



**BRENTWOOD
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Local Plan 2015-2030
Preferred Options
July 2013
COMMENT FORM**

(For official use only)

Comment
No.

Ack. date

You can comment on the Local Plan 2015-2030 Preferred Options online at www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan. Alternatively, please use this form to share your views on the contents of the Local Plan.

PERSONAL DETAILS

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Organisation (if applicable): Sport England

Job title (if applicable): Principal Planning Manager – Central Hub

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YOUR COMMENTS

Please indicate which section(s) of the Local Plan you are commenting on (please clearly state the Policy reference or paragraph number):

S2 – Residential Development; S3 – Employment Land, CP2 – Managing Growth; CP3 – Strategic Sites DM23 Housing Land Allocations, DM6 – Employment Allocations, CP17 Provision of Infrastructure

Please specify if you Support or Object (tick as appropriate):

Support
Object

Comments (please use additional sheet if required):

Housing Growth: 3,500 new dwellings (S2) are planned, the residents of which will increase demand for community infrastructure, including sports facilities. Does existing infrastructure have sufficient unused capacity to absorb this demand? How much more demand will this level of growth generate? Sport England has some tools to help answer these questions. Firstly, preparing a sports strategy based on a local needs assessment will inform whether existing capacity can absorb new demand. The Local Authority do not appear to have undertaken this work but our National Facility Audit can give an indication of current demand and supply based on our Facilities Planning Model and Active Places Database (see links below for details):

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/facilities-planning-model/>

An initial assessment of the data output for 2013 (assuming Active Places Power is up to date and correct and there are no planned closures etc.) indicates the following:

- Swimming Pools – Brentwood has 8 pools on 6 sites which provide some 1,224m² of accessible waterspace (22.7m² per 1,000 population). Supply appears to be greater than demand and some 96.5% of demand from Brentwood’s residents is satisfied by pools within and without the Borough. Unmet demand is equivalent to 27.3m² of waterspace, most of

which is caused by poor access for those without a car rather than lack of capacity. On average Brentwood's pools are utilised to 49% (below the recommended threshold of 70%) indicating some spare capacity however this varies from facility to facility. Nonetheless all pools do appear to have some spare capacity except for Brentwood School Sports Centre which is operating at 81% used capacity. The location of growth in relation to the different pools will need to be assessed along with local knowledge to confirm demand can be met.

- Sports Halls – Brentwood has 11 sports halls on 7 sites providing some 6 courts per 10,000 population. Supply appears generally greater than demand with some 95.8% of demand being satisfied. Almost all unmet demand is caused by poor access for those without a car and equates to around 4 courts. As with pools the overall utilised capacity at 44% (compared to an 80% benchmark) appears to indicate some spare capacity and indeed the data suggests that all sports halls have some spare capacity.
- Artificial Turf Pitches – there are 3 ATPs in Brentwood (2 sand based and 1 3G) equivalent to 0.4 pitches per 10,000 population. Satisfied demand however is only 86% and a ¼ of that satisfied demand is only met by residents using ATPs outside the Borough. There is some unmet demand, 90% of which is caused by lack of capacity. The existing AGPs are all used at 100% of their available capacity. Together with existing shortfalls (equivalent to around 0.3 of an AGP (assuming the full capacity and exporting satisfied demand is acceptable), increased demand from growth and the FAs new strategy to move football away from using sand based AGPs to 3G APGs there would appear to be a case for at least 1 new 3G AGP to be provided to meet existing deficits and growing demand.

The initial data, which should be subject to local scrutiny and if necessary updating, would appear to indicate there is no need to make additional provision for sports halls and swimming pools but that new APG provision is needed.

Proposed development to the scale of 3,500 new homes (at 2.4 occupancy rate) will increase the population by 8,400 people. The Sports Facility Calculator (see details in the link below and outputs on the following page) shows that:

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/sports-facility-calculator/>

1. Demand for swimming pools is equivalent to two 25m lanes at a cost of £1.3M capital cost of provision. If Brentwood pools have some qualitative issues which need to be resolved to ensure the capacity is attractive and usable by new residents there may be a case for seeking contributions to qualitative improvements
2. Demand for sports halls is just over 2 courts at a capital cost of £1.6M (same applies re quality as above)
3. Demand for AGPs is around 0.3 of a pitch at a cost of £217k capital cost. There would appear to be a strong case for seeking contributions for additional 3G provision based on the above assessment.

In addition to the above there will be demand for more grass pitches and other outdoor sports which should be identified and delivered where appropriate.

Finally as a point of principle none of the allocated sites for housing or other development should lead to the loss of any sports facilities, indoor or outdoor, otherwise proposals will fail to meet NPPF Par 74. If the allocations will lead to the loss of sports facilities Sport England will object to the

allocations unless an up to date needs assessment demonstrates they are surplus or they are to be replaced (as per Par 74 NPPF).

Please return to Planning Policy Team, Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY, or alternatively attach completed form and email **planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk**

Please note that all responses will be published online. More information can be found at **www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan**

All responses should be received by Wednesday 2nd October 2013

Sports Facility Calculator

Step 1

Select local authority

Brentwood

Step 2

Enter population

8,400

Step 3

Cost Variations

Select county

Essex

Step 4

Adjust Demand

0%

0%

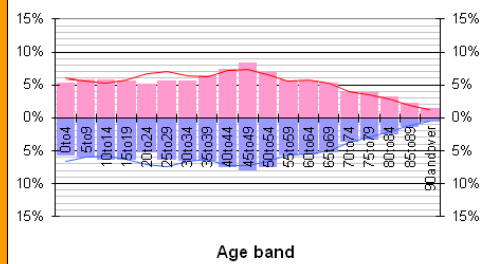
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Facility Requirements

	Pools	Halls	Indoor Bowls	Artificial Turf Pitches
Size	88.49 sq.m. 1.67 Lanes 0.42 Pools 537 vpwpp	2.29 Courts 0.57 Halls 371 vpwpp	0.55 Rinks 0.09 Centres 86 vpwpp	0.25 Pitches 182 vpwpp
Cost	£1,276,679	£1,632,891	£160,203	£216,543 3G £190,764 Sand

Age profile of selected district



Disclaimer

Sport England has made all reasonable endeavours to ensure the accuracy of the material contained in this calculator. The Calculator has been produced in good faith and Sport England does not accept any liability that may come from the use of it. The use of the Calculator is entirely at the users own risk and Sport England do not accept any liable caused from its use.