

## SEVENOAKS TOWN SPORTS STRATEGY (STSS) WORKING GROUP

To be held in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices,  
**4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 6.00pm**

Town Councillors are reminded that they have a duty to state a Declaration of Interest prior to the appropriate agenda item and to consider the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 s.17 when reaching a decision.

Meetings open to members of the public, and membership open to any sporting organisation/group within Sevenoaks Town.

### Working Group Members:

Cllr Gareth Willis ( <b>Chair</b> )	Cllr Dr Peter Dixon ( <b>Vice-Chair</b> )
Cllr Catherine Daniell	Cllr Dr Merilyn Canet
Cllr Victoria Granville	

### AGENDA

1	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> To receive and note apologies for absence.	-
2	<u>REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS</u> To consider written requests from Members which have previously been submitted to the Town Clerk to enable participation in discussion and voting on items for which the Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. (s.31 & s.33 of the Localism Act 2011).	-
3	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> To receive any declarations of interest from members in respect of any items of business included in this agenda.	-
4	<u>MINUTES OF THE SEVENOAKS TOWN SPORTS STRATEGY WORKING GROUP HELD ON 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024</u> To receive and agree the Minutes of the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Working Group meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2024.	Attached

Town Council Offices  
Bradbourne Vale Road  
Sevenoaks Kent TN13 3QG

tel: 01732 459 953 fax: 01732 742 577  
email: [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)  
web: [sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

5	<u>SEVENOAKS TOWN SPORTS STRATEGY REVIEW &amp; RECOMMENDATIONS</u> To receive and note the Sevenoaks Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations report.	Attached
6	<u>SPORTS CLUB REPRESENTATIVES – UPDATES</u> To receive updates from sports clubs representatives.	-
7	<u>SEVENOAKS DISTRICT COUNCIL SPORTS STRATEGY (TO FOLLOW)</u> To receive and note the SDC Sports Strategy Report.	-
8	<u>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u> To note that the next Sports Strategy Working Group meeting will be held on Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 18:00 and future meeting dates are planned for the following dates:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (if needed)</li> </ul>	—
9	<u>PRESS RELEASE</u> To consider any agenda item considered appropriate for a press release.	—

**Sevenoaks Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy (STSS) Working Group**  
**Held on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at the Town Council Offices**

**Meeting Commenced:** 18:00

**Meeting Concluded:** 19:19

**In attendance:**

Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>CLlr Gareth Willis (Chair)</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>CLlr Dr Peter Dixon (Vice Chair)</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>CLlr Dr Marilyn Canet</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>CLlr Victoria Granville</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>CLlr Tony Clayton (substituting for CLlr Catherine Daniell)</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>CLlr Lise Michaelides</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>Linda Larter MBE – Town Clerk</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>Nicholas Cave – Open Spaces Manager</b>
Sevenoaks Town Council	<b>Anna Rosinska – Open Spaces &amp; Leisure Committee Clerk</b>
Sevenoaks Football Club	<b>Paul Lansdale</b>
Sevenoaks Sports Council	<b>Edward Oatley</b>
Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls	<b>Alan Hogg</b>
Hollybush Residents Association	<b>Elizabeth Purves</b>
West Kent Sport & Wellbeing	<b>Steve Rowley</b>
Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club	<b>Derrick Rodger</b>
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	<b>Susan Acott</b>
Sevenoaks Suns	<b>Phil Webb</b>
Member of Public	<b>Trevor Saving</b>

The quorum of 3 elected members was met with 6 Town Councillors being present.

**190. Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies were received from CLlr Catherine Daniell.

**191. Requests for Dispensations:**

There were no requests for dispensations.

**192. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**193. Minutes of the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Working Group held on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

It was agreed to receive and accept the minutes as a true record.

**194. Women, Outdoor Gyms, and Spatial Equality in the UK**

The Working Group had received and noted the report from Fresh Air Fitness. The demand for outdoor fitness due to costs of indoor sports was noted as well as the concerns over safety and accessibility. It was noted that Sevenoaks Town Council had three outdoor gym facilities.

**195. Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club Solar Panels: CIL Application**

The Working Group noted the CIL application submitted to SDC by Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club for the installation of solar panels and solar batteries. It was noted that the Club had successfully submitted applications for numerous grants and that some were time sensitive and had asked STC to consider allocating £25K of CIL money to the project. This would be used as 'match funding' towards the SDC CIL allocation if successful. It was noted however

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that the SDC CIL Board Meeting due to take place in December had been cancelled and it was not known what the new date would be.

The Working Group acknowledged the environmental and economic benefits of the project as well as the social benefits of the club and other clubs using the building, however it was also noted that there was CIL demand for many projects and large competition for funding.

**RESOLVED: To RECOMMEND that the Finance & Delivery Committee consider the request for CIL funding.**

**196. Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Review**

The Working Group received and noted the updates in the Sevenoaks Sports Strategy Review Summary including a Freedom of Information request to SDC regarding s.106 monies to be allocated for indoor cricket facilities in the Sevenoaks Parish (See Appendix 1).

It was noted that SDC had granted the s.106 funds of £150,000 to Kent Cricket Welfare Trust, it was hoped that Sevenoaks Cricket Club would benefit from some of this, the balance was unaccounted for to date.

**197. Sports Club Representatives – Updates**

Updates were received from sports clubs and organizations.

Padel Court - It was advised that the planning application for padel courts at Hollybush had been passed subject to conditions.

STC – New grant availability to improve playing pitch which would need to be jointly completed with Sevenoaks Rugby Club.

Sevenoaks Hockey Club – It was advised that current pitch used for hockey play located at Trinity School did not meet the governing body standards after being re-laid, it was asked that any future refurbishing of pitch be completed to meet standards for competitive play.

Sevenoaks Football Club – The club had obtained four tenders for the new pavilion and advised that a value engineering exercise will be instructed to reassess plan so that cost would fit in within the budget. It was also advised that £650k was hoped to be granted for the project by The Football Foundation, application to be submitted January 2025.

Sevenoaks Sports Council – The Sports Council noted the value of sports for children in primary schools and had noted the importance of accessibility for all children.

Sevenoaks Suns – Difficulty in finding courts and players was noted as well as focus on expansion in primary schools. The club advised of future plans for a community sports hub located at Knole Academy which would also include facilities for other sports including badminton, pickleball and netball.

Sevenoaks Hockey Club – Outreach has been increased to state schools. It was also advised that age groups of players have expanded and that the club was looking into expansion for accessibility for persons with disabilities. The club mentioned how inclusive facilities and leases which do not solely focus on popular sports would be beneficial to the community.

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School Sports Provision – all present stated that they were disappointed that school provision for sports was not meeting relevant sports governing bodies requirements this limited the amount of community sport that can be played on the facilities. It was noted that the Sevenoaks Town Neighbourhood Plan had the following policy:

Policy S1: The Neighbourhood Plan will support the provision of new sports facilities across the town including the provision of new sports / watersports facilities at Sevenoaks Quarry (the Tarmac Site) at Greatness, which will be required to be delivered either in advance of, or in parallel with, new homes on this site.

All new sports facilities must adhere to sports governing body guidance for a particular sport (including schools) and should be developed with community access agreements.

The provision of new facilities, and enhancements and improvements to existing sports facilities across the town, will be delivered in line with the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy.

**198. Sevenoaks Town Sports Foundation**

It was noted to the Working Group that the possibility of an independent Sevenoaks Town Sports Foundation was proposed, and that feedback would be appreciated. Local business Tarmac had advised of its potential support.

**199. Dates of Future Meetings**

The future Working Group meeting dates were noted:

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**200. Press Release: None**

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# Sevenoaks Town Council

## 2023 – 2024

### Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Sevenoaks Town Council  
Council Offices  
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Sevenoaks TN13 3QG

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**Logos**

**STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy  
Review & Recommendations**

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## 1. Background

The Sevenoaks Town Neighbourhood Plan (STNP) which was successful at public referendum in 2023 will require a lot of work in implementing its policies and aims. It also needs the supporting statements reviewed as they were created at the beginning of the process, although as the Planning Inspector stated the fundamental principles have not changed.



**Sevenoaks Town Council**

### Sports Strategy – time for a review

In 2013 Sevenoaks Town Council commenced consultation with 40 organisations involved in sports within the town with the aim of producing a Sports Strategy. The final document was published in 2015 and can be viewed as an appendix to the Sevenoaks Town Neighbourhood Development Plan (STNP) – Scan the QR code or click here and see Appendix D on page 185.

The Sevenoaks Sports Strategy resulted in over £1.2m being invested into sports provision within Sevenoaks town on the following projects:

**Greatness Recreation Ground:** 3G Pitch, new public toilet, outdoor gym facility, planning progression for new pavilion project. **Vine:** disabled ramp for pavilion, resurfacing cricket outfield, refurbishing exterior of Vine pavilion. **Knole Paddock:** improvements to drainage of pitches, decking to SRFC clubhouse, new floodlights for rugby training, planning fees for 3G pitch (unsuccessful), new overflow car park. **Hollybush Recreation Ground:** improved 3G hockey pitch. **Free sports:** outdoor gyms, outdoor table tennis, play equipment, skateboard park. Investment into gymnastic facilities. Policies included in the STNP for future school sports provision to meet governing bodies standards and cycling strategy. And £150k reserved for indoor cricket facilities.

Also £3m on **Bat & Ball Centre:** MUGA for tennis, netball, 5 aside. Floor based sports including marshal arts, zumba, and dance etc.

Having accomplished so much of the first Sevenoaks Town Council's Sports Strategy, it is time to look to the future.

We are looking for representatives of local sports organisations who are willing to invest time in helping us to prepare the second local Sports Strategy.

If you are interested, please contact Georgie Elliston at [planning@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:planning@sevenoakstown.gov.uk) by the end of July 2023. The intention is for the first meeting to take place in September 2023.

Sevenoaks Town Council, Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3QG.  
[www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

The Sports Strategy is one of the supporting statements requiring review, originally created in consultation with 40 sports organisations. Local sports clubs and organisations were invited in July 2023 to be involved in the review process.

The original final Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy document was published in 2015 and can be viewed as an appendix to the Sevenoaks Town Neighbourhood Development Plan (STNP) – see Appendix D on page 185 of the STNP via the following link: [4166\\_20230302-sevenoaks-neighbourhood-plan-march-2023-compressed.pdf \(wordpress.com\)](https://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/20230302-sevenoaks-neighbourhood-plan-march-2023-compressed.pdf)

The Sevenoaks Town Council Sports Strategy resulted in over £1.2m being invested into sports provision within Sevenoaks town. In addition, the new Bat & Ball Centre was built to enable floor-based sports e.g., Marshall Arts, Zumba, and outdoor tennis, netball and 5 aside football.

Sevenoaks Town Council receives its income via the domestic council tax payer. For capital projects such as improved sports provision it would need to seek external funding or use Community Infrastructure Levy income.

The Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy identifies sports needs for the town. A longer term project is required for identifying potential funding and land to meet the needs. This information is to enable all stakeholders to work together towards this aim and potentially use the information to share resources.

## 2. Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Working Group

Sevenoaks Town Council invited local sports clubs and organisations to participate in the review of the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy. The Working Group was well supported with attendance from the following:

Everyone Active		Sevenoaks Padel
FORM Personal Training		Sevenoaks Rugby Football Club
Hollybush Residents Association		Sevenoaks Suns Basketball
Knole Park Golf Club		Sevenoaks Tennis Club
Samsara Bike & Skateboarding		Sevenoaks Town Council
Trevor Saving, Member of the Public		Sevenoaks Town Football Club
Sevenoaks Bowling Club		Sevenoaks Vine Cricket Club
Sevenoaks District Council Sports Council		Tarmac Ltd
Sevenoaks Hockey Club		West Kent Sport & Wellbeing Publication
Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club		

Meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Working Group took place on the following dates:

- 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023
- 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024
- 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Terms of Reference for Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy (STSS) Working Group  
– Adopted on 4th October 2023 and Approved at Full Council on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Aim: To create a second Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy and to establish sporting needs within Sevenoaks Town for the next 10 years in line with Objective 14 of the STNP (to deliver enhanced recreational and sports facilities for the town) and Policies S1 & S2.

**1. Naming and role**

1.1 The Working Group shall be referred to as the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Group (STSS).

1.2 Topics for consideration by the Working Group may be added, provided that they are within the scope of the Sports Strategy process and do not conflict or duplicate the work being carried out by another Sevenoaks Town Council (STC) Committee or Working Group.

1.3 Any proposed modification to the list of topics to be considered by the Working Group must be approved by the STC Community & Wellbeing Committee before they may take effect.

**2. Membership**

2.1 Excluding elected Councillors, members of the STSS shall be limited to representatives of Sports organisations within Sevenoaks Town.

2.2 Members of the STSS shall be, as far as possible, representative of the demographics within Sevenoaks Town.

2.3 The formal list of members of the STSS and all related General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) matters will be maintained and controlled by the Community & Wellbeing Committee.

2.4 Meetings of the STSS will be open to all members of the public who wish to attend.

2.5 Members of the public in attendance at a STSS meeting shall be free to contribute to the discussions taking place however will not hold voting rights.

2.6 Members of the STSS must disclose any personal or financial interests which may conflict or coincide with the topics being considered by the Sub Committee.

### 3. Governance and decision making.

3.1 The STSS will be presided over by a Chair or Vice Chair who must be an elected member of Sevenoaks Town Council.

3.2 If the Chair is not able to be present, meetings shall be chaired by the Vice Chair. If neither are present, members shall elect a Chair for the meeting from those present.

3.3 Decisions will be made by the consensus of formal members present at the STSS meeting. When a vote is tied the Chair will have the casting vote.

3.4 Recommendations made by the STSS will be considered as purely advisory and hold no weight unless explicitly ratified by Sevenoaks Town Council's Community & Wellbeing Committee.

### 4. Meetings

4.1 It is for the individual STSS to determine frequency of meetings; however, the frequency should be adequate to allow the STSS to meet deadlines set by the Community & Wellbeing Committee.

4.2 It is recommended that as soon as possible a schedule of STSS meeting dates is agreed and circulated to members.

4.3 Sevenoaks Town Council must be notified at least 5 working days in advance of any proposed meetings to allow them to be publicised adequately.

### 5. Record Keeping

5.1 Sevenoaks Town Council will endeavour to have an Officer present at meetings of STSS who will be responsible for the production of the minutes.

5.2 Minutes of meetings will be publicly available and will be publicised on Sevenoaks Town Council’s website.

5.3 Agendas for the STSS will be circulated via email to all who have expressed an interest in the second Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy process. Paper copies will be made available at the meeting.

## 2. Feedback from Sevenoaks Town Sports Clubs & Organisations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
1	Hollybush RA	Public Open Space retained for the future for general family activities  Free access to sports facilities			Hollybush Recreation Ground is owned and managed by SDC.	
2	Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls	More Bowls  Disability Equipment  Kitchen Equipment  Infrastructure to building needs addressing – heating, carpeting, ceiling, roofing		Tbc  Tbc  tbc  £81,600	It is noted that the building is owned by SDC who have a programme to make its assets carbon neutral.	

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
		Solar roof panels		£138,743	<p>STC in process of reviewing following requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To note the bid submitted to SDC by Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club</li> <li>• To consider allocating £25k of Sevenoaks Town Council's CIL money towards the solar panel project.</li> <li>• To consider a letter in support of the application to SDC.</li> </ul>	A draft CIL funding bid had been submitted to SDC for solar roof panels.
		Suspended Ceiling		£70 - £80,000		
		Rink Carpeting		£55 - £65,000		
3	Sevenoaks Dance, Fitness & Yoga	Studio full time enabling permanent fixed equipment				
4	Sevenoaks Outdoor Lawn Bowling	Expanding changing rooms				
		Irrigation Tank		£5,000		Funding Application submitted.
		Electric Fence to address fox problem		£1,000		

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
						Continuing with Open Days to increase membership.
5	Sevenoaks Vine Cricket Club	Facilities to move to 5 Saturday men's sides  Women's cricket expanding  Grass nets at Otford			Sevenoaks Vine Cricket Club have a long lease on the Vine and manage the cricket pitches.  <b>STC working with club to apply for planning permission to install secondary access to pavilion.</b>	Approach to be made to SDC to release £150k s.106 funds for Indoor Cricket to be used for Outdoor Cricket facilities.  <b>SDC stated funds given to Kent Cricket Welfare Trust</b>
6	Taiji & Qigong	N/A			STC would be pleased to support the promotion of the sport within the town.	
7	Sevenoaks Rugby Club	Insufficient playing pitches for membership and teams  Affordable rent of additional pitches.			The Raleys Field / Knole Paddock is currently at full capacity.  STC pitches are at a fair rent – it is difficult to obtain additional pitches at similar or lower cost.	SRFC creating a Foundation similar to other clubs to enable equal access for participation in the sports. This led to discussion about creation of a

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
		<p>Playability of pitches from significant use.</p> <p>1 x 3G Pitch at Knole Paddock – free access and SRFC management.</p> <p>Need to expand women's and girls' rugby.</p> <p>Ability to have portable floodlights to move around site.</p> <p>*Women's and girls' changing and shower facilities.</p> <p>*Disabled changing facilities.</p> <p>*Specific disabled bathrooms.</p>		£500,000	<p>Due to full capacity the pitches are often 'over played' resulting in poor quality. The problem with finding alternative or additional pitches has resulted in STC having to delay improvement works.</p> <p>STC invested considerable resources into trying to obtain planning permission for a 3G rugby pitch which was not successful.</p> <p>If STC paid for a 3G pitch using public funds it would not hand over to a third party to use free of charge. It would be renting out to recoup public funds.</p> <p>This would of course be supported dependent on being able to address practicalities.</p>	<p>'Sevenoaks Sports Foundation'</p> <p>AGM to be held 30.5.2024</p> <p>One pitch to be restored during 2024 – alternative training provision obtained at local school.</p> <p><b>STC requested SRFC partner for application to RFU for pitch improvement funding.</b></p>



STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
		<p>*Gender neutral toilet.</p> <p>*Extend kitchen space and the space behind the bar to deliver an improved Clubhouse experience.</p> <p>Temporary mini stand and dug out areas for coaches.</p> <p>Fixings for advertising banners.</p> <p>Electronic scoreboard</p> <p>Additional storage for junior rugby playing kits.</p> <p>Central pavilion (STC) benefit from upgrade.</p> <p>Reconfigure car park with diagonal parking bays</p> <p>Storied car park</p>			<p>Health and Safety, insurance, and impact on nearby residents need to be considered.</p> <p>It is hoped that the club will be able to remodel its current building to accommodate some of these requirements. Or is an alternative required?</p> <p>This would be subject to planning and considering the impact to other users of the site and public open space.</p> <p>This is subject to planning and considering the impact to other users of the site and public open space.</p> <p>Could this be affixed to the current clubhouse?</p> <p>Not sure what this requires?</p>	

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
					<p>STC pavilion refurbish subject to funds available.</p> <p>Substantial work is required to car park to address tree roots.</p> <p>Diagonal bays could be considered as a future option.</p> <p>Subject to planning permission and considerable requirement of funds.</p>	
8	Sevenoaks Lawn Tennis Club	<p>Two additional courts</p> <p>Padel courts</p>			Is there space within current leased area for 2 more courts? Or is another site needed?	

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
		<p>Increased social and viewing space</p> <p>More private changing space – cubicles within the changing rooms</p> <p>Ramp from car park to enable access to clubhouse</p> <p>Improved changing space for juniors.</p>			<p>Obtain pre planning advice in relation to providing on adjacent Raleys Field.</p> <p>All other needs supported subject to planning permission and funding.</p>	
9	Hollybush Tennis Centre	<p>Increased space for café</p> <p>Increased space for changing facilities</p>			<p>The building is owned by SDC.</p> <p>Supported subject to owner, SDC permission, Planning and funding.</p>	<p>Pickle Ball launched.</p> <p>Planning application submitted for Padel Courts.</p>
10	Sevenoaks Padel	<p>4 – 8 Padel Courts (with disabled access)</p> <p>Indoor facilities within Sevenoaks District</p> <p>Small changing rooms (most players change at home)</p>			<p>See 8 above</p> <p>It is understood that this is progressing at Polhill.</p> <p>A planning application has been submitted by at Hollybush Tennis Centre, for 2 existing outdoor tennis courts to be converted into 3 outdoor padel tennis courts. This includes new</p>	<p>Planning application being progressed.</p> <p>Noted that noise and time of play needs to be considered for nearby residents.</p> <p>It was noted that this was one of several</p>

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
					posts, glass walls, mesh fencing and floodlights. Applicant is Mr J Heuerman from The Tennis Academy.  STC will comment on this via Planning & Environment Committee on 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 and it is due to be decided by SDC on 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024.	sports suitable for the 65+ residents who were 25% of local population.
11	Sevenoaks Town Rugby Club	See 7				
12	Sevenoaks Suns Basketball Club	More courts availability for more sessions.  Facilities equipped with more baskets.        Baskets with adjustable heights.   Purpose built community basketball (and multi-sport) facility and outdoor courts and changing rooms.			To date STC has not been able to assist the club with providing a potential site for its ambitious plans.        It is understood that plans are currently being worked up with Knole Academy for this.	Actively fundraising for increased number of school coaches and towards new facility.   The new facilities were intended to provide 3 – 4 Basketball Courts, Netball, Pickle and Badminton facilities.  Hoping to increase provision for girls.  Aiming for new facilities – Outdoors 2025 and Indoor 2026.

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
		Disability provision			There was an agreement with Sencio to provide these.  See above	
13	Sevenoaks Town Football Club	New clubhouse – improved changing facilities, gym, café with shared community use.		£2,500,000	STC & STFC submitted a CIL bid and with STC match funding were successful with just over £800,000 obtained.  Additional external funding needs to be sought.  Planning permission obtained. Due to seek tenders May 2024.  STFC have long term leases at Greatness Recreation Ground and manage the provision of the football pitches.	Tender process slightly delayed to begin in June 2024. Further fundraising will be needed.
14	Samsara Bike Club	More range of sizes of pads and softer skateboard bushes for younger children.  Pump track or off road bike trails. Further development to Greatness Skatepark.  WC			Potential for this provision within new Tarmac site.	

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
		Training volunteer support. Adapted bikes for disabled users.				
15	We Make Footballers Sevenoaks	Larger capacity for sports players.				
16	MX Fencing	Sports halls Greater audience capacity Fencing kits for beginners Fencing salle				
17	Invicta Karate Academy	Dedicated Karate Dojo Hall and room complex with changing rooms.				
18	Sevenoaks Town Golf Club	Trial club sets and equipment for potential new members. Extension to bar, kitchen and changing room/showers . Access ramp to main building and disabled toilet.				
19	Hildenborough Junior Badminton Club	More facilities to facilitate new influx of members- additional sports hall will be necessary.				
20	Sevenoaks Hockey Club	2 pitches with floodlights, possibility of sharing. Replace existing seating. A club house facility/ changing rooms.				

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
21	Tarmac / Greatness Quarry Development	<p>Noted that the outline planning application provided the following:</p> <p>Land for Primary School</p> <p>Local Centre / Lakeside Water Facility Watersports facilities.</p> <p>Oast House – community building</p> <p>Barn – provision for Scouts</p> <p>Secondary school- financial contribution</p> <p>Medical Facilities – financial contribution</p> <p>It was noted that there was not land available for flat sports pitches.</p>			<p>It was hoped that the proposed primary school would include some sports hall provision.</p> <p>Outdoor water sports facilities will be provided for the first time within Sevenoaks town – e.g. sailing, canoeing</p> <p>STC are preparing a Feasibility Study for the Oast House community use.</p> <p>It is hoped that the Scouts will also enable other uses of the building.</p> <p>When the full project is progressed STC will receive a substantial CIL contribution</p>	

STC Draft 2023 – 2024 Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

Ref	Sports Organisation	Identified Need	Priority	Approximate £	STC Initial Comments	Initial Actions
					– details and plans for this to be confirmed at a later date.	
22	Sevenoaks Town Sports Foundation	Discussion at the Sports Strategy Meeting held on 29.5.2024 took place about the creation of a Sevenoaks Town Sports Foundation. Tarmac expressed an interest in this.				Further discussion to be held.
23	Athletic Facilities	It was noted that SDC were creating athletic facilities including running track between Trinity School and Seal.				
24	Bradbourne Group Riding for the Disabled	Enhanced carriage tyres for comfort and ease of use on the surfaces. Ensuring the fields are not bought up for housing.  Replacement car park surface without potholes for ease of disability access while being strong enough for the heavy tractor to remove the muck heap and bring hay and stray to site				
25	Representative for Hockey, Lacrosse, Swimming, Badminton (Respondent did not include club/organization name in survey)	Floodlit hockey pitches, all weather running track for athletics.				



### 3. School Provision

	Schools in Sevenoaks	Sports facilities available for hire to non-schools (information gathered from school websites)
1	Sevenoaks School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25m six-lane swimming pool,</li> <li>• fitness suite and weights room,</li> <li>• studio,</li> <li>• three glass-backed squash courts,</li> <li>• three indoor tennis courts,</li> <li>• an eight-court sports hall,</li> <li>• rock and rope climbing area,</li> <li>• physiotherapy room</li> <li>• servery/meeting room,</li> <li>• athletics track,</li> <li>• tennis courts,</li> <li>• floodlit hard courts</li> <li>• Astro &amp; grass pitches with pavilions</li> <li>• Cricket nets</li> </ul>
2	Walthamstow Hall Senior	Note the Website does not mention hiring of Facilities for external use.
3	Walthamstow Hall Junior	Note the Website does not mention hiring of Facilities for external use.
4	Knole Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Hall- Cricket (4 Nets), indoor Hockey, Basketball (full Sized court), Badminton (4 Courts).</li> <li>• Rock Climbing wall- (those using need experience check/Qualifications or can provide instructor.</li> <li>• Fitness Suite- Weekdays during school term: 4pm-10pm Saturday during school term: 8am-4pm Sunday during school term: 9am-5pm Weekdays during school holidays: 8am-10pm Saturdays during school holidays: 8am-4pm Sundays during school holidays: 9am-5pm.</li> <li>• Dance hall- (spinning, Circuits, Zumba, Pilates)</li> <li>• 3G Sports pitch</li> </ul> <p><i>It should also be noted they are part of a Sports partnership with primary schools in the area ( St. Thomas's, St. Johns, Lady Boswells, Sevenoaks Primary).</i></p>

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5	Wilderness School (see Trinity & Weald Schools)	<i>(Permanently closed)</i>
6	West Heath School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Hall- Available for Children's Birthday party's &amp; local Clubs.</li> <li>• Tennis Courts</li> <li>• Swimming pool- Available for weekend hire.</li> </ul>
7	New Beacon (primary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Astro pitch can be divided into two smaller pitches,</li> <li>• Swimming pool</li> <li>• Sports Hall</li> <li>• Studio</li> </ul>
8	Granville (primary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming pool- only for current students</li> </ul>
9	Sevenoaks Primary	None
10	St. Johns (primary)	None
11	St. Thomas (primary)	None, useful to note they partner with other schools.
12	Lady Boswell (primary)	None

#### 4. Sevenoaks District Council Sports Provision Review

The SDC work is split into 2 strategies. They are the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy, which covers outdoor facilities, and the Sports Facility Strategy which covers indoor facilities. Each strategy is formed of 2 documents, a Needs Assessment Report and a Strategy Report.

The Needs Assessment Reports are an audit and analysis of existing provision, including supply (quantitative and qualitative), demand and future demand.

The Strategy Reports use this analysis to make strategic and site-specific recommendations. For the Sports Facility Strategy, this is broken down by facility type. For the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy, this is broken down by sport and analysis area. They centre around 3 key aims:

1. Protect – to protect the existing supply of facilities where they are needed to meet current and future needs.
2. To enhance facilities and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites (making better use of existing provision)
3. To provide new facilities where there is a current or future need to do so.

The strategies are complete and will be published on Sevenoaks District Council website in December 2024.

### 5. 2023 – 2024 2024 Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Review & Recommendations

	Location	Sport	Project	2023 Update	£	2023 - 2024 Review & Recommendation	£
A1	Greatness Recreation Ground	Football	New Sports Pavilion including café and toilets.	Sevenoaks Town Football Club / Sevenoaks Town Council have obtained planning permission and moving forward to obtain football foundation funding.		Planning Permission obtained.  CIL Funding obtained STC Committed funding  Football Foundation grant application to be submitted January 2025.  Hope to commence project 2025.	£1,800,000  £787,500 £87,500
A2	Greatness Recreation Ground	Football	Current pavilion repurposed as community facility – installation of public toilet.	Awaiting completion of new pavilion.  New public toilet built.	£25,000	New community uses of the current pavilion will commence once the timetable for the new pavilion is agreed.  completed	TBC
A3	Greatness Recreation Ground	Free sport	Outdoor Gym Facility - Free Sports	Installation completed	£15,000	Requires renovating and potentially relocating and new surface – await results of public survey	£30,000
A4	Greatness Recreation Ground	Football	3G Pitch Enabling football to be played all year round	Installation completed	£500,000		

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A5	Greatness Recreation Ground	Free exercise	Improvements to Environ	Consultation to take place as part of new sports pavilion project.		Public consultation to take place including relocating of play area and outdoor gym equipment and increasing car park size.	
B1	Vine Pavilion	Cricket	Refurbish Vine Pavilion to enable disabled access.  Refurb of external of Vine Pavilion	Access ramp installed.	£35,000  £70,000	Consider opportunity for second access to building, subject to planning.	TBC
B2	Vine	Cricket	Make building more energy efficient				
B3	Vine	Cricket Free exercise	Upgrade public toilets. Used by runners, cyclists, cricket players, walkers. Cycle Friendly recognised café. Green Flag Award	Completed	£20,000	ongoing	
B4	Vine	Cricket	Outdoor cricket nets to be removed and make good.	Completed		Facilities to move 5 x Saturday men's sides  Women's cricket expanding  Grass nets at Otford The Cricket Club have approached SDC for funds from the s.106 funding (see R)	£20,000

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B5	Vine	Cricket	Outdoor storage required for cricket equipment.	Cricket club continue to use STC's Tea Hut. STC regularly maintain.		ongoing	
B6	Vine	Cricket	Cricket outfield, post covid.	Complete restoration of cricket outfield, post covid. STC contributed £16,000	£25,000	completed	
C1	Knole Paddock	Rugby Football Cricket	Improve drainage to sports pitches.	Works undertaken in 2015 and 2022. Pitch 1 completed. 2 x £35,000	£70,000	Completed, ongoing maintenance works required.  Additional rugby pitches needed to accommodate need and avoid 'over playing' of pitches at Knole Paddock.  3G Rugby Pitch meeting sports governance criteria needed.  SRFC clubhouse requires modernising to enable diverse access to the sport.	
C1(a)	Knole Paddock Pavilion	Rugby Football Cricket	Make buildings more energy efficient.			Solar panels and retention batteries to be considered.	TBC

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						Requires some refurbishment	
C2	Knole Paddock	Rugby	Installation of 3G pitch	STC invested resources into planning applications to appeal stage – however planning permission not granted.  New floodlighting	£17,000  £18,500	New floodlighting installed.  Applying for RFU funding for ongoing improvement to pitches. Requires SRFC support.	
C3	Knole Paddock	Rugby Football	Installation of MUGA	Due to planning issues installed at Bat & Ball Centre		Installed at Bat & Ball Centre.	
C4	Knole Paddock	Rugby	Improved SRFC facilities for spectators.	Completed decking area and moving of main pitch	£20,000		
C5	Knole Paddock	Cricket	Retention of Cricket Pitch	Retained although reduced to accommodate Rugby.			

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				Planning Permission obtained for practice nets.			
C6	Knole Paddock	Football	Retention of Football Pitch	Retained – programme of improvement to commence 2023.	TBC		
C7	Knole Paddock	Tennis (Padel Tennis)	Enable long term sustainability of Lawn Tennis Club	STC lease land to club.		STC seeking pre planning advice on ability to install padel courts.  Ramp from car park to enable access to clubhouse  Improvement to changing facilities.	
C8	Knole Paddock	Gymnastics	Raleys Gym to be closed and area redeveloped. Investment into Sencio gym facilities.	Completed			
C9	Knole Paddock	Rugby Football Cricket	Remove some strain on parking issues – grass crete for 46 spaces as overflow car park.	Planning permission obtained and project completed.	£15,000		
C10	Raleys Car Park	Rugby Football Cricket Tennis	Need to refurbish and address tree roots.			Refurbishment of car park to be undertaken when funds available.	



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		Free exercise					
D1	Hollybush Recreation Ground	Indoor Bowls	Indoor Bowls Club – consideration adaption to enable shared use with other sports provision = shared costs.  More bowls  Disability equipment  Kitchen equipment  Infrastructure to building needs addressing , heating, carpeting, ceiling and roofing.  Solar roof panels  Suspended ceiling  Rink carpeting	Owned by SDC	TBC  TBC  TBC  £81,600  £138,743  £70 - £80,000  £55 - £60,000	Sevenoaks Bowls Club have a 25 year full repairing lease on the property. The landlord is SDC.          Grant Funding has been obtained to install including £25,000 from STC	£138,743
D2	Hollybush Recreation Ground	Tennis & Padel Tennis	Additional tennis facilities	Provided via SDC & private organisation		Planning permission approved for 3 x Padel courts	
D3	Hollybush Recreation Ground	Hockey Tennis	Improved 3G facility	Completed with STC financial contribution	£50,000	Sevenoaks Hockey Club currently have 1 x 3G pitch	

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						at Hollybush Recreation Ground.  The development of Hockey 2 x 3G pitches and clubhouse is supported. Current land resolution not available.	
D4	Hollybush Recreation Ground		Partnership provision with adjacent schools.	Schools now have a coordinated sports programme involving local sports clubs.		No further recommendation	
D5	Hollybush Recreation Ground		Footbridge across Seal Hollow Road for link to Knole Paddock and improved pedestrian access.			No further recommendations.	
D6	Hollybush Recreation Ground		Expansion and improvement of lodge with public toilets, children nursery and community facilities.	Recommended to SDC for preparation of strategic plan for open space.		No further recommendations.	
D7	Hollybush Recreation Ground	Free exercise	Hollybush Park	Recommended to SDC for preparation of strategic plan for open space		No further recommendations.	
D8	Hollybush Recreation Ground	Cricket	Consider provision of cricket at Hollybush Park	Considered and not progressed – objections from local residents.		No further recommendations.	

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D9	Hollybush Recreation Ground	Free exercise	Open space for running, children play, dog walking etc to remain.			No further recommendations.	
E1	Community Centre (Now Bat & Ball Centre)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gymnastics</li> <li>Martial arts</li> <li>Dancing</li> <li>Exercise classes</li> <li>Zumba</li> </ul>	Convert to two storeys to enable.	<p>Planning permission not agreed for two storeys.</p> <p>Sports accommodated except indoor basketball and cross fit.</p>	£3,000,000	Completed, well used. No further recommendations.	
E2	Community Centre MUGA (Now Bat & Ball Centre)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tennis</li> <li>Netball</li> <li>Football</li> <li>Basketball</li> </ul>	Retain outdoor multi sports facility	New facility with floodlights installed – free to use.	£100,000	Completed, well used No further recommendations.	
F	Schools						
F1	Former Wilderness School Site		Two new schools with sports provision	Provided by KCC		<p>Completed, well used</p> <p>Any new sports facilities provided should meet sport's governing body criteria to enable community use.</p>	
F2	Former Wilderness School Site		Two new multi-use games area	Provided by KCC			
F3	Former Wilderness School Site		Upgraded Sencio facilities	Provided by KCC			
F4	Traditional school sports lessons		Encourage schools to pay and use current	Schools now have a coordinated		Now in regular practice.	

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			sports organisations in partnership with sports lessons.	sports programme involving local sports clubs.		No further recommendation.	
F5	School Sites		Work in partnership with schools to provide sports provision to meet Sports governing bodies standards.	STNP – school sports facilities to meet governing body requirement to enable community use.		This is still an ongoing problem restricting community use.  School sports facilities to meet governing body requirement to enable community use.	
G1	Sencio Leisure Centre	Swimming Gymnastics Basketball Fitness classes	Support the long-term sustainability of the facility.	2023 new management to be put in place		SDC reviewing options to develop site and facility.	
G2	Sencio Leisure Centre	Basketball	Disability basketball – improve facilities	Completed with adjustable hoops.		SDC reviewing options to develop site and facility.	
G3	Sencio Leisure Centre	Gymnastics	Incorporate gymnastics from Raleys	Completed – STC donated funds	£95,000	STC funding provided No further recommendations	
H	Informal Free Access Sports						
H1	Hillingdon Rise	Table Tennis	Install table tennis tables outside to enable free access	Outdoor Table Tennis installed at Hillingdon Rise As part of refurbishment of play area.	£5,000		
H2	Seal	Running Tracks				SDC were creating athletic facilities including running track between Trinity School and Seal.	

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H3		Jogging / Running					
H4		Cycling	Work with the adopted Cycling Strategy  Cycle Pump Track			May be possible to include in Tarmac site.	
H5	Greatness	Skateboard			£65,000	Fully refurbished 2023 Skateboard lessons and events being provided	
H6		Walking				The Neighbourhood Plan and two Masterplans currently in production focus on improved facilities for walking.	
H7	Bat & Ball Centre Stag Sencio	Dance		It is noted that Sevenoaks Dance, Fitness & Yoga have an ambition to have a studio full time with permanent equipment.		The new Bat & Ball Centre accommodates a variety of dance classes and the weekly Tea Dance for senior citizens.	
H8	Greatness Vine Julians Meadow Buckhurst Lane Hillingdon Rise Pontoise Kippington Meadow	Play Equipment	STC owns and maintains various play area sites providing natural exercise		£40,000 £25,000 £25,000	Refurbished 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hillingdon Rise</li> <li>• Julians Meadow</li> <li>• Pontoise</li> </ul>	

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	Mount Close						
H9	Greatness Julian Meadow	Outdoor Gym Equipment		Additional outdoor gym installed at Julians Meadow in addition to Greatness Rec Provision.	£15,000	Julian's Meadow completed, well used.  Requires renovating and potentially relocating and new surface – await results of public survey (see A3)	
J	Spectators		Good facilities needed.	Improved facilities at SRFC pavilion. Accessible ramp at Vine Pavilion.		Completed No further recommendation.	
K	Partnerships with Neighbouring and or other authorities		Exchange information work together and avoid duplication.	Ongoing		Ongoing	
L	New Sports Sites		New sports sites within Sevenoaks town are extremely limited due to land availability.	Blue Skies thinking – purchase and repurpose land?		Continue to consider opportunities should they arise.	
M	New Sports Sites		Land adjacent to Greatness Recreation Ground available following completion of Tarmac operation.	Formal land sports not suitable due to topography.  Water sports possible in restored lake.		Water sports to be developed at Tarmac site	

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				Allocation within STNP.			
N	Access for disabled and vulnerable people		All facilities to be reviewed to address.	Included within new projects. Adaptions made to current provision.		Ongoing	
O	Buildings – improve Carbon use and sustainability					Consider subject to planning and funding installation of solar panels and retention batteries.  Bowls Club Knole Pavilion	
P	Golf		To support Golf Clubs encouraging young members for sustainability	Ongoing		Ongoing	
Q	Indoor Cricket		SDC requested s.106 funding for future indoor cricket provision.	STC provided to SDC	£150,000	Funds not spent on Indoor Cricket. Funds to be returned to STC for sports provision.	
R	Basketball		Outdoor Basketball free  Indoor Basketball Courts with spectator area.  Disability provision	1 hoop installed at Bat & Ball Centre		The development of outdoors and indoor facilities for Basketball is supported.	

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S	Netball		Outdoor netball courts with floodlights and facilities.	1 court at Bat & Ball Centre			
T	Outdoor Archery		Seeking appropriate land availability				
U	Badminton					More facilities (sports hall) needed to facilitate influx of new members.	
V	Outdoor Lawn Bowling		Expanding changing rooms  Irrigation Tank  Electric Fence to address fox problem	£5,000  £1,000		Funding obtained for irrigation tank	
W	Fencing					Fencing kits for beginners  Fencing Salle  Sports hall and audience facilities	
X	Marshall Arts					Dedicated Marshall Arts facility recommended.	
Y	Sports Foundation					Consider creation of Sevenoaks Town Sports Foundation.	



## 6. Precis of 2024 Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Review Recommendations

The Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy identifies sports needs for the town. A longer term project is required for identifying potential funding and land to meet the needs. This information is to enable all stakeholders to work together towards this aim and potentially use the information to share resources.

Ref	Sport	Recommended Sports Project	£ if known
A1	Football	Provision of new pavilion at Greatness Recreation Ground	£1,800,000
A2		Refurbishment of current pavilion at Greatness Recreation Ground	Tbc
A3	Gym	Refurbish outdoor gym equipment at Greatness Recreation Ground	£30,000
A5	Play equipment	Subject to public survey consider relocating play area and surfacing	£200,000
B1	Cricket	Provision of second entrance to Vine Pavilion	Tbc
B4	Cricket	Outdoor cricket nets at Otford	£20,000
C1	Rugby	Work with SRFC to obtain funding for improved maintenance to pitches 3G Rugby pitch in Sevenoaks needed.	£0 £500,000
C7	Padel Courts	Feasibility for Padel Courts at Knole Paddock	Tbc
C10	Rugby Football Cricket Tennis Free exercise	Refurbish Raleys car park and address tree roots	£250,000 est.
D1	Indoor Bowls	Support Bowls Club with provision of solar panels and retaining batteries	£139,000
D2	Padel Courts	Support development of Padel Courts at Hollybush Recreation Ground	
D3	Hockey	Support provision of Hockey 2 x 3G pitches and clubhouse	
F4	Schools sports	Continue to encourage schools to use local sports clubs for sports provision	
F5	School sport provision	Sports Facilities to meet governing body requirements to enable community use	
H4	Cycling	Encourage inclusion of Cycle Pump Track on Tarmac site	
H8	Play Equipment	STC to continue to invest in its Play Area Policy as funds become available	

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O	Sustainable Buildings	Subject to funding and practicalities support improvements to buildings to reduce carbon footprint and make more sustainable.	
R	Basketball	Support the provision of indoor and outdoor basketball facilities including provision for spectators.	
T	Archery	Support provision for outdoor archery	
U	Badminton	Support provision for additional badminton facilities	
W	Fencing	Support provision for additional fencing facilities	
X	Marshall Arts	Support the provision of a dedicated Marshall Arts facility	
Y	Sevenoaks Town Sports Foundation	Consider creation of Sevenoaks Town Sports Foundation.	