

# South Derbyshire

## Open Space, Sport and Community Facilities Strategy

### VISION

***“Partners of South Derbyshire Sport will work together to improve opportunities within sport and health activity across the district of South Derbyshire.”***

- **All villages and urban neighbourhoods to have a basic level of local community provision within easy walking distance** – everyone who lives in a village or town to be within a 10 minute walking distance (1 km) and have access to:
  - One LEAP (local equipped area for play)
  - Natural green space
  - Green corridor for walking and cycling
  - Outdoor open space for informal sport and physical activity and local community events
  - Indoor community facility for informal sport and physical activity and local community events
  - Community sport and physical activity champion – part of a district-wide network of local volunteer leaders

#### Opportunities Close to Home – Local Service Villages

Our community hall has lots going on including exercise classes for all abilities; afternoon tea dances; weekend activities for youngsters and can be hired out by clubs and for special events. It’s on the route of a 1km and 5km walk or jogging circuit and acts as the central focus of our annual festival that show cases all of the different activities and groups in our area.

*e.g. Findern Village Hall; Ticknall Village Hall; Rosliston Village Hall*

- **All villages and urban neighbourhoods to have a choice of community sport and recreation provision within easy cycling distance through designated key service villages and neighbourhood hubs** - everyone who lives in a village or town to be within a 10 minute cycle ride or a 5 minute drive time (5 km) and have access to:
  - Choice of local equipped areas for play (LEAP)
  - One neighbourhood equipped area for play (NEAP)
  - Large (e.g. 100 ha) site of natural green space
  - Choice of green corridors for walking and cycling
  - Choice of outdoor open space for informal sport and physical activity and local community events
  - Choice of indoor community facilities for informal sport and physical activity and local community events
  - One floodlit Multi use games area
  - Playing pitches for a variety of outdoor sports, including a bowling green

#### Key Service Villages and Neighbourhood Hubs

Designated key villages and neighbourhood hubs will offer a range of formal sport, physical activity and bigger range of play opportunities at a central location that serves surrounding villages and urban neighbourhoods. In some of these areas the hubs already exist; in other areas the facilities need to be developed or improved. These hub areas will be well distributed across South Derbyshire so that all villages and urban neighbourhoods are within easy reach of at least one of them. These hubs provide venues that can host inter village or neighbourhood competitions and festivals.

**NORTH WEST:** Etwall; Hatton; Hilton  
**NORTH:** Repton; Stenson; Willington;  
**NORTH EAST:** Aston; Melbourne  
**CENTRAL:** Church Gresley; Midway; Newhall; Swadlincote; and Woodville  
**SOUTH:** Linton; Overseal;

- **Each Sub Area to have a hub with a range of sport and active recreational facilities** – that meet the sport and recreation needs of its residents (as set by national standards) including:

- Urban Parks or multifunctional recreation grounds
- Semi natural accessible green space
- Provision for children and young people
- Youth facilities (e.g skate park/pump track)
- Provision for older people e.g. Bowling green, outdoor gym
- Playing pitch provision for a variety of sports
- Indoor sports facilities including: gyms; indoor community halls for a range of activities

- **Large scale and specialist provision within the District** – everyone who lives in the District has access to a wide range of sport and active recreation provision including:

- Leisure centres with swimming pools
- Large venues for hosting festivals and events
- Extensive areas of natural green space
- Water based sports
- Park based activities
- Long distance walking and cycling routes
- Extreme sports
- Specialist and sport specific venues

#### Proposed Sub Area Hubs

All with an adequate supply of open space, sport and community facilities to meet the needs of residents living in these areas.

**NORTH WEST:** Hilton Village Hall; Hatton Playing Fields

**NORTH:** Repton Village Hall; Stenson Fields Community facilities; Willington Village Hall;

**NORTH EAST:** Cockshut Lane & Assembly Rooms, Melbourne; Recreation in Aston

**CENTRAL:** Maurice Lea Memorial Park; Eureka Park; Swadlincote Woodlands; Woodhouse Recreation Ground; Newhall Park; Chestnut Avenue; Greenbank Leisure Centre; Woodville Recreation Ground

**SOUTH:** Linton Village Hall; Overseal Village Hall; Rosliston Forestry Centre;

#### Choice of Opportunities to Suit Everyone

Working with local partners to offer a wide choice of sports and physical activities to attract and retain the various interests of all residents, taking into account provision within surrounding areas of a 20 minute drive time.

*Apex Climbing Centre Swadlincote,  
Woodhouse Multisports hub;  
Etwall Leisure Centre multisport centre;  
Greenways and the National Forest Way;  
Rosliston Forestry Centre;  
Conkers Circuit and Albert Village Lake*

## **PRINCIPLES**

The following principles are proposed for guiding policy, development and investment decisions to help achieve the vision:

- **Ensure basic provision close to home** - all villages and urban neighbourhoods to have access to at least a basic level of open space and indoor community recreation provision within easy reach (walking distance).
- **Offer a choice of activity within each Sub Area** – residents to have a choice of indoor and outdoor sports and recreational activities within their Sub Area.
- **Ensure district-wide large scale and specialist provision** – to pursue opportunities across the District (and beyond) to offer residents a wide range of choices and experiences to enhance their levels of interest, commitment and performance including: activities within the natural environment; extreme sports; large scale events and wide range of sports.
- **Encourage multi-use hubs** – encourage facility providers to cater for a range of activities and sports on their sites. Prioritise the development of community use facilities on school sites.
- **Facilitate growth and development** – support local communities, sport and recreational organisations to increase use of their facilities for sport and recreation and expand or develop new facilities where there is a proven need.
- **High quality design and management** – encourage proposals for improving existing and building new sport and open space facilities to be of high quality design and meet national standards where these exist; encourage other types of developments to incorporate features into the design that are ‘participant friendly’. Drive up use of facilities by reaching new markets and retaining existing user through high standards of management and effective marketing campaigns.
- **Support sustainability** – explore ways of increasing the sustainability and viability of facilities in terms of long term business / financial models and their carbon footprint. All new projects and developments will need to demonstrate their long term sustainability. Support voluntary sector management of facilities in line with localism policies and the Quirk Review.
- **Satisfy future demand for District residents** – to meet the needs of the future population, taking account of projected growth, residential development, changing demographics and latent demand of residents living in the District.
- **Promote cross boundary provision** – map catchment areas for use of facilities and take into account cross boundary ‘traffic’ especially for larger and more specialist facilities when assessing supply and demand.
- **Align national insight with local priorities** – in determining development and investment decisions take into account the policies, strategic priorities and insight studies of national sport, play and recreational agencies, with local assessments of need and consultation with local residents and users.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Strategy will seek to achieve the following objectives:

1. Satisfy the future needs of the population determined by local interpretation of national standards for parks and gardens; amenity open space; semi natural green space; play provision for children and young people; playing pitch provision and sports facility provision.  
*Measured by production and regular review of the Open Space, Sport and Community Facilities Strategy*
2. Apply a hierarchy of provision for residents living in villages and urban neighbourhoods to have access to local community open space, with increasing choice of sports facilities in key villages and neighbourhood hubs servicing the surrounding areas; to large scale venues and specialist facilities offering a wide choice and serving the district.  
*Measured by the establishment of an open space, sport and community facilities infrastructure network for villages and the urban core in terms of provision and mechanisms to link with providers*
3. Facilitate and support villages and local neighbourhoods to undertake community-led plans, projects, management and marketing of local facilities.  
*Measured by the number of villages and neighbourhood areas actively involved and being supported.*
4. Identify priorities and secure funding from a range of sources for a rolling programme of improvement and new development to address identified gaps in provision and projected population growth.  
*Measured by the level of investment and completion of projects that address identified priorities*
5. Work with facility providers to increase access to and usage of their facilities and develop robust business plans for ensuring long term sustainability.  
*Measured by the number and range of facilities included in the Directory and an annual partner survey.*
6. Encourage high quality design and management of open space and facilities.  
*Measured by the number of providers with quality awards (such as Green Flag, Clubmark and Quest)*
7. Coordinate promotion and marketing of community sport and recreation facilities across the District.  
*Measured by the number and range of facilities included in the Directory; monitoring of web users and social media activity; and general awareness surveys.*
8. Increase the involvement of partners and facilitate partnership working amongst facility providers and key user groups in implementing the Open Space, Sport and Facilities Strategy  
*Measured by annual partner survey*