

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES: NEEDS ASSESSMENT

REPORT: OCTOBER 2020

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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INTRODUCTION

Canterbury City Council (CCC) appointed Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) to undertake an assessment of formal indoor sports facility needs across the District to assist it to strategically plan for the future via an Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy (ISFS). The overall aim is to locate the right sport and physical activity facilities in the right places to ensure that the maximum number of local people take part in regular, meaningful physical activity whilst achieving short, medium and longer-term financial goals. The objectives of the ISFS are to:

- ◀ Provide a robust up to date needs assessment which support the Council and to meet the requirement of the amended National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- ◀ Build upon the needs and demands of the local population that will grow in line with the changes defined by the Local Plan from 2019-2037.
- ◀ Act as a catalyst for action by the Council and key stakeholders for potential joint investment in sport and physical activity facilities.

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

It should be noted that 'Canterbury' refers to the district unless specified as Canterbury City.

1.2: Background

The City of Canterbury is part of a local government district with city status located in east Kent, approximately 55 miles east-southeast of London.

Canterbury itself is a historic English cathedral city comprising 26 parishes. The district is largely rural, with a coastal strip, coastal seaside towns and beaches. Canterbury is a popular tourist destination (one of the most-visited cities in the UK) and the City's economy is heavily reliant on tourism. There is a substantial student population as a result of the presence of the University of Kent, Canterbury Christ Church University, the University for Creative Arts and the Girne American University (Canterbury Campus). Canterbury is small in terms of geographical size and population when compared with other British cities.

Figure 1.1 overleaf depicts several key transport routes including the A2, A28, A290, A2990, A299 and A291. The A299 runs east to west across the coastal towns and A28 runs in a north easterly direction cutting across the middle of the district. The authority borders the five local authorities of Thanet, Dover, Folkestone and Hythe, Ashford and Swale.

1.3: Scope of the project

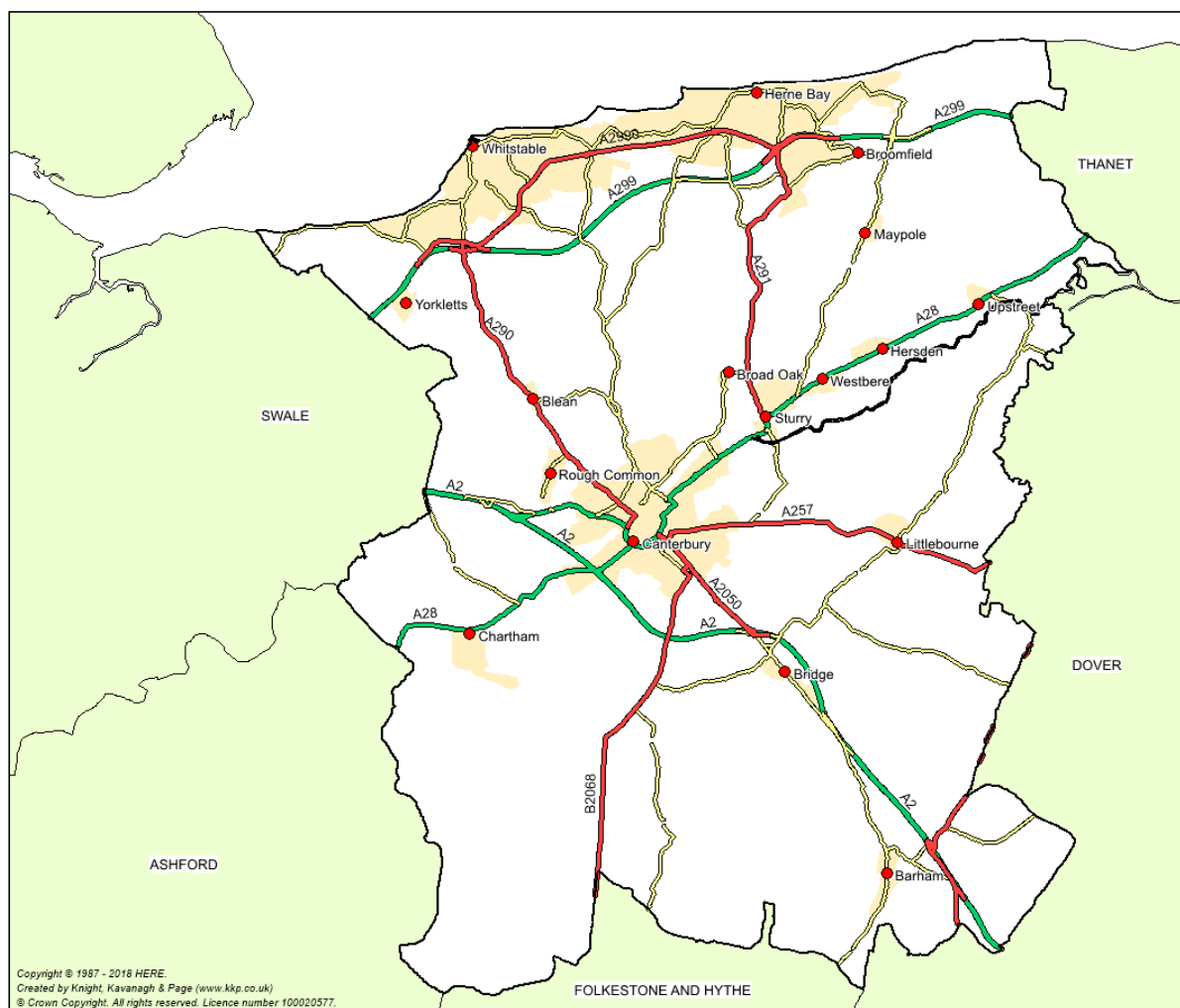
The report provides detail as to what exists in the Authority, its condition, location, availability and overall quality. It considers demand for facilities based on population distribution, planned growth and taking into consideration health and economic deprivation. It covers village/community halls,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

- ◀ Individually audited identified sports halls (conventional i.e. three plus court halls) swimming pools (minimum size 160m²), health and fitness facilities (including, within reason, dance studios) and the wider range of facilities identified above.
- ◀ Analysed supply/demand to identify facility gaps and opportunities for improved provision.

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- ◀ Sought to ensure that delivery of leisure facilities is undertaken with full reference to the corporate strategies of the Council and other relevant strategic influences.
- ◀ Identified good practice and options to improve service and drive up participation levels.

Figure 1.1: Canterbury with main roads



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

- ◀ Identify local needs and quantify levels of demand.
- ◀ Audit existing facility provision.

The specific tasks addressed within the study include:

- ◀ Review of relevant Council strategies, plans, reports, corporate objectives.
- ◀ Review of the local, regional and national strategic context.
- ◀ Analysis of the demographics of the local population at present and in the future (2040).
- ◀ Audit of indoor facilities provided by public, private, voluntary and education sectors.
- ◀ Consideration of potential participation rates and modelling of likely demand.
- ◀ Supply and demand analysis.

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- ◀ Analysis of the balance between supply of, and demand for, sports facilities plus identification of potential under and over-provision.
- ◀ Identification of key issues to address in the future provision of indoor sports facilities.

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

1.4: Report structure

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

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

In the preparation of this report, KKP has paid due regard to these strategic principles and it is, as a consequence, structured as follows:

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

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SECTION 2: BACKGROUND

2.1: National context

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

Figure 2.1: ANOG model



As illustrated, Sport England regards an assessment of need as core to the planning for sporting provision. This report reviews indoor and built sporting facility needs in Canterbury and provides a basis for future strategic planning.

‘Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation’

This Government strategy for sport was released in December 2015. It confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and it will help the sector to deliver fundamental outcomes: physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing, individual development, social and community development and economic development. It has identified the following outputs.

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

It further identifies the following actions will need to occur that:

- ◀ Meet the needs of the elite and professional system and deliver successful major sporting events.
- ◀ Meet the needs of the customer and enable them to engage in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Strengthen the sport sector and make it more effective and resilient.

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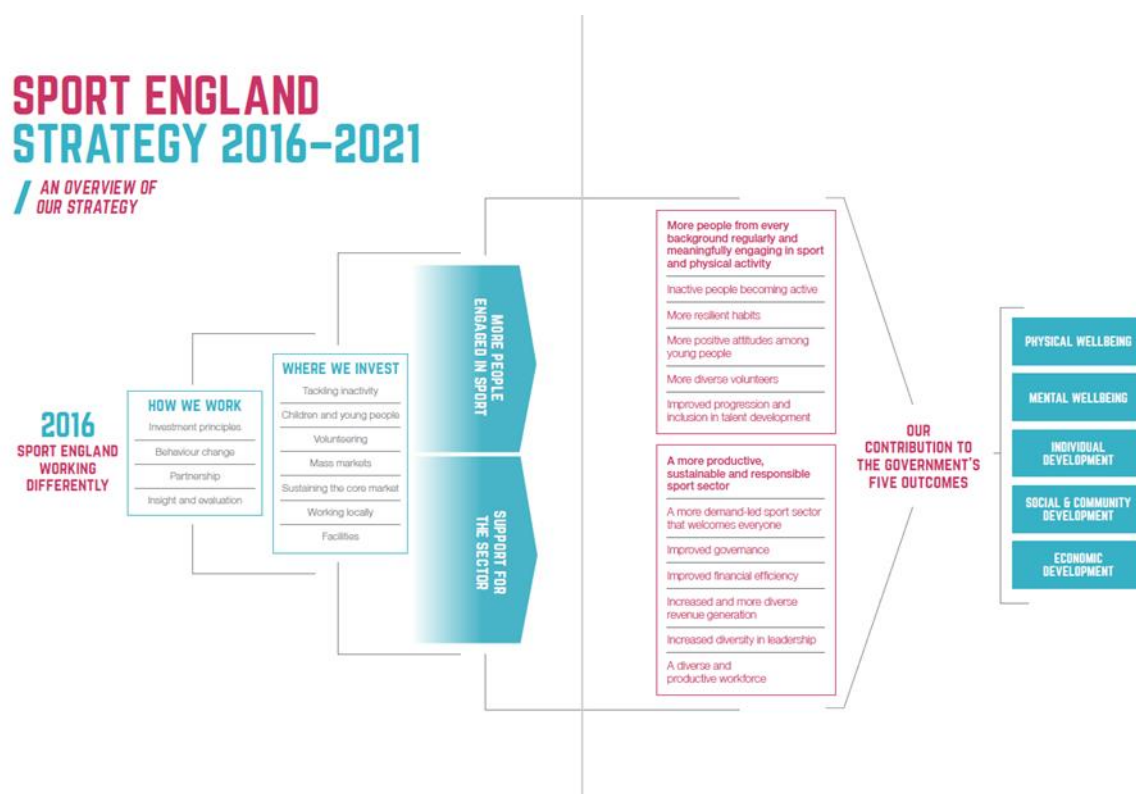
Sport England: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)

In its strategy, Sport England has identified that it will invest in:

- ◀ Tackling inactivity.
- ◀ Children and young people.
- ◀ Volunteering – a dual benefit.
- ◀ Taking sport and activity into the mass market.
- ◀ Supporting sport’s core market.
- ◀ Local delivery.
- ◀ Facilities.

These seven investment programmes are underpinned by a new Workforce Strategy and a new Coaching Plan.

Figure 2.2: Sport England Strategy 2016-2021



Sport England is looking to invest in projects, programmes and individuals that make sure everybody can experience the many benefits of sport and activity. Its seven investment principles include:

- ◀ Ensuring a clear line of sight to the objectives in Sporting Future, thereby making a wider impact on people's lives in terms of physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing, individual development, social and community development and economic development, rather than simply driving numbers.
- ◀ Prioritising demographic groups which are currently under-represented; this includes women, older people, disabled people and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

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- Using the behaviour change model to guide its decisions focusing on three main challenges: tackling inactivity, creating regular activity habits and helping those with a habit to stay that way.
- Getting maximum value from all its resources which may mean contributing advice and insight or broker a collaboration rather than a cash injection.
- Expanding the supply chain, wanting to strike a balance between 'bankers' and 'innovators' to make sure it is investing in projects that deliver the outcomes while still investing in other areas that test new approaches.
- Reviewing its investment portfolio regularly, it could invest more in anything going particularly well and stop investment if a project is failing and cannot be rescue.
- Encourage increased efficiency by encouraging the sport and activity sector to diversify its funding from both private and other public sector sources.

Sport England’s Strategic Facilities Fund is not a stand-alone funding stream, it is part of a portfolio of support and tools designed to strategically support the sector (local authority provision in particular). The Fund has been re-positioned within Sport England’s new strategy in order to help the sector to be effective in their investment decision making. Creating a focus and vision on local outcomes, informed by customer insight and delivering interventions (capital and revenue) which effect behaviour change in the target audience and ultimately outcome delivery.

The ‘Strategic Outcomes Model’ (Figure 2.3) illustrates the process which Sport England would expect a local authority to follow as part of a local strategic planning process in partnership with key stakeholders and other sectors.

Figure 2.3 Sport England’s Strategic Outcomes Model (vision)



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Revised National Planning Policy Framework 2019

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies the need to focus on three themes of economic, social, environmentally sustainable development.

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

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

Economic value of sport to the nation

Sport, leisure, recreation and culture are all important economic drivers. In November 2015, sport and sport-related activity contributed £20.3 billion to the English economy. The contribution to employment is even greater with sport and sport-related activity estimated to support over 450,000 full-time equivalent jobs. Volunteering in sport, and the health benefits derived, also have an impact on the economy. The estimated economic value of sport-related volunteering is £6.9 billion. The annual value of health benefits from people taking part in sport is estimated at £21 billion.

Benefits of sport include the well-being/happiness of individuals taking part, improved health and education, reduced youth crime, environmental benefits, regeneration and community development, and to the individual and wider society through volunteering. Consumption of sport benefits includes the well-being/happiness of spectators and the national pride/feel good factor derived from sporting success/achievement.

Participation in sport contributes to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly among young people. It also has a net impact on the environment; where, for example, more people walk, and cycle, emissions and congestion can reduce. In summary, it can provide a range of economic and health benefits to Canterbury and its population as well as helping to provide jobs and opportunities to spectate and participate in physical activity.

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Public Health England: Everybody Active, Everyday

In October 2014, Public Health England (PHE) produced its plan to tackle low activity levels across the country. Along with making the case for physical activity, this identifies four areas where measures need to be taken at a national and local level:

- ◀ *Active society*: creating a social movement, shifting social norms so that physical activity becomes a routine part of daily life.
- ◀ *Moving professionals*: activating networks of expertise. Making every contact with the health sector count to push the 'active' message and to deliver the message through other sectors including education, sports and leisure, transport and planning.
- ◀ *Active environments*: creating the right spaces. Making available and accessible appropriate environments that encourage people to be active every day.
- ◀ *Moving at scale*: scaling up interventions that make us active. Maximising existing assets that enable communities to be active.

Investment in school sport

The Government 2013 Primary PE and Sport Premium fund of £150 million per annum provided two years of investment in school sport. Supported by the Government's Education, Health and DCMS departments, funds went directly to primary school head teachers for them to spend on sport. Its four objectives were to:

- ◀ Improve the quality of existing PE teaching through continuing professional learning in PE for generalists, so that all primary pupils improve their health, skills and physical literacy and have a broader exposure to a range of sports.
- ◀ Increase participation levels in competitive sports and healthy activity of pupils and maintain these into adolescence.
- ◀ Increase the quality of initial teacher training in PE and sport, and to promote PE specialisation in primary level workforce.
- ◀ Ensure that schools understand and value the benefits of high-quality PE and sport, including its use as a tool for whole school improvement.

Under this phase of the programme, schools with 16 or fewer eligible pupils received £1,000 per pupil while those with 17 or more received £16,000 plus a payment of £10 per head. In 2017, the amount allocated doubled and Government ministers have confirmed that funding from a tax on sugary soft drinks will continue to be ring-fenced for school sports until 2020.

Evaluation of this investment has highlighted the need for clearer guidance to schools on how best to use this resource and the importance of good specialist PE knowledge for teachers of the subject. While this may cease in its present form Sport England is, in its Strategy, committed both to further investment in young people and to improving the skills of secondary school teachers, particularly in respect of physical literacy.

Chief Medical Officer Physical Activity Guidelines 2019

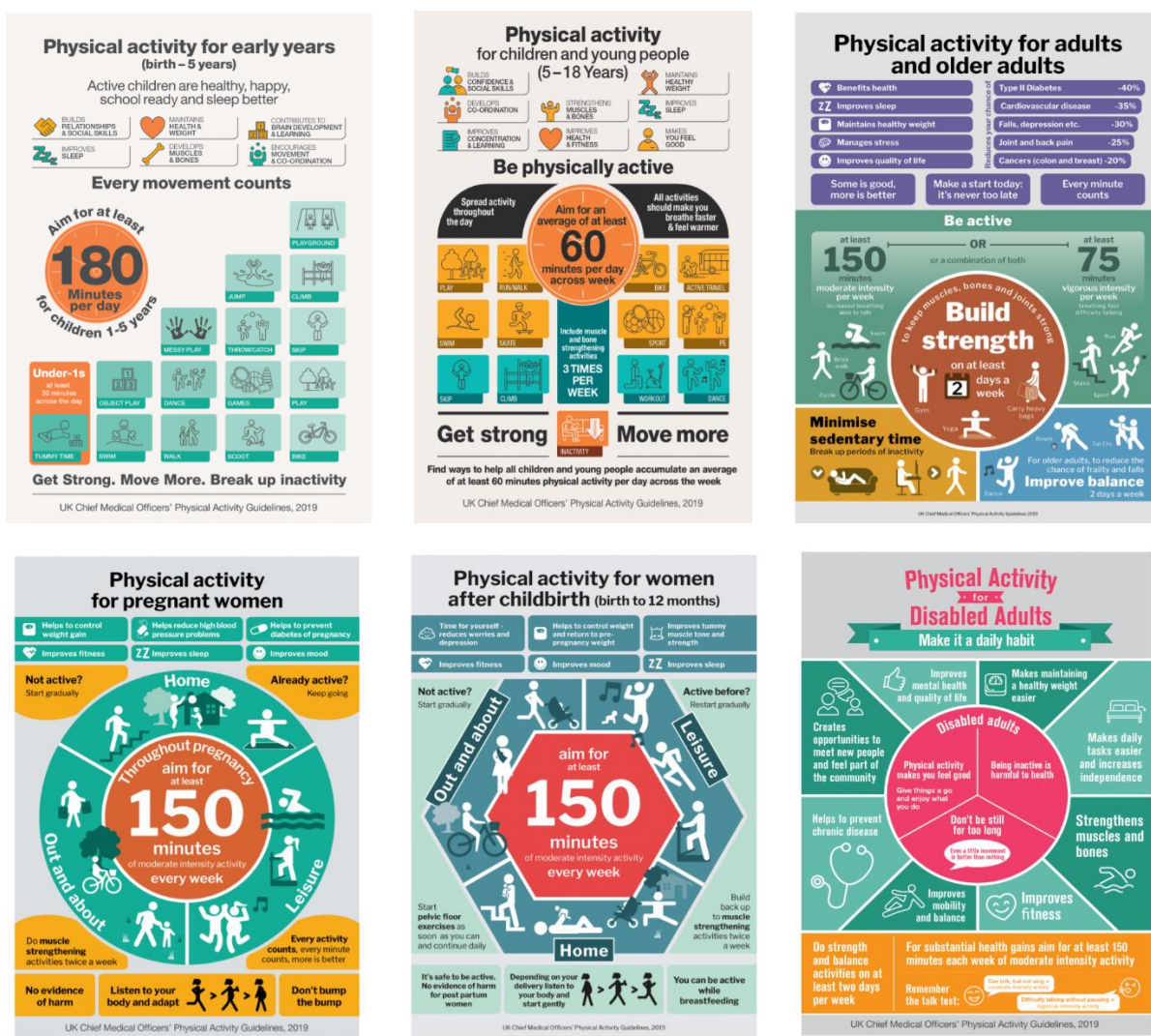
This report presents an update to the 2011 physical activity guidelines issued by the four Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The UK CMOs draw upon global evidence to present guidelines for different age groups, covering the volume, duration, frequency and type of physical activity required across the life course to achieve health benefits.

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

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

Figure 2.4: Physical activity guidelines



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Summary of national context

Engaging all residents in physical activity is a high priority. It is acknowledged that regular sport and recreational activity plays a key role in facilitating improved health and wellbeing. Sport and physical activity also contribute significantly to the national and local economy. Ensuring an adequate supply of suitable facilities to meet local need is a requirement of the planning system in line with national policy recommendations.

2.2: Local context

Canterbury City Council Corporate Plan 2016-2020 (currently being reviewed)

The stated aims and objectives of CCC’s Corporate Plan are:

Theme	Description
People	Residents enjoy a good quality of life and those in need are supported
Aims	Working to achieve enough high-quality housing to meet everyone’s needs. Contributing to the good health of local people. Focussing community support on those in most need of it. Acting with others to protect communities from flooding, crime and anti-social behaviour. Inspiring people through a wide range of cultural activities and opportunities.
Places	Make the most of the unique built and natural environment
Aims	Making the city, towns and villages places to be proud of. Keeping the district clean. Protecting and enhancing open spaces, heritage and wildlife.
Prosperity	The district has a resilient, diverse economy which supports job growth
Aims	Supporting Business Growth. Enabling infrastructure improvements to regenerate urban spaces and deliver economic growth.

Canterbury District Local Plan (adopted July 2017) (currently being reviewed)

This plan sets out the vision for the area from 2011-2031. It provides certainty for local people, developers and others about planning decisions for the area. It aims to:

- ✦ Create well-designed new communities, with good access to jobs and services
- ✦ Make sure there is enough housing, and different types of housing, to meet the needs of local people and support new job creation.
- ✦ Protect sensitive landscape and wildlife areas, and other key environmental assets such as the World Heritage Site, the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Conservation Areas.
- ✦ Make certain that new infrastructure, such as transport, schools and health facilities, are provided in parallel with development.
- ✦ Protect and strengthen town and village centres.
- ✦ Support the growth of the universities and colleges.
- ✦ Support development of new and improved cultural and leisure facilities.

The Council has evidence which indicates that there is a need to grow and broaden the economy and provide housing to meet local needs and to support the local economy.

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Vision and Strategy

The Council's vision for the district is that *“through focused, well-planned and environmentally sustainable growth, by 2030 the Canterbury District will be defined by a dynamic strong economy and distinctive cultural and visitor experience from which our communities will prosper. As a council we will provide leadership for our community and shape our district through working in partnership to deliver our vision. We are ambitious and will do the best for our people and will be prepared to take the difficult decisions which may be needed when choices have to be made. We will support the growth needed to deliver our ambition of having a strong dynamic economy and a skilled well-paid workforce supported by the quality of life and housing of the appropriate scale and quality.”*

Plan objectives

- ◀ To strengthen and broaden the local economy.
- ◀ To provide sufficient housing to meet local housing need and support economic growth.
- ◀ To protect the built and natural environment.
- ◀ To develop sustainable communities and seek to ensure that adequate community facilities are provided.

Draft Open Space Strategy 2014-2020 (currently being reviewed)-

The Open Space Strategy is a supporting document of, and defers to, the Local Plan. It sets out how Canterbury will protect and enhance open space in the district. Its vision is *‘To develop an interconnected network of diverse, high quality open spaces which meet the needs of local people and make a significant contribution to raising the quality of life for all residents and visitors to the Canterbury district’*. The aim is to *‘Aspire to protect and enhance the existing quality of public open space and promote its usage’*.

Canterbury District Green Infrastructure Strategy 2018-2031

The Green Infrastructure Strategy sits alongside and supports the delivery of both CCC's adopted Local Plan 2017 and Corporate Plan, both of which recognise the importance of environmental sustainability and the protection of Canterbury District's outstanding natural assets. It brings together the objectives and actions of several CCC strategies, policy documents and evidence reports, including the Transport Strategy, the Riverside Strategy, the Open Spaces Strategy and the Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal plus others.

Canterbury District Transport Strategy 2014-31 (adopted July 2017)

This is a joint document of CCC and Kent County Council (KCC) and has been prepared to provide the transport policy framework for the Canterbury District to the year 2031. The main stated objectives are to:

- ◀ Provide a detailed policy framework for the district which is consistent with National and Regional transport policies including KCC's transport plan “Growth without Gridlock in Kent and Medway (GwG)”.
- ◀ Support CCC's Local Plan taking account of committed/proposed levels of development.
- ◀ Identify the transport improvements and solutions that are required to support and accommodate the predicted increase in travel demand.
- ◀ Provide a funding and delivery mechanism for the identified transport improvements and actions.

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Strategic Programme for commissioning and support 2017-2020

The aspiration for CCC, as identified in this document, is that it will ensure best value by targeting investments in internal and external services, to respond to and deliver the corporate plan. To achieve this, the Council will work with the diverse cultural, sports and voluntary sectors to complement and enhance the local economy and vibrant communities. These communities will feel empowered to identify and provide services in response to local social and economic need, helping to support people, places and prosperity within the district.”

Active partnership

Active Partnerships are locally based strategic organisations which recognise that activity levels are affected by a complex system of influences and that no single organisation or programme creates sustainable change at scale. By adopting a collaborative whole system approach, they seek to make active lifestyles the social norm for everyone and address the levels of inactivity in society.

The Active Partnership for Canterbury is *Kent Sport*. It is an integrated team of Kent County Council and Sport England funded staff, working together for the county. Kent Sport is part of a nationwide network of 43 active partnerships which work collaboratively with local partners and networks across the county, to create the conditions for an active nation using the power of sport and physical activity to transform lives.

Kent Sport has produced *A Strategic Framework for Sport and Physical Activity in Kent and Medway 2017-2021*. Its vision is ‘More people, More active, More often’ and the Aim is to make Kent more active by 2021.

Its priorities are:

- ◀ Increasing participation.
- ◀ Supporting inactive people to become active.
- ◀ Link to social agendas (health, education etc.)
- ◀ Opportunities for children and young people to be active.
- ◀ Addressing inequalities in engagement with sport by targeting certain groups (women, lower socio-economic population, black and ethnic minorities, disabled and older people).
- ◀ Improving facilities.
- ◀ Supporting voluntary sector and volunteering.
- ◀ Supporting talented performers.
- ◀ Maximising the benefit of major events.

Kent CC and Medway - Health and Social Care Sustainability and Transformation Plan

The Health and Social Care Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) includes four themes; Care Transformation, Productivity, Enablers and System Leadership. Under the Care Transformation theme there are four key areas including prevention which in turn includes four priorities:

- ◀ Obesity and physical activity.
- ◀ Smoking cessation and prevention.
- ◀ Workplace health.

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- ◀ Reduce alcohol-related harms in the population.

Kent Health & Wellbeing Board - Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

This strategy has been extended until 2021 to take account of the creation of the Kent and Medway Health and Wellbeing Board in partnership with Medway Council and the work of the STP. This strategy aims to confront that challenge, to improve the areas in which - despite generally good levels of health - Kent lags behind the country as a whole, and to tackle the significant differences in people’s health and wellbeing across the county.

Vision

Improve health and wellbeing outcomes, deliver better coordinated quality care, improve the public’s experience of integrated health and social care services and ensure that the individual is involved and at the heart of everything we do.

Figure 2.6: Joint health and wellbeing strategy outcomes



Canterbury and Coastal Health and Wellbeing Board is hosted by CCC. It meets on a monthly basis to plan how best to meet the health needs of the local population and overcome health inequalities (for example, life expectancy differences for people across the Canterbury and Coastal area). Its mission is to secure the highest quality, most cost effective and compassionate care as close to home for patients as possible.

Active Life

Active Life is a not-for-profit charitable trust which operates leisure centres on behalf of CCC. It merged with Fusion Lifestyle in April 2019, which is also a registered charity. Active Life has become a subsidiary of Fusion but will retain its identity and a local board to operate Kingsmead Leisure Centre, Canterbury, Herons Leisure Centre and Bay Sports Arena, Herne Bay and Whitstable Swimming Pool and Whitstable Sports Centre, Whitstable.

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Active Life has agreed 50-year leases for the CCC’s three main leisure centres and will work with Fusion to deliver an investment package of c.£11.5m into Kingsmead Leisure Centre, Herons Leisure Centre and Whitstable Swimming Pool.

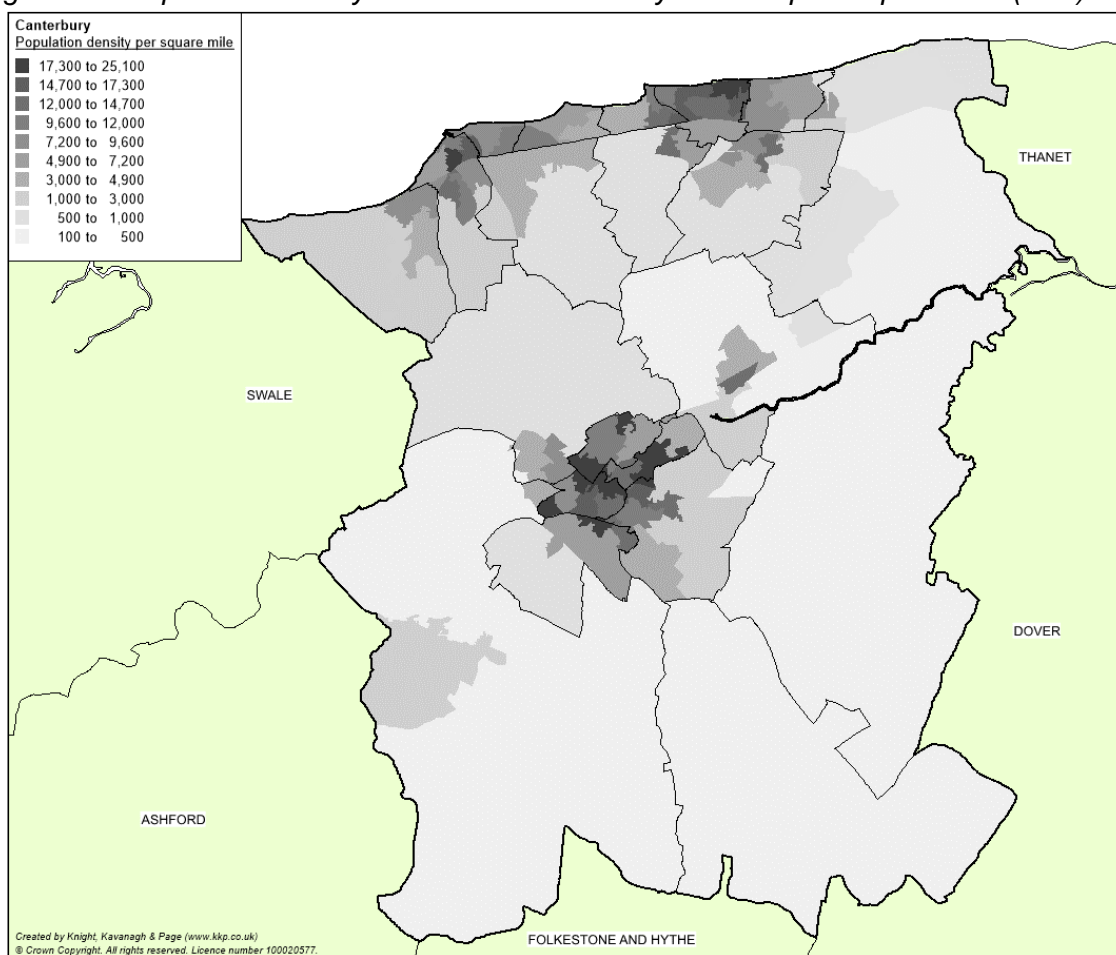
Summary of local context

The key messages emerging from local policies are primarily focused on improving the quality lives of residents through collaborative work and increasing physical activity across the District. Health and wellbeing, whilst identified in many instances as better than the national average, is being targeted in those areas of the district in which it is not as good. CCC will work with the diverse cultural, sports and voluntary sectors to complement and enhance the local economy and vibrant communities. CCC understand the importance of increasing physical activity and sport to area growth and improved environment status.

2.3: Demographic profile

The following is an overview of Canterbury based on data taken from nationally recognised sources. It reflects the most up to date information presently available although it should be noted that new data is published regularly, often at different intervals.

Figure 2.7: Population density 2018 MYE: Canterbury lower super output areas (Isa)



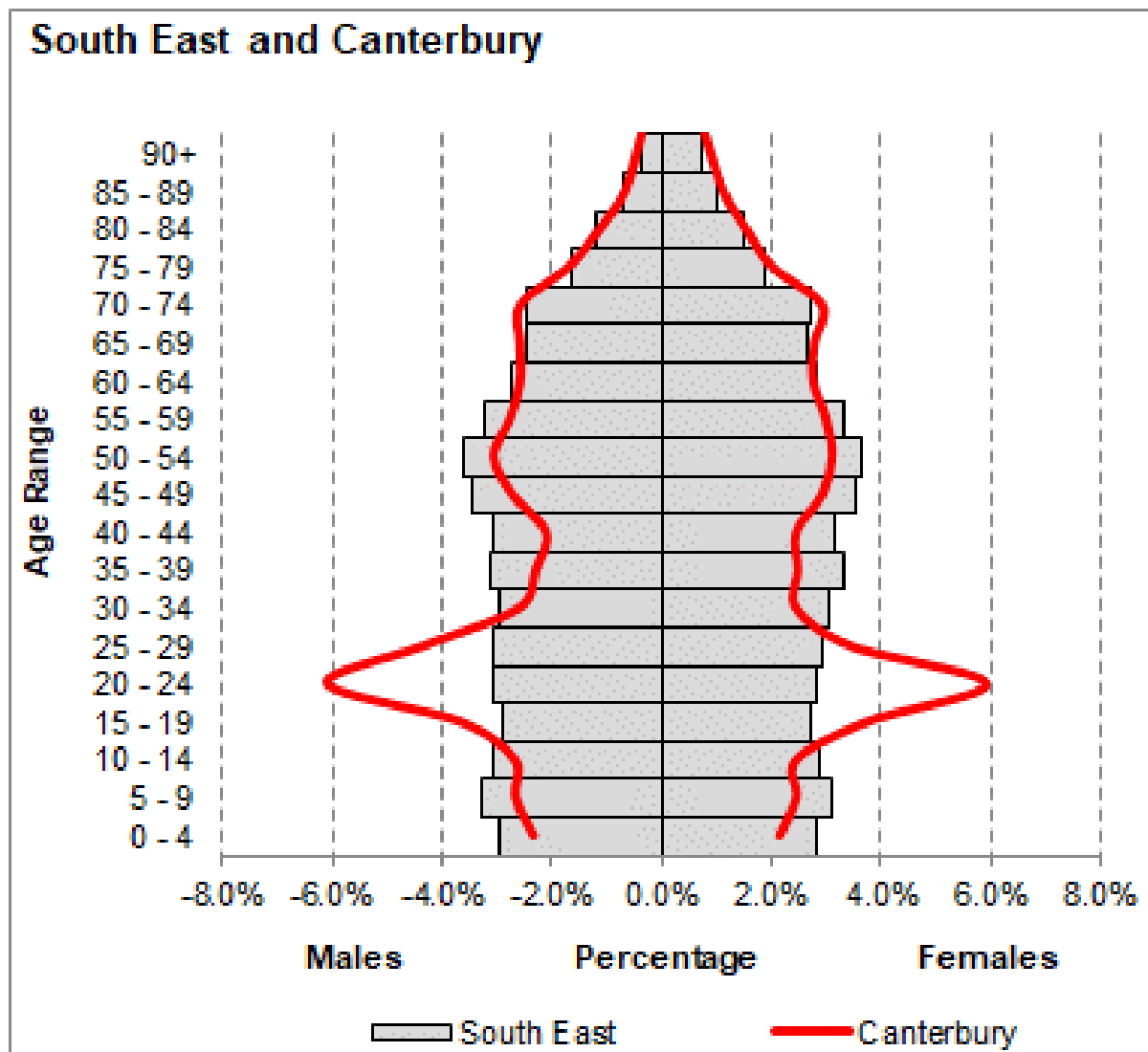
Population and distribution (Data source: 2018 Mid-Year Estimate, ONS)- The total population of Canterbury (2018 MYE), was 164,553 of which 80,878 are males and 83,675 are females. Population distribution is identified in Figure 2.7 above. The area is largely

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rural with the seaside towns of Whitstable and Herne Bay to the north. Canterbury is the largest settlement located in the centre of the authority.

Figure 2.8 illustrates Canterbury’s population’s age and gender composition set against that of the region. The data indicates that there is a lower proportion of 35-44 year olds in Canterbury (9.4%) compared with the South East (12.7%). There are, however, significantly more in the age groups from 20-24 (Canterbury 12.0%, and the South East 5.9%).

Figure 2.8: Comparative age/sex pyramid for Canterbury and the South East



Ethnicity (Data source: 2011 census of population, ONS). According to the 2011 Census of population, the largest proportion (93.0%) of the local population classified their ethnicity as White; this is much higher than the comparative England rate of 85.4%. The next largest population group (by self-classification) is Asian, at 3.4% which is markedly lower than the national equivalent (7.8%).

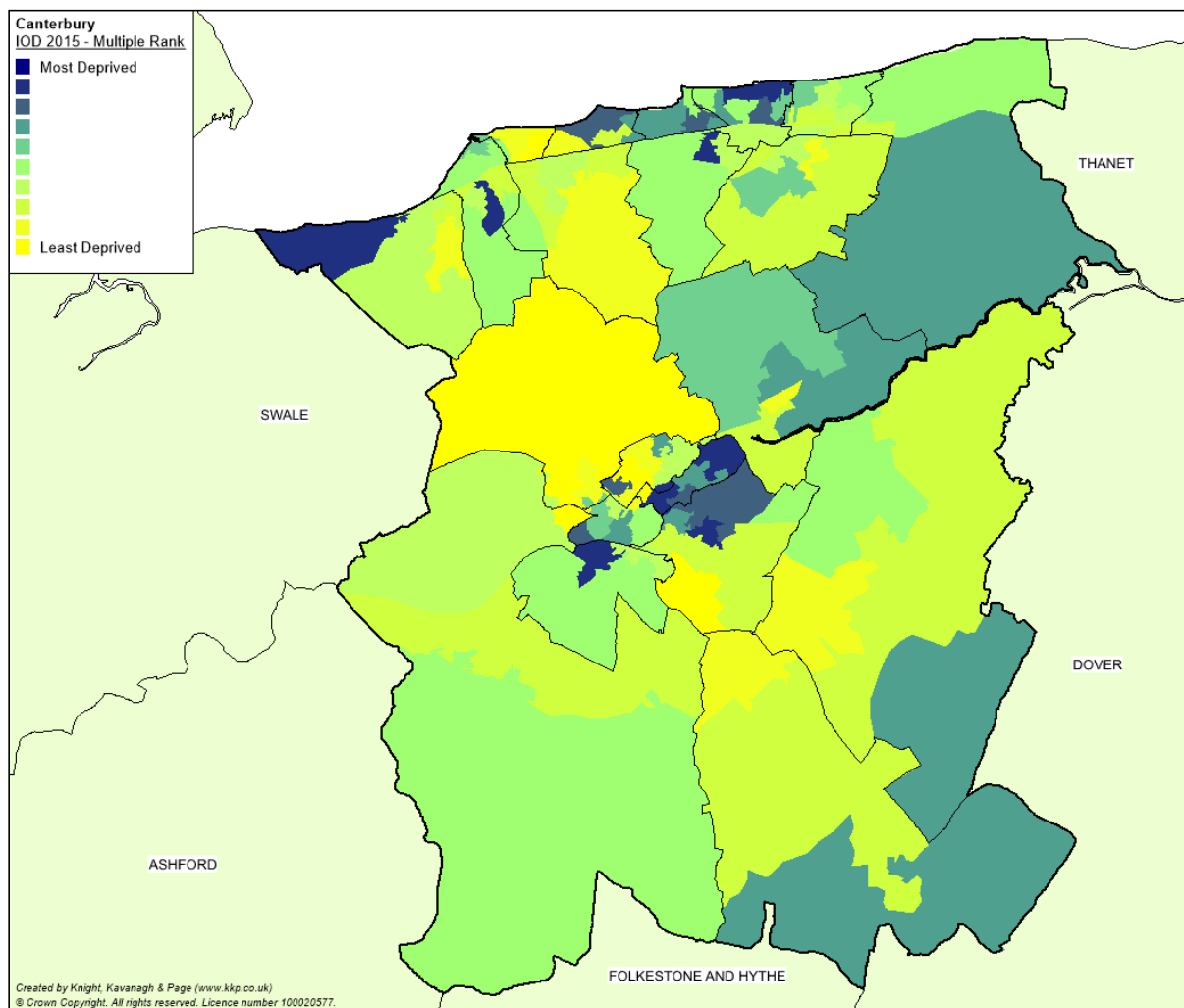
Income and dependency (Data source: NOMIS 2017) - the median figure for full-time earnings (2017) in Canterbury is £30,078; the comparative rate for the South East is £31,954 (+6.2%) and for Great Britain is £29,697 (-1.3%). In July 2019 there were 2,265 people in

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Canterbury claiming out of work benefits¹; this represents a significant increase of 73.6% when compared to July 2014 (1,305).

Deprivation (Data source: 2015 indices of deprivation, DCLG). - Relative to other parts of the country Canterbury experiences low levels of deprivation; 17.3% of the population falls within the areas covered by the country's three most deprived cohorts (national average: c.30%). Conversely, 34.0% live in the three least deprived groupings in the country.

Figure 2.9: Index of multiple deprivation



A similar pattern, to that seen for multiple deprivation, is seen in relation to health with 20.0% of the population falling within the areas covered by the three most deprived cohorts. In line with IMD, 34.0% live in the three least deprived groupings (the 'norm' is c.30%).

¹ This includes both Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) and Universal Credit. Universal credit also includes other benefits including employment and support allowance (ESA) and child tax credits.

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Table 2.1: Index of Multiple Deprivation and health deprivation in Canterbury

IMD cumulative norm		Multiple deprivation			Health deprivation		
		Population in band	Percent of population		Population in band	Percent of population	
Most deprived	10.0	0	0.0%	0.0%	3,142	2.1%	2.1%
	20.0	15,496	10.1%	10.1%	15,332	10.0%	12.1%
	30.0	10,991	7.2%	17.3%	12,211	8.0%	20.0%
	40.0	17,156	11.2%	28.5%	11,166	7.3%	27.3%
	50.0	8,549	5.6%	34.1%	8,099	5.3%	32.6%
	60.0	27,891	18.2%	52.3%	29,848	19.5%	52.1%
	70.0	20,947	13.7%	66.0%	21,256	13.9%	66.0%
Least deprived	80.0	22,378	14.6%	80.6%	29,236	19.1%	85.1%
	90.0	16,251	10.6%	91.2%	16,398	10.7%	95.8%
	100.0	13,442	8.8%	100.0%	6,413	4.2%	100.0%

Health data (Data sources: ONS births and deaths, NCMP² and NOO³) - In keeping with patterns seen alongside lower levels of health deprivation, life expectancy in Canterbury is higher than the national figure; the male rate is currently 80.3 compared to 79.6 for England, and the female equivalent is 83.5 compared to 83.2 nationally.⁴

Weight and obesity - Obesity is widely recognised to be associated with health problems such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer. At a national level, the resulting NHS costs attributable to overweight and obesity⁵ are projected to reach £9.7 billion by 2050, with wider costs to society estimated to reach £49.9 billion per year. These factors combine to make the prevention of obesity a major public health challenge.

Adult obesity rates in Canterbury are below national and regional averages. Furthermore, child rates for obesity are also lower than both regional and national rates as shown in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2 Adult and children obesity rates

	Adult	Children
Canterbury	54.5%	32.2%
South East	59.7%	34.2%
England	64.2%	38.6%

² National Child Measurement Program

³ National Obesity Observatory

⁴ Office of National Statistics: Life Expectancy at Birth by local areas in the United Kingdom, 2013.

⁵ Adult Weight Data was released in June 2015 for 2012-2014. The child data is for the period 2015-2016

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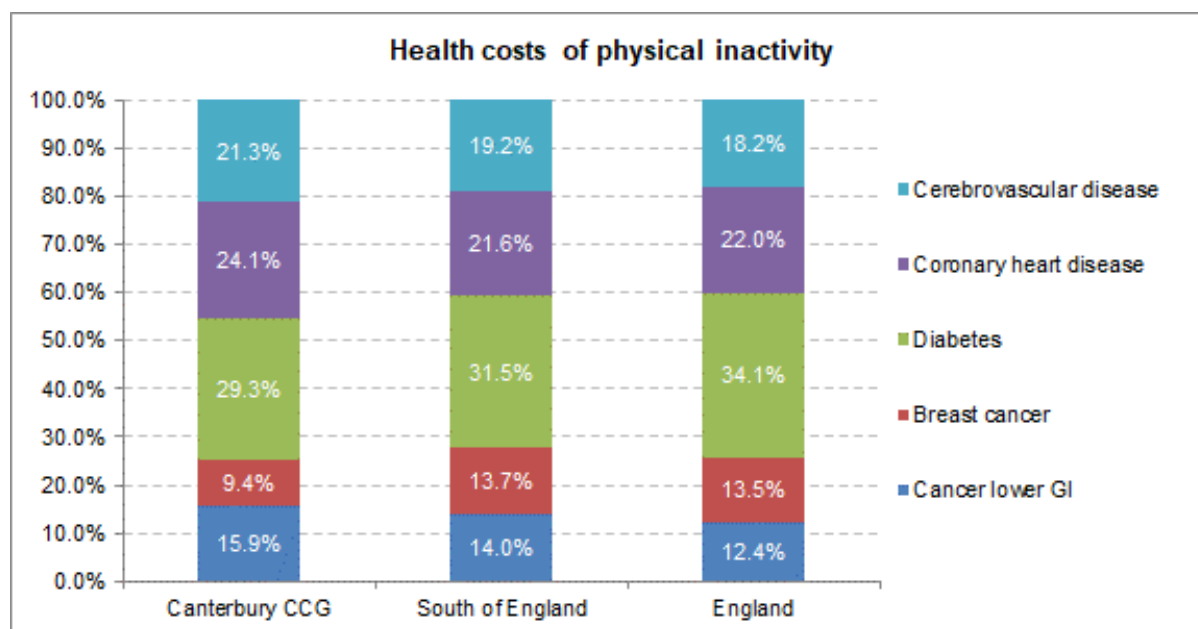
Health costs of physical inactivity

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) Promotion Research Group has reviewed the costs of avoidable ill health that it considers are attributable to physical inactivity. Initially produced for the DoH report Be Active Be Healthy (2009) the data has subsequently been reworked for Sport England and updated in 2014/15 by Public Health England. Illnesses that the BHF research relates to include cancers such as bowel cancer, breast cancer, type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease and cerebrovascular disease e.g., stroke. The data indicates a similar breakdown between these illnesses regionally and nationally.

Canterbury is in one Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG); NHS Canterbury and Coastal CCG. The CCG wholly covers the CCC district plus parts of the Swale Borough and Dover District council areas. Canterbury accounts for 77.0% of the population covered by the CCG.

The annual cost to the NHS of physical inactivity for the CCG that Canterbury falls within is estimated at £1,851,899. When compared to regional and national costs per 100,000, Canterbury and Coastal CCG costs (at £865,750) are 5.9% above the national average (£817,274) and 5.6% above the regional average (£820,207).

Figure 2.11: Health costs of physical inactivity



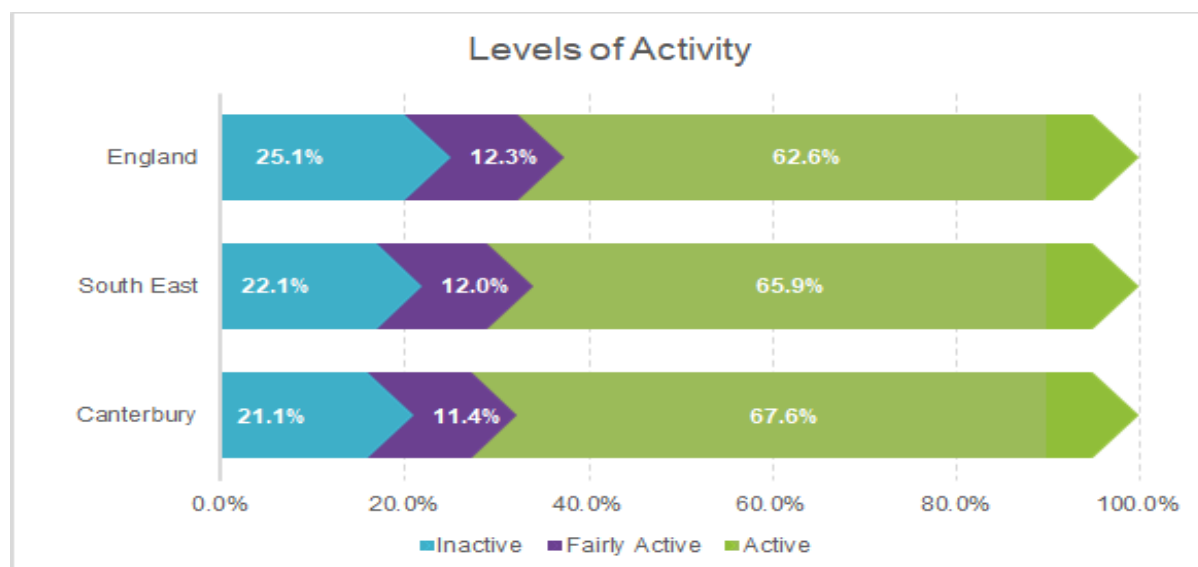
Active Lives Survey 2017/2018

Sport England Active Lives Survey (ALS) November 2017/18, based on 16+ year olds taking part in walking, cycling, fitness, dance and other sporting activity (excluding gardening). Figure 2.12 indicates that in Canterbury there is:

- ◀ A smaller proportion of inactive people (21.1%) compared with England (25.1%) and the South East (22.1%).
- ◀ A slightly smaller proportion of fairly active people (11.4%) than the South East (12%) and England (12.3%)
- ◀ A higher proportion of more active people (67.6%) than the regional (65.9%) and national averages (62.6%).

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Figure 2.12: Levels of Activity



The most popular sports

ALS makes it possible to identify the five numerically most taken part in sports/physical activities in Canterbury. In common with many other areas, walking (leisure) and structured programme classes are among the most popular and are known to cut across age groups and gender. In Canterbury just under half of adults go walking for leisure, on average, at least once a month. The next most popular activity is structured programme classes which 20.5% of adults do on a relatively regular basis.

Table 2.3: Most popular sports in Canterbury (Source: SE Active Lives Survey Nov 16/17)

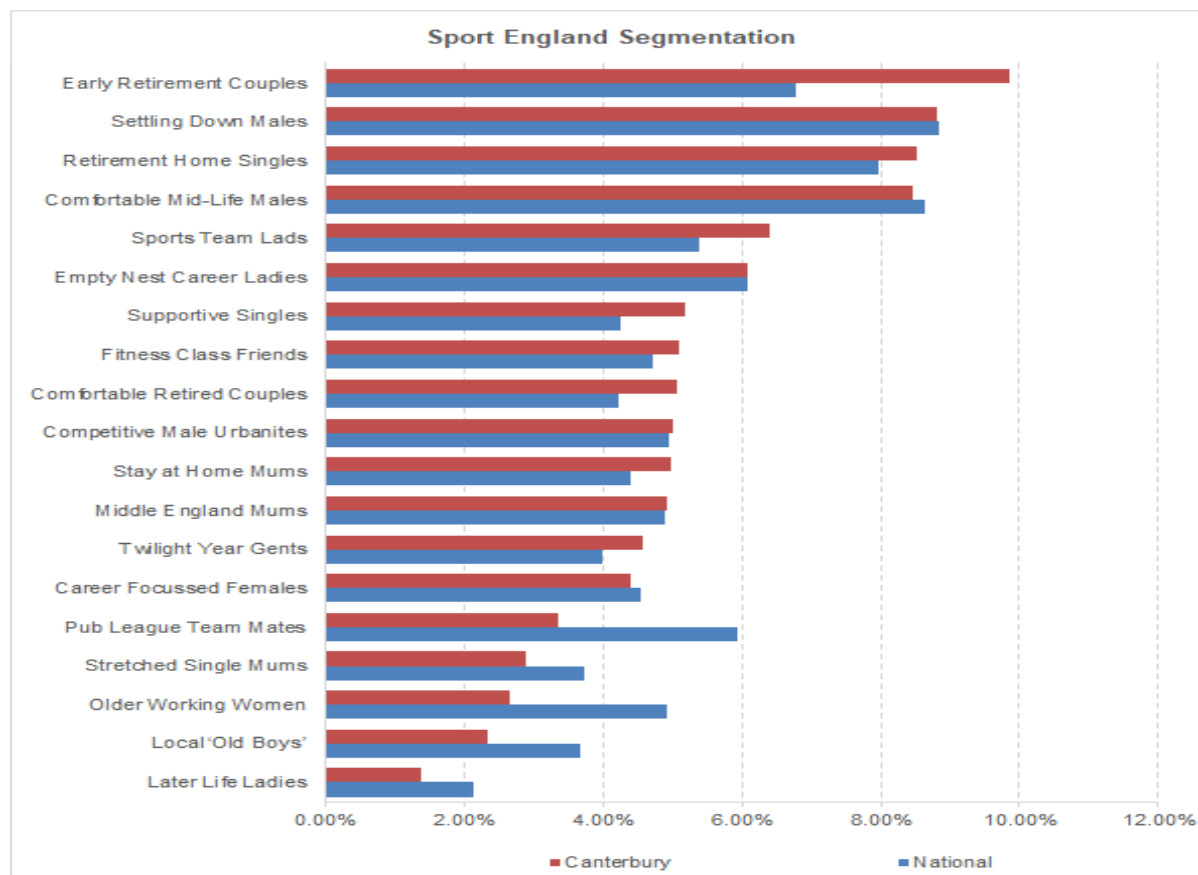
Sport	Canterbury		South East		England	
	No. (000s)	Rate (%)	No. (000s)	Rate (%)	No. (000s)	Rate (%)
Walking (Leisure)	64,100	46.8	3,318,500	45.4	18,722,600	41.8
Structured programme class	28,100	20.5	1,361,200	18.6	7,938,000	17.7
Cycling	25,000	18.3	1,378,800	18.9	7,498,900	16.8
Athletics	20,100	14.7	1,278,300	17.5	7,266,300	16.2
Fitness	17,200	12.6	955,700	13.1	5,727,600	12.8

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

Sport England classifies the adult population via a series of 19 market segments which provide an insight into the sporting behaviours of individuals throughout the country. Profiles cover a wide range of characteristics, from gender and age to the sports that people take part in, other interests, the newspapers that they read etc. The segmentation profile for Canterbury indicates that 'Early Retirement Couples' is the largest segment of the adult population at 9.85% (11,529) compared to a national average of 6.77%. This is closely followed by 'Settling Down Males' (8.80%) and 'Retirement Home Singles' (8.53%). At the other end of the spectrum, there are fewest 'Later Life Ladies' with only 1.38% (similar in percentage to the national average), 'Local 'Old Boys'' (2.35%) and 'Older Working Women' (2.65%).

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Figure 2.13: SE segmentation – Canterbury compared to England



Mosaic (Data source: 2019 Mosaic analysis, Experian)

Mosaic 2019 is a similar consumer segmentation product. It classifies all 25.2 million UK households into 15 groups, 66 household types and 238 segments. This data is used to paint a picture of consumers in terms of social-demographics, lifestyles, culture and behaviour. Table 2.3 shows the top five Mosaic classifications in Canterbury compared to the UK as a whole. The dominance of these can be seen inasmuch as they represent two thirds (66.6 %) of the population compared to a national equivalent rate of just over a third (34.9%).

Table 2.4: Mosaic – main population segments in Canterbury

Mosaic group description	Canterbury		National %
	#	%	
1 - Rental Hubs	38,753	23.0%	8.4%
2 - Senior Security	26,150	15.5%	3.4%
3 - Aspiring Homemakers	16,354	9.7%	4.3%
4 - Domestic Success	15,915	9.4%	6.1%
5- Suburban Stability	15,123	9.0%	12.6%

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The largest segment profiled for Canterbury is the Rental Hubs group (at 23.0% of the adult population). This is three times the national rate (8.4%). Reflecting the volume of higher education in the City, these are predominantly young, single people in their 20s and 30s who live in urban locations and rent their homes from private landlords while in the early stages of their careers, or pursuing studies.

Figure 2.14: Mosaic segmentation – Canterbury compared to England

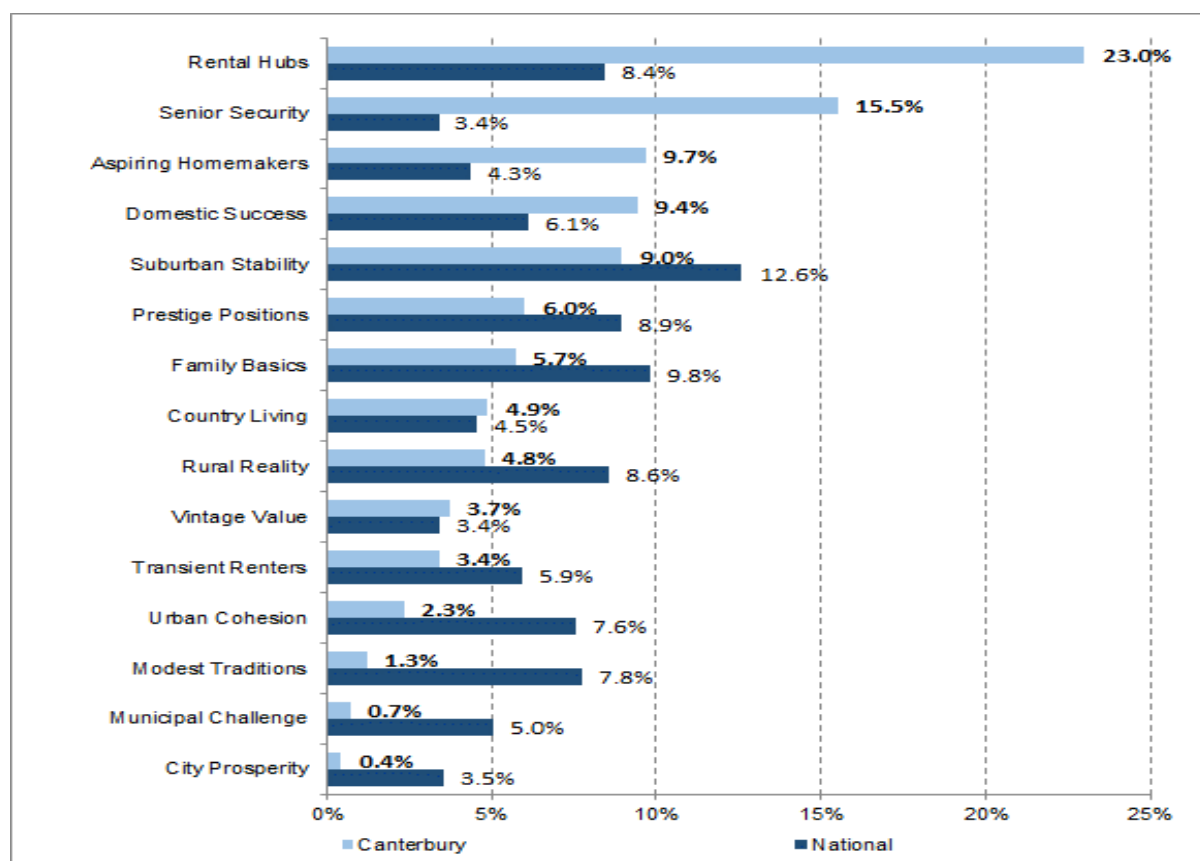



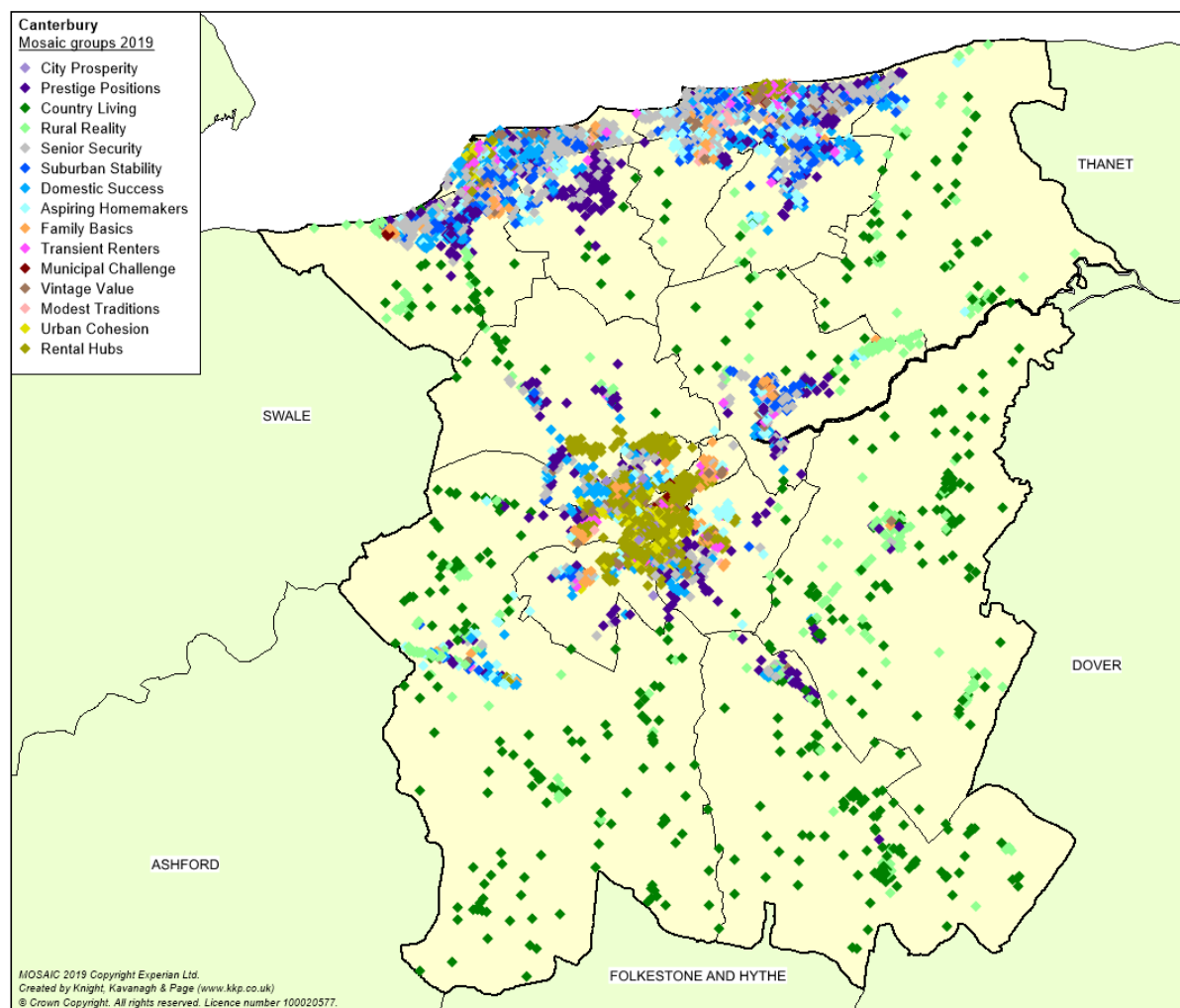


Table 2.5: Dominant Mosaic profiles in Canterbury

Rental Hubs		Predominantly young, single people in their 20s and 30s who live in urban locations and rent their homes from private landlords while in the early stages of their careers or pursuing studies.
Senior Security		Elderly singles and couples who are still living independently in comfortable homes that they own. Property equity gives them a reassuring level of financial security. This group includes people who have remained in family homes after their children have left, and those who have chosen to downsize to live among others of similar ages and lifestyles.
Aspiring Homemakers		Younger households who have, often, only recently set up home. They usually own their homes in private suburbs, which they have chosen to fit their budget.

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Figure 2.15: Distribution of Mosaic segments in Canterbury



Population projections

Strategic planning: Change over 25 years (2016 to 2041⁶)

The most recent ONS projections indicate a rise of 19.7% in Canterbury's population (+32,027) over the 25 years from 2016 to 2041. Over this extended timeframe fluctuations are seen in rise and fall at different points across the majority of age groups. Key points for Canterbury are outlined below:

- ◀ A notable point is the progressive rise in the number of 25-34 year olds, rising by 3,692 (+23.5%) over the first half of the projection (to 2031).
- ◀ In contrast, there is a predicted decline in the number of 45-54 year olds, -7.4% in the first period (1,462) followed by growth back to +4.0% (794) in the second period.
- ◀ There is a continuous increase in the numbers of persons aged 65+. This represents an increase of +34.8% (+11,357) in the first period continuing to rise to +56.2% (+18,319) between 2016 and 2041. While the age group represented 20.1% of Canterbury's population in 2016 it is projected to be 26.2% of the total by 2041.

⁶ Office for National Statistics 2016-based population projections (data released May 2018)

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Figure 2.16: Projected population change (2016 -2041)

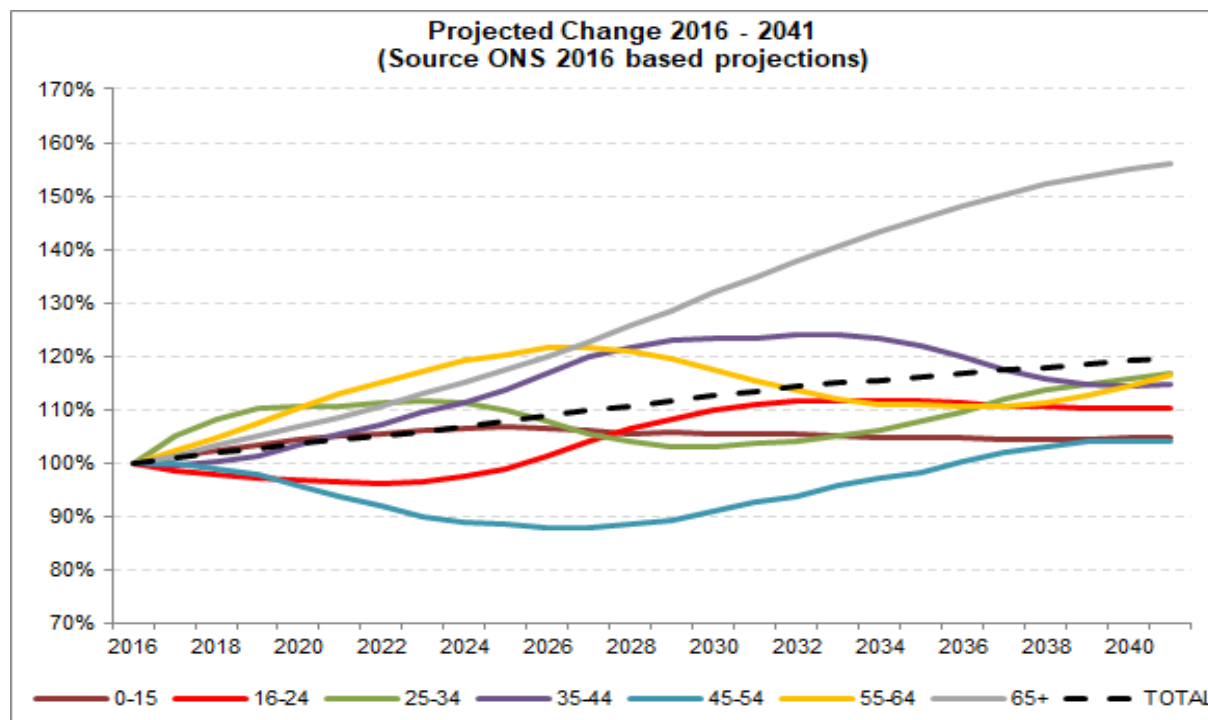


Table 2.6: Canterbury – ONS projected population (2016 to 2041)

Age (years)	Number			Age structure %			Change 2016 – 2041		
	2016	2031	2041	2016 %	2031 %	2041 %	2016 %	2031 %	2041 %
0-15	25,646	27,016	26,893	15.8	14.6	13.8	100.0	105.3	104.9
16-24	31,957	35,515	35,196	19.7	19.3	18.1	100.0	111.1	110.1
25-34	19,144	19,829	22,335	11.8	10.8	11.5	100.0	103.6	116.7
35-44	15,713	19,405	18,027	9.7	10.5	9.3	100.0	123.5	114.7
45-54	19,809	18,347	20,603	12.2	9.9	10.6	100.0	92.6	104.0
55-64	17,632	20,365	20,555	10.9	11.0	10.6	100.0	115.5	116.6
65+	32,601	43,958	50,920	20.1	23.8	26.2	100.0	134.0	156.2
Total	162,502	184,435	194,529	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	113.5	119.7

Housebuilding

House building in Canterbury is subject to a range of policies; these are outlined below:

Canterbury District Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) March 2018)

Housing Market Area (HMA)

There are strong migration links between Canterbury District, Dover and Thanet; however, there are clear price differences between Canterbury and Margate/Ramsgate/Dover town which suggest Canterbury’s HMA does not extend as far as the coastal towns. This indicates that the strongest links between Canterbury District, Dover and Thanet are likely to be found in the rural parts of these districts.

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In addition, there is evidence to suggest that eastern parts of Swale, in particular Faversham, could be considered to be part of Canterbury's HMA. However, by adopting the approach in the guidance and seeking to arrive at an HMA that precisely follows District boundaries (i.e. a 'best-fit' approach) might lead to the conclusion for a Canterbury focused HMA. Despite the 'best fit' conclusions that CCC has reached to adhere to the guidance, the analysis clearly shows that a Canterbury focused HMA covers parts of Thanet and parts of Dover (which also does not contain the District's main settlements).

Objectively Assessed Housing Need (OAN) – Canterbury District

To meet future household growth over the period to 2031, there is a need for 831-906 dwellings per annum, however, it is acknowledged that there are some data issues recording students in Canterbury District. A review of market signals, affordability and household formation rates suggests that CCC District has some poorly performing indicators, particularly related to the cost of housing. The SHMA identifies that the OAN for the District is 1,140 dwellings per annum 2016-2031.

Local Housing Need (LHN) – Canterbury District

The SHMA predates the introduction of the standardised Local Housing Need (LHN) calculation brought in by the 2019 NPPF and acknowledges this in the assessment of OAN.

National policy sets out a standard formula for calculating what each local area housing requirement should be using data on population growth and median workplace-based affordability ratios.

Using the nationally set calculation, Canterbury District would have a housing requirement of 1,120 homes per year. This figure is likely to change in the next few years as new data on population and affordability for the district is released; the government has also stated there will be changes to the formula used in calculation later in 2020.

Kent CC - Growth & Infrastructure Framework (GIF) 2018 update

This provides the emerging developments and infrastructure requirements, to support growth across Kent and Medway up to 2031. The 2018 update predicts that £16.4billion investment in infrastructure is required to unlock the growth potential of the area. It also provides a framework across the county for identifying and prioritising investment across a range of infrastructure. The Framework for Community and Indoor Sports Facilities concludes that there are gaps in current facility distribution against the focus areas of housing growth in North East Canterbury, but relatively strong indoor sports provision in Canterbury as a whole.

Major developments in Canterbury

As part of the Local Plan, some sites in the District are allocated for major developments; 12 strategic sites are identified in the current Local Plan.

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Table 2.7: Strategic housing sites

Settlement area	Number of houses
Canterbury	5,960
Sturry*	1,906
Herne Bay	3,230
Whitstable	700
Total	11,796

For illustrative purposes, these can be found in Appendix 1.

*Hoplands Farm and Chislet Colliery are excluded as they are not allocations

New reservoir – South East Water

South East Water has identified the need for an additional 145 million litres of water every day by 2040 to meet the needs of the county. A site at Broad Oak has been identified as the site for a new reservoir. There are also plans to build a desalination plant at Reculver. Both are included in South East Water’s draft Water Resources Management Plan. The reservoir is projected to produce in the region of 13 million litres of water per day and the desalination plant c. eight million. They are expected to supply approximately 34,000 homes. The proposals are in the early stages and will be developed over coming years. Building work is not anticipated to start until 2035.

Figure 2.21: New reservoir plans – Broad Oak Water



2.4: Local health and wellbeing activities

Consultation with a range of agencies indicates that a number of health and wellbeing programmes are running in the area. Improving health and wellbeing and physical activity via partnership work is a key focus. As identified in the local context, challenges for CCC include childhood obesity, improving health and wellbeing and ensuring that facilities and programming meet the needs of communities. Local Active Life programmes include:

Exercise referral – This scheme supports anyone aged 19 or over, to make long-term lifestyle changes through increased physical activity. To be eligible, people must have a pre-existing or new medical condition and be currently inactive. The scheme provides support and guidance of a dedicated instructor, to achieve an individual's health and fitness goals.

Active 4 Life & Aqua 4 Life – sessions are available for anyone referred by their GP, health professional or an exercise referral instructor. Suitable for anyone with specific medical conditions where specialist support and motivation is required, programmes offer a variety of land and water-based activities for anyone who finds mainstream classes too strenuous. Activities on offer includes circuits, supervised gym workout, Pilates for posture and balance, low impact aerobics with toning, and Aqua 4 Life and a water based back class for those experiencing problems exercising on dry land.

Gentle fitness classes – these include waterworks, aqua, Zumba gold, gentle Pilates, gentle workout, aqua attack, Tai Chi, therapy Pilates, mature stretch.

In addition to the above, Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust programmes include:

Walking for health - sessions are organised by a health professional (scheme co-ordinator) and led by trained volunteers. They are free to access, and no booking is required. Walks taking place at the time of audit include:

- ◀ Beltinge Happy Strollers health walk.
- ◀ Herne Bay (pram friendly) parent and baby walk.
- ◀ Whitstable health walk.
- ◀ Canterbury Hambrook Marshes health walk.
- ◀ Canterbury Northgate health walk.
- ◀ Canterbury Town health walk.

Summary of the demographic profile and population projections

The projected increase in the size of the Canterbury population is likely to lead to a significant rise in the number of people who wish to take part in sport and physical activity (potential customers of leisure facilities). An additional issue will be how the ageing population chooses to use its leisure time; this may well lead to changes in levels of demand for different activities. As noted earlier, it is fair to assume that there will be increased demand for sports facilities and physical activity opportunity in areas where housebuilding is planned.

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

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facilities, and programmes of activity therein, need to be capable of adapting to any changing demands and needs associated with any demographic change.

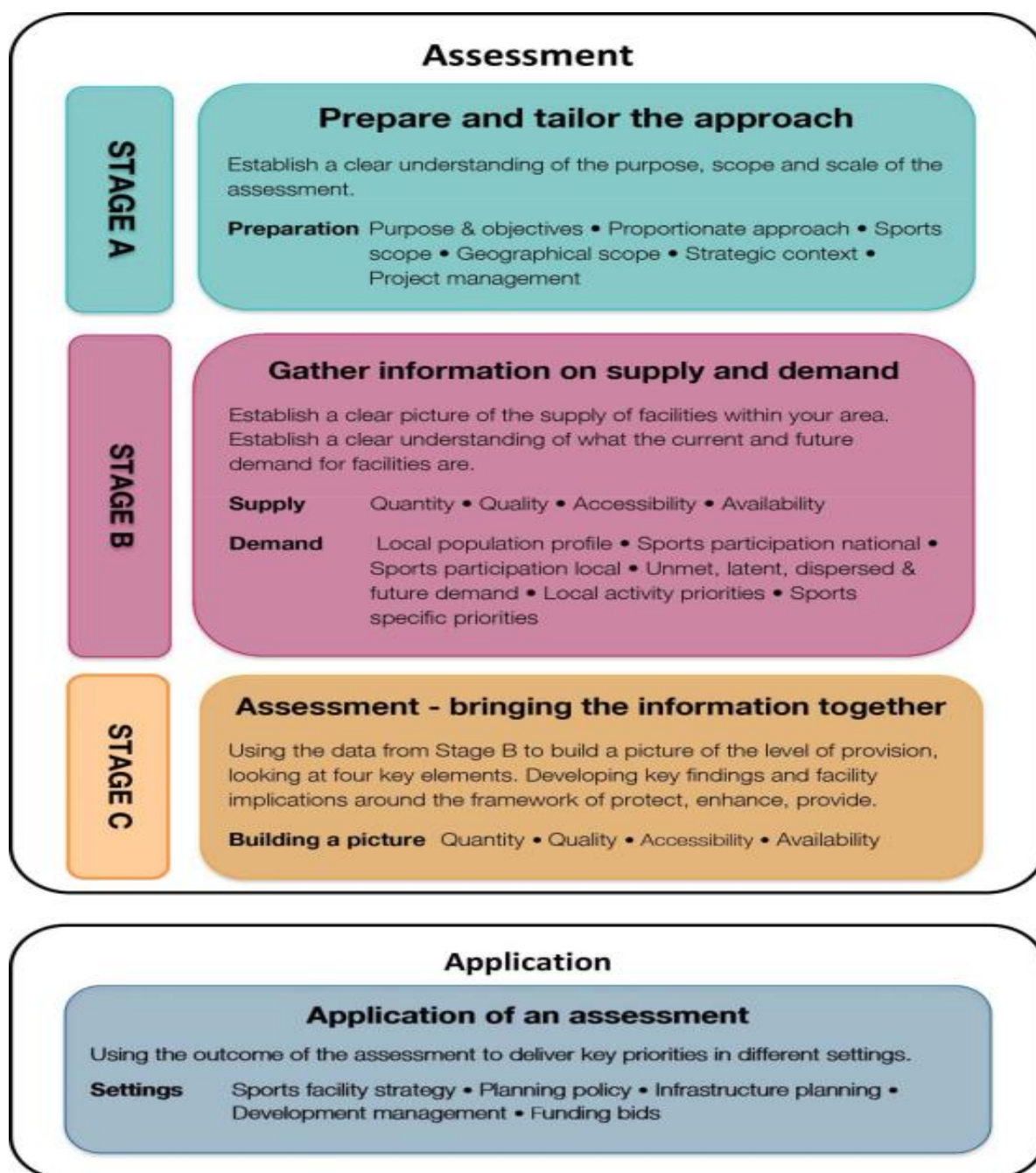
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SECTION 3: INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1: Methodology

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

Figure 3.1: Recommended approach



This provides a recommended approach to undertaking a robust assessment of need for indoor and outdoor sports facilities. It has primarily been produced to help (local authorities) meet the requirements of the Government’s NPPF, which states that:

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‘Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.’ (NPPF, Paragraph 96).

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

Demand background, data and consultation varies, depending upon the level of consultation garnered. In some instances, national data is available whilst in others, it has been possible to drill down and obtain very detailed local information. This is evident in the demand section.

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

3.2: Site visits

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

Site visits to key indoor facilities, those operated by other partners and the voluntary sector have been undertaken. Via the audit and via informal interviews with facility managers this report identifies ‘relevance’ and ‘condition’ and describes (e.g.):

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

The assessment form utilised captures quantity and quality data on a site by site basis and feeds directly into the main database allowing information to be stored and analysed. Quality assessments undertaken are rated in the following categories. These ratings are applied throughout the report, regardless of facility type. Ratings are based on non-technical visual assessments. These consider facility age and condition. Surfaces, tiles and walls, line markings and safety equipment are considered and problem areas such as mould, damage, leaks etc. are noted. Condition of fixtures, fittings and equipment is recorded. Maintenance and facility ‘wear and tear’ is considered as is compliant with the Equality Act, although this is not studied in detail for the purposes of this report. When all data is collated, key facility elements receive an overall quality rating.

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Table 3.1: Quality ratings of indoor sports facilities using ANOG

Quality rating	Description
Good	Facility is assessed as being new or recently invested, up to date, well maintained, clean and well-presented and generally no older than ten years. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are new or relatively new with little if any wear and tear. The facility is well lit with a modern feel. Ancillary facilities are welcoming, new or well maintained, fit for purpose, modern and attractive to use.
Above average	Facility is in reasonable condition and is well maintained and presented. May be older but it is fit for purpose and safe. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are in an acceptable condition but may show some signs of wear and tear. Ancillary facilities are good quality, but potentially showing signs of age and some wear and tear.
Below average	Facility is older and showing signs of age and poor quality. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are showing signs of wear and tear. The facility is usable, but quality could be improved. The facility is not as attractive to customers and does not meet current expectations. Ancillary facilities are deteriorating, reasonable quality, but usable.
Poor	The facility is old and outdated. Fixtures, fittings, equipment and sports surfaces are aged, worn and/or damaged. The facility is barely usable and at times may have to be taken out of commission. The facility is unattractive to customers and does not meet basic expectations. Ancillary facilities are low quality and unattractive to use.

Catchment areas

Applying catchments areas for different provision types enables identification of areas currently not served by existing indoor sports facilities. It is recognised that these can vary from person to person, day to day, hour to hour. This problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchment', defined as the distance travelled by around 75-80% of users (used in the Sport England Facilities Planning Model – FPM). Sport England data indicates that most people will travel up to 20 minutes to access sports facilities.

This, coupled with KKP's experience of working with leisure facilities and use of local data enables identification of catchment areas for sports facilities as follows in Table 3.2. It is understood that village halls and community centres generally cater for a more local population so their catchment areas are set at 800m; considered to reflect a 10-minute walk time.

Table 3.2: Facility catchment areas

Facility type	Identified catchment area by urban/rural
Village halls/community centres	10-minute walk / 800m
Sport halls	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive
Health and fitness	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive
Swimming pools – general pools 50m pools	20-minute walk/ 20 minutes' drive 70-minutes' drive time
Squash courts	20 minutes' drive
Indoor bowls centre	30-minute drive
Dedicated gymnastics centre	20 minutes' drive
Indoor tennis	30-minute drive

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3.3: Facilities Planning Model (FPM) overview

Sport England's FPM helps to assess the strategic provision of community sports facilities. It has been developed as a means of:

- ◀ Assessing requirements for different types of community sports facilities on a local, regional or national scale.
- ◀ Helping local authorities determine an adequate level of sports facility provision to meet local need.
- ◀ Testing 'what if' scenarios with regard to provision and changes in demand, this includes testing the impact of opening, relocating and closing facilities and the impact population changes may have on need for sports facilities.

In its simplest form the model seeks to assess whether the capacity of existing facilities for a particular sport are capable of meeting local demand considering how far people are prepared to travel to a facility (using the integrated transport network). To estimate the level of sports facility provision in an area, the model compares the number of facilities (supply) with the demand for that facility (demand) that the local population will generate. The Model is prescriptive and not predictive in that it does not provide precise estimates of the use of proposed facilities. Rather, it prescribes an appropriate level of provision for any defined area in relation to demand and which reflects national expectations and policies.

The FPM is used to test scenarios by predicting the impact of creating a new facility or closing an existing venue, to the overall level of facility provision. It can also take account and model the impact of changes in population, for example, from major housing development. For this assessment, we have used FPM data from the Strategic Assessment of Provision for Sports Halls and Swimming Pools in Canterbury Report November 2019. It is based on data from the National Run using Active Places data as March 2019 which is the current provision of sports halls and swimming pools. The FPM does not include any future population growth. Findings are compared directly with the audit and assessment carried out by KKP.

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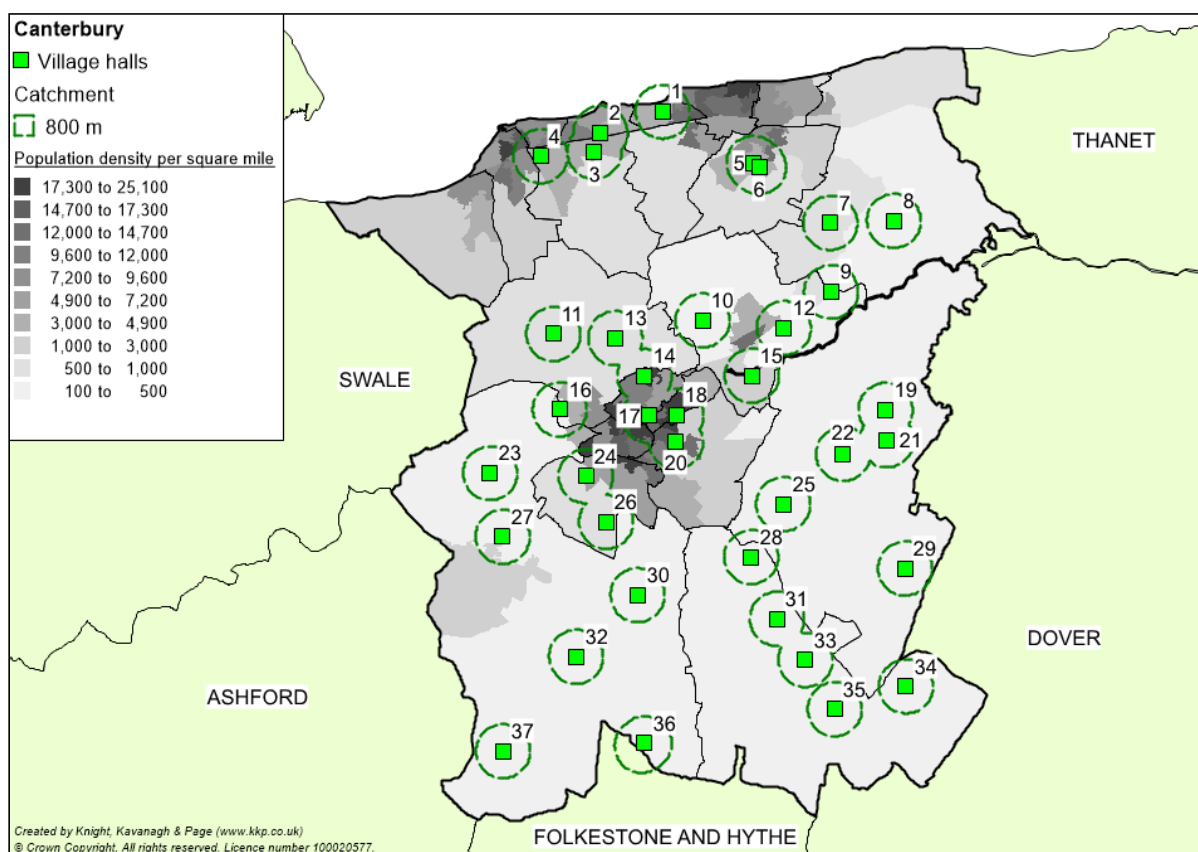
SECTION 4: VILLAGE/COMMUNITY HALLS

4.1: Supply of village/community halls

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

There are 37 village halls, and community centres in Canterbury District. They are distributed throughout the area covering both rural locations and areas of higher population density. There are fewer venues in the coastal towns of Herne Bay and Whitstable compared to Canterbury City as identified in Figure 4.1 and listed in Table 4.1 overleaf.

Figure 4.1: Location of village/community halls in Canterbury with 800m radial catchment



Radial catchment modelling estimates that approximately 32% of Canterbury’s population is within 800m of a village hall / community centre; which equates to 53,132 people out of a total population of 164,100 (MYE 2017). It should be noted that although the catchment is based on 800m (10-minute walk) many users travel by car to venues and parking is still an important facility requirement. Located throughout the District and in areas of both higher population density and some of the more rural areas, these facilities have the potential to offer a variety of different types of physical activity which are relevant to the local communities which they serve.

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Table 4.1: Village/community halls in Canterbury

ID	Site name	ID	Site name
1	Studd Hill Community Hall	20	Querns Community Centre
2	St John's Centre	21	Ickham Village Hall
3	Chestfield WI	22	Littlebourne War Memorial Hall
4	All Saints Hall	23	Chartham Hatch Village Hall
5	Herne Village Hall	24	Thanington Resource Centre
6	Herne Centre	25	Bekesbourne Village Hall
7	Hoath Village Hall	26	St Faiths Village Hall
8	Chislet Centre	27	Chartham Village Hall
9	Hersden Community Centre	28	Bridge Village Hall
10	Broad Oak Village Hall	29	Adisham Village Hall
11	Blean Village Hall	30	Lower Hardres & Nackington Village Hall
12	Westbere Village Hall	31	Bishopsbourne Village Hall
13	Tyler Hill Memorial Hall	32	Petham Village Hall
14	St Stephens Community Centre	33	Kingston Village Hall
15	Fordwich Village Hall	34	St Margaret of Antioch Church
16	Rough Common Village Hall	35	Barham Village Hall
17	Long Bridge Youth Centre	36	Bossingham Village Hall
18	Northgate Ward Community Centre	37	Waltham Village Hall
19	Wickhambreaux Village Hall		

Availability

Most village halls rely on volunteers to operate them and service the local community. Many offer facilities to the local community at the key times. Activities tend to reflect local community needs with the different types including:

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

Dance	Fitness	Physical activity	Sport
Ballroom	Zumba	Aerobics	Table tennis
Street Dance	Boot camp	Keep fit	Badminton
Line Dance	Yoga	Tai chi	Martial arts (Karate, Kendo, Aikido)
Tap (adult)	Fit-steps	Pilates	Short mat bowls
Impact dance	Cathedral Fitness	Little Kickers	
	Boxercise	Indoor walking	
	Glow Fit		

4.2 Demand

Discussion with council officers and desktop research suggests that demand for village hall and community centre space is high. This highlights their importance in ensuring that a good range of local sport and physical activity is provided for residents in Canterbury.

They also play an important role in ensuring that older people or people living in the more rural areas have access to facilities and can contribute to getting the inactive active or retaining those already involved. Further analysis is required to gauge whether, and the extent to which, activities in these facilities can further meet the needs of what is an ageing local population.

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4.3 Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Village halls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	37 village and community halls are identified in the district. They are well distributed and serve different communities.	There is a requirement to identify the need for any additional village hall/community provision in the District due to their current popularity.
Quality	No site visits were undertaken. Facilities generally deteriorate with age, unless sufficient maintenance, resources and investment are forthcoming. Consequently, the older the facility the greater the need for maintenance and investment.	CCC and partners need to monitor and track the quality of village halls/ community centres with a view to establishing a register of need. CCC, with partners, should consider if and what support it can give to ensure that facility quality is improved and/or maintained.
Accessibility	Nearly one third (32%) of the population lives within an 800m catchment of a site. New housing developments may place additional demand on current facilities. Some of the more rural areas of CCC do not necessarily have access to village halls. Their importance in the communities they serve should not be underestimated.	Herne Bay and Whitstable are areas of higher population density without 'walk-to' access to a village hall or community centre.
Availability (Management and usage)	Management varies between village hall committees, parish councils and individuals. All rely to some degree on the goodwill of volunteers. The range of activities varies between each hall and is considered to broadly reflect interpreted local need.	Continue to support the work of hall management to secure external funding, improve volunteer skills and enhance the quality and effectiveness of facility management, programming and finance.
Summary	Support village hall and parish council committees to continue to offer, coordinate and publicise community spaces which contribute positively to the physical activity and health and wellbeing agenda. Consider the impact of the house building programme on current facilities and whether demand will start to outstrip supply in specific areas.	

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SECTION 5: SPORTS HALLS

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

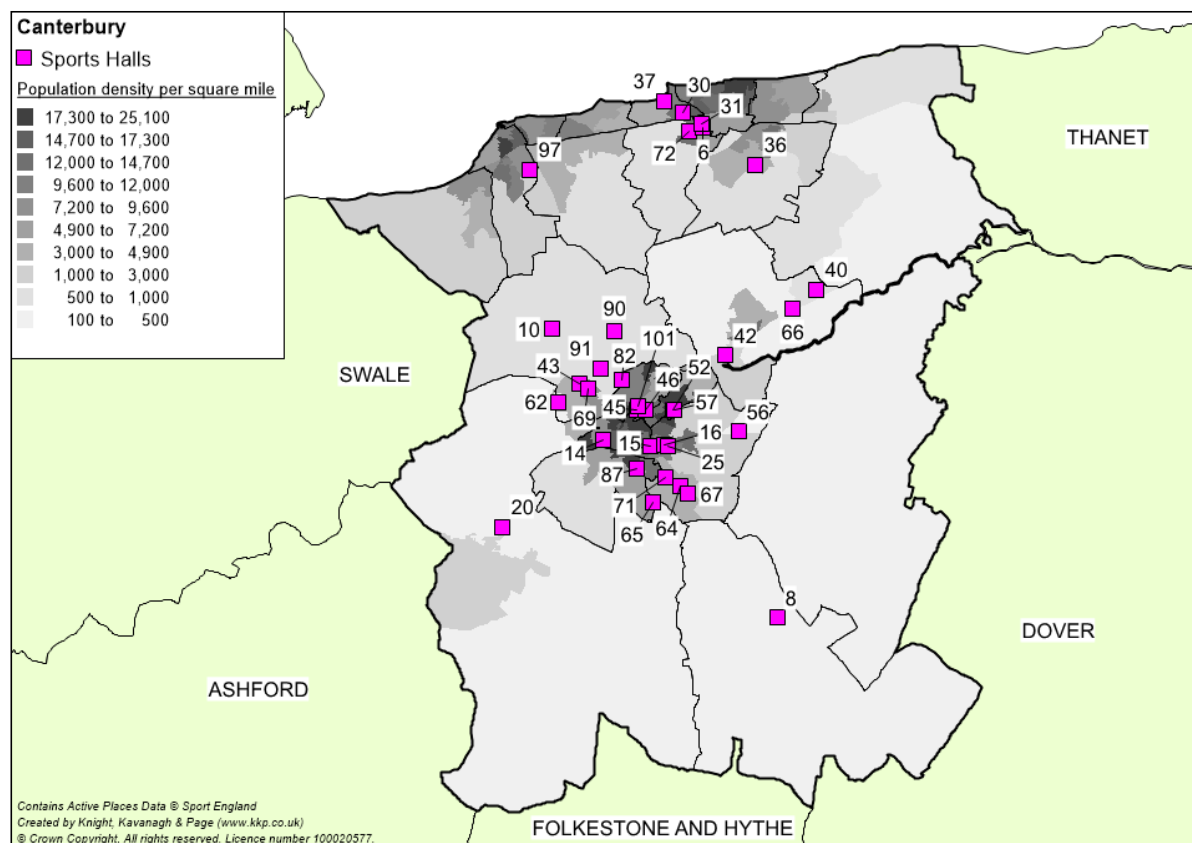
Sports halls are generally considered to be of greatest value if they are of at least 3+ badminton court size with sufficient height to allow games such as badminton to be played. It should be noted, however, that a 4-court sports hall provides greater flexibility as it can accommodate major indoor team sports such as football (5-a-side and training), basketball and netball. It also has sufficient length to accommodate indoor cricket nets and indoor athletics; as such they tend to offer greater sports development flexibility than the 3-court counterpart.

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

5.1: Supply

Quantity

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



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The 43 sports halls of all sizes in Canterbury accommodate 118 courts and are generally located in areas of higher population density.

Table 5.1: All sports/activity halls in Canterbury – recording size (number of badminton courts)

ID	Site name	Cts	ID	Site name	Cts
6	Bay Sports Arena	5	62	Rough Common Village	1
6	Bay Sports Arena	4	64	Simon Langton Girls'	0
6	Bay Sports Arena	2	65	Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	4
8	Bishopsbourne Recreation Ground	0	65	Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	1
10	Blean Village Hall	1	66	Spires Academy	4
14	Canterbury Academy Campus	6	67	St Anselms R.C. School	4
15	Canterbury Baptist Church	1	67	St Anselms R.C. School	0
16	Canterbury College	4	67	St Anselms R.C. School	2
20	Chartham Parish Council Village	0	69	St Edmunds School	1
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	8	69	St Edmunds School	4
30	Hampton School	1	71	St Lawrence Ground	4
31	Herne Bay High School	0	72	St Peters Church Hall	1
36	Herne Community Centre	1	82	The Archbishop's School	1
37	Herne Bay Table Tennis Club	0	82	The Archbishop's School	1
40	Hersden Village Primary School	0	87	The Orchard School	2
42	Junior King's School	4	90	Tyler Hill Memorial Hall	0
43	Kent College	4	91	University of Kent	8
45	Kings School Recreation Centre	4	91	University of Kent	4
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	4	91	University of Kent	4
52	Northgate Ward Community Centre	3	97	Whitstable Sports Centre	4
56	Polo Farm Sports Club	10	101	The Malthouse	4
57	Prince of Wales Youth Club	2		Total	118

22 have two courts or fewer. While often appropriate for mat sports, exercise to music and similar provision, these inevitably limit the range of recreational and sporting activity that larger halls can enable. Some venues have more than one activity/sports hall on site. As identified in study scoping Table 5.2 identifies halls excluded from the audit and assessment due to size (fewer than three marked courts).

Table 5.2: Sports halls with fewer than 3 badminton courts (excluded from supply due to size)

ID	Site name	Cts	ID	Site name	Cts
No marked courts					
8	Bishopsbourne Recreation Ground	0	40	Hersden Village Primary	0
20	Chartham Parish Council Village Hall	0	64	Simon Langton Girls'	0
31	Herne Bay High School	0	67	St Anselms R.C. School	0
37	Herne Bay Table Tennis Club	0	90	Tyler Hill Memorial Hall	0

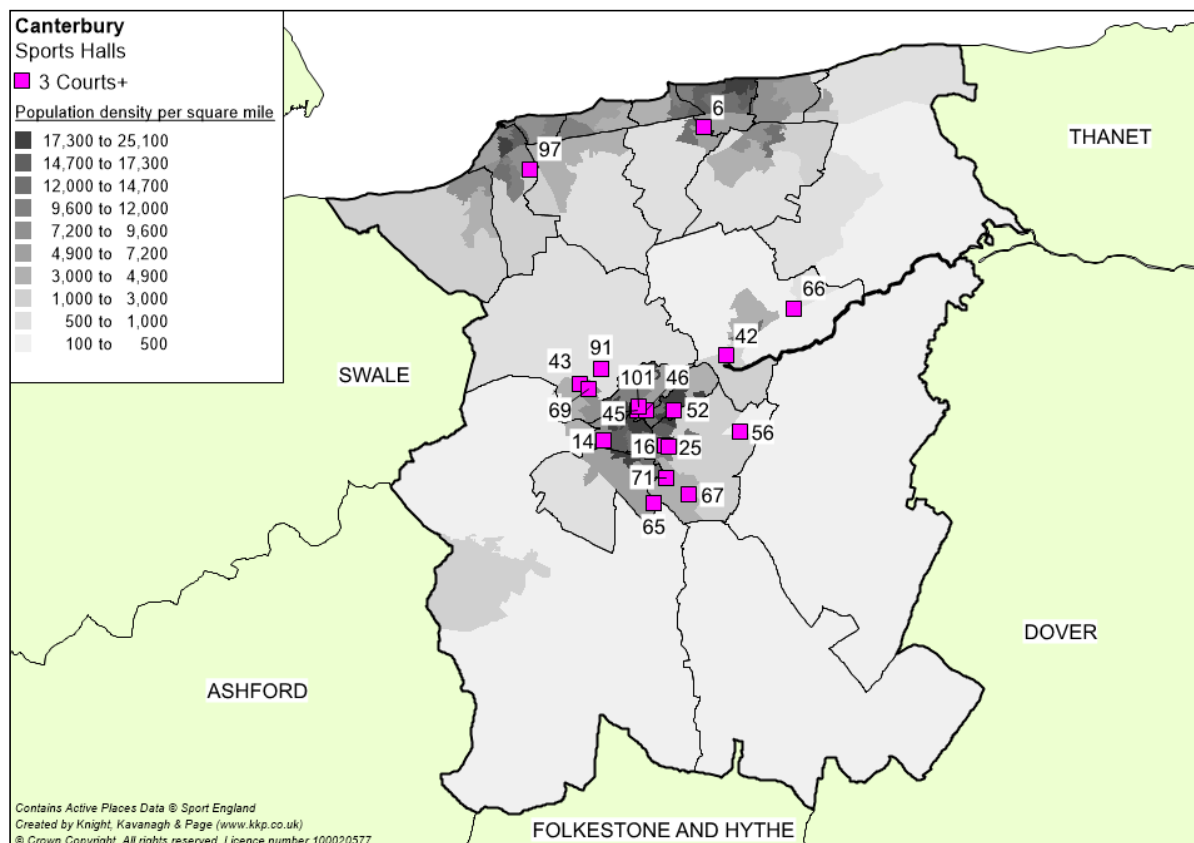
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ID	Site name	Cts	ID	Site name	Cts
One marked court					
10	Blean Village Hall	1	64	St Edmunds School	1
15	Canterbury Baptist Church	1	65	St Peters Church Hall	1
30	Hampton School	1	65	The Archbishop's School	1
36	Herne Community Centre	1	66	The Archbishop's School	1
62	Rough Common Village Hall	1	67	Simon Langton School (Boys)	1
Two marked courts					
6	Bay Sports Arena	2	67	St Anselms R.C. School	2
57	Prince of Wales Youth Club	2	87	The Orchard School	2

The remaining 21 sports halls have three or more marked courts. The majority are located in and around the City of Canterbury itself with one in Whitstable and one in Herne Bay. They vary significantly in size; there are:

- ◀ One 3-court hall
- ◀ Fifteen 4-court halls
- ◀ One 5-court hall
- ◀ One 6-court hall
- ◀ Two 8-court halls
- ◀ One 10-court hall.

Figure 5.2: Sports halls with 3+ courts in Canterbury District



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Table 5.3: Sports halls with 3+ badminton courts

ID	Site name	Cts	ID	Site name	Cts
6	Bay Sports Arena	5	65	Simon Langton Grammar	4
6	Bay Sports Arena	4	66	Spires Academy	4
14	Canterbury Academy	6	67	St Anselms R.C. School	4
16	Canterbury College	4	69	St Edmunds School	4
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	8	71	St Lawrence Ground	4
42	Junior King's School	4	91	University of Kent	8
43	Kent College	4	91	University of Kent	4
45	Kings School Rec.Centre	4	91	University of Kent	4
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	4	97	Whitstable Sports Centre	4
52	Northgate Ward	3	101	The Malthouse*	4
56	Polo Farm Sports Club**	10		Total	100

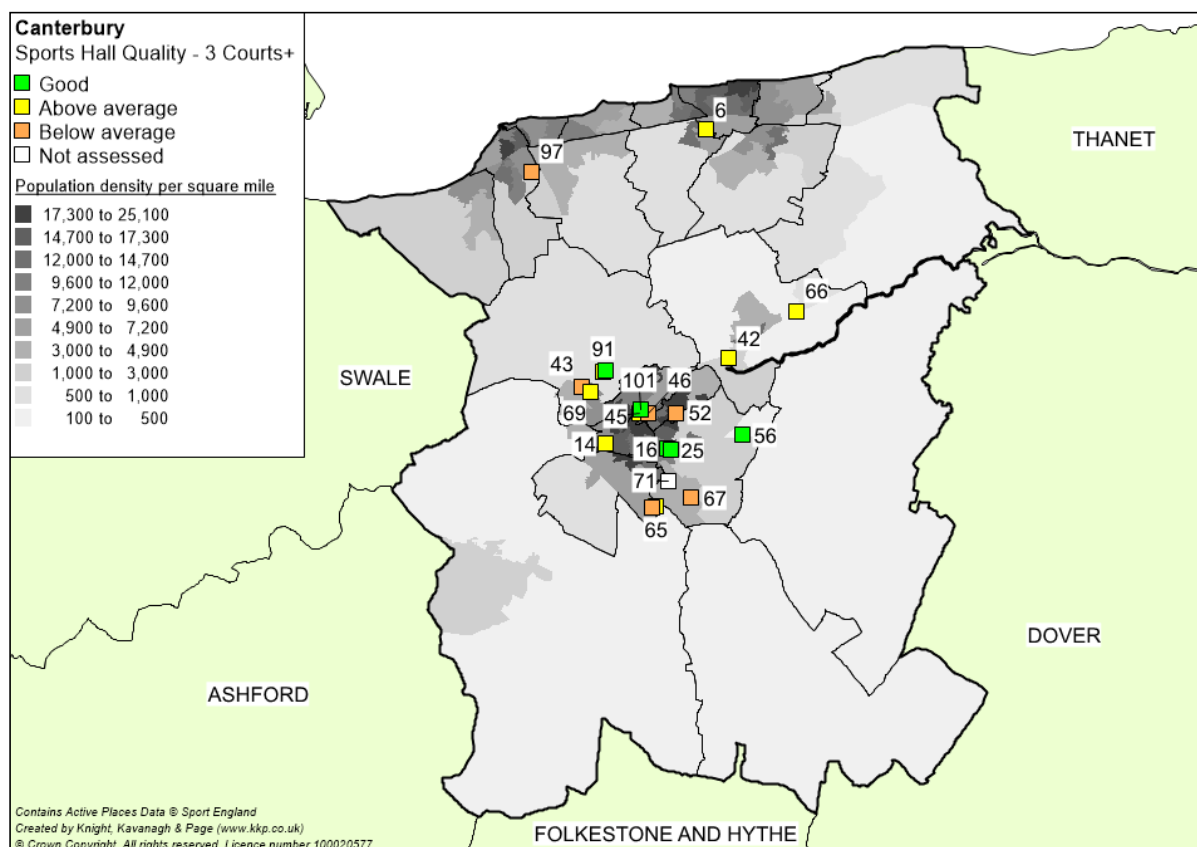
*There are 4 marked courts however they are not of badminton regulation size

** no badminton markings, hockey and netball only.

Facility quality

All but one of the 3+ court sports halls were subject to a non-technical assessment to ascertain quality, details of which are to be found in Table 5.4 and Figure 5.3 below. Access was not obtained to St Lawrence Ground despite numerous attempts to contact the operator.

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



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

ID	Site name	Courts	Assessment condition	
			Court	Changing
6	Bay Sports Arena	5	Above average	Not assessed
6	Bay Sports Arena	4	Above average	Not assessed
14	Canterbury Academy Campus	6	Above average	Above average
16	Canterbury College	4	Good	Above average
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	8	Good	Good
42	Junior King's School	4	Above average	Not assessed
43	Kent College	4	Below average	Not assessed
45	Kings School Recreation Centre	4	Above average	Not assessed
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	4	Below average	Below average
52	Northgate Ward Community Centre	3	Below average	Below average
56	Polo Farm Sports Club	10	Good	Good
65	Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	4	Above average	Below average
66	Spires Academy	4	Above average	Not assessed
67	St Anselms R.C. School	4	Below average	Below average
69	St Edmunds School	4	Above average	Not assessed
71	St Lawrence Ground	4	Not assessed	Not assessed
91	University of Kent	8	Above average	Above average
91	University of Kent	4	Above average	Above average
91	University of Kent	4	Good	Above average
97	Whitstable Sports Centre	4	Below average	Below average
101	The Malthouse	4	Good	Not assessed
		100		

A summary of the non-technical assessment is as follows:

Good	Above average	Below average	Poor	Not assessed
5	10	5	0	1

There are five good quality sports halls (30 courts), 10 are above average (47 courts), five are below average (19 courts) and one (4-court) hall was not assessed.

The University of Kent's four-court sports hall appears to be in good condition aesthetically, however, there is an issue with the flooring whereby the sub structure has collapsed. This has restricted programming in terms of the activities that can take place in it. It is in the process of being rectified with replacement flooring. Changing provision is generally commensurate with sports hall quality. A number of changing rooms (nine sites) were in use at the time of audit and could not be assessed.

The City centre is well serviced by a large number of sports halls mostly of good and above average quality. Whitstable residents, however, only have access to a below average quality sports hall. Consultation with sports clubs indicates that St Edmunds School is not able to provide access to ancillary facilities (toilets and changing rooms) when hiring its facilities.

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Table 5.5 indicates the year of construction and/or refurbishment of sports halls across the district.

Table 5.5: Year of construction and refurbishment of sports halls

Map ID	Site name	Courts	Year built	Year refurbished	Age since opened / refurbishment
6	Bay Sports Arena	5	2011		8
6	Bay Sports Arena	4	2011		8
14	Canterbury Academy Campus	6	2001		18
16	Canterbury College	4	2015		4
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	8	2009		10
42	Junior King's School	4	1998		21
43	Kent College	4	1989	2005	14
45	Kings School Recreation Centre	4	1990	2008	11
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	4	1996	2005	14
52	Northgate Ward Community Centre	3	1996	2009	10
56	Polo Farm Sports Club	10	2015		4
65	Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	4	2005		14
66	Spires Academy	4	2012		7
67	St Anselms R.C. School	4	1970	2003	16
69	St Edmunds School	4	1985		34
71	St Lawrence Ground	4	1992	2004	15
91	University of Kent	8	1965	2004	15
91	University of Kent	4	1997		22
91	University of Kent	4	2013		6
97	Whitstable Sports Centre	4	1983	2010	9
101	The Malthouse	4	2019		0

Key:

0-10 years	11-20	21-30	30+ years
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Table 5.5 indicates that the majority of sports halls have been refurbished in the last 20 years. St Edmunds School is the only one which has not had any refurbishment in the last 30 years. The oldest sports hall in the area is St. Anselms; built in 1970; the newest is The Malthouse; built and opened in 2019.

Accessibility

Sports hall accessibility is influenced by how far people are willing and able to travel to and from them. Appropriate walk and drive-time catchments are applied to facilities to determine accessibility of facilities to different communities. The normal acceptable (industry) standard is a 20-minute walk time (one-mile radial catchment) for an urban area and a 20-minute drive time for a rural area. Table 5.6 identifies that:

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- 100,383 of Canterbury's residents live within one mile of a sports hall: 62.9% of the total population.
- 31,053 people (19.5% of the population) live in areas of higher deprivation.
- Of these, most (26,585; 85.6%) live within a one-mile radial catchment of a sports hall.
- The whole Canterbury population lives within a 20-minute drive of a 3+ court sports hall.

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

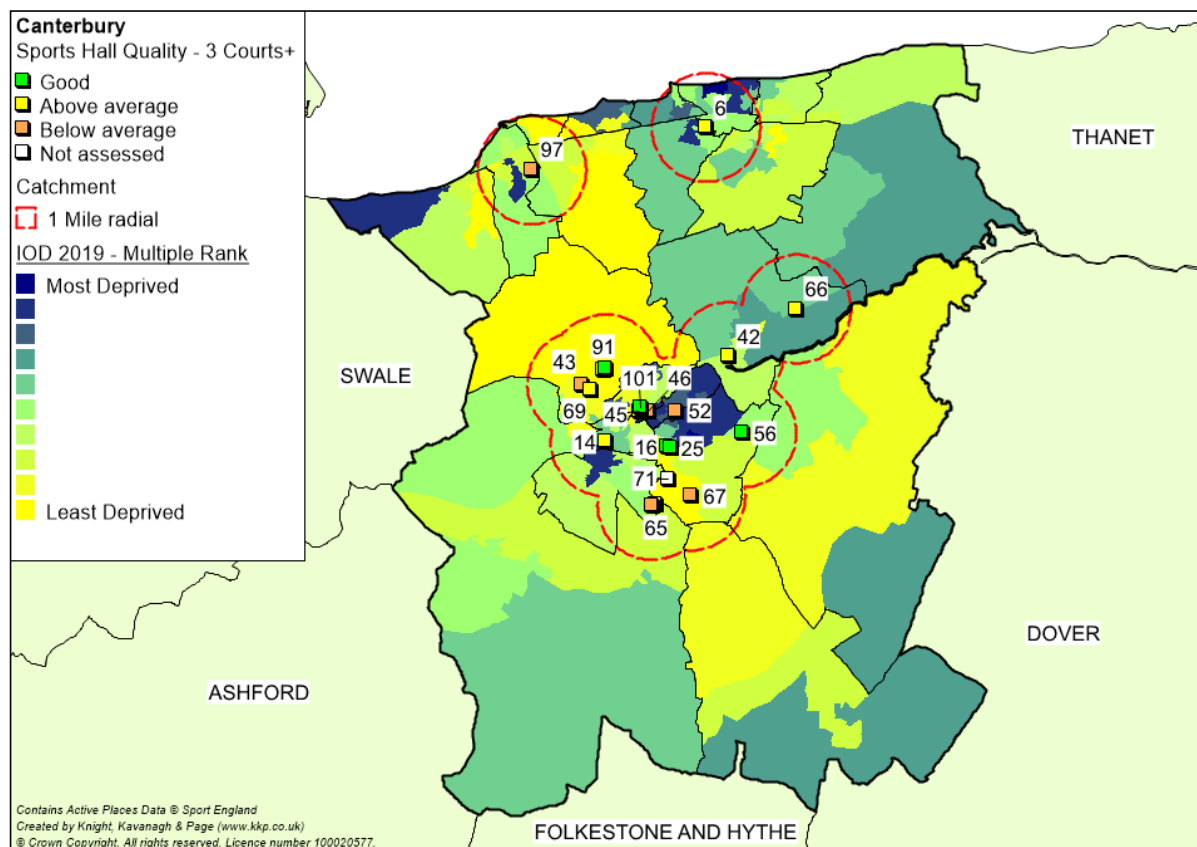


Table 5.6: Accessibility of sports halls with 3+ courts

IMD 2015 10% bands	Canterbury		Access to 3 court+ Sports hall (Including private use) within 1 mile radial			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	3,172	2.0%	3,106	1.9%	66	0.1%
10.1 - 20	16,579	10.4%	13,696	8.6%	2,883	1.8%
20.1 - 30	11,302	7.1%	9,783	6.1%	1,519	1.0%
30.1 - 40	5,835	3.7%	2,279	1.4%	3,556	2.2%
40.1 - 50	19,425	12.2%	10,676	6.7%	8,749	5.5%
50.1 - 60	19,280	12.1%	13,948	8.7%	5,332	3.3%
60.1 - 70	25,960	16.3%	15,367	9.6%	10,593	6.6%
70.1 - 80	19,965	12.5%	10,356	6.5%	9,609	6.0%
80.1 - 90	19,270	12.1%	13,096	8.2%	6,174	3.9%
90.1 - 100	18,875	11.8%	8,076	5.1%	10,799	6.7%

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Total	159,663	100.0%	100,383	62.9%	59,280	37.1%
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The area to the west of Seasalter (the north west of the district) is very sparsely populated and is likely to be identified as an area of deprivation based upon the level of (lack of) access to services rather than the number of people living areas of higher deprivation.

Residents from more deprived areas are statistically less likely to participate in sport than those resident in more affluent localities. The reasons for this include, for example, cost and access. The high accessibility to sports halls (85.6%) of people living within one-mile walking distance of a sports hall, suggests that the location of current sports halls is good.

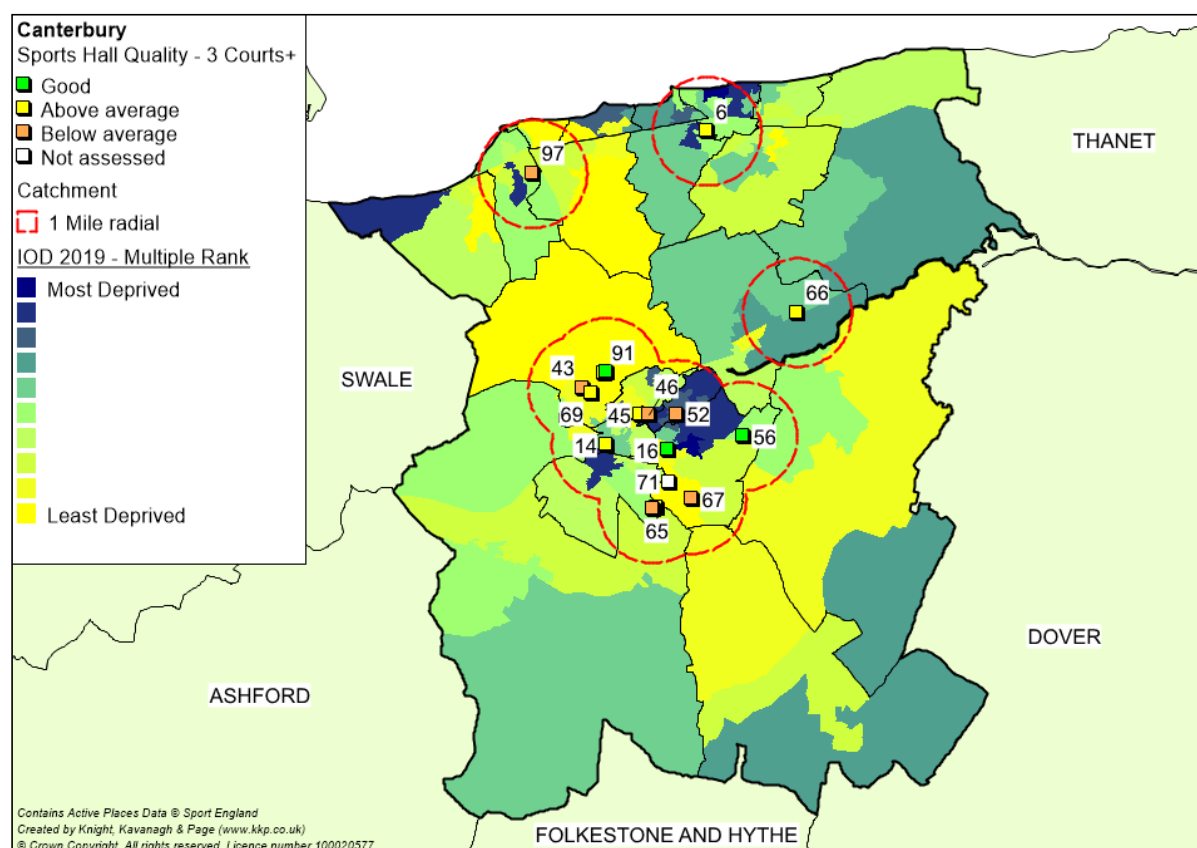
Availability and facility management

Three sports halls are not available to the community and are identified as private use only; Christ Church Sports Centre, Junior King’s School and The Malthouse. The Junior Kings and Malthouse are used by boarding students and the University facility (Christ Church Sports Centre) has planning restrictions in place preventing community use. The University, however, is currently working to try to overturn this as the current arrangement stipulates that the wider community can only use facilities if students are also participating in the sessions.

The removal of private use facilities does not alter accessibility significantly. The total percentage of people living within one mile of a sports hall reduces from 62.9% to 61.3%. This difference is even smaller for people living in areas of higher deprivation as it reduces from 16.6% to 16.5% of the total Canterbury District population.

Drive time catchment modelling estimates that the whole Canterbury population lives within 20 minutes’ drive of a 3 court+ community available sport hall. For details see Appendix 2.

Figure 5.5: Community available sports halls on IMD with 1-mile walk time



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Table 5.7: Community available sports halls with 3+ courts

IMD 2015 10% bands	Canterbury		Access to 3 court+ Sports hall (Excluding private use) within 1 mile radial			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	3,172	2.0%	3,106	1.9%	66	0.1%
10.1 - 20	16,579	10.4%	13,649	8.5%	2,930	1.8%
20.1 - 30	11,302	7.1%	9,783	6.1%	1,519	1.0%
30.1 - 40	5,835	3.7%	1,901	1.2%	3,934	2.5%
40.1 - 50	19,425	12.2%	10,437	6.5%	8,988	5.6%
50.1 - 60	19,280	12.1%	13,932	8.7%	5,348	3.3%
60.1 - 70	25,960	16.3%	14,496	9.1%	11,464	7.2%
70.1 - 80	19,965	12.5%	10,356	6.5%	9,609	6.0%
80.1 - 90	19,270	12.1%	12,340	7.7%	6,930	4.3%
90.1 - 100	18,875	11.8%	7,932	5.0%	10,943	6.8%
Total	159,663	100.0%	97,932	61.3%	61,731	38.7%

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Availability and facility management

Management and ownership varies. CCC owns three facilities - managed by Active Life Trust. School sports halls tend to be owned and managed by schools themselves. Canterbury Academy Campus uses a commercial operator while Northgate Ward is a community organisation managing its own facility. This is set out in Table 5.8.

Table 5.8: Ownership and management of sports hall facilities

Site	Ownership	Management
Bay Sports Arena	Local authority	Trust (Active Life)
Canterbury Academy Campus	School	Commercial operator
Canterbury College	College	In house
Christ Church Sport Centre	University	In house
Junior King's School	Independent school	In house
Kent College	Independent school	In house
Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	Independent school	In house
Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Local authority	Trust (Active Life)
Northgate Ward Community Centre	Community organisation	Community organisation
Polo Farm Sports Club	Sports club	Sports Club
Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys	School	In house
Spires Academy	Academy	In house
St Anselms R.C. School	Academy	In house
St Edmunds School	Independent school	In house
St Lawrence Ground	Sports club	In house
University of Kent	University	In house
Whitstable Sports Centre	School	Trust (Active Life)
The Malthouse (Canterbury Int. College)	Independent School	In house

Daytime availability

Kingsmead Leisure Centre, Northgate Ward Community Centre and Polo Farm Sports Club (all located in Canterbury city centre) are available for community use during the day. No sports halls are offer daytime availability in Whitstable or Herne Bay. This is important for residents who may wish to use facilities at such times including the growing number of older people (aged 65+) as highlighted in population projections (2016-2041). Table 5.9 indicates the level of community use available in sports halls across Canterbury. There is limited scope to increase this due to the constraints on education sites particularly those that are independent boarding schools.

Table 5.9: Opening hours and activities in sports halls in Canterbury

Community use hours	ID	Site	Courts	Main sports played
None	25	Christ Church Sport Centre	8	Private use (Occasional Futsal)
	42	Junior King's School	4	Private use
	101	The Malthouse (Canterbury International College)	4	Private use

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Community use hours	ID	Site	Courts	Main sports played	
1-40 hours	7.5	43	Kent College (Whitstable Road Site)	4	Netball
	18.0	65	Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	4	Football, hockey, basketball, rugby netball, handball, badminton, touch
	20.0	69	St Edmunds School	4+1	Badminton, netball
	26.0	66	Spires Academy	4	Badminton**, basketball, volleyball, fencing
	29.0	67	St Anselms R.C. School	4+2+0	Judo, netball, badminton, football, gymnastics
	31.25	45	Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	4	Basketball, badminton, football, netball, fitness
40+ hours	41.5	97	Whitstable Sports Centre	4	Badminton, fitness, football
	48.5	6	Bay Sports Arena	5+4+2	Bowling, cricket, badminton netball, roller sports (general skating), roller hockey, artistic) football, basketball.
	58.0	71	St Lawrence Ground	4	Badminton, indoor cricket
	70	52	Northgate Ward Community Centre	3	*Walking football, volleyball, badminton
	87.5	56	Polo Farm Sports Club	10	Netball and hockey
	90.5	91	University of Kent	8 +4+4	University sports, handball, football badminton, volleyball, basketball.
	93.0	14	Canterbury Academy Campus	6	Volleyball, basketball, badminton, football, wheelchair rugby
	93.0	16	Canterbury College	4	Basketball Martial arts, badminton, football, fencing, dodgeball, rugby
102.5	46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	4	Toddlers play, badminton, 5 a side, fitness, martial arts.	

**adjusted game formats required*

***The plates in the floor for handball nets prevents the use of the hall for competitive badminton. (No handball currently being played).*

Used capacity

The non-technical site audits identify the used capacity of each sports hall (shown in Table 5.10). Used capacity is the percentage of available community use hours used. For example, the 7.5 hours available at Kent College are used for 75% of the time whereas Northgate Ward Community Centre is available for 70 hours per week and is operating at 20-40% of used capacity.

Table 5.10: Used capacity of sports halls (peak hours only)

Used Capacity	Site
0-20%	Junior King's School**
	Christ Church Sports Centre**
	The Malthouse**
20-40%	St Edmunds School

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Used Capacity	Site
	Northgate Ward Community Centre
40-60%	Whitstable Sports Centre
60-80%*	Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)
	Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)
	Bay Sports Arena
	Kingsmead Leisure Centre
	Kent College
	Spires Academy
	Polo Farm
80-100%	St Anselms RC School
	University of Kent
	Canterbury Academy Campus
	Canterbury College
Unknown	St Lawrence Ground

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

** Not currently available for private use

As identified above, access was not obtained to St Lawrence Ground to ascertain capacity.

Consultation indicates capacity to accommodate increased demand in the Northgate Ward Community Centre and Whitstable Sports Centre sports halls

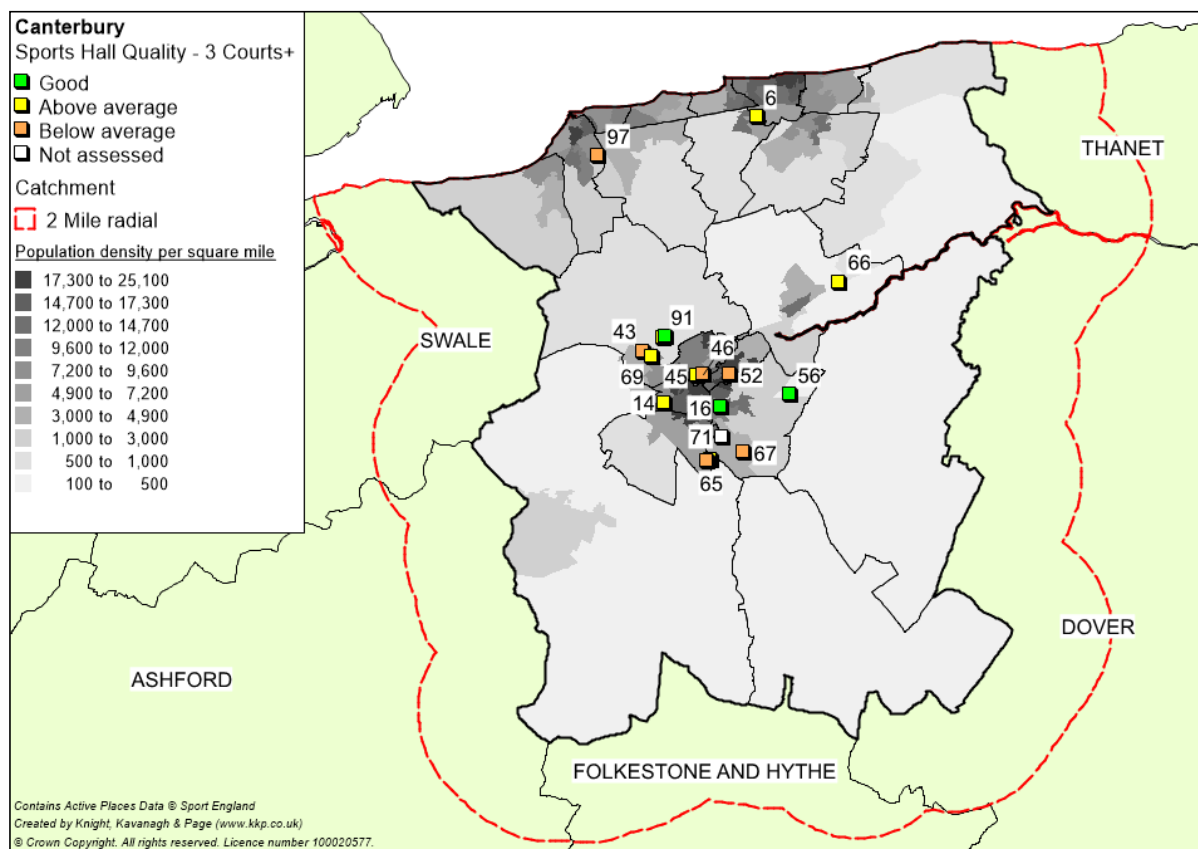
As mentioned previously, there are no welfare or changing facilities available for the community to use at St Edmunds School. The absence of access to these facilities limits school capacity to increase greater levels of community use.

Neighbouring facilities (Source: Active Places Power 20/10/2019)

Accessibility can be influenced by facilities located outside an authority. However, there are no sports halls within two miles of the authority boundary as shown in Figure 5.6 overleaf.

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Figure 5.6 Sports halls with 3+ courts within 2 miles of Canterbury



Future planned developments/refurbishments

Consultation indicates there are sports hall developments planned in Canterbury as follows:

- ◀ Kingsmead Leisure Centre (Map ID 46) –£10.3m of investment will include altering the existing sports hall into a new children’s play and climbing area, building a new sports hall (4 courts), refurbishing the swimming pool, steam and sauna, café, and studios. It also includes new wet changing area, larger dry changing area and increasing the size of the car park. The new sports hall will not provide additional indoor sports activity space, it will simply transfer from the existing hall.
- ◀ Christ Church Sports Centre (Map ID 25) – current planning restrictions limit the use of sports facilities by the community. These stipulate that all use must be for students of the University only. Investigation is underway to explore whether this can be changed so that the community can hire facilities when not in use by the students.
- ◀ Barton Court Academy (Map ID 102) is a new school currently under construction on the Old Chaucer Technology School site. Plans for the site include a new 4-court sports hall. It is planned that the school will open in 2021 with five forms of 30 pupils; the first 150 joining in September 2021. It will provide an additional 201 school places by 2023. Consultation indicates that the sports hall will be available for hire by the community.
- ◀ Simon Langton Grammar Girls School (Map ID 64) is also a new school building – expected to open in December 2020. Consultation indicates that the new (3-court) sports hall will be available for the community to hire.

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Figure 5.7: Planned new sports hall developments in the Canterbury area

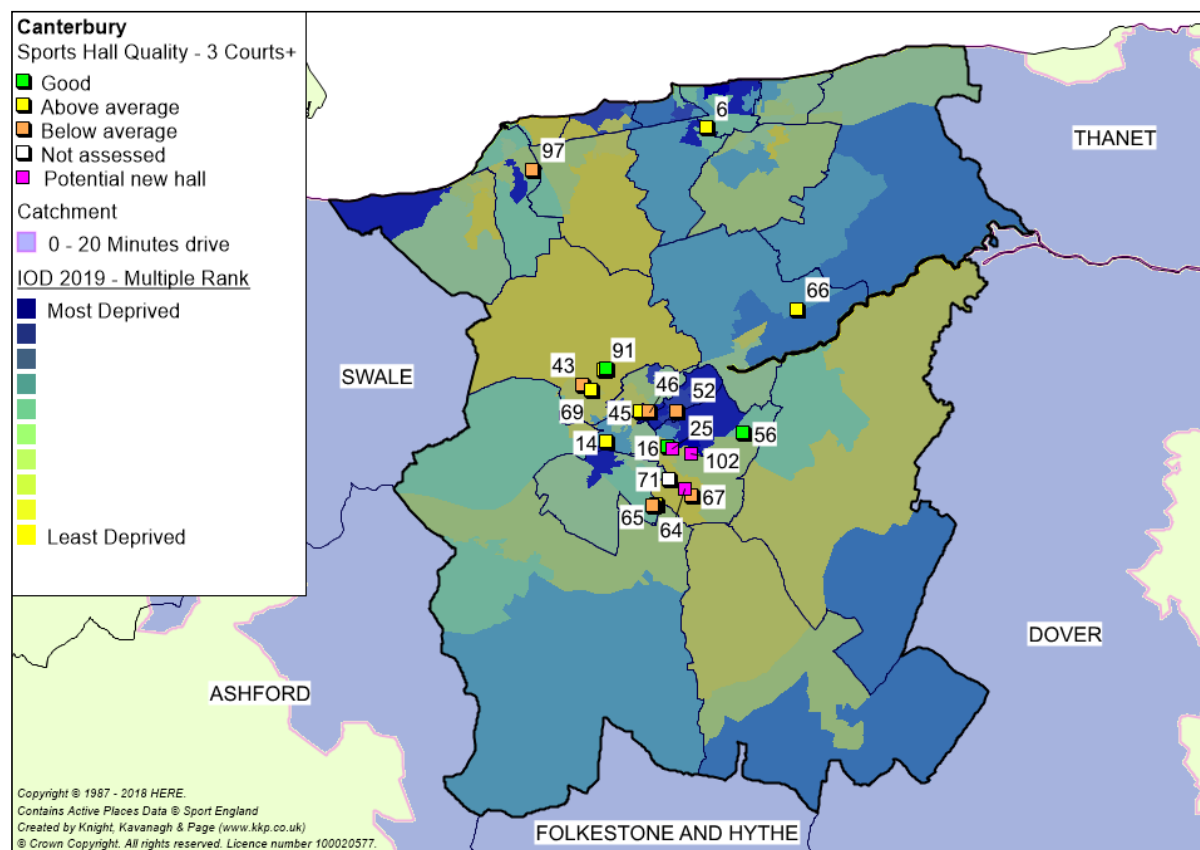


Table 5.11: Planned sports hall developments in Canterbury

Map ID	Site	Map ID	Site
25	Christ Church Sports	64	Simon Langton Grammar School (Girls)
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	102	Barton Court Academy

Development of these new sports halls will leave accessibility (drive and walk times) unchanged. Overall unless any of these plans change, there will be a net increase of seven courts (Barton Court Academy and Simon Langton Grammar School (Girls)) and potential for a further eight (Christ Church Sports Centre) becoming available to the community in the near future.

At the time of the audit 2019, Canterbury Academy was planning to install an inflatable play arena which will have an impact on the use of two courts each weekend and during school holidays. It will not be a permanent structure and will be stowed away when not in use. It is expected that this will while, limiting sporting use of this hall at these times, increase broader recreational use of the sports hall.

Facilities planning model (FPM)

Sport England's FPM report provides an overview of current levels of provision of sports halls in Canterbury; based on data from the Strategic Assessment of Need for Sports Hall provision – National Run Report November 2019. The FPM uses data from the Sport England Active Places Power Database. The audit found that the data used by the FPM is out of date and the FPM dataset differs somewhat from the audit as follows:

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Table 5.12: Changes to the national database not considered in the FPM

Site	Description
The Malthouse	A new 4 court sports hall opened 2019 – used privately by Kings School only.
Bay Sports Arena	An additional two courts (activity hall) is available at Bay Sports Arena.
Herne Bay High School	Studios and an activity hall are available for community use.
Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	Activity hall is now a climbing/bouldering area.
Kent College	The sports hall is available for less hours per week than the database indicated i.e.7.5 hours as opposed to 30 hours.
Northgate Ward Community Centre	Available for hire for a significantly increased number of hours (subject to demand).

It should also be noted that the FPM also does not take into consideration any of the developments currently taking place or planned for the area.

The FPM identifies:

- ◀ There are 23 sports halls on 16 sites, this comprises of 20 main halls and three activity halls. There are several larger halls offering 6 or more courts at Canterbury Academy Campus, Polo Farm sports Club (10 courts) and the University of Kent (8 courts).
- ◀ There is limited availability during off peak periods with the majority of the education owned sports halls not available during the daytime.
- ◀ The average age of sports halls across the District is 23 years. Two sites (University of Kent and St Anselms) are more than 40 years old.
- ◀ The majority of sports halls sites are in education ownership, two are local authority owned, two are owned by sports clubs and one by a Community Association.
- ◀ Peak time availability is limited at some sites particularly the school-owned sites.
- ◀ The number of courts per 10,000 population in Canterbury is 6.1. This is higher than all comparator local authorities and county level (4.2) and is also higher than the national (4.2) average.

5.2: Demand

In the context of current demand for sports halls, Sport England's FPM report, based on comparing the number of badminton courts at sites available for community use with the demand for sports halls by Canterbury residents, suggests a positive balance of 24.3 badminton courts.

When looking at a very simplistic picture of the overall supply and demand across Canterbury the FPM identifies that the resident population is estimated to generate a demand for a minimum of 47.1 courts. This compares to a current available supply of 71.4 courts, giving a supply/demand balance of 24.3. The FPM considers hall space to include the equivalent of all the main and ancillary/secondary halls available.

Please note, for realistic/ comfortable provision, supply needs to be greater than demand. If supply only matches demand, then all halls would need to be full, all of the time in order to meet all demand.

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Table 5.13: Demand findings from the FPM

Element	FPM 2019	Kent County	National
Satisfied demand (%)	92.3%	92.7%	91.3%
Satisfied demand retained within Canterbury	96.8%	94.8%	100%
Levels of unmet demand	7.7%	7.3%	8.7%
% of unmet demand due to residents living outside catchment of a hall (as opposed to no capacity).	87.5%	92.3%	78.2%
Used capacity	51.5%	65.3%	67%
Imported use (% of used capacity)	8.4%	4.1%	0.1%
Exported use (% of used capacity)	3.2%	5.2%	0

*Sport England sets a comfort factor for sports halls being comfortably full and this is 80% of the total hall capacity. Beyond this 80% level, the hall itself becomes too full and operating at an uncomfortable level.

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 sports hall. Satisfied demand in Canterbury is 92.3% which is higher than other neighbouring authorities and similar to national and county levels. There is a small proportion of the satisfied being met by residents outside the area 3.2%.

Unmet demand definition has two parts to it - demand for halls which cannot be met because (1) there is too much demand for any particular sports hall within its catchment area; or (2) the demand is located outside the catchment area of any hall and is then classified as unmet demand. This is unmet demand from lack of access. Unmet demand (7.7%) is due to residents living outside the catchment area of a hall (87.5%) the remaining 12.5% is due to sports halls being at capacity. Of those living outside the catchment, 81.8% do not have access to a car.

The overall used capacity of sports halls across the District is 51.5% which is lower than neighbouring authorities, county and national levels (65.3% and 67% respectively) which indicates there is a lot of spare capacity. When looking at halls individually, there is a variance across the sites. Several sites exceed 80.0% (Bay Sports Arena, Canterbury Academy, Kingsmead Leisure Centre, Whitstable Sports Centre and Northgate Ward Community Centre. (The data for Northgate Centre is based on there only being five hours community use at peak times; the audit, however found the site was available for significantly more (70) hours subject to demand. Conversely some sites are available for significantly less than the 80% comfort factor (University of Kent and St Anselms RC School.

Table 5.14: Used capacity of sites

Site	Used Capacity (%)
Bay Sports Arena	100%
Canterbury Academy Campus	82%
Canterbury College	57%
Herne Bay High School	77%
Kent College	36%
Kings School Recreation Centre	56%
Kingsmead Leisure Centre	100%
Northgate Ward Community Centre	100%
Polo Farm Sports Club	35%
Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	37%
Spires Academy	42%
St Anselms RC School	23%

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Site	Used Capacity (%)
St Edmunds School	31%
St Lawrence Ground	42%
University of Kent	23%
Whitstable Sports Centre	100%

Several sports halls are not fully available in the peak period. To address high utilisation of the halls operating above 80% there is scope to increase the availability at peak times of these facilities which would provide additional capacity.

University of Kent and St Anselms have the most capacity which is not being utilised, some of this is likely due to the sites being older and less attractive meaning demand goes elsewhere. Refurbishing these older facilities could also lead to increased utilisation.

NGB consultation

National governing bodies of sport (NGBs) and active clubs have been consulted to ascertain and understand current use, participation trends and needs and challenges of sports hall facilities in the area.

Badminton England

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

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

Consultation with BE indicates that Canterbury has been an identified area for the Community Badminton Network (CBN) programme. This has seen local investment to improve provision as well as the facilitation of a group of partners working together to increase activity. This latter remains active and continues to develop badminton across the district. As a result of this work, Canterbury is a high badminton participation area with a large number of affiliated clubs.

The challenge is that activity typically takes place in educational establishments (schools, colleges, universities). This means that community access is not always easy and expansion to accommodate more badminton in these venues is not always possible when needed. The following currently host BE affiliated clubs:

- ◀ St Anselms Catholic School.
- ◀ Canterbury College.
- ◀ Simon Langton Grammar School.
- ◀ Herne Bay High School.

These facilities are key to badminton development and any change to use which results in reduced availability would have a significant negative impact on the sport. The following are affiliated clubs of significant membership size in Canterbury:

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- ◀ Apollo Canterbury Badminton Club (34 members)
- ◀ Kings Badminton Club (42 members)
- ◀ Canterbury Junior Badminton Club (37 members)
- ◀ Rovers Badminton Club (35 members)
- ◀ Racqueeters Junior Badminton Club (24 members)
- ◀ Racqueeters Badminton Club (30 members)
- ◀ Invicta Pilgrims Badminton Club (23 members)
- ◀ Herne Bay Junior Badminton Club (5 members)
- ◀ Kings Road Badminton Club (24 members)
- ◀ Westgate Badminton Club (26 members)

Canterbury is identified as an area for potential for growth. BE is currently working on a large-scale primary school programme with partners within the area - intended to increase participation within schools and engagement and membership within local clubs. It is anticipated that this, in turn, will result in increased demand for court time as clubs expand.

For the forthcoming season, as a follow on to the Inter-Schools Badminton League the CBN is trialing a medley badminton league which will only require four players per team. It is hoped that this will be attractive to players and provide an exit route from the League.

BE suggests that additional court time will be required, in the near future, to cater for the sport due to the proactive nature of the CBN and clubs in the area. Further, via the OpenActive project, a programme of development with leisure operators, it is envisaged that there will be increased demand for recreational court time.

Consultation with the CBN indicates currently restricted capacity for the sport to grow due to the limited availability of current facilities and local facility hire costs.

Club consultation

Racqueteters – formed as a result of two club satellite sessions for three secondary schools which included Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys, Barton Court and Canterbury Academy). It is located at Canterbury College. It has an adult section, junior section (based at St Anselms RC School) and a RallyKats session (ladies only) for all ages at Northgate Ward Community Centre.

Herne Bay Junior Badminton Club - established 50 years ago has c.30 members (male and female) and reports drawing from a wide catchment. It also suggests that facilities are not available at its preferred times, it would like to play earlier, however, due to demand from other sports the facility is not available. It also reports that changes to the operations of Active Life/Fusion have resulted in new payment terms which now requires clubs to pay a deposit of £200 and to be invoiced a month in advance. This means that it will need to find £1000 in advance or potentially lose the booking. It is suggested that this may have a detrimental effect on smaller sports and clubs which cannot afford to alter payment methods.

Kings Road Badminton Club - has 23 (male/female) members and is based at Herne Bay High School. It reports badminton participation to have declined across the area generally from a local league with 15 divisions down now to one of just two divisions. It reports that current trends are for people to play socially and recreationally. Badminton England, CBNs and clubs are actively working together to increase participation and play across the Kent area.

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Other known badminton activity in the area includes:

- ◀ *Apollo Badminton Club* – competitive/recreational club based at St Anselms RC School.
- ◀ *Shuttlebusters*– pay and play sessions at Northgate Ward Community Centre, Club night training sessions, and match nights.
- ◀ *Invicta Pilgrims* – based at Spires Academy.
- ◀ *Rovers Badminton Club* – based at Canterbury College.
- ◀ *Canterbury Kings Badminton Club* – based at Kings School Recreation Centre.
- ◀ *Breakaway Badminton Group* -This is a non-competitive recreational group based in All Saints Church Hall in Whitstable. Sessions are pay and play based.
- ◀ *Royal Oak Badminton Club* – based at Canterbury College.
- ◀ *Canterbury Junior Badminton Club* – based at Canterbury Academy, provides badminton coaching for juniors aged 7-18 years.
- ◀ *Deccar Badminton Club* – Based at St Edmunds School.
- ◀ *Sturry BC* – based at St Edmunds School.
- ◀ *Feathers BC* – based at St Edmunds School.

Netball

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

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

England Netball reports that netball is growing fast nationally with a recent YouGov report commissioned by England Netball reporting that the 2019 World Cup inspired 160,000 adult women to take up the sport and a 1000% increase in visits to its online netball session finder at the end of the World Cup, compared to the two weeks prior. In addition, 71% of clubs reported more people had shown an interest in playing netball than before the tournament started.

Netball is played both indoors and out. For outdoor provision please refer to the *Playing Pitch Strategy 2019*. Current indoor provision in the CCC area is as follows.

EN reports one small affiliated league operating in Canterbury (the Canterbury & District Netball League -CDNL) which attracts players from all over East Kent.

The majority of the clubs in CDNL are single teams which identify as clubs but do not operate as such. Two operate with coaches, junior sections and aspirations of playing at a higher level than the local league – Pilgrims Netball Club and Canterbury Academy of Netball.

EN reports that despite the hard work in junior netball development by these two, there is no junior netball league in Canterbury so the pathway for young players is limited, their choices being to either take part in the large junior league at Medway which is not practical due to the travel involved, or to attempt to gain entry to the Kent County Junior League.

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Canterbury Academy of Netball has never been successful in gaining entry and has not attempted the playoffs in some time. Pilgrims Netball Club has had a presence there but 'yo-yos' in and out as it is the only real competition its young players can get. This puts them at a disadvantage compared to the other clubs who play in local junior leagues on a regular basis and gain experience at that level, which helps them to compete at County level.

The CDNL plays all matches outdoors at Birley Playing Fields (Kings School) and the two principal clubs named above train indoors. Both clubs have forged links with the two universities in Canterbury, whereby they provide coaching and the students potentially have a route to becoming club players.

EN reports that the League used to be busier with more netball activity in and around the Canterbury area, however, more successful clubs tend to be located further North in the county. Players are leaving the area for their league and higher-level netball. This is also the case for officials, and coaches. The Canterbury League is, therefore, considered to be a more friendly league catering for less competitive players and diminishing in stature and catering for steadily reducing participation.

EN has recently worked with two of the local universities to drive up participation. The University of Kent has been successful in securing a netball officer post for 2019/20. Further, EN indicates that both clubs report latent demand for a more robust structure of junior netball in the area. This is currently being tested via a youth camp for 11-14 year olds.

A number of schools in the area are EN members and participate in County competitions.

Walking Netball- This is a slower version of the game; netball but at walking pace. It has been designed so that anyone can play it regardless of age or fitness level. Sessions are currently taking place at University of Kent and is aimed at older residents.

University of the Third Age (U3A) - The Saxon Shore area (Whitstable) operates a Walking Netball session. It operates from a community hall (one badminton court) and over the school summer holidays outdoors at a school facility. The netball hosts are very enthusiastic, and funding was sourced to deliver ten x2 hour sessions with the nearby Oyster Women's Institute. Whilst this was successful, it was delivered from the same community hall where quality hinders the experience for regular club players.

There is also reportedly an unaffiliated back to netball group hiring the sports hall at Herne Bay High School in winter and play outdoors over the summer months.

Club consultation

Canterbury Academy of Netball – has c. 80 members, it is predominantly a junior club with some adult members. It plays in the CDNL Consultation indicates that it is at capacity, so growth is hindered by limited access to (the right) facilities in the area (indoors and outdoors). It is currently operating a waiting list with c.20 people. It trains at St Edmunds School where the Club indicates that the quality of the sports hall is acceptable although no ancillary facilities are available – which presents a significant challenge.

The Club reports being unable to source a sports hall that is available early evenings to meet the needs of the junior aged members at, what it considers to be, a reasonable hire price. This leaves it with the only option at St Edmunds School. While it prefers to train indoors, it

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is willing to train outdoors, but there are also insufficient floodlit courts available locally to meet demand. The Club reports latent demand for Walking Netball; however, it is unable to find a suitable venue to accommodate sessions.

Canterbury Pilgrims Junior Netball Club – also plays in the CDNL (outdoors) and has teams at under 14s and under 16s. The juniors, intermediates and development squads currently train indoors at Kent College and matches are played outdoors. It runs an unaffiliated ‘Back to Netball’ session which provides quality coaching for novices.

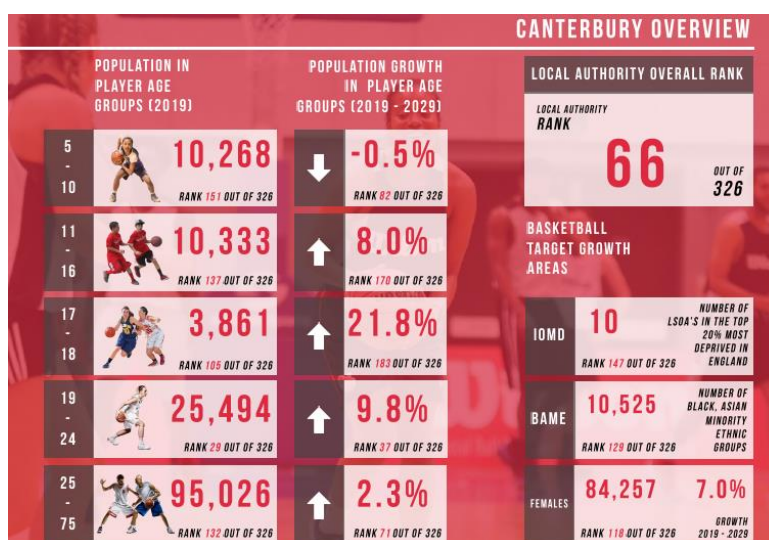
Basketball

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

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

To increase the opportunities to play the game at every level, BBE is in the process of producing a facilities strategy which aims to create community hubs including, where appropriate, arenas that sit at the heart of communities and are homes for the leading British Basketball League, Women’s British Basketball League and community clubs.

Figure 5.8: Basketball England Local Authority overview



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

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BBE reports that there are three clubs in the area, East Kent, Canterbury Christ Church and University of Kent.

Table 5.15: Basketball clubs in Canterbury

Club title	Venue	League	Senior men	Senior women	Junior females	Total
East Kent	Herne Bay High School	Senior Club	57	31	10	98
Christ Church University	Christ Church Sports Centre	BUCS	17	25		43
University of Kent	University of Kent Sports Centre	BUCS	27	12		40

BBE's projected demand calculations estimate there will be additional demand generated for an additional five players by 2029. The following are key sites for the sport because they have two (basketball) courts:

- ◀ Bay Sports Arena
- ◀ University of Kent
- ◀ Christ Church Sport Centre
- ◀ Canterbury Academy Campus

The audit identifies a further four teams playing in the *East Kent Basketball League*

- ◀ *Canterbury Crusaders Basketball Club* – ladies team based at Canterbury College.
- ◀ *Canterbury Invicta Basketball Club* – a men's team based at St Anselms Catholic School.
- ◀ *Herne Bay Basketball Club* – two men's teams and a ladies team based at Herne Bay High School.
- ◀ *Whitstable Basketball Club* – one men's team based at Canterbury College

The East Kent Basketball Association runs the East Kent Basketball League and a junior development programme for young people aged 11 years+. There are two sessions at:

- ◀ *Herne Bay Basketball Juniors Club* –for 5-10 years and 11-16 years at Herne Bay High School
- ◀ *Whitstable Juniors Basketball Club* – for 6-11 years and 11-13 years based at Whitstable Sports Centre.

Consultation indicated that there is informal activity played on the outdoor basketball court at Riverside Youth Centre. It is understood that local basketball players organise sporadic small games and competitions. Whilst activity is very informal, the facility is considered locally as a key site acting as a feeder into local teams.

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Other sports

Handball

Consultation indicates that handball is growing in the area with Canterbury Knights Handball Club hiring Canterbury College and Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys) as well as there being a new growing club based at St Anselms RC School. In addition, there is a competitive handball team at The University of Kent. Despite numerous attempts to contact the clubs for consultation however no response has been elicited.

Volleyball

The audit identifies three clubs operating in Canterbury; none responded to consultation requests. They are:

- ◀ *Canterbury City Firsts* based at Spires Academy.
- ◀ *Canterbury Christ Church Volleyball* – University team (women’s) playing recreationally and competitively.
- ◀ *International Volleyball and Badminton Club*

Indoor Cricket

This is most often played between two teams of six or eight players. It can be played in any suitably sized multi-purpose sports hall to provide amateur and professional cricketers with an option to play their sport during winter months. Many clubs also use indoor cricket nets (within sports halls) for winter batting and bowling training from January until mid-April. Consultation suggests that a number of leagues run at the St Lawrence Ground from September to April.

Consultation with Kent ECB indicates that demand for indoor leagues is growing and it reports indoor leagues are oversubscribed. The junior league demand is also reported to be increasing in popularity and there is demand for additional age groups but does not have capacity to accommodate it.

Indoor cricket leagues

League	Description
Pharon Canterbury Senior League	17 Clubs and 24 teams
Pharon Canterbury Junior League	U13s league with 7 Clubs and 8 teams Under 15s league with 6 Clubs and 7 teams
Canterbury Indoor League	Womens softball league with 6 teams
	Womens hardball league with 5 teams

Fencing

Mallard Fencing Club, located at Spires Academy, caters for adults, juniors and people of all levels of ability. It uses Foil, Epee and Sabre and can provide kit and equipment for members and learners. It accepts both social and competing members.

Kings School Fencing Club offers group and individual tuition throughout term time. Based in the new sports hall (opened 2019), the Malthouse has 8 full sized pistes with training pistes positioned in-between.

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Wheelchair Rugby

Canterbury Rugby Club has one adult wheelchair club (Canterbury Hellfire). It is based at Canterbury Academy and currently plays in the Super Series Division 1. League and games are played nationally. It aspires to expand and have a youth team but is currently hindered by lack of players. It has some new sessions planned in Maidstone to increase the reach of the club and recruit more players.

Roller Sports

Herne Bay United Roller Hockey & Skating Club established in 1924, is affiliated to the National Roller Hockey Association. It offers roller hockey, artistic roller skating, social skating opportunities to its members. It competes both nationally and internationally with teams aged 9 years+ and has two adult teams competing in the roller hockey National Premier League.

It is reported to aspire to develop its own club dedicated facility (Herne Bay Arena is already dedicated arena), however, this was not verified during consultation.

Invicta Artistic Roller Skating Club (Faversham & Westgate on Sea) hires Herne Bay Arena for three hours per week to deliver roller dance sessions for its members.

Herne Bay Roller Hockey & Skating Club, established in 1910, the Club is now the oldest Roller Hockey Club in the world. Consultation indicates the Club has c.75 members and hires the Arena for 7 hours per week (this is all that is available) and is full to capacity. Without additional arena time the Club cannot expand its provision. Its concerns are that without additional access the Club cannot recruit its next junior team and the players will get older inhibiting provision for juniors.

The Club attends European competitions and plays in national and regional leagues. It has, in previous years, hosted European competitions and summer sports camp, however, due to the cost of hall hire and the operator running its own Summer camps, this has not occurred recently. All catering goes through the operator so the Club is inhibited from raising money from such events.

The Club aspires to develop another rink in the local vicinity along with three football pitches, and a clubhouse/changing provision.

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The Club's preference is an indoor rink, 40m x 20m, however, should it not be able to raise the required funds it will consider an outdoor rink instead. Floodlighting is subject to funding and planning permission. It has been in discussions with a landowner for c.3years and believes that the developer is committed to building the pitches and rink, whilst investing c. £500,000 towards a clubhouse. The project costs are anticipated to be in the region of £2.7m for a high quality specification (indoor rink) proposal and c.£1.2m for the minimum specification i.e. outdoor rink without floodlights.

Dodgeball

Canterbury Crocodiles Dodgeball Club is based at Canterbury College.

Summary of current demand

There is a high demand for sports hall space from the large number of clubs operating across Canterbury. Many consulted report challenges with the lack of current court availability to cater for latent demand and anticipated growth especially given the number of boarding schools and the related usage constraints. Planned sports hall developments will increase local capacity and should alleviate some of the current challenges faced by the several sports which are restricted in growth by the lack of available facilities at peak times; and to enable new sports to grow.

5.3: Future demand and Sports Facilities Calculator

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

- ◀ Facility location compared to demand.
- ◀ Capacity and availability of facilities – opening hours.

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- ✦ Cross boundary movement of demand.
- ✦ Travel networks and topography.
- ✦ Attractiveness of facilities.

Table 5.16: Sport England Sports Facility Calculator

	Population 2016 ONS	Population estimate 2041
ONS population projections	162,502	194,529
Population increase	-	32,027
Facilities to meet additional demand	-	+9.04 courts or 2.26 sports halls
Estimated cost	-	£6,376,443

Calculations assume that the current sports hall stock remains available for community use and the quality remains the same. It appears that the projected increase in population will lead to an increase in demand for sports hall space. The SFC indicates a requirement for an additional nine (badminton) courts, up to 2041 (estimated cost: £6,376,443). The KKP audit confirms that current use of sport hall stock is high and that clubs are struggling to expand. This could be overcome by extending use at current facilities, which are not fully utilised. There is however a planned net increase of seven courts in the area. Based on current assessment and availability there is no need for additional sports hall provision (over and above that already planned) in Canterbury to accommodate the increase in population.

5.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Sports halls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	CCC district has 43 sports halls (118 courts). There are 22 sports halls of 3+ courts across 18 sites with a total of 100 badminton courts. Plans are in place to build a new 4 court hall at Barton Court Academy one at Kingsmead Leisure Centre (which will replace one being developed for other leisure uses) and a new 3 court sports hall at Simon Langton Grammar School (Girls).	There is a need for ancillary facilities at St Edmunds School if letting sports facilities to the community.
Quality	The City centre is well serviced by a large number of good and above average quality sports halls. Whitstable has a below average sports hall. The majority of sports halls have been refurbished within the last few years – CCC thus has a relatively good quality facility stock.	To improve the standard of below average sports halls, whilst maintaining the quality of those above average/good Whitstable has access to a below average facility
Accessibility	The whole CCC population lives within 20 minutes' drive time of a sports hall. Nearly 63% of the population lives within 20 minutes' walk of a sports hall. Most (86%) of residents living in areas of higher deprivation live within one mile of a sports hall. There are no sports halls within two miles of the Authority border, so all demand needs to be catered for in Canterbury itself.	There is a need to ensure residents living in areas of higher deprivation are able to access sports halls.

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Facility type	Sports halls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Availability (Management and usage)	<p>A wide range of activity occurs in CCC sports halls</p> <p>Three sports halls are private use only, Provision is shared between universities, local authority, (operated by Active Life), community sports association, academies and schools.</p> <p>Most offer substantial community use. There is scope to increase availability at some sites.</p> <p>Three sports halls offer daytime use. There is no daytime availability in Whitstable and Herne Bay.</p> <p>Sports clubs confirm that there is no room for expansion at the facilities they currently use.</p> <p>Badminton and handball are restricted in growth due to lack of available facilities (in the right place)</p> <p>Christ Church Sports Centre is exploring whether planning restrictions can be rescinded – this may lead to increased community availability.</p>	<p>There is a need to maintain the present good relationships between education providers and clubs to ensure that existing access is continued and increased.</p> <p>This will be needed to cater for the high demand for sports hall space and be carried forward to the operation of new sports halls being developed (or having planning restrictions lifted).</p> <p>Christ Church University to seek to rescind planning restriction.</p>
Summary	<p>There is a need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide access to ancillary facilities for community use at St Edmunds School. ▪ Improve the quality of the below average sports halls. ▪ Maintain and develop good relationships with the education sector to ensure continued high levels of community use of schools-based facilities. ▪ Retain existing facilities which allow daytime sports hall access ▪ Work to increase daytime access at education sites, where possible. ▪ Where possible further extend community use availability at education sites. ▪ Ensure a sufficient supply of sports halls in the area to serve residents' needs as no facilities in neighbouring authorities can support this. <p>If quality is improved, availability is extended (where capacity is known to exist) and planning restrictions are removed from the University facility, there is no requirement (other than those planned) for additional sports hall provision to meet the needs of Canterbury residents.</p>	

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SECTION 6: SWIMMING POOLS

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

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

The NGB responsible for administering diving, swimming, synchronised swimming and water polo in England is Swim England.

The 2019 State of the UK Swimming Industry Report reveals that the UK swimming industry has not changed significantly in the last 12 months. 26 swimming pool sites have opened and 27 have closed. Nuffield and GLL remain the UK’s leading private and public operators (by number of sites with a pool). GLL lead the way with 146 swimming centres, while Nuffield has 111 clubs with a swimming pool. The 2019 report shows that 84% of the UK population live within 2 miles of one of the 3,170 swimming pool sites.

6.1: Supply

This assessment is primarily concerned with larger pools available for community use (no restrictions to accessing the pool as a result of membership criteria). As such, pools less than 160m² (e.g. 20m x 4 lanes) water space and/or located at private member clubs offer limited value in relation to community use and delivery of outcomes related to health and deprivation. It is recognised that smaller pools do offer learning/teaching sessions, but they are, for modelling/needs assessment purposes, deemed unable to offer a full swim programme and, thus, eliminated from the supply evaluation, when considering accessibility and availability later in this section.

Quantity

The audit identifies 15 swimming pools at 11 sites in Canterbury irrespective of size, type and access.

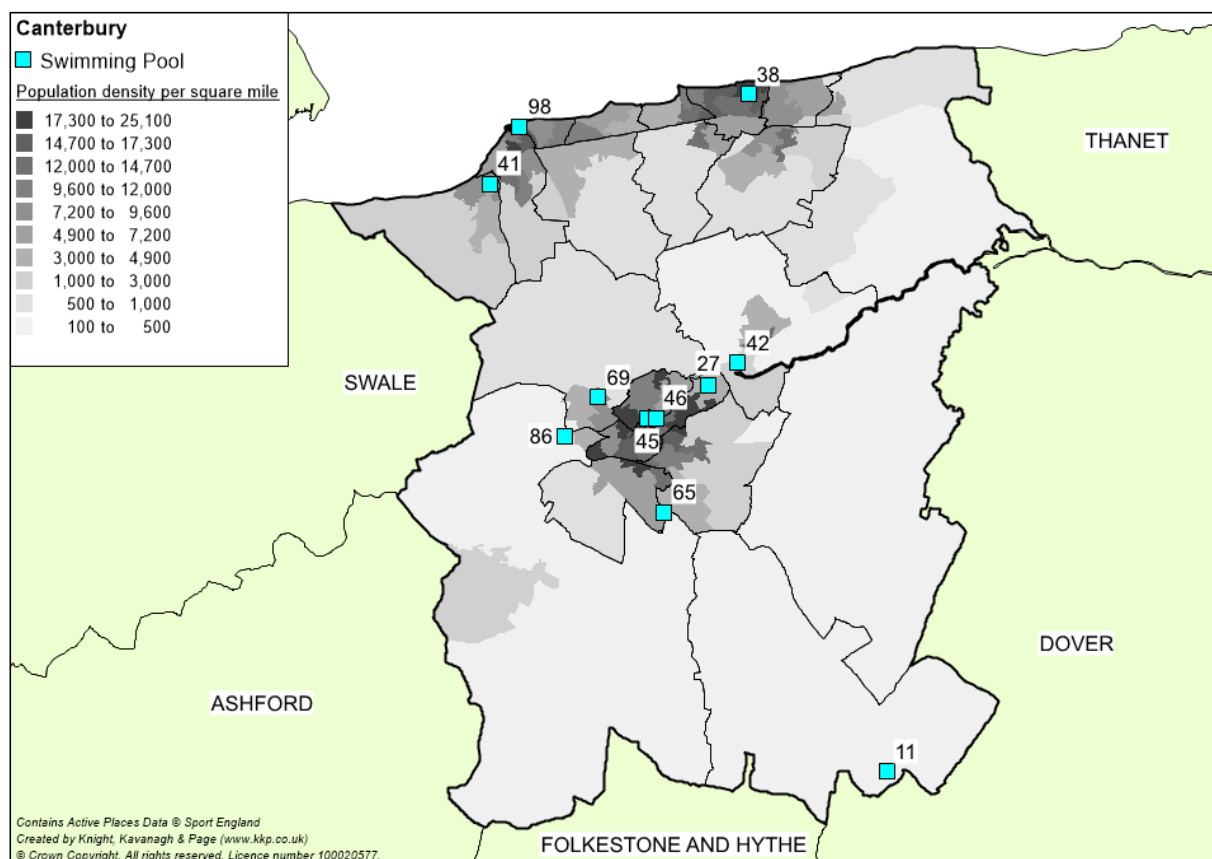
Table 6.1: All swimming pools in Canterbury

Map ID	Site	Facility type	Lanes	Length (m)	Area
11	Broome Park Golf Club	Main/General	0	15	150
27	DW Sports Fitness (Canterbury)	Main/General	0	20	180
38	Herons Leisure Centre	Main/General	5	25	275
38	Herons Leisure Centre	Learner	0	11	88
41	Joy Lane Junior School	Learner	5	12	84

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Map ID	Site	Facility type	Lanes	Length (m)	Area
42	Junior King's School	Lido	4	20	180
45	Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	Main/general	6	25	300
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Main/general	6	33.3	426
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Leisure pool	0	13.2	137
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Learner	0	12.8	93
65	Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys	Main/general	4	25	230
69	St Edmunds School	Lido	4	25	200
86	The Kent College Junior School	Lido	0	18	108
98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	Main/general	5	25	263
98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	Learner	0	10.5	79

Figure 6.1: All swimming pools in Canterbury



Lidos serve specific market segments generally during the summer months and, in some instances, are heated. Despite some lidos offering community availability and potentially some club activity throughout summer months, they are excluded from the assessment because they are not available throughout the whole year.

DW Sports Fitness is the smallest main/general swimming pool (160m²+), it is 20.0m in length (9.0m wide) and has no marked lanes. The largest is Kingsmead Leisure Centre with 6 lanes and 33.3m long (12.8m wide).

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As noted in Figure 6.1, most swimming facilities are well distributed across the authority with settlements of higher population density having a pool within close proximity. There are six main swimming pools 160m²+ across Canterbury.

Table 6.2: Main swimming pools 160m²+ in Canterbury

Map ID	Site name	Facility type	Lanes	Length (m)	Area
27	DW Sports Fitness (Canterbury)	Main/general	0	20	180
38	Hérons Leisure Centre	Main/general	5	25	275
45	Kings School Recreation Centre (Biores)	Main/general	6	25	300
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Main/general	6	33.3	426
65	Simon Langton Grammar School - Boys	Main/general	4	25	230
98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	Main/general	5	25	263

Quality

As part of the assessment, KKP visits main swimming pools and completes non-technical visual assessments. This encompasses assessment of changing provision as this can also play a significant role in influencing and attracting users. Quality is assessed as previously described in section 3.2.

Smaller pools at the sites with main swimming pools 160m²+ are included in the audit and have been quality assessed.

Four of the main swimming pools are considered to be above average quality (DW Sports & Fitness, Herons Leisure Centre, Kings School Recreation Centre and Whitstable Swimming Pool); one is considered to be below average (Kingsmead Leisure Centre) and one swimming pool is poor (Simon Langton Grammar School - Boys).

Table 6.3 indicates that the quality of the learner/teaching pools (and the leisure pool at Kingsmead) are commensurate with the quality of the main pools. Figure 6.2 indicates that, in general, Canterbury city residents have access to swimming pools which are generally of poorer quality than the residents in the coastal towns.

Changing provision across Canterbury is generally below average in quality, although five venues did not have changing rooms assessed due to them being in use at the time of the audit.

There is planned investment to improve the changing provision at Whitstable Swimming Pool which should improve quality.

The Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys) swimming pool is in poor condition and requires significant investment. Consultation indicates an issue with pool design which creates issues with cleaning and upkeep. The plant is reported to be of significant age and replacement costs are reported to be in the region of c.£40,000. No funding is in place to pay for either pool refurbishment or replacement.

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Figure 6.2: Quality of swimming pools in Canterbury

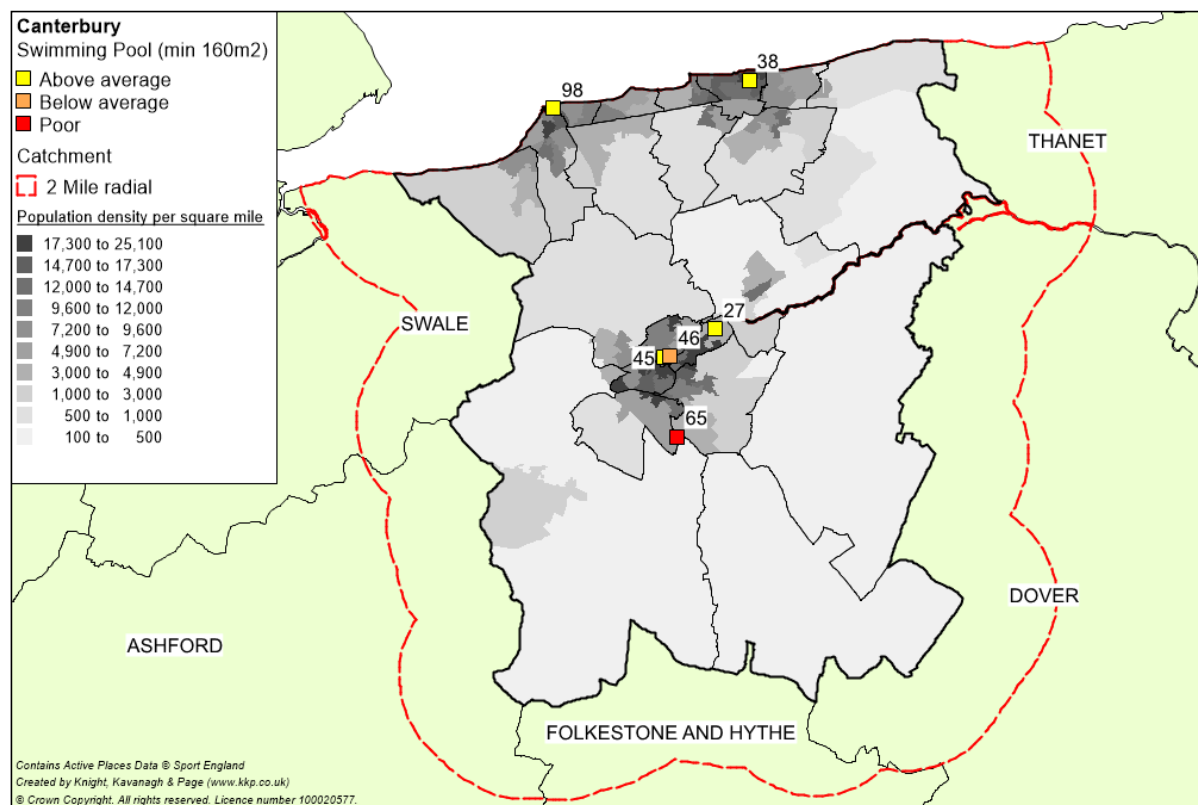


Table 6.3 Swimming pools in Canterbury

Map ID	Site name	Facility type	Condition	
			Pool	Changing
27	DW Sports Fitness (Canterbury)	Main/general	Above average	Not assessed
38	Heron's Leisure Centre	Main/general	Above average	Below average
38	Heron's Leisure Centre	Learner	Above average	Below average
45	Kings School Recreation Centre	Main/general	Above average	Not assessed
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Main/general	Below average	Below average
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Leisure pool	Below average	Below average
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Learner	Below average	Below average
65	Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	Main/general	Poor	Not assessed
98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	Main/general	Above average	Below average
98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	Learner	Above average	Below average

The oldest swimming pool in the area is Kingsmead Leisure Centre built in 1970, the newest pool is at DW Sports Fitness built in 2010. Generally, main swimming pools have had some refurbishment within the last 30 years. As mentioned previously, Kingsmead Leisure Centre has plans for a £10.1m investment which includes refurbishing pools, poolside and changing areas. Once completed it is likely to improve the quality. Table 6.4 overleaf identifies the age of swimming pools and 'if and when' they have undergone any significant refurbishment.

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Table 6.4: Age of swimming pools

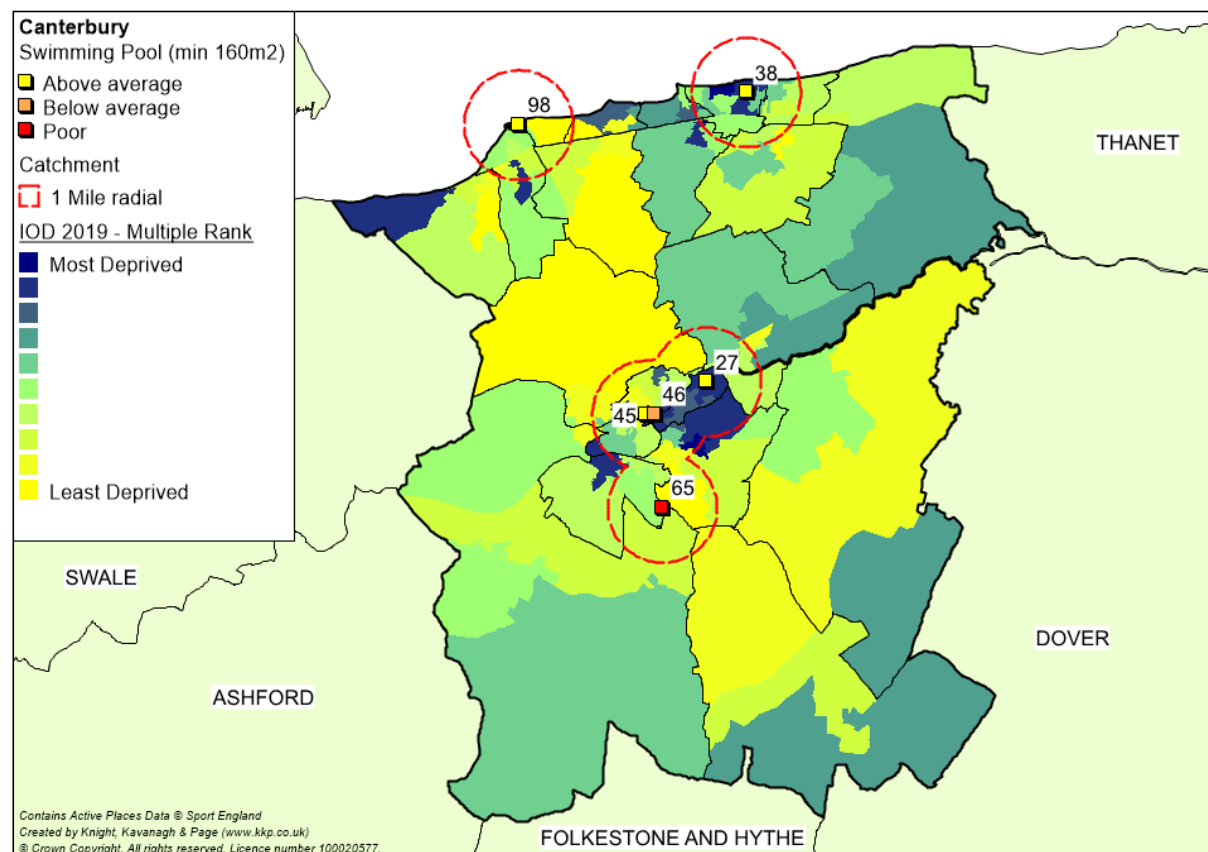
Site name	Year built	Refurbishment	Age (years) since refurbishment
DW Sports Fitness (Canterbury)	2010		9
Hérons Leisure Centre	1994	2004	15
Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	1990		29
Kingsmead Leisure Centre	1970	1996	23
Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys	2058	2009	10
Whitstable Swimming Pool	1993		26

Accessibility

Swimming pool accessibility is influenced by how far people are willing and able to travel to and from them. Appropriate walk and drive-time catchments are applied to determine accessibility to communities. The normal acceptable standard is a 20-minute walk time (1-mile radial catchment) for an urban area and a 20-minute drive time for a rural area. This enables analysis of the adequacy of coverage and helps to identify areas currently not serviced by existing provision. Table 6.3 identifies accessibility of all main swimming pools in Canterbury.

As mentioned previously, there is an area to the west of Seasalter which is identified as an area of higher deprivation. It is noted that the area is very sparsely populated. It is identified as an area of deprivation as access to services is also considered.

Figure 6.3: All swimming pools by quality on IMD with 1-mile catchment



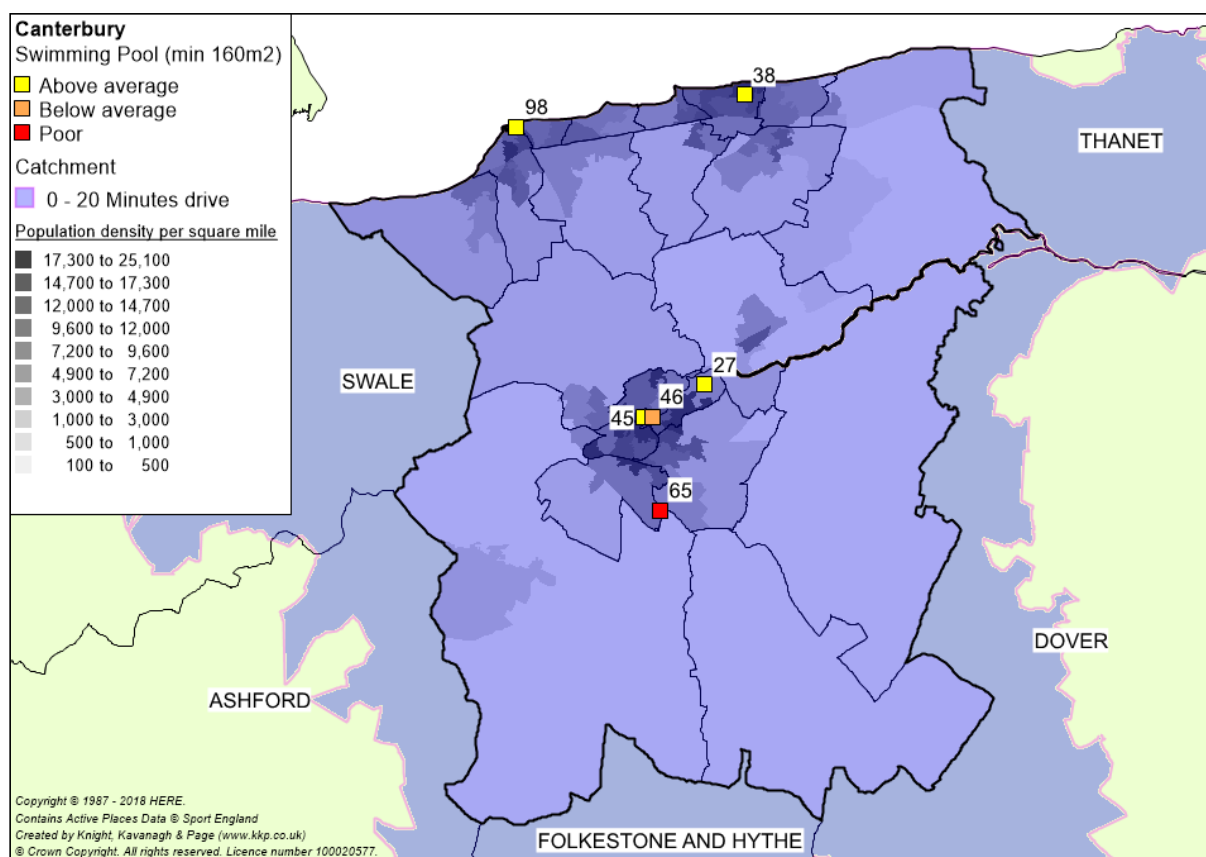
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Table 6.5: Accessibility of swimming pools in Canterbury

IMD 2015 10% bands	Canterbury		Pools (minimum 160m ² , excluding lidos) catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	3,172	2.0%	2,442	1.5%	730	0.5%
10.1 - 20	16,579	10.4%	9,633	6.0%	6,946	4.4%
20.1 - 30	11,302	7.1%	8,485	5.3%	2,817	1.8%
30.1 - 40	5,835	3.7%	20	0.0%	5,815	3.6%
40.1 - 50	19,425	12.2%	10,381	6.5%	9,044	5.7%
50.1 - 60	19,280	12.1%	11,005	6.9%	8,275	5.2%
60.1 - 70	25,960	16.3%	15,883	9.9%	10,077	6.3%
70.1 - 80	19,965	12.5%	7,588	4.8%	12,377	7.8%
80.1 - 90	19,270	12.1%	8,594	5.4%	10,676	6.7%
90.1 - 100	18,875	11.8%	6,849	4.3%	12,026	7.5%
Total	159,663	100.0%	80,880	50.7%	78,783	49.3%

All of Canterbury’s residents live within 20-minutes’ drive time of a swimming pool. Figure 6.3 and Table 6.5 (both above) indicates that 50.7% of residents reside within one mile of a swimming pool. Of those living in areas of higher deprivation the figure is 12.8% (this equates to 65.6% of all people living in classified deprived areas in CCC).

Figure 6.4: All pools with 20 min drive time



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Availability of swimming pools

Swimming pool availability differs dependent upon ownership/management. Facilities audited all offer swimming lessons to the public. There is no private use swimming pool in Canterbury.

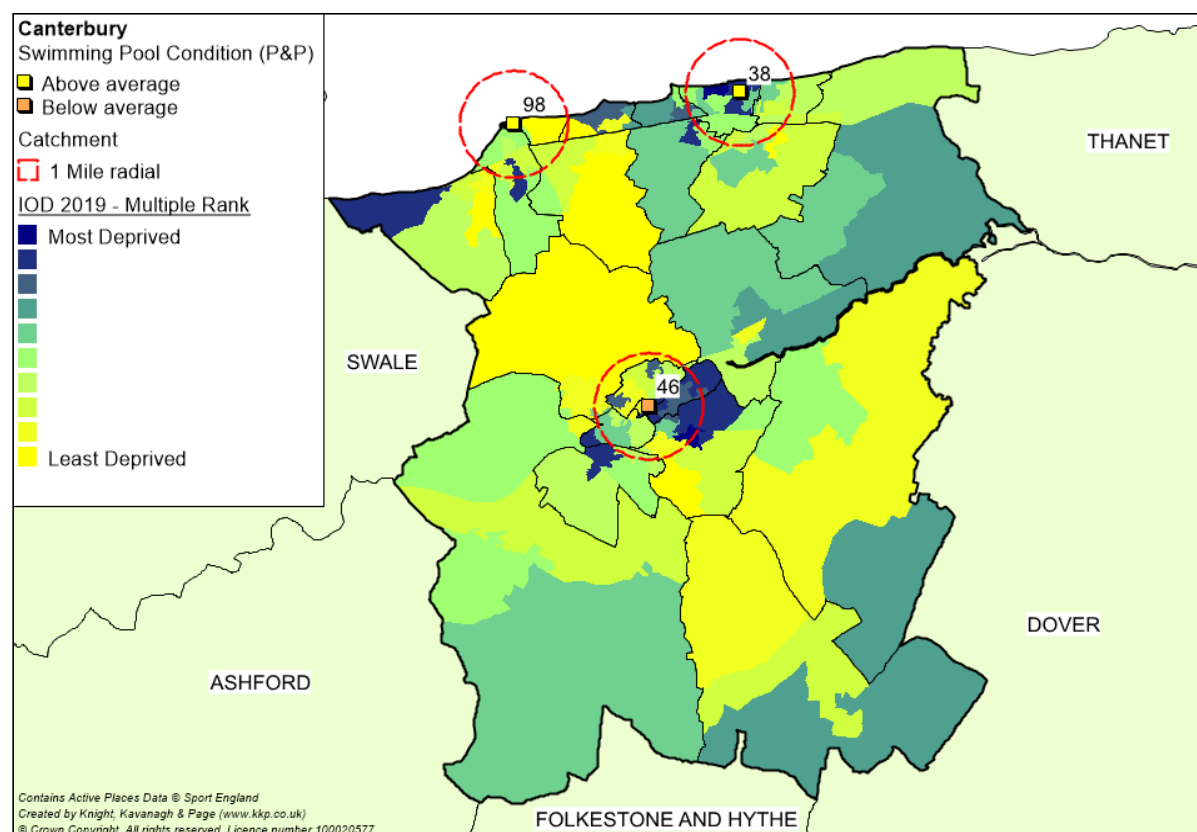
Table 6.6: Access policy of swimming pools

Site name	Access policy
DW Sports Fitness (Canterbury)	Registered membership
Hérons Leisure Centre	Pay and play
Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	Registered membership
Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Pay and play
Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys	Sports clubs & associations*
Whitstable Swimming Pool	Pay and play

(*This is reported to be open for one hour before school for early morning swim sessions).

Three venues offer pay and play availability (Hérons Leisure Centre, Kingsmead Leisure Centre and Whitstable Swimming Pool). Two require membership fees (DW Sports Fitness and Kings School Recreation Centre). Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys is available via a sports club/association. When availability of swimming pools is taken into consideration, accessibility to the pay and play pools is somewhat less as shown in Figure 6.5 and Table 6.5. Fewer than half (42.5%) of Canterbury residents live within one mile of a pay and play swimming pool. Of those living in areas of higher deprivation, 59.2% (11.5% of the 19.5%) resides within one mile of a pay and play swimming pool.

Figure 6.5: Pay and Play swimming pools on IMD 1-mile radial catchment



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Table 6.7: Pay and play swimming pools on IMD 1-mile radial catchment

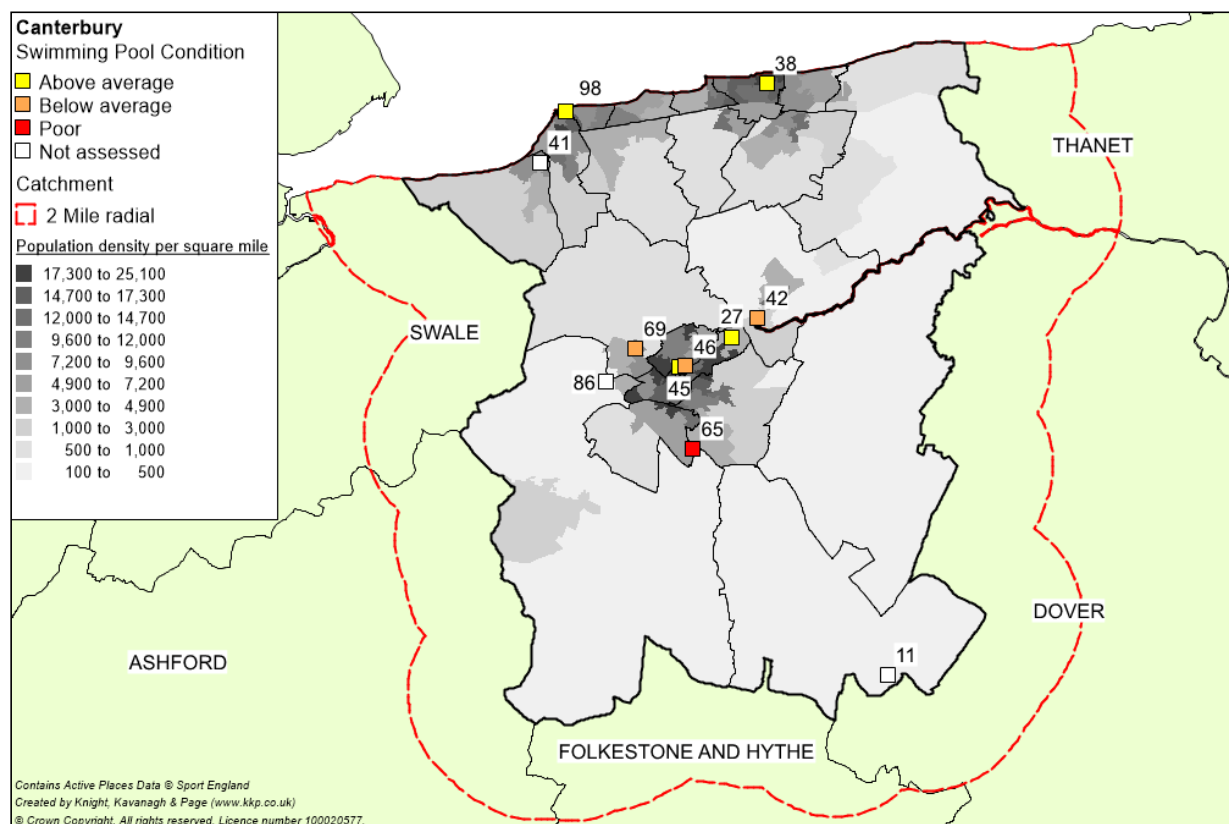
IMD 2015 10% bands	Canterbury		Pay & play catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	3,172	2.0%	2,442	1.5%	730	0.5%
10.1 - 20	16,579	10.4%	7,806	4.9%	8,773	5.5%
20.1 - 30	11,302	7.1%	8,166	5.1%	3,136	2.0%
30.1 - 40	5,835	3.7%	0	0.0%	5,835	3.7%
40.1 - 50	19,425	12.2%	9,782	6.1%	9,643	6.0%
50.1 - 60	19,280	12.1%	8,179	5.1%	11,101	7.0%
60.1 - 70	25,960	16.3%	12,965	8.1%	12,995	8.1%
70.1 - 80	19,965	12.5%	6,894	4.3%	13,071	8.2%
80.1 - 90	19,270	12.1%	7,504	4.7%	11,766	7.4%
90.1 - 100	18,875	11.8%	4,112	2.6%	14,763	9.2%
Total	159,663	100.0%	67,850	42.5%	91,813	57.5%

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Facilities in neighbouring authorities

Accessibility is also influenced by facilities within easy reach of the local authority, however, there are no swimming pools within a 2-mile catchment of the CCC authority boundary.

Figure 6.6. Pools on population density with neighbouring pools within 2-mile boundary

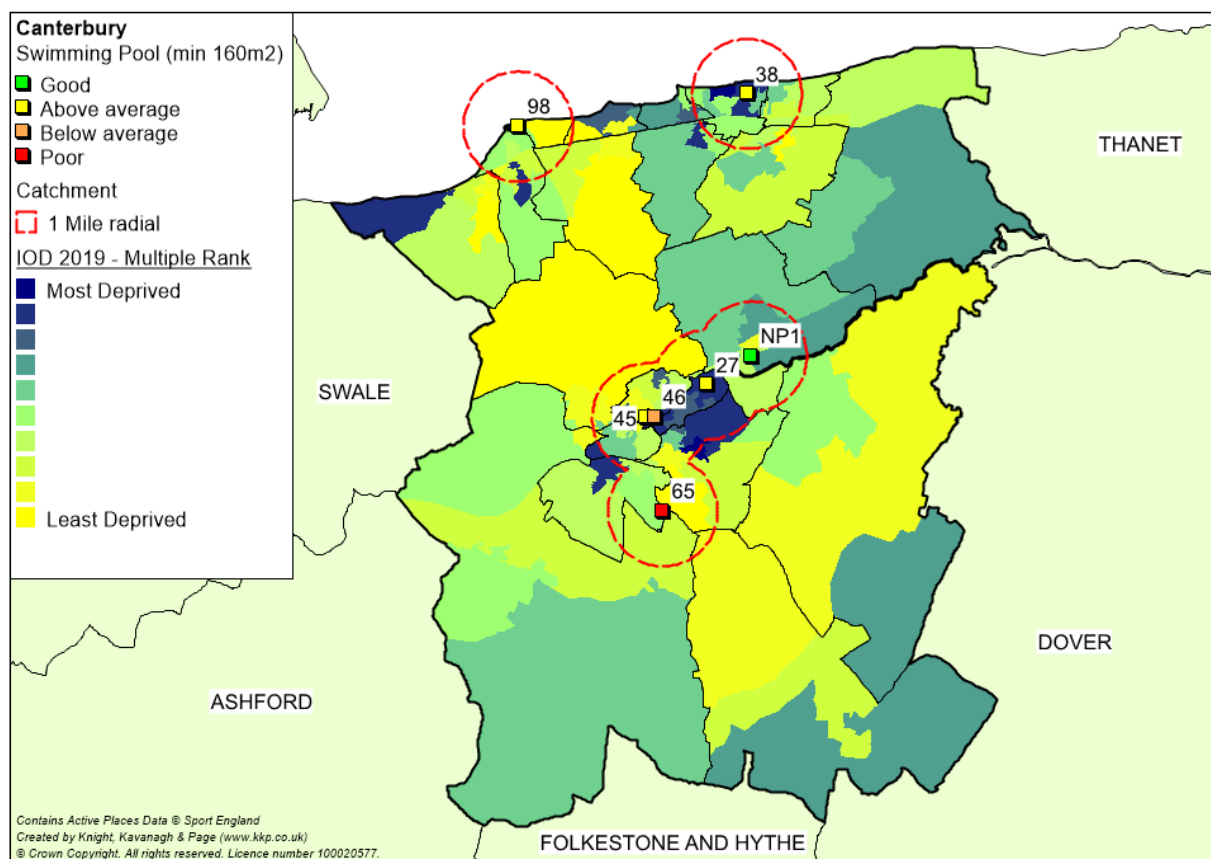


New developments

Consultation indicates that Kings School has plans to build a new 4-lane 25m indoor pool and fitness gym (plus a café and nursery) adjacent to the school to replace the lido (NP1 in Figure 6.7). It reports an intent to use the venue primarily itself with a view to offering some community use via a membership or swimming lessons (similar to the swimming pool at Kings School Recreation Centre). There is a need to be aware that this may increase the volume of swimming lessons and fitness provision and, thus, impact upon/compete with Active Life venues. The additional pool will result in 3,589 more residents living within one mile of a swimming pool but will not change the number which live in areas of higher deprivation in respect of improved access to facilities.

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Figure 6.7: Location of the potential new swimming pool



6.2: Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM)

Sport England’s FPM report provides an overview of the current level of provision of swimming pools in Canterbury. It uses data from the Strategic Assessment of Need for Swimming Pools provision in Canterbury – National Run Report November 2019.

The FPM identifies that:

- ◀ The Canterbury supply of waterspace is equal highest amongst its neighbouring local authorities. Both Canterbury and Ashford have the highest amount of waterspace per 1,000 available to the community and Folkestone and Hythe has the least. Canterbury has the same level of supply as both the county and national average.
- ◀ The local authority owns the majority of waterspace in the authority (65%) which means it can provide for most swimming activities.
- ◀ The average age of pools is 25 years, the oldest and largest site is Kingsmead Leisure Centre which was built in 1970. The newest pool is DW Sports Fitness opened in 2019. This is a relatively young supply however, larger older sites such as Kingsmead Leisure Centre are in need of modernisation.

The FPM report found that:

- ◀ In Canterbury, 22.1% of the resident population does not have access to a car, based on the 2011 Census. The higher the percentage of residents who do not have access to a car, and either walk or use public transport to access a pool, the more important a network of local accessible swimming pool sites.

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- ◀ When looking at a simplistic picture of the overall supply and demand balance, there is a supply demand balance of 105m² of waterspace. For context, a 25m x 4 lane pool is between 210 and 250m² of water depending on lane width.
- ◀ Satisfied demand is at a high level with 93.5% of the total demand for swimming from Canterbury residents is met/satisfied. (This is the level of total demand located inside the catchment area of a swimming pool). Plus, there is enough swimming pool capacity at the sites to meet over 93.5% of the Canterbury total demand for swimming.
- ◀ Satisfied demand is higher than in all of the five neighbouring local authorities, and higher than the Kent county and national levels.
- ◀ Of the 95.3% satisfied demand 97.8% is retained within Canterbury indicating there is a close correlation between Canterbury's swimming pool locations and catchment areas and the location of Canterbury's demand for swimming pools. There is 2.2% of Canterbury's demand is met outside the authority.
- ◀ The total unmet demand is 6.5% of total demand, of which 98.8% is due to demand being located outside of the catchment area of a pool. This is mainly by people who do not have access to a car and live outside the walking or public transport catchment area of a pool.
- ◀ There is no sufficient cluster of unmet demand in any one location to consider increasing swimming pool provision, so as to increase accessibility to residents. There is no area in the District where unmet demand is high enough to justify a new swimming pool.
- ◀ The estimated used capacity of the swimming pools collectively as a Canterbury average is 65.3%, this is within the Sport England benchmark of pools being comfortably full, at 70% of pool capacity.
- ◀ Operating above the 70% comfort level is Herons Leisure Centre (94%), the Kings Recreation Centre (93%) and Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys (100%). Conversely, very low used capacity levels are reported at DW Sports Fitness (38%) and Kingsmead Leisure Centre (45%). It is likely that Kingsmead's low utilised capacity is due to it being the largest facility and lower level of attractiveness due to its age, whilst DW Sports Fitness could be due to the level of membership fee required.

The overall utilised capacity of swimming pools across the District is 65.3% as identified in Table 6.8, which is higher than county and national levels. When looking at pools individually, there is a variance across the sites. Several sites exceed the 70.0% benchmark (Herons Leisure Centre, Kings School Recreation Centre, Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys). Whitstable Swimming Pool is operating close to the benchmark at 66.0%. Operating below the benchmark is Kingsmead Leisure Centre (45.0%) and DW Sports Fitness (38.0%).

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Table 6.8: Demand findings from the FPM in Canterbury

Element	FPM 2019	Kent County	National
Satisfied demand	93.5%	90.4%	91.3%
Satisfied demand retained within Canterbury	97.8%	95.3%	99.9%
Levels of unmet demand	6.5%	9.4%	8.7%
% of unmet demand of residents living outside catchment of a swimming pool (as opposed to no capacity)	98.8%	97%	91.1%
Utilised capacity*	65.3%	60.9%	62.4%
Imported use (% of used capacity)	8.5%	6.9%	0.1%
Exported demand (% of used capacity)	2.2%	4.7%	0.1

* Sport England sets a comfort factor for pools being comfortably full and this is 70% of the total pool capacity. Beyond this 70% level, the pool itself becomes too full and detracts from the ability to swim and the enjoyment.

The FPM summary is, that public swimming pool sites are estimated to be busy at peak times, because of their availability for all swimming activities and the scale of demand in their catchment area. The planned refurbishment and modernisation of Kingsmead Leisure Centre will increase the attractiveness and is likely to increase utilisation.

6.2: Demand

Swim England's latest strategy, *Towards a Nation Swimming: a Strategic Plan for Swimming in England 2017-21*, aims to creating a happier, healthier and more successful nation through swimming. To achieve this, several strategic objectives have been set:

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

Consultation with Swim England confirms that in relation to UK wide participation all local authority areas are priority areas but areas with swimming pool water deficit are a greater priority. Its objectives are to ensure that the water space is available for as many aquatic activities as possible. Nationally, participation levels are steadily increasing, which is a reverse of the previous decade.

Swim England considers Canterbury to currently have a small surplus of water space (105m²); equivalent to a learner/teaching pool 15m x 7m. It highlights the need to consider the following:

- ◀ As the surplus of water space is marginal, the current availability should, as a minimum, remain the same.
- ◀ Leisure centre pools which are older are in need of refurbishment. (Kingsmead Leisure Centre and Whitstable Swimming Pool, in particular, followed by Herons Leisure Centre within the next five years (by 2024).

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As mentioned previously, there are plans to invest in swimming facilities at both Kingsmead Leisure Centre and Whitstable Swimming Pool.

Table 6.8: Swimming pools and clubs in Canterbury

Swimming Pool	Club / swimming association
Kingsmead Leisure Centre	City of Canterbury Swimming Club
	East Invicta Amateur Swimming Association
Whitstable Swimming Pool	Herne Bay Lifeguard and Swimming Club
Herons Leisure Centre	Herne Bay Lifeguard and Swimming Club
Kings School (Recreation Centre)	East Invicta Amateur Swimming Association
Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys)	Langton Lane Swimming Club

Swimming Association

East Invicta Amateur Swimming Association has 12 affiliated clubs:

- ◀ Ashford
- ◀ Ashford School
- ◀ City of Canterbury
- ◀ Deal Tri
- ◀ Dover Lifeguard Club
- ◀ Faversham
- ◀ Folkestone
- ◀ Herne Bay
- ◀ Hythe Aqua
- ◀ Kings School Canterbury
- ◀ Shepway
- ◀ Thanet

Member clubs are invited from Dungeness Point through Ashford, to Faversham finishing at Herne Bay. It currently has c.150 members (seniors and juniors). Its galas are typically held at Kingsmead and Dover leisure centres.

Clubs

Clubs were contacted for consultation purposes but limited information was forthcoming. A mixture of desktop research and some consultation identified the following:

City of Canterbury Swimming Club (CCSC) has c.170 members and caters for beginners, juniors and seniors. It is a competitive swimming club and its stated vision is “to offer age specific training for all of its athletes geared towards challenging each individual and developing each individual to the best of their abilities.”

New members are recruited via monthly trials and are eligible once they have reached ASA Stage 1 standard. All club sessions and trials take place at Kingsmead Leisure Centre.

Herne Bay Lifeguard and Swimming Club is the largest in the area with c.224 members. It has beginners, juniors and senior squads for children aged 5 years+ and who have reached ASA stage 6 (typically aged 10 years+) to join the senior Herons squad and aged 5 years+ to join the Junior Herons squad. Club sessions take place at both Whitstable Swimming Pool and Herons Leisure Centre.

Langton Lane Swimming Club provides lessons for all ages and abilities teaching water awareness and learning to swim are important.

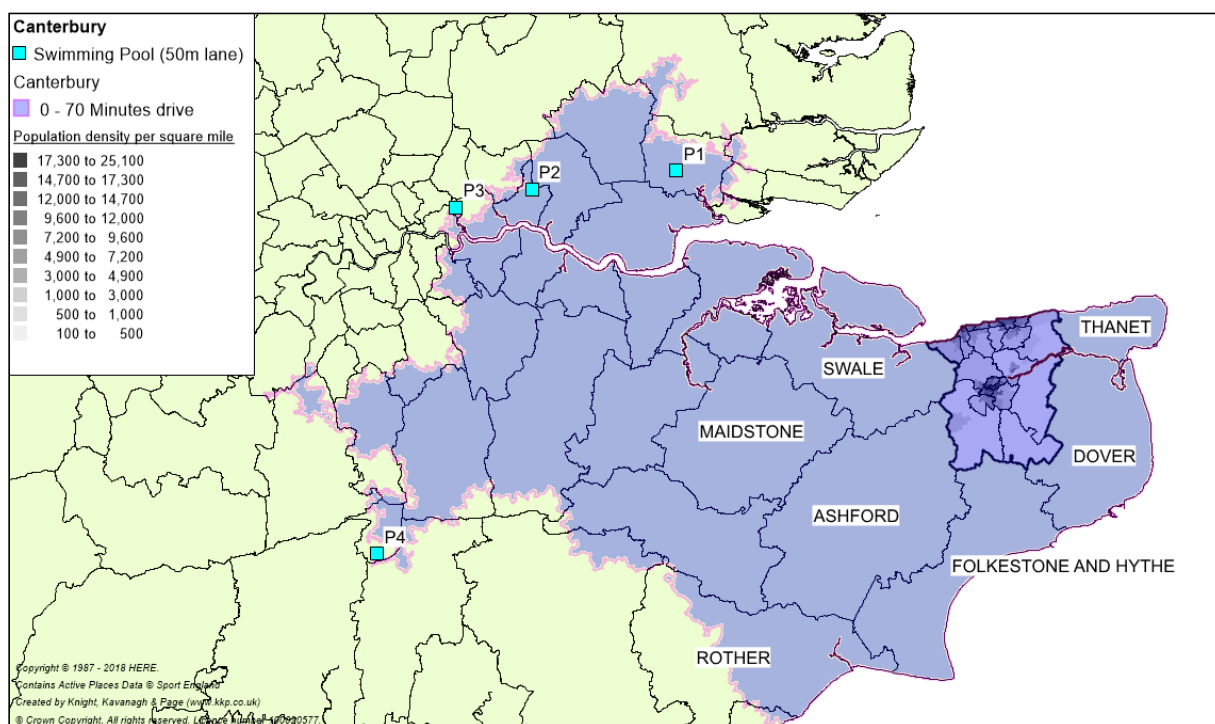
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Long course provision (50m swimming pool)

Access to long course provision is considered important to many competitive swimmers and clubs. The London Aquatics Centre and K2 Crawley are the two nearest pools both located c.70-75 minutes' drive from Canterbury. Basildon Sporting Village and Becontree Heath Leisure Centre are a similar drive time away, however, they are further in terms of distance.

London Aquatics is the national swim centre built for the 2012 London Olympics. It has a 50m competition pool (50m x10 lanes), a second 50m training pool (8 lanes x 2m) plus a 25m pool. K2 Crawley (opened in 2005) has an 8 lane 50m pool plus teaching and leisure pools.

Figure 6.8: 50 m pools within 70-minute drive time of Canterbury



(Source: Active Places Power 31/10/2019)

Table 6.9: 50m pools within 70-minute drive time of Canterbury

Map ID	Site name	Lanes	Access	Local authority
P1	Basildon Sporting Village	8	P&P	Basildon
P2	Becontree Heath LC	8	P&P	Barking & Dagenham
P3	London Aquatics Centre	10	P&P	Newham
P3	London Aquatics Centre	8	P&P	Newham
P4	K2 Crawley	8	P&P	Crawley

When considering the requirement for 50m swimming pool provision there is no venue in the Canterbury and wider Kent area. Purely based on travel times, the wider Kent area looks like a potential area for the development of such a facility. (As noted, the Sport England drive time catchment for a 50m pools is 70 minutes). When taking account of current water space available in Canterbury there is a current over supply equivalent to a learner pool prior to the Junior Kings School development.

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In terms of demand, KKP’s local club consultation did not elicit demand for a 50m pool. Consultation with University of Kent indicates that it faces demand from students for a swimming pool however, its needs are presently met by using both the public swimming pools and Kings School Recreation Centre. Thus, while the University would welcome a 50m pool, it has no funding in place and the current swimming pools within the authority currently serve its needs.

Factors to consider prior to embarking on a feasibility study for such a facility include the potentially negative impact another facility might have on the viability of existing provision. Should local provision be approaching the end of its lifespan it may be worth considering, however, given that two facilities are in above average condition and there are proposals for significant investment in Kingsmead Leisure Centre, this is not the case in Canterbury. Fiscally, it is not rational to close a serviceable relatively modern pool that is in good condition to create or underpin the demand for a new and larger facility. To assess the potential justification for such a venue, it will be necessary to consider the supply and demand position within neighbouring authorities as a 50m pool may well be better placed to service County requirements in a neighbouring Kent authority.

Future demand

6.5: Sport England’s facilities calculator (SFC)

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

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

Table 6.10: Sports facilities calculator

	Population 2016	Population estimate 2041
ONS population projections	162,502	194,529
Population increase	-	32,027
Facilities to meet additional demand	-	5.99 lanes or 1.5 swimming pools
Cost	-	£6,456,615

Calculations assume that the current pool stock remains available for community use and the quality remains the same. It appears that the projected increase in population will lead to an increase in demand for pools. The SFC indicates likely demand for an additional 5.99 swimming lanes, up to 2041; at an estimated cost of £6,456,615. The KKP audit identified a near supply/demand balance at peak times (over supply equivalent to a learner pool). Using the 20 minutes’ drive time accessibility modelling applied above, it is estimated that current and increased demand can be accommodated by the proposed new swimming pool at The Kings School (Junior Kings) and the investments at Kingsmead Leisure Centre and The Whitstable Swimming Pool.

6.6: Summary of key facts and issues

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

Facility type	Swimming pools	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are 15 pools of varying size on 11 sites: six main pools 160m ² +, one leisure pool, four learner/teaching pools and three lidos. Kings School is exploring the possibility of building a 4 lane 25m swimming pool at its Junior Kings site.	There is an identified small undersupply equivalent to a learner/teaching pool. Future housing growth may alter this supply-demand balance. Current and future demand could be addressed by the Junior Kings development.
Quality	Four swimming pools are rated above average, one below average (Kingsmead Leisure Centre) and one is poor (Simon Langton Grammar Schools - Boys). Kingsmead Leisure Centre is the oldest swimming pool in the area (opened 1970). DW Sports Fitness is the newest (opened 2010).	Investment is planned at Kingsmead Leisure Centre and Whitstable Swimming Pool which will improve quality.
Accessibility	The whole Canterbury population lives within 20 minutes' drive time of a swimming pool. Just under half of Canterbury's population (42.5%) is estimated to live within 20-minutes' walk of a pay and play swimming pool in Canterbury. Over half of people living in areas of higher deprivation (59.2%) live within walking distance of a community available pool. There are no facilities within two miles of the Authority boundary. Canterbury swimming clubs are outside of the 70-minutes' drive time catchment of a 50m pool.	There is a need to ensure that people living in areas of higher deprivation are able to access swimming provision. E.g. reduced costs at appropriate times given the requirement to use transport to access a facility.
Availability (Management and usage)	There are several strong aquatic clubs in the area; they produce very strong regional standard swimmers Certain facilities have limitations due to either being located on a school site or being commercially operated and thus requiring membership fees.	The mixed economy of available pools means that there is a need to continue to work with the private sector to ensure that it continues to contribute to the swim supply.
Summary	Facility quality will improve following investment at Kingsmead Leisure Centre and Whitstable Swimming Pool. Herons Leisure Centre will require investment over the lifetime of the Local Plan - it needs a fully costed repair and maintenance plan to ensure that it remains fit for purpose in the medium to long term. Simon Langton Grammar School (Boys) is in poor condition and requires significant investment. Kings School (Junior Kings) is considering building a new 4-lane 25m pool. Care should be taken to ensure that it does not impact upon/compete with Active Life venues.	

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SECTION 7: HEALTH AND FITNESS SUITES

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

The current state of the UK fitness industry is complex with a variety of providers including the private sector (ranging from low cost operators to the high-end market), trusts, schools and local authority operators. Within the UK private fitness market has continued to grow steadily over the last 12 months with an estimated increase of 4.7% in the number of members, 2.9% in the number of facilities and 4.2% in market value. The growth is higher than last year across public and private sectors; which saw increases of over 4% in both members and market value.

According to the State of the UK Fitness Industry Report (2018) there are 7,200 fitness facilities in the UK, up from 7,038 last year. Total industry membership is up 4.7% to £10.4 million which means that one in seven people in the UK is a member of a gym. The total market value is estimated at £5.1 billion. The UK penetration rate passed 15% for the first time.

Nationally, 215 new public and private fitness facilities opened in the last 12 months in addition to 275 in 2018. Pure Gym and GLL have strengthened their positions as the UK's leading private and public operators (by number of gyms and members). Pure Gym became the first operator to reach 200 clubs and this year GLL has also joined with 203 gyms. (There are no figures available to indicate the number of gyms which have closed).

7.1: Supply

Quantity

The 21 health/fitness gyms in Canterbury provide 1,141 stations. Fifteen have 20+ stations (1,074 stations collectively) and they are generally located in densely populated areas. Those with fewer than 20 stations can service small sections of the community and where this is the case they are included. In general, however, they are discounted because of their scale.

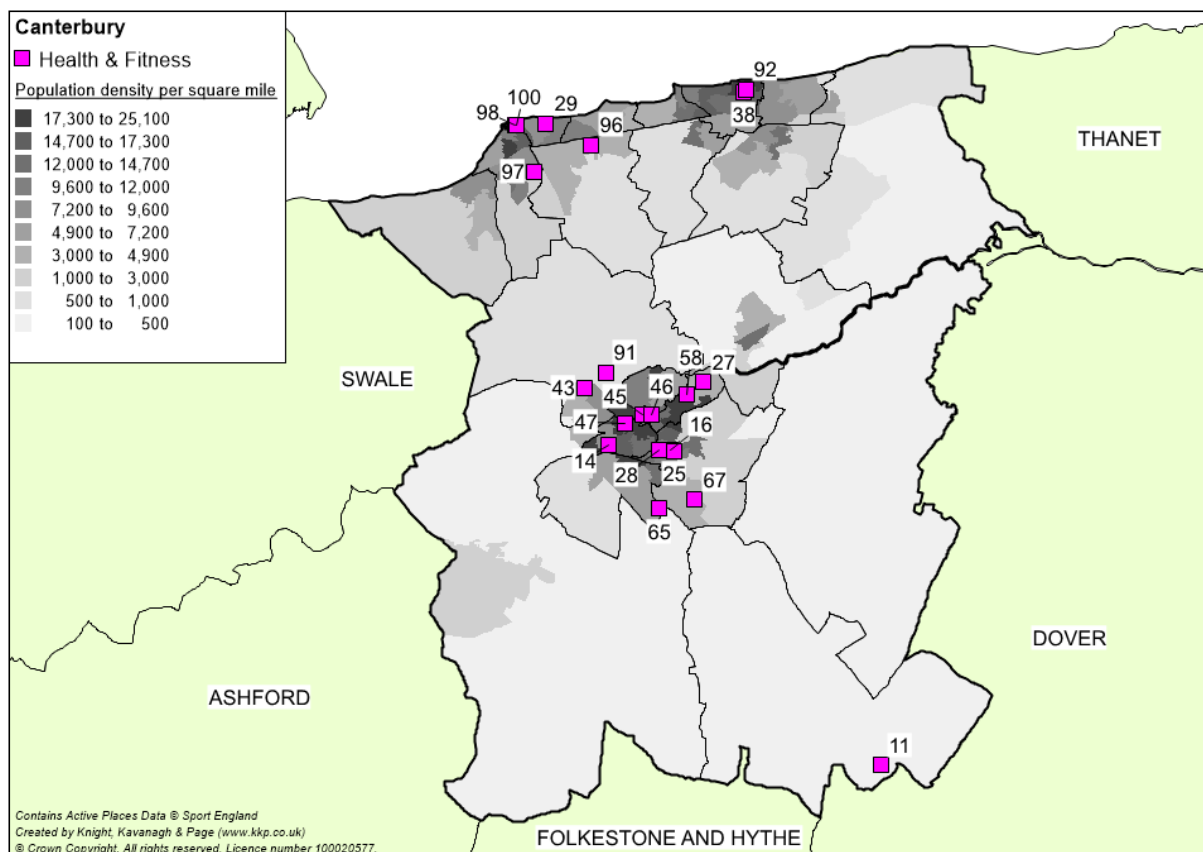
Table 7.1: All health and fitness facilities in Canterbury on population density

ID	Site name	Stns	ID	Site name	Stns
11	Broome Park Golf Club	6	47	Ladies of Leisure Gym	51
14	Canterbury Academy Campus	120	58	Pure Gym	220
16	Canterbury College	35	65	Simon Langton Grammar - Boys	10
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	35	67	St Anselms R.C. School	12
27	DW Sports Fitness	105	91	University of Kent	144
28	Energie	35	92	Urban Fitness	50
29	Flex Appeal	54	96	Whitstable Rugby Club	10
38	Hérons Leisure Centre	55	97	Whitstable Sports Centre	30
43	Kent College (Canterbury)	15	98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	25
45	Kings School Recreation Centre	35	100	Whitstable Waterfront Club	14

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ID	Site name	Stns	ID	Site name	Stns
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	80			
	Total	1,141			

Figure 7.1: All health and fitness facilities in Canterbury



Quality

All community available health and fitness sites received a non-technical quality assessment.

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

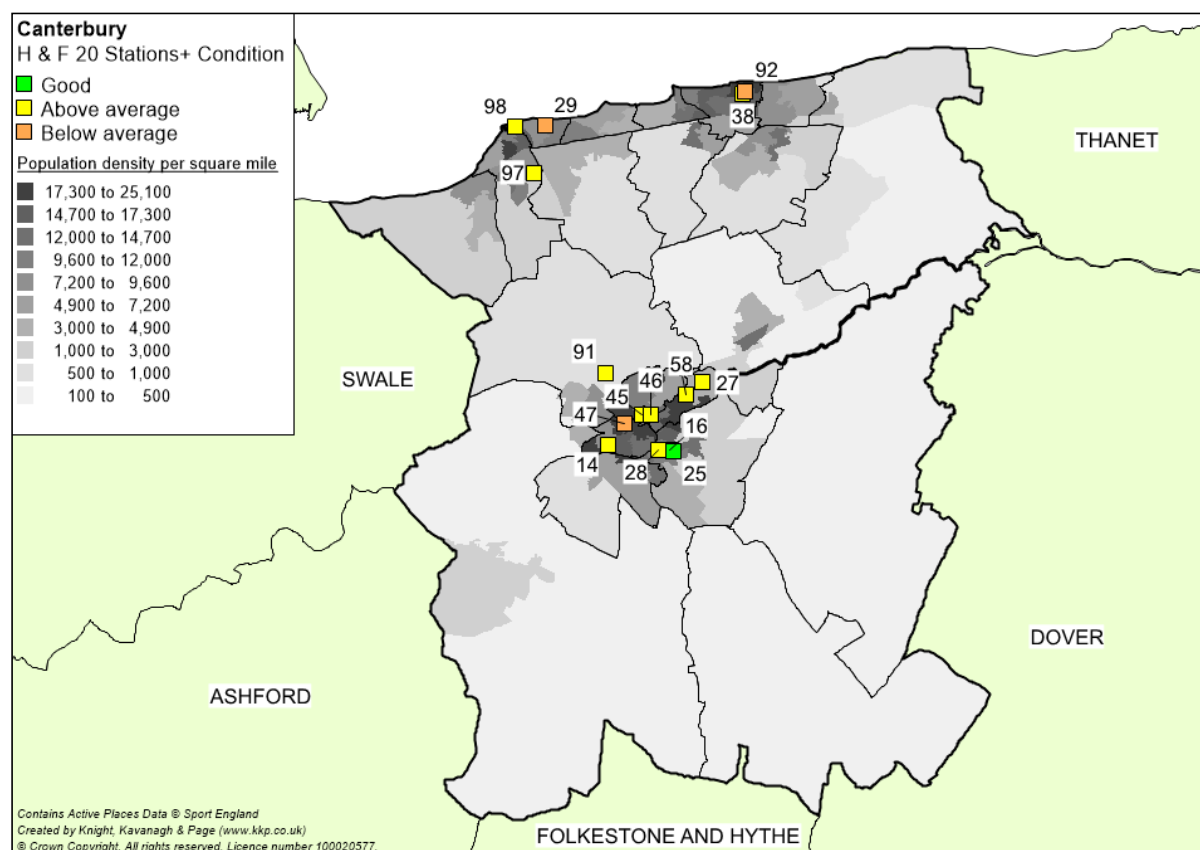
Map ID	Site name	Stations	Condition
14	Canterbury Academy Campus	120	Above average
16	Canterbury College	35	Above average
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	35	Good
27	DW Sports Fitness (Canterbury)	105	Above average
28	Energie (Canterbury)	35	Above average
29	Flex Appeal (Whitstable)	54	Below average
38	Hérons Leisure Centre	55	Above average
45	Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	35	Above average
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	80	Above average
47	Ladies of Leisure Gym (Canterbury)	51	Below average
58	Pure Gym (Canterbury)	220	Above average
91	University of Kent	144	Above average

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Map ID	Site name	Stations	Condition
92	Urban Fitness	50	Below average
97	Whitstable Sports Centre	30	Above average
98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	25	Above average

Christ Church Sports Centre is the only facility to be assessed as good. The remainder are above average with the exception of Flex Appeal, Ladies of Leisure Gym and Urban Fitness which are below average in quality.

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



Accessibility

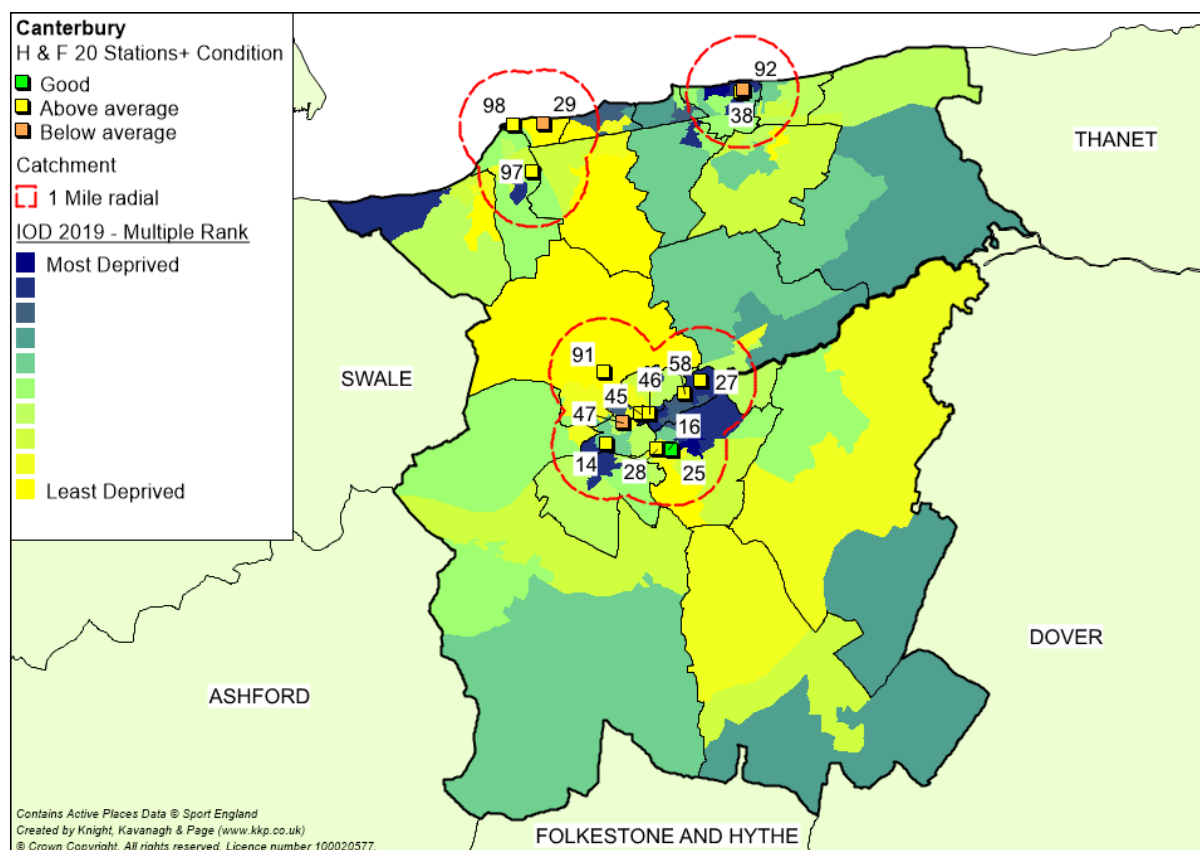
The Sport England classification of access type defines registered membership use facilities as being publicly available. For health and fitness suites, this generally means a monthly membership fee which can vary considerably.

Private operators do not have a contractual obligation to, for example, offer exercise referral nor do they necessarily actively target hard to reach groups. It is also acknowledged that some of the memberships available are considered expensive while others are cheaper than those made available by public sector managed venues. There is little doubt that private operators can take pressure off the more available public facilities.

As with swimming pools and sports halls, appropriate walk and drive-time accessibility standards are applied to health and fitness suites to determine provision deficiencies or surpluses. The normal acceptable standard is a 20-minute drive time.

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Figure 7.3: Health and fitness suites with 20 minutes' walk time catchment on IMD



Availability and programming

Table 7.3: Health and fitness gyms access policy

Map ID	Site name	Stations	Access type
14	Canterbury Academy Campus	120	Pay and play
16	Canterbury College	35	Registered membership
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	35	Private use
27	DW Sports Fitness (Canterbury)	105	Registered membership
28	Energie (Canterbury)	35	Registered membership
29	Flex Appeal (Whitstable)	54	Registered membership
38	Hérons Leisure Centre	55	Pay and play
45	Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	35	Registered membership
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	80	Pay and play
47	Ladies of Leisure Gym (Canterbury)	51	Registered membership
58	Pure Gym (Canterbury)	220	Registered membership
91	University of Kent	144	Registered membership
92	Urban Fitness	50	Registered membership
97	Whitstable Sports Centre	30	Pay and play
98	Whitstable Swimming Pool	25	Pay and play
Total		1,074	

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The Sport England classification of access type defines registered membership use facilities as being publicly available. For health/fitness this generally means a monthly membership fee, the cost of which can vary considerably. It is acknowledged that memberships which might be considered expensive offer access to different market segments and can ease pressure on more available facilities (i.e. those with cheaper membership options). If Christ Church Sports Centre is removed from the analysis, 59.4% of the population resides within one mile walk of an available venue. For those in areas of higher deprivation, the majority (16.4% out of a total of 19.5%) reside within one mile of a pay and play fitness gym.

Figure 7.4: 20+ stations by condition on IMD with 20 min walk, excluding private use

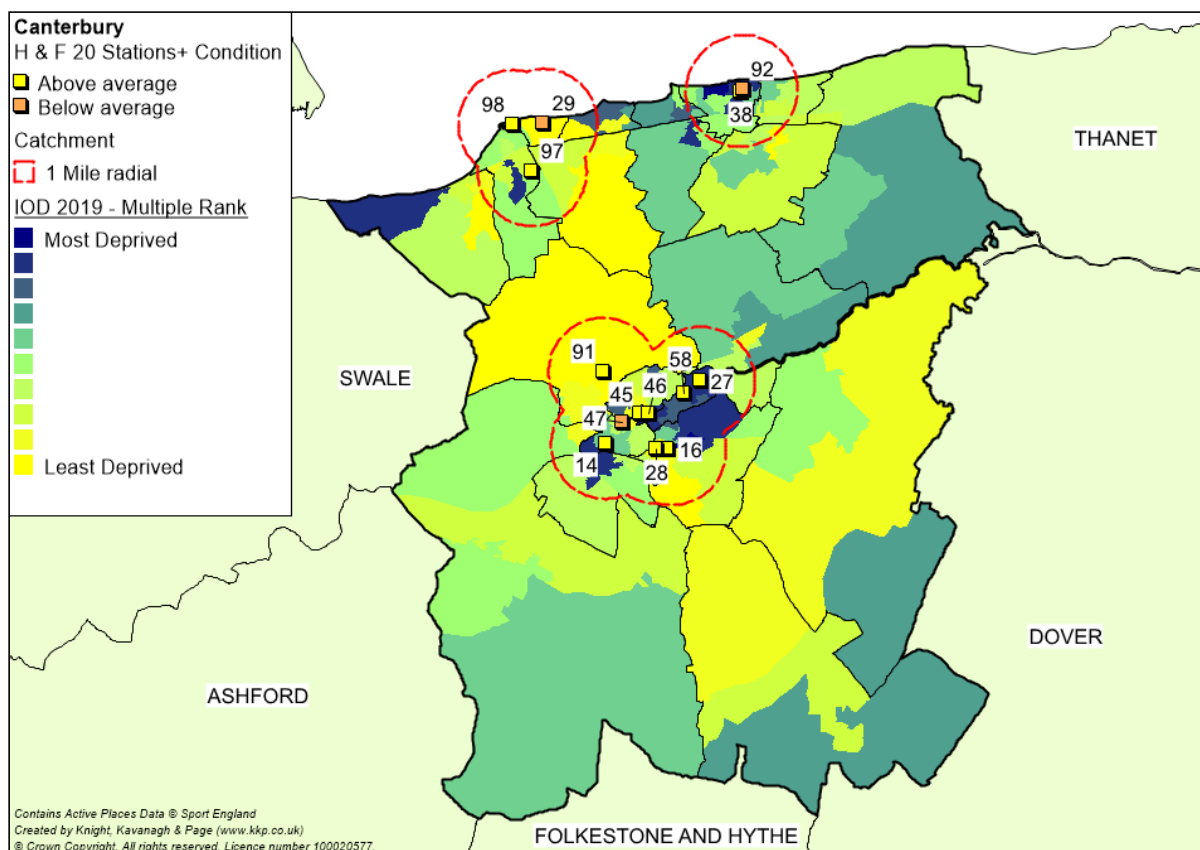


Table 7.4: 20+ stations by condition on IMD with 20 min walk, excluding private use

IMD 2015 10% bands	Canterbury		Health & Fitness – 20 stations or more catchment populations by IMD			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	3,172	2.0%	3,172	2.0%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	16,579	10.4%	13,885	8.7%	2,694	1.7%
20.1 - 30	11,302	7.1%	9,040	5.7%	2,262	1.4%
30.1 - 40	5,835	3.7%	20	0.0%	5,815	3.7%
40.1 - 50	19,425	12.2%	10,382	6.5%	9,043	5.7%
50.1 - 60	19,280	12.1%	11,212	7.0%	8,068	5.1%
60.1 - 70	25,960	16.3%	16,233	10.2%	9,727	6.1%
70.1 - 80	19,965	12.5%	10,498	6.6%	9,467	5.9%

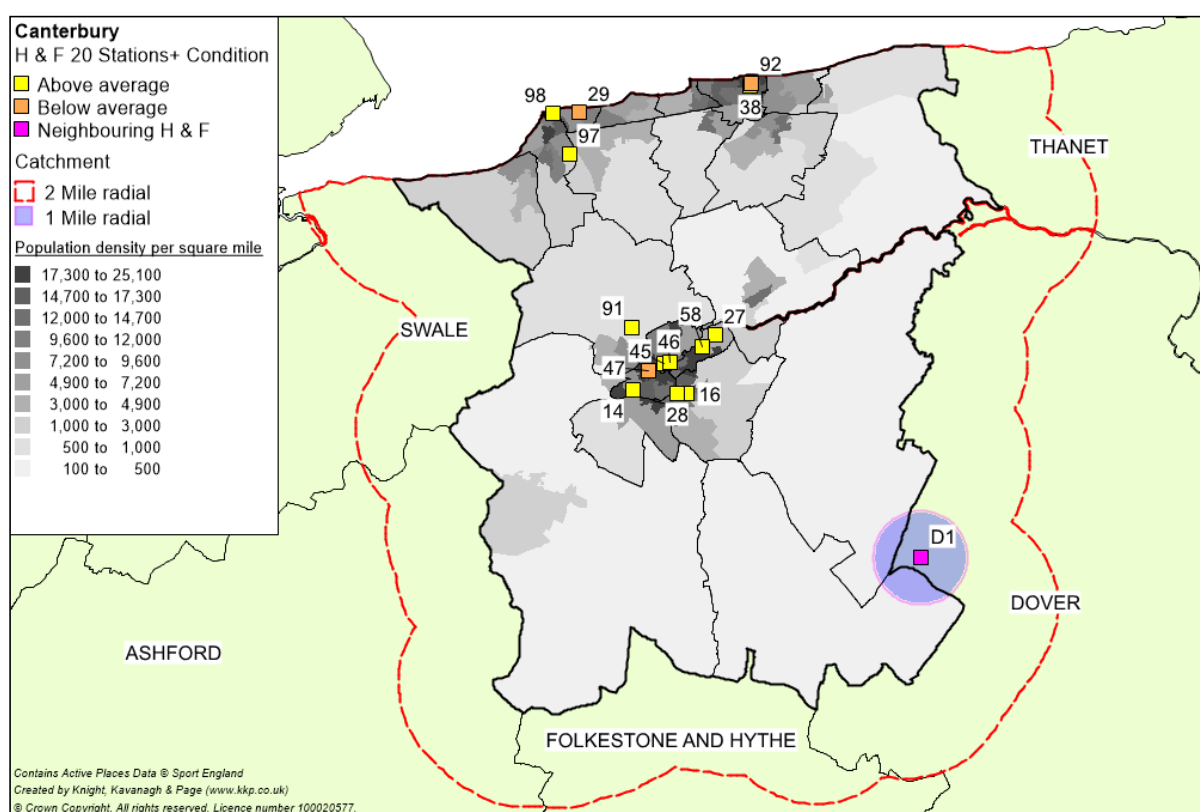
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80.1 - 90	19,270	12.1%	11,335	7.1%	7,935	5.0%
90.1 - 100	18,875	11.8%	9,089	5.7%	9,786	6.1%
Total	159,663	100.0%	94,866	59.4%	64,797	40.6%

Neighbouring facilities

As with swimming and use of sports halls, users of health and fitness facilities do not just use facilities within their own local authority, consequently those within two miles of the border are considered within the report. Figure 7.5 highlights that there is one such facility (Aylsham Welfare Leisure Centre (26 stations – ‘pay and play’) located in the adjoining district of Dover.

Figure 7.5: Health and fitness gyms located within two miles of CCC boundary



New developments

Consultation and research identifies two new health and fitness gyms which have been granted planning permission in the area plus the plans being developed at Kings School (Junior Kings). Both Snap Fitness and PureGym are national chains and offer 24/7 access to facilities. There are also developments planned with current facilities with extensions to the health and fitness offers at Whitstable Swimming Pool, Kingsmead Leisure Centre and Herons Leisure Centre.

In the event that all three become operational, 66.1% of the total population and 84.1% of people living in areas of higher deprivation will have a health and fitness gym within one mile of where they live.

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Figure 7.6: New health and fitness gym developments

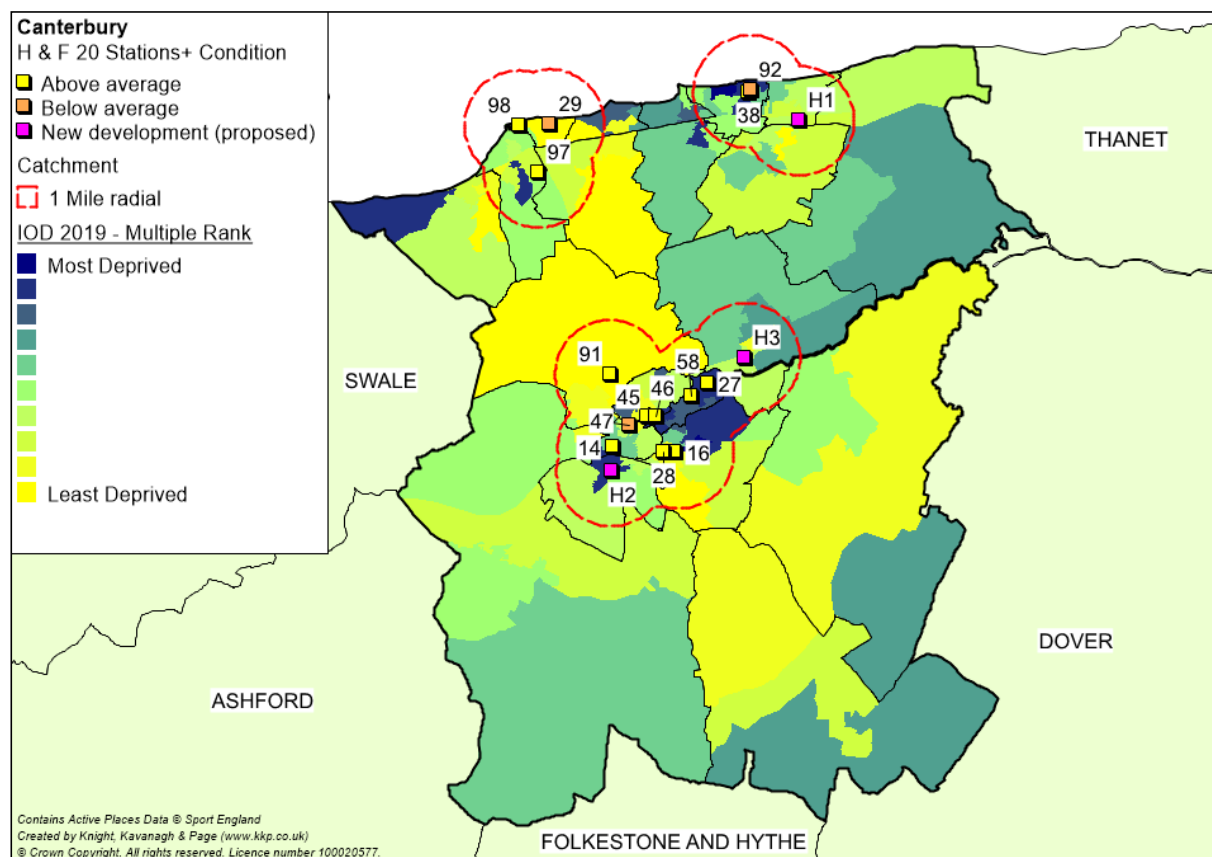


Table 7.6 Planned new health and fitness gyms

ID	Site name	Proposed number of stations (floor space)	Access type
H1	Snap Fitness	c. 200 stations (1,000m ²)	Registered membership
H2	PureGym	c. 200 stations (1,000m ²)	Registered membership
H3	Kings School	35 stations	Registered membership

Table 7.7: Current and proposed new health and fitness gyms 20+ stations

IMD 2015 10% bands	Canterbury		Health & Fitness – 20 stations or more, including Proposed new H&F. Catchment populations by IMD.			
	Persons	Population %	Persons inside catchment	Population inside (%)	Persons outside catchment	Population outside (%)
0 - 10	3,172	2.0%	3,172	2.0%	0	0.0%
10.1 - 20	16,579	10.4%	13,885	8.7%	2,694	1.7%
20.1 - 30	11,302	7.1%	9,040	5.7%	2,262	1.4%
30.1 - 40	5,835	3.7%	1,295	0.8%	4,540	2.8%
40.1 - 50	19,425	12.2%	10,898	6.8%	8,527	5.3%
50.1 - 60	19,280	12.1%	11,601	7.3%	7,679	4.8%
60.1 - 70	25,960	16.3%	20,359	12.8%	5,601	3.5%
70.1 - 80	19,965	12.5%	12,282	7.7%	7,683	4.8%

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80.1 - 90	19,270	12.1%	12,757	8.0%	6,513	4.1%
90.1 - 100	18,875	11.8%	10,282	6.4%	8,593	5.4%
Total	159,663	100.0%	105,571	66.1%	54,092	33.9%

7.2: Demand

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

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

	Curent (2016)	Future (2041)
Adult population (16+ years)	136,856	167,636
UK penetration rate	15%	16%
Number of potential members	20,528	26,822
Number of visits per week (1.75/member)	35,925	46,938
% of visits in peak time	65	65
No. of visits in peak time (equated to no. of stations required i.e. no. of visits/39 weeks*65%)	599	782
Number of stations (with comfort factor applied)	898	1,173

The model identifies 1.75 visits per week by members and 65% usage during 39 weeks of the year. (All figures rounded up/down)

Based upon UK penetration rates there is a current need for 898 stations across Canterbury. This is expected to grow to 1,173 by 2041; taking account of a comfort factor (particularly at peak times).

When comparing the number of community available stations currently available (1,074) and accounting for the comfort factor, there appears to be a positive supply/demand balance of facilities to service the adult population. Planning consent has been granted for a further two gyms and consultation indicates a possible third (Junior Kings School). These would, collectively, potentially add a further 435 stations to the supply. In addition, there are planned expansions to the health and fitness offer at Whitstable Swimming Pool, Kingsmead Leisure Centre and Herons Leisure Centre. The audit indicates a sufficient supply of health and fitness facilities currently and projecting to 2041 based on the calculations above.

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

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Supply and demand analysis

As noted earlier, health and fitness facilities are an important facet of leisure provision and have been a successful addition to sports centres over the past three decades. Income derived can help to offset the cost/underpin the viability of other aspects of leisure provision, especially swimming and targeted physical activity programmes such as Exercise on Referral.

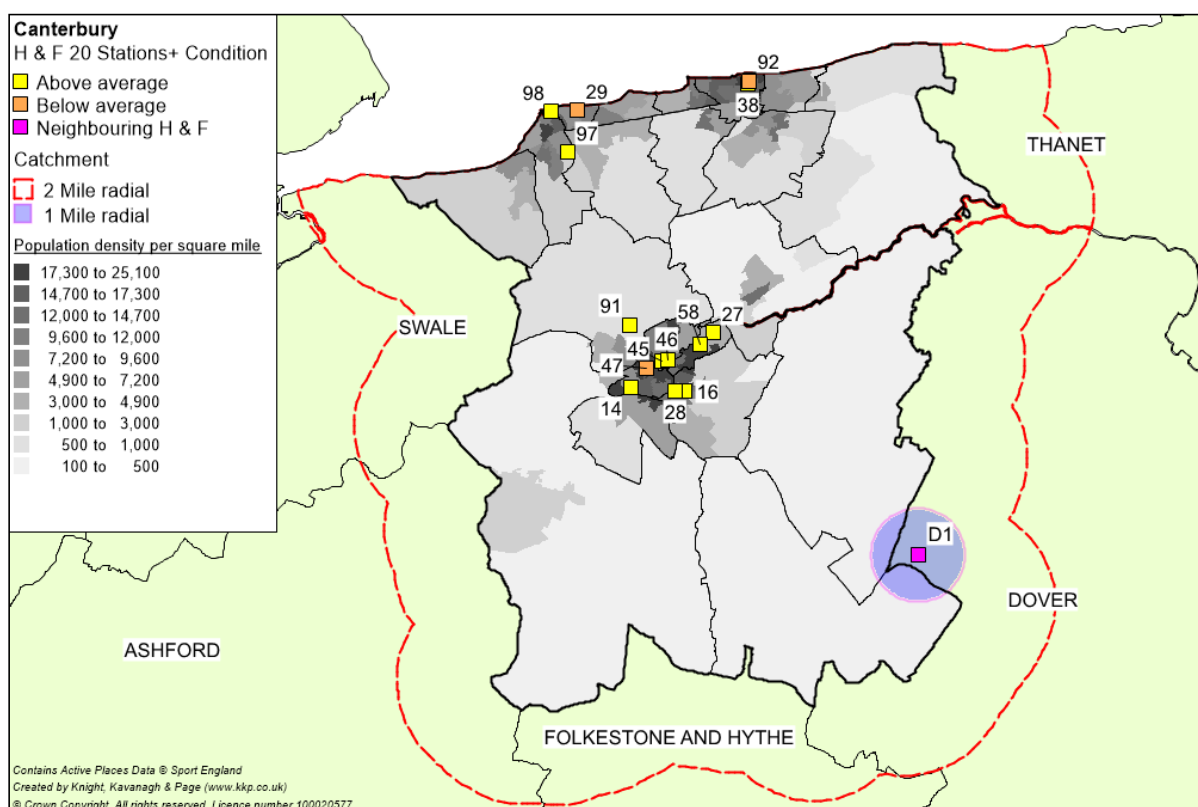
For CCC, the challenge is to provide opportunity for people from areas of higher deprivation and rural areas who are less likely to be able to afford or choose to access health and fitness opportunity and do not have the transport to access the facilities. In the more rural areas, use of greenspace and flexible community spaces for fitness / physical activity is likely to be of key importance.

7.3: Dance studios

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

There are 25 studios across 14 sites. Ten are available for pay and play, three are available via a sports club/association, ten require a membership to access and two (both at Christ Church Sports Centre) are used privately by the school only. Six are rated good quality, 14 above average, four below average and one (Prince of Wales Youth Club) was not assessed.

Figure 7.7: Dance studios in Canterbury



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Table 7.9: List of Canterbury studios

Map ID	Site name	Access	Condition
6	Bay Sports Arena	Pay and Play	Above average
6	Bay Sports Arena	Pay and Play	Above average
6	Bay Sports Arena	Pay and Play	Above average
14	Canterbury Academy	Pay and Play	Above average
14	Canterbury Academy	Pay and Play	Above average
16	Canterbury College	Registered Membership	Good
16	Canterbury College	Registered Membership	Good
16	Canterbury College	Registered Membership	Good
16	Canterbury College	Registered Membership	Good
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	Private Use	Above average
25	Christ Church Sport Centre	Private Use	Good
27	DW Sports Fitness	Registered Membership	Above average
27	DW Sports Fitness	Registered Membership	Above average
27	DW Sports Fitness	Registered Membership	Above average
28	Energie Fitness	Pay and Play	Above average
38	Hérons Leisure Centre	Pay and Play	Above average
38	Hérons Leisure Centre	Pay and Play	Above average
43	Kent College	Sports Club / CA	Below average
45	Kings School Recreation Centre (Blores)	Registered Membership	Above average
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Pay and Play	Below average
46	Kingsmead Leisure Centre	Pay and Play	Below average
47	Ladies of Leisure Gym	Registered Membership	Below average
56	Polo Farm Sports Club	Sports Club / CA	Good
57	Prince of Wales Youth Club	Sports Club / CA	Not assessed
91	University of Kent	Registered Membership	Above average

New developments and planned refurbishments:

- ✦ Whitstable Swimming Pool has plans for a new studio.
- ✦ Kingsmead Leisure Centre plans include new high intensity interactive zones, a new studio and dedicated indoor cycling studio.
- ✦ Herons Leisure Centre has plans to refurbish two studios.
- ✦ It is likely the planned new fitness gyms at PureGym, Snap Fitness and Junior Kings will also have new studios.

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7.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Health & fitness	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	<p>There are 21 health and fitness facilities of which 15 have 20 stations or more. The 15 facilities offer 1,074 stations in Canterbury.</p> <p>There are 25 studios across 14 sites and plans for more with new developments.</p> <p>A further two fitness gyms are likely to open in the city centre plus a third at Kings School (Junior Kings).</p> <p>Enhancements are planned at Whitstable Swimming Pool, Herons Leisure Centre and Kingsmead Leisure Centre.</p>	<p>There is a need to ensure cognisance of new developments. This will help ensure that the market does not become saturated and that providers are able to generate sufficient income from this income stream.</p>
Quality	<p>One health and fitness gym is rated good quality, 11 above average and three below average).</p> <p>Studios are generally good and above average quality with four rated below average and one not assessed.</p>	<p>There is a need to maintain quality and where possible improve the condition of the below average rated gyms and dance studios.</p> <p>There are plans to invest in two of the below average studios.</p>
Accessibility	<p>All main population areas have health and fitness facilities.</p> <p>The majority (84%) of the population live within one mile of a health and fitness facility</p> <p>All residents live within 20 minutes' drive of a health/fitness and dance facility.</p> <p>For those in areas of higher deprivation, the majority (16.4% out of a total of 19.5%) reside within one mile of a pay and play fitness gym</p>	<p>There is a need to ensure that harder to reach groups and people with specific health needs can access facilities.</p>
Availability (Management and usage)	<p>There are five publicly accessible pay and play health and fitness facilities with 20+ stations.</p> <p>There is one private use only venue.</p> <p>All others require a membership to access.</p> <p>One gym is located within 2 miles of the CCC boundary. (Aylesham Welfare Leisure Centre).</p>	<p>The key need is to ensure health and fitness facilities cater fully for the full range of different market segments within the Canterbury community.</p>
Summary	<p>Health and fitness facilities along with dance studio space have the potential to increase physical activity in the wider population.</p> <p>There is sufficient supply both currently and projected up to 2041 even taking into account that the market for health and fitness nationally is still growing.</p> <p>The importance of the financial contribution that health and fitness provision can make to the viability of (and to enable) other publicly accessible facilities as swimming pools is an important facet. Continued development of health and fitness facilities which are not in the local authority domain, may adversely affect the financial performance of local authority owned facilities.</p>	

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SECTION 8: SQUASH

Squash, having experienced challenging times, is now on a new strategic path, implementing a rebrand and undergoing a major restructure. England Squash has achieved core strategic goals agreed with Sport England one of which was to arrest the decline in participation. It is committed to supporting the traditional infrastructure of county associations, clubs, coaches and officials to grow the game through key programmes (e.g. Squash101) and campaigns (e.g. Squash Girls Can) but will need to apportion resources in a significantly different manner.

Table 8.1: England Squash Strategic aims:

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

Enhancing Squash (2017-2021) outlines the vision, principles and strategic pillars for England Squash. Its vision is *to make squash the #1 racket sport in England*. Its Mission is to create a thriving squash community by redefining and enhancing the experience for players, coaches, officials and volunteers - enabling England Squash to sustain the sport, maximise revenue potential and develop world leading teams and individuals. The 2017-2021 strategy aims to:

- ◀ Continue to build a model sport NGB that enables participation and enjoyment of squash whilst delivering a robust talent pathway and successful performance programme.
- ◀ Deliver a membership scheme that caters to and encourages players/coaches at all levels.
- ◀ Form a progressive organisation with an enhanced international reputation.

8.1 Supply

There are 15 squash courts in the wider Canterbury area, located at five sites. Courts are in above average condition with the exception of Whitstable Waterfront Club which is rated below average. The two glass backed courts are located at Kings School Recreation Centre.

Almost all (99%) of Canterbury's population is within a 20-minutes' drive time of a squash facility.

Broome Park Golf Club, in the very south of the district, is the only private facility. It is used by members only. The remaining sites require a membership as there is no pay and play squash facility in Canterbury.

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

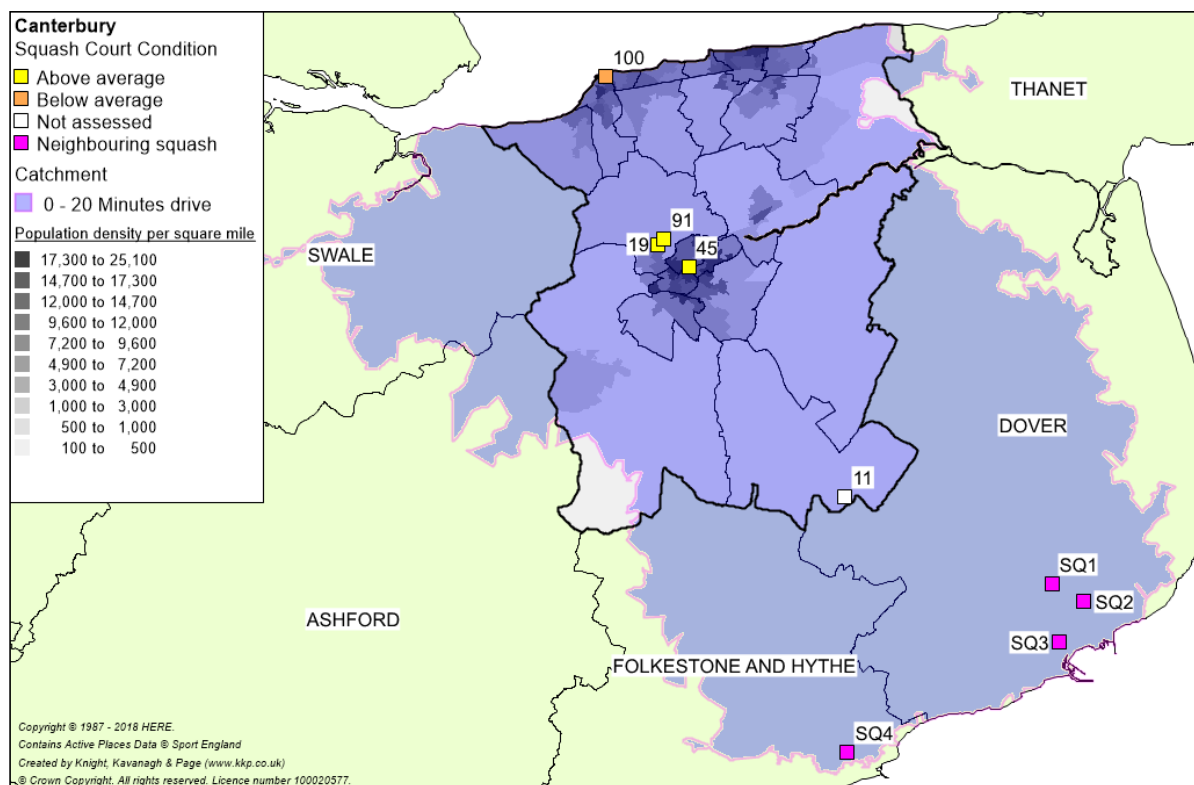


Table 8.2: Squash courts in Canterbury

ID	Site name	Courts	Access type	Condition
11	Broome Park Golf Club	3	Private use	Not assessed
19	Canterbury Squash Rackets Club	4	Registered membership	Above average
45	Kings School Rec. Centre (Blores)	4*	Registered membership	Above average
91	University of Kent	2	Registered membership	Above average
100	Whitstable Waterfront Club	2	Registered membership	Below average
Total		15		

(*2 of these are glass backed)

Four sites have squash courts in Dover district. Two offer pay and play access (Dover District Leisure Centre and Folkestone Sports Centre). Availability can be obtained via a sports club/ association at Dover College and the Duke of York's Military School is for private use only.

Table 8.3: Squash courts within 20 minutes' drive time

ID	Site name	Courts	Access type	Local authority
SQ1	Dover District Leisure Centre	2	Pay and play	Dover
SQ2	Duke of York's Royal Military School	4	Private use	Dover
SQ3	Dover College	1	Sports club / CA	Dover
SQ4	Folkestone Sports Centre	3	Pay and play	Folkestone & Hythe

Source: Active Places Power 16/10/2019

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

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8.2: Demand

Club consultation

Canterbury Squash Rackets Club (CSRC) was established 50 years ago. It owns the building and leases the land from St Edmunds School and 18 years remaining on its lease. It has c. 185 members, the majority of whom are male. It offers three levels of memberships including, full, student and juniors and has capacity to accommodate growth. In addition to participating in local leagues, it hosts approximately eight tournaments per year which attract players from overseas and across the country.

The Club is working hard to increase the number of members in the junior section and offers free coaching sessions at weekends. It also delivers in-school coaching and has a number of links to primary schools in the area. Another focus area at present is increasing women and girl's participation.

CSRC has a four-year rolling maintenance programme in place for court refurbishment and recently invested £6,500 to install new flooring in one. It also aspires to increase the size of the kitchen area and extend the social area to enable it to provide catering, thereby increasing social activity which will in turn make it more financially sustainable and improve the player and member experience.

8.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Squash	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are 15 squash courts in Canterbury. Two (Kings School) are glass backed the others are traditional.	Given the predicted housing growth in the Herne Bay area it may be worth considering whether residents of Herne Bay require some level of squash provision in the future. No latent demand was identified anywhere else.
Quality	Eight courts are of above average quality, two are below average. Two were unassessed.	Continued maintenance and investment is needed to maintain court quality. CSRC aspires to enhance the kitchen and social areas of the facility.
Accessibility	All CCC residents live within 20 minutes' drive time of a squash court.	
Availability (Management and usage)	There are two private use facilities in Canterbury. Access to all other courts in the area requires membership. There are five pay and play courts in neighbouring authorities that are within 20 minutes' drive time.	
Summary	Squash is well catered for in the Canterbury area. CSRC is actively trying to recruit new members and develop the number of juniors through links with schools and initiatives to drive up participation. There is a need to continue to invest and maintain court quality.	

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SECTION 9: INDOOR BOWLS

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

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

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

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

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

An indoor bowling centre typically comprises a single flat green with a number of rinks and ancillary accommodation such as changing rooms, lounge/bar, viewing area, kitchen, office/meeting rooms and stores plus designated car parking. The size of ancillary accommodation varies according to the number of rinks available. A successful indoor bowls centre requires a combination of the right location, design, and financial and general management. Sport England⁷ guidelines on catchment for indoor bowls centres are set out to be interpreted in the light of local circumstances:

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

The stated priorities of EIBA are:

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

⁷ Sport England Design Guidance Note Indoor Bowls 2005

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EIBA Outline Plan 2017 - 2021

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

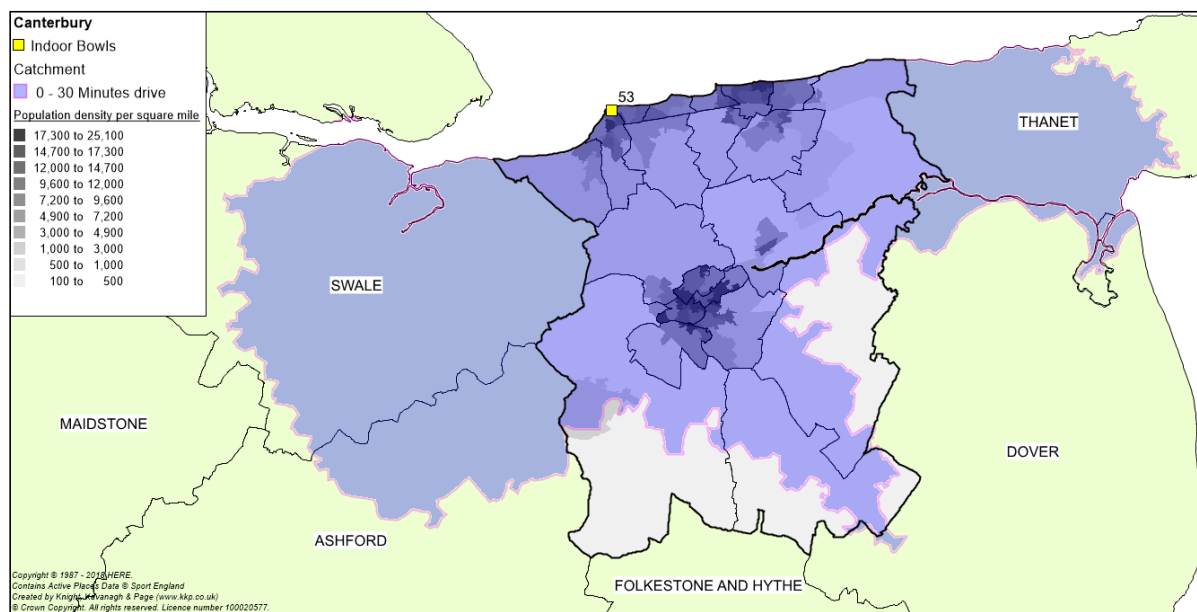
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9.1: Supply

There is one dedicated indoor bowls facility in the Canterbury area, Oyster Indoor Bowls Club, Whitstable. It is a large venue with eight rinks. The non-technical assessment found the facility to be in above average condition as identified in Table 9.1.

Figure 9.1: Location of dedicated indoor bowls facility in Canterbury



Accessibility

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that over 96% (158,414) of Canterbury's population lives within a 20-minute drive of the Oyster Indoor Bowling Club. Active Places Power did not identify any other indoor bowls facilities within a 30-minute drive time catchment of it.

9.2: Demand

The EIBA reports that Oyster Indoor Bowls Club is of importance given both the increasing proportion of older people in the population, and the fact that it is the only facility in the area; the nearest neighbouring facilities being more than 30 minutes' drive away. EIBA is keen to ensure that its long-term future is secured.

Club consultation

Oyster Indoor Bowls Club has c. 500 playing members plus 120 social members. The majority are aged 65+ although there are also adult and junior members aged 8 years upwards. It caters for players of all abilities from beginners to national level competitors. It is active socially and competitively and runs a calendar of events to keep members active and involved.

Established c.30 years ago it is located in a unit that was previously a wholesale cash and carry (Bookers). Whilst it is of significant size (two four rink greens) there is limited ancillary

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provision and function space, the building is also not energy efficient (single skin walls) and it costs a considerable amount to heat. There is no disability access to the upstairs catering area.

The Club leases the building from CCC and pays for upkeep and repairs. Recently it has had LED lighting installed and it has applied for funding to have solar panels installed on the roof to reduce the electricity bill which it reports to be c.£48,000 per annum.

In the coming year, the carpet requires in the region of £50,000 of work to stretch and reinstate. Sport England and Bowls England have agreed to contribute funding towards the works required (carpet and refurbishment to the toilets) and Active Kent is supporting the Club to address the shortfall.

The Club reports having been approached with regard to a possible relocation. It is amenable to this; however, it has a need for a minimum like for like sized facility with parking, ideally in a larger building to allow it to offer functions/events and have the ability to generate additional income to ensure its longer term sustainability. In addition, it must be fully accessible to meet the needs of all members, be energy efficient with sufficient ancillary provision.

Consultation identifies that this is not currently under discussion but may be reviewed should the long-term aspiration of the Council to development the marina become a reality.

Herne Bay Indoor Bowls Club (Short mat bowls club)

Based at the Bay Sports Arena, the Club is the only Club permitted to access the facilities of a daytime. (part of an agreement when the sports facilities were developed.

The Club is reported to train three days a week (eight sessions) for training and matches.

Future demand

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

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

Table 9.2: Sport England Sports Facilities Calculator

	Population 2016	Population estimate 2041
ONS population projections	162,502	194,529
Population increase	-	32,027
Facilities to meet additional demand	-	2.28 rinks or 0.38 centres
Cost	-	£974,161

Calculations assume that the current indoor bowls stock remains available for community use and the quality remains the same. It appears that the projected increase in population

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will lead to an increase in demand for indoor bowls rinks. The SFC indicates likely demand for an additional 2.28 rinks, up to 2041; at an estimated cost of £974,161.

9.3: Summary

Facility type	Indoor Bowls	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There is one indoor bowls facility within Canterbury.	There is a need to ensure that this facility continues to be viable and an attractive venue at which to play the sport.
Quality	It is above average condition and there are plans to improve changing facilities and stretch and turn the carpet. Funding is being sought to complete the works required. The building is not energy efficient and does not meet the social needs of the Club.	Continued maintenance and investment is needed to ensure venue quality. Ensure that promised support materialises to assist the Club which is positive in its approach to maintaining quality.
Accessibility	The majority (96%) of the population lives within 20 mins drive time of the centre. There are no other indoor bowls facilities within 30 minutes-drive.	The Club is open to the possibility of re-location should the opportunity arise.
Availability (Management and usage)	The facility is available both daytime and evening all year round.	There is capacity to accommodate additional demand.
Strategic Summary	<p>There is a need to continue to invest and maintain quality.</p> <p>It will be essential to monitor demand/supply balance in the light of housing growth and NGB intervention..</p> <p>EIBA is keen to ensure a long-term future is secured for the centre.</p> <p>Opportunities to reduce the running costs of the building should be explored e.g. solar panels.</p> <p>The Club should continue to drive up participation and ensure the facilities are viable.</p>	

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SECTION 10: GYMNASTICS

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

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

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

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

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

One million people are estimated to be on waiting lists for gymnastics (Freshminds Latent Demand Research, 2017). This research also suggests that a further 1.9 million would like to participate but are not currently on a waiting list. A key part of BG's strategy to increase participation is to support clubs moving into their own dedicated facility, offering more time and space for classes. There is a definite trend for gymnastics clubs to do this. There are also initiatives for older people funded by Sport England, such as, Love to Move focused on dementia patients.

10.1: Supply

There are three dedicated gymnastics venues in Canterbury, although Canterbury Gymnastics Club and Aire Trampoline Club are in adjacent facilities as identified in Figure 9.1 and Table 9.1 below. The gymnastics centres are located in an area of higher population density. Consultation and site visit was conducted at Canterbury Gymnastics Club alongside consultation with the Club.

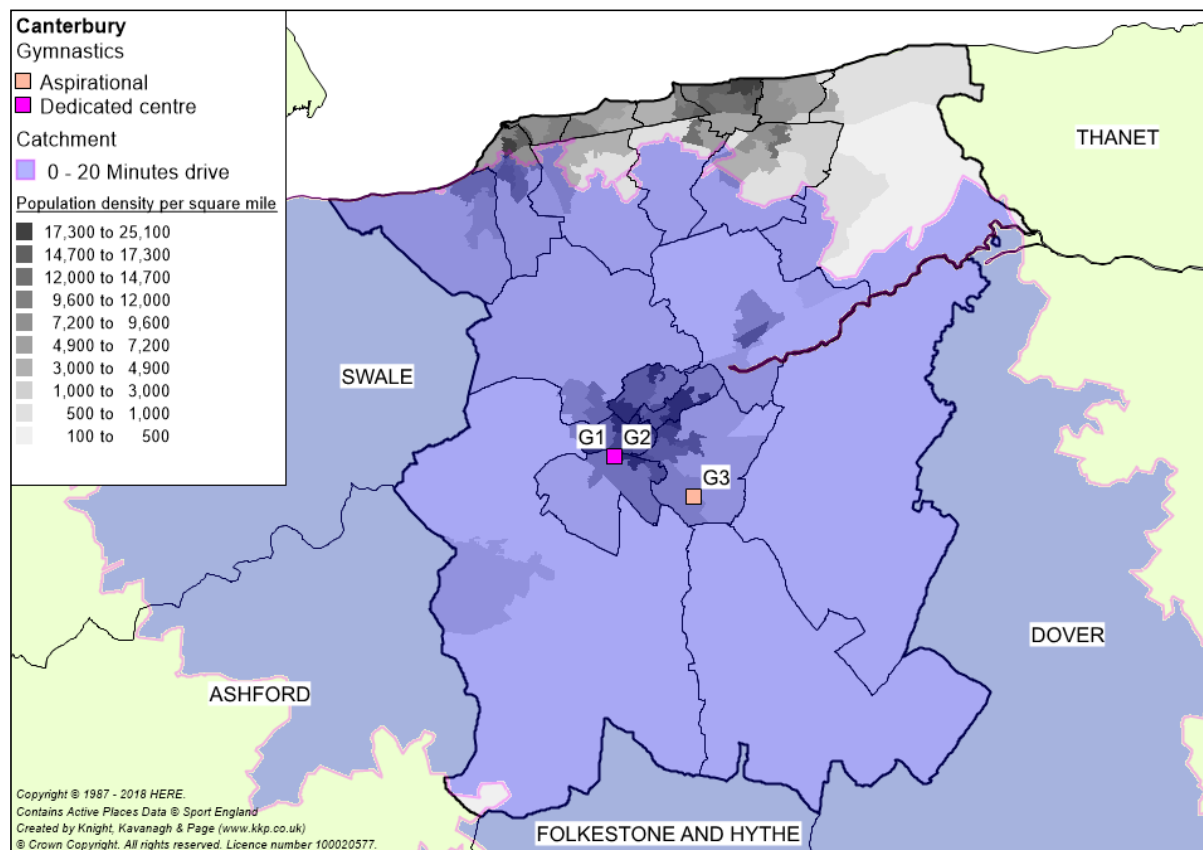
Drive time catchment modelling estimates that approximately 66% (108,302) of Canterbury's population is within a 20-minutes' drive time of a gymnastics dedicated facility. Whitstable and Herne Bay residents live outwith the 20 minutes. There is recreational and club provision available in these areas.

Table 10.1: Dedicated and aspirational gymnastics centres in Canterbury

Map ID	Site name
G1	Canterbury Gymnastics Club
G2	Aire Trampoline Club
G3	Canterbury Rhythmic Gymnastics Club

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Figure 10.1: Dedicated and aspirational gymnastics centres with 20 min drive time.



10.2: Demand

NGB consultation

BG reports the main issue for gymnastic development is having access to sufficient dedicated space so clubs are able to grow and extend their programmes. The other key factor is the availability of coaches qualified at the right level

Club consultation

Canterbury Gymnastics Club (CGC) has c.700 members, a good quality facility and caters for all ages. It claims to be the only club in the area without a waiting list as it has six classes in the recreational gymnastics section. It offers opportunities for:

- ◀ Crawling babies to adults.
- ◀ Adults.
- ◀ People with disabilities.
- ◀ School provision.
- ◀ Hyper mobility.
- ◀ Freestyle.
- ◀ FreeG.
- ◀ Squads (competitive section).
- ◀ Leadership programmes.

It is located in in an industrial unit on an industrial estate with three years remaining on what was a seven-year lease. It reports having requested a longer lease; however, the landlord has refused. It would like to add a mezzanine floor at the venue but is unwilling to commit to large scale investment given the number remaining years on the lease.

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CGC has good school-club links delivering sessions in schools and at its base. It also hosts inter-schools' competitions. In addition to successfully delivering gymnastics opportunities for all and at all levels, it has a large, established leadership programme which accredits and trains leaders in taking on responsibilities to support club activities (including events). This creates a ready-made workforce and develops young people into assistants and coaches giving them valuable life skills at a young age.

Should a longer lease not be obtained, CGC would like to move to larger premises as the current facility is inhibiting its growth. Its aspirations are for a facility that would enable the Club to have:

- ◀ Gymnastics delivery area.
- ◀ Event area.
- ◀ Indoor play area.
- ◀ Café/social area.

Aspire International Gymnastics Club – is based at Ames Lovett Indoor School (Kent County Cricket Club) and offers opportunities in mens' and womens' artistic and adult gymnastics.

Canterbury Rhythmic Gymnastics Club – is based at St Anselms RC School. BG is supporting it to explore the possibility of a new dedicated facility on the school site. The Club is currently working on a detailed feasibility study with Aire Trampoline Club. This principle is supported by St Anselms RC School although it is unable support it financially.

Greenhill Gym Club – is based at the Herne Bay Sports Arena in the 2-court hall, which the Club hires for four days a week. It has 103 members with a waiting list of 40 (no facility aspirations).

Tankerton Dancing Academy Gym - Tankerton operates as a dance academy based in Whitstable and offers recreational gymnastics for ages 18months + including mens' and womens' artistic gymnastics (no additional facility aspirations).

Aire Trampolining Club - Established in a dedicated facility (industrial unit) the Club has c.235 members. It also operates from St Anselms RC School in the area. Its offer comprises adult gymfit, disability gymnastics, trampolining, double mini trampoline.

Consultation indicates that it would also like a longer lease, (it leases from the same landlord as Canterbury Gymnastics Club). It also would like to move to alternative premises should a longer lease not be obtained and has shown interest in working with Canterbury Gymnastics Club to build a new dedicated facility at St Anselms RC School.

10.3: Summary

Facility type	Gymnastics	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There are three dedicated gymnastics centres in Canterbury plus aspirations to develop and improve facilities at St Anselm's. The six clubs operate across the Canterbury area.	Consider options to enable the two gymnastics clubs in dedicated venues to obtain a longer lease to enable them to invest in the facilities and grow the clubs.
Quality	Dedicated facilities are well used and require investment to meet club needs. The Rhythmic Gymnastics Club is	Continued maintenance and investment are required to maintain quality of existing facilities.

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	exploring the feasibility of developing a dedicated facility at St Anselms School. There are also partnership opportunities available with Aspire Trampoline Club. Facilities are of good quality.	
Accessibility	Gymnastics is accessible to residents at recreation level within leisure centres or at all levels at dedicated club facilities.	
Availability (Management & usage)	Dedicated centres are operational during the day and in the evening. Current opportunity to grow participation in gymnastics is limited by the limitations in spatial capacity. There is ongoing pressure to develop the coaching and volunteer workforce which an increase in numbers would generate.	Continue to support coach and volunteer development.
Summary	Support Canterbury Rhythmic Gymnastics Club to move to a new dedicated facility or provide additional facilities as a gymnastics hub in order to meet current demand for the sport in Canterbury. Increase the available qualified coach workforce to underpin existing provision and enable future expansion. CCC should consider whether and how to encourage development of additional recreational gymnastics provision in the area given the already high demand for the sport. (All clubs except one have waiting lists). Support the two gymnastics clubs in dedicated venues to obtain a longer lease to enable them to invest in the facilities and grow the clubs.	

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SECTION 11: INDOOR TENNIS

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the NGB for all tennis provision within the UK. It administers the sport at national and regional level. One of its key objectives is to get more people playing tennis more often. Its most recent Strategic Plan 2015 – 2018, highlights three key objectives:

- ◀ Deliver great service to clubs.
- ◀ Build partnerships in the community.
- ◀ Grow Participation among children and young people.

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

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

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

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

The LTA has a tiered approach to local authorities when prioritising its investment and loans for its park courts and the community hub programme. Indoor courts are not referenced within the current strategy.

11.1: Supply

Indoor tennis provision is based on specialist facilities which appeal beyond a local authority boundary. Consequently, this report considers provision within with a 30-minutes' drive time catchment to demonstrate accessibility. (Sport England suggests that drive time to specialist sports facilities can be modelled at 30 minutes as opposed to the 20 minutes modelled for sports halls and swimming pools).

There are three indoor tennis facilities in Canterbury, Appeti Tennis Centre (located at Canterbury Academy), Polo Farm Sports Club and Kent University offering a total of nine indoor courts.

The University of Kent is currently in the process of investing £4.0million replacing three tennis courts with a new arena and four new acrylic courts. The new centre will also be marked for netball and will be used for events and exams. It is anticipated this facility will open in March 2020. Whilst construction takes place, the University is hiring indoor and outdoor courts across the Canterbury area.

The location and catchments of these facilities are illustrated in Table 11.1 and Figure 11.1.

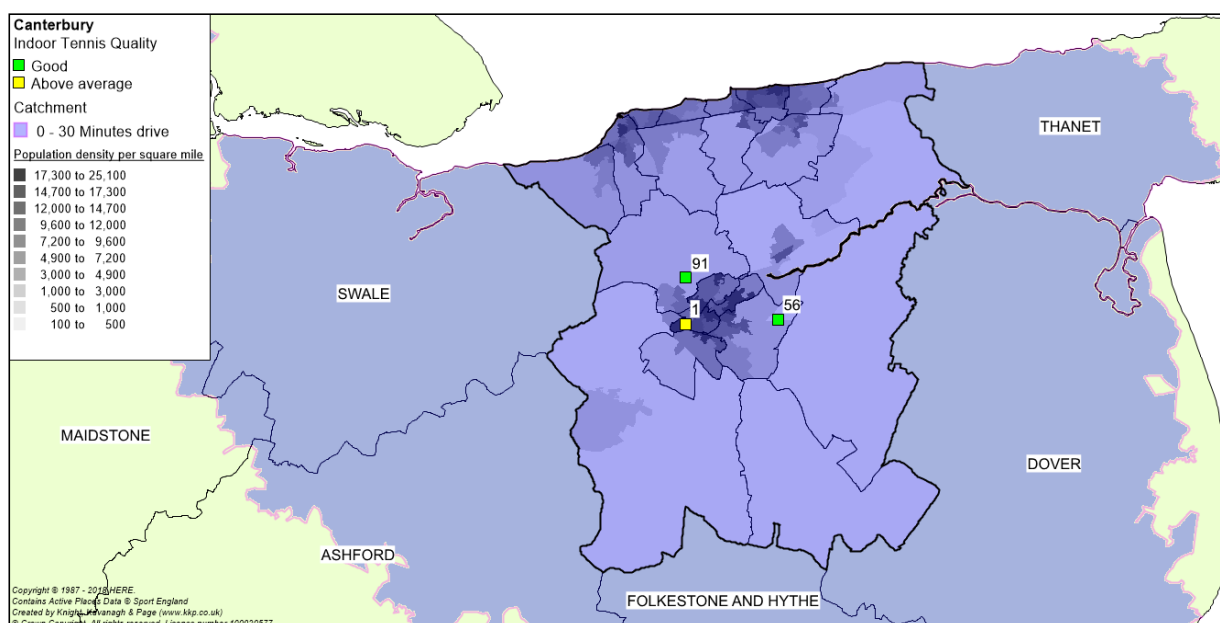
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Table 11.1: Canterbury indoor tennis

Map ID	Site name	Surface type	Courts	Condition	
				Facility	Changing
1	Appeti Tennis Centre	Acrylic	2	Above average	Not assessed
56	Polo Farm Sports Club	Acrylic	3	Good	Good
91	University of Kent	Acrylic	4*	Good	Above average

(* currently under construction)

Figure 11.1: Canterbury indoor tennis facilities



Accessibility

Drive time catchment modelling suggests that the whole Canterbury district population lives within a 20-minute drive of an indoor tennis facility. Active Places Power database does not indicate any other indoor tennis facilities within a 30-minute drive time catchment of Canterbury's indoor tennis facilities.

Availability

Table 11.2: Canterbury indoor tennis access policy

Map ID	Site name	Access Type
1	Appeti Tennis Centre	Pay and play & Registered membership
56	Polo Farm Sports Club	Sports club/association
91	University of Kent	Private use

Appeti Tennis Centre offers both pay and play opportunity and registered membership, Polo Farm Sports Club offers access via a sports club/association and the University of Kent is private use only.

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Polo Farm Sports Club have an agreement in place with Canterbury Christ Church University for access to their indoor courts for students to train and compete in BUCS matches throughout the year as well as opportunity for students to access the courts for recreational use.

11.2: Demand

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis. It has recently restructured its strategic approach to target key national focus areas, ultimately to grow participation. Future investment in facilities will be based on detailed analysis of potential demand throughout the UK. It has identified 96 priority target areas for development of new indoor courts in the UK of which Canterbury is not one.

Consultation

Appeti Tennis Centre – Founded in 1998, it was developed to provide better opportunities for young people to get involved in tennis and develop as players. It is situated in the grounds of Canterbury Academy and is open all year round. It is a pay and play facility with no members. It reports catering for over 200 young people per week (the majority are juniors) and offers free in-school coaching to large number of schools (financed by the Club). To date it is reported to have delivered free tennis opportunities to over 25,000 children.

Appeti Tennis Centre opened the Tennis School in 2013. In partnership with Canterbury Academy; it offers a full-time programme of tennis and education for children aiming to become professional players.

- ◀ Tiny tennis – aged 2 years+.
- ◀ Dedicated outreach primary school sessions (123 tennis).
- ◀ Tennis academy.
- ◀ Tennis school.
- ◀ Pay and Play.
- ◀ Adult tennis.

It runs three junior teams (under 8s mixed, under 10s girls and under 12s boys). For adults, it provides opportunities for beginners, improvers and advanced. It also runs monthly box leagues open to all, and ladies' mornings.

Polo Farm Sports Club – is a member's club open 06.00-23.00 every day. It has eight outdoor courts (six clay and two grass), and a clubhouse as part of its membership offer. Members are permitted to bring guests, however, there must be a member present on court at all times. It offers informal play, coaching sessions and cardio tennis. It has c.70 members.

University of Kent – the courts are used privately by the University only. On rare occasions it hosts community events such as schools' tournaments. On completion of the current works, there will be seven courts for which three will be outdoor and four indoor. This is not expected to alter the current usage agreements.

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES –NEEDS ASSESSMENT

11.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Indoor Tennis	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	The three indoor centres supply nine courts.	
Quality	All are good or above average quality.	Maintain facility quality.
Accessibility	All residents live within a 30 minutes' drive time of an indoor tennis facility.	There is no requirement for more indoor tennis provision.
Availability (Management & usage)	Appeti offers pay and play, Polo Farm Sports Club needs membership, the University is private use.	To ensure indoor tennis facilities are available for all Canterbury residents.
Summary	Continue to work with the LTA and partners to drive up participation and ensure the facilities are financially viable.	

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES –NEEDS ASSESSMENT

SECTION 12: TABLE TENNIS

Table Tennis England (TTE) is the NGB in England, responsible for representing, coordinating, administering, marketing and developing the sport. Its Mission 2025 strategy is to develop table tennis during the next 10 years. This will ensure that facility investment (£750k from Sport England) enables “A network of vibrant table tennis venues, meeting the needs of social and committed participants that cater for current participants and enable an increase to 200,000 regular participants”.

Figure 12.1: Table Tennis England Strategy 2025



Key to delivering this are schools and young people. TTE recognises that getting schools and young people to embrace table tennis is paramount to its long-term growth. It is aiming to offer table tennis for young people in 500 additional community venues and get it played in 1,000 more schools than in 2015. It has a plan to re-launch a new school-club link programme to provide a vital and sustainable partnership. A key target is that by 2025 there should be a club and/or league within 30 minutes' drive of 80% of the population.

Table Tennis England Facilities Strategy 2015 -2025

Its stated mission is to: ‘Create an increasing number of outstanding and exciting opportunities for everyone to enjoy and achieve in table tennis.’ At the centre of this is the need for appropriate facilities to meet the aspirations of participants. The three priority areas for the 2015-2025 period have been identified as follows:

- ◀ Supporting the performance pathway.
- ◀ Creating sustainable clubs.
- ◀ Developing the social recreational game.

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES –NEEDS ASSESSMENT

12.1: Supply

There are two dedicated table tennis facility in Canterbury, located in the north of the area, Herne Bay Table Tennis Club.

Figure 12.2: Location of dedicated Table Tennis centres

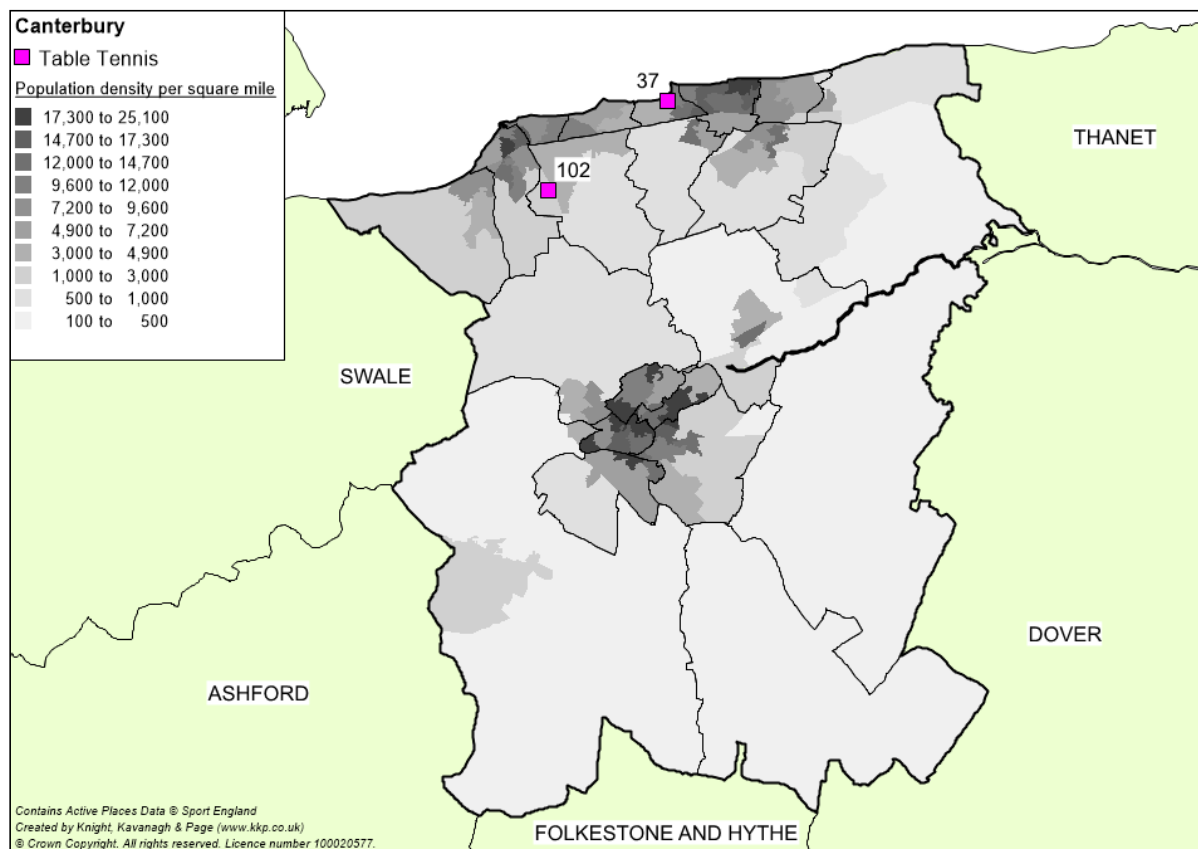


Table 12.1: Dedicated table tennis centres

Map ID	Site name	Postcode
37	Herne Bay Table Tennis Club	CT6 8EJ
102	Chestfield Warriors	CT5 3PS

12.2: Demand

Herne Bay Table Tennis Club

The Club has keyholder access to Council owned facilities. It operates from a building that is split into three (public toilets and sea maintenance). Each element has its own separate access. It reports monthly average attendances of between 250 - 500 people. It has over 150 members and 18 teams representing it in local leagues. It operates daily from 8.00-22.00 hours (subject to demand). The programme includes drop in sessions, coaching sessions and matches. Although the Club is content with the condition of the building due to the unrestricted access however, the venue is in poor condition as shown in Figure 12.2.

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Club over 60's sessions are reported to be growing rapidly and it has indicated that it is struggling to meet demand. (It is restricted to a maximum of ten people in the building at any one time due to size). It currently has three playing tables *in situ*, two can be used for matches and one cannot due to its proximity to the entrance of the building.

It aspires to operate from a larger facility which could accommodate the needs of the growing club, be able to house at least four match tables. It will improve the playing environment however; it has expectations to be the keyholder and would not wish to pay additional costs as it does not want to increase costs for its members and players.

Figure 12.2: Herne Bay Table Tennis Club interior



Table 12.2: Current facility overview

Positives	Negatives
<p>No shared usage.</p> <p>Players can access facility as and when needed.</p> <p>Free public parking.</p> <p>Maintenance and upkeep is the responsibility of the Council.</p> <p>Club costs are minimal (peppercorn rent); this is reflected in player costs (£5.00 per year membership, £2.50 session for adults and £1.50 for under 18s. Non-member fees are £3.00 adult and £2.00 juniors).</p>	<p>Facility is in poor condition with poor lighting and ventilation.</p> <p>New flooring is required.</p> <p>It only accommodates two match tables and one training table.</p> <p>The Club is full to capacity and can only expand daytime provision - its growth is hindered by the size of facility.</p> <p>Poor accessibility for members with disabilities. (there is only a homemade ramp to access into the building)</p>

Chestfield Warriors

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A community club providing table tennis to all. It provides opportunities for social players, team players and for families. All ages and abilities are welcomed seven days a week. There are c.20 teams playing in the Canterbury & District Table Tennis League.

It also has:

- ◀ Saturday Afternoon Club open to all.
- ◀ Coaching sessions available for juniors.
- ◀ Saturday senior practice session is very popular with players travelling in from across Kent (Faversham, Thanet, Ashford and Medway).
- ◀ Disability coaching (juniors and seniors).
- ◀ Stroke rehabilitation sessions.
- ◀ Homelessness partnership sessions.

In addition to the sessions at the facility, the Club also delivers satellite sessions to schools throughout Kent.

The Club is located in an industrial unit in Whitstable where it has leased the facilities for the last six years and is on a rolling lease. In this time, it reports a footfall of over 35,000 visits. The facility also has a café area and licensed bar. Consultation indicates that the four-table facility (can be increased to six) is also a key competition facility as it currently hosts 75% of all the league games at the facility plus additional competitions. Three other clubs also use the facility (29 teams in total across all clubs). For larger competitions, the club hires sports halls in the area.

The Club has aspirations for a larger facility to accommodate more tables which will enable them to increase the capacity of sessions and league matches without needing to hire larger facilities for competitions. The current facility is located on the first floor and there is no lift/disability access. The Club would like to, should the opportunity arise re-locate to a facility that could accommodate wheelchair users.

Other table tennis clubs operating in Canterbury include.

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------|
| ◀ Blean | ◀ Hoath |
| ◀ Choughs | ◀ The Iron Room |
| ◀ Heron | ◀ Whitstable Natives |

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES –NEEDS ASSESSMENT

12.3: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Table Tennis	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	Eight table tennis clubs operate in the Canterbury area and there are two dedicated centres.	There is a need to explore whether it is possible to find a larger and/or additional facility to accommodate the needs of table tennis.
Quality	The Herne Bay facility is poor quality and too small. Chestfield Warriors facility is not large enough to accommodate all the Club's activities.	
Accessibility	All of Canterbury residents live within 20 minutes' drive time of a facility.	
Availability (Management & usage)	Herne Bay Table Tennis Club is open daytime and evening as per the Club's needs. The Club is content with the current facility based on its ability to keep costs low. Chestfield Warriors is open seven days and nights a week.	Chestfield Warriors has aspirations to move to a larger facility to increase capacity of sessions and to enable it to accommodate wheelchair users.
Summary	The Herne Bay Table Tennis Club facility is too small and restricting growth and is poor quality. It is resistant to re-locate due to the potential increased operating (and membership) costs which will be incurred as a result. Similarly, the Chestfield Warriors facility is also too small. To support the growth of table tennis there is a need to consider additional/larger facilities which may serve the needs of more than one club.	

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SECTION 13: WATER SPORTS

This section covers the built facilities in Canterbury for water sports. The audit covers facilities in rowing, sailing, canoeing and kiteboarding.

13.1 Introduction

In the district, there is one multi sports facility (Oyster Coast Watersports), five sailing clubs, one rowing club, two canoeing clubs and one kiteboarding club with built facilities.

Figure 13.1 Water sports facilities in Canterbury

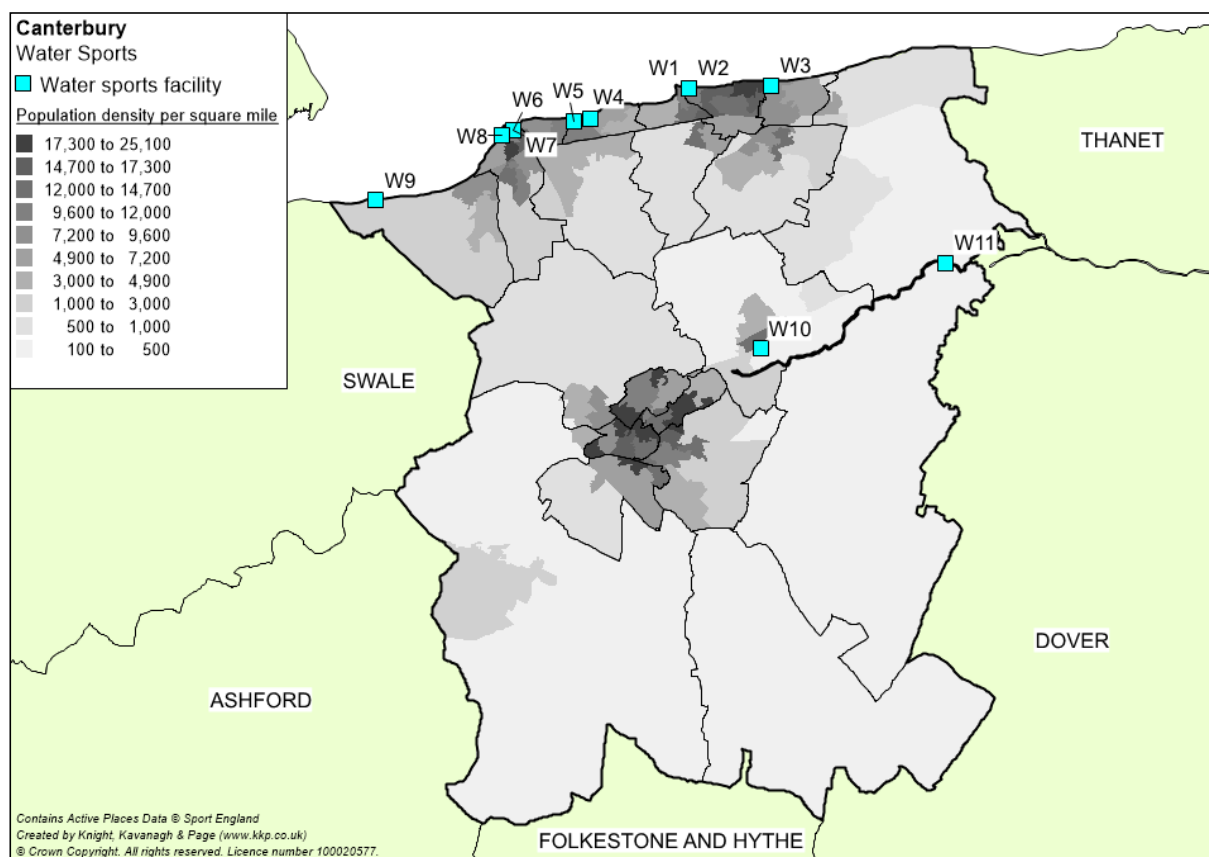


Table 13.1: Water sports facilities in Canterbury district

Map ID	Site name	Map ID	Site name
W1	Hampton Pier Yacht Club	W7	Oyster Coast Watersports
W2	Herne Bay Amateur Rowing Club	W8	Whitstable Yacht Club
W3	Herne Bay Sailing Club	W9	Seasalter Sailing Club
W4	Aquilo Kiteboarding School	W10	Kings School Boat Club
W5	Tankerton Bay Sailing Club	W11	Canoe Wild
W6	Whitstable Canoe Club		

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13.2: Yachting

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



Current RYA programmes include:

- ◀ *OnBoard* - which introduces new young people into the sport by teaching them new skills in a safe controlled environment.
- ◀ *Push the Boat Out (PTBO)* - which is about getting out on the water and discovering sailing and windsurfing. Clubs are encouraged to open their doors, during a specific week of the year, to the public to allow people to try either sailing or windsurfing.
- ◀ *Active Marina* - designed to build competence and confidence in marina berth holders. The programme engages with a large number of people who sail recreationally to develop their skills and confidence and give them opportunities to sail more frequently.
- ◀ *Sailability* - which supports disabled people to sail through specialist provision at Sailability Foundation sites.
- ◀ *Provide Try Sailing* - opportunities for new or returning sailors
- ◀ Promoting adult sailing opportunities via RYA affiliated clubs and RYA recognised training centres through participation pathway activities.
- ◀ Encouraging more female participation through the promotion This Girl Can. Sailing clubs are actively encouraged to promote women only sailing programme. Certain clubs have adopted the Women on Water (WOW) programme to encourage more female participation.

The Marine Federation Code of Practice guidance is prepared by the British Marine Federation (BMF) and RYA provides planning authorities with supporting information and sample policies to safeguard and enable marine businesses and voluntarily run clubs to be developed. The aim is for such organisations and individuals to adapt and increase recreational boating facilities across the UK's inland and coastal waters on a planned and sustainable basis. It is acknowledged throughout that although the primary audience is

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policy makers within planning authorities and regional assemblies, the advice is also relevant to a wide range of policy and decision makers that develop management plans, including Sport England.

Table 13.2: RYA strategies for increasing participation:

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

13.2.1 Supply

There are nine sailing clubs in Canterbury. A location map is shown in Figure 13.1.

Table 13.3: Club offer in Canterbury:

Club name	RYA Affiliated club	RYA training centre	Sailability	OnBoard
Westbere Frostbite Sailing Association	Dinghy racing Dinghy cruising			
Westbere Sailing Opportunities	Dinghy cruising Dinghy racing	Dinghy, Keelboat Powerboat	Keelboat and Dinghy	
Grove Ferry Boat Club	Dinghy cruising, Dinghy racing Motor boating			

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Club name	RYA Affiliated club	RYA training centre	Sailability	OnBoard
Herne Bay Sailing Club	Dinghy cruising, Dinghy racing, Motor boating Windsurfing	Dinghy Powerboat First aid	Keelboat, Windsurfing Dinghy	Sailing Windsurfing.
Hampton Pier Yacht Club	Dinghy cruising, Dinghy racing, Motor boating Windsurfing			
Tankerton Bay Sailing Club	Dinghy cruising, Dinghy racing, Motor boating Windsurfing	Dinghy, Multihull and powerboat		
Oystercoast Watersports		Dinghy, Multihull, Navigation, Personal watercraft, Powerboat Short courses: (Diesel engine, first aid, Marine radio etc)		
Whitstable Yacht Club	Dinghy cruising, Dinghy racing, Motor boating, Personal watercraft, Sports boats, Windsurfing, Yacht cruising	Dinghy, Navigation, Powerboat First aid		Sailing, Windsurfing
Seasalter Sailing Club	Dinghy cruising, Dinghy Racing, Motor boating, Personal watercraft, Sports boats, Yacht cruising, Windsurfing			

Demand

Several clubs were approached with regard to consultation however due to commercial sensitivities demand information was hard to come by. The following gives an overview from desktop research.

Westbere Frostbite Sailing Association – is based at Westbere Lake. It provides winter races and summer leisure boating and reports a membership of approximately 90 people.

Westbere Sailing Opportunities – is also based on Westbere Lake. This RYA affiliated club and training centre has the sole purpose of giving an experience of sailing to people of all ages with disabilities. It shares facilities with the host club – Westbere Frostbite Sailing Association.

Grove Ferry Boat Club – founded in 1964, its clubhouse is based on the River Great Stour.

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Herne Bay Sailing Club - established in 1921, it offers sailing opportunities for all ages and abilities. It has a fleet of twenty dinghies available to members to hire for those that do not own their own boat. There is a cadet section for ages 5 to 17 years which runs throughout the sailing season for training and fun. It offers opportunities in sailing, cruising – full day sails, racing (April – October), improvers and training opportunity.

Hampton Pier Yacht Club -is located on the Western end of Herne Bay on the north Kent coast. It offers a programme of dinghy racing, cruising and fun sailing for people of all ages and abilities. It also has boats available for members to use whilst training.

Tankerton Bay Sailing Club – caters for people of all ages and abilities. Sailing takes place late March to November. It hosts open days, training days and activities in school holidays.

Oystercoast Watersports - this RYA training centre founded in 2009 delivers courses for novices to experienced sailor. The Centre delivers a range of water sports such as surfing, stand up paddle boarding, sailing, power boating and kayaking.

Whitstable Yacht Club – is reported to be one of the oldest and largest sailing clubs in England with c. 650 members. It is situated at the mouth of the Swale estuary and offers opportunity for every sailor from beginner to Olympic athletes. The sailing school has a large fleet for members to use. In addition to the changing facilities, storage facilities and club house, there is also accommodation (bunk rooms) available for members, friends and families.

Seasalter Sailing Club – is located two miles west of Whitstable. It focuses on dinghy and catamaran sailing (leisure and racing). It has a clubroom, its own boat storage area and a camping field. Parking is available in the public parking area.

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13.3: Rowing

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

Figure 13.2: Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2024



Its stated strategic objectives are to:

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

In Canterbury, the following clubs are affiliated to British Rowing:

Table 13.4: Rowing clubs in Canterbury

Club Name	Club description
Herne Bay Amateur Rowing Club	A coastal rowing club founded in 1887. Racing takes place May – September, train all year round.
Canterbury Sea Cadets	Delivers activities and programmes to the cadets to enable them to experience a variety of water-based activities.
Kent University Rowing Club	Founded in 1966, based on the River Stour at Plucks Gutter. Training takes place throughout the year and it runs a winter camp over Christmas. Land training takes place in the University’s gym (on campus).
Kent College Boat Club	Based at Plucks Gutter on The River Stour. The boat house is privately used by Kent College for its students.
Kings School Canterbury Boat Club	Kings School has a Boat club based at Westbere Lake and also a boat house at Plucks Gutter on The River Stour. Both are used privately by Kings School.
Canterbury Pilgrims Boat Club	Alumni of The Kings School, the Club caters for students past and present. It is a competitive club.

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13.4: Kiteboarding

Kiteboarding is an action sport combining aspects of wakeboarding, snowboarding, windsurfing, surfing, paragliding, skateboarding and sailing in one extreme sport. A kiteboarder harnesses the power of the wind with a large controllable power kite to be propelled across the water, land, or snow. Compared to other sailing sports, kiteboarding is generally considered less expensive (including equipment) and more convenient. Styles of kiteboarding include:

- ◀ include freestyle
- ◀ freeride
- ◀ speed
- ◀ course racing
- ◀ wakestyle
- ◀ big air
- ◀ park
- ◀ surfing

The sport is governed by the NGB British Kitesports Association (BKSA). Kitesports disciplines include:

- ◀ Power kiting
- ◀ Kitesurf
- ◀ Kite landboard
- ◀ Kite buggy
- ◀ Snow kiting
- ◀ Kite boat
- ◀ Kite sailing

Clubs

Whitstable Kitesurfing Legends (WKL) is the key club in the district. Established in 2015 it has evolved as result of a number of people with a common interest with the desire to continue after undertaking a course of lessons. It affiliated to the NGB in 2015 and recruits new members based on recommendation from local kitesurfing schools (when they have demonstrated the ability to ride independently, have their own equipment and BKSA affiliation).

It has an agreement with Whitstable Recreational Water User Group (WRWUG) which manages a car park and cold shower on the sea front. Members can pay a subscription to access the car park whilst taking part in kitesurfing related activities. Other users of the carpark and shower include Whitstable Scuba, Whitstable Water Ski Club, Oyster Coast Watersports and Whitstable Yacht Club.

13.4: Canoeing

British Canoeing is the governing body for canoeing in England and the umbrella organisation for the home nations in Scotland (Scottish Canoe Association), Wales (Canoe Wales and Northern Ireland (Canoe Association Northern Ireland)).

The purpose of British Canoeing is to: *“Inspire people to pursue a passion for paddling; for health, enjoyment, friendship, challenge and achievement”*

The vision for British Canoeing is: *“A united British Canoeing, focused on our people and ambitions and excellent in delivery”*

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Its ambitions are:

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

The two known canoe clubs in Canterbury are Whitstable Canoe Club and Canoe Wild

Both of the canoe clubs were contacted for consultation however, no response has been received. It is understood that both clubs have storage containers which are used for changing and the storage of boats.

13.4: Summary of key facts and issues

Facility type	Water sports	
Elements	Assessment findings	Specific facility needs
Quantity	There is one multi watersports facility, five sailing clubs, one rowing club, two canoe clubs and one kiteboarding club.	Provide general support for clubs looking to maintain and renew facilities.
Quality	In general, the quality of the offer is good with a range of boats, clubhouses and ancillary facilities.	
Accessibility	The whole resident population of Canterbury is within 20 minutes' drive time of a water sports club	
Availability (Management and usage)	Clubs are in a position to accept new members, with come and try sessions being either free or low cost in the first instance. A wide range of different water sports activities are available in Canterbury. There is opportunity across a range of water-based activities, which allows families and young people the chance to experience them, without having to go to the expense of buying necessary equipment.	
Summary	Support the clubs to drive up participation and continue to offer a range of water sports. Maintain the current facilities and ensure they are viable in the longer term.	

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SECTION 14: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Taking into account the needs assessments related to specific facilities and sports, the demographic make-up of the district and, the current vision of the City Council the following general strategic recommendations should be considered:

- ◀ There is a need to protect all existing facilities unless they are to be replaced or enhanced as there is no surplus of provision.
- ◀ Support the community to continue to offer, coordinate and publicise community spaces which contribute positively to the physical activity and health and wellbeing agenda.
- ◀ There is a need to ensure facilities are and remain accessible to hard to reach groups such as those living in rural communities, older people and those living in areas of higher deprivation.
- ◀ Ensure the planned sports hall developments take place to enable sports currently restricted by lack of availability the ability to grow.
- ◀ Retain good relationships with education establishments to ensure continued community access. Where possible extend community use availability e.g. Christ Church Sports Centre.
- ◀ Retain and improve daytime access to facilities, this is of increasing importance as the population ages.
- ◀ Continue to invest in the leisure facilities to ensure they meet the 21st century needs of the community.
- ◀ Support other developments (via planning, developer contributions and officer expertise) which may assist in increasing sport and physical activity within the wider community.
- ◀ Support facility owning/leasing clubs to retain/obtain long term security.
- ◀ Increase recreational gymnastics provision in the area to meet the high demand.

Just because an indoor and built sports facility has not been specifically mentioned in the above needs assessment does not mean that it is surplus to requirements. It would be necessary to undertake a specific assessment of that sport/facility to determine demand and supply.

Specific recommendations which should be considered are:

- ◀ Urgently address the lack of ancillary (toilet and changing room) facilities available to the community at St Edmunds School.
- ◀ Support the gymnastics and trampoline clubs to obtain long term security of tenure (both have the same landlord) or find alternative facilities that meet the needs of the clubs.
- ◀ Consider whether there is a need (and an appetite for) a larger, better quality dedicated centre for table tennis.
- ◀ Support Christ Church Sports Centre to increase community use of the sports facilities, in particular the sports hall which will enable sports requiring larger halls to flourish. e.g. netball, handball and Futsal.
- ◀ If supporting the Junior Kings new pool and fitness development, in any planning agreement ensure that management and programming conditions limit any potential adverse impact on the operational/financial viability of existing provision. (With particular regard to swimming lessons and health and fitness).
- ◀ Consider the programming of new sports halls to ensure that they are programmed so as to accommodate the needs of sports in the area which are already looking for venues to accommodate existing demand.

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- ◀ Consider carefully any further applications to develop new health and fitness facilities which are not in the local authority domain as market saturation may lead to some venues (including local authority owned facilities) becoming unsustainable – or certainly less profitable.

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APPENDIX 1: Housing development sites

The following images have been sourced from Kent Online published 13/8/2019 for illustrative purposes. For an update on the councils housing position and how the strategic housing allocations are progressing please see the councils most recent Authority Monitoring Report.

https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/downloads/download/243/local_plan_authority_monitoring_reports

Figure 2.17: Housing development sites - Canterbury



Figure 2.18: Housing development sites – Sturry *Hoplands Farm and Chislet Colliery are excluded as they are not allocations

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Figure 2.19: Housing development sites – Herne Bay



Figure 2.20: Housing development sites – Whitstable

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APPENDIX: 2: Sports halls (excluding private use) with 20 min drive time

