

Update received from Sevenoaks District Council on Progress of their Sports Strategy
Reviews

Playing Pitch Strategy

Club consultation and a draft needs assessment has been carried out for football pitches, 3G pitches, rugby union pitches and hockey pitches. The high-level conclusions are:

- Football – a shortfall in youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches but otherwise sufficient
- 3G pitches – a small shortfall in the district overall, but sufficient supply in Sevenoaks
- Rugby union – an overall shortfall across the district both currently and increasing over the plan period
- Hockey – due to usage restrictions at some sites and Edenbridge HC having to travel outside the district, there is an overall insufficient access to hockey to support current and future demand

The draft strategy for the winter sports is due in May. Cricket, tennis, athletics, bowls, golf, rugby league and other outdoor sports clubs are due to be consulted from spring onwards. The draft needs assessment is due in July, with a full strategy for all sports due in August.

Built Facilities Strategy

Draft needs assessment has been completed. The high-level conclusions are:

- Sports Halls – Small increase in badminton courts likely required but otherwise the need is to make better use of existing facilities, including refurbishment and increasing community use amongst sites
- Swimming – Adequate provision in terms of quantity but need to determine long-term future of Sevenoaks (and Edenbridge) Leisure Centres.
- Health & Fitness Suites – Adequate provision but need to ensure all groups are able to access
- Squash – Small shortfall of 1 court increasing to 2 over the period
- Gymnastics – Shortfall both now and in the future with current facilities not fit for purpose
- Indoor bowls – Sufficient provision but need to ensure quality is maintained
- Indoor tennis – Sufficient provision but explore growing interest in padel and the need for new courts to support this
- Climbing walls – Sufficient provision.

Full strategy due in April.

Kind regards,
Aaron

Aaron Wilkinson
Senior Planning Officer
Planning Policy
Sevenoaks District Council | Argyle Road | Sevenoaks | Kent | TN13 1HG
Tel: 01732 227155
Email: aaron.wilkinson@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Online: www.sevenoaks.gov.uk