** and as with swimming pools, whilst the option of increasing sports hall provision is not justified in meeting projected increases in total demand and the levels of unmet demand, it is justified in terms of creating some headroom and reducing used opacity of sports halls and in so doing also addressing/improving the quality of sports halls. To reduce used capacity to a level where there is headroom and also meet the District wide level of unmet demand from lack of capacity, which is 2 of the total 4 badminton courts of total unmet demand, suggests two ways of achieving this outcome. Firstly increasing hours of community use at existing sports hall venues – if there is scope to do this. So in effect trying to create additional capacity at existing venues by increasing community hours of use. This could be achieved by any redevelopment of Friary (see preferred swimming pool option) and increasing the sports hall size as part of this.

  The Sport England database identifies the hours of community use at Chase Terrace Technology College to be 21 a week and 37 hours a week at Erasmus Darwin Academy and so there appears to be some but limited scope to increase community hours and also accommodate education use. This has not been investigated with the venues; it is reporting the Sport England data on existing hours of community use.

- **Option 2** the second option is to consider new provision. In terms of potential locations the fpm assessments for both 2009 and 2026 have not shown there to be one area which is a *hot spot* for unmet demand.

The scale of new provision to reduce the used capacity and meet the unmet demand from lack of capacity suggests a 5 badminton court size sports hall and based on the Sport England and National Governing Bodies of sports for the main indoor hall sports.

Lichfield's range of existing sports halls are all 4 badminton court size sports halls with all venues having a main hall of either 33 or 34 metres x 18 metres. The exception being at Rawlett Community Leisure Centre with a 6 badminton court size sports hall.

So any new free standing new provision based on the Sport England model would effectively be more of the same. This is a valid in terms of the scale of provision required to meet the needs of community level sports participation in a building of a scale for the full range of indoor hall sports. It is also a valid scale in terms of the level of unmet demand and achieving the objective of reducing used capacity and creating some headroom.

There is no single location which stands out as the location for a new sports hall. This is based on, firstly, the levels of unmet demand not identifying any one hot spot and secondly the findings on accessibility to sports hall findings. Namely the 2009 fpm assessment identified that over 92% of all visits to sports halls were by car. The 2012 National Analysis assessment shows this to be 87%, so a bit less but car travel is still by far the dominant travel mode. Based on these finding all locations within Lichfield are accessible by the very dominant travel mode to sports halls, which is by car. Therefore the choice of location is defined on other factors e.g. what is most cost and sports effective and deliverable. This could be in partnership with a school who do not have a sports hall facility and are prepared to work in partnership with the Council to deliver community use. Netherstowe School would be a priority in this context for any new sports hall development.

Option two the development of a new sports hall at Netherstowe School represents the way forward to deliver future sports hall alongside the refurbishment and extension of the sports hall at Friary Grange as part of any site redevelopment proposals. This is in line with the needs assessment and presents a sustainable way forward. The developments set out will provide Lichfield with a modern sports hall stock in line with future needs.

Set out in the next section is the Active Places analysis of health and fitness provision across Lichfield. It is evident that in any new build or redevelopment project the provision of health and fitness facilities can add to the facility mix, support the sustainability and help fund any development.

Health and Fitness Facilities

Quantity

According to the latest Active Places Power (APP) data, there are 10 health and fitness centres in Lichfield District as set out in the table below. Of these one has closed and a further three are in private use only. The provision is relatively modest, the Council provision totalling just 85 stations. The main provision is the Lichfield Health and Racquets Club, which is a Virgin Centre.

There are 351 stations available for the wider community, 86 in pay and play use (25%) in LA and joint provision management, 255 for registered members (73%) on commercial sites, and 10 (3%) at a local sports club. Members clubs and those used by local sports clubs are not necessarily available to the wider community (and therefore weighted down 50%), so the effective number of *public* stations in the district is 219.

Site Name	Number	Access Type	Ownership /Management	Year Built/refurb
BURNTWOOD LEISURE CENTRE	55	Pay and Play	Local Authority/in house	2002/2009
CHASETOWN LEISURE CENTRE (CLOSED)	40	Pay and Play	Commercial	1989/2000
FRIARY GRANGE LEISURE CENTRE	31	Pay and Play	Community school/LA in house	1973/2005
LICHFIELD GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB	60	Registered Membership use	Commercial	2007/no
LICHFIELD HEALTH & FITNESS CLUB	55	Registered Membership use	Commercial	1982/2004
LICHFIELD HEALTH & RACQUETS CLUB	140	Registered Membership use	Commercial	2000/2003
LICHFIELD RUFC LTD	10	Sports Club / Community Association	Sports Club	1985/2010
ERASMUS DARWIN ACADEMY	15	Private Use	Foundation School/in house	2005/2007
HORIZON SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM	12	Private Use	Independent SEN School/in house	2002/no
SWINFEN HALL PRISON	29	Private Use	Government/other	2005/no
Total	**351**			
Lichfield District	**High Peak District**	**Hinckley and Bosworth District**	**South Staffordshire District**	**Stafford District**
10	**14**	**14**	**12**	**17**

In comparison with Lichfield's nearest comparator LAs, there are slightly fewer centres, but these totals take into account all facilities on the database irrespective of availability and operational status.

Demand Assessment

There is no 'model' for assessing demand, although the Fitness Industry Association has devised a model that provides guidance on the supply of stations against the current anticipated demand.

The model defines health and fitness users as all people participating in health and fitness, including private club members and users of local authority facilities. The model is based on peak period demand, and the peak times are identified as follows:

- Mon-Fri, 6pm – 10pm
- Sat-Sun, 12pm – 4pm

For modelling purposes, it is assumed that 65% of the total weekly usage occurs at the busiest (peak) time periods. Based on research with health and fitness operators it has been assumed that the average member/user visits the facility 2.4 times per week.

Sport England's Active People Survey has been used to understand the percentage of the population participating in health and fitness. Nationally, Active People shows that 10.6% of the population participate in health and fitness on a weekly basis – this figure has been used to reflect the local situation, based on APS data.

Standard	Value	Total
Population (over 16)		81,000
% of population participating in health and fitness	10.6%	8586
Average number of visits per week	2.4	20606
No. of visits in peak time	65%	13394
No. of visits on one hour of peak time	28	478
TOTAL NO. OF STATIONS REQUIRED (PEAK TIME)		**478**

This shows that, on this basis, a total of about 480 stations are required during the peak time period to accommodate estimated levels of demand. According to Active Places Power the current supply is 351 (or 219 if relative accessibility to the public is included), which equates to a significant deficit of 140-260 stations.

Quality

Information on the quality of health and fitness facilities is taken from APP which highlights age of facility, and refurbishment, and enables this aspect to be used as a proxy for quality.

Of the 6 centres currently available with some community use, all have been built or refurbished in the last 10 years, overall the quality of health and fitness centres can be said to be good.

Health and Fitness Summary

From the information and demand tools available, there appears to be a shortfall of health and fitness stations in Lichfield, both in comparison with other neighbouring LAs and compared with FIA requirements. There are additional health and fitness facilities, which are not included on Active Places and have emerged since the original analysis, at Fradley (Eezegym), Lichfield (Gymaphonics and Shires Industrial Estate). These are small scale facilities and will not impact on the overall conclusion of the potential for increased health and fitness provision. This would require further detailed investigation but there appears to be scope to increase the health and fitness offer in any future new build or refurbishment project.

Supply and Demand Summary

There is low unmet demand for both pools and halls now and in the future. However used capacity is high and quality is going down, population growth will impact further on this position. So overall the way forward is to address all of these issues and not just focus on unmet or new demand. This can best be achieved by refurbishing and upgrading existing provision. There are a number of potential options as previously set out.

Based on the updated fpm analysis the more sustainable options are to improve/increase capacity at existing venues to meet the levels of unmet demand and reduce used capacity, create some headroom and improve quality at existing venues – assuming this is possible on these sites. This is more defendable in policy terms and is more acceptable in asking for contributions based on the evidence findings. New build additional provision could be considered over scaled and contradictory in terms of the evidence base findings.

We know however that in terms of swimming there will need to be a longer term objective of increasing water space as the flexibility for 'shifting use' may be more difficult to achieve in reality.

The refurbishment and extension of Friary Grange Pool therefore presents the way forward to deliver future swimming pool provision needs. This is in line with the needs assessment and presents a sustainable way forward. The Council are committed to Friary Grange through the current Sport England funded refurbishment. In the medium to long-term further investment should be prioritised at the site to increase the water area and therefore capacity with the addition of a shallow water training / learner pool. This longer term proposal alongside the current refurbishment plans will provide Lichfield with a modern pool in line with future needs.

The development of a new sports hall at Netherstowe School represents the way forward to deliver future sports hall provision alongside the refurbishment and extension of the sports hall at Friary Grange as part of any site redevelopment proposals. This is in line with the needs assessment and presents a sustainable way forward. The developments set out will provide Lichfield with a modern sports hall stock in line with future needs.

As part of any refurbishment and redevelopment policy there is the potential to increase health and fitness provision to meet the shortfalls set out. The assessment of the scale of this should form part of a business case appraisal. Additional health and fitness provision may also help to fund development.

Set out in the final section of this report are the implications of the recommended approach in terms of funding and delivery.

3. Summary and Conclusions

Introduction

The needs assessment work looked at supply and demand, consultation and utilised Sport England planning tools. Previous PPG17 Companion Guide guidance advocated the need to adopt a standards approach to facility provision. The NPPF is focussed on the delivery of specific facility needs and the needs assessment work therefore concludes with an understanding of the surpluses and deficiencies across Lichfield and a list of priority projects clearly related to the evidence base to deliver these gaps.

The updated needs assessment work based on the fpm analysis therefore sets out the following priorities for Lichfield.

- Refurbishment of Friary Grange (on-going)
- Redevelopment and extension of Friary Grange to provide new training / teaching pool, health and fitness suite extension and potential sports hall extension. Business Case to be developed to define final scope of re development
- Development of new 4-court sports hall at Netherstowe School

Set out in the table below is an analysis of costs based on the Sports England Facility Kitbag Costs (2nd quarter 2012). The costs represent indicative totals as with refurbishment a more detailed local cost analysis would need to be undertaken and a more bespoke costing, based on actual scheme designs and development would need to be worked up.

Project	Costs	Comment
Refurbishment of Friary Grange	£400k	• Changing room refurbishment • Project funded through Sport England Improvement Fund
Redevelopment and extension of Friary Grange	Pool £735,000 General redevelopment £765,000	• Pool costs based on 17m x 7m pool (119 sqm) • Additional costs are an estimate of potential wider redevelopment
New 4 court hall at Netherstowe School	£2,845,000	• Based on Sport England new 4 court dimensions of 34.5m x 20m
Total	**£4,745,000**	• Provide a gauge of approximate costs for planning purposes • Will be dependent on the Business Case for the redevelopment of Friary Grange

The approximate costs of delivering the leisure infrastructure requirements for Lichfield are therefore £5m.

Delivery will be through a combination of contributions, grant, capital, potential ‘spend to save’ through health and fitness and contributions through any alternative provision. Detailed delivery routes are set out below.

Delivery

The capital funding picture for municipal leisure facilities is in a state of flux. Local authority finances are stretched and previous major national funding programmes such as Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and Regional Development Agency pots are no longer available. However, whilst major national strategic pots of money may no longer be in place there are still significant opportunities. Individual school capital grants have replaced BSF and Sport England now has more clearly defined capital available through its *Places to Play* Legacy funding programmes.

Using assets innovatively will be a key feature of the next few years. Working in partnership on a multi-agency approach will be important. The government is also seeking to ease planning red tape and encourage local communities to realise assets to deliver community benefits. This could mean the sale of surplus land and sites for housing and commercial uses, with receipts being released to fund prioritised community assets, which could include sports provision. The new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides opportunities for investment through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

Given the potential level of funding required to refurbish or re-develop the leisure facility infrastructure across Lichfield it is therefore likely that investment will only be achieved through a combination of opportunities.

The main funding delivery mechanisms for Lichfield are likely to be:

- Council funding. Including capital, use of capital receipts from the sale of assets and contributions from the developers through S106 and CIL.

- Capital Grant funding from national agencies such as Sport England and the Football Foundation. National Governing Body (NGB) support could also be available to develop specific specialist facilities

- Capital financing. Funding capital through the forecast operational surplus, potential exists to develop financing packages as part of future procurement process. This is in common use, where operators are asked as part of their consideration, to fund developments of health and fitness suites and small refurbishments of existing leisure centre sites.

- Prudential Borrowing or 'spend to save'. The local authority may choose to use revenue savings to borrow monies direct for capital development, which is more often than not cheaper than an operator. £1 million in capital generally equates in broad terms to £70-80,000 / year pay back over 25 years.

The final two options are clearly linked to a fresh management and procurement route being adopted by the Council, which may link into the Council's *'fit for the future programme'* and the potential opportunity of increased health and fitness provision to fund development.

Planning Policy

The new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), introduced in May 2012 provides potentially significant funding opportunities. The objectives are:

- To make the planning process more accountable/led by local organisations in determining what is needed and best for local areas.

- To streamline and simplify planning policies and the planning process. There were over 40 free standing National Planning Policy documents, these are now all condensed into one National Planning Policy Planning Framework.
- PPG 17 was the planning policy framework for sport, open space and recreation and was 14 pages long. PPG 17 is now absorbed into the NPPF and it has just 3 specific paragraphs on the same subject matter as PPG 17.

As part of the NPPF local authorities still however have to prepare and maintain a development plan for their area, but this is now re-named as a Local Plan not a Core Strategy. Local neighbourhoods e.g. a Parish Council can decide and apply to develop their own Neighbourhood Plan based on what the local neighbourhood considers to be best for their area. The neighbourhood plan still however has to relate to the wider local authority local plan, but there is perhaps more flexibility and decision making on who decides what is best for a local area.

What is critical is that all plans have to develop a *needs and evidence base* to substantiate their policies and proposals. Based on this need and evidence, Developers have to pay for necessary 'add-ons' to their main development, e.g. streets and road lighting needed as part of new housing developments.

Previously the main source of finance was via Section 106 Agreements which are negotiated separately for each planning consent.

In 2010 Government introduced the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which is an optional new levy that local authorities in England and Wales can choose to charge on new developments in their area. CIL money can be used to pay for infrastructure needs which arise from new development. CIL differs from Section 106 Agreements because CIL is authority wide, is paid by all new development over 100sq.m (subject to some exemptions) and is a levy with a set rate charged per square metre. This rate is determined locally taking viability considerations into account, and is subject to independent examination. This can be a flat rate or variable for different types or locations of development and are determined taking into account evidence on economic viability. Infrastructure evidence is a key part of the process as CIL cannot be levied unless a clear funding gap can be demonstrated between available funding sources and the costs of the infrastructure needing to be provided.

Local authorities choosing to implement CIL have been encouraged to have their CIL in place by April 2014 (although Government is consulting on extending this to April 2015) as after this date the scale and role of S106 agreements will be reduced, meaning no piece of infrastructure can be funded by more than five pooled S106 contributions. Whilst Lichfield District has benefitted from S106 monies in the past, the only way to ensure that developments continue to contribute strategic infrastructure in the future will be through CIL, with infrastructure priorities being detailed via a 'Regulation 123' List which indicates the priorities for CIL funding.

As set out, key to securing and administering funding through CIL will be the development of a robust needs and evidence base in terms of providing further detail and options for delivery. CIL will be a limited resource, and there will be many calls upon this resource to deliver a wide range of infrastructure needs. It is therefore important that clear information is available to enable decision-makers to make informed choices when allocating these resources at the local level, using resources as efficiently and as effectively as possible when addressing local infrastructure needs arising from development. This updated study will provide the Council with this evidence base and stand it in good stead to maximise the contribution of future CIL funding to the delivery of leisure infrastructure

CIL has three main tests and based on the analysis set out for Lichfield the following is evident, in terms of likely contributions to leisure through this process.

The table below sets out the community infrastructure levy tests and how they apply to Lichfield.

CIL Test	Comments
The new provision is necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms	• The fpm findings for pools and halls support a refurbishment strategy and the need to invest in the existing infrastructure. • The needs and evidence clearly sets out that the future facility infrastructure will come under increasing pressure and will struggle to cope with the impact of population growth • Investment will be required to increase the capacity and quality of the existing facility infrastructure to cope with the demands of growth • The needs and evidence clearly illustrates the need to refurbish and redevelop existing stock, with the priority projects identified on page 50.
The new provision is directly related to the development	• Analysis clearly shows how any developments in Lichfield will add to the pressures on infrastructure across the district given the catchment and ease of travel across the area • Projected population increase matches housing growth projections so needs relate to housing developments
The new provision is fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development	• As pools and halls are already 'nearly full' future capacity of facilities will be impacted by any developments of whatever scale • All scale of developments will increase the impact on the capacity and quality of provision

There are different ways that swimming pool and sports hall needs directly related to housing development can be assessed. Sport England has developed the sports facility calculator (SFC) which projects a scale of need for each facility type based on the projected population change over a defined period. It is demand based and simply setting put what a total population increase will generate in terms of the scale of demand for each facility type based on applying this population increase to current rates and frequencies of sports participation in swimming and hall sports.

The Lichfield District Local Plan sets out the proposed level of housebuilding to take place in the District to 2028 which, in turn, will increase population over the plan period in the District. In 2012 the total population is 101,100 people and by 2026 it is projected to increase to 112,000 total population. So an increase of 11,000 people (rounded). Application of the Sport England sports facility calculator (SFC) assessment to a population of 11,000 to identify the scale of sports facility provision it will generate is set out below in table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1 Sport England Sports Facility Calculator: Scale of provision generated by a population of 11,000 people

Facility Type	SFC Analysis
Pools	• 113.87 sqm • 2.14 lanes • 0.54 pools
Halls	• 2.94 courts • 0.74 halls

The table shows the population increase generates a demand for 113 sq metres of water and circa 3 badminton courts. These figures will differ from the facility planning model assessment because the fpm assessment is based on assessing future need by comparing both supply and demand. Whereas the SFC assessment is only a demand assessment – what does x population increase generate in terms of new demand. What it illustrates however is that the scale of development is in line with the priority project identified on page 50 and can be attributed to the housing growth.

Furthermore the facility planning model assessments have identified for swimming pools:

- The used capacity of pools of pools is above the Sport England comfort level of pools full level at 70% of pool capacity used in 2009 and this remains so by 2026. The projected annual 0.5% increase in swimming participation between 2009 – 2026 would make the pools very uncomfortably full – to 78% of pool capacity used

- Lichfield is *leaking* around 40% of its demand to pools outside the District up to 2026. To increase and meet more if its own demand for swimming within Lichfield, then there is a need to increase in swimming pool capacity

Whilst for sports halls the facility planning model assessments have identified:

- By 2026 the used capacity of sports halls will be at 84% of the total capacity used. This is 4% above the Sport England halls full comfort level of 80% of capacity used. If the assessment based on a projected annual 0.5% increase in sports participation 2009 – 2026 then used capacity increases to 87%. In short the halls are very full. The study report is not based on the projected 0.5% annual increase in participation but applies the current rate. However it is illustrative of the impact of increasing rates of participation exacerbating the situation where the sports halls are already very full

- Lichfield is *leaking* around 45% of its demand to sports halls outside the District by 2026. To increase and meet/retain more if its own demand for sports halls within Lichfield, suggests a need to increase capacity in Lichfield.

So the facility planning model assessments have identified the need to increase both swimming pool and sports hall capacity, so as to reduce used capacity and create some headroom to accommodate the projected growth in population from new housing growth. Furthermore the facility planning model assessment has identified the need for this increase in provision so as to accommodate more of the Lichfield demand up to 2026 and reduce the current high levels of imported demand for both swimming pools and sports halls.

These facility planning model findings have to be considered and assessed alongside the contributions directly related to the new housing developments; this has been calculated using the Sport England Sports Facility Calculator (SFC). The SFC has been created to help local planning authorities quantify how much additional demand for key community sports facilities would be generated by increased population growth. The SFC does not however take account of supply and this is why the facility planning model analysis and key findings have been also included here to provide this more rounded assessment. The SFC also identifies the costs in relation to the development of new facilities, based on Q2 2011 building cost estimates.

The table below summarises the costs arising from growth requirement of key known sites and should provide the basis of discussions with developers in terms of contributions.

Development	Dwellings	Population*	Hall Courts	Hall Contribution	Pool Area	Pool Contribution	Source
South of Lichfield	450	1,035	0.28	£180,482	10 sqm	£141,329	**s106**
East of Lichfield	750	1,725	0.46	£300,804	17 sqm	£235,548	**s106**
Fradley remainder	250	575	0.15	£100,268	5.95 sqm	£78,516	**s106**
East of Burntwood Bypass	375	863	0.23	£150,489	8.93 sqm	£117,842	**s106**
North of Tamworth	1,000	2,300	0.62	£401,072	23.81 sqm	£314,065	**CIL**
East of Rugeley	450	448	0.12	£78,122	4.64 sqm	£61,174	**CIL**
Others	1,425	3,278	0.88	£571,615	33.93 sqm	£447,610	**CIL**
Total	**4,700****	**10,224*****	**2.74**	**£1,782,852**	**104.26 sqm**	**£1,366,084**	-

the District Council Local Plan household formation rate is 2.3 people per household
*****the total planned housing growth on Strategic sites is 4,700 dwellings up to 2028***
******this is in line with projected growth of circa 11,000***

The Council will need to decide how it allocates these to particular priority projects identified on page 50. As set out in the CIL tests, developments across Lichfield can be legitimately applied district wide. Up to five s106 contributions can be pooled. However the Council will need to decide how it parcels its contribution requests.

Capital Grant

In 2010 Sport England launched the £135m Places People Play initiative which was designed to deliver *'an Olympic and Paralympic legacy of increased sports participation by bringing the magic of a home Games into the heart of local communities.'* Whilst the Games is over the funding is still in place. It is being delivered by Sport England in partnership with the British Olympic Association, the British Paralympic Association, with the backing of The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

In terms of major capital provision for local authority facilities, the Iconic Facilities programme is perhaps the most relevant, although this has now ceased and it remains to be seen what will take its place. The Iconic Facilities fund was designed to direct capital investment into a small number of strategic facility projects that will significantly contribute to an increase in mass participation in sport across England. Typical awards were between £1-3m and Sport England has suggested a new large scale programme will take its place. The new Iconic programme may be focussed on local authority facility development based around a strategic approach, criteria which Lichfield would meet through the strategic feasibility work.

Since the launch of the Places People Play programme Sport England have launched an additional funding strand. Over the next five years from 2012-2017, the *Improvement Fund* will invest £45m of National Lottery funding into medium-sized projects that will improve the quality and experience of sport. This will be distributed via five funding rounds with £3m available this year (2012/2013), £9m in 2013/2014 and £11m per year in 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017. It is part of Sport England's new strategy which is focused on helping more people acquire lifelong sporting habits. The Improvement Fund will award grants worth £150,000 to £500,000 into sustainable projects with a clear local need. Lichfield have already benefited from this for the refurbishment of Friary Grange.

The Improvement Fund bridges the gap between the Iconic Facilities fund which invests in large-scale, multi-sport facilities and the Inspired Fund which supports small-scale community clubs. In its first round Sport England are focusing on projects that will improve:

- Artificial grass pitches (AGPs)
- Swimming pool changing rooms.

Not only are these improvements relatively quick and straightforward to carry out, but Sport England research shows they can also make a big impact on encouraging more people to play and keep playing popular sports such as football and swimming.

The Improvement Fund would appear to present significant funding opportunities for Lichfield and the potential upgrade and refurbishment opportunities identified as part of this study. With the clear needs and evidence base in place there would appear to be significant potential to bid and secure funding through this source.

Sport England also funds national governing bodies to deliver key outcomes of grow, sustain and excel and provides significant funding support to help them achieve this. National governing bodies of sport (NGBs) are at the heart of Sport England's strategy as it is their networks of community clubs, coaches and volunteers that make sport happen. Sport England are investing £450 million through 46 governing bodies over the next four years and are currently agreeing grow, sustain and excel targets with each one. Each sport has to develop a *Whole Sport Plan* (WSP) that explains how it will use this money to achieve these targets.

The outcomes of this process were set out in early 2013 when NGBs discovered their funding allocations and WSPs agreed for 2013-17. The plans include only a small element of capital funding however, typically £2-3m over the four year life of the plan for the larger sports.

The Football Foundation also presents a final opportunity for significant grant funding to support facility development across the authority. Clearly the focus of the fund is on football. The Football Foundation is the UK's largest sports' charity. Funded by the Premier League, The Football Association and the Government, the Foundation directs £30m every year into grass roots sport. The Foundation provides grants for a number of different things the most relevant to Lichfield is the Facilities scheme, which provides money to develop new or improved facilities for community benefit. These include changing rooms or clubhouses, grass or artificial pitches and multi-use games areas.

The facilities scheme gives grants for projects that:

- Improve facilities for football and other sport in local communities.
- Sustain or increase participation amongst children and adults, regardless of background age, or ability.
- Help children and adults to develop their physical, mental, social and moral capacities through regular participation in sport.

The types of facilities, which are funded include:

- Grass pitches drainage/improvements
- Pavilions, clubhouses and changing rooms
- Artificial turf pitches and multi-use games areas
- Fixed floodlights for artificial pitches.

The Foundation also provide development (revenue) grants to deliver football development associated with the new facility e.g. coaching, football development officer etc.

The maximum grant available from the Foundation for each facilities project is £500,000 and applicants must show they have tried hard to get other funding for the project and that there is no further money available..

Capital Financing

Capital investment from an operator is a further opportunity to leverage capital into the proposed schemes. This can be on a number of levels – for example, there are leisure facility schemes across the country that have been funded via PPP-type arrangements, with a private sector consortium designing, building, financing and operating the leisure facilities, in return for a Unitary Payment (annual management fee) from the local authority. At a lower level, a number of leisure operators have the balance sheet strength and funding arrangements in place to invest £1-2m in refurbishment projects or as partnership funding in a larger development. A fresh options appraisal would help to conclude whether investment in the existing infrastructure could be delivered through this route. This may need to be part of the Fit for the Future programme.

However, the cost of this capital tends to be significantly higher than the cost of capital to a local authority, making it more expensive in terms of revenue repayments and also making the deal more complex in procurement terms. If an operator is using a third party financing arrangement, for example Alliance Leisure or Serco Paisa, then the third party funder will often also require a direct guarantee from the local authority.

Operator equity investment will normally require returns in the order of 10-15%, whilst debt financing can be anything between 7 and 10% return required. Also, the period over which the money can be borrowed has become more restricted in recent years, with the majority of funding now spread over 10 years or less.

Alongside direct capital provision, operators can also utilise their existing partnerships to provide new equipment, particularly in relation to health & fitness, which can be on a lease basis and thus reducing the up-front capital cost.

Prudential Borrowing

Finally, the Council retains the option to utilise its prudential borrowing powers to borrow on a 'spend to save' basis, against anticipated improvements in net revenue from the facilities. The Council will need to confirm their treasury management position and comfort with a 'spend to save' proposition, but essentially this route should provide better value for money than utilising private sector investment, with financing rates in the region of 4-5%, which compares very favourably to the private sector returns noted above. Borrowing £1m on a spend to save basis would normally incur repayments in the order of £70-80,000 per annum, over a 20-25 year period. Again further work would be required and a detailed business case developed depending on the final option chosen.

Conclusion

The study has updated the 2009 facility planning model needs assessment work based on the fpm analysis for swimming pools and sports halls to 2012. Then reviewed these updated 2012 findings alongside the facility planning model assessment to 2026. These collective assessments set out the following priorities for Lichfield:

- Refurbishment of Friary Grange (on-going)

- Redevelopment and extension of Friary Grange to provide new training / teaching pool, health and fitness suite extension and potential sports hall extension. Business Case to be developed to define final scope of re development

- Development of new 4-court sports hall at Netherstowe School

The approximate costs of delivering the leisure infrastructure requirements for Lichfield are around £5m.

The study places the assessment of future provision needs in the context of National Planning Policy Guidance and how the analysis undertaken does comply with and meet the tests/requirements of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The report sets out the funding contributions which could be sought from developers based on the planned new housing development growth across the District up to 2026 and application of the Sport England sports facility calculator, with the facility planning model key findings supply and demand findings as context for these separate sports facility calculator assessments.

Finally the study sets out other funding sources to meet this funding requirement which could be delivered through a combination of, potential ‘spend to save’ through health and fitness and capital grant aid programmes.

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