

# South East Lincs Joint Strategic Planning Committee



South East Lincolnshire  
Joint Strategic Planning Committee

## *Sports Provision and Open Space Assessment*

November 2012

Ploszajski Lynch Consulting Ltd.



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### The vision and objectives of the assessment

- 1) **Vision:** The vision for sports facilities and open space in South-East Lincolnshire is ‘to enhance the quality of life of existing residents, new communities and visitors to South-East Lincolnshire, by developing, promoting and enabling the provision of high quality, environmentally sustainable sports facilities and open space’.
- 2) **Objectives:** The overall objectives of the assessment are to provide:
  - a) A locally-derived, evidence-based standard for each type of sports facility and open space, against which to judge surplus or deficit of existing provision.
  - b) An appraisal of the quantity of sport and open space provision in South East Lincolnshire, highlighting areas where there is surplus or deficit, and also taking into account demographic and participation rate changes in the future.
  - c) An appraisal of the quality of sport and open space provision in South East Lincolnshire, highlighting sites of sub standard quality.
  - d) An estimate of the costs of meeting the required facilities.
  - e) An assessment that can be used by South-East Lincolnshire to develop Planning Policy for open space and sport facilities provision.

### What the assessment covers

- 3) The typologies included in the study are as follows:
  - a) **Sports facilities:** These include the following:
    - Sports halls
    - Synthetic turf pitches
    - Indoor athletics facilities
    - Squash courts
    - Outdoor bowls greens
    - Outdoor tennis courts
    - Golf courses
    - Swimming pools
    - Athletics tracks
    - Indoor bowls greens
    - Indoor tennis courts
    - Health and fitness facilities
    - Village and community halls
  - b) **Playing pitches:** These include the following:
    - Football pitches
    - Rugby pitches
    - Cricket pitches
  - c) **Open spaces:** These include the following:
    - Parks and gardens
    - Amenity greenspace
    - Cemeteries and churchyards
    - Natural and semi-natural greenspace
    - Provision for children and young people
    - Allotments and community gardens

## **About South-East Lincolnshire**

- 4) **Population:** Whilst the official estimates of the population of the study area are 143,600, a further 15,000 people (mainly from the Eastern European migrant workforce) are registered with GP's as locally resident. The presence of this population is likely to inflate demand for sports facilities and open space provision locally.
- 5) **Age structure:** The relatively elderly population structure is likely to reduce relative demand in the study area for provision for formal sport and physical activity.
- 6) **Income:** The socio-economic structure of the local population is skewed towards lower income groups, particularly in Boston borough and these groups typically have lower rates of participation in recreational activity. The relatively low wage local economy will reduce the amount of disposable income available for discretionary spending on activities such as sport and physical activity and may therefore depress demand levels
- 7) **Ethnicity:** The ethnicity of 98.6% of the population of the study area is classified as 'White'. Black and minority ethnic groups traditionally have lower rates of involvement in physical activity, so demand levels in a predominantly White population should normally be above the national average.
- 8) **Density:** The local density of population is only around one-third of the national average, which implies that there is an abundance of open space. However, much of this is cultivated farmland and not publicly accessible, so the presence of open space *per se* does not necessarily imply that there is sufficient space to meet recreational and amenity needs.
- 9) **Growth:** Population growth of 30,000 people (a 20.9% increase) by 2031 will inflate demand for sports facilities and open space (and other local services). Existing green space may come under threat of development to accommodate new housing. However, developer contributions will provide an opportunity to fund provision that will demonstrably meet the needs of the new residents.
- 10) **Deprivation:** The population that lives within the significant pockets of deprivation in the study area are traditionally associated with low rates of participation in sport and physical activity. It will be important to ensure that opportunities are physically and financially accessible to people on low incomes.
- 11) **Health:** Average life expectancy locally is below the national levels and other health indices such as levels of obesity and smoking point to a relatively unhealthy population. The provision of sports facilities and open spaces therefore provide opportunities for physical activity that will improve healthy lifestyles.

## **Sport and physical activity in South-East Lincolnshire**

- 12) **Participation rates:** Overall participation rates in the study area are well below the regional and national averages and are the lowest for the geographical neighbours and the demographic comparators. This suggests that demand for sports facilities and open space will be commensurately lower locally.

- 13) **Volunteering:** Rates of volunteer support for sport and physical activity in South-East Lincolnshire are round the median figure. The provision of facilities and activities by the voluntary sector should therefore be relatively well-developed locally.
- 14) **Organised sport:** Despite the above, the proportion of adults who are either members of a sports club, received coaching and tuition or played organised competitive sport has decreased significantly over the survey period and is well below the median for both its geographical and demographic neighbours.
- 15) **Satisfaction:** Levels of satisfaction with local sports provision have decreased over the survey period and now stand well below the regional and national averages. This implies that there is some dissatisfaction with the quantity and quality of local provision.
- 16) **Market segmentation:** The Market Segmentation data suggests that demand for the pitch sports, golf, bowls and watersports is likely to be higher than the national average, as is demand for open space that provides for walking and cycling. However, demand for the martial arts is likely to be lower than the national average.

### **Meeting local priorities**

- 17) **Introduction:** The local strategic context of the two local authorities in South-East Lincolnshire provides the overall framework within which the sports facilities and open space assessment will be developed and influences the development of standards of provision and the policy options for implementing deficiencies.
- 18) **The Boston Community Plan:** The plan illustrates how sports facilities and open space can contribute to delivering a key local priority for healthy living.
- 19) **The Boston Corporate Plan:** The strategic objectives of the plan recognise the significance of the environment and healthy lifestyles on local communities and the contribution that sports facilities and open space can make to this.
- 20) **The Boston Community Sports Strategy:** The strategy provides a useful summary of local policy on sport and physical activity, particularly the emphasis on increasing participation and the impact that this will have on demand for sports facilities and open space.
- 21) **The Boston Local Plan and Interim Local Plan:** The plans contain helpful policy context. In particular planning policies are generally supportive of new and improved sports facilities and open space and also the protection of existing provision. The priority of the Boston Woods and Kirton Park projects is highlighted.
- 22) **The South Holland Community Plan:** The plan emphasises that new and improved sports facilities and open space will be integral to delivering the vision for the district in 2030.
- 23) **The South Holland Corporate Plan:** The plan features sports facilities and open space feature amongst the council's corporate priorities for the next four years.
- 24) **The South Holland Cultural Strategy:** Whilst sport and open spaces are only part of the full spectrum of culture in the district, ensuring that there is sufficient provision will be key to delivering the priorities and targets of the strategy.

- 25) ***The South Holland Local Plan:*** The plan contains some important policy statements on the role and significance of sports facilities and open spaces and contains policies that are generally supportive of new and improved provision and also the protection of existing sites.
- 26) ***The South Holland Open Space SPD:*** The document incorporates helpful standards of provision which will provide a start point for reviewing the adequacy of local provision.

### **Meeting wider priorities**

- 27) ***Introduction:*** The external strategic context for sports facilities and open space provision has an important influence in South-East Lincolnshire. Assessments of deficiency by adjoining local authorities suggest that account must be taken of imported and exported demand between the respective areas.
- 28) ***The National Planning Policy Framework:*** The Framework affirms the importance of sports facilities and open space in sustainable development. It also:
- a) Confirms the need to assess local needs and opportunities for open space, sport and recreation facilities and to develop local standards of provision.
  - b) Identifies that local communities will have a role to play in identifying green space of particular importance to them.
- 29) ***Green Infrastructure Networks:*** The Central Lincolnshire Network includes linkages with the South-East Lincolnshire study area via the Lower Witham and Fens Link and the Sleaford-Spalding Link, emphasising the need to take account of direct physical interaction with neighbouring areas. The Wash and Fens Green Infrastructure Study highlights the need to consider the inter-connectedness of individual open spaces.
- 30) ***The County Sports Facilities Framework:*** The document provides a valuable starting point for assessing needs in South-East Lincolnshire and also highlights surpluses and deficiencies in neighbouring areas that might impact upon demand within the study area.
- 31) ***Neighbouring local authorities:*** Policy documents and assessment of sports facilities and open space provision from neighbouring local authorities will impact upon the planning of open space, sport and recreation within South-East Lincolnshire. Particular issues identified include:
- a) Assessed shortfalls in the provision of informal/natural greenspace, outdoor sports space, sports halls and synthetic turf pitches in South Kesteven.
  - b) A deficiency in swimming pool and sports hall provision in north-east Peterborough, which will export demand to the study area.

### **Identifying local needs**

- 32) ***Introduction:*** The analysis of local need for sports facilities and open space in South-East Lincolnshire has highlighted a number of key issues that are reflected in the study assessment.

- 33) **Priority:** There is strong local endorsement for the importance of sports facilities and open space in community surveys.
- 34) **Overall use:** Local rates of use of open space are very high with around 80% of South Holland residents using parks and green spaces in the past year.
- 35) **Amounts of provision:** Most people and organisations consulted feel that current levels of provision are ‘about right’ for most types of sports facility and open space.
- 36) **The quality of provision:** Most people and organisations consulted feel that the quality of local provision is ‘good’ or at least ‘average’ for most types of sports facility and open space.
- 37) **Frequency of use:** Local people make very regular use of sports facilities and open space, with more than 91.8% of leisure centre users visiting on at least a weekly basis.
- 38) **Local sports clubs:** The local sports clubs sector appears relatively vibrant, with more than one-third reporting membership increases and more than 75% having aspirations to expand further.
- 39) **Parish councils:** Parish councils are generally positive about the quality and quantity of local provision and several are currently active with improvement projects.

#### **Assessing sports facilities and open space needs**

- 40) **Introduction:** The current and future need for sports facilities and open space in South-East Lincolnshire was assessed as follows.
- 41) **Audit of local provision:** This involved the following:
- a) **Quantitative assessment:** Identifying the size and location of each publicly accessible sports facility and open space site in the study area. Where the information exists, the per capita levels of provision of each type of space or facility were benchmarked with comparator local authorities.
  - b) **Qualitative assessment:** The quality of each type of sports facility and open space site was assessed via a site visit and the application of a standardised ‘scoring’ system.
  - c) **Effective catchments:** The effective catchments were identified for each type of sports facility and open space site in the study area, based upon the user surveys and defined as the travel time/distance that 75% - 80% of users are prepared to undertake.
- 42) **Setting provision standards:** Local standards were devised, based upon:
- a) **Quantitative standards:** Local surveys of demand and need, benchmarking with comparator areas and other demand modelling.
  - b) **Qualitative standards:** The qualitative standards were based upon the ‘average’ definitions for each aspect of each typology, used in the qualitative audit.

c) **Accessibility standards:** Travel times were identified on the basis of local surveys to establish the journey time of around 80% of users of each typology.

43) **Applying provision standards:** The standards were applied to establish the adequacy of current and future provision.

a) **Current provision:** The extent to which the existing population is served by good quality, accessible provision was assessed.

b) **Future needs:** These have been modelled based upon a projected increase of 30,000 people in the study area by 2031.

### **Sports facility requirements**

44) **Quantitative needs:** The table below summarises the additional sports facility needs, both now and in 2031:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Provision in 2012</i>	<i>Needs in 2012</i>	<i>Extra needs in 2031</i>	<i>Total needs in 2031</i>
Sports halls	7	7	1.5	8.5
Swimming pools	2	3	1	4
Athletics tracks	1	1	0	1
Synthetic turf pitches	4	5	1	6
Indoor bowling greens	4	4	1	5
Outdoor bowling greens	32	32	7	39
Indoor tennis courts	4	4	1	5
Outdoor tennis courts	40	48	10	58
Squash courts	9	9	2	11
Golf courses	7	7	1	8
Health and fitness facilities	14	14	3	17
Village and community halls	53	5	12	70

45) **Qualitative needs:** The table below summarises the current quality of provision, based upon the application of quality standards:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Above average' or better (%)</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Average' or worse (%)</i>	<i>Commentary</i>
Sports halls	7	85.7%	14.3%	Only the Peter Paine sports hall rated lower than 'above average', but is currently undergoing refurbishment.
Swimming pools	2	100.0%	0.0%	Both pools are rated as 'above average' overall.
Athletics tracks	1	100.0%	0.0%	The single athletics track is rated as 'high quality' in all respects.
Synthetic turf pitches	4	50.0%	50.0%	Two pitches rate below 'above average', but the Peter Paine pitch will shortly be resurfaced.
Indoor bowling greens	4	100.0%	0.0%	All indoor bowls facilities are rated at least 'above average'.
Outdoor bowling greens	32	12.5%	87.5%	The quality of playing surfaces is good at most sites, but disabled access is often poor, taking the overall mean down.

<i>Typology</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Above average' or better (%)</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Average' or worse (%)</i>	<i>Commentary</i>
Indoor tennis courts	4	100.0%	0.0%	The quality of all aspects of the indoor courts at Boston Tennis Club is 'high quality'.
Outdoor tennis courts	40	60.0%	40.0%	24 courts are rated as 'above average', but a further 14 courts are rated as at least 'average'.
Golf courses	7	100.0%	0.0%	All courses rate as at least 'above average' quality.
Squash courts	9	100.0%	0.0%	All courses rate as at least 'above average' quality.
Health and fitness facilities	14	42.9%	57.1%	Six facilities rate at least 'above average', but several have poor disabled and general access.
Village and community halls	53	3.8%	96.2%	The quality of village and community halls has been assessed in relation to their capacity to accommodate sports use and therefore does not fully reflect the many other valuable community functions they serve.

### **Playing pitch requirements**

46) *Quantitative needs*: The table below summarises the additional sports facility needs, both now and in 2031:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Provision in 2012</i>	<i>Needs in 2012</i>	<i>Extra needs in 2031</i>	<i>Total needs in 2031</i>
Adult football pitches	69	30.7	6.5	37.2
Junior football pitches	18 (17.5)	34.8	7.5	42.3
Mini-soccer pitches	20 (19.5)	13.1	3.0	16.1
Cricket pitches	17	13.2	3.0	16.2
Rugby pitches	11 (9.5)	15.7	3.3	19.0

47) *Qualitative needs*: The table below summarises the current quality of provision:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>No. pitches below 'average'</i>	<i>% pitches below 'average'</i>
Adult football	69	0	0.0%
Junior football	18	1	5.6%
Mini-soccer	20	1	5.0%
Cricket	17	0	0.0%
Rugby	11	3	27.3%

### **Open space requirements**

48) *Quantitative needs*: The table below summarises the additional open space needs, both now and in 2031:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Provision in 2012</i>	<i>Needs in 2012</i>	<i>Extra needs in 2031</i>	<i>Total needs in 2031</i>
Parks and gardens	14.11ha	14.11ha	3.00ha	17.11ha
Natural/semi-nat. greenspace	633.53ha	633.53ha	135.00ha	768.53ha
Amenity greenspace	107.38ha	107.38ha	22.50ha	129.88ha
Children's play	14.76ha	14.76ha	3.00ha	17.76ha
Allotments	39.47ha	43.08ha	9.00ha	52.08ha
Cemeteries and churchyards	81.39ha	81.39ha	17.10ha	98.49ha

49) **Qualitative needs:** The table below summarises the current quality of provision:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Average' or above (%)</i>	<i>'Below average'/'poor' sites (%)</i>
Parks and gardens	6	100.0%	0.0%
Natural/semi-natural greenspace	36	58.3%	41.7%
Amenity greenspace	426	70.4%	29.6%
Children's play	117	65.8%	34.2%
Allotments	18	72.2%	27.8%
Cemeteries and churchyards	79	74.7%	25.3%

### **Planning policy**

50) **Planning standards:** The standards of provision proposed in the study are based upon a detailed assessment of local needs and provide a robust and defensible means of defining the adequacy of provision.

51) **Minimum standards of provision:** The standards of provision should be regarded as the minimum levels required to meet existing needs.

52) **Existing and new developments:** New residential developments may offer the opportunity to achieve enhanced levels of open space provision, recognising that the current standards represent the minimum amounts that are needed.

53) **Quality of provision:** Quality criteria were set to define the condition to which each typology in the study area should aspire.

54) **Multi-functionality:** Many open space sites serve more than one open space function and therefore even where a site might notionally be surplus to provision based upon its primary function, it may serve other subsidiary roles.

55) **Provision relating to new developments:** All residential developments should make appropriate provision for sports facilities and open space. For smaller developments where on-site provision is not achievable, a financial contribution will be sought from developers towards the improvement of provision elsewhere.

56) **'Surplus' provision:** In some instances the application of the local standards produces an apparent 'surplus' of provision. However, this should not automatically be interpreted as signifying that the 'surplus' could be disposed of because:

- a) The standards against which the 'surplus' was assessed are the minimum that are required to meet current local needs. Local concentrations of existing demand and estimated future increases in use could both inflate the amount of provision needed.

- b) An apparent ‘surplus’ in one form of provision (for example adult football pitches) will often compensate for shortfalls in other types of provision locally (for example junior football pitches).

### **Dealing with deficiencies**

- 57) ***New provision:*** This can be achieved by making entirely new provision in appropriate locations, extending existing provision where feasible, disposing of surplus facilities to reinvest the capital receipt in new provision and incorporating sports facilities into new community provision and other appropriate developments.
- 58) ***Upgrading and refurbishing:*** Upgrading and refurbishing existing provision would meet some of the qualitative deficiencies identified. The types of upgrade that would be most beneficial include visitor facilities at natural/semi-natural greenspace sites, disabled access improvements and changing provision at many sports facilities.
- 59) ***Improved capacity:*** Improvements to user capacity include providing floodlights for outdoor sports facilities, to extend the period in which they can be used, drainage improvements to grass pitches, extending the range of play equipment, crèches to improve the capacity of a facility to cater for families with young children and habitat restoration.
- 60) ***Enhanced access:*** Improving access to sports facilities and open space can be achieved through formal access agreements, public transport improvements, developing the rights of way network and enhancing information and awareness.
- 61) ***Developer contributions:*** Developer contributions can include the provision of funding for sports facilities and open space, to meet the needs of the inhabitants of new developments. The Local Plan will enable the South-East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee to develop a basis for formalising such arrangements and this assessment will form a key part of the evidence base.

### **Delivery partners**

- 62) ***Introduction:*** A wide range of organisations will have a role in implementing the Sports Facilities and Open Space Assessment.
- 63) ***South-East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee:*** By using its statutory powers to produce a South-East Lincolnshire Local Plan, the Committee will provide the planning policy framework within which sports facilities and open space will be protected and provided in the future.
- 64) ***Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council:*** The councils are likely to play the lead role in co-ordinating the development of the larger, more strategic facilities and sites, in conjunction with other partners where appropriate.
- 65) ***Parish councils:*** Parish councils will continue to play a valuable role in providing and maintaining local scale facilities and open space in the rural parts of the study area.
- 66) ***Leisure management contractors:*** Leisure Connection and Leisure in the Community Ltd. are contracted to run the two main leisure centres in South Holland and Nuffield Health runs the Princess Royal Sports Arena near Boston. All are likely to have a role in assisting with facility improvements at these key facilities.

- 67) **Schools:** Several schools in the study area already provide facilities from which local communities benefit and there will be further opportunities to extend and formalise community access to a range of provision on school sites.
- 68) **Sports organisations:** Local sports clubs are significant providers of sports facilities, in particular bowling greens, golf courses, tennis courts and playing pitches.
- 69) **Environmental organisations:** Local, county and national conservation bodies (such as the Boston Woods Trust, the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) provide and manage many natural and semi-natural greenspace sites in the study area, including the creation of new areas from time to time.
- 70) **Commercial organisations:** Several commercial sector organisations provide sports facilities in particular health and fitness facilities. There may be scope for encouraging more provision by the private sector.
- 71) **Developers:** The developers of new housing and commercial projects in South-East Lincolnshire can be required either to provide new sports facilities and open space as part of an individual development, or to make a financial contribution towards the costs of such provision on site or elsewhere in the vicinity. The key principle is that the provision must meet the needs of the occupants of the new developments, as opposed to rectifying any pre-existing deficiencies. This mechanism is likely to comprise a major component of most new provision in the district.
- 72) **Private landowners:** Private landowners may be prepared to allow permissive access across some private open space sites, providing an important supplement to the supply of publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace.
- 73) **Partnership arrangements:** Partnership arrangements involving combinations of any of the above providers will help to share the costs of provision, management and maintenance of additional provision.

### **Action plan to meet current needs**

74) **Introduction:** The action plan identifies the ways in which current and future deficiencies might be met and the partners who will have a role in providing, funding and managing new provision. It specifies what needs to be provided and where and proposes how best this might be achieved.

75) **Sports facilities:** The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Current assessed deficiency</b>	<b>Action plan for meeting deficiency</b>
Sports halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current substantive quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Some qualitative deficiencies at Spalding High School facility.</li> <li>• No significant accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Implement qualitative improvements to changing facilities, disabled and general access as resources allow.
Swimming pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional 25m x 13m pool.</li> <li>• No qualitative improvements needed.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the Holbeach area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of developing community access to the new pool at the Giles Academy.</li> <li>• Explore options for addressing access issues in the Holbeach area, including public transport provision.</li> </ul>

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Athletics tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional '3G' synthetic turf pitch in the Boston sub-area.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements to fencing and disabled access at the Peter Paine Sports Centre pitch and disabled and general access at the Glead Boys School pitch.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage a football club to develop a '3G' pitch in the Boston area.</li> <li>• Peter Paine pitch improvements are scheduled for 2013.</li> <li>• Implement qualitative improvements to Glead Boys School pitch when resources allow.</li> </ul>
Indoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements to disabled access at the Long Sutton IBC.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support Long Sutton IBC to make external funding applications for disabled access improvements.
Outdoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements needed at most sites.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support clubs to make external funding applications for disabled and general access improvements at most facilities.
Indoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Outdoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deficiency of 4 courts in the South Holland sub-area.</li> <li>• Qualitative deficiencies at several facilities.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support local clubs in making funding applications to the LTA for facility improvements.</li> <li>• Secure community access to the tennis courts at school sites.</li> </ul>
Squash courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Golf courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>• Qualitative deficiencies at 8 facilities.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support qualitative improvements at facilities with elements rated as 'average' or worse, with larger and open access facilities prioritised first.
Village and community halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 village/community halls in urban parts of South-East Lincolnshire.</li> <li>• Qualitative deficiencies at most facilities.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop community access to school halls in areas with the greatest deficiency.</li> <li>• Audit existing halls to establish their respective capacities for accommodating different sports and physical activities.</li> <li>• Implement an improvement programme, prioritising facilities with the greatest potential to accommodate extra activity.</li> </ul>

76) **Playing pitches:** The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 37.3 pitches).</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency for pitches, but improvements in changing provision needed at 4 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvement programme at : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorial Park.</li> <li>• Sutton St. James Playing Field.</li> <li>• Moulton Seas End Playing Field</li> <li>• Holbeach Bank Playing Field.</li> </ul>
Junior football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17.3 additional pitches.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed to the pitch and changing facilities at Holland Way Sports Field.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Provide 18 additional junior pitches by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Converting underused adult pitches into junior pitches.</li> <li>• Negotiating secured community access to junior pitches on primary school sites.</li> </ul> Improve pitch and changing facilities quality at Holland Way Sports Field.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 7.4 pitches).</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 3 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiencies.</li> </ul>	Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvement programme at : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stricklands Drive Playing Field.</li> <li>• Holbeach Bank Playing Field.</li> <li>• Glen Park</li> </ul>
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 3.8 pitches).</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.2 additional pitches</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Spalding Rugby Club with external funding applications for pitch quality improvements.</li> <li>• Negotiate secured community access to rugby pitches on school sites.</li> </ul>

77) **Open space provision:** The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Parks and gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Quality improvements at three sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility shortfall.</li> </ul>	Implement an improvement programme as resources allow addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The entrance and general access at Matthew Flinders Park.</li> <li>• The planted areas at Carter's Park.</li> <li>• The entrance, paths, planting and seating at Stukeley Park.</li> </ul>
Natural/ Semi-natural greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency in the study area as a whole.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 16 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Qualitative improvement programme by landowners as resources allow at all sites currently rated as below 'average'.
Amenity greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency in the study area as a whole.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 126 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Qualitative improvement programme at 126 sites currently rated below 'average', with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger sites prioritised.</li> <li>• Ancillary provision like seating and litter bins upgraded.</li> </ul> Examine whether sites could be maintained and enhanced by local community groups.

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Children's play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 41 sites.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualitative improvement programme at 126 sites currently rated below 'average', with larger sites prioritised.</li> <li>• Examine whether sites could be maintained and enhanced by local community groups.</li> </ul>
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deficiency of 3.61ha of allotments.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at five sites.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with local community groups and parish councils to identify sites to provide additional allotments.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvement programme at 5 sites currently rated below 'average', with larger sites prioritised.</li> </ul>
Cemeteries and churchyards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency based on open space functions.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 24 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Encourage the Diocese of Lincoln and individual churches to address qualitative features like seats and litter bins that enhance usage for greenspace functions.

### **Action plan for meeting future needs**

78) **Introduction:** An action plan is set out below, which lists the future projected deficiencies in provision and identifies ways of meeting the shortfalls.

79) **Sports facilities:** The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Sports halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5 additional sports halls.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality 'above average'.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 1.5 new sports halls funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Swimming pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional 25m x 13m pool.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of a new pool funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Athletics tracks	No additional requirement.	No action required
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional synthetic turf pitch.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of a new pitch funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Indoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional six-rink indoor bowls facility.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of a new facility funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Outdoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 additional outdoor bowls greens.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality 'above average'.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 7 new greens funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Indoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 additional indoor tennis court.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional indoor court, added to the existing facility, funded by developer contributions.
Outdoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 additional courts once existing deficiencies have been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure the provision of 5 public tennis courts in sub-areas with a pre-existing deficiency, funded by developer contributions.</li> <li>• Support local clubs in making funding applications to the LTA to secure 5 additional tennis courts at club sites.</li> </ul>

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Future assessed deficiency</b>	<b>Action plan for meeting deficiency</b>
Squash courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 additional squash courts.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of two new courts funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Golf courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 additional golf course.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Encourage the provision of an 18-hole golf course by a commercial provider, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 additional health and fitness facilities.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Encourage the provision of three health and fitness facilities by commercial providers, but taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Village and community halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 additional village/community halls once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 12 new halls funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.

80) **Playing pitches:** The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

<b>Pitch type</b>	<b>Future assessed deficiency</b>	<b>Action plan for meeting deficiency</b>
Adult football	No additional requirement (extra demand accommodated by current notional surplus).	No action required
Junior football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7.5 additional pitches once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 8 additional junior pitches funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Mini-soccer	No additional requirement (extra demand accommodated by current notional surplus).	No action required
Cricket	No additional requirement (extra demand accommodated by current notional surplus).	No action required
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.3 additional pitches, once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 4 additional rugby pitches funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.

81) **Open space provision:** The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

<b>Typology</b>	<b>Future assessed deficiency</b>	<b>Action plan for meeting deficiency</b>
Parks and gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 3.0ha of parks and gardens.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Provide an additional 2.21ha of parks and gardens in the urban sub-areas, converting 'brownfield' land and creating new links in the green infrastructure network where possible.
Natural/Semi-natural greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 135ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure public access to 135ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating and enhancing semi-natural features at other open space sites.</li> <li>• Negotiating permissive public access to privately owned sites.</li> </ul>

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Amenity greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 22.5ha of amenity greenspace.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Provide an additional 22.5ha of amenity greenspace in conjunction with residential and other development, funded by developer contributions and creating new links in the green infrastructure network where possible.
Children's play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 3.00ha of equipped play areas (equivalent to 24 new play areas).</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional 24 equipped play areas funded by developer contributions, located in proximity to new residential developments, but taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 9.00ha of allotments.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional 9.0ha of allotments funded by developer contributions, located in proximity to new residential developments, but taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Cemeteries and churchyards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17.10ha of cemeteries and churchyards based on open space functions.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional 17.10ha of cemeteries and churchyards funded by developer contributions, located in proximity to new residential developments, but taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.

## **I INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Ploszajski Lynch Consulting Ltd. was commissioned by the South-East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (SELJSPC) to produce a Sports Provision and Open Space Assessment. This covers the areas administered by Boston Borough Council (BBC) and South Holland District Council (SHDC), in line with the Government's 'National Planning Policy Framework' (2012).

### **Vision**

- 1.2 The vision for sports facilities and open space in South-East Lincolnshire is:

*'To enhance the quality of life of existing residents, new communities and visitors to South-East Lincolnshire, by developing, promoting and enabling the provision of high quality, environmentally sustainable sports facilities and open space'.*

### **The objectives of the study**

- 1.3 The overall objectives of the assessment are to provide:
- a) A locally-derived, evidence-based standard for each type of sports facility and open space, against which to judge surplus or deficit of existing provision.
  - b) An appraisal of the quantity of sport and open space provision in South East Lincolnshire, highlighting areas where there is surplus or deficit, and also taking into account demographic and participation rate changes in the future.
  - c) An appraisal of the quality of sport and open space provision in South East Lincolnshire, highlighting sites of sub standard quality.
  - d) An estimate of the costs of meeting the required facilities.
  - e) An assessment that can be used by South-East Lincolnshire to develop Planning Policy for sport facilities and open space provision.

### **The Scope of the study**

- 1.4 The typologies included in the study are as follows:

- a) ***Sports facilities:*** These include the following:
- Sports halls
  - Synthetic turf pitches
  - Indoor athletics facilities
  - Squash courts
  - Outdoor bowls greens
  - Outdoor tennis courts
  - Golf courses
  - Swimming pools
  - Athletics tracks
  - Indoor bowls greens
  - Indoor tennis courts
  - Health and fitness facilities
  - Village and community halls
- b) ***Playing pitches:*** These include the following:
- Football pitches
  - Rugby pitches
  - Cricket pitches

c) **Open spaces:** These include the following:

- Parks and gardens
- Amenity greenspace
- Cemeteries and churchyards
- Natural and semi-natural greenspace
- Provision for children and young people
- Allotments and community gardens

## **Methodology**

1.5 The methodology for undertaking the study involves five main stages:

- a) Analysis of local need, including a profile of the study area, the strategic context and an assessment of survey results.
- b) Audit of local provision.
- c) Setting provision standards.
- d) Applying provision standards.
- e) Drafting policies

## **The assessment process**

- 1.6 ***The profile of the study area:*** We identified the geographical, economic, physical and demographic context within which sports facilities and open space provision is made in South-East Lincolnshire, including the current and projected population, the local economy, deprivation and health indices.
- 1.7 ***Sport and physical activity:*** We examined participation in sport and physical activity in the study area, to better understand the likely local patterns of demand for sports facilities and open spaces.
- 1.8 ***The Local strategic context:*** We examined the implications of all relevant local strategic documents to establish the link between sports facilities and open space and wider agendas.
- 1.9 ***The wider strategic context:*** We examined the implications of the all relevant county, regional and national strategic documents with an impact on sports facilities and open space
- 1.10 ***Needs assessment:*** We examined data and evidence on the need for sports facilities and open space in the area, the views of individuals and organisations on the adequacy of current provision and their aspirations for the future.
- 1.11 ***Audit of provision:*** We undertook an audit of sports facilities and open space in the study area that comprised:
  - a) ***Quantitative assessment:*** Identifying the size and location of each publicly accessible sports facility and open space site in South-East Lincolnshire. Where the information exists, the per capita levels of provision of each typology were benchmarked with neighbouring and demographic comparator local authorities.

- b) **Qualitative assessment:** The quality of each type of sports facility and open space in South-East Lincolnshire was assessed via a site visit and the application of a standardised ‘scoring’ system.
- c) **Effective catchments:** The effective catchments were identified for each type of sports facility and open space site, based upon the user surveys and defined as the travel time/distance that 75% - 80% of users are prepared to undertake.
- d) **Spatial distribution:** The geographical spread of provision was analysed by mapping every facility and sites of each type and comparing per capita levels in ‘sub-areas’ of the overall study area, to identify the respective patterns of provision.

1.12 **Setting provision standards:** Proposed local standards were devised, based upon:

- a) **Quantitative standards:** Local surveys of demand and need, benchmarking with comparator areas and other demand modelling.
- b) **Qualitative standards:** The qualitative standards are based upon the definitions for each aspect of each typology, used in the qualitative audit. The full definitions are listed in the study appendix, but the council’s policy position is to seek in the first instance to achieve at least an ‘average’ rating for all sites.
- c) **Accessibility standards:** The travel times were identified on the basis of local survey results to establish the journey time of 75% - 80% of users of each typology. Mode of travel was specified on the basis of local survey results indicating travel mode preferences (i.e. reflecting current behavioural patterns).

1.13 **Applying provision standards:** The standards were applied to establish the adequacy of current and future provision.

- a) **Current provision:** The respective numbers of residents served or under-provided in relation to each typology has been calculated by applying the respective quantitative standards.
- b) **Future provision:** This has been modelled based upon Office of National Statistics population projections for the study area indicating an anticipated population of 173,600 by mid-2033, an increase of 30,000 people, or 20.9% compared with the current figure.

1.14 **Policy options:** Policy options were identified for meeting the shortfalls in provision.

1.15 **Action plan:** An action plan was produced to identify how, where and by whom any shortfalls will be met.

## II THE PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA

### Introduction

- 2.1 **Introduction:** This section identifies the local context within which sports facilities and open space provision is made in South-East Lincolnshire. It covers the following:
- a) Background.
  - b) Population.
  - c) The local economy.
  - d) Deprivation indices.
  - e) Health indices.
  - f) Implications for sports facilities and open space provision.

### Background

- 2.2 The area covered by South East Lincolnshire comprises the areas respectively administered by Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council. It covers about 1,221 square Kilometres of flat fertile fenland and contains the sub-regional centres of Boston and Spalding together with a number of small towns and villages.

### Population

- 2.3 **Age structure:** South-East Lincolnshire has an estimated population of 143,600. The age structure is tabulated below, with comparator figures for Lincolnshire and England as a whole. The figures show that the study area has a relatively elderly age structure compared with the rest of Lincolnshire and the country as a whole.

<i>Age</i>	<i>SE Lincs</i>	<i>SE Lincs %</i>	<i>Lincolnshire %</i>	<i>England %</i>
0-15	25,300	17.6%	17.3%	18.7%
16-24	13,900	9.7%	10.1%	12.0%
25-44	32,000	22.3%	22.7%	26.0%
45-64	40,300	28.0%	28.0%	25.3%
65+	32,100	22.4%	20.9%	16.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: 2010 mid-year population estimates (ONS, 2012)

- 2.4 **Socio-economic profile:** Mosaic is a dataset defining all households in the UK based upon their lifestyle characteristics. Households are classified into groups according to their socio-economic characteristics and consumer behaviour. The classification provides one means of anticipating people's lifestyles and their related requirements from public services including sports facilities and open space. There is no aggregated data for the study area as a whole, so the percentage of the population in each group in Boston and South Holland is tabulated below:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Boston %</b>	<b>South Holland %</b>	<b>Lincolnshire %</b>
Residents of isolated rural communities	14.9%	13.1%	12.5%
Residents of small and mid-sized towns with strong local roots	19.1%	33.3%	21.1%
Wealthy people living in the most sought after neighbourhoods	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%
Successful professionals living in suburban or semi-rural homes	4.1%	6.2%	8.9%
Middle income families living in moderate suburban semis	3.3%	2.6%	5.2%
Couples with young children in comfortable modern housing	2.4%	4.2%	6.0%
Young, well-educated city dwellers	2.2%	0.6%	2.8%
Couples and young singles in small modern starter homes	4.5%	5.3%	3.9%
Lower income workers in urban terraces in often diverse areas	9.8%	3.8%	6.1%
Owner-occupiers in older style housing in ex-industrial areas	7.6%	6.0%	5.8%
Residents with sufficient incomes in right-to-buy social housing	9.7%	6.6%	7.1%
Active elderly people living in pleasant retirement locations	6.4%	10.2%	9.5%
Elderly people reliant on state support	9.1%	6.9%	6.2%
Young people renting flats in high-density social housing	3.0%	0.3%	1.3%
Families in low-rise social housing with high levels of benefit need	4.0%	0.8%	3.3%

Source: 2011 District Area Profiles (Lincolnshire Research Observatory, 2011)

2.5 **Ethnicity:** Based upon the most recent available census data, the study area has a predominantly white population. The individual classifications are as follows:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sub-group</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
White	British	128,448	97.0%
	Irish	542	0.4%
	Other white	1,543	1.2%
Mixed	White and black Caribbean	214	0.2%
	White and black African	81	0.0%
	White and Asian	153	0.1%
	Other mixed	135	0.1%
Asian or Asian British	Indian	322	0.2%
	Pakistani	82	0.0%
	Bangladeshi	40	0.0%
	Other Asian	54	0.0%
Black or Black British	Black African	76	0.0%
	Black Caribbean	142	0.1%
	Other black	26	0.0%
Other ethnic	Chinese	293	0.2%
	Other	121	0.1%

Source: 2001 Census (ONS, 2003)

- 2.6 ***Migrant workers:*** The ethnic composition of the population in the study area has changed to some degree since the 2001 census, particularly following the expansions of the European Union in 2004 and 2008, after which there was a significant influx of migrant workers from Poland, Latvia and Lithuania in particular. It is difficult to establish with precision how many migrant workers are resident on a seasonal or permanent basis in the study area, but two measures are as follows:
- a) ***National Insurance Registrations:*** '*International Migration in Lincolnshire 2010/11*' (Lincolnshire Research Observatory, 2011) estimates that based upon National Insurance registrations, there were 3,940 migrant workers registered for work or benefits in the study area, comprising 2.8% of the current total population.
  - b) ***GP Registrations:*** The number of people registered with GP in South-East Lincolnshire in 2011 was 158,776 (Lincolnshire Research Observatory, 2011), which is 15,173 people more than the mid-year population estimate for the study area for that year.
- 2.7 ***Population density:*** The study area occupies 1,221 square kilometres and the population density is 117 people per square kilometre, slightly below the Lincolnshire figure of 119 people per square kilometre and less than one-third of the average figure for England (401 people per square kilometre).
- 2.8 ***Population growth:*** The Office of National Statistics has published population projections to mid-2033, which are trend-based projections applying observed levels over the past five years. The projections for the study area show an anticipated population of 173,600 by mid-2033, an increase of 30,000 people, or 20.9% compared with the current population.

### **The local economy**

- 2.9 The South-East Lincolnshire economy is based largely on agriculture, horticulture and food processing, as well as the services connected to these industries such as packaging, storage, transport and distribution. This is typically a low skills, low-wage economy, which is reflected in local average earnings of around 90% of the national figure, (Nomis, 2010). Only 13.4% of the population of South-East Lincolnshire is educated to degree level or equivalent, compared with a national average of 25.9% (ONS, 2010). The unemployment rate in November 2011 was 3.3%, just below the national average of 3.8% (ONS, 2011).

### **Deprivation indices**

- 2.10 Socio-economic deprivation, as measured by the Government's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) varies widely across the study area. In Boston borough, 16.7% of the population lives in a ward ranked in the poorest 20% in the country, whereas the comparable figure for South Holland district is only 1.1% (ONS, 2011). 16.1% of households do not have access to a car (ONS, 2011), which despite the rural nature of much of the study area and the consequent paucity of public transport, is still well above the figure for the county as a whole.

## **Health indices**

- 2.11 Health indices for people living in South-East Lincolnshire suggests a relatively unhealthy population:
- a) Male life expectancy in the study area is 77.3 years, with female life expectancy 81.4 years, in both cases below the respective national averages (Lincolnshire Research Observatory, 2011).
  - b) 35.2% of the local adult population is classified as being obese, which is just above the national average (Lincolnshire Research Observatory, 2011).
  - c) 21.8% of local children in school year six are classified as being obese, compared with 19.5% in Lincolnshire as a whole (Lincolnshire Research Observatory, 2011).
  - d) The proportion of residents who smoke is 27.1%, compared with 22.2% nationally (Lincolnshire Research Observatory, 2011).

## **The implications for sports facilities and open space provision**

- 2.12 The implications for sports facilities and open space provision are as follows:
- a) Whilst the official estimates of the population of the study area are 143,600, a further 15,000 people (mainly from the Eastern European migrant workforce) are registered with GP's as locally resident. The presence of this population is likely to inflate demand for sports facilities and open space provision locally.
  - b) The relatively elderly population structure is likely to reduce relative demand in the study area for provision for formal sport and physical activity.
  - c) The socio-economic structure of the local population is skewed towards lower income groups, particularly in Boston borough and these groups typically have lower rates of participation in recreational activity.
  - d) The ethnicity of 98.6% of the population of the study area is classified as 'White'. Black and minority ethnic groups traditionally have lower rates of involvement in physical activity, so demand levels in a predominantly White population should normally be above the national average.
  - e) The local density of population is only around one-third of the national average, which implies that there is an abundance of open space. However, much of this is cultivated farmland and not publicly accessible, so the presence of open space *per se* does not necessarily imply that there is sufficient space to meet recreational and amenity needs.
  - f) Population growth of 30,000 people (a 20.9% increase) by 2031 will inflate demand for sports facilities and open space (and other local services). Existing green space may come under threat of development to accommodate new housing. However, developer contributions will provide an opportunity to fund provision that will demonstrably meet the needs of the new residents.

- g) The relatively low wage local economy will reduce the amount of disposable income available for discretionary spending on activities such as sport and physical activity and may therefore depress demand levels.
- h) The population that lives within the significant pockets of deprivation in the study area are traditionally associated with low rates of participation in sport and physical activity. It will be important to ensure that opportunities are physically and financially accessible to people on low incomes.
- i) Average life expectancy locally is below the national levels and other health indices such as levels of obesity and smoking point to a relatively unhealthy population. The provision of sports facilities and open spaces therefore provide opportunities for physical activity that will improve healthy lifestyles.

### III. SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN THE STUDY AREA

#### Introduction

- 3.1 This section examines participation in sport and physical activity in South-East Lincolnshire, to better understand the likely patterns of demand for sports facilities and open space in the study area. The data is drawn from a number of sources, principally Sport England surveys and research. Whilst this relates primarily to formal sports activities, the results also include ‘moderate intensity activity’, comprising non-competitive activities such as jogging, walking and recreational cycling, which make frequent use of open spaces. The sources examined are as follows:
- a) The ‘Active People’ surveys.
  - b) Market Segmentation data.
- 3.2 **Comparative data:** To place the local results in context, the data has been assessed against three sets of comparators:
- a) **Geographical neighbours:** The local authorities that physically adjoin South-East Lincolnshire, provides local geographical context and identifies the likelihood of imported or exported demand from neighbouring areas.
  - b) **Demographic neighbours:** The CIPFA ‘Nearest Neighbour’ local authorities are areas with the closest demographic composition to South-East Lincolnshire, in terms of a range of indices including the size and profile of their population and local economic activity. As a result, community demand for sport and physical activity in these areas (and by definition levels of participation) are likely to be the most comparable to the study area).
  - c) **Wider comparators:** National and regional (East Midlands) averages provide a wider geographical perspective against which to track local trends.

#### Active People

- 3.3 **Introduction:** The ‘Active People’ survey was commissioned by Sport England. The survey is the largest study of patterns of adult (people aged over 16) involvement in sport and physical activity ever undertaken and involved telephone interviews with a representative sample of between 500 and 1,000 residents of each local authority district in the country. Five surveys have been undertaken to date, which has enabled trends to be tracked over a seven year period. The following Key Performance Indicators (KPI’s) are measured and the results for each are tabulated below, ranked in relation to their participation rates in the 2010/11 survey, with data from the comparator authorities:
- a) **Overall participation:** This is defined as ‘taking part on at least three days a week in moderate intensity sport and active recreation (at least twelve days in the last four weeks) for at least 30 minutes continuously in any one session’.
  - b) **Volunteering:** This is defined as ‘volunteering to support sport for at least one hour a week’.

- c) **Club membership:** This is defined as ‘being a member of a club particularly so that you can participate in sport or recreational activity in the last four weeks’.
- d) **Receiving tuition:** This is defined as ‘having received tuition from an instructor or coach to improve your performance in any sport or recreational activity in the last twelve months’.
- e) **Organised Competition:** This is defined as ‘having taken part in any organised competition in any sport or recreational activity in the last twelve months’.
- f) **Satisfaction:** This is defined as ‘the percentage of adults who are very or fairly satisfied with sports provision in their local area’.
- g) **Organised sport:** This is defined as ‘the percentage of adults who have done at least one of the following:
- Received tuition in the last twelve months.
  - Taken part in organised competition in the last twelve months.
  - Been a member of a club to play sport’.

3.4 **Overall participation:** Overall rates of regular adult participation in sport and physical activity (at least three sessions of 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week) were recorded as follows, presented by Sport England in three blocks of data covering the five survey periods. The figures show that whilst there has been a small increase in participation rates in Boston over the survey period, overall rates there and in South Holland are currently still the lowest for the geographic neighbours and demographic comparator authorities.

a) **Geographical neighbours:**

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/9</i>	<i>2009/11</i>
North Kesteven	21.6%	24.8%	25.6%
East Lindsey	20.0%	19.6%	23.5%
South Kesteven	22.2%	23.8%	23.0%
Peterborough	20.0%	18.3%	18.2%
Fenland	17.2%	16.1%	17.9%
<b>Boston</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>17.3%</b>
<b>South Holland</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>16.0%</b>
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	-	-	-
<i>East Midlands</i>	<i>19.5%</i>	<i>22.3%</i>	<i>22.9%</i>
<i>England</i>	<i>21.0%</i>	<i>21.3%</i>	<i>21.6%</i>

b) *Demographic comparators:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/9</i>	<i>2009/11</i>
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	19.4%	24.6%	28.0%
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	19.9%	21.2%	24.5%
Amber Valley (Derbys)	21.6%	23.6%	24.3%
High Peak (Derbys)	22.3%	23.1%	23.7%
Forest of Dean (Glos)	22.4%	22.1%	22.8%
West Lindsey (Lincs)	20.6%	23.4%	22.8%
Bassetlaw (Notts)	20.0%	23.5%	22.3%
<i>Median</i>	<i>20.2%</i>	<i>21.8%</i>	<i>21.2%</i>
North-East Derbyshire	22.7%	23.3%	20.3%
Mendip (Somerset)	23.6%	22.2%	19.9%
Breckland (Norfolk)	20.3%	19.9%	19.5%
Fenland (Cambs)	17.2%	16.1%	17.9%
North Warwickshire	22.0%	21.5%	17.8%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	-	-	-
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b><i>14.6%</i></b>	<b><i>22.3%</i></b>	<b><i>17.3%</i></b>
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>16.7%</i></b>	<b><i>19.0%</i></b>	<b><i>16.0%</i></b>

3.5 ***Volunteering:*** Rates of volunteer support for sport were as follows and show that the rates for Boston and South Holland have increased during the survey period, although only the South Holland figures are currently above the regional and national averages and the median for the comparator areas:

a) *Geographical neighbours:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
North Kesteven	5.5%	7.5%	6.4%	5.2%	11.4%
South Kesteven	7.5%	6.5%	8.0%	4.2%	10.9%
East Lindsey	5.7%	5.5%	5.2%	6.8%	9.2%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	4.5%	5.2%	3.3%	5.3%	8.4%
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>6.0%</i></b>	<b><i>4.5%</i></b>	<b><i>4.2%</i></b>	<b><i>4.0%</i></b>	<b><i>8.2%</i></b>
Peterborough	4.2%	5.4%	4.8%	4.0%	5.7%
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b><i>3.9%</i></b>	<b><i>5.4%</i></b>	<b><i>4.0%</i></b>	<b><i>3.7%</i></b>	<b><i>5.6%</i></b>
Fenland	6.3%	5.9%	5.8%	5.3%	5.1%
<i>East Midlands</i>	<i>5.1%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>5.5%</i>	<i>4.8%</i>	<i>7.6%</i>
<i>England</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>4.7%</i>	<i>4.5%</i>	<i>7.3%</i>

b) *Demographic comparators:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
Forest of Dean (Glos)	6.4%	2.3%	3.5%	5.7%	12.0%
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	5.1%	5.4%	6.7%	3.7%	10.3%
Breckland (Norfolk)	5.9%	5.2%	4.7%	5.2%	8.9%
Amber Valley (Derbys)	4.0%	4.5%	5.6%	4.3%	8.7%
High Peak (Derbys)	3.9%	3.8%	4.6%	4.5%	8.4%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	4.5%	5.2%	3.3%	5.3%	8.4%
North Warwickshire	5.4%	6.6%	5.2%	4.0%	8.3%
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>6.0%</i></b>	<b><i>4.5%</i></b>	<b><i>4.2%</i></b>	<b><i>4.0%</i></b>	<b><i>8.2%</i></b>
Bassetlaw (Notts)	5.4%	4.7%	4.5%	6.5%	7.9%

<i>Area</i>	<b>2005/6</b>	<b>2007/8</b>	<b>2008/9</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
<i>Median</i>	4.7%	4.8%	4.2%	4.6%	7.8%
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	5.6%	4.4%	3.2%	3.7%	7.2%
North-East Derbyshire	5.7%	4.5%	5.1%	3.8%	7.0%
West Lindsey (Lincs)	5.6%	4.1%	4.5%	5.6%	6.1%
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
Mendip (Somerset)	6.3%	5.3%	6.7%	3.5%	5.2%
Fenland (Cambs)	6.3%	5.9%	5.8%	5.3%	5.1%

3.6 ***Sports club membership:*** Membership rates were as follows. Along with national and regional trends, the rates for Boston and South Holland have declined during the survey period and in the most recent survey remain well below the regional and national averages and the median for the demographic comparators:

a) ***Geographical neighbours:***

<i>Area</i>	<b>2005/6</b>	<b>2007/8</b>	<b>2008/9</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
North Kesteven	23.5%	30.1%	28.1%	25.2%	26.9%
South Kesteven	24.6%	23.7%	24.0%	23.9%	25.1%
East Lindsey	21.1%	16.3%	24.6%	18.1%	20.0%
Peterborough	22.0%	22.4%	22.8%	16.7%	18.5%
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>20.6%</b>	<b>17.5%</b>
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>20.8%</b>	<b>20.9%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>17.5%</b>
Fenland	21.8%	15.2%	20.0%	20.9%	16.6%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	21.8%	20.0%	2.5%	16.3%	14.4%
<i>East Midlands</i>	24.1%	24.1%	23.0%	23.0%	22.3%
<i>England</i>	25.1%	24.7%	24.1%	23.9%	23.2%

b) ***Demographic comparators:***

<i>Area</i>	<b>2005/6</b>	<b>2007/8</b>	<b>2008/9</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
Forest of Dean (Glos)	22.5%	20.0%	25.2%	20.1%	27.8%
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	23.5%	21.1%	22.6%	20.8%	26.7%
West Lindsey (Lincs)	25.2%	27.7%	19.7%	29.8%	24.0%
Mendip (Somerset)	24.2%	24.6%	21.5%	20.8%	23.4%
High Peak (Derbys)	24.6%	21.6%	22.0%	22.9%	23.3%
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	25.0%	22.8%	26.4%	29.7%	22.3%
<i>Median</i>	<b>23.0%</b>	<b>22.1%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>20.7%</b>
Amber Valley (Derbys)	20.5%	28.1%	22.7%	22.3%	19.9%
North Warwickshire	24.2%	23.5%	22.5%	20.9%	19.9%
Breckland (Norfolk)	22.9%	19.7%	18.0%	18.1%	19.7%
North-East Derbyshire	25.0%	20.4%	22.2%	23.9%	19.4%
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>20.8%</b>	<b>20.9%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>17.5%</b>
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>20.6%</b>	<b>17.5%</b>
Bassetlaw (Notts)	21.3%	23.2%	20.8%	21.6%	17.4%
Fenland (Cambs)	21.8%	15.2%	20.0%	20.9%	16.6%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	21.8%	20.0%	23.5%	16.3%	14.4%

3.7 ***Coaching:*** The proportion of adults receiving coaching was as follows. The rates in the study area have fallen over the survey period and remain significantly below the regional and national averages. The current rates are close to the lowest for the geographical neighbours and the demographic comparators:

a) *Geographical neighbours:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
North Kesteven	18.1%	17.0%	20.5%	22.3%	22.6%
East Lindsey	14.4%	12.2%	18.1%	16.1%	14.7%
South Kesteven	18.6%	19.8%	18.1%	17.6%	14.0%
Peterborough	16.6%	17.4%	20.2%	15.9%	13.4%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	16.6%	13.2%	19.8%	17.1%	12.4%
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>15.4%</i></b>	<b><i>15.5%</i></b>	<b><i>12.4%</i></b>	<b><i>12.7%</i></b>	<b><i>10.0%</i></b>
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b><i>14.7%</i></b>	<b><i>16.2%</i></b>	<b><i>15.0%</i></b>	<b><i>15.9%</i></b>	<b><i>9.9%</i></b>
Fenland	17.6%	13.7%	14.0%	17.3%	9.4%
<i>East Midlands</i>	<i>16.9%</i>	<i>17.6%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>16.5%</i>	<i>15.3%</i>
<i>England</i>	<i>18.0%</i>	<i>18.1%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>16.2%</i>

b) *Demographic comparators:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
Breckland (Norfolk)	14.5%	16.2%	12.6%	15.1%	17.3%
High Peak (Derbys)	20.8%	19.2%	19.5%	16.8%	17.2%
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	17.1%	15.3%	18.5%	17.1%	17.0%
Forest of Dean (Glos)	17.3%	16.7%	15.4%	17.1%	16.9%
Bassetlaw (Notts)	14.5%	16.5%	15.6%	17.0%	16.0%
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	19.9%	16.6%	18.4%	17.9%	15.7%
North Warwickshire	17.8%	16.3%	18.1%	13.4%	14.1%
<i>Median</i>	<i>16.9%</i>	<i>16.4%</i>	<i>16.4%</i>	<i>16.3%</i>	<i>13.7%</i>
West Lindsey (Lincs)	14.6%	19.2%	13.4%	17.4%	13.4%
Mendip (Somerset)	18.3%	18.9%	18.3%	18.1%	13.0%
Amber Valley (Derbys)	18.1%	18.7%	18.5%	17.2%	13.0%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	16.6%	13.2%	19.8%	17.1%	12.4%
North-East Derbyshire	16.7%	14.4%	16.7%	14.3%	10.4%
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>15.4%</i></b>	<b><i>15.5%</i></b>	<b><i>12.4%</i></b>	<b><i>12.7%</i></b>	<b><i>10.0%</i></b>
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b><i>14.7%</i></b>	<b><i>16.2%</i></b>	<b><i>15.0%</i></b>	<b><i>15.9%</i></b>	<b><i>9.9%</i></b>
Fenland (Cambs)	17.6%	13.7%	14.0%	17.3%	9.4%

3.8 ***Organised competition:*** The proportion of adults involved in organised sports competitions in the previous twelve months was as follows. The rates for the study area have fallen over the survey period and it remain below the regional and national averages:

a) *Geographical neighbours:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
North Kesteven	17.4%	18.7%	17.1%	20.5%	15.5%
East Lindsey	18.8%	13.7%	18.5%	12.3%	15.3%
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	16.0%	13.2%	16.0%	10.3%	13.3%
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>14.1%</i></b>	<b><i>13.7%</i></b>	<b><i>13.9%</i></b>	<b><i>12.8%</i></b>	<b><i>12.9%</i></b>
Fenland	14.5%	13.2%	14.3%	14.7%	12.4%
South Kesteven	16.7%	14.4%	19.6%	17.1%	11.8%
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b><i>14.0%</i></b>	<b><i>14.1%</i></b>	<b><i>11.7%</i></b>	<b><i>14.9%</i></b>	<b><i>11.6%</i></b>
Peterborough	14.4%	15.6%	13.6%	11.6%	11.5%
<i>East Midlands</i>	<i>15.3%</i>	<i>15.1%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>15.0%</i>	<i>13.9%</i>
<i>England</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>14.6%</i>	<i>14.4%</i>	<i>14.4%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>

b) *Demographic comparators:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
Forest of Dean (Glos)	16.0%	15.3%	10.5%	18.0%	17.0%
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	15.8%	15.4%	15.7%	13.4%	16.3%
Mendip (Somerset)	16.9%	15.6%	17.2%	13.1%	16.2%
Breckland (Norfolk)	17.2%	15.7%	14.8%	13.7%	15.5%
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	15.1%	10.8%	13.3%	18.2%	15.0%
West Lindsey (Lincs)	15.5%	20.8%	15.0%	17.8%	14.7%
Amber Valley (Derbys)	12.7%	14.2%	13.6%	14.8%	14.0%
<i>Median</i>	<i>15.1%</i>	<i>14.5%</i>	<i>14.4%</i>	<i>14.6%</i>	<i>13.6%</i>
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	16.0%	13.2%	16.0%	10.3%	13.3%
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>14.1%</i></b>	<b><i>13.7%</i></b>	<b><i>13.9%</i></b>	<b><i>12.8%</i></b>	<b><i>12.9%</i></b>
North-East Derbyshire	16.2%	12.6%	15.3%	14.1%	12.8%
North Warwickshire	15.3%	13.3%	14.1%	14.9%	12.5%
Fenland (Cambs)	14.5%	13.2%	14.3%	14.7%	12.4%
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b><i>14.0%</i></b>	<b><i>14.1%</i></b>	<b><i>11.7%</i></b>	<b><i>14.9%</i></b>	<b><i>11.6%</i></b>
Bassetlaw (Notts)	13.6%	13.6%	16.2%	11.7%	10.2%
High Peak (Derbys)	18.0%	15.4%	14.9%	16.8%	10.0%

3.9 ***Satisfaction with local provision:*** Levels of satisfaction with local sports provision show that the rates for the study area have declined over the four survey periods in which the question was included, to well below the regional and national averages. The current rate is the second lowest for the geographical neighbours and the demographic comparators:

a) *Geographical neighbours:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	74.2%	75.7%	75.3%	77.2%
Peterborough	70.4%	64.3%	68.7%	70.0%
North Kesteven	66.1%	65.3%	66.0%	68.8%
South Kesteven	67.1%	61.5%	69.8%	68.2%
Fenland	65.1%	62.2%	67.0%	67.8%
<b><i>Boston</i></b>	<b><i>68.5%</i></b>	<b><i>70.0%</i></b>	<b><i>70.0%</i></b>	<b><i>66.2%</i></b>
<b><i>South Holland</i></b>	<b><i>65.0%</i></b>	<b><i>62.4%</i></b>	<b><i>61.8%</i></b>	<b><i>64.0%</i></b>
East Lindsey	55.0%	49.8%	63.2%	62.3%
<i>East Midlands</i>	<i>67.7%</i>	<i>66.2%</i>	<i>69.1%</i>	<i>69.0%</i>
<i>England</i>	<i>69.5%</i>	<i>66.6%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>69.0%</i>

b) *Demographic comparators:*

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	74.2%	75.7%	75.3%	77.2%
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	70.8%	70.7%	67.3%	75.8%
North-East Derbyshire	75.0%	70.2%	78.8%	73.1%
Forest of Dean (Glos)	74.1%	71.0%	73.3%	72.0%
Amber Valley (Derbys)	73.0%	62.3%	68.4%	71.0%
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	67.6%	73.3%	66.7%	70.7%
High Peak (Derbys)	62.5%	67.5%	67.5%	69.7%
<i>Median</i>	<i>67.6%</i>	<i>67.7%</i>	<i>67.9%</i>	<i>69.4%</i>
Mendip (Somerset)	71.0%	71.2%	71.4%	68.8%
Breckland (Norfolk)	62.7%	60.4%	61.7%	68.4%

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>
Fenland (Cambs)	65.1%	62.2%	67.0%	67.8%
West Lindsey (Lincs)	62.2%	69.3%	59.2%	66.5%
North Warwickshire	66.4%	71.0%	65.3%	66.5%
<b>Boston</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>70.0%</b>	<b>70.0%</b>	<b>66.2%</b>
<b>South Holland</b>	<b>65.0%</b>	<b>62.4%</b>	<b>61.8%</b>	<b>64.0%</b>
Bassetlaw (Notts)	56.3%	58.6%	65.5%	63.1%

3.10 ***Involvement in organised sport:*** The proportion of adults who are either members of a sports club, received coaching and tuition or played organised competitive sport are below. The rate for the Boston part of the study area is the lowest for both its geographical and demographic neighbours and the rate in the South Holland part is below the median for the demographic comparators and the national and regional averages.

a) ***Geographical neighbours:***

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
North Kesteven	36.2%	41.0%	39.4%	40.1%	40.1%
South Kesteven	37.5%	35.6%	38.0%	34.3%	36.5%
East Lindsey	34.1%	37.0%	35.7%	29.7%	32.2%
Peterborough	35.2%	36.4%	36.3%	30.6%	30.8%
<b>South Holland</b>	<b>32.2%</b>	<b>30.2%</b>	<b>31.3%</b>	<b>32.4%</b>	<b>29.1%</b>
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	35.4%	29.6%	37.2%	31.1%	28.9%
Fenland	33.9%	26.1%	28.8%	32.6%	28.2%
<b>Boston</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>31.7%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>26.8%</b>
<i>East Midlands</i>	<i>35.5%</i>	<i>35.9%</i>	<i>35.0%</i>	<i>35.4%</i>	<i>33.7%</i>
<i>England</i>	<i>37.0%</i>	<i>37.0%</i>	<i>36.1%</i>	<i>36.3%</i>	<i>35.5%</i>

b) ***Demographic comparators:***

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>
Breckland (Norfolk)	38.8%	36.5%	35.8%	37.1%	39.2%
Forest of Dean (Glos)	34.9%	33.1%	36.8%	32.2%	38.1%
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	35.9%	33.3%	35.2%	32.6%	36.7%
West Lindsey (Lincs)	35.2%	38.0%	30.6%	41.4%	35.3%
Mendip (Somerset)	36.1%	38.0%	34.2%	32.4%	35.0%
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	37.3%	32.7%	35.3%	39.6%	35.0%
High Peak (Derbys)	38.2%	34.6%	36.3%	35.9%	33.1%
<i>Median</i>	<i>35.2%</i>	<i>33.8%</i>	<i>34.0%</i>	<i>34.3%</i>	<i>32.1%</i>
North Warwickshire	35.8%	36.1%	34.1%	31.9%	31.4%
Amber Valley (Derbys)	32.5%	38.9%	34.3%	37.8%	29.2%
<b>South Holland</b>	<b>32.2%</b>	<b>30.2%</b>	<b>31.3%</b>	<b>32.4%</b>	<b>29.1%</b>
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	35.4%	29.6%	37.2%	31.1%	28.9%
North-East Derbyshire	36.9%	33.8%	35.1%	34.4%	28.2%
Fenland (Cambs)	33.9%	26.1%	28.8%	32.6%	28.2%
Bassetlaw (Notts)	32.1%	33.7%	32.7%	33.1%	27.9%
<b>Boston</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>31.7%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>26.8%</b>

## Market segmentation data

3.11 **Introduction:** Sport England has identified 19 adult sporting market segments, to better understand specific motivations and barriers to doing sport and physical activity. The data provides a useful way of anticipating demand for activities, based upon the extent to which segments are represented in the local population.

3.12 The proportion of the study area population in each market segment is tabulated below, with the East Midlands and national figures for comparison:

<i>Market segment</i>	<i>SE Lincs</i>	<i>East Midlands</i>	<i>England</i>
Competitive male urbanites	4.5%	4.3%	4.9%
Sports team drinkers	3.7%	5.2%	5.4%
Fitness class friends	3.9%	3.9%	4.7%
Supportive singles	3.4%	4.2%	4.3%
Career focused females	4.2%	4.1%	4.5%
Settling down males	8.1%	8.2%	8.8%
Stay at home mums	4.1%	4.2%	4.4%
Middle England mums	4.7%	5.5%	4.9%
Pub league team mates	4.0%	5.7%	5.9%
Stretched single mums	1.9%	3.3%	3.7%
Comfortable mid-life males	9.2%	9.4%	8.6%
Empty nest career ladies	6.6%	6.3%	6.1%
Early retirement couples	10.6%	7.6%	6.8%
Older working women	4.3%	5.2%	4.9%
Local 'old boys'	3.0%	3.8%	3.7%
Later life ladies	1.5%	1.9%	2.1%
Comfortable retired couples	4.3%	3.6%	4.2%
Twilight years gents	6.8%	4.7%	4.0%
Retirement home singles	11.4%	8.6%	8.0%

3.13 **'Dominant segments':** The 'dominant' market segments with more than 7% of the local population are detailed below. The characteristics of these groups and the types of activity that appeal most to them are as follows:

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Activities that appeal</i>
Settling down males	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 26-45</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• 50% have children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 32% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 27% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canoeing</li> <li>• Skiing</li> <li>• Cricket</li> <li>• Golf</li> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• Squash</li> <li>• Football</li> </ul>
Comfortable mid-life males	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 36-65</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• 50% have children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 26% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 39% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sailing</li> <li>• Gym</li> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Jogging</li> <li>• Badminton</li> <li>• Golf</li> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• Cricket</li> </ul>

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Activities that appeal</i>
Early retirement couples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 56-65</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Owner-occupied</li> <li>• Retired/employed full-time</li> <li>• No dependent children</li> <li>• Social class ABC1</li> <li>• 19% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 54% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Sailing</li> <li>• Walking</li> <li>• Golf</li> <li>• Aqua aerobics</li> <li>• Shooting</li> <li>• Bowls</li> <li>• Fishing</li> </ul>
Retirement home singles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 65+</li> <li>• Single</li> <li>• Owner occupied and council</li> <li>• Retired</li> <li>• No dependent children</li> <li>• DE</li> <li>• 5% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 86% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking</li> <li>• Bowls</li> <li>• Dancing</li> <li>• Gentle exercise</li> </ul>

3.14 ***Under-represented segments:*** The market segments that are locally proportionately significantly lower than the national average are ‘sports team drinkers’, ‘pub league team mates’ and ‘stretched single mums’. The respective characteristics of these groups and the types of sport that are likely to appeal most to them are as follows:

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Sports that appeal</i>
Sports team drinkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 18-35</li> <li>• Single</li> <li>• Private/council rented</li> <li>• Employed full-time/student</li> <li>• No children</li> <li>• Social class C2DE</li> <li>• 32% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 30% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Martial arts</li> <li>• Weight training</li> <li>• Boxing</li> <li>• Badminton</li> </ul>
Pub league team mates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 26-45</li> <li>• Married</li> <li>• Private/council rented</li> <li>• Employed full-time</li> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Social class DE</li> <li>• 19% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 51% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Karate</li> <li>• Weight training</li> <li>• Boxing</li> <li>• Fishing</li> <li>• Tenpin bowling</li> <li>• Cricket</li> <li>• Snooker/pool</li> </ul>
Stretched single mums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 26-45</li> <li>• Single</li> <li>• Council rented</li> <li>• Employed part-time/at home</li> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Social class DE</li> <li>• 16% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week</li> <li>• 61% do no exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Aerobics</li> <li>• Utility walking</li> <li>• Skating</li> </ul>

3.15 ***Impact on local demand patterns:*** The impact of the market segmentation data on local patterns of demand for sports facilities and open space is as follows:

- a) Demand for facilities for the pitch sports, golf and bowls is likely to be higher than the national average, as is demand for open space that provides for walking and cycling.
- b) Demand for facilities for the martial arts is likely to be lower than the national average.

### **The implications for sports facilities and open space provision**

3.16 The implications for sports facilities and open space provision of local participation and demand patterns are as follows:

- a) Overall participation rates in the study area are well below the regional and national averages and are the lowest for the geographical neighbours and the demographic comparators. This suggests that demand for sports facilities and open space will be commensurately lower locally.
- b) Rates of volunteer support for sport and physical activity in South-East Lincolnshire are round the median figure. The provision of facilities and activities by the voluntary sector should therefore be relatively well-developed locally.
- c) Despite the above, the proportion of adults who are either members of a sports club, received coaching and tuition or played organised competitive sport has decreased significantly over the survey period and is well below the median for both its geographical and demographic neighbours.
- d) Levels of satisfaction with local sports provision have decreased over the survey period and now stand well below the regional and national averages. This implies that there is some dissatisfaction with the quantity and quality of local provision.
- e) The Market Segmentation data suggests that demand for the pitch sports, golf, bowls and watersports is likely to be higher than the national average, as is demand for open space that provides for walking and cycling. However, demand for the martial arts is likely to be lower than the national average.

## IV. THE LOCAL STRATEGIC CONTEXT

### Introduction

4.1 This section summarises the main findings of all local strategies with the potential to impact on sports facilities and open space provision and identifies their implications.

### Boston Community Plan

4.2 ‘*The Boston Community Plan 2008 - 2018*’ (2008) was produced jointly by Boston Borough Council and Boston Area Partnership, the area's Local Strategic Partnership, to provide overall policy direction for organisations in the area.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<b>Being healthy:</b> One of the seven key ambitions is ‘Being Healthy’. The Plan notes that several key local healthy lifestyle indicators are below the national average and one of the targets is to get more people involved in sport and physical activity.	The Plan illustrates how sports facilities and open space can contribute to delivering a key local priority.

### Boston Corporate Plan

4.3 Boston Borough Council’s aims for the next four years are contained in ‘*The Corporate Plan 2011-2014*’ (2011), which sets out the council’s priorities and how, working with partners, it aims to achieve them.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<b>Strategic objectives:</b> Two of the strategic objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect and enhance the natural and built environment so that the borough is clean and green.</li> <li>• To work with the NHS and other partners to promote healthier lifestyles.</li> </ul>	The Plan recognises the significance of the environment and healthy lifestyles and the contribution that sports facilities and open space can make to this.

### Boston Community Sports Strategy

4.4 Boston's Community Sports Strategy ‘*Boston- Fit for the Future*’ (2008) sets out how sports services will be developed for the area and residents

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<b>Strategic objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase participation in sport and physical activity in the borough.</li> <li>• To sustain the development of skills and competencies within the workforce for effective operation of sport and active recreation.</li> <li>• To investigate transport options to support implementation.</li> <li>• To maximise the use of existing sporting facilities throughout Boston</li> <li>• To communicate and market effectively, to ensure that sport and active recreation meets the needs of local people.</li> <li>• To attract additional funding to support implementation.</li> </ul>	The Strategy provides a useful summary of local policy on sport and physical activity, particularly the emphasis on increasing participation and the impact that this will have on demand for sports facilities and open space.

### **Boston Borough Local Plan**

4.5 Some policies from the ‘*Boston Borough Local Plan*’ (1999) have been saved and as such influence sports facilities and open space provision in the study area.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b><i>Protection of open space and facilities:</i></b> Redevelopment will only be permitted where alternative or better provision will be made, where recreational use of the site will be enhanced, or where it can be proved that the site is surplus to requirements.</p> <p><b><i>New open space and facilities:</i></b> New provision will be allowed within Boston and the villages, provided their scale is appropriate and they are accessible by walking, cycling and public transport.</p>	<p>Planning policies are generally supportive of new and improved sports facilities and open space and also the protection of existing provision.</p>

### **Boston Borough Interim Plan**

4.6 The ‘*Boston Borough Interim Plan (Non-Statutory Development Control Policy)*’ (2006) provides a further frame of reference from which the Local Development Framework policies will be developed and evaluated.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b><i>Framework and strategy:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘The provision, enhancement and protection of sports facilities and open space of value within Boston and surrounding villages has become increasingly important to the quality of life in those areas and to the well being of the community, particularly as populations grow and densities increase. The provision of and improvements to these facilities can also play a vital role in the attractiveness of an area for commerce and industry, which may often lead to new employment opportunities and economic regeneration’.</li> <li>• ‘The future development of the Borough must address the continued and future needs of sport and recreational development and casual recreation, and to reduce existing shortfalls. Through the formulation of policies in the Plan, the Council seeks to protect existing facilities and deliver accessible, high quality and sustainable open space, sport and recreational facilities which will meet local needs for both formal and informal recreation, and are valued by the communities’.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Objectives:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use planning conditions and legal agreements to remedy local shortfalls in quality and quantity of sports facilities and open space.</li> <li>• Provide more informal open space/semi-natural urban green spaces.</li> <li>• The promotion of the Boston Woods Project and a park for Kirton.</li> <li>• The provision of adequate supply of play space to meet the hierarchy of settlement patterns and demographic needs.</li> <li>• The development of ‘green chains’ linked to cycle ways, parks, and public rights of way along the urban fringe.</li> <li>• To promote and encourage the recreational use of existing waterways, to realise them as a valuable, natural open space resource.</li> <li>• To improve dual/multi-use of sites, including school/college playing fields, through the use of agreements, to help increase public access to open space.</li> </ul>	<p>Planning policies are generally supportive of new and improved sports facilities and open space and also the protection of existing provision.</p>

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b><i>Additional planning policies:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Developer contributions:</i></b> Where residential developments are proposed, financial contributions will be invited to improve or maintain existing or new sports facilities and open spaces, including securing community access to provision on education sites.</li> <li>• <b><i>Boston Woods Project:</i></b> Developments associated with the project will be permitted where they create an outdoor recreational resource with access by footpaths and cycleways.</li> <li>• <b><i>New park in Kirton:</i></b> Planning consent will not be granted for developments that prejudice the creation of a public park in Kirton.</li> </ul>	<p>The priority of the Boston Woods and Kirton Park projects is highlighted.</p>

### **South Holland Community Plan**

4.7 The South Holland Community Plan ‘*Our Vision, South Holland to 2030*’ (2009) was produced by the South Holland Rural Action Zone, to provide overall policy direction for organisations in the area.

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b><i>Vision:</i></b> The vision for 2030 includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People will be living healthy lifestyles.</li> <li>• All will have access to high-quality leisure facilities.</li> <li>• Services support a long-term healthy lifestyle and will be readily available to all.</li> </ul>	<p>New and improved sports facilities and open space will be integral to delivering the vision for the district in 2030.</p>

### **South Holland Corporate Plan**

4.8 The ‘*South Holland Corporate Plan 2011 - 2015*’ (2011) sets out the council’s priorities and how, working with partners, it aims to achieve them.

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b><i>Key aims:</i></b> Two of the key aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To expand the provision of open spaces and play areas.</li> <li>• To produce a programme of cultural and sporting activities which are accessible to all.</li> </ul>	<p>Sports facilities and open space feature in the council’s corporate priorities for the next four years.</p>

### **South Holland Cultural Strategy**

4.9 The ‘*South Holland Cultural Strategy 2007 - 2012*’ (2007) sets out the council’s policies in relation to cultural provision in the district.

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b><i>Priorities:</i></b> The following priorities to guide cultural services work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help create meaningful and accessible opportunities for people to actively participate in culture.</li> <li>• Support the development and regeneration of the cultural infrastructure in South Holland.</li> <li>• Understand and meet the changing cultural needs of the population of South Holland to support community cohesion.</li> </ul>	<p>Whilst sport and open spaces are only part of the full spectrum of culture in the district, ensuring that there is sufficient provision will be key to delivering the priorities and targets of the Cultural Strategy.</p>

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b>Target groups:</b> Three groups that should be actively targeted to participate in the cultural activities that are offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people aged under 19 as they are an important group nationally.</li> <li>• Older people aged over 55 as South Holland has a higher than average number of older residents.</li> <li>• Migrant workers, who are a newly arrived community and have not yet fully integrated into South Holland's communities.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Council's role:</b> The analysis of South Holland's cultural provision shows that the council's services will have the best impact if the council works in partnership, acts as a facilitator to assist others, only provides direct services where there has been market failure and helps to drive up the quality of all cultural provision in South Holland.</p>	<p>Whilst sport and open spaces are only part of the full spectrum of culture in the district, ensuring that there is sufficient provision will be key to delivering the priorities and targets of the Cultural Strategy.</p>

### **The South Holland Local Plan**

4.10 The 'South Holland Local Plan' (2006) provides a frame of reference from which the Local Development Framework policies will be developed and evaluated.

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b>Leisure, recreation and tourism policy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The provision and improvement of leisure, recreation and tourism activities are seen as an important part of the development strategy of the district. Firstly, they have economic benefits as employers in their own right. Secondly, by improving the quality and range of sporting, recreation and tourist facilities to meet demand, the area is made a more attractive place in which to live, work and visit, thereby helping to attract inward investment. Thirdly, the marketing of these facilities is probably the most important means by which a positive image of the area can be conveyed. Most of all, perhaps, we recognise that the provision and maintenance of these facilities is important in determining the quality of life of the local community'.</li> <li>• 'The main emphasis of our strategies for leisure, recreation and tourism is to encourage and promote optimum usage of existing facilities, supporting the provision of new facilities especially where they are needed and maximising their accessibility to all sections of the community. The Local Plan is primarily concerned with the land use implications of such strategies, particularly the provision of land for public open space resulting from new residential development and other leisure, recreational and tourism projects proposed by the local authority, public or private bodies or individuals'.</li> <li>• 'We recognise that a growing population requires careful consideration to be given to meeting sporting need. We support the Sport England Facilities Planning Model to ensure adequate sporting provision is maintained and developed. In particular, the Castle Sports Complex and the Sir Halley Stewart playing field, both in Spalding, provide potential locations for future sporting developments to take place'.</li> </ul>	<p>Planning policies are generally supportive of new and improved sports facilities and open space and also the protection of existing provision.</p>

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b><i>Leisure, recreation and tourism policy (continued):</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Proposals for major new leisure or recreational or facilities which attract large numbers of people, or the expansion of any such existing facility, should be appropriate to the scale and function of the centre within which it is or would be located and its catchment area’.</li> <li>• ‘Within the built-up area, open spaces in the form of public gardens, ornamental flower beds, small landscaped areas and cemeteries provide a valuable visual amenity contributing to the quality of the built environment and to civic pride. Areas for recreational use also have this quality as well as providing for the community's needs for informal and formal recreational provision. Government guidance also recognises the importance of playing fields and allotments in satisfying recreational needs and contributing to local amenity. There is a need to ensure that adequate levels of existing open space are retained within settlements. Parks, playing fields and informal open spaces all provide opportunities for sport, recreation and leisure. People should have access to open space close to where they live. Where development proposals are likely to impact upon open space provision we will need to be satisfied that alternative provision will be made that is of equivalent community value’.</li> </ul>	<p>Planning policies are generally supportive of new and improved sports facilities and open space and also the protection of existing provision.</p>

### **The South Holland Open Space SPD**

4.10 The ‘*South Holland Open Space Supplementary Planning Document*’ (2007) contains policy and guidance to supplement the adopted Local Plan policies on safeguarding open space for sport, recreation and leisure:

<b><i>Key Content</i></b>	<b><i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i></b>
<p><b><i>Standards of provision:</i></b> The Council’s standard for open space in new residential developments reflects the advice given by the NPFA that 2.43 hectares (6 acres) of outdoor play space should be made available for each 1,000 population. This figure includes all pitches, courts and greens which are available for public and private use, but excludes school fields which are not available under dual use arrangements, golf courses, verges, woodlands and amenity space not for use as play areas. The NPFA standard can be broken down into its component parts as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth and adult use: 1.6-1.8 hectares per 1000 population.</li> <li>• Equipped children’s play areas: 0.2-0.3 hectares per 1000 population.</li> <li>• Casual/informal play areas: 0.4-0.6 hectares per 1000 population.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Applying the standards:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy HS11 states that ‘Proposals for residential development shall make provision for open space in accordance with the council's adopted standards of not less than 14% of gross site area.</li> <li>• Where developments are unable to provide open space on site, or where the development is close to an existing open space, the council will accept financial contributions from developers for the provision of open space off site or enhancement of existing open space if required to meet the needs arising from the development.</li> <li>• Developers will be required to ensure that long term maintenance of the open space provided by the development is secured by a maintenance agreement or adoption by the District Council’.</li> </ul>	<p>The SPD provides a helpful context within which the sports facilities and open space assessment can review existing standards of provision to assess their continued suitability.</p>

## **The implications for sports facilities and open space provision**

- 4.11 The local strategic context of the two local authorities in South-East Lincolnshire provides the overall framework within which the sports facilities and open space assessment will be developed and will influence the development of standards of provision and the policy options for implementing deficiencies. In particular:
- a) The Boston Community Plan illustrates how sports facilities and open space can contribute to delivering a key local priority for healthy living.
  - b) The strategic objectives of the Boston Corporate Plan recognise the significance of the environment and healthy lifestyles on local communities and the contribution that sports facilities and open space can make to this.
  - c) The Boston Community Sports Strategy provides a useful summary of local policy on sport and physical activity, particularly the emphasis on increasing participation and the impact that this will have on demand for sports facilities and open space.
  - d) The Boston Local Plan and Interim Local Plan contains helpful policy context. In particular planning policies are generally supportive of new and improved sports facilities and open space and also the protection of existing provision. The priority of the Boston Woods and Kirton Park projects is highlighted.
  - e) The South Holland Community Plan emphasises that new and improved sports facilities and open space will be integral to delivering the vision for the district in 2030.
  - f) The South Holland Corporate Plan features sports facilities and open space feature amongst the council's corporate priorities for the next four years.
  - g) Whilst sport and open spaces are only part of the full spectrum of culture in the district, ensuring that there is sufficient provision will be key to delivering the priorities and targets of the South Holland Cultural Strategy.
  - h) The South Holland Local Plan contains some important policy statements on the role and significance of sports facilities and open spaces and contains policies that are generally supportive of new and improved provision and also the protection of existing sites.
  - i) The South Holland Open Space SPD incorporates helpful standards of provision which will provide a start point for reviewing the adequacy of local provision.

## V. THE WIDER STRATEGIC CONTEXT

### Introduction

5.1 This section summarises the main findings of the key national and county strategies and those of neighbouring local authorities which impact upon of sports facilities and open space assessments and identifies their implications.

### National Planning Policy Framework

5.2 In March 2012, the Government published the ‘*National Planning Policy Statement*’ (2012), setting out its economic, environmental and social planning policies for England. Taken together, these policies articulate the Government’s vision of sustainable development, which should be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b><i>Sustainable development:</i></b>            ‘The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Sustainable development means development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’.</p> <p><b><i>Core planning principles:</i></b> Planning policies and decisions should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Be genuinely plan-led, with succinct Local Plans setting out a positive long-term vision for an area. These plans should be kept up to date and should provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made with a high degree of certainty and efficiency’.</li> <li>• ‘In considering the future use of land, take account of its environmental quality or potential quality regardless of its previous or existing use’.</li> <li>• ‘Seek to protect and enhance environmental and heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. Where practical and consistent with other objectives, allocations of land for development should prefer land of lesser environmental value’.</li> <li>• ‘Make effective use of land, promote mixed use developments that create more vibrant places, and encourage multiple benefits from the use of land in urban and rural areas, recognising that some open land can perform many functions (such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, carbon storage, or food production)’.</li> <li>• ‘Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest use of public transport, walking and cycling, and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable’.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Core planning principles:</i></b> Planning policies and decisions should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Take account of and support local strategies to improve health and wellbeing for all’.</li> <li>• ‘Always seek to secure a good standard of amenity for existing and future occupants of land and buildings’.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Health and well-being:</i></b>            ‘Local planning authorities should work with public health leads and health organisations to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population, including expected future changes, and any information about relevant barriers to improving health and well-being’.</p>	<p>The Framework reaffirms the importance of sports facilities and open space in sustainable development.</p>

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b><i>Open space, sports and recreational facilities:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Access to good quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. The planning system has a role in helping to create an environment where activities are made easier and public health can be improved. Planning policies should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. The information gained from this assessment of needs and opportunities should be used to set locally derived standards for the provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities. Planning policies should protect and enhance rights of way and access’.</li> <li>• ‘Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or</li> <li>- The need for and benefits of the development clearly outweigh the loss’.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• ‘Local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them. By designating land as Local Green Space local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances. Identifying land as Local Green Space should therefore be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and planned so that they are capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period’.</li> <li>• ‘The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The green space is in reasonably close proximity to a centre of population or urban area.</li> <li>- The green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance because of its beauty, historic importance, recreational value, tranquillity or richness of its wildlife.</li> <li>- The green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land; and</li> <li>- The designation does not overlap with Green Belt.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Framework confirms the need to assess local needs and opportunities for open space, sport and recreation facilities and to develop local standards of provision.</li> <li>• Local communities will have a role to play in identifying green space of particular importance to them.</li> </ul>

### **Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee**

5.5 The Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee body has the duty of preparing planning policy for the area on behalf of the City of Lincoln Council and North Kesteven and West Lindsey District Councils and also includes Lincolnshire County Council. The Committee commissioned ‘*Green Infrastructure Study for Central Lincolnshire*’ (2011). The Study aims to provide a strategic framework for guiding the planning and delivery of Green Infrastructure across Central Lincolnshire. It provides a broad assessment of the quantity, quality and accessibility of the green Infrastructure in the study area and identifies opportunities for addressing deficiencies.

<b>Key Content</b>	<b>Implications for sports facilities and open space</b>
<p><b>Study objectives:</b> ‘The overall objective is to improve and provide new green infrastructure in Central Lincolnshire by enhancing, developing and providing a multi-functional network of greenspaces, parks, rivers and other corridors within and around settlements that connect them to each other and the wider countryside, improving access, environmental quality and biodiversity’.</p> <p><b>Green infrastructure network:</b> ‘The Study proposes a Green Infrastructure Network for Central Lincs. This encompasses a range of open space types, functions, locations, sizes and levels of accessibility and use, and operates at every spatial scale and in all geographic areas within the area, both rural and urban’.</p> <p><b>Strategic Green Corridors:</b> A network of Strategic Green Corridors, priority areas with key opportunities for strategic green infrastructure enhancement, linkage and creation, provide the backbone of the Green Infrastructure Network. They are broadly defined, landscape-scale corridors comprising a mosaic of land uses, natural features and habitats, built heritage, archaeological resources and settlements, and are intended to become fully multi-functional zones with the ability or potential to deliver a wide range of economic, environmental and social benefits. The Strategic Green Corridors include core areas of designated natural and semi-natural wildlife habitats, and provide opportunities for restoring and re-creating habitats outside of core areas, and provision of wildlife corridors and stepping stones to connect existing and new habitats. These Corridors are significant green infrastructure assets for Central Lincolnshire, and also provide key strategic linkages at the district and sub-regional level with Green Infrastructure networks in adjoining areas.</p>	<p>The Central Lincolnshire Green Infrastructure Network includes linkages with the South-East Lincolnshire study area via the Lower Witham and Fens Link and the Sleaford-Spalding Link.</p>

### **Lincolnshire Sports Partnership**

5.6 The ‘*Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework*’ (2008) was produced by the county sports partnership to identify sports facilities needs in the county. The study followed the PPG17 methodology and developed standards of provision for each type of sports facility in the county and applied these to identify deficiencies:

<b>Key Content</b>	<b>Implications for sports facilities and open space</b>
<p><b>Vision:</b> ‘To enhance the health, fitness and quality of life of existing residents, new communities and visitors to Lincolnshire, by promoting the provision of high quality, environmentally sustainable sports facilities’</p> <p><b>Assessment of current provision:</b> Based upon the development and application of minimum standards of provision for sports facilities, the following deficiencies were identified in the South-East Lincolnshire study area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sports hall:</b> One additional facility needed in the Holbeach area.</li> <li>• <b>Swimming pool:</b> One additional pool needed in the Long Sutton area</li> <li>• <b>Health and fitness:</b> One additional facility needed in South Holland.</li> <li>• <b>Tennis courts:</b> Three extra outdoor courts needed in South Holland.</li> <li>• <b>Junior football pitches:</b> Eight additional pitches needed in Boston and nine in South Holland.</li> <li>• <b>Rugby pitches:</b> One pitch needed in Boston and two in South Holland.</li> </ul>	<p>The county sports facilities framework provides a valuable starting point for assessing needs in South-East Lincolnshire and also highlights surpluses and deficiencies in neighbouring areas that might impact upon demand within the study area.</p>

## Lincolnshire County Council

5.7 The 'Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy' (2012) is a document that aims to inform and influence decisions about health and social care services in Lincolnshire so that they are focused on the needs of the people who use them and tackle the factors that affect everyone's health and wellbeing. Since sports facilities and open spaces have a significant impact on people's quality of life, health and wellbeing, the key aspects of the strategy are summarised below:

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Key themes:</b> These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting healthy lifestyles.</li> <li>• Improving health and wellbeing for older people.</li> <li>• Delivering high quality care for major causes of ill health and disability.</li> <li>• Improving the health and social outcomes and reducing inequalities for children.</li> <li>• Reducing worklessness.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Plan:</b> This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tackling obesity.</li> <li>• Promoting physical activity.</li> <li>• Reducing health inequalities.</li> </ul>	<p>Some funding has been secured from NHS Lincolnshire to invest in sports facilities and enhancing open spaces (e.g. outdoor gym equipment and improved footpath infrastructure for health walks). The strategy will therefore influence future commissioning intentions in this respect.</p>

## Wash Estuary Strategy Group

5.8 The Group produced 'The Wash and Fens Green Infrastructure Plan' (2011) to identify networks of habitats, wildlife corridors, publicly accessible green space and rights of way, to discover where gaps occur. Boston and East Lindsey both fall within the study area of the Plan:

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Vision:</b>            'To create and positively manage an integrated network of high quality and where practicable, multifunctional green infrastructure within urban and rural environments that delivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enriched and robust habitats with greater connectivity.</li> <li>• Enhanced and sustainable public access to the countryside and urban green space for the benefit of all who live, work in and visit the Wash and fens'.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Points:</b> These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements to the rights of way network for non-motorised travel for routine domestic journeys.</li> <li>• Improvements to the infrastructure of the existing public rights of way network to increase usability for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians, for health and recreational reasons.</li> <li>• Improvements to the extent and coverage of the public rights of way network.</li> <li>• Linkages to the public transport system.</li> <li>• Improvements to biodiversity and landscape features.</li> <li>• Link to the proposed England coastal path.</li> </ul>	<p>The Green Infrastructure Plan emphasises the importance of placing individual open space sites in the context of a wider inter-connected network of accessible provision.</p>

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Action Points (continued):</b> These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving and promoting access to green infrastructure for the benefits of local residents' health and well-being.</li> <li>• Improving the local environment whilst improving health.</li> <li>• Encouraging regular activities.</li> </ul>	Health benefits are again stressed.

### **East Lindsey District Council**

5.9 Local policy in relation to sports facilities and open space is set out in 'The East Lindsey Local Plan' (1999) with saved policies (2007) and 'Our Business Plan for Leisure and Culture' (2010):

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Leisure and Culture Business Plan:</b>  <b>Vision for 2015:</b> East Lindsey will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a district that has become a thriving destination for leisure and cultural activity with an improved and varied cultural tourism offer; a year-round calendar of leisure and cultural activity, new cultural sector business opportunities, inward investment and new audiences.</li> <li>• Have a more active, healthier population of residents with 30% benefiting from regular participation and strong support networks.</li> <li>• Have a fantastic legacy of volunteering and participation after Games Time and the London 2012 Olympics spurred on by our ongoing investment in culture and leisure initiatives.</li> <li>• Be a district with a core of high quality, regionally significant, well-used 'state of the art' sports, leisure and cultural facilities that local people are proud of.</li> <li>• Be a district that boasts a strong network of community involvement and local ownership.</li> <li>• Be an area that is cited as an excellent model and exemplar to other public, private and voluntary sector organisations for its innovative delivery of cultural and leisure facilities, events and activities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cultural objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grow a strong cultural economy.</li> <li>• Promote health and well-being.</li> <li>• Maximise participation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Plan policy objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, improve and ensure the provision of community recreation facilities.</li> <li>• Make the fullest use of existing sport and recreation facilities.</li> <li>• Encourage and enable greater public involvement in recreation activities.</li> <li>• Ensure that recreation opportunities are more equally provided.</li> <li>• Cater for the needs of disadvantaged people.</li> <li>• Improve access to the countryside and allow its quiet enjoyment.</li> <li>• Protect recreational open space around settlements.</li> <li>• Encourage/require further recreational open space in new developments.</li> </ul>	<p>The business plan contains an ambitious target to get 30% of residents participating in sport and physical activity, which will place additional demands on sports facilities and open space, some of which may impact on provision in South-East Lincolnshire.</p>

## South Kesteven District Council

5.10 The council has a PPG17 study 'A Study of Open Space, Sport and Recreation in South Kesteven District' (2009) and the 'Core Strategy Development Plan Document' (2010) sets out planning policy for the district:

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>PPG17 Study - Standards of provision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informal/natural greenspace:</b> 2.0ha per 1,000 people within 10 minutes walk (480m).</li> <li>• <b>Outdoor sports space:</b> 1.0ha per 1,000 people within 10 minutes walk.</li> <li>• <b>Other open space:</b> 0.8ha per 1,000 people within 10 minutes walk.</li> <li>• <b>Sports halls:</b> One sports hall per 14,000 people within 15 minutes walk/drive.</li> <li>• <b>Swimming pools:</b> One pool per 23,000 people within 15 minutes walk/drive.</li> <li>• <b>Synthetic turf pitches:</b> One pitch per 20,000 people within 15 minutes walk/drive.</li> <li>• <b>Small community halls:</b> One hall (500m<sup>2</sup>) per 2,000 people or 250m<sup>2</sup> per 1,000 people within 10/15 minutes walk/drive.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment of current provision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informal/natural greenspace:</b> 0.53ha per 1,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Outdoor sports space:</b> 0.6ha per 1,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Other open space:</b> 1.19ha per 1,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Sports halls:</b> One sports hall per 23,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Swimming pools:</b> One pool per 23,000 people within 15 minutes walk/drive.</li> <li>• <b>Synthetic turf pitches:</b> One pitch per 33,000 people within 15 minutes walk/drive.</li> </ul>	<p>The assessment of provision identifies significant shortfalls in the provision of informal/ natural greenspace, outdoor sports space, sports halls and synthetic turf pitches. This is likely to place additional demands on sports facilities and open space, some of which may impact on provision in South-East Lincolnshire.</p>
<p><b>LDF Core Strategy - Strategic objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'To support new and existing community infrastructure and to ensure that relevant community and other infrastructure costs such as facilities for leisure, open space, green infrastructure, health, education, affordable housing, transport, water infrastructure and the arts arising from new development are delivered through on and off site contributions'.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retained Local Plan policies:</b> These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect existing open space of recreation value from development.</li> <li>• Provide new open space in and adjoining existing towns and villages.</li> <li>• Ensure appropriate provision is made for new recreation and amenity space in new residential development.</li> <li>• Control proposals for recreational facilities in the open countryside.</li> <li>• Encourage the maintenance and improvement of the Grantham Canal as a recreational amenity and its ultimate restoration to navigable use.</li> <li>• Promote the development of indoor leisure facilities.</li> </ul>	<p>Planning policies are generally supportive of sports-related developments.</p>

## North Kesteven District Council

5.11 The 'North Kesteven Local Plan' (2007) sets out planning policy for the district, although it will ultimately be replaced by the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy:

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Aim:</b> The Council will 'ensure that the ongoing development of the district includes adequate recreational facilities to meet the community's needs'.</p> <p><b>Objectives:</b> Planning policies will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that existing rights of way, open spaces and other land with recreational value are not lost to new development.</li> <li>• Encourage the provision of additional open space, recreational facilities and access to the countryside.</li> <li>• Promote tourism.</li> </ul> <p><b>Contribution to council objectives:</b> The Plan's policies on active leisure will contribute to all three of the council's main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A good quality of life for all residents:</b> Participation in leisure can help improve health, quality of life and a sense of well-being. The provision of easily accessible facilities can help to ensure that these benefits can be enjoyed by all sections of the community.</li> <li>• <b>A thriving and prosperous economy:</b> The availability of adequate leisure facilities is a positive factor in encouraging inward investment.</li> <li>• <b>A clean, green and safe environment:</b> The availability of local facilities for leisure can reduce both the need to travel and the distances travelled.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planning policies:</b> The planning policies include a general presumption in favour of retaining existing sports facilities, with consent granted for new provision where it is appropriately located in relation to the population it will serve and if it complies with other related policies.</p>	<p>Planning policies are generally supportive of sports-related developments.</p>

## Peterborough City Council

5.12 'A Sports Strategy for Peterborough 2009 - 2014' (2009) sets set out a future direction and vision for sport in Peterborough. The 'Peterborough Core Strategy DPD' (2011) contains local planning policy on sports facilities and open space.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Sports Strategy:</b> <b>Swimming pools:</b> There is a deficit in the provision of water space in the city and the existing swimming pool provision does not meet the needs of the current population. This view is supported both by Sport England in its 'County Sports Facilities Strategy' (2008) and the ASA in its 'Sub-Regional Swimming Pool Facility Review' (2008). The ASA estimates that there is a 858m<sup>2</sup> deficit in the water space that swimming clubs, schools and low income users have access to in the City. This is the equivalent of two 25m x 12.5m six lane pools plus a learner pool 8m x 12.5m. The area of greatest deficiency is in the north-east of the city, adjacent to the boundary with the South-East Lincolnshire study area.</p>	<p>The deficiency in swimming pools is likely to create a significant volume of exported demand to neighbouring areas, including South-East Lincolnshire, which will inflate demand for facilities within the study area.</p>

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Sports Strategy (continued):</b>  <b>Sports halls:</b> Peterborough residents have less access to sports halls than residents in the nearest neighbour authorities. In addition, the level of accessible sports hall provision is below the recommended level. The area of greatest deficiency is in the north-east of the city.</p>	<p>The shortfall in sports halls will export demand to neighbouring areas, including South-East Lincolnshire, inflating demand in the study area.</p>
<p><b>Core Strategy:</b>  <b>Vision for recreation, leisure, culture and open space:</b> ‘An area characterised by its distinctive cultural identity, and its quality and range of recreational and leisure amenities, where visitors and residents alike enjoy easy access to the River Nene and the Greater Peterborough Green Grid, as well as improved sporting, leisure and cultural opportunities throughout the district’.  <b>Open Space and Sport objectives:</b> ‘To enhance the opportunities for sports and recreation through improvements to existing recreational areas, and increased provision of a variety of easily accessible and high quality open spaces and regional sporting facilities to serve new and existing developments’.  <b>Open space policy:</b> The area ‘will be provided with a range of all types of publicly accessible open space and green infrastructure that deliver places for recreation, sport and play as well as delivering benefits for biodiversity. There will be an overall increase in the total area of land for these purposes to meet the needs of a larger population. Accessible open space will be protected, although some rationalisation of under-used and poorly located open spaces will take place’.</p>	<p>Planning policies generally support the retention and enhancement of sports facilities and open space, although there is provision for rationalisation of ‘under-used and poorly located’ open spaces.</p>

### **Fenland District Council**

5.13 The ‘*Fenland District-wide Local Plan*’ (1993) contains local planning policy on sports facilities and open space.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Recreation objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase both formal and informal recreational and leisure provision in a manner compatible with other planning policies.</li> <li>• To achieve a minimum standard of 6 acres of open space (2.43ha) per 1000 people, through direct provision, partnerships or planning gain.</li> <li>• To secure an appropriate standard of open space provision within new housing developments.</li> <li>• To protect existing open space and sports facilities.</li> <li>• To improve countryside recreation opportunities and public access to the countryside.</li> <li>• To maximise the potential of disused mineral working areas for both formal and informal recreation use and nature conservation interests.</li> </ul> <p><b>Policies and proposals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreation and leisure development proposals will normally be favoured.</li> <li>• The council will seek to identify and rectify shortfalls in public open space provision.</li> <li>• Planning permission will not normally be granted to redevelop existing open space or sports facilities without equivalent provision.</li> <li>• The council will carry out or actively support the improvement of formal and informal recreation facilities in the district.</li> </ul>	<p>The objectives and policies contain a positive commitment to the retention and development of sports facilities and open spaces, with reference to the NPFA’s 6-acre standard.</p>

## Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

5.14 'The Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Core Strategy Document' (2011) sets out a future direction and vision for sport in the borough. 'The Sport, Recreation and Open Space Assessment' (2006) is a PPG17 study.

<i>Key Content</i>	<i>Implications for sports facilities and open space</i>
<p><b>Core Strategy: Open Space, Leisure and Recreation policy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The Green Space Strategy, in addition to feedback from the consultation process, show that the community places great importance on parks, open spaces and access to nature as being important issues for their 'quality of life'. Over half of residents believe that maintaining, protecting and enhancing the 'quality of life' in the area is the most important issue for the Borough Council.</li> <li>• It is important that all age groups in the community are provided for adequately and the need for youth gathering and socialising is recognised with appropriate facilities included in a positive way.</li> <li>• Provision will therefore be made for land for recreation and leisure opportunities and community activities, whilst maintaining and preserving existing resource where open space is adequate.</li> <li>• Consideration will be had to maintaining and enhancing the natural and built environment whilst allowing for development in a sustainable way, with the aim to provide good quality spaces and encouraging healthy lifestyles.</li> <li>• Where appropriate, all development will be expected to make provision, or a contribution towards provision, of open space. The LDF will support proposals and activities that protect, retain or enhance existing recreational and amenity assets, or lead to the provision of new assets.</li> <li>• In rural areas, where possible, this means utilising redundant agricultural buildings, and in towns and built-up areas, the use of Brownfield land for new development, whilst preserving existing open space.</li> </ul>	<p>The Core Strategy contains a strong policy commitment to protect and enhance sports facilities and open space.</p>
<p><b>Sport, Recreation and Open Space Assessment - Key Findings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parks, gardens and amenity greenspace:</b> There is 1,797ha of parks (9 sites) gardens (42 sites) and amenity greenspace (144 sites) in the borough, equivalent to 13.2ha per 1,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Sports pitches:</b> There is 235ha of pitch space in the borough, equivalent to 1.7ha per 1,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Children's play:</b> There is 1.6ha of play areas (70 sites) in the borough, equivalent to 0.17ha per 1,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Allotments:</b> There is 135ha of allotments (53 sites) in the borough, equivalent to 1.0ha per 1,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Cemeteries and churchyards:</b> There is 78.4ha of cemeteries and churchyards in the borough (135 sites)</li> <li>• <b>Nature reserves:</b> There is 6,316ha of nature reserves in the borough.</li> <li>• <b>Tennis courts:</b> There are 33 courts in the borough.</li> <li>• <b>Bowling greens:</b> There are 43 greens in the borough, equivalent to one per 3,000 people.</li> <li>• <b>Golf courses:</b> There are 4 nine-hole and 4 eighteen-hole course in the borough.</li> <li>• <b>Village/community halls:</b> There are 101 halls in the borough, equivalent to one per 1,340 people.</li> </ul>	<p>The PPG17 study provides some valuable comparative information on levels of provision in a neighbouring area.</p>

## **The implications for sports facilities and open space provision**

- 5.15 The external strategic context for sports facilities and open space provision will have an important influence in South-East Lincolnshire. Assessments of deficiency by adjoining local authorities suggest that account will need to be taken of imported and exported demand between the respective areas. In particular:
- a) The *'National Planning Policy Framework'* affirms the importance of sports facilities and open space in sustainable development. It also:
    - Confirms the need to assess local needs and opportunities for open space, sport and recreation facilities and to develop local standards of provision.
    - Identifies that local communities will have a role to play in identifying green space of particular importance to them.
  - b) The Central Lincolnshire Green Infrastructure Network includes linkages with the South-East Lincolnshire study area via the Lower Witham and Fens Link and the Sleaford-Spalding Link, emphasising the need to take account of direct physical interaction with neighbouring areas. The Wash and Fens Green Infrastructure Study highlights the need to consider the inter-connectedness of individual open spaces.
  - c) The county sports facilities framework provides a valuable starting point for assessing needs in South-East Lincolnshire and also highlights surpluses and deficiencies in neighbouring areas that might impact upon demand within the study area.
  - d) Policy documents and assessment of sports facilities and open space provision from neighbouring local authorities will impact upon the planning of open space, sport and recreation within South-East Lincolnshire. Particular issues identified include:
    - Assessed shortfalls in the provision of informal/natural greenspace, outdoor sports space, sports halls and synthetic turf pitches in South Kesteven.
    - A deficiency in swimming pool and sports hall provision in north-east Peterborough, which will export demand to the study area.

## **VI. ASSESSMENTS OF NEED**

### **Introduction**

6.1 This section examines the data and evidence gathered on local perceptions of need for sports facilities and open space provision. The sources assessed include:

a) ***Previous surveys:*** The results from earlier surveys in Boston and South Holland that convey opinions on local sports facilities and open space provision, including:

- A 2008 Boston borough residents' priorities consultation survey.
- A 2006 survey of young people in Boston Borough.
- A 2010 South Holland residents' survey of culture and leisure.

b) ***Current surveys:*** Surveys that were carried out across the whole South-East Lincolnshire study area, specifically in connection with the current sports facilities and open space assessment exercise, including:

- A 2012 survey of parish councils.
- A 2012 survey of leisure centre users.
- A 2012 survey of sports clubs.

### **Boston Residents' Priorities Survey**

6.2 ***Introduction:*** The survey was conducted in 2008 and involved several elements

- a) A postal/internet/interview survey with 288 general community respondents.
- b) A Youth Consultation Focus Group involving 14 participants.
- c) A Resident's Panel Focus Group involving 12 participants.
- d) A Parish Councillor's Workshop involving 16 participants.

6.3 The key findings in relation to sports facilities and open space were as follows:

6.4 ***Overall priorities:*** 63% of respondents 'strongly agreed' that local strategic priorities should include 'being healthy' and 62% 'strongly agreed' that they should involve 'creating a greener and more sustainable future'. These were respectively the third and fourth highest priorities.

6.5 ***Proposed actions:*** The following actions relating to sports facilities and open space were identified:

- a) More accessible and affordable gyms should be provided.
- b) Facilities should be improved at the Geoff Moulder Leisure Centre.

- c) The Princess Royal Sports Arena is inaccessible for anyone without a car.
- d) More green spaces and leisure areas are needed.
- e) The Boston Woods project should be developed and linked into a health improvement programme.

### **Boston Young People's Survey**

- 6.6 **Introduction:** The 'Listen Up' survey was conducted by Boston Borough Council in 2006 with young people in the borough aged between four and 24. It involved interviews in schools and a questionnaire to youth clubs and Sure Start.
- 6.7 **Positive things about the borough:** Sport and open space featured strongly in the things that young people like about the borough, in particular parks (but there should be more to do there), the countryside and doing sports.
- 6.8 **Negative things about the borough:** These included the high volumes of traffic, poor public transport and lack of things for under 18's to do.
- 6.9 **Use of sports facilities:** 46% of respondents have used the Princess Royal Sports Arena and 43% the Geoff Moulder Leisure Centre.
- 6.10 **Aspirations:** Sport and open space featured strongly in the developments that young people would like to see in the borough. These included:
- a) Better play equipment in parks for older children.
  - b) Football goals in every park.
  - c) A better skate park.
  - d) Better tennis courts.
- 6.11 **Transport:** Transport issues mentioned included a lack of public transport, the need for more designated cycle paths and the problems of traffic congestion.

### **South Holland Culture and Leisure Survey**

- 6.12 **Introduction:** The survey was undertaken in 2010, with 1,309 questionnaires completed by local residents. The aims of the survey were:
- a) Engaging with residents and assess leisure and cultural activities in the district.
  - b) Understanding user and non-user satisfaction with current provision.
  - c) Highlighting areas of good practice and opportunities for improved service.
  - d) Engaging with residents so that they can help shape local provision.

6.13 **Use of culture and leisure provision:** Usage levels were as follows:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Visited in the last month</i>	<i>Visited in the last year</i>	<i>Never / have not visited</i>
Parks and open spaces	26.6%	52.0%	21.4%
Castle Sports Complex	22.8%	38.6%	38.6%
Ayscoughfee Gardens	12.0%	55.0%	33.0%
Peele Leisure Centre	7.1%	10.9%	82.0%

6.14 **Importance of culture and leisure provision:** This was rated as follows:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Unimportant</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
Parks and open spaces	88.6%	5.1%	6.3%
Ayscoughfee Gardens	79.5%	9.2%	11.3%
Castle Sports Complex	75.2%	14.4%	10.4%
Peele Leisure Centre	47.3%	24.8%	27.9%

6.15 **Satisfaction with culture and leisure provision:** This was rated as follows:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
Parks and open spaces	56.6%	16.1%	27.3%
Ayscoughfee Gardens	59.2%	7.2%	33.6%
Castle Sports Complex	57.3%	10.70%	31.7%
Peele Leisure Centre	36.0%	10.3%	53.7%

6.16 **Usage of parks and open spaces:** Respondents were asked a range of questions in relation to their use of parks and open spaces in South Holland:

a) **Overall usage:** 78.74% of respondents have used a park or open space in South Holland in the past year. The most popular site was Ayscoughfee Gardens, which was visited by 69.23% of respondents.

b) **Frequency of use:** This was recorded as follows:

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>% Respondents</i>
Almost every day	12.9%
Once or twice a week	28.1%
Once a month	34.9%
Once every six months	16.5%
Once a year	7.6%

c) **Mode of transport:** The method of transport used to reach parks and open spaces was recorded as follows:

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>% Respondents</i>
Car	42.0%
Walk	39.1%
Bicycle	10.0%
Bus	7.4%
Other	1.5%

- d) **Overall quality:** The overall quality of the parks and open spaces that are most frequently used by respondents was rated as follows:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Very Poor</i>
Ease of getting to	35.4%	33.2%	12.9%	1.9%	2.1%
Cleanliness	17.0%	33.2%	20.5%	8.6%	5.3%
Ease of use	24.1%	36.7%	16.4%	2.7%	2.5%
Level of information	11.2%	25.1%	24.1%	13.0%	7.6%
Wildlife value	14.2%	20.1%	25.2%	13.1%	10.1%

- e) **Facilities in parks and open spaces:** The quality of the facilities in parks and open spaces that are most frequently used by respondents was rated as follows:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Not provided</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Very Poor</i>
Toilets	27.2%	6.4%	16.0%	13.8%	8.6%	11.7%
Sports pitches	13.4%	15.5%	25.3%	16.0%	4.5%	3.1%
Pavilion	26.3%	5.4%	17.0%	13.7%	5.6%	5.5%
Catering	29.0%	8.1%	19.3%	9.5%	5.3%	6.1%
Car park	16.3%	14.4%	24.0%	16.3%	5.6%	4.6%
Play area	8.0%	20.9%	25.5%	16.6%	4.7%	3.0%
Disabled facilities	20.9%	8.0%	18.9%	16.8%	6.5%	5.3%
Seats/benches	6.6%	18.7%	25.8%	18.9%	7.9%	4.1%
Bins	5.1%	17.6%	26.9%	19.6%	7.5%	5.0%
Grass cutting	5.1%	24.4%	29.4%	15.7%	4.5%	3.4%
Flowers and shrubs	8.9%	21.7%	22.7%	15.0%	7.9%	5.7%

### **Sports clubs survey**

6.17 **Introduction:** An e-mail questionnaire survey was conducted amongst a sample of 67 sports clubs in South-East Lincolnshire. 13 completed returns were received, a 19.4% response rate. The material covered by the survey was as follows:

- Club profiles in terms of membership, trends and development aspirations.
- Opinions on the facilities used, including quality, convenience and availability.

6.18 **Club profile:** The profile of local clubs is as follows:

- Overall membership size:** This is as follows:

<i>Number of members</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1 - 50	2	15.4%
51 - 100	1	7.7%
More than 100	10	76.9%

- Membership composition:** The percentage members of all responding sports clubs in different membership categories are listed below:

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Under 16's	28.8%	18.7%
Aged 16 and above	36.9%	15.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65.7%</b>	<b>34.3%</b>

- c) **Membership trends:** 5 (38.5%) clubs reported increased membership over the past five years, 7 (53.8%) have remained static and 1 (7.7%) have experienced a fall in members.
- d) **Development plan:** 9 (69.2%) clubs currently have a development plan and 4 (30.8%) do not.
- e) **Problem issues:** Clubs reported the following issues as currently problematic for them:

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Lack of external funding (grants etc.)	9	69.2%
Lack of appropriate local facilities	6	46.2%
Shortage of volunteer help	6	46.2%
Membership recruitment/retention	5	38.5%
Lack of internal funding (subs etc.)	3	23.1%
Access difficulties for members (e.g. lack of public transport)	2	15.4%
Lack of information about local facilities/services	1	7.7%
Limited links/co-operation with other local clubs	1	7.7%

- f) **Future plans:** Clubs reported the following current plans:

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Increase the number of members	10	76.9%
Expand the range of facilities provided	7	53.8%
Refurbish existing facilities	5	38.5%
Relocation to different premises	2	15.4%
None	2	15.4%

6.19 **Facility use:** The use of local facilities by clubs is summarised below:

- a) **Convenience of location:** 11 clubs (84.6%) say the facilities they use are at their preferred location and 2 (15.4%) that they are not.
- b) **Availability of facilities:** 8 (61.5%) clubs say that the facilities they use are always available when needed, 5 (38.5%) that they are mostly available when needed and none that they are sometimes available when needed.
- c) **Problems of non-availability:** The problems caused by non-availability to the clubs with limited access are as follows:

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Unable to train as frequently as needed	80.0%
Have to play home fixtures elsewhere	80.0%
Unable to increase club membership	40.0%

d) **Quality of facilities:** Views on the quality of the local facilities are below:

<b>Element</b>	<b>Good quality (%)</b>	<b>Acceptable quality (%)</b>	<b>Poor quality (%)</b>
Dimensions of playing area	81.8%	18.2%	0.0%
Playing surface	87.5%	12.5%	0.0%
Bounce of ball on pitch	85.7%	14.3%	0.0%
Lighting	75.0%	12.5%	12.5%
Changing facilities	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Showers	66.7%	11.1%	22.2%
Parking	61.5%	30.8%	7.7%
Disabled access	87.5%	12.5%	0.0%
Value for money	63.6%	27.3%	9.1%
Overall quality of facilities	75.0%	16.7%	8.3%
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>73.4%</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>

e) **Quantity of facilities:** Views on the quantity of local facilities are below:

<b>Element</b>	<b>Too many</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Too few</b>
Sports halls	0.0%	57.1%	42.9%
Swimming pools	0.0%	71.4%	28.6%
Athletics tracks	0.0%	40.0%	60.0%
Health and fitness gyms	62.5%	37.5%	0.0%
Synthetic turf pitches	0.0%	16.7%	83.3%
Indoor tennis courts	0.0%	40.0%	60.0%
Outdoor tennis courts	0.0%	60.0%	40.0%
Indoor bowls greens	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Outdoor bowls greens	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Squash courts	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%
Golf courses	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Grass pitches	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Village and community halls	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%

### **Parish council's survey**

6.20 **Introduction:** An e-mail questionnaire survey was conducted amongst all 38 parish councils in South-East Lincolnshire. 14 completed returns were received, a 36.8% response rate. The material covered by the survey included views on:

- a) The quality and quantity of current sports facilities and open space provision.
- b) Any other issues relating to provision now or in the future.

6.21 **The amount of current provision:** Views on the quantity of provision are below:

- a) **Open space:**

<b>Type of provision</b>	<b>Too much</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Too little</b>
Parks and public gardens	0.0%	85.7%	14.3%
Natural green spaces (e.g. Woodland)	0.0%	85.7%	14.3%
Amenity green spaces (e.g. grassed areas)	0.0%	85.7%	14.3%
Play spaces for children and young people	0.0%	71.4%	28.6%
Allotments	0.0%	71.4%	28.6%
Cemeteries/churchyards	0.0%	85.7%	14.3%

b) *Sports facilities:*

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Too much</i>	<i>About right</i>	<i>Too little</i>
Senior football pitch	0.0%	85.7%	14.3%
Junior football pitch	0.0%	72.7%	27.3%
Mini-Soccer pitch	0.0%	72.7%	27.3%
Cricket pitch	0.0%	45.5%	54.5%
Rugby pitch	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Hockey pitch	0.0%	54.5%	44.5%
Tennis court	0.0%	30.0%	70.0%
Bowling green	0.0%	60.0%	40.0%
Village hall	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%

6.22 *The quality of current provision:* The parish councils gave their views on the quality of provision in their areas as follows:

a) *Open space:*

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Good quality</i>	<i>Average quality</i>	<i>Poor quality</i>
Parks and public gardens	40.0%	60.0%	0.0%
Natural green spaces (e.g. Woodland)	36.4%	45.5%	18.1%
Amenity green spaces (e.g. grassed areas)	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%
Play spaces for children and young people	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
Allotments	78.6%	14.3%	7.1%
Cemeteries/churchyards	81.8%	18.2%	0.0%

b) *Sports facilities:*

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Good quality</i>	<i>Average quality</i>	<i>Poor quality</i>
Senior football pitch	57.1%	21.4%	21.4%
Junior football pitch	45.5%	36.4%	18.1%
Mini-Soccer pitch	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%
Cricket pitch	69.2%	0.0%	30.8%
Rugby pitch	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Hockey pitch	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Tennis court	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Bowling green	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Village hall	92.3%	7.7%	0.0%

**Leisure centre users' survey**

6.23 *Introduction:* A self-completion questionnaire was administered to a random sample of users of the Geoff Moulder Leisure Complex (GMLC), the Princess Royal Sports Arena (PRSA) and the Castle Sports Complex. The surveys covered the following material:

- a) Usage patterns.
- b) Perceptions of local facility provision.

6.24 *Frequency of use:* This was recorded as follows:

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>GMLC</i>		<i>PRSA</i>		<i>Castle</i>		<i>TOTAL</i>	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Every day	3	37.5	9	16.7	10	10.3	22	13.8
Less than daily but more than weekly	4	50.0	30	55.6	56	57.7	90	56.6
Weekly	1	12.5	12	22.2	21	21.6	34	21.4
Fortnightly	0	0.0	1	1.9	1	1.0	2	1.3
Monthly	0	0.0	1	1.9	4	4.1	5	3.1
Less than monthly	0	0.0	1	1.9	5	5.2	6	3.8

6.25 *Travel time:* This was recorded as follows:

<i>Time</i>	<i>GMLC</i>		<i>PRSA</i>		<i>Castle</i>		<i>TOTAL</i>	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 5 minutes	1	12.5	11	20.4	11	11.3	23	14.5
5 - 10 minutes	2	25.0	21	38.9	34	35.1	57	35.8
11 - 15 minutes	3	37.5	13	24.1	25	25.8	41	25.8
16 - 20 minutes	2	25.0	4	7.4	14	14.4	20	12.6
More than 20 minutes	0	0.0	5	9.3	13	13.4	18	11.3

6.26 *Travel mode:* This was recorded as follows:

<i>Mode</i>	<i>GMLC</i>		<i>PRSA</i>		<i>Castle</i>		<i>TOTAL</i>	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Car	8	100.0	46	85.2	80	82.5	134	84.3
Public bus	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	5.2	5	3.1
Train	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Bicycle	0	0.0	7	13.0	8	8.2	15	9.4
On foot	0	0.0	1	1.9	4	4.1	5	3.1

6.27 *Perceptions of local facility provision:* These were recorded as follows:

<i>Element</i>	<i>Too many</i>	<i>About right</i>	<i>Too few</i>
Sports halls	0.9%	64.0%	35.1%
Swimming pools	0.0%	62.5%	37.5%
Athletics tracks	1.2%	61.5%	37.3%
Health and fitness gyms	8.5%	84.7%	6.8%
Synthetic turf pitches	1.5%	50.0%	48.5%
Tennis courts	1.2%	50.0%	48.8%
Bowls greens	1.3%	77.3%	21.3%
Squash courts	0.0%	54.1%	45.9%
Golf courses	2.4%	62.7%	34.9%
Grass pitches	1.6%	61.3%	37.1%
Village and community halls	1.2%	74.4%	24.4%

### **The implications for sports facilities and open space provision**

6.28 The analysis of local need for sports facilities and open space in South-East Lincolnshire has highlighted a number of key issues that will be strongly reflected in the study assessment.

- a) There is strong local endorsement for the importance of sports facilities and open space in community surveys.
- b) Local rates of use of open space are very high with around 80% of South Holland residents using parks and green spaces in the past year.
- c) The local sports clubs sector appears relatively vibrant, with more than one-third reporting membership increases and more than 75% having aspirations to expand further.
- d) 85% of clubs have access to facilities at their location of choice and almost two-thirds of them say they are always available when needed, which suggests that local facility supply is reasonably good. Perceptions of facility quality are generally positive, with almost 75% of the aspects rated, classified as 'good'.
- e) Parish councils are generally positive about the quantity of local provision, although the quality of some pitches, tennis courts and children's play is less highly rated.
- f) Leisure centre users participate very regularly, with 91.8% attending at least weekly. 76.1% live within 15 minutes travel time of the facilities and 84.3% arrive by car.
- g) A majority of leisure centre users believe that the local levels of provision of most types of sports facility are 'about right', although almost 50% of them feel that there are too few synthetic turf pitches, tennis courts and squash courts.

## **VII. ASSESSMENT OF SPORTS FACILITIES**

### **Introduction**

7.1 This section contains an analysis of sports facility provision in South-East Lincolnshire. The facility types examined are as follows:

- a) Sports halls.
- b) Swimming pools.
- c) Synthetic turf pitches.
- d) Synthetic athletics tracks.
- e) Indoor athletics facilities.
- f) Indoor bowls facilities.
- g) Outdoor bowls greens.
- h) Indoor tennis courts.
- i) Outdoor tennis courts.
- j) Squash courts.
- k) Golf courses.
- l) Health and fitness facilities.
- m) Village and community halls.

7.2 The analysis follows the methodology outlined in sections 1.10 - 1.12 above, although additional assessments specific to sports facilities include:

- a) ***Benchmarking with demographic neighbours:*** Where the information exists, in addition to comparisons with geographically neighbouring authorities (to provide local geographical context and identifies the likelihood of imported or exported demand), the per capita levels of provision of each facility type were benchmarked with a range of demographically similar areas. The CIPFA 'Nearest Neighbour' local authorities are areas with the closest demographic composition to Boston and South Holland, in terms of a range of indices including the size and profile of their population and local economic activity. As a result, community demand for sports facilities in these areas is likely to be the most comparable to South-East Lincolnshire.
- b) ***Sub-area analysis:*** Sub-area analysis is based upon the levels of provision in Boston Borough and South Holland district. This scale of sub-area was selected, because it most closely accords with the catchment sizes of specialist sports facilities and the populations needed to sustain them. For village and community halls, sub-area analysis was conducted at ward/parish level, to reflect the more limited catchment of such facilities.

- c) **Sport England's Facilities Planning Model:** Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) was applied to assess the current and future balance between the supply of, and demand for, sports halls, swimming pools and synthetic turf pitches in the study area. The FPM comprises a spatial assessment of provision based on the nature of sports participation (demand) within an area and the available supply, taking into account issues such as capacity and accessibility.

### **Sports halls**

7.3 **Definition:** Sports halls are defined for the purposes of the study as indoor halls with minimum dimensions of 33m x 17m x 7.6m (equivalent in size to four badminton courts, or one basketball or tennis court), with line markings for multi-sports.

7.4 **Quantitative analysis:** Halls in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 7 sports halls with community access in the study area, equivalent to one facility per 20,514 people:

<i>Sports hall</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
Giles Academy	Boston	32m x 20m
Haven High Technology College	Boston	33m x 17m
Middlecott School	Boston	33m x 18m
Peter Paine Sports and Leisure Centre	Boston	36m x 18m
Castle Sports Complex	South Holland	40m x 20m
Peele Leisure Centre	South Holland	33m x 17m
Spalding High School	South Holland	34m x 17m



*Haven High Technology College Sports Hall*

- b) **Additional provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** In addition to the sports halls listed above, the following facilities provide some supplementary non-specialist provision for indoor sport in the study area:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Reasons for exclusion</i>
Princess Royal Sports Arena	Boston	65m x 30m	Indoor athletics training area, limited ceiling height, specialist floor surface
Boston & District Athletics Club	Boston	40m x 40m	Indoor athletics training area, no multi-sports markings
Peter Paine Sports and Leisure Centre	Boston	18m x 18m	Ancillary hall, too small for some sports hall activities
Boston Grammar School	Boston	18m x 10m	Hall too small
St. Guthlac School	South Holland	27m x 17m	Hall too small



*Indoor athletics training area at Princess Royal Sports Arena, showing markings for other sports*

- c) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. halls</i>	<i>Halls/Person</i>
Boston	59,000	4	1: 14,750
South Holland	84,600	3	1: 28,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1: 20,514</b>

- d) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** Sports hall provision in neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below. South-East Lincolnshire has a facility per capita rate of provision around the median figure.

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. halls</i>	<i>Halls/Person</i>
South Kesteven	132,300	11	1: 12,027
East Lindsey	141,600	8	1: 17,700
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1: 20,514</b>
Peterborough	173,400	8	1: 21,675
North Kesteven	106,400	4	1: 26,600
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	4	1: 35,900
Fenland	91,900	2	1: 45,950

- e) **Provision in comparator areas:** The number of sports halls per capita in CIPFA 'Nearest Neighbour' local authorities is tabulated below. South-East Lincolnshire is just above the median per capita rate of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. halls</i>	<i>Halls/Person</i>
Mendip (Somerset)	109,000	8	1: 13,625
Forest of Dean (Glos)	82,900	5	1: 16,580
West Lindsey (Lincs)	89,400	5	1: 17,880
Bassetlaw (Notts)	111,800	6	1: 18,633
North-East Derbyshire	98,300	5	1: 19,660
North Warwickshire	61,900	3	1: 20,633
<b><i>South-East Lincs</i></b>	<b><i>143,600</i></b>	<b><i>7</i></b>	<b><i>1: 20,514</i></b>
St. Edmundsbury (Suffolk)	104,500	5	1: 20,900
High Peak (Derbys)	92,600	4	1: 23,150
Amber Valley (Derbys)	121,600	5	1: 24,320
<i>Median</i>	-	<i>4.7</i>	<i>1: 24,449</i>
Newark and Sherwood (Notts)	113,600	4	1: 28,400
Breckland (Norfolk)	130,900	4	1: 32,725
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	143,600	4	1: 35,900
Fenland (Cambs)	91,900	2	1: 45,950

7.5 ***Qualitative analysis:*** The qualitative audit produced the following results. The overall mean score equates to a value between ‘good’ and ‘above average’:

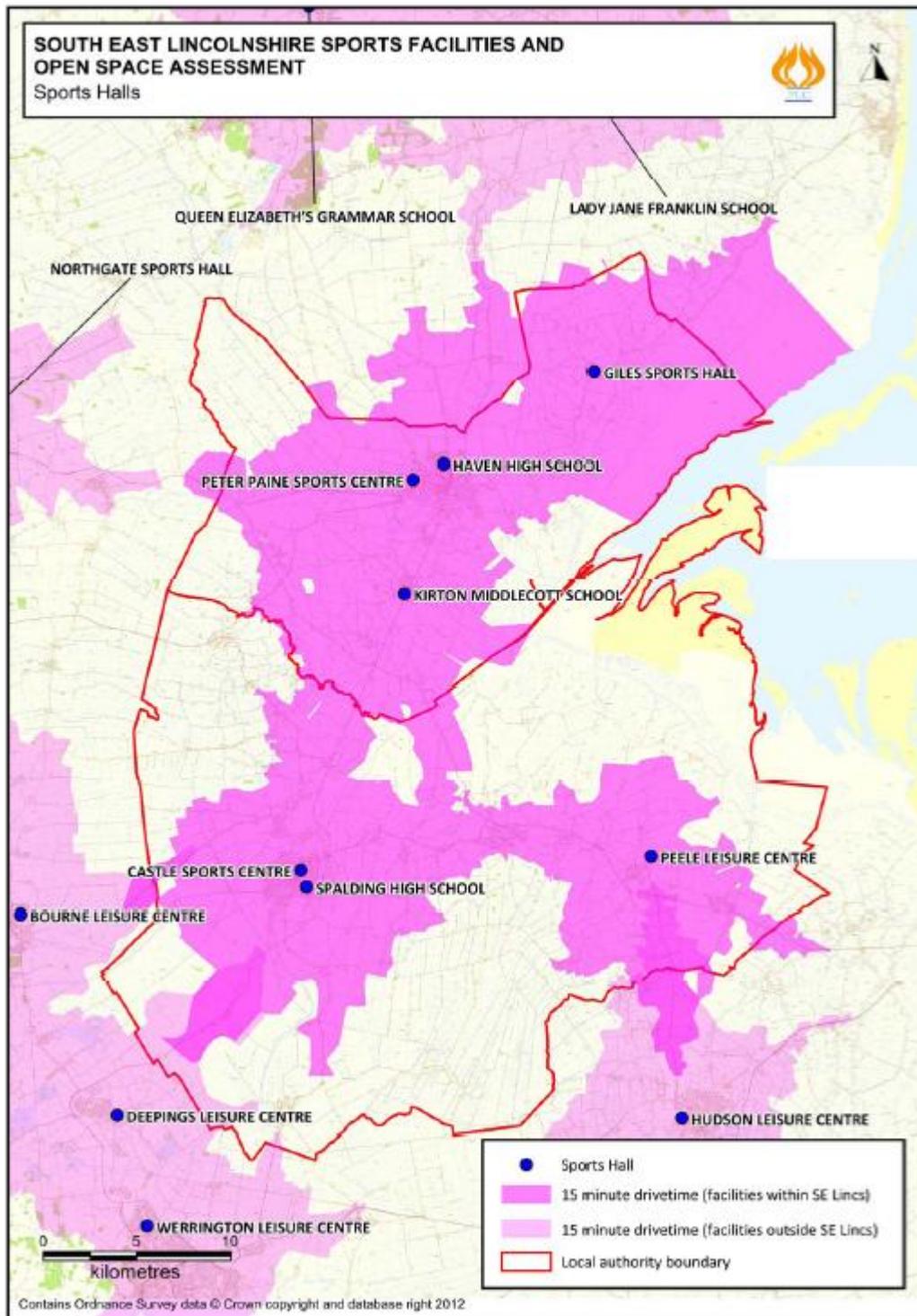
<i>Sports hall</i>	<i>Playing area</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled access</i>	<i>Maintenance/Cleanliness</i>	<i>Parking/access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Giles Academy	5	5	5	5	5	<b><i>5.0</i></b>
Haven High Technology Coll	5	4	4	5	4	<b><i>4.4</i></b>
Middlecott School	5	5	5	5	5	<b><i>5.0</i></b>
Peter Paine Sports Centre	4	4	4	3	4	<b><i>3.8</i></b>
Castle Sports Complex	4	4	5	4	4	<b><i>4.2</i></b>
Peele Leisure Centre	5	5	5	5	5	<b><i>5.0</i></b>
Spalding High School	4	3	3	5	3	<b><i>4.5</i></b>
<b><i>Mean</i></b>	<b><i>4.47</i></b>	<b><i>4.29</i></b>	<b><i>4.43</i></b>	<b><i>4.57</i></b>	<b><i>4.29</i></b>	<b><i>4.6</i></b>

7.6 ***Effective catchment:*** The leisure centre users survey produced the following indications of accessibility to sports halls in South-East Lincolnshire:

- a) 84.7% of sports hall users travel by car.
- b) 82.3% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less.

7.7 ***Pattern of provision:*** A map showing sports halls in South-East Lincolnshire, with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. It shows that parts of the population in the east, west and south of the study area is further than 15 minutes drive of the nearest hall, however:

- a) The areas concerned are sparsely populated and therefore the number of people affected is limited.
- b) A small part of the south of the area is served in part by sports halls in Market Deeping, Peterborough, Bourne and Wisbech.

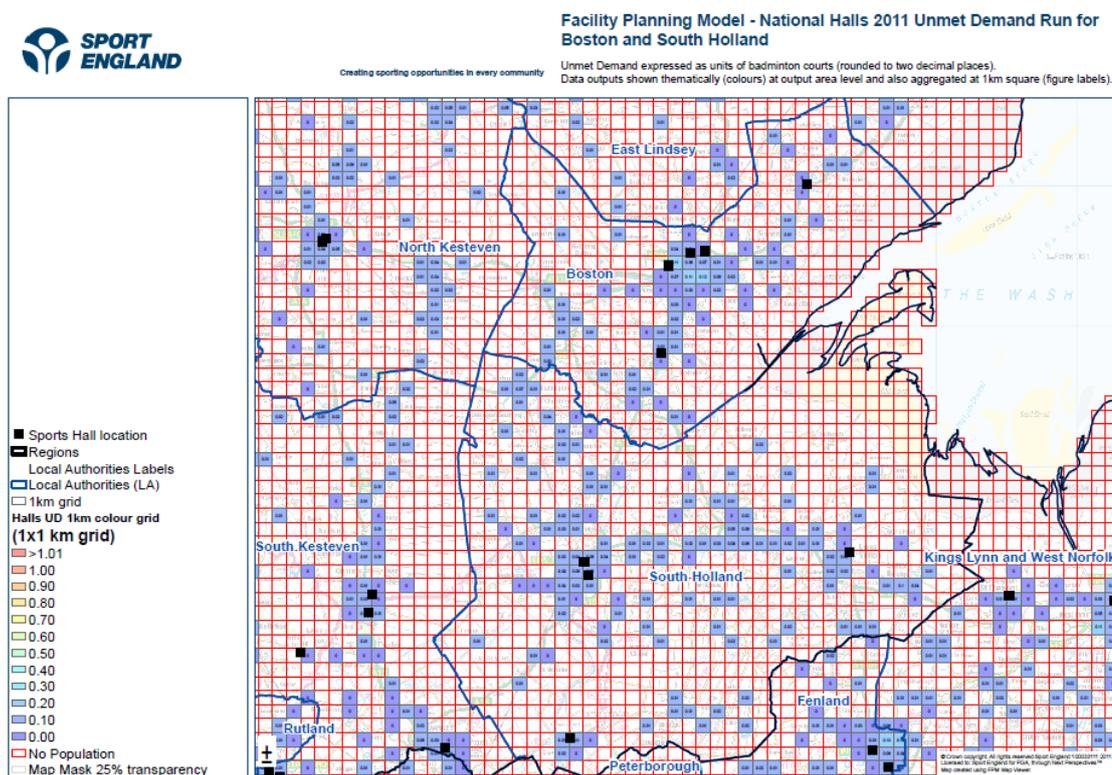


7.8 **Facilities Planning Model assessment:** To supplement the locally derived assessment of need, Sport England’s Facilities Planning Model (FPM) was applied to assess the current between the supply of, and demand for, sports halls in South-East Lincolnshire.

7.9 **Summary of the FPM results:** The FPM results imply the following:

- a) **Supply:** There is a current supply of 45 badminton courts in the study area (scaled to 38 courts to take account of dual usage), providing a total capacity of 7,667 visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp).

- b) **Demand:** Demand for sports halls from the study area population is 6,236vpwpp. This is equivalent to demand for 38.5 badminton courts in the peak period (with the inclusion of a ‘comfort factor’ that assumes that a sports hall is effectively ‘full’ when it reaches 80% of its theoretical capacity).
- c) **Supply/demand balance:** On the basis of the above, there is a notional shortfall equivalent to 0.5 badminton courts in the study area, implying a close balance between supply and demand. However, there are some variations on a sub-area basis, with a notional surplus of 7 badminton courts in the Boston sub-area and a notional deficit of 7.5 badminton courts in the South Holland sub-area.
- d) **Satisfied demand:** Taking into account the walk or drive time catchments of the existing facilities and the ability of residents to reach them (based upon local car ownership rates) 91% of demand for sports halls in the study area is currently met, compared with 89.5% in Lincolnshire as a whole, 92.1% in the East Midlands and 90.7% nationally.
- e) **Unmet demand:** Unmet demand is demand which cannot be met either because there is too much demand for a particular sports hall within its catchment area or the demand is located outside the catchment area of a sports hall. In the Boston sub-area, unmet demand comprises 9% of the total (equivalent to 1.43 badminton courts). In the South Holland sub-area, unmet demand comprises 11.7% of the total (equivalent to 2.64 badminton courts).
- f) **The spatial distribution of unmet demand:** The map below shows the scale and location of unmet demand for sports halls in the study area. The areas of unmet demand are one kilometre grid squares and expressed as units of badminton courts. The areas of unmet demand are shaded two shades of blue and the lighter blue is the higher of the unmet demand. The map shows that in general unmet demand is very diffuse, with no concentrations high enough in a single location to justify additional sports hall provision.



g) **Used capacity:** Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput at sports halls and estimates how well used/full facilities are. The FPM is designed to include a ‘comfort factor’ beyond which the halls are too full. The FPM assumes that usage over 80% of capacity is busy and the sports hall is operating at an uncomfortable level.

- In the Boston sub-area, 60.3% of the overall capacity of sports halls is used at peak times (therefore, in overall terms there is available capacity for additional sports hall usage).
- In the South Holland sub-area, the usage capacity is 94.5%, which is above the ‘comfort factor’.
- However, the FPM has identified that 17% of sports hall demand in the Boston sub-area is imported, much of which is drawn from South Holland, and so across the study area as whole, there are no significant capacity issues.

7.10 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
<p>One four-badminton court sports hall (33m x 18m x 7.6m) per 20,000 people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing levels of provision equate to one sports hall per 20,514 people – <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The adopted countywide standard for sports halls is one facility per 22,000 people, which is close to the standard for the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>• The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies a shortfall of one sports hall in the Holbeach area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>• The FPM identifies that unmet demand in the study area at present is equivalent to 2.5 badminton courts, but that this demand is so thinly spread that there is no specific location where additional sports hall provision could be justified. - <i>Facilities Planning Model</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 91.0% of sports hall demand in SE Lincs is currently being met by supply, so current levels of provision are about right. - <i>Facilities Planning Model</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The FPM identifies that usage levels at sports halls in the study area as a whole at peak periods are close to ‘comfortable capacity’, so there is little spare capacity at present. - <i>Facilities Planning Model</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The number of sports halls per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is well above the median figure for its neighbouring and demographic comparator local authorities, which suggests that existing levels of provision are above the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 64.0% of respondents to the leisure centre user’s survey believe that existing levels of provision are ‘about right’, so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 57.1% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that existing levels of provision are ‘about right’, so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
All aspects of all facilities should rate 'above average' or better.	The overall quality of all of sports halls in the study area is currently rated as 'above average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of their closest hall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 82.3% of respondents to the leisure centre users' survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach a sports hall. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centres Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 84.7% of respondents to the leisure centre users' survey travel to sports halls by car. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users' Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>• Taking into account the drive time catchments of the existing facilities and the ability of residents to reach them (based upon local car ownership rates) 91% of demand for sports halls in the study area is currently met.- <i>Facilities Planning Model</i> (2012).</li> </ul>

7.11 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	7 sports halls with community access.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current substantive quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Some qualitative deficiencies at some facilities.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5 additional sports halls.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality 'above average'.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes drive or walk of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	8.5 sports halls with community access

### **Indoor swimming pools**

7.12 **Definition:** Indoor swimming pools are defined as main pools with minimum length of 20 metres, although smaller teaching and diving pools are included in the assessment where they are integral to a facility with a main pool.

7.13 **Quantitative analysis:** Pools in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are two facilities providing a total of seven swimming pools (comprising a collective total of 1,262sq.m. of water space) with community access in the study area, equivalent to one facility per 71,800 people (or 8.79sq.m. of water space per 1,000 people):

<i>Swimming pool</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
Geoff Moulder Leisure Complex	Boston	25m x 15m 25m x 11m 11m x 7m 7m x 4m
Castle Sports Complex	South Holland	25m x 13m 10m x 10m 13m x 8m

- b) **Additional provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** In addition to the pools listed above, the following facilities provide some supplementary provision for swimming in the study area:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Reasons for exclusion</i>
Princess Royal Sports Arena	Boston	15m x 7m	Pool too small
Giles Academy	Boston	25m x 13m	No community use



*Castle Sports Complex Pool*

- c) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pools</i>	<i>Pools/Person</i>	<i>Total Sq.m.</i>	<i>Sq.m./1,000</i>
Boston	59,000	1	1: 59,000	755sq.m.	12.80sq.m.
South Holland	84,600	1	1: 84,600	507sq.m.	5.99sq.m.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1: 71,800</b>	<b>1,262sq.m</b>	<b>8.79sq.m.</b>

- d) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of swimming pools neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the poorest provision in terms of facilities per capita and the third poorest in terms of water space per capita:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>No. pools</i>	<i>Pools/Person</i>	<i>Water space</i>	<i>Sq.m./1,000</i>
South Kesteven	6	1: 22,050	2,229sq.m	16.85sq.m
North Kesteven	6	1: 17,733	1,442.5sq.m	13.56sq.m
East Lindsey	7	1: 20,229	1,506sq.m	10.64sq.m
Fenland	3	1: 30,633	912.5sq.m	9.93sq.m
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1: 71,800</b>	<b>1,262sq.m</b>	<b>8.79sq.m.</b>
KL and West Norfolk	4	1: 35,900	1,185.85sq.m	8.26sq.m
Peterborough	5	1: 34,680	1,430.5sq.m	8.25sq.m

- e) **Provision in comparator areas:** The water space per capita in demographic comparators is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the poorest rate of facility provision per capita, but more importantly the sixth lowest water space per capita:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>No. pools</i>	<i>Pools/Person</i>	<i>Water space</i>	<i>Sq.m./1,000</i>
Mendip	6	1: 18,167	2,804.6sq.m	25.73sq.m
St. Edmundsbury	4	1: 26,125	1,317.5sq.m	12.61sq.m
Amber Valley	4	1: 30,400	1,447.25sq.m	11.90sq.m
Bassetlaw	5	1: 22,360	1,328.5sq.m	11.88sq.m
<i>Median</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1,129.25sq.m</i>	<i>10.67sq.m</i>
North-East Derbyshire	3	1: 32,767	1,047.5sq.m	10.66sq.m
North Warwickshire	2	1: 30,950	620sq.m	10.02sq.m
Fenland	3	1: 30,633	912.5sq.m	9.93sq.m
West Lindsey	3	1: 29,800	852.5sq.m	9.53sq.m
<b><i>South-East Lincs</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>	<b><i>1: 71,800</i></b>	<b><i>1,262sq.m</i></b>	<b><i>8.79sq.m.</i></b>
Breckland	2	130,900	1,135sq.m	8.67sq.m
K Lynn & W Norfolk	4	1: 35,900	1,185.85sq.m	8.26sq.m
Forest of Dean	3	1: 27,633	652.5sq.m	7.87sq.m
High Peak	2	1: 46,300	622sq.m	6.71sq.m
Newark and Sherwood	2	1: 56,800	738sq.m	6.50sq.m

- 7.14 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit produced the following results. The overall mean score equates to a value between 'good' and 'above average':

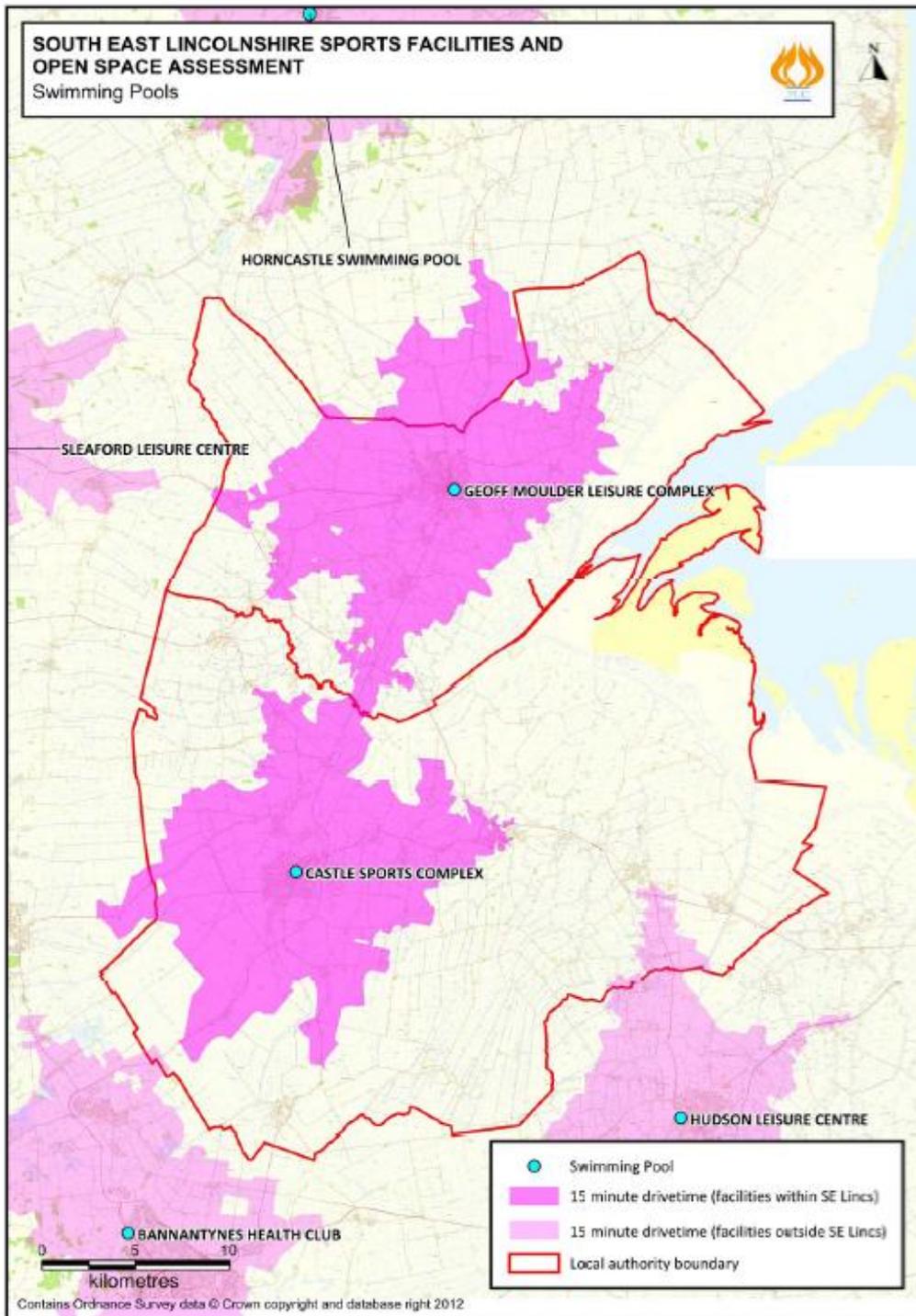
<i>Swimming pool</i>	<i>Pool</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled access</i>	<i>Maintenance/Cleanliness</i>	<i>Parking/access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Geoff Moulder Leisure Complex	5	4	4	5	4	<b>4.4</b>
Castle Sports Complex	5	3	4	5	4	<b>4.2</b>
<b><i>Mean</i></b>	<b><i>5.0</i></b>	<b><i>3.5</i></b>	<b><i>4.0</i></b>	<b><i>5.0</i></b>	<b><i>4.0</i></b>	<b><i>4.3</i></b>

- 7.15 **Effective catchment:** The leisure centre users survey produced the following indications of accessibility to swimming pools in South-East Lincolnshire:

- a) 81.4% of pool users travel by car.
- b) 80.9% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less.

- 7.16 **Pattern of provision:** A map showing sports halls in South-East Lincolnshire, with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. It shows that parts of the population around much of the periphery of the study area is further than 15 minutes drive of the nearest pool, however:

- a) Most of the areas concerned are sparsely populated, although the Holbeach area contains the main unserved concentration of population.
- b) A small part of the south-east of the area is served in part by a pool in Wisbech.

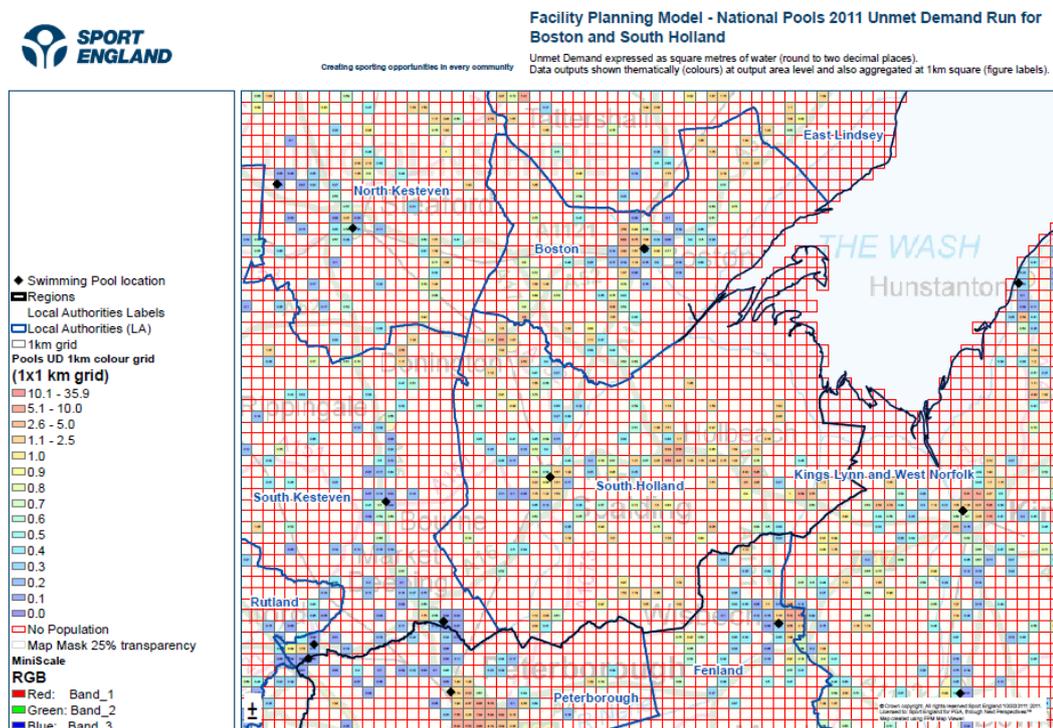


7.17 **Facilities Planning Model assessment:** To supplement the locally derived assessment of need, Sport England’s FPM was applied to assess the current balance between the supply of, and demand for, swimming pools in the study area.

7.18 **Summary of the FPM results:** The results for pool provision are as follows:

- a) **Supply:** There are two swimming pool sites (with seven pools), with a total water area of 1,262sq.m (scaled to 1,094sq.m to take account of hours actually available to the public). This equates to 8.79sq.m of water space per 1,000 people, well below the average for Lincolnshire (13.64sq.m) the East Midlands (12.97sq.m) and England (12.91sq.m). This equates to 5,909 visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp).

- b) **Demand:** Demand for swimming pools from the resident population in the study area is 7,665vpwpp. This is equivalent to demand for 1,346sq.m in the peak period, with a ‘comfort factor’ that assumes that a swimming pool is effectively ‘full’ when it reaches 70% of its theoretical capacity.
- c) **Supply/demand balance:** In South-East Lincolnshire as a whole, there is a notional deficit equivalent to 168.66sq.m in the peak period, with the ‘comfort factor’ included. However, there are significant variations on a sub-area basis, with a notional surplus of 169.3sq.m of pool space in the Boston sub-area and a notional deficit of 337.6sq.m of pool space in the South Holland sub-area.
- d) **Satisfied demand:** Taking into account the walk or drive time catchments of the existing pools and the ability of residents to reach them (based upon local car ownership rates) 76% of demand for swimming in the study area is currently met (82.0% in Boston and 70.3% in South Holland, compared with 80.0% in Lincolnshire as a whole and 89.4% in the East Midlands). Retained demand within each sub-area is 98.8% in Boston and 72.6% in South Holland.
- e) **Unmet demand:** Unmet demand is demand which cannot be met either because there is too much demand for a particular sports hall within its catchment area or the demand is located outside the catchment area of a pool. In the Boston sub-area, unmet demand comprises 18.0% of the total (equivalent to 100.21sq.m of water space). In the South Holland sub-area, unmet demand comprises 29.7% of the total (equivalent to 234.54sq.m of water space).
- f) **The spatial distribution of unmet demand:** The map below shows the scale and location of unmet demand for swimming pools in the study area. The areas of unmet demand are in one kilometre grid squares and expressed as square metres of water space. The areas of unmet demand are shaded two shades of blue and the lighter blue is the higher of the unmet demand. The map shows that in general unmet demand is very diffuse, with no concentrations high enough in a single location to justify additional swimming pool provision



g) **Used capacity:** Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput at swimming pools and estimates how well used/full facilities are. The FPM is designed to include a ‘comfort factor’ beyond which the halls are too full. The FPM assumes that usage over 70% of capacity is busy and the pool is operating at an uncomfortable level.

- In the Boston sub-area, 49.8% of the overall capacity of pools is used at peak times (therefore, in overall terms there is available capacity for additional usage).
- In the South Holland sub-area, the usage capacity is 63.0%, which is also just within the ‘comfort factor’.
- Despite the excess of demand over supply, the pools at the Castle Leisure Centre are still not used to full capacity, which suggest that a significant amount of demand for swimming from the South Holland sub-area is exported to pools in neighbouring areas.

7.19 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One 25m x 13m indoor swimming pool per 32,500 people (10.0 sq.m. of water space per 1,000 people).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing levels of provision in the study area equate to one swimming pool per 8.79sq.m of water space per 1,000 people, well below the median figure for demographically comparable local authorities - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The adopted countywide standard for swimming pools is one 25m x 6 lane indoor swimming pool per 30,000 people, which is close to the standard for the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>• The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies a shortfall of one indoor swimming pool in the Long Sutton area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>• There is an excess of demand over supply of pools in the study area equivalent to 168.66sq.m in the peak period, with the ‘comfort factor’ included. - <i>Facilities Planning Model</i> (2012).</li> <li>• Unmet demand in the study area as a whole is equivalent to 334.75sq.m. - <i>Facilities Planning Model</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The adopted countywide standard for sports halls is one pool per 30,000 people, which is close to the standard for the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>• 62.5% of respondents to the leisure centre user’s survey believe that existing levels of provision are ‘about right’, so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 71.4% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that existing levels of provision are ‘about right’, so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all facilities should rate ‘average’ or better.	The overall quality of all of swimming pools in the study area is currently rated as ‘above average’ or better. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of their closest pool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 81.4% of respondents to the leisure centre users' survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach a pool. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centres Users Survey (2012)</i>.</li> <li>• 80.9% of respondents to the leisure centre users' survey travel to sports halls by car. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users' Survey (2012)</i>.</li> <li>• Taking into account the drive time catchments of the existing facilities and the ability of residents to reach them (based upon local car ownership rates) 76% of demand for pools in the study area is currently met.- <i>Facilities Planning Model (2012)</i>.</li> </ul>

7.20 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	2 facilities comprising 7 swimming pools with community access.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional 25m x 13m pool.</li> <li>• No qualitative improvements</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the Holbeach area.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional 25m x 13m pool.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes drive or walk of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	4 swimming pools with community access

### **Synthetic athletics tracks**

7.21 **Definition:** Synthetic athletics tracks comprise all-weather, 400m tracks, with a minimum of six lanes and full field event facilities.

7.22 **Quantitative analysis:** Tracks in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There is one synthetic athletics track in the study area, equivalent to one facility per 143,600 people:

<i>Sports hall</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
Princess Royal Sports Arena	Boston	400m x 8 lanes



*Synthetic athletics track at the Princess Royal Sports Arena*

- b) **Additional provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** In addition to the track listed, the following facilities provide supplementary specialist provision for indoor athletics in the study area:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
Princess Royal Sports Arena	Boston	65m x 30m
Boston & District Athletics Club	Boston	40m x 40m



*Boston Athletics Club Indoor Training Facility*

- c) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. tracks</i>	<i>Tracks/person</i>
Boston	59,000	1	1: 59,000
South Holland	84,600	0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1: 143,600</b>

- d) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** Athletics track provision in neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below. South-East Lincolnshire has the equal second highest per capita rate of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. tracks</i>	<i>Tracks/person</i>
South Kesteven	132,300	1	1: 132,200
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1: 143,600</b>
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	1	1: 143,600
Peterborough	173,400	1	1: 173,400
Fenland	91,900	0	-
North Kesteven	106,400	0	-
East Lindsey	141,600	0	-

- e) **Provision in comparator areas:** The number of athletics tracks per capita in CIPFA ‘Nearest Neighbour’ local authorities is tabulated below. South-East Lincolnshire is almost half the median per capita rate of provision, if the populations of those districts that make no provision are included:

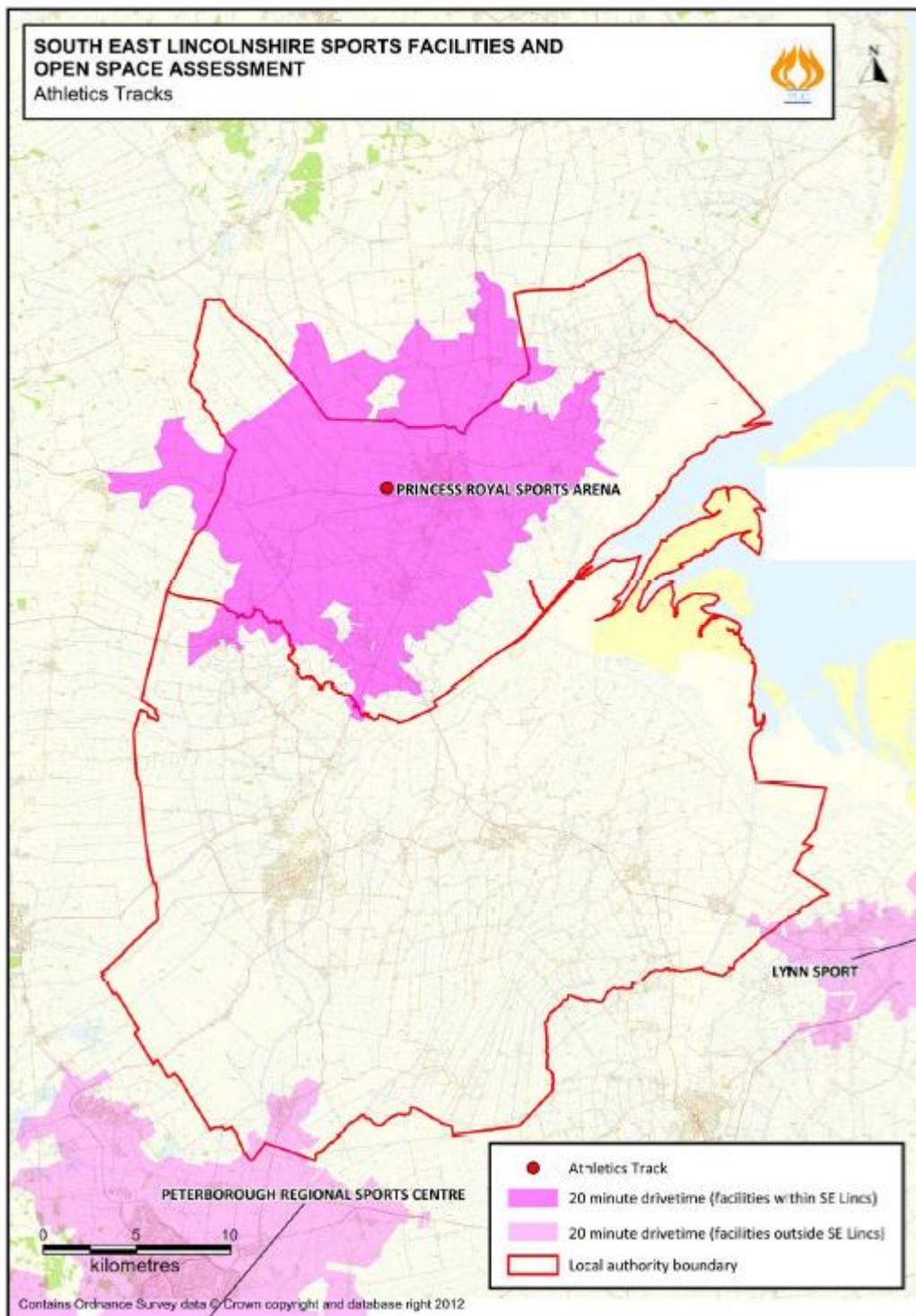
<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. tracks</i>	<i>Tracks/person</i>
North-East Derbyshire	98,300	1	1: 98,300
St. Edmundsbury	104,500	1	1: 104,000
Mendip	109,000	1	1: 109,000
<b><i>South-East Lincs</i></b>	<b><i>143,600</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>	<b><i>1: 143,600</i></b>
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	1	1: 143,600
<i>Median</i>	-	<i>0.36</i>	<i>1: 299,200</i>
North Warwickshire	61,900	0	-
Forest of Dean	82,900	0	-
West Lindsey	89,400	0	-
Fenland	91,900	0	-
High Peak	92,600	0	-
Bassetlaw	111,800	0	-
Newark and Sherwood	113,600	0	-
Amber Valley	121,600	0	-
Breckland	130,900	0	-

- 7.23 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit produced the following results. The overall mean score equates to a value of ‘good’:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Track</i>	<i>Lighting</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>
Princess Royal Sports Arena	5	5	5	5

- 7.24 **Effective catchment:** None of the local surveys produced any data on travel time to the track. However, at a national level UK Athletics recommends one 6-lane 400m synthetic athletics track within 20 minutes drive time (20 minutes walk in urban areas) - ‘Athletics Facilities Strategy for the UK’ (2007).
- 7.25 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the athletics track in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 20 minute its driving time catchments is below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. The map shows that almost the entire South Holland sub-area is unserved by a facility within the study area, however:

- The track in Kings Lynn serves a very small part of the south-east of the area.
- The track in Peterborough serves some limited demand in the south and south-west of the area.



7.26 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One 400m synthetic track per 250,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The existing track in the study area serves a population of 143,600. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The adopted countywide standard for athletics tracks is one track per 225,000 people, which is close to the standard for the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>• UK Athletics recommends one 6-lane track per 250,000 people. - <i>'Athletics Facilities Strategy for the UK'</i> (2007).</li> <li>• The four tracks in surrounding districts serve an average of 140,000 people each, which indicates that neighbouring areas some spare capacity at present in relation to the national standard. - <i>Quantitative audit</i> (2009).</li> <li>• 61.5% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of a track and its ancillary facilities should rate 'above average' or better.	All aspects of the quality of the current track are rated as 'good'. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of the nearest track.	UK Athletics recommends one 6-lane 400m synthetic athletics track within 20 minutes drive time. - <i>Athletics Facilities Strategy for the UK</i> (2007).

7.27 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	1 synthetic athletics track.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	No additional requirement.
Total future needs	1 synthetic athletics track.

### **Synthetic turf pitches**

7.28 **Definition:** Synthetic turf pitches have artificial grass playing surfaces, dimensions of 101.4m x 63m (including run-offs), with sand-filled, rubber crumb - also known as 'Third Generation' or 3G (favoured for Football usage) - or water-based variants (favoured for Hockey usage).

7.29 **Quantitative analysis:** Pitches in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are four pitches with community access in the study area, equivalent to one facility per 35,900 people. All have a sand-filled surface and there is therefore no provision of the specialist surfaces favoured for Football or Hockey:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Type</i>
Peter Paine Sports Centre	Boston	Sand-filled
Gleed Boys School	South Holland	Sand-filled
Glen Park	South Holland	Sand-filled
Peele Leisure Centre	South Holland	Sand-filled

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches/person</i>
Boston	59,000	1	1: 59,000
South Holland	84,600	3	1: 28,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of synthetic turf pitches in neighbouring local authorities are tabulated below and show that South-East Lincolnshire has a mid-range rate of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches/person</i>
Fenland	91,900	4	1: 22,975
Peterborough	173,400	7	1: 24,771
South Kesteven	132,300	4	1: 33,075
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>
East Lindsey	141,600	3	1: 47,200
North Kesteven	106,400	2	1: 53,200
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	1	1: 143,600

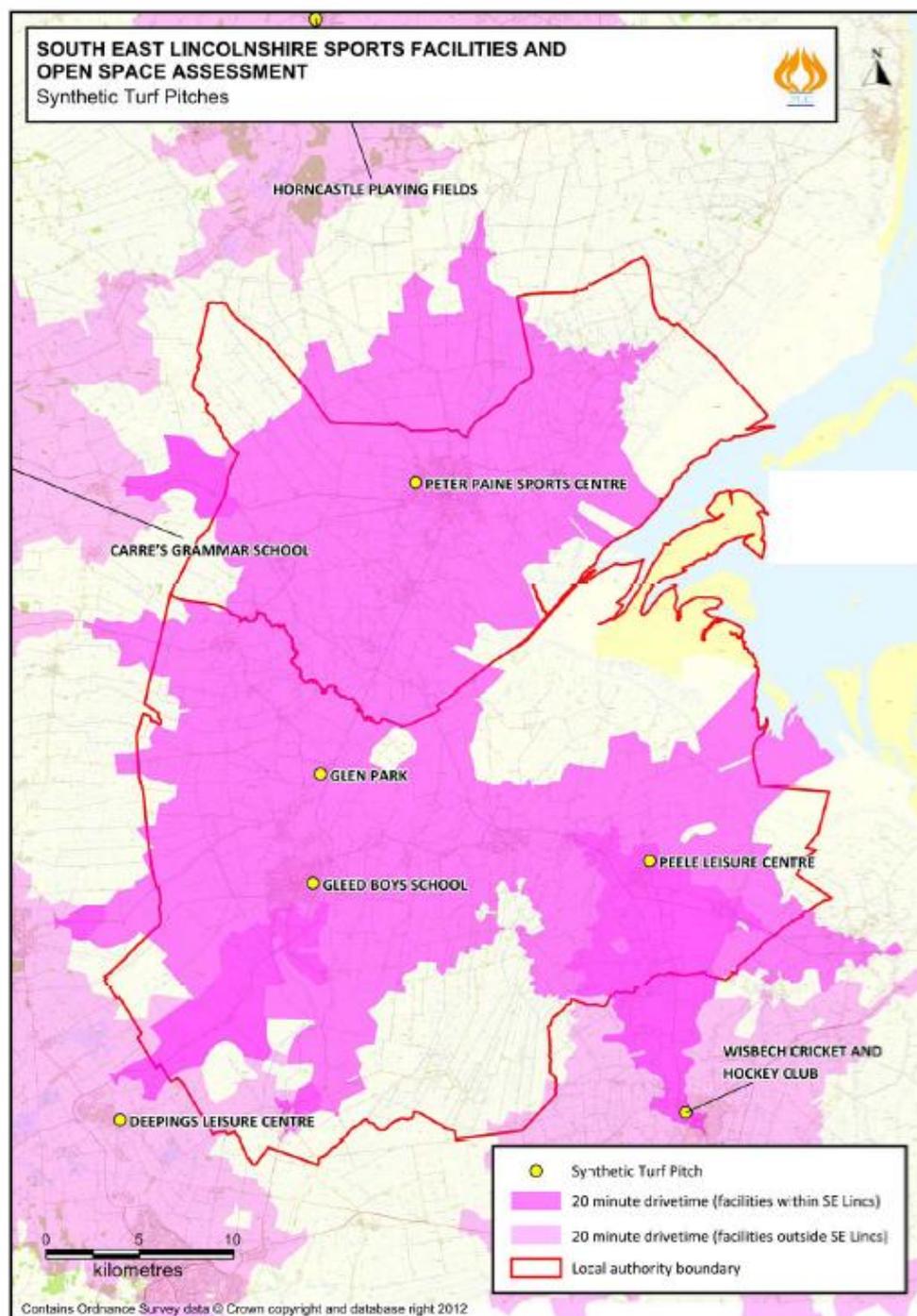
- d) **Provision in comparator areas:** The synthetic pitches per capita in CIPFA 'Nearest Neighbour' local authorities are tabulated below. The figures show that South-East Lincolnshire is above the median for both the number of pitches provided and the per capita rate of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches/person</i>
Mendip	109,000	8	1:13,625
St. Edmundsbury	104,500	6	1: 17,417
Bassetlaw	111,800	6	1: 18,633
Fenland	91,900	4	1: 22,975
North-East Derbyshire	98,300	4	1: 24,575
Forest of Dean	82,900	3	1: 27,633
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>
Newark and Sherwood	113,600	3	1: 37,867
<i>Median</i>	-	<i>2.4</i>	<i>1: 42,826</i>
Breckland	130,900	3	1: 43,633
West Lindsey	89,400	2	1: 44,700
High Peak	92,600	2	1: 46,300
Amber Valley	121,600	2	1: 60,800
North Warwickshire	61,900	1	1: 61,900
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	1	1: 143,600

- 7.30 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit produced the following results. The mean score equates to a value of 'above average':

<i>Site</i>	<i>Playing surface</i>	<i>Lighting</i>	<i>Fencing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Peter Paine Sports Centre	3	5	2	2	4	<b>3.2</b>
Gleed Boys School	3	5	5	2	2	<b>3.4</b>
Glen Park	5	5	5	3	5	<b>4.6</b>
Peele Leisure Centre	5	5	3	5	5	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>

- 7.31 **Effective catchment:** Based on national travel time data, the FPM identifies that 82% of synthetic turf pitch users travel for 20 minutes or less to reach their chosen facility and 81% travel by car.
- 7.32 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of synthetic turf pitches in South-East Lincolnshire and adjacent areas, together with 20 minutes driving time catchments is contained below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. It shows that parts of the population around the edge of the study area is beyond 20 minutes drive of the nearest pitch, however the areas concerned are mostly sparsely populated and therefore the number of people affected is limited and parts of the south of the area is served by a pitches in Market Deeping and Wisbech.

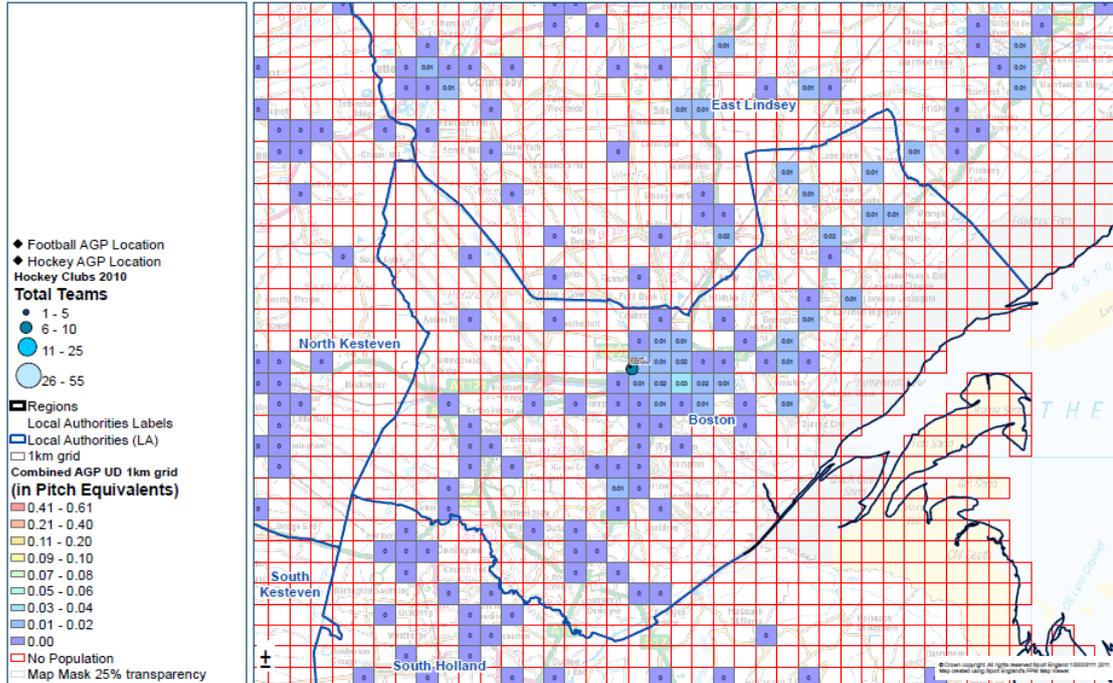


7.33 **Facilities Planning Model assessment:** To supplement the locally derived assessment of need, Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) was applied to assess the current between the supply of, and demand for, synthetic turf pitches in South-East Lincolnshire.

7.34 **Summary of the FPM results:** The FPM results imply the following:

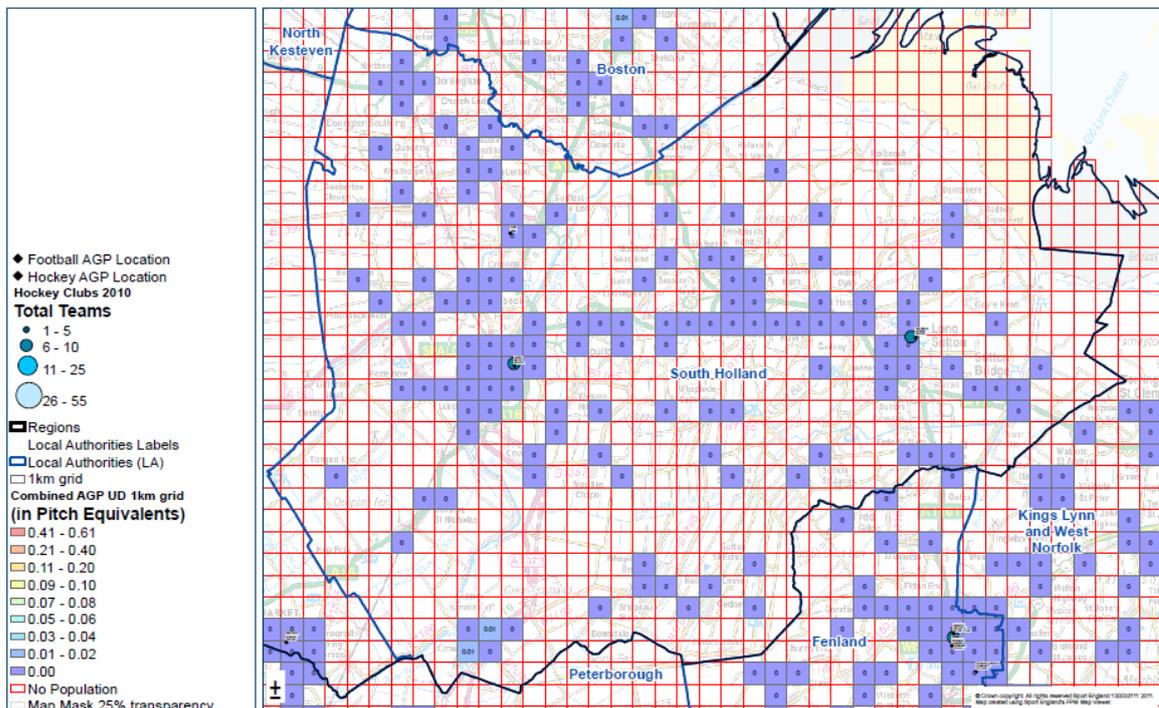
- a) **Supply:** There is a current supply of four synthetic turf pitches in the study area, providing a total capacity of 2,960 visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp).
- b) **Demand:** Demand for synthetic turf pitches from the study area population is 2,913vpwpp. This is equivalent to demand for 3.94 pitches.
- c) **Supply/demand balance:** On the basis of the above assessment, there is a notional surplus equivalent to 0.06 pitches in the study area, implying a close balance between supply and demand. However, there are some variations on a sub-area basis, with a notional deficit of 0.67 pitches in the Boston sub-area and a notional surplus of 0.73 pitches in the South Holland sub-area.
- d) **Satisfied demand:** Taking into account the walk or drive time catchments of the existing facilities and the ability of residents to reach them (based upon local car ownership rates) 86.9% of demand for synthetic turf pitches in the study area is currently met (79.4% in the Boston sub-area and 94.4% in the South Holland sub-area), compared with 85.6% in Lincolnshire as a whole, 87.0% in the East Midlands and 75% nationally. 91.2% of the demand in the Boston sub-area is met by car, whilst the figure for the South Holland sub-area is 89.4%.
- e) **Unmet demand:** Unmet demand is demand which cannot be met either because there is too much demand for a particular pitch within its catchment area, or the demand is located outside the catchment area of a pitch. In the Boston sub-area, unmet demand comprises 20.6% of the total (equivalent to 0.34 pitches). In the South Holland sub-area, unmet demand comprises 5.6% of the total (equivalent to 0.13 pitches).
- f) **The spatial distribution of unmet demand in the Boston sub-area:** The map below shows the scale and location of unmet demand for synthetic turf pitches across Boston Borough. The areas of unmet demand are in one kilometre grid squares and expressed as units of a synthetic turf pitch. The areas of unmet demand are shaded two shades of blue and the lighter blue is the higher of the unmet demand. The map shows that in general unmet demand is very diffuse.

Unmet Demand shown thematically (colours) at output area level and also aggregated at 1km square grid (figure labels). UD at output area level expressed as visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp). UD at 1km square grid level expressed as pitch equivalent (740 vpwpp = 1 pitch).



g) *The spatial distribution of unmet demand in the South Holland sub-area:*  
 The map below shows the scale and location of unmet demand for synthetic turf pitches across South Holland. The areas of unmet demand are in one kilometre grid squares and expressed as units of a synthetic turf pitch. The areas of unmet demand are shaded two shades of blue and the lighter blue is the higher of the unmet demand. The map shows that in general unmet demand is very diffuse.

Unmet Demand shown thematically (colours) at output area level and also aggregated at 1km square grid (figure labels). UD at output area level expressed as visits per week in the peak period (vpwpp). UD at 1km square grid level expressed as pitch equivalent (740 vpwpp = 1 pitch).



- h) **Used capacity:** Used capacity is a measure of usage and throughput of synthetic turf pitches and estimates how well used/full facilities are.
- In the Boston sub-area, 100% of the overall capacity of pitches is used at peak times (therefore, in overall terms there is no available capacity for additional pitch usage).
  - In the South Holland sub-area, the usage capacity is 86.6%, which means that there is some spare capacity.
  - The FPM has identified that 25.9% of artificial turf pitch demand in the Boston sub-area is exported, some of which is accommodated by facilities in South Holland.
- i) **Analysis:** The analysis of the FPM results concludes that whilst there unmet demand for synthetic turf pitches in the Boston sub-area is less than one pitch, there is a case for making additional provision, in part because of the absence of a '3G' surface in South-East Lincolnshire (favoured by football users).

7.35 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
One full-sized floodlit synthetic turf pitch (101.4m x 63m) per 30,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing levels of provision equate to one synthetic pitch per 35,900 people. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• Existing per capita levels of provision in the study area are around the median figure of the neighbouring and demographic comparator local authorities. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The adopted countywide standard for synthetic turf pitches is one per 50,000 people, which is higher than the standard for the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>• Supply and demand are well balanced within the study area as a whole, but there is unmet demand in the Boston sub-area that is equivalent to 0.34 pitches, suggesting that there is a localised deficiency that should be reflected in the planning standard. - <i>Facilities Planning Model</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 48.5% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey believe that there are 'too few' synthetic turf pitches at present, so a standard equivalent to improved levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 83.3% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that there are 'too few' synthetic turf pitches at present, so a standard equivalent to improved levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all pitches and their ancillary facilities should rate 'above average' or better.	The overall quality of all of synthetic turf pitches in the study area is currently rated as 'above average' or better, although fencing and disabled access is rated as 'below average' at the Peter Paine Sports Centre pitch and disabled and general access at the Gleed Boys School pitch. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of their closest pitch.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on national travel time data, the FPM identifies that 82% of synthetic turf pitch users travel for 20 minutes or less to reach their chosen facility and 81% travel by car. - <i>FPM</i> (2012).</li> <li>• 91.2% of the demand for synthetic pitches in the Boston sub-area is met by car, whilst the figure for the South Holland sub-area is 89.4%. - <i>FPM</i> (2012).</li> </ul>

7.36 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	4 synthetic turf pitches.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional ‘3G’ synthetic turf pitch in the Boston sub-area.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements to fencing and disabled access at the Peter Paine Sports Centre pitch and disabled and general access at the Glead Boys School pitch.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional synthetic turf pitch.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 20 minutes drive or walk of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	6 synthetic turf pitches.

### **Indoor bowls facilities**

7.37 **Definition:** Indoor bowls facilities comprise specialist halls for playing flat green bowls. The number of individual rinks will vary, but is typically four, six or eight.

7.38 **Quantitative analysis:** Indoor bowls facilities in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are four indoor bowls facilities in the study area, comprising 22 rinks, equivalent to one facility per 35,900 people and one rink per 6,527 people:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>No. rinks</i>
Boston Indoor Bowls Club	Boston	6
Castle Sports Complex	South Holland	6
Long Sutton Indoor Bowls Club	South Holland	6
Sutton St. James IBC	South Holland	4

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows. Per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. facilities</i>	<i>Facilities/person</i>	<i>No. rinks</i>	<i>Rinks/person</i>
Boston	59,000	1	1: 59,000	6	1: 9,833
South Holland	84,600	3	1: 28,200	16	1: 5,288
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1: 6,527</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of indoor bowls facilities in neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below. South-East Lincolnshire has the highest provision in terms of rinks per capita:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. facilities</i>	<i>Facilities/person</i>	<i>No. rinks</i>	<i>Rinks/person</i>
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1: 6,527</b>
Fenland	91,900	3	1: 30,633	13	1: 7,069
East Lindsey	141,600	4	1: 35,400	18	1: 7,867
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	3	1: 47,867	18	1: 7,978
South Kesteven	132,300	2	1: 66,150	12	1: 11,025
North Kesteven	106,400	1	1: 106,400	6	1: 17,733
Peterborough	173,400	1	1: 173,400	6	1: 28,900

- d) **Provision in comparator areas:** The indoor bowls provision per capita in demographic comparators is tabulated below. South-East Lincolnshire has the highest rate of rinks per capita:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. facilities</i>	<i>Facilities/person</i>	<i>No. rinks</i>	<i>Rinks/person</i>
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1: 6,527</b>
Fenland	91,900	3	1: 30,633	13	1: 7,069
Newark and Sherwood	113,600	2	1: 56,800	15	1: 7,573
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	3	1: 47,867	18	1: 7,978
Breckland	130,900	3	1: 43,633	16	1: 8,181
West Lindsey	89,400	2	1: 44,700	8	1: 11,175
Mendip	109,000	3	1: 36,333	9	1: 12,111
St. Edmundsbury	104,500	2	1: 52,250	8	1: 13,063
<i>Median</i>	-	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1: 61,801</i>	<i>8.9</i>	<i>1: 14,460</i>
Bassetlaw	111,800	1	1: 111,800	7	1: 15,971
Amber Valley	121,600	1	1: 121,600	6	1: 20,267
North-East Derbyshire	98,300	1	1: 98,300	2	1: 49,150
North Warwickshire	61,900	0	-	0	-
Forest of Dean	82,900	0	-	0	-
High Peak	92,600	0	-	0	-

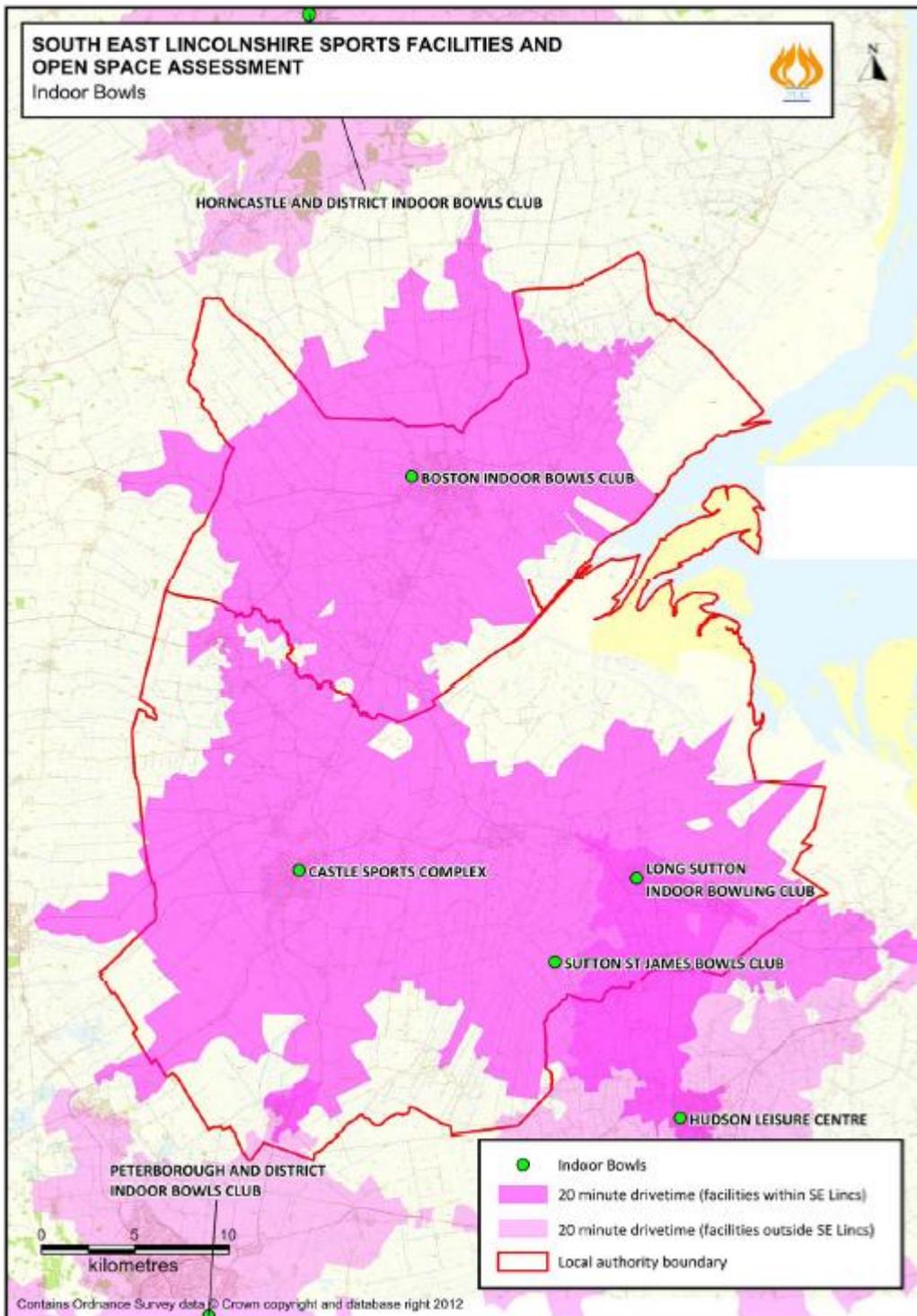
- 7.39 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit produced the following results. The mean score equates to a value of 'above average':

<i>Site</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Boston Indoor Bowls Club	5	4	4	4	<b>4.25</b>
Castle Sports Complex	5	5	4	4	<b>4.5</b>
Long Sutton Indoor Bowls Club	4	4	3	5	<b>4.0</b>
Sutton St. James IBC	4	4	3	5	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.25</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>

- 7.40 **Effective catchment:** 89.1% of indoor bowls users in the leisure centre user's survey travel by car and 95.2% of them have a journey time of 20 minutes or less.

- 7.41 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of indoor bowls facilities in South-East Lincolnshire and adjacent areas, together with 20 minutes driving time catchments is contained below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. The map shows that:

- With the exception of the sparsely populated rural periphery most of the study area is covered.
- The facility at the Hudson Leisure Centre in Wisbech provides an additional option for bowlers in the south-east of the study area.



7.42 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One 6-rink indoor bowls facility per 35,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one indoor bowls facility per 35,900 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for indoor bowls is one facility per 50,000 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies no deficiencies in provision for indoor bowls within the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of indoor bowls rinks per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is the highest for its neighbouring and demographic comparator local authorities, which suggests that existing levels of provision are above the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>Sport England's Market Segmentation data suggests that given the demographic profile of the study area, demand for bowls should be above the national average. - <i>Market Segmentation data</i> (2012).</li> <li>77.3% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right', so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>100.0% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right', so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all indoor bowls facilities should rate 'above average' or better.	The overall quality of all of indoor bowls facilities in the study area is currently rated as 'above average' or better, although disabled access is rated as only 'average' at the Long Sutton Indoor Bowls Club. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of an indoor bowls facility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>89.1% of indoor bowls users in the leisure centre user's survey travel by car. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>95.2% indoor bowls users in the leisure centre user's survey have a journey time of 20 minutes or less. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>

7.43 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	4 indoor bowls facilities comprising 22 rinks.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>Qualitative improvements to disabled access at the Long Sutton IBC.</li> <li>No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One additional six-rink indoor bowls facility.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 20 minutes drive or walk of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	5 indoor bowls facilities.

## Outdoor bowls greens

7.44 **Quantitative analysis:** Outdoor bowls facilities in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 32 outdoor bowls greens in the study area, equivalent to one green per 4,488 people:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>
Bicker BC	Boston
Boston BC	Boston
Boston West End BC	Boston
Burton House BC	Boston
Central Park BC	Boston
Freiston BC	Boston
Forbes Road BC	Boston
Goodfellowship BC	Boston
Kirton BC	Boston
Sleaford Road BC	Boston
Swineshead BC	Boston
West Skirbeck BC	Boston
Wigtoft BC	Boston
Wrangle BC	Boston
Wyberton BC	Boston
Ayscoughfee BC	South Holland
BSS Spalding BC	South Holland
Carter's Park BC	South Holland
Castle Bowls Club	South Holland
Constitutional Club BC	South Holland
Crowland Bowls Club	South Holland
Donington Bowls Club	South Holland
Donington & Quadring British Legion BC	South Holland
Holbeach United Services BC	South Holland
Gosberton Bowls Club	South Holland
Long Sutton BC	South Holland
Moulton Harrox BC	South Holland
Royal Mail Cart BC	South Holland
Spalding Town BC	South Holland
Sutton Bridge BC	South Holland
Tydd St. Mary BC	South Holland
Whaplode Drove BC	South Holland

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows. Per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. greens</i>	<i>Greens/person</i>
Boston	59,000	15	1: 3,933
South Holland	84,600	17	1: 4,876
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1: 4,488</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of outdoor bowls facilities in neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the highest provision of greens per capita:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. greens</i>	<i>Greens/person</i>
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1: 4,488</b>
North Kesteven	106,400	21	1: 5,067
East Lindsey	141,600	23	1: 6,157
Fenland	91,900	11	1: 8,354
South Kesteven	132,300	15	1: 8,820
Peterborough	173,400	16	1: 10,838
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	10	1: 14,360

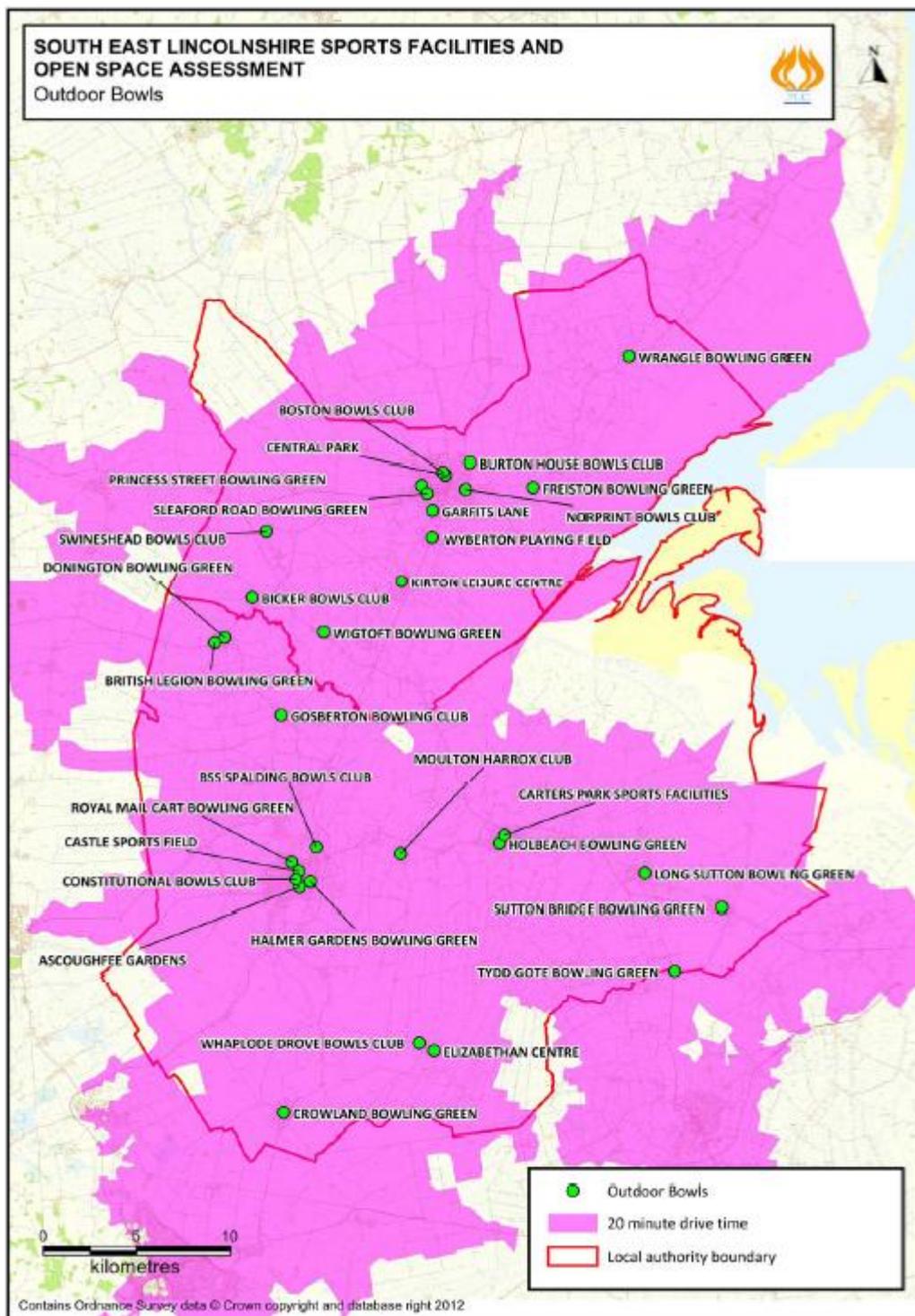
d) **Provision in comparator areas:** There is no data available on the number of bowls greens in the demographic comparator areas.

7.45 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit produced the following results. The mean score equates to a value of 'average' but some individual aspects of most facilities are rated as 'below average' or 'poor':

<i>Site</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Bicker Bowls Club	5	4	2	3	<b>3.5</b>
Boston Bowls Club	5	5	4	4	<b>4.5</b>
Boston West End Bowls Club	5	4	3	4	<b>4.0</b>
Burton House Bowls Club	5	4	3	4	<b>4.0</b>
Central Park Bowls Club	5	3	3	4	<b>3.75</b>
Freiston Bowls Club	4	4	3	3	<b>3.5</b>
Kirton Bowls Club	4	4	3	2	<b>3.25</b>
Forbes Road Bowls Club	4	3	3	3	<b>3.25</b>
Goodfellowship Bowls Club	4	3	2	2	<b>2.75</b>
Sleaford Road Bowls Club	5	4	4	4	<b>4.25</b>
Swineshead Bowls Club	4	2	2	2	<b>2.5</b>
West Skirbeck Bowls Club	4	3	2	2	<b>2.75</b>
Wigtoft Bowls Club	3	3	2	2	<b>2.5</b>
Wrangle Bowls Club	4	3	2	2	<b>2.75</b>
Wyberton Bowls Club	3	3	2	2	<b>2.5</b>
Ayscoughfee Bowls Club	4	5	3	2	<b>3.5</b>
BSS Spalding Bowls Club	1	1	1	1	<b>1.0</b>
Carter's Park Bowls Club	4	4	2	4	<b>3.5</b>
Castle Bowls Club	5	4	3	2	<b>3.5</b>
Constitutional Club Bowls Club	3	3	2	2	<b>2.5</b>
Crowland Bowls Club	4	3	1	3	<b>2.75</b>
Donington Bowls Club	5	3	2	2	<b>3.0</b>
Donington & Quadring British Legion BC	3	3	3	2	<b>2.75</b>
Holbeach United Services Bowls Club	3	4	2	4	<b>3.25</b>
Gosberton Bowls Club	3	2	3	3	<b>2.75</b>
Long Sutton Bowls Club	3	3	3	1	<b>2.5</b>
Moulton Harrox Bowls Club	5	4	3	3	<b>3.75</b>
Royal Mail Cart Bowls Club	3	2	1	2	<b>2.0</b>
Spalding Town Bowls Club	3	3	1	1	<b>2.0</b>
Sutton Bridge Bowls Club	4	4	3	3	<b>3.5</b>
Tydd St. Mary Bowls Club	3	3	2	2	<b>2.5</b>
Whaplode Drove Bowls Club	3	2	2	3	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>3.87</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>2.39</b>	<b>2.61</b>	<b>3.04</b>

7.46 **Effective catchment:** According to Bowls England, 90% of outdoor bowls players travel by car with a maximum journey time of 20 minutes.

7.47 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of outdoor bowls facilities in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 20 minutes driving time catchments is contained below and shows that there is almost comprehensive coverage of the study area.



7.48 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One outdoor bowls green per 4,500 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one outdoor bowls green per 4,488 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for outdoor bowls is one facility per 6,000 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies no deficiencies in provision for outdoor bowls within the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of outdoor bowls greens per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is the highest for its neighbouring local authorities, which suggests that existing levels of provision are above the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>Sport England's Market Segmentation data suggests that given the demographic profile of the study area, demand for bowls should be above the national average. - <i>Market Segmentation data</i> (2012).</li> <li>77.3% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey believe that existing levels of bowls provision are 'about right', so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>100.0% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that existing levels of bowls provision are 'about right', so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>60.0% of respondents to the parish council's survey believe that existing levels of bowls provision are 'about right', so a standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justifiable. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all outdoor bowls facilities should rate 'above average' or better.	The overall quality of all outdoor bowls facilities in the study area is currently very variable, particularly for disabled and general access. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of an outdoor bowls facility.	'The majority of facility users will live locally and travel not more than 20 minutes. 90% of users will travel by car'. - <i>Bowls Design Guidance</i> (2005)

7.49 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	32 outdoor bowls greens.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>Qualitative improvements needed at most sites.</li> <li>No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 additional outdoor bowls greens.</li> <li>All aspects of quality 'above average'.</li> <li>Within 20 minutes drive or walk of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	39 outdoor bowls greens.

## Indoor tennis courts

7.50 **Definition:** Indoor tennis courts are specialist facilities housing one or more tennis courts.

7.51 **Quantitative analysis:** Indoor tennis facilities in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There is one indoor tennis facility in the study area, comprising four courts, equivalent to one facility per 143,600 people and one court per 35,900 people:

Site	Sub-area	No. courts
Boston Tennis Club	Boston	4

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows. Per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

Sub-area	Population	No. facilities	Facilities/person	No. courts	Courts/person
Boston	59,000	1	1: 59,000	4	1: 14,750
South Holland	84,600	0	-	0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1: 143,600</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of indoor tennis facilities in neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the second highest level of provision:

Local authority	Population	No. facilities	Facilities/person	No. courts	Courts/person
East Lindsey	141,600	2	1: 70,800	7	1: 20,229
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1: 143,600</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1: 35,900</b>
Peterborough	173,400	1	1: 173,400	4	1: 43,350
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	1	1: 143,600	3	1: 47,867
Fenland	91,900	0	-	0	-
North Kesteven	106,400	-	-	0	-
South Kesteven	132,300	0	-	0	-



*Boston Tennis Club Indoor Courts*

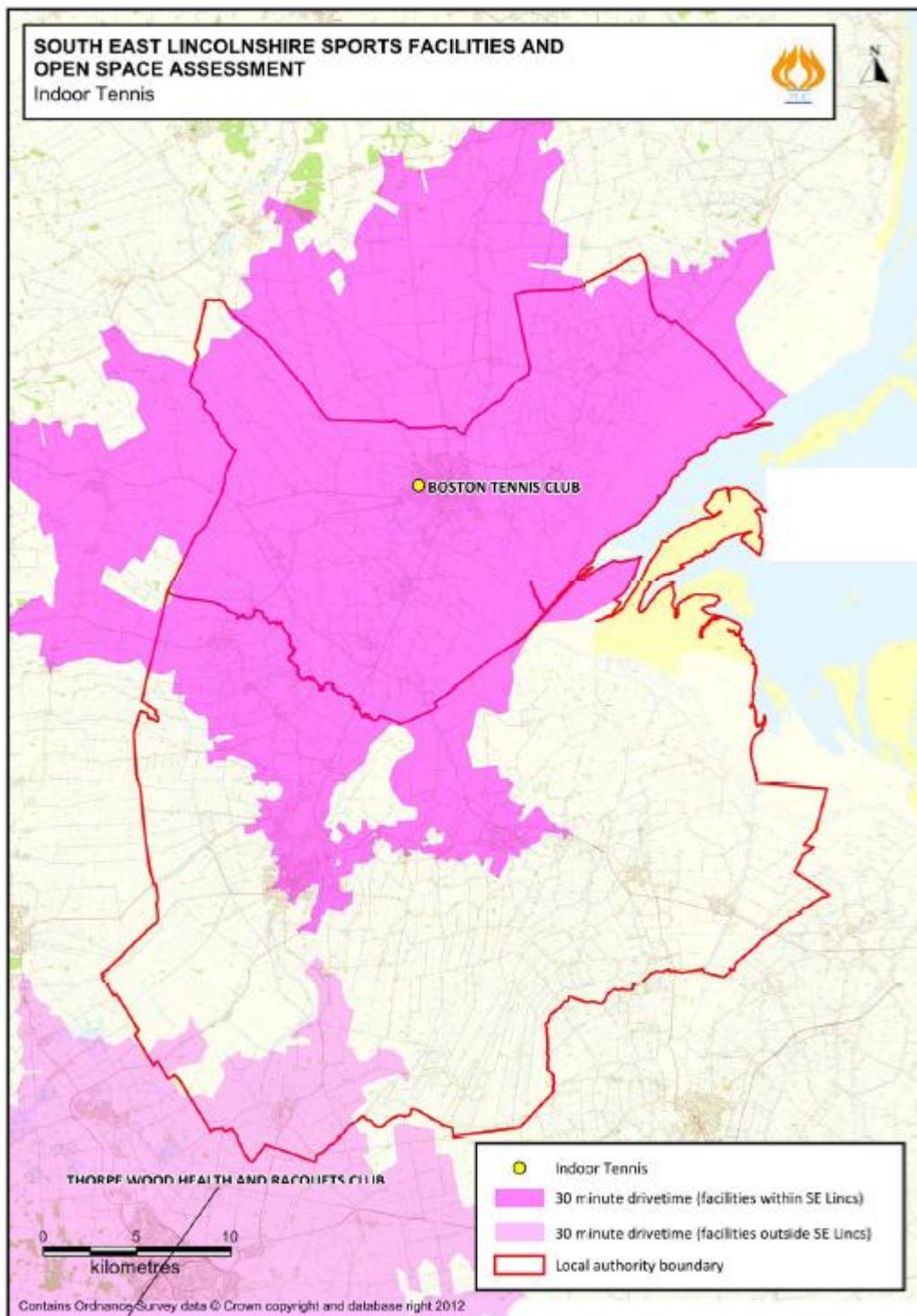
- d) **Provision in comparator areas:** The indoor tennis provision per capita in demographic comparator authorities is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the fourth highest rate of facility provision and courts per capita, just below the median for the minority of local authority areas that have indoor tennis facilities:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. facilities</i>	<i>Facilities/person</i>	<i>No. courts</i>	<i>Courts/person</i>
West Lindsey	89,400	1	1: 89,400	4	1: 22,350
St. Edmundsbury	104,500	1	1: 104,500	4	1: 26,125
Mendip	109,000	2	1: 54,500	4	1: 27,250
<i>Median</i>	-	<i>0.4</i>	<i>1: 107,120</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>1: 31,898</i>
<b><i>South-East Lincs</i></b>	<b><i>143,600</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>	<b><i>1: 143,600</i></b>	<b><i>3</i></b>	<b><i>1: 35,900</i></b>
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	1	1: 143,600	3	1: 47,867
North Warwickshire	61,900	0	-	0	-
Forest of Dean	82,900	0	-	0	-
Fenland	91,900	0	-	0	-
High Peak	92,600	0	-	0	-
North-East Derbyshire	98,300	0	-	0	-
Bassetlaw	111,800	0	-	0	-
Newark and Sherwood	113,600	0	-	0	-
Amber Valley	121,600	0	-	0	-
Breckland	130,900	0	-	0	-

- 7.52 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit identified that all aspects of the Boston facility are rated as ‘high quality’:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Courts</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled access</i>	<i>Maintenance/Cleanliness</i>	<i>Parking/access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Boston Tennis Club	5	5	5	5	5	<b>5.0</b>

- 7.53 **Effective catchment:** Research commissioned by the Lawn Tennis Association revealed that indoor tennis centre users typically travel for up to 30 minutes to reach their chosen facility and more than 90% travel by car.
- 7.54 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of the indoor tennis facility in South-East Lincolnshire and adjacent areas, together with 30 minutes driving time catchment is contained below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. Whilst most of the South Holland sub-area is unserved by provision within the study area, indoor courts in Peterborough are within 30 minutes travel time of some of this catchment.



7.55 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One 4-court indoor tennis centre per 140,000 people, or one court per 35,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one indoor tennis court per 35,900 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for indoor tennis is one facility per 50,000 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies no deficiencies in provision for indoor tennis within the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of indoor tennis courts per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is just below the median figure for those areas with such facility provision, which suggests that existing levels of are above the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>48.8% of respondents to the leisure centre users survey believe that there are 'too few' indoor tennis facilities, which suggests local perceptions of deficiency. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>60.0% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that there are 'too few' indoor tennis facilities, which suggests local perceptions of deficiency. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all indoor tennis facilities should rate 'above average' or better.	All aspects of the quality of the Boston indoor tennis facility are currently rated as 'high quality'. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 30 minutes walk or drive of an indoor tennis facility.	Research commissioned by the Lawn Tennis Association revealed that indoor tennis centre users typically travel for up to 30 minutes to reach their chosen facility and more than 90% travel by car. - <i>LTA</i> (2002).

7.56 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	4 indoor tennis courts.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>No substantive current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 additional indoor tennis court.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 30 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	5 indoor tennis courts.

### **Outdoor tennis courts**

7.57 **Definition:** Outdoor tennis courts are hard or grass surfaced courts permanently marked for tennis, complying with dimensions specified by Lawn Tennis Association.

7.58 **Quantitative analysis:** Outdoor tennis facilities in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There 40 outdoor tennis courts in the study area, equivalent to one court per 3,590 people:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Boston Tennis Club	Boston	9 Tarmac 4 Clay
Central Park Courts	Boston	4 Tarmac
Fishtoft Rochford TC	Boston	2 Tarmac
Pilgrim TC	Boston	3 Tarmac
Ayscoughfee Gardens Tennis Courts	South Holland	4 Tarmac
Carter's Park	South Holland	2 Tarmac 4 Grass
Snowdon Field	South Holland	2 Tarmac
Spalding TC	South Holland	2 Tarmac 3 Acrylic 1 Grass

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. courts</i>	<i>Courts/person</i>
Boston	59,000	22	1: 2,682
South Holland	84,600	18	1: 4,700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1: 3,590</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of outdoor tennis courts in those neighbouring local authorities for which data is available is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the poorest rate of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. courts</i>	<i>Courts/person</i>
South Kesteven	132,300	73	1: 1,812
East Lindsey	141,600	52	1: 2,723
North Kesteven	106,400	37	1: 2,875
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1: 3,590</b>

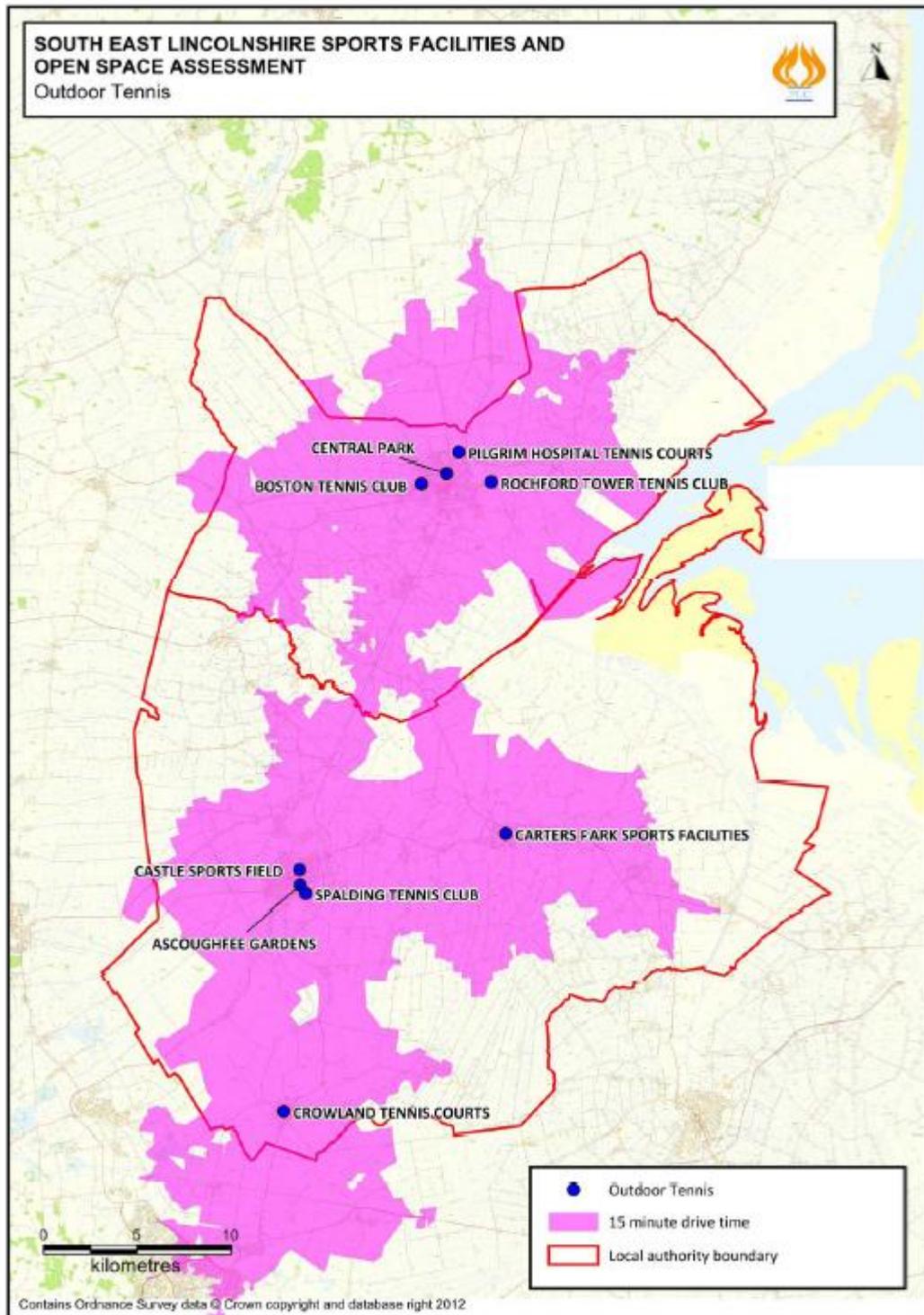
- d) **Provision in comparator areas:** There is no available data on outdoor tennis courts in the comparator local authorities.

7.59 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit identified that the quality of courts in the study area varies widely:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Lights</i>	<i>Fencing</i>	<i>Access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Boston Tennis Club	5	5	5	5	<b>5.0</b>
Central Park Courts	3	-	3	4	<b>3.33</b>
Fishtoft Rochford Tennis Club	4	-	4	4	<b>4.0</b>
Pilgrim Tennis Club	4	5	4	4	<b>4.24</b>
Ayscoughfee Gardens Tennis Courts	3	-	4	4	<b>3.67</b>
Carter's Park	3	-	4	3	<b>3.33</b>
Snowdon Field	2	-	3	1	<b>2.0</b>
Spalding Tennis Club	5	5	5	4	<b>4.75</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>4.06</b>

7.60 **Effective catchment:** Research commissioned by the Lawn Tennis Association revealed that outdoor tennis court users typically travel for up to 15 minutes to reach their chosen facility and around 70% travel by car.

7.61 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of outdoor tennis courts in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 15 minutes driving time catchments is contained below. It shows that there are gaps in coverage around the sparsely populated rural areas around the periphery of the study area.



7.62 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One outdoor tennis court per 3,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one outdoor tennis court per 3,590 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for outdoor tennis is one facility per 2,250 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies a shortfall of three outdoor tennis courts in South Holland. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of outdoor tennis courts per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is the poorest figure for neighbouring areas, which suggests that existing levels of are below the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>48.8% of respondents to the leisure centre users survey believe that there are 'too few' tennis courts locally. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>40.0% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that there are 'too few' tennis courts locally. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>70.0% of respondents to the parish councils survey believe that there are 'too few' tennis courts locally. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all outdoor tennis courts should rate 'above average' or better.	Several aspects of the quality of some tennis courts in the study area are rated as 'average' quality or below. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of an outdoor tennis court.	Research commissioned by the Lawn Tennis Association revealed that outdoor tennis court users typically travel for up to 15 minutes to reach their chosen facility and more than 70% travel by car. - <i>LTA</i> (2002).



*Outdoor tennis courts at Boston Tennis Club*

7.63 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	40 Outdoor tennis courts.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deficiency of 8 courts in the South Holland sub-area.</li> <li>• Qualitative deficiencies at several facilities.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the south-east of the study area.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 additional courts once existing deficiencies have been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	58 outdoor tennis courts.

### **Squash courts**

7.64 **Definition:** Squash courts are specialist indoor courts, complying with the dimensions specified by England Squash and Racketball.

7.65 **Quantitative analysis:** Squash courts in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There 9 squash courts in the study area, equivalent to one court per 15,956 people:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Boston Squash & Racketball Club	Boston	5
Spalding & District Squash Club	South Holland	4

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. courts</i>	<i>Courts/person</i>
Boston	59,000	5	1: 11,800
South Holland	84,600	4	1: 21,150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1: 15,926</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of squash courts in those neighbouring local authorities for which data is available is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire is around the median level of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. courts</i>	<i>Courts/person</i>
South Kesteven	132,300	14	1: 9,450
North Kesteven	106,400	8	1: 13,300
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1: 15,926</b>
East Lindsey	141,600	6	1: 23,600

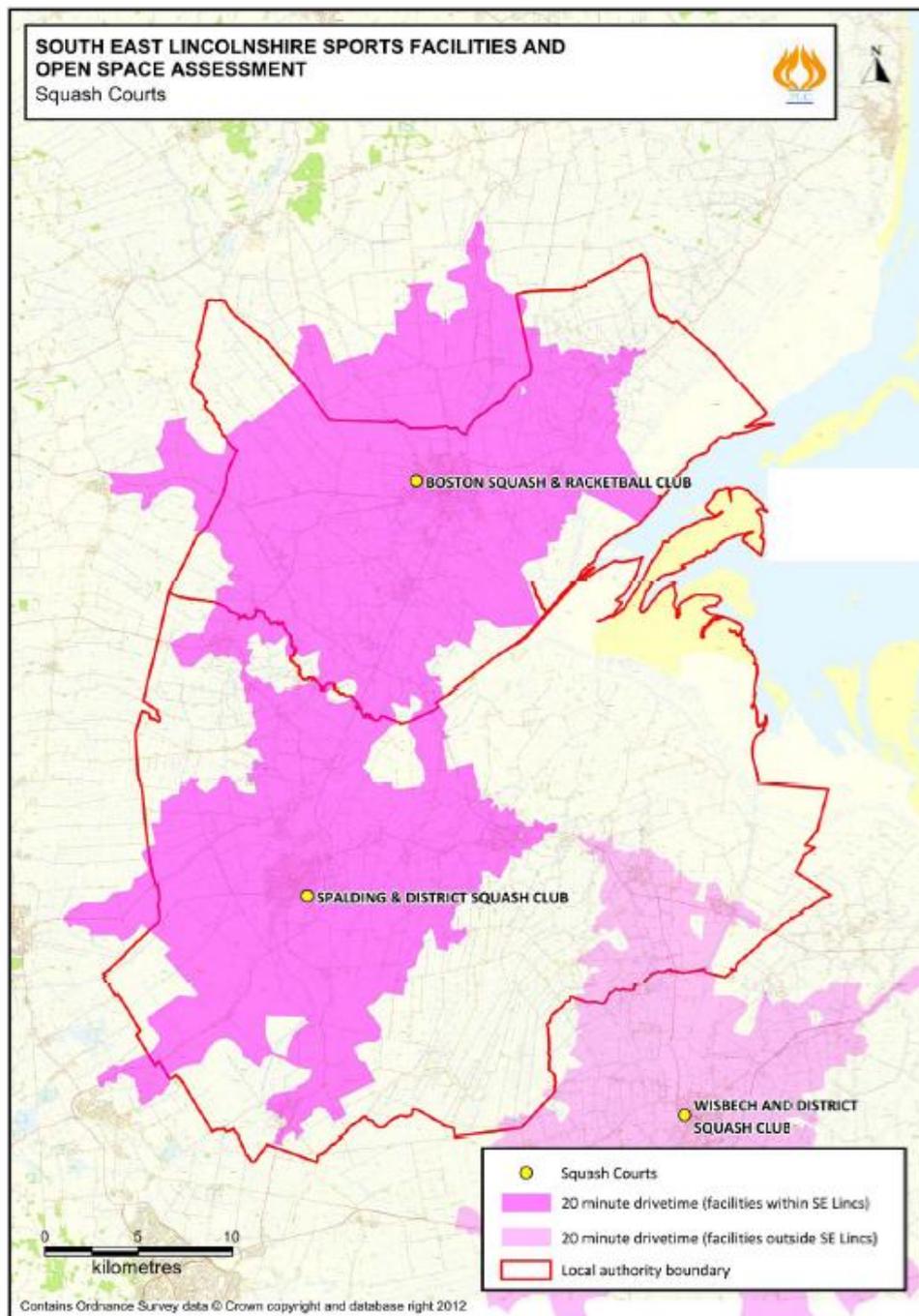
- d) **Provision in comparator areas:** There is no available data on squash courts in the comparator local authorities.

7.66 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit identified that the quality of courts at both sites is high:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Overall</i>
Boston Squash & Racketball Club	5
Spalding & District Squash Club	4

7.67 **Effective catchment:** As a specialist sports facility, squash court users typically travel for up to 20 minutes to reach their chosen facility and over 90% travel by car.

7.68 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of squash courts in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 20 minutes driving time catchments is contained below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. It shows that part of the south and east of the study area is unserved by squash courts, although there the facility is Wisbech meets some needs and there is no evidence of any unmet demand.



7.69 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One squash court per 16,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one squash court per 15,926 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for squash courts is one facility per 15,000 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies no deficiencies in provision for squash within the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of squash courts per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is around the median figure for neighbouring areas, which suggests that existing levels of close to the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>54.1% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey believe that the number of squash courts locally is 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>75.0% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that the number of squash courts locally is 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all squash courts should rate 'above average' or better.	All aspects of the quality of squash courts in the study area are rated as 'above average' quality or better. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of a squash court.	As a specialist sports facility, squash court users typically travel for up to 20 minutes to reach their chosen facility and over 90% travel by car.



*Glass-backed court at Boston Squash and Racketball Club*

7.70 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	9 Squash courts.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the south and east of the study area.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 additional squash courts.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 20 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	11 squash courts.

### **Golf courses**

7.71 **Definition:** Golf courses are specialist facilities comprising nine or eighteen holes.

7.72 **Quantitative analysis:** Golf courses in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are seven golf courses in the study area, comprising 99 holes, equivalent to one course per 20,514 people and one hole per 1,451 people:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>No. holes</i>
Boston Golf Club	Boston	18
Boston West Golf Centre	Boston	18
Kirton Holme Golf Club	Boston	9
Gedney Hill Golf Club	South Holland	18
Hovenden Park Golf Club	South Holland	9
Spalding Golf Club	South Holland	18
Sutton Bridge Golf Club	South Holland	9



*Boston West Golf Club*

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels vary widely between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Courses</i>	<i>Courses/person</i>	<i>No. Holes</i>	<i>Holes/person</i>
Boston	59,000	3	1: 19,667	45	1: 1,311
South Holland	84,600	4	1: 21,150	54	1: 1,567
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1: 20,514</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1: 1,451</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of golf courses in neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below. Whilst the number of courses per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is around the median, the study area has the second poorest levels of provision of golf holes per capita:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Courses</i>	<i>Courses/person</i>	<i>No. Holes</i>	<i>Holes/person</i>
East Lindsey	141,600	11	1: 12,873	207	1: 684
North Kesteven	106,400	6	1: 17,733	90	1: 1,182
South Kesteven	132,300	6	1: 22,067	108	1: 1,225
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	8	1: 17,950	117	1: 1,227
Peterborough	173,400	5	1: 34,680	126	1: 1,376
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1: 20,514</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1: 1,451</b>
Fenland	91,900	1	1: 91,900	9	1: 10,211

- d) **Provision in comparator areas:** The golf course and golf holes provision per capita in demographic comparator authorities are tabulated below. South-East Lincolnshire has the seventh lowest rate of course provision and the third lowest provision of golf holes per capita. Whilst levels of provision are above a median figure, it is skewed by the very low rates of provision in Fenland:

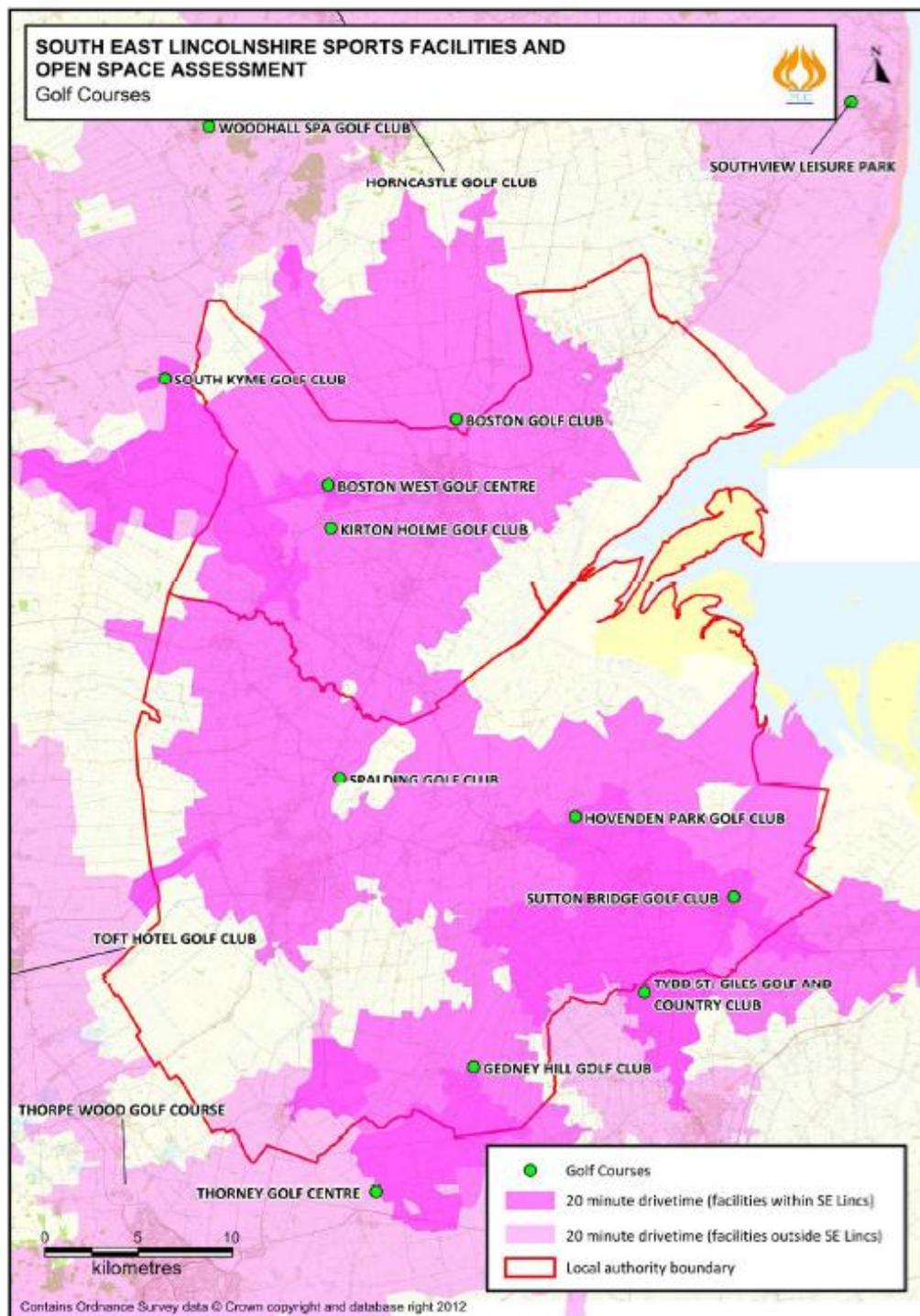
<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Courses</i>	<i>Courses/person</i>	<i>No. Holes</i>	<i>Holes/person</i>
North Warwickshire	61,900	8	1: 7,738	207	1: 299
West Lindsey	89,400	6	1: 14,900	117	1: 764
Mendip	109,000	7	1: 15,571	117	1: 932
High Peak	92,600	6	1: 15,433	99	1: 935
North-East Derbyshire	98,300	6	1: 16,683	99	1: 993
Bassetlaw	111,800	6	1: 18,633	99	1: 1,129
Forest of Dean	82,900	5	1: 16,580	72	1: 1,151
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	8	1: 17,950	117	1: 1,227
Amber Valley	121,600	5	1: 24,320	99	1: 1,228
Breckland	130,900	6	1: 21,817	99	1: 1,322
Newark and Sherwood	113,600	5	1: 22,720	81	1: 1,402
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1: 20,514</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1: 1,451</b>
St. Edmundsbury	104,500	4	1: 26,125	63	1: 1,659
<i>Median</i>	-	5.7	1: 23,635	98.4	1: 1,765
Fenland	91,900	1	1: 91,900	9	1: 10,211

- 7.73 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit identified that most aspects of golf course provision in the study area are rated as at least 'above average':

<i>Site</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Clubhouse</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Boston Golf Club	5	5	4	5	<b>4.75</b>
Boston West Golf Centre	5	5	5	5	<b>5.0</b>
Kirton Holme Golf Club	5	5	4	5	<b>4.75</b>
Gedney Hill Golf Club	5	5	5	5	<b>5.0</b>
Hovenden Park Golf Club	4	5	4	4	<b>4.25</b>
Spalding Golf Club	4	5	3	5	<b>4.25</b>
Sutton Bridge Golf Club	3	5	4	5	<b>4.25</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>4.43</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.14</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>4.58</b>

7.74 **Effective catchment:** Research commissioned by the English Golf Union revealed that golfers typically travel for up to 20 minutes to reach their chosen course and more than 90% travel by car.

7.75 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of golf courses in South-East Lincolnshire and adjacent areas, together with 20 minutes driving time catchments is contained below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. It shows that some of the sparsely populated peripheral rural areas in the north-east part of the study area are unserved, but golf courses at Thorney, Tydd St. Giles and South Kyme will help to meet some local demand.



7.76 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One 18-hole golf course per 30,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one 18-hole golf course per 31,911 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for golf courses is one 18-hole facility per 20,000 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The English Golf Union states that in the country as a whole, 'supply of golf courses currently exceeds demand, with membership vacancies existing in the majority of golf clubs. Nevertheless, it is important to note that participation rates are still rising'. Current levels of provision are therefore a reasonable basis for setting standards - <i>Golf Development Strategic Plan 2004-2014</i>' (EGU, 2004).</li> <li>The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies no deficiencies in provision for golf within the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of golf courses and holes per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is just above the median figure for neighbouring and demographic comparator areas, which suggests that existing levels of are around the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>62.7% of respondents to the leisure centre users survey believe that levels of golf course provision locally are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>100.0% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that levels of golf course provision locally are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all golf courses should rate 'above average' or better.	Most aspects of the quality of the most golf facilities in the study area are currently rated as 'above average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of a golf course.	Research commissioned by the English Golf Union revealed that golfers typically travel for up to 20 minutes to reach their chosen course and more than 90% travel by car. - <i>EGU</i> (2004).

7.77 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	7 golf courses.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>No significant qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 additional golf course.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 20 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	8 golf courses.

### **Health and fitness facilities**

7.78 **Definition:** Health and fitness facilities comprise specialist indoor areas with a mixture of cardio-vascular and resistance exercise equipment (termed 'stations').

7.79 **Quantitative analysis:** Health and fitness facilities in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 14 health and fitness facilities in the study area, comprising 582 equipment stations, equivalent to one facility per 10,257 people and one station per 247 people:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Stations</i>
Fitness First (Boston)	Boston	70
Geoff Moulder Leisure Complex	Boston	40
Middlecott School	Boston	38
Peter Paine Sports Centre	Boston	10
Princess Royal Sports Arena	Boston	47
Workhouse Gym	Boston	60
Bodyworks	South Holland	40
Castle Sports Complex	South Holland	42
Everybody's Gym	South Holland	66
Fitness Company	South Holland	17
Holbeach St. Mark's Community Gym	South Holland	9
Peele Leisure Centre	South Holland	42
Pro Bodies Health and Fitness	South Holland	65
SHS Fitness	South Holland	36

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the two sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire is as follows and shows that per capita levels are broadly similar between Boston and South Holland.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Facilities</i>	<i>Facilities/person</i>	<i>No. Stations</i>	<i>Stations/person</i>
Boston	59,000	6	1: 9,833	265	1: 223
South Holland	84,600	8	1: 10,575	317	1: 269
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1: 10,257</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>1: 247</b>



*Health and fitness facility at Castle Sports Complex*

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of health and fitness facilities in neighbouring local authorities is tabulated below and shows that the number of facilities per capita and equipment stations per capita in the study area are both around the median levels:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Facilities</i>	<i>Facilities/person</i>	<i>No. Stations</i>	<i>Stations/person</i>
Peterborough	173,400	19	1: 9,126	1,074	1: 161
North Kesteven	106,400	9	1: 11,822	498	1: 178
Fenland	91,900	9	1: 10,211	470	1: 195
<b><i>South-East Lincs</i></b>	<b><i>143,600</i></b>	<b><i>14</i></b>	<b><i>1: 10,257</i></b>	<b><i>582</i></b>	<b><i>1: 247</i></b>
South Kesteven	132,300	13	1: 10,177	532	1: 249
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	14	1: 10,257	490	1: 293
East Lindsey	141,600	12	1: 11,800	423	1: 335

d) ***Provision in comparator areas:*** The health and fitness provision per capita in demographic comparator authorities is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has a rate of provision of equipment stations per capita that is just above a median figure:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Facilities</i>	<i>Facilities/person</i>	<i>No. Stations</i>	<i>Stations/person</i>
St. Edmundsbury	104,500	12	1: 8,708	617	1: 169
High Peak	92,600	11	1: 8,418	482	1: 192
Amber Valley	121,600	10	1: 12,160	629	1: 193
North Warwickshire	61,900	9	1: 6,878	317	1: 195
Fenland	91,900	9	1: 10,211	470	1: 195
Newark and Sherwood	113,600	8	1: 14,200	543	1: 209
Mendip	109,000	13	1: 8,385	445	1: 245
<b><i>South-East Lincs</i></b>	<b><i>143,600</i></b>	<b><i>14</i></b>	<b><i>1: 10,257</i></b>	<b><i>582</i></b>	<b><i>1: 247</i></b>
<i>Median</i>	-	<i>9.9</i>	<i>1: 11,800</i>	<i>439</i>	<i>1: 261</i>
Bassetlaw	111,800	11	1: 10,164	426	1: 262
Forest of Dean	82,900	9	1: 1: 9,211	295	1: 281
North-East Derbyshire	98,300	8	1: 12,288	346	1: 284
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	14	1: 10,257	490	1: 293
West Lindsey	89,400	5	1: 17,880	287	1: 311
Breckland	130,900	5	1: 26,180	223	1: 587

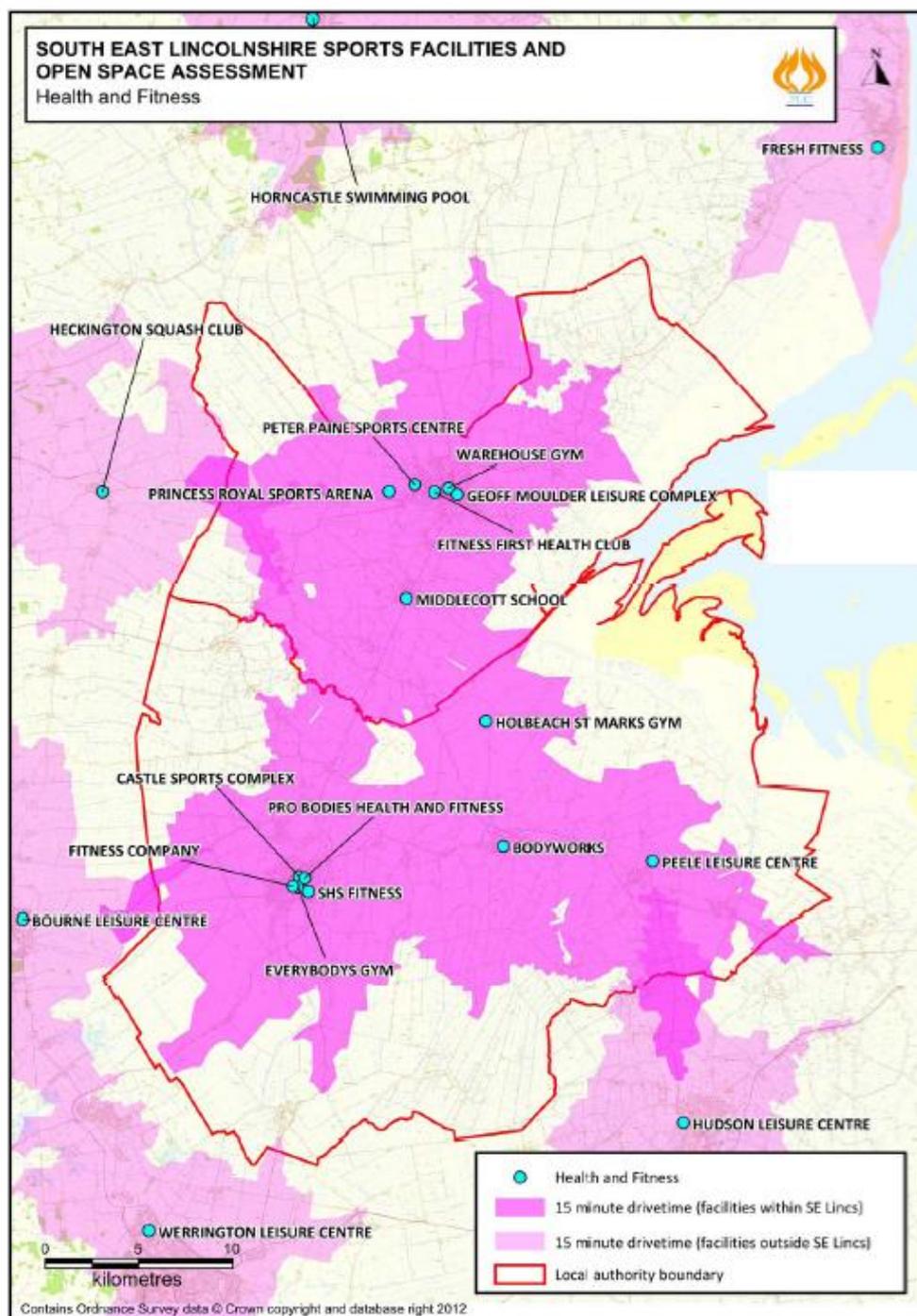
7.80 ***Qualitative analysis:*** The qualitative audit identified that the quality of health and fitness provision in the study area varies quite widely, although the overall average equates to an ‘average’ standard:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Fitness</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Fitness First (Boston)	5	5	5	5	<b><i>5.0</i></b>
Geoff Moulder Leisure Complex	5	5	4	4	<b><i>4.5</i></b>
Middlecott School	5	5	5	5	<b><i>5.0</i></b>
Peter Paine Sports Centre	4	3	3	4	<b><i>3.5</i></b>
Princess Royal Sports Arena	5	5	5	5	<b><i>5.0</i></b>
Workhouse Gym	3	3	2	1	<b><i>2.25</i></b>
Bodyworks	3	3	2	2	<b><i>2.5</i></b>
Castle Sports Complex	5	4	4	4	<b><i>4.25</i></b>
Everybody’s Gym	3	3	2	2	<b><i>2.5</i></b>
Fitness Company	2	2	2	2	<b><i>2.0</i></b>
Holbeach St. Mark’s Community Gym	3	3	1	2	<b><i>2.25</i></b>
Peele Leisure Centre	3	5	5	5	<b><i>4.5</i></b>
Pro Bodies Health and Fitness	3	3	2	2	<b><i>2.5</i></b>
SHS Fitness	3	3	3	2	<b><i>2.75</i></b>
<b><i>Mean</i></b>	<b><i>3.71</i></b>	<b><i>3.71</i></b>	<b><i>3.21</i></b>	<b><i>3.21</i></b>	<b><i>3.46</i></b>

7.81 **Effective catchment:** The leisure centre users survey produced the following indications of accessibility to health and fitness facilities in the study area:

- a) 83.3% of health and fitness facility users travel by car.
- b) 86.1% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less.

7.82 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of health and fitness facilities in South-East Lincolnshire and adjacent areas, together with 15 minutes driving time catchments is contained below. Facilities outside the study area, but with catchments that either overlap or come close to its boundaries are also marked with paler shading. It shows that there are gaps in coverage around the sparsely populated rural areas on the periphery of the study area.



7.83 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One health and fitness facility per 10,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one health and fitness facility per 10,257 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for health and fitness is one facility per 10,000 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework identifies no deficiencies in provision for health and fitness within the study area. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of health and fitness facilities and equipment stations per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is just above the median figure for neighbouring and demographic comparator areas, which suggests that existing levels of are around the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>84.7% of respondents to the leisure centre users survey believe that levels of health and fitness provision locally are ‘about right’.- <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>62.5% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that there are ‘too many’ health and fitness facilities locally. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all health and fitness facilities should rate ‘above average’ or better.	Whilst the overall quality of health and fitness facilities is above ‘average’, the quality of individual facilities varies widely. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of a health and fitness facility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>83.3% of health and fitness facility users in the leisure centre user’s survey travel by car. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>86.1% of health and fitness facility users in the leisure centre user’s survey have a journey time of 20 minutes or less. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>

7.84 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	14 health and fitness facilities.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>Qualitative deficiencies at 8 facilities.</li> <li>No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 additional health and fitness facilities.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	17 health and fitness facilities.

### **Village and community halls**

7.85 **Definition:** Village and community halls are multi-purpose indoor facilities that are included in the sports facilities assessment on the basis that they are capable of accommodating a range of sports activities, mostly at recreational level.

7.86 **Quantitative analysis:** Village and community halls in South-East Lincolnshire and neighbouring areas are as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There 53 village and community halls in the study area, equivalent to one hall per 2,709 people:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
Algarkirk Village Hall	Algarkirk	15m x 6m
Benington Village Hall	Benington	17m x 6m
Bicker Village Hall	Bicker	20m x 9m
Brothertoft Village Hall	Holland Fen	13m x 6m
Butterwick Village Hall	Butterwick	18m x 9m
Fenside Community Centre	Boston Fenside	18m x 12m
Fishtoft Rochford Tower Hall	Fishtoft	15m x 7m
Fosdyke Village Hall	Fosdyke	15m x 9m
Frampton Village Hall	Frampton	12m x 12m
Danny Flear Community Centre	Freiston	20m x 12m
Holland Fen with Amber Hill PH	Holland Fen	13m x 6m
Hubberts Bridge Comm. Centre	Frampton	23m x 15m
Kirton Town Hall	Kirton	18m x 9m
Leverton Leisure Centre	Leverton	18m x 12m
Old Leake Community Centre	Old Leake	23m x 12m
Sutterton Village Hall	Sutterton	20m x 12m
Swineshead Village Hall	Swineshead	20m x 11m
Wigtoft Village Hall	Wigtoft	11m x 7m
Wrangle Parish Hall	Wrangle	19m x 18m
Wyberton Parish Hall	Wyberton	17m x 10m
Cowbit Village Hall	Cowbit	12m x 9m
Deeping St. Nicholas Jubilee Hall	Deeping St. Nicholas	14m x 7m
Donington Village Hall	Donington	18m x 10m 17m x 10m
Gedney Drove End & Dawsmere VH	Gedney	12m x 10m
Gedney Dyke Village Hall	Gedney	18m x 11m
Gedney Victory Hall	Gedney	14m x 9m
Gedney Hill Memorial Hall	Gedney Hill	18m x 13m
Gosberton Public Hall	Gosberton	16m x 6m
Gosberton Risegate & Clough VH	Gosberton	25m x 18m
Holbeach Community Centre	Holbeach	18m x 8m
Holbeach Hurn Village Hall	Holbeach	18m x 8m
Holbeach St. John's Village Hall	Holbeach	14m x 8m
Holbeach St. Mark's Village Hall	Holbeach	22m x 10m
Long Sutton Village Hall	Long Sutton	11m x 5m
Lutton Village Hall	Lutton	14m x 5m
Moulton Community Centre	Moulton	14m x 6m
Moulton Seas End Village Hall	Moulton	18m x 6m
Pinchbeck Village Hall	Pinchbeck	18m x 6m
Pode Hole Bromley Memorial Hall	Pinchbeck	14m x 8m
Quadring Village Hall	Quadring	17m x 16m
Saracen's Head Village Hall	Whaplode	11m x 7m
Spalding Common Community Centre	Spalding St. John's	15m x 15m
Surfleet Village Hall	Surfleet	19m x 12m
Sutton Bridge Village Hall	Sutton Bridge	18m x 10m
Sutton St. Edmund Village Hall	Sutton St. Edmund	17m x 12m
Sutton St. James Village Hall	Sutton St. James	19m x 13m
Tydd St. Mary Village Hall	Tydd St. Mary	15m x 8m
West Pinchbeck Village Hall	Pinchbeck	16m x 6m
Weston Village Hall	Weston	15m x 10m

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>
Weston Hills Village Hall	Weston	17m x 6m
Whaplode Village Hall	Whaplode	14m x 7m
Whaplode Drove Elizabethan Centre	Whaplode	24m x 15m
Whaplode St. Catherine's Mem. Hall	Whaplode	14m x 8m

- b) ***Sub-area provision:*** Because of the more limited catchment of village/community halls, sub-area analysis has been undertaken on a parish/ward basis. This shows that provision across the study area is variable, with 18 mostly urban wards/parishes with no provision.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. halls</i>	<i>Halls/person</i>
Boston Central	1,699	0	-
Boston Fenside	3,619	1	1: 3,619
Boston North	3,263	0	-
Boston Staniland North	1,701	0	-
Boston Staniland South	3,434	0	-
Boston West	1,556	0	-
Boston Pilgrim	1,709	0	-
Boston Skirbeck	5,055	0	-
Boston South	1,831	0	-
Boston Witham	3,821	0	-
Algarkirk	406	1	1: 406
Amberhill	268	0	-
Benington	569	1	1: 569
Bicker	826	1	1: 826
Butterwick	1,403	1	1: 1,403
Fishtoft	5,444	1	1: 5,444
Fosdyke	486	1	1: 486
Frampton	1,217	2	1: 609
Freiston	1,211	1	1: 1,211
Holland Fen	652	2	1: 326
Kirton	4,002	1	1: 4,002
Leverton	668	1	1: 668
Leake	1,803	1	1: 1,803
Sutterton	1,124	1	1: 1,124
Swineshead	2,449	1	1: 2,449
Wigtoft	479	1	1: 479
Wrangle	1,265	1	1: 1,265
Wyberton	3,790	1	1: 3,790
Cowbit	898	1	1: 898
Crowland	3,607	0	-
Deeping St. Nicholas	1,323	1	1: 1,323
Donington	2,614	1	1: 2,614
Fleet	2,132	0	-
Gedney	2,305	3	1: 768
Gedney Hill	616	1	1: 616
Gosberton	2,833	2	1,417
Holbeach	9,448	4	1: 2,362
Little Sutton	121	0	-
Long Sutton	4,331	1	1: 4,331
Lutton	1,151	1	1: 1,151
Moulton	3,073	2	1: 1,537

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. halls</i>	<i>Halls/person</i>
Pinchbeck	5,153	3	1: 1,718
Quadring	1,193	1	1: 1,193
Surfleet	1,266	1	1: 1,266
Sutton Bridge	3,936	1	1: 3,936
Sutton St. Edmund	630	1	1: 630
Sutton St. James	926	1	1: 926
Tydd St. Mary	858	1	1: 858
Weston	1,853	2	1: 927
Whaplode	3,323	3	1: 1,662
Spalding Castle	2,170	0	-
Spalding Monkshouse	4,324	0	-
Spalding St. John's	6,363	1	1: 6,363
Spalding St. Mary's	3,619	0	-
Spalding St. Paul's	4,059	0	-
Spalding Wygate	4,397	0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1: 2,709</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The provision of village and community halls in those neighbouring local authorities for which data is available is tabulated below and shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the poorest level of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. halls</i>	<i>Halls/person</i>
East Lindsey	141,600	93	1: 1,523
North Kesteven	106,400	55	1: 1,935
South Kesteven	132,300	58	1: 2,281
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1: 2,709</b>

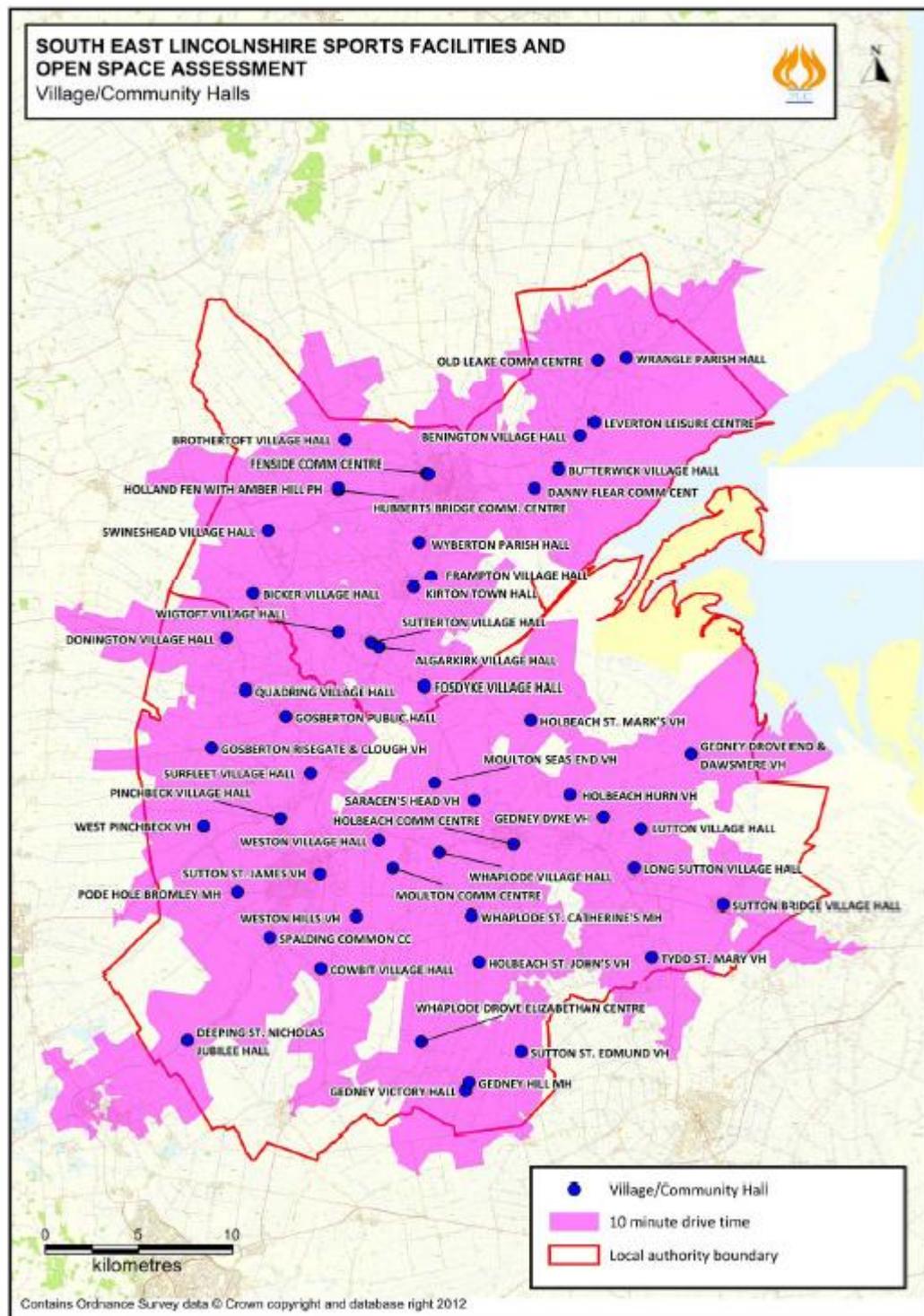
- d) **Provision in comparator areas:** There is no available data on village and community halls in the comparator local authorities.

7.87 **Qualitative analysis:** The full results of the qualitative audit are contained in the appendix, but the average scores for each aspect assessed are tabulated below and shows that all aspects have a mean score of below 'average':

<i>Element assessed</i>	<i>Average score</i>
Floor surface	2.21
Roof span	2.64
Lighting	2.51
Changing facilities	1.59
Disabled access	2.06
General access	2.15
<b>Mean score</b>	<b>2.19</b>

7.88 **Effective catchment:** A 2005 survey of village and community hall providers in Lincolnshire revealed that users typically live within 10 minutes travel time and the majority travel by car.

7.89 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of village and community halls in the study area, together with 10 minutes driving time catchments is contained below. It shows that there is almost comprehensive coverage.



7.90 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
One village/community hall per 2,500 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one hall per 2,709 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The adopted countywide standard for halls is one facility per 2,000 people. - <i>Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Framework</i> (2008).</li> <li>The number of halls per capita in South-East Lincolnshire is the lowest figure for neighbouring areas, which suggests that existing levels are below the norm for similar areas. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>74.4% of respondents to the leisure centre users' survey believe that the number of halls locally is 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Leisure Centre Users' Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>100.0% of respondents to the sports clubs' survey believe that the number of halls locally is 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs' Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>100.0% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that the number of halls locally is 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all halls should rate 'above average' or better.	Most aspects of the quality of most halls in the study area are currently rated as 'average' quality or below for the purposes of accommodating sports activities. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative Audit</i> (2012).
The whole population within 10 minutes walk or drive of a village/community hall.	Village hall users typically travel for up to 10 minutes to reach their chosen facility and over 90% travel by car. - <i>'Lincolnshire Sports Facilities Assessment'</i> (2005).



*Holbeach St. Mark's Village Hall*

7.91 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	53 village/community halls.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 village/community halls.</li> <li>Qualitative deficiencies at most facilities.</li> <li>No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 additional village/community halls once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 10 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	70 village/community halls.

## Summary of sports facility needs

7.92 **Quantitative needs:** The table below summarises sports facilities needs, both now and in 2031, the latter based upon a projected population increase of 30,000 people:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Provision in 2012</i>	<i>Needs in 2012</i>	<i>Extra needs in 2031</i>	<i>Total needs in 2031</i>
Sports halls	7	7	1.5	8.5
Swimming pools	2	3	1	4
Athletics tracks	1	1	0	1
Synthetic turf pitches	4	5	1	6
Indoor bowling greens	4	4	1	5
Outdoor bowling greens	32	32	7	39
Indoor tennis courts	4	4	1	5
Outdoor tennis courts	40	48	10	58
Squash courts	9	9	2	11
Golf courses	7	7	1	8
Health and fitness facilities	14	14	3	17
Village and community halls	53	5	12	70

7.93 **Qualitative needs:** The table below summarises the current quality of provision. Full details for individual facilities are listed in the appendix:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Above average' or better (%)</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Average' or worse (%)</i>	<i>Commentary</i>
Sports halls	7	85.7%	14.3%	The Peter Paine sports hall rated lower than 'above average', but is currently being refurbished.
Swimming pools	2	100.0%	0.0%	Both pools are rated as 'above average' overall.
Athletics tracks	1	100.0%	0.0%	The track is rated as 'high quality'
Synthetic turf pitches	4	50.0%	50.0%	Two pitches are rated lower than 'above average'. The Peter Paine pitch will shortly be resurfaced.
Indoor bowling greens	4	100.0%	0.0%	All indoor bowls facilities are rated at least 'above average'.
Outdoor bowling greens	32	12.5%	87.5%	The quality of playing surfaces is good at most sites, but disabled access is poor at most.
Indoor tennis courts	4	100.0%	0.0%	The quality of all aspects of the indoor courts is 'high quality'.
Outdoor tennis courts	40	60.0%	40.0%	24 courts are rated as 'above average'.
Golf courses	7	100.0%	0.0%	All courses rate as at least 'above average' quality.
Squash courts	9	100.0%	0.0%	All courts rate as at least 'above average' quality.
Health and fitness facilities	14	42.9%	57.1%	Six facilities rate at least 'above average', but several have poor disabled and general access.
Village and community halls	53	3.8%	96.2%	Quality is based solely on a hall's capacity to accommodate sport and thus does not fully reflect the other valuable functions served.

## **VIII. ASSESSMENT OF PLAYING PITCHES**

### **Introduction**

- 8.1 This section contains an analysis of playing pitch and related changing facilities provision in South-East Lincolnshire. The pitch types examined are as follows:
- a) Adult football pitches.
  - b) Junior football pitches.
  - c) Mini-soccer pitches.
  - d) Cricket pitches.
  - e) Rugby pitches.
- 8.2 The analysis follows the methodology for other types of open space, sport and recreation provision, together with an additional assessment specific to playing pitches, Sport England's Playing Pitch Model (PPM) was applied, as set out in *'Towards a Level playing Field - A guide to the production of Playing Pitch Strategies'* (2005). However, to ensure consistent treatment with the other typologies, the following minor variations in approach were adopted:
- a) Because the strategy assesses publicly-accessible provision, the analysis is confined to pitches with community access, rather than including any private facilities without public access.
  - b) The outputs from the PPM were used to guide the development of local standards of provision and as with the other typologies, these standards have then been applied to determine current and future needs, rather than the numerical outputs of the PPM and related material such as Team Generation Rates and Conversion Rates.
  - c) The methodology for the qualitative audit is based upon Sport England's recommended criteria.
- 8.3 Synthetic turf pitches are analysed separately in the sports facilities section, but where such facilities serve the training needs of grass pitch users, this has been reflected in the respective assessments.

### **Data on teams**

- 8.4 **Introduction:** The data on local pitch sport teams is detailed below. It was compiled from the following sources.
- a) The Football Association's *'Football Participation Reports'* for South-East Lincolnshire for 2010/2011.
  - b) The England and Wales Cricket Board's 'Play-Cricket' database.
  - c) Local rugby club websites.

8.5 **Football clubs:** The following clubs and teams currently play in the study area

<b>Club</b>	<b>Adult Teams</b>	<b>Junior Teams</b>	<b>Mini Teams</b>
Benington FC	1	0	0
Boston Eastside FC	0	3	2
Boston Saints JFC	0	5	1
Boston Town	2	0	0
Boston Town Juniors FC	0	7	5
Boston Town Old Boys FC	1	0	0
Boston United FC	2	1	0
Boston United Community FC	1	6	4
Britannia Revolution FC	1	0	0
FC Hammers	1	0	0
FC Kirton	1	0	0
Fishtoft FC	2	0	0
Fishtoft Youth JFC	0	5	4
Fosdyke FC	2	0	0
Freiston FC	2	0	0
Harchester United FC	1	0	0
Kirton Leisure FC	1	0	0
Kirton Town FC	2	0	0
Kirton Town Colts	0	1	0
Magnet Tavern FC	1	0	0
Mayflower Youth FC	0	4	0
Old Leake FC	1	4	3
Park United FC	1	0	0
Pinchbeck United FC	1	3	0
Sutterton FC	1	0	0
Swifts FC	0	0	4
Swineshead Institute FC	3	2	0
Tavern Colts FC	2	0	0
Westside Rangers FC	2	0	0
Wrangle FC	1	0	0
Wyberton FC	3	3	5
Wyberton Ladies FC	1	0	0
Wyberton Wildcats Girls FC	0	3	0
Aintree FC	1	0	0
ASSL	0	0	7
Cowbit FC	1	0	0
Crowland JFC	0	7	3
Crowland Town FC	4	0	0
Fenway FC	1	0	0
Fleet Rangers YFC	1	0	0
Gedney Hill FC	2	0	0
Gosberton FC	1	0	0
Holbeach Bank FC	2	0	0
Holbeach United FC	3	9	3
Hole in the Wall FC	1	0	0
Inter Fenway FC	1	0	0
Jubilee FC	1	0	0
Long Sutton Athletic FC	2	0	0
Lutton FC	1	0	0
Old Doningtonians FC	2	0	0
Pinchbeck United FC	2	0	0

<i>Club</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Punchbowl FC	1	0	0
Spalding Athletic FC	2	8	3
Spalding Harriers FC	2	0	0
Spalding Town FC	2	0	0
Spalding United FC	2	0	0
Station Gates FC	1	0	0
Sutton Bridge United FC	2	0	0
Sutton St. James FC	1	0	0
Tydd St. Mary FC	2	0	0
Web Marketing FC	1	0	0
Young Dons JFC	0	6	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>48</b>

8.6 **Cricket clubs:** The following clubs and teams currently play in the study area.

<i>Club</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>
Boston Cricket Club	6	3
Boston Imps Cricket Club	1	0
Freiston Leake &Leverton Cricket Club	2	0
Graves Park Cricket Club	4	0
Long Sutton Cricket Club	4	3
Moulton Harrox Cricket Club	2	4
Pinchbeck Cricket Club	1	0
Spalding Cricket Club	6	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>

8.7 **Rugby clubs:** The following clubs and teams currently play in the study area.

<i>Club</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Boston Rugby Club	3	4	5
Spalding Rugby Club	6	6	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>

8.8 **Team equivalents:** In addition to the teams requiring access to pitches to play competitive fixtures, the impact on overall demand from training use can be assessed by calculating the ‘team equivalents’ that such usage generates. The following information was derived from the survey of pitch sports clubs and the additional team equivalents have been included in the application of the Playing Pitch Model in section 8.27 below:

- a) **Adult football:** The responding clubs typically train on average once a week in addition to their competitive fixtures. Because of the lack of floodlights at most grass pitches in the study area, the facilities used for midweek evening training include sports halls, synthetic turf pitches and multi-use games areas. Training on grass frequently involves the use of training ‘grids’ rather than the pitches themselves. As a result, analysis of the survey responses suggests that the additional ‘team equivalents’ generated by training usage on grass pitches equates to an estimated 12 teams (15% of the training volume), concentrated in the midweek period. Whilst this does not impact directly upon peak demand periods, the wear and tear on some of the lower quality pitches does affect their carrying capacity.

- b) **Junior football:** Junior teams typically train an average of once a week and use a similar mix of facilities. Analysis of the survey responses suggests that the additional ‘team equivalents’ generated by training usage on grass pitches equates to an estimated 12 teams (15% of the training volume), concentrated in the midweek period.
- c) **Mini-soccer:** Mini-soccer teams typically train an average once a week and use a similar mix of facilities. However, because of the nature of the mini-game and the small size of the players, wear and tear on grass pitches is a less significant factor. Analysis of the survey responses suggests that the additional ‘team equivalents’ generated by training usage on grass pitches equates to an estimated 5 teams (10% of the training volume), concentrated in the midweek period.
- d) **Cricket:** Clubs typically train twice a week during the cricket season, but this has a negligible effect on pitches because the training involves the use of nets on the outfield or synthetic turf wickets. As a result, the additional ‘team equivalents’ generated by training usage on match wickets is zero.
- e) **Rugby:** The local rugby clubs all have access to floodlit pitches and adult and junior teams typically train once a week on midweek evenings. Analysis of the survey responses suggests that the additional ‘team equivalents’ generated by training usage on grass pitches equates to an estimated 9 adult teams and 10 junior teams (100% of the training volume), concentrated in the midweek period.



*Boston Rugby Club*

### **Pitches in South-East Lincolnshire**

- 8.9 **Definition:** The pitches included in the analysis are defined as natural turf areas permanently laid out with regulation markings, with the following dimensions for club-level play as specified in Sport England’s ‘*Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts*’ (2011), have community access and are used for competitive play.

<i>Pitch Type</i>	<i>Pitch length</i>	<i>Pitch width</i>	<i>Size including run-offs</i>
Adult football	Max. 120m/Min. 90m	Max. 90m/Min. 45.5m	Max. 126m x 96m
Junior football	Max. 100.6m/Min. 68.25m	Max. 64m/Min. 42m	Max. 106.6m x 70m
Mini-soccer	Max. 45.75m/Min. 27.45m	Max. 27.45m/Min. 18.3m	Max. 54.9m x 36.6m
Adult cricket	20.12m	Max. 36.6m/Min. 3.05m	111.56m x 106.69m
Junior cricket	19.2m	Max. 27.45m/Min. 3.05m	92.36m x 88.41m
Adult rugby	Max. 144m	Max. 70m	Max. 154m x 80m
Mini-rugby	Max. 70m	Max. 43m/Min. 30m	Max. 80m x 53m

8.10 **Security of access:** A key consideration in assessing pitch supply is the extent to which provision is available for unrestricted community use and subject to formalised access arrangements that cannot easily be rescinded. Sport England has produced a formal classification for access to playing pitches which is set out below. In common with the other PPG17 typologies, this study has focused exclusively on categories A and B.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Supplementary information</i>
A(i)	Secured community pitches	Pitches in local authority or other public ownership.
A(ii)		Pitches in the voluntary, private or commercial sector which are open to members of the public.*
A(iii)		Pitches on education sites which are available for use by the public through formal community use agreements.
B	Used by community but not secured	Pitches not included above, that are nevertheless available for community use, e.g. school facilities without formal user arrangements.
C	Not open for community use	Pitches at establishments which are not, as a matter of policy or practice, available for community use.

\* Where there is a charge, this must be reasonable and affordable for the local community.

8.11 **Quantitative analysis:** Details of all pitches with community access in South-East Lincolnshire are listed below, with the access category recorded for each.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Junior football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>
Boston Grammar School	B	4	-	-	2	1
Boston Rugby Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	-	3
Boston Town FC	A(ii)	1	-	2	-	-
The Jakemans Stadium	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
Danny Flear Centre	A(i)	1	-	1	1	-
Fishtoft Playing Field	A(i)	1	1	1	1	-
Fosdyke Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Garfitts Lane	A(i)	2	-	-	1	-
Graves Park	A(i)	1	2	1	1	-
Haven High Technology College	A(iii)	1	2	-	1	-
Middlecott School	A(iii)	3	-	-	1	-
Old Leake Playing Field	A(i)	3	2	2	-	-
Mayflower Sports Ground	A(i)	4	2	2	2	-
St. Bede's Catholic College	B	2	-	-	-	-
St. Thomas Drive Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Sheepgate Equestrian Centre	A(ii)	-	1	1	-	-
Sutterton Glebe Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Swineshead Football Field	A(i)	1	1	1	-	-
Wrangle Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Junior football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>
Wrangle Youth Club	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
Wyberton Playing Field	A(i)	2	2	1	-	-
Castle Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Cowbit Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Donington Community Centre	A(i)	2	-	2	-	-
Fishpond Lane Playing Field	A(i)	-	-	1	-	-
Fleet Hargate Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Gedney Hill Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Glebe Field	A(i)	1	-	-	1	-
Gleed Boys School	A(iii)	2	-	-	1	1
Glen Park	A(i)	-	-	1	-	-
Harrox Playing Field	A(ii)	1	-	-	1	-
Holbeach Bank Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	1	-	-
Holbeach St. Marks Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Holbeach United FC	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
Holland Way Sports Field	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-
Leaves Lake Drove Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Long Sutton Playing Field	A(i)	1	1	-	-	-
Lutton Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Memorial Park Playing Field	A(i)	2	-	-	-	-
Monks House Playing Field	A(i)	2	-	-	-	-
Moulton Chapel Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Moulton Seas End Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Paradise Field	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
Peele School, Long Sutton	A(iii)	1	1	-	1	1
Pinchbeck West Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
St. Guthlac School	B	1	-	-	-	1
Sir Halley Stewart Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Snowdon Field	A(i)	3	1	-	-	-
Spalding Grammar School	A(iii)	1	-	1	-	-
Spalding High School	B	-	1	-	-	-
Spalding Rugby Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	-	3
Stricklands Drive Playing Field	A(i)	-	-	2	-	-
Sutton St. James Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Tydd St. Mary Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
University Academy, Holbeach	B	2	-	-	2	1
Walker Memorial Park	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Weston Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Whaplode Drove Elizabethan Centre	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>69</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>

8.12 *Per capita provision:* The number of pitches of each type per capita in the study area is therefore as follows:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Adult football	1: 2,081
Junior football	1: 7,978
Mini-soccer	1: 7,180
Cricket	1: 8,447
Rugby	1: 13,055

- 8.13 **Security of access:** The number and percentage of pitches of each type in each access category in the study area is shown below. It shows that one pitch in eight is in the least secure access category (available for community use but without formal user arrangements), including around a quarter of cricket and rugby pitches. Since community use of these (mostly school) pitches could in theory be rescinded at any time, efforts should be made to secure more formal Community Use Agreements.

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>A(i)</i>		<i>A(ii)</i>		<i>A(iii)</i>		<i>B</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
Adult football	46	66.7	6	8.7	8	11.6	9	13.0
Junior football	13	72.2	1	5.6	3	16.7	1	5.6
Mini-soccer	16	80.0	3	15.0	1	5.0	0	10.0
Cricket pitches	9	53.0	0	0.0	4	23.5	4	23.5
Rugby pitches	0	0.0	6	64.5	2	18.2	3	27.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>62.2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12.6</b>



*Wyberton Playing Field with junior football pitch markings (red) overlaying a senior pitch (white)*

- 8.14 **Sub-area analysis:** Sub-area analysis is based upon the levels of provision in Boston Borough and South Holland district. This scale of sub-area was selected, because it most closely accords with the catchment sizes of playing pitches and the populations needed to sustain them. The table below reveals that, with the exception of rugby pitches, the per capita rate of pitch provision is significantly better in the Boston sub-area.

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Boston</i>		<i>South Holland</i>	
	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches/person</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches/person</i>
Adult football	32	1: 1,844	35	1: 2,417
Junior football	13	1: 4,538	5	1: 16,920
Mini-soccer	12	1: 4,917	8	1: 10,575
Cricket pitches	10	1: 5,900	7	1: 12,086
Rugby pitches	4	1: 14,750	7	1: 12,086

8.15 **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The per capita rates of provision of pitches in neighbouring local authorities for whom data is available are tabulated below. The study area has the poorest level of provision junior football and cricket, but the second highest levels of provision for adult football, mini-soccer and rugby:

<b>Local authority</b>	<b>Adult football</b>	<b>Junior football</b>	<b>Mini-soccer</b>	<b>Cricket</b>	<b>Rugby</b>
East Lindsey	1: 2,308	1: 6,595	1: 19,786	1: 5,540	1: 46,167
North Kesteven	1: 1,564	1: 3,359	1: 9,382	1: 5,432	1: 20,640
South Kesteven	1: 2,282	1: 5,657	1: 6,195	1: 4,818	1: 10,842
<b>SE Lincs</b>	<b>1: 2,081</b>	<b>1: 7,978</b>	<b>1: 7,180</b>	<b>1: 8,447</b>	<b>1: 13,055</b>

8.16 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit used the methodology specified by Sport England in its 'Playing Pitch Toolkit', which generated percentage scores for each aspect of each site:

a) **Pitches:**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Score</b>
Grass cover	The % of grass cover on the pitch. A bare goal mouth represents 5% of the pitch. Weeds should be counted as 'bare' areas.	%
Grass length	Appropriate to the sport (shortest for cricket, longest for rugby).	%
Pitch size	Complies with recommended pitch dimensions.	%
Safety margins	Complies with governing body requirements.	%
Pitch slope	The overall gradient and cross-fall of the pitch (flat = 100%, slight = 80%, gentle = 60%, moderate = 40%, severe = 20%).	%
Pitch evenness	The extent to which the pitch is bumpy, rutted or uneven	%
Dog fouling	Any evidence of dog fouling	%
Unofficial use	Any evidence of unofficial use (informal kick-about, training use etc.).	%
Damage to surface	Any evidence of problems such as tyre tracks, golf divots etc.	%
Goalposts (winter sports)	The extent to which posts are upright, straight, painted and not damaged. For football, net hooks on both sets of posts. If posts are removable or dismantled, score 100%.	%
Cricket wicket protection	The extent to which the wicket is protected when not in use (e.g. roped off, movable covers etc).	%
Line markings	The extent to which line markings are clear and straight.	%



*The John Butler Pavilion, Swineshead*

b) *Changing provision:*

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Score</i>
Overall quality	The extent to which the provision is well-maintained, clean and user friendly	%
Evidence of vandalism	The extent to which there is any evidence of vandalism, such as damage to doors and windows, broken glass, graffiti, fire damage etc.	%
Showers	Are there showers and if so how good to they appear to be?	%
Toilets	Are there toilets and if so how good to they appear to be?	%
Security	The security of the provision and any evidence of break-ins.	%
Segregated changing	Are there self-contained changing rooms? Are there communal showers? Can male and female teams use the provision at the same time?	%

c) *Other aspects:*

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Score</i>
Car parking	Presence of on-site car parking for around 20 cars. The nature of the surface (e.g. hard surfaced, pot-holed etc).	%
Public transport	Links to the public transport network (a good score applies if the site is within 10 minutes walk of a bus stop or train station).	%



*Changing facilities at Holbeach Bank Playing Field*

8.17 The full results of the qualitative audit are set out below.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Other aspects</i>
Boston Grammar School	89%	84%	85%
Boston Rugby Club	87%	91%	65%
Boston Town FC	86%	89%	85%
The Jakemans Stadium	91%	92%	75%
Danny Flear Centre	79%	68%	65%
Fishtoft Playing Field	77%	79%	55%
Fosdyke Playing Field	79%	89%	65%
Garfitts Lane	71%	67%	45%
Graves Park	73%	88%	75%
Haven High Technology College	90%	86%	85%
Middlecott School	91%	91%	75%
Old Leake Playing Field	77%	85%	65%
Mayflower Sports Ground	93%	81%	85%
St. Bede's Catholic College	78%	87%	75%
St. Thomas Drive Playing Field	69%	-	35%

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Other aspects</i>
Sheepgate Equestrian Centre	89%	77%	45%
Sutterton Glebe Playing Field	72%	66%	55%
Swineshead Football Field	87%	79%	65%
Wrangle Playing Field	90%	77%	55%
Wrangle Youth Club	76%	69%	35%
Wyberton Playing Field	81%	81%	65%
Castle Playing Field	61%	85%	75%
Cowbit Playing Field	81%	75%	45%
Donington Community Centre	84%	82%	65%
Fishpond Lane Playing Field	48%	81%	65%
Fleet Hargate Playing Field	75%	64%	45%
Gedney Hill Playing Field	85%	65%	55%
Glebe Field	86%	87%	65%
Gleed Boys School	72%	79%	75%
Glen Park	68%	54%	45%
Harrox Playing Field	85%	78%	65%
Holbeach Bank Playing Field	75%	49%	45%
Holbeach St. Marks Playing Field	68%	94%	55%
Holbeach United FC	84%	88%	65%
Holland Way Sports Field	41%	-	25%
Leaves Lake Drove Playing Field	77%	71%	35%
Long Sutton Playing Field	69%	74%	55%
Lutton Playing Field	75%	67%	35%
Memorial Park Playing Field	51%	58%	55%
Monks House Playing Field	78%	72%	65%
Moulton Chapel Playing Field	33%	-	35%
Moulton Seas End Playing Field	82%	54%	35%
Paradise Field	82%	81%	65%
Peele School	78%	77%	55%
St. Guthlac School	68%	61%	65%
Sir Halley Stewart Playing Field	81%	84%	75%
Snowdon Field	69%	97%	75%
Spalding Grammar School	79%	70%	75%
Spalding High School	81%	74%	75%
Spalding Rugby Club	52%	73%	85%
Stricklands Drive Playing Field	31%	-	45%
Sutton St. James Playing Field	82%	56%	45%
Tydd St. Mary Playing Field	78%	61%	35%
University Academy, Holbeach	75%	73%	75%
Walker Memorial Park	75%	72%	55%
Weston Playing Field	77%	65%	45%
Whaplode Drove Elizabethan Centre	48%	64%	45%

8.18 **Pitch quality:** Because much of the study area comprises Grade One agricultural land, the quality of grass pitches locally is generally very high. The table below sets out the number of pitches which were rated as below ‘average’ and are therefore in condition that is likely to compromise the quality and quantity of play that they can accommodate:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>No. pitches below 'average'</i>	<i>% pitches below 'average'</i>
Adult football	0	0.0%
Junior football	1	5.6%
Mini-soccer	1	5.0%
Cricket	0	0.0%
Rugby	3	27.3%
<b>ALL PITCHES</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.8%</b>

8.19 **Changing facilities quality:** The quality of changing facilities is rated as below 'average' at only four sites in the study area (7.0%), although a further four sites (7.0%) have no on-site changing provision.

8.20 **Pitch carrying capacity:** Pitch carrying capacity is the number of games per week that a pitch can accommodate. An average quality pitch in South-East Lincolnshire can accommodate two games (and/or training sessions) per week without detriment to the quality of the pitch. Below average pitches, cater for one or fewer matches/training sessions per week due to their poor quality and for the purposes of calculating supply through the Playing Pitch Model, effectively count as less than one pitch, because of their periodic non-availability in the peak demand period. The table below shows the calculated carrying capacity of each type of pitch in the study area:

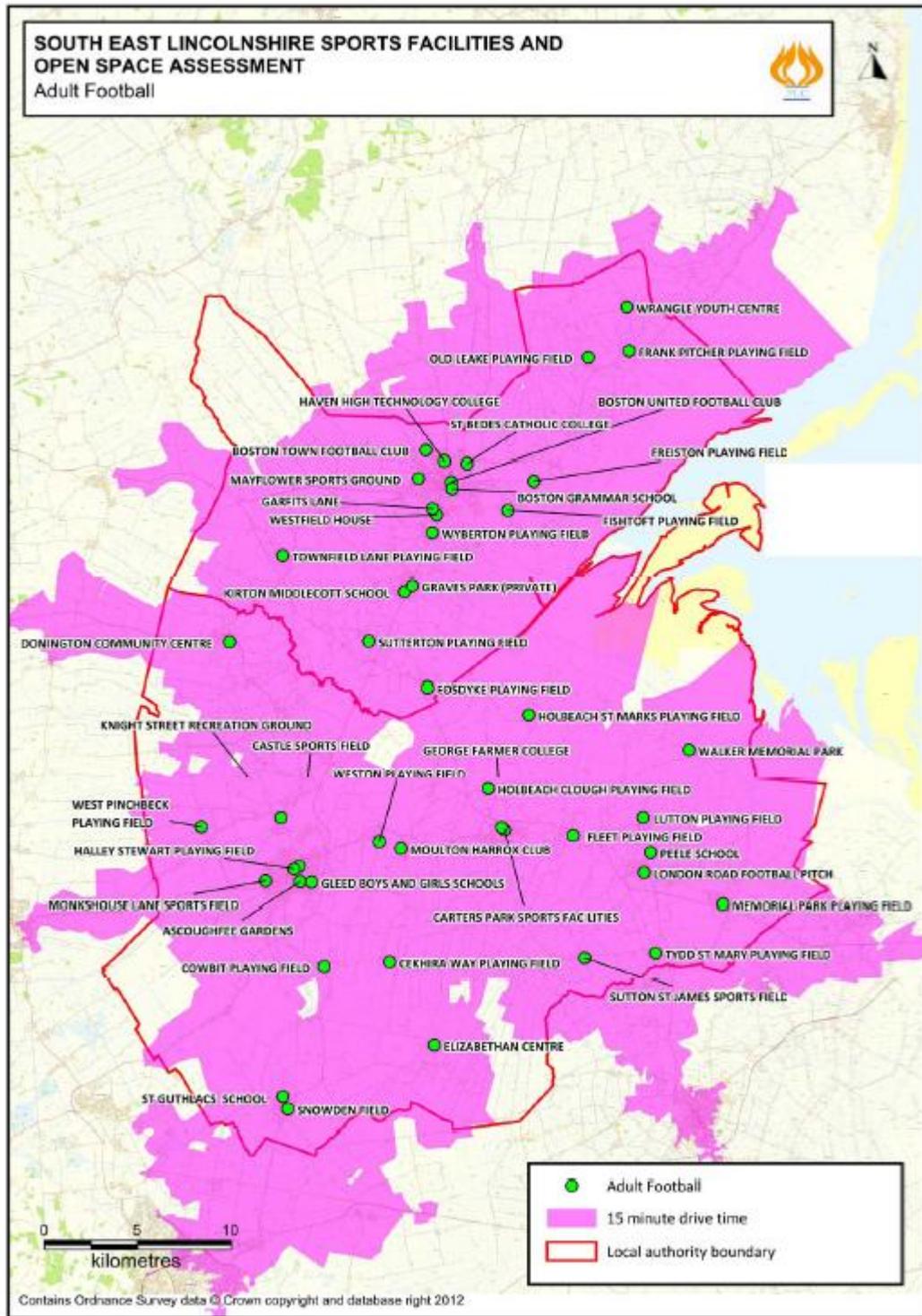


*Snowdon Field, Crowland, showing goalmouth wear*

<i>Pitch Type</i>	<i>Average quality or better</i>			<i>Below average quality</i>			<i>Total effective availability</i>
	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Multiplication factor</i>	<i>Effective availability</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Multiplication factor</i>	<i>Effective availability</i>	
Adult football	69	x 1	69	0	-	-	69.0
Junior football	17	x 1	17	1	x 0.5	0.5	17.5
Mini-soccer	19	x 1	19	1	x 0.5	0.5	19.5
Cricket pitch	17	x 1	17	0	-	-	17.0
Adult rugby	8	x 1	8	3	x 0.5	1.5	9.5

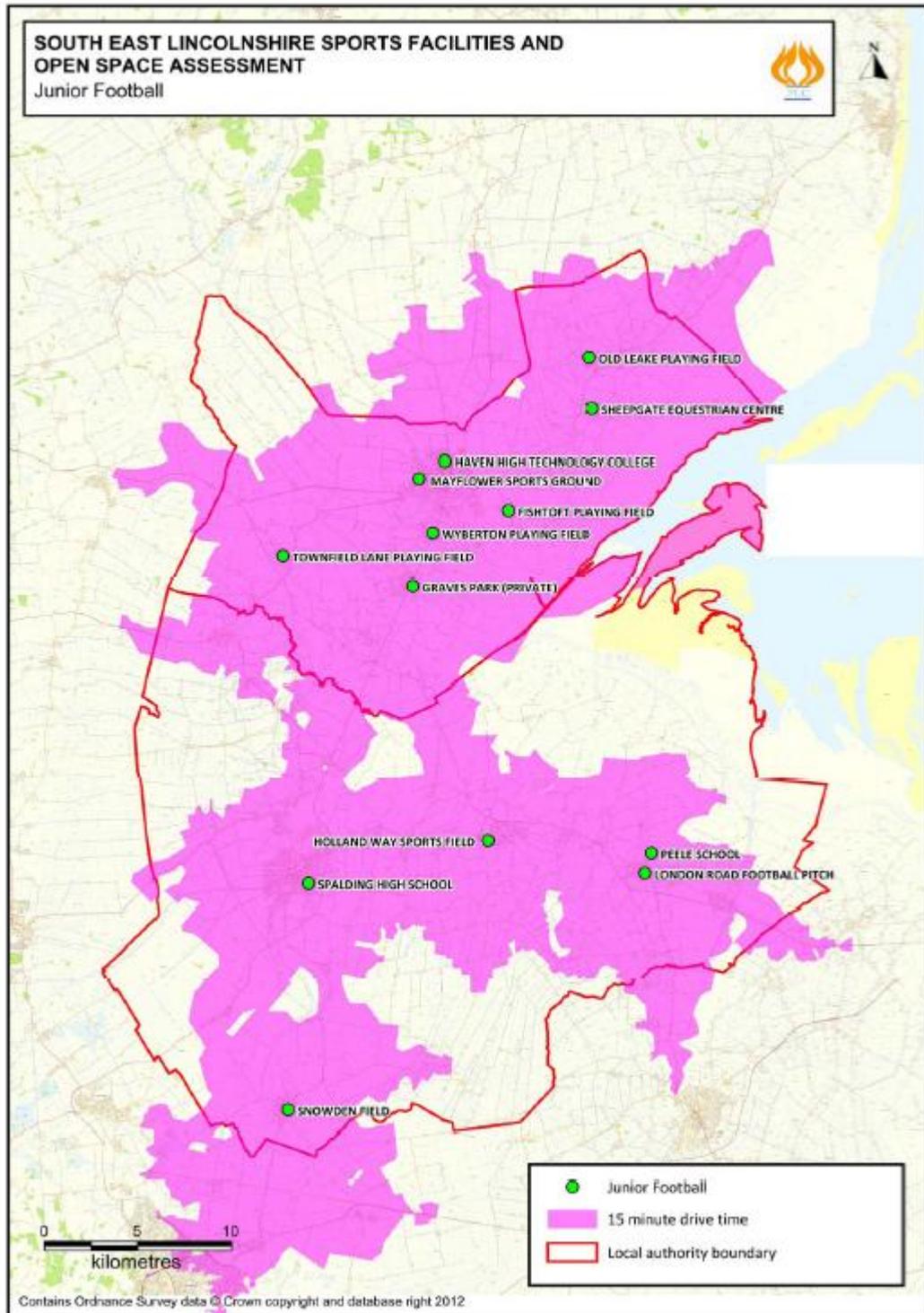
8.21 **Effective catchment:** Playing pitch users typically travel by car and around 90% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less.

8.22 *Patterns of provision of adult football pitches:* A map showing adult football pitches in South-East Lincolnshire, with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. It shows almost the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of a pitch:



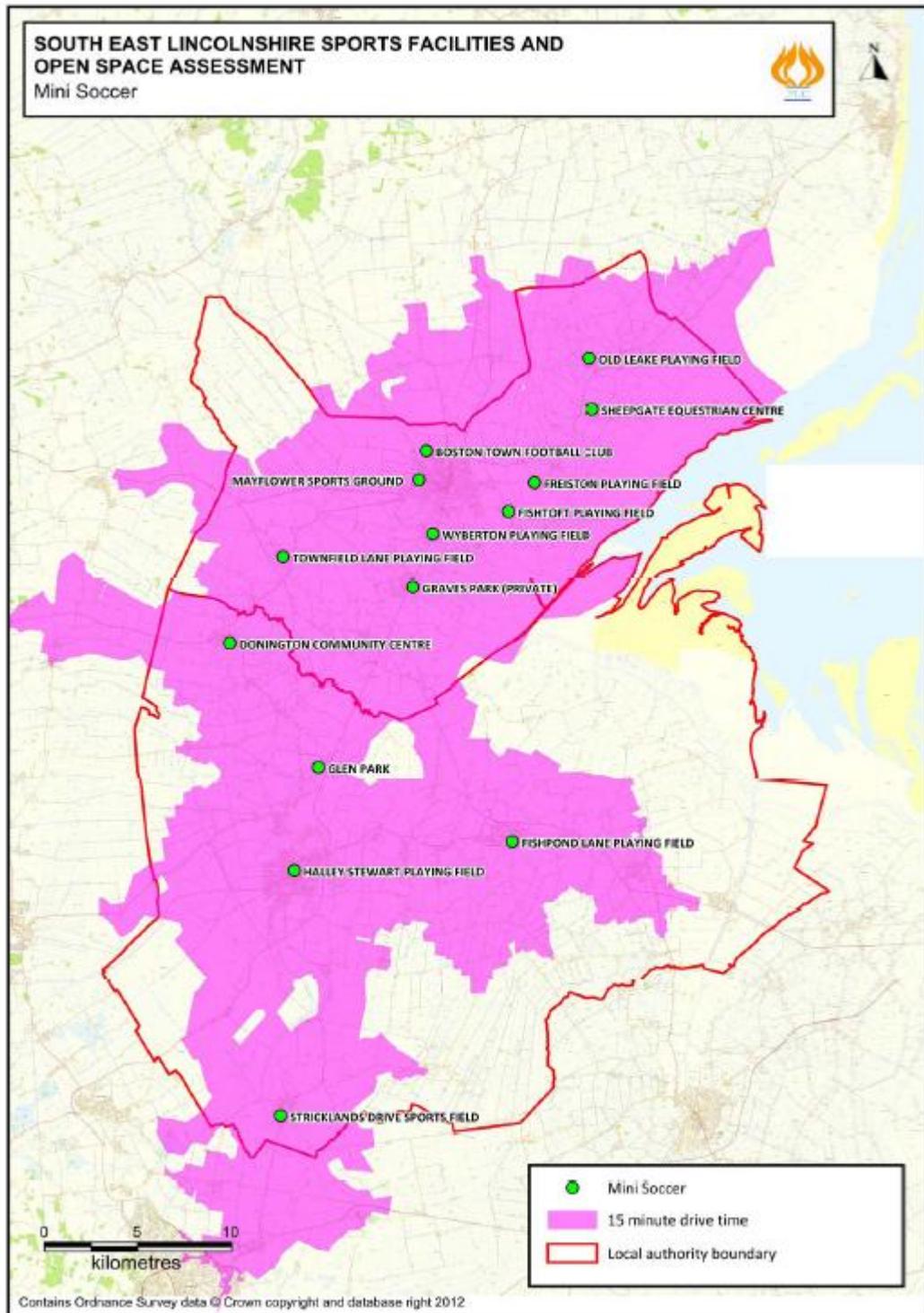
8.23 **Patterns of provision of junior football pitches:** A map showing the location of junior football pitches in South-East Lincolnshire, with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. It shows that:

- a) Most of the population of the Boston sub-area is within 15 minutes drive of a pitch.
- b) Parts of the east and south-east of the study area are unserved, although there is no evidence of latent demand in these areas.

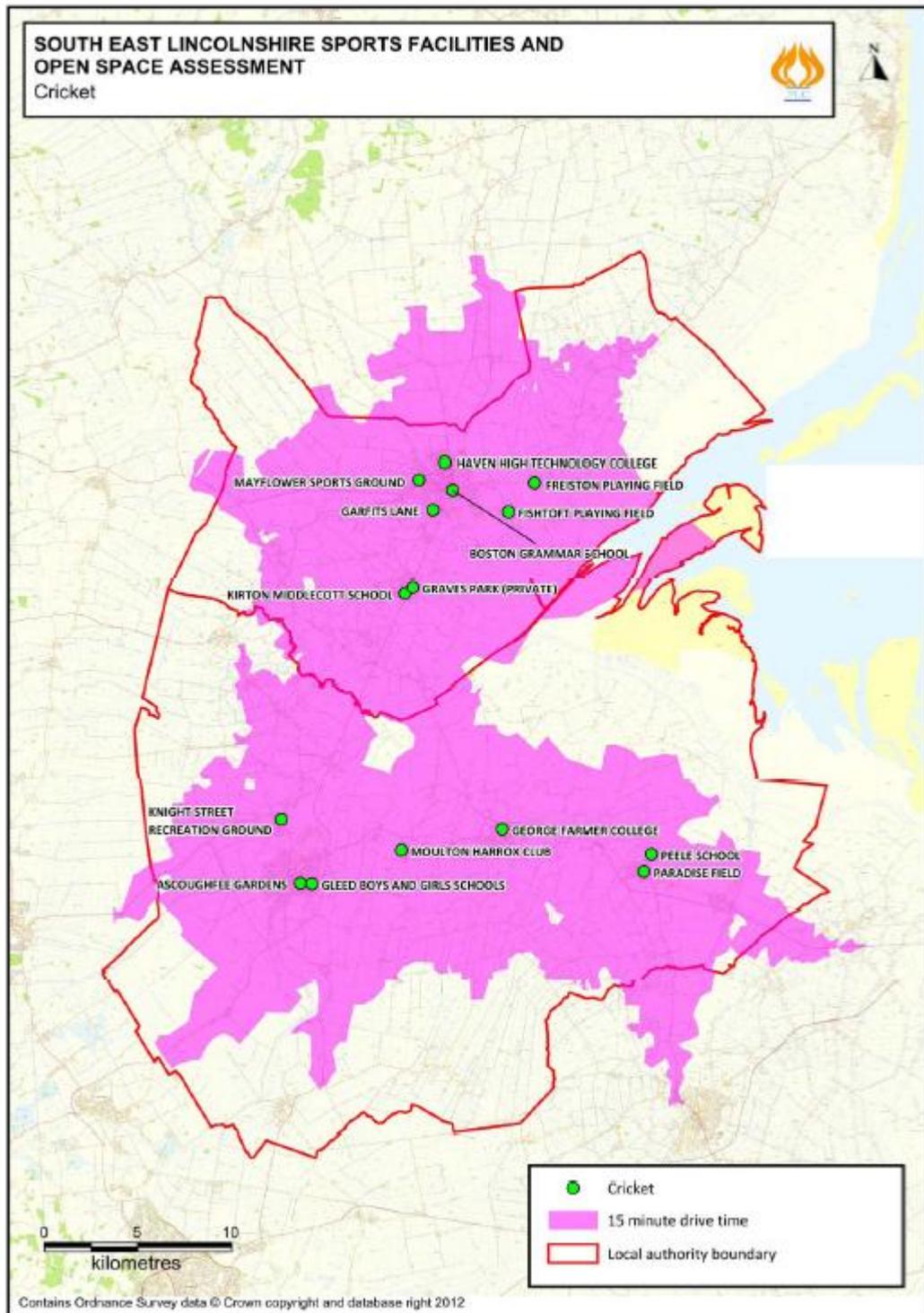


8.24 **Patterns of provision of mini-soccer pitches:** A map showing the location of mini-soccer pitches in South-East Lincolnshire, with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. It shows a similar pattern of distribution to junior football pitches in that:

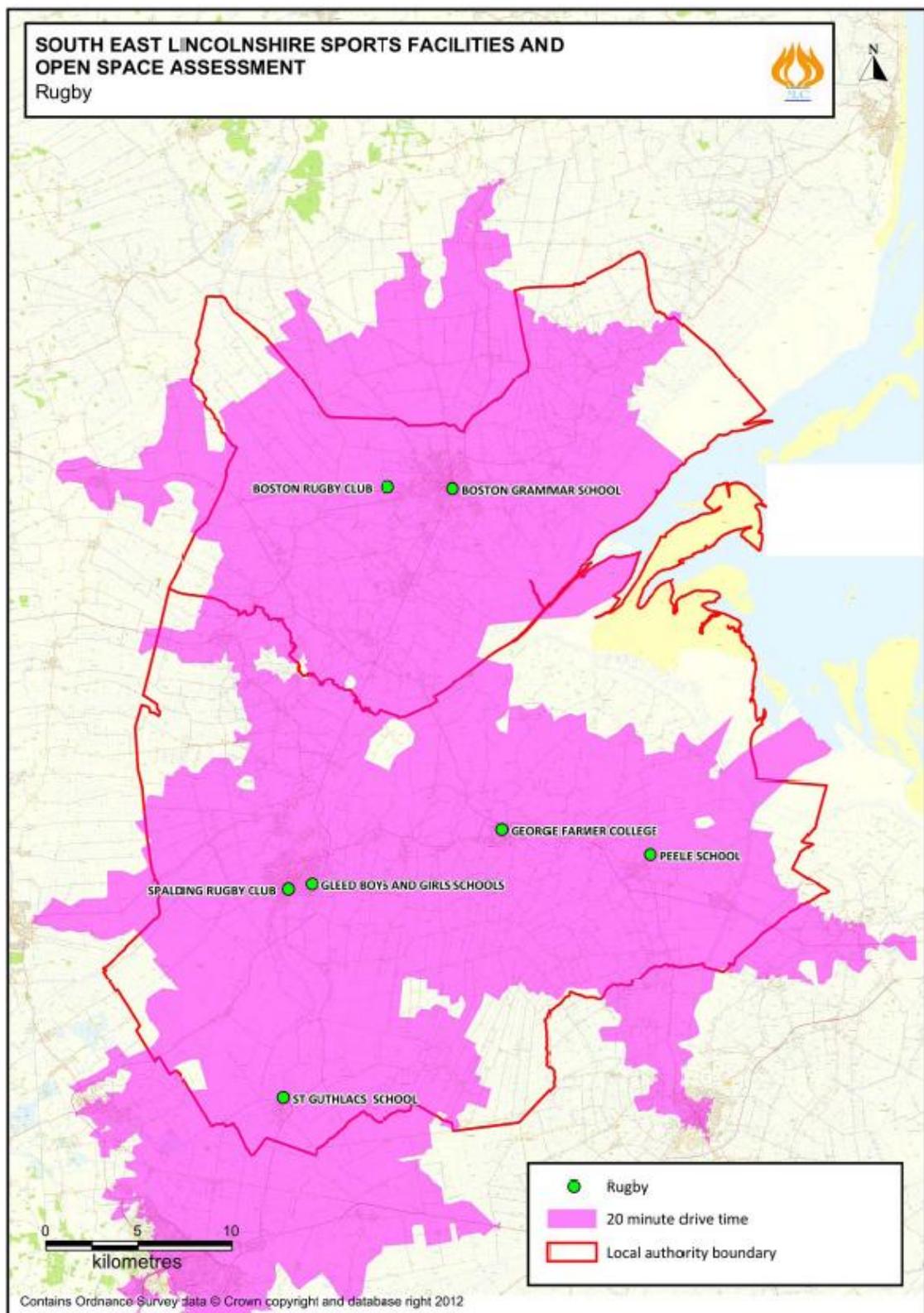
- a) Most of the population of the Boston sub-area is within 15 minutes drive of a pitch.
- b) Parts of the east and south-east of the study area are unserved, although there is no evidence of latent demand in these areas.



8.25 **Patterns of provision of cricket pitches:** A map showing the location of cricket pitches in South-East Lincolnshire, with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. It shows that substantial parts of the east and south of the study area are more than 15 minutes drive of a pitch, although there is no evidence of any latent demand in these areas:



8.26 *Patterns of provision of rugby pitches:* A map showing the location of rugby pitches in South-East Lincolnshire, with 20 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. It shows most of the population is within 20 minutes drive of a pitch:



## The Playing Pitch Model

8.27 **Introduction:** To assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in the study area, Sport England’s Playing Pitch Model (PPM) was applied, in line with its policy document ‘Towards a Level Playing Field: A Guide to the Production of Playing Pitch Strategies’ (2005). The PPM involves the following stages:

- a) **Stage one - Identifying teams/team equivalents:** The full list of all clubs and teams in the borough are identified and their match and training needs are converted into team equivalents.
- b) **Stage two - Calculating home games per team per week:** These figures are identified from the above data.
- c) **Stage three - Assessing total home games per week:** These are calculated from the above outputs.
- d) **Stage four - Establishing temporal demand for games:** This is identified from the regular timings of matches, to identify the periods of peak demand.
- e) **Stage five - Defining pitches used on each day:** This is calculated by applying the peak demand.
- f) **Stage six - Establishing the number of pitches available for each sport:** All pitches for each sport in the borough are identified and their carrying capacity at the peak period is calculated by assessing qualitative data.
- g) **Stage seven - Identifying the balance:** This is done by comparing data generated from the previous six stages.
- h) **Stage eight - Identifying latent demand:** A range of factors are considered to establish whether the ‘raw’ outputs of the PPM need to be refined to take account of local circumstances.

8.28 **PPM Results:** The results of applying the PPM in South-East Lincolnshire are as follows:

		<b>Football</b>	<b>Cricket</b>	<b>Rugby</b>
Stage 1 Identifying team equivalents	Adult male teams	90	26	18
	Junior male teams	85	18	20
	Mixed Mini teams	53	-	17
	Adult female teams	1	0	0
	Junior female teams	4	0	0
Stage 2 Calculate home games per week	Adult male games	0.5	0.7	0.5
	Junior male games	0.5	0.7	0.5
	Mixed Mini games	0.5	-	0.5
	Adult female games	0.5	0.7	0.5
	Junior female games	0.5	0.7	0.5
Stage 3 Assessing total home Games per week	Adult male games	45.0	18.2	9.0
	Junior male games	42.5	12.6	9.0
	Mixed Mini games	26.5	-	2.3
	Adult female games	0.5	0	0
	Junior female games	2.0	0	0

			<b>Football</b>	<b>Cricket</b>	<b>Rugby</b>
Stage 4 Establish temporal demand for pitches	Saturday morning	Adult male teams	0%	0%	0%
		Junior male teams	0%	13%	0%
		Mixed Mini teams	25%	-	0%
		Adult female teams	0%	0%	0%
		Junior female teams	0%	0%	0%
	Saturday afternoon	Adult male teams	26%	66%	50%
		Junior male teams	0%	0%	0%
		Mixed Mini teams	15%	-	0%
		Adult female teams	0%	0%	50%
		Junior female teams	0%	0%	0%
	Sunday morning	Adult male teams	62%	0%	0%
		Junior male teams	15%	37%	50%
		Mixed Mini teams	45%	-	100%
		Adult female teams	0%	0	0%
		Junior female teams	0%	0	50%
	Sunday afternoon	Adult male teams	0%	18%	0%
		Junior male teams	70%	0%	0%
		Mixed Mini teams	25%	-	0%
		Adult female teams	50%	0%	0%
		Junior female teams	50%	0%	0%
Midweek	Adult male teams	12%	16%	50%	
	Junior male teams	15%	50%	50%	
	Mixed Mini teams	0%	-	0%	
	Adult female teams	50%	0	50%	
	Junior female teams	50%	0	0%	
Stage 5 Defining pitches needed each day	Saturday morning	Adult male pitches	0	0	0
		Junior male pitches	0	1.6	0
		Mixed Mini pitches	6.8	-	0
		Adult female pitches	0	0	0
		Junior female pitches	0	0	0
	Saturday afternoon	Adult male pitches	11.7	12.0	9.0
		Junior male pitches	0	0	0
		Mixed Mini pitches	4.0	-	0
		Adult female pitches	0	0	0
		Junior female pitches	0	0	0
	Sunday morning	Adult male pitches	27.9	0	0
		Junior male pitches	6.4	4.7	10.0
		Mixed Mini pitches	11.9	-	4.3
		Adult female pitches	0	0	0
		Junior female pitches	0	0	0
	Sunday afternoon	Adult male pitches	0	3.3	0
		Junior male pitches	29.8	0	0
		Mixed Mini pitches	6.6	-	0
		Adult female pitches	0.5	0	0
		Junior female pitches	2.0	0	0
Midweek	Adult male pitches	5.4	2.9	9.0	
	Junior male pitches	6.5	6.3	10.0	
	Mixed Mini pitches	0	-	0	
	Adult female pitches	0.5	0	0	
	Junior female pitches	2.0	0	0	

			<b>Football</b>	<b>Cricket</b>	<b>Rugby</b>
Stage 6 Establishing pitches effectively available		Adult pitches	69	17	9.5
		Junior pitches	17.5		
		Mini pitches	19.5		
Stage 7 Identifying shortfalls (-) and surplus (+)	Saturday morning	Adult pitches	+69.0	+15.4	+11.0
		Junior pitches	+17.5		
		Mini pitches	+12.7		
	Saturday afternoon	Adult pitches	+57.3	+5.0	+2.0
		Junior pitches	+17.5		
		Mini pitches	+14.4		
	Sunday morning	Adult pitches	<b>+41.1</b>	+12.3	<b>-4.8</b>
		Junior pitches	+11.1		
		Mini pitches	<b>+7.6</b>		
	Sunday afternoon	Adult pitches	+68.5	+10.7	+11.0
		Junior pitches	<b>-14.3</b>		
		Mini pitches	+12.9		
	Midweek	Adult pitches	+63.1	+7.8	+2.0
		Junior pitches	+9.0		
		Mini pitches	+19.5		

8.29 **Latent demand:** To supplement the above analysis, the latent demand for each pitch sport is examined below and factored in to the preliminary numerical assessment of deficiency:

a) **Football:**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Analysis in South-East Lincolnshire</b>	<b>Impact on latent demand</b>
Current frustrated demand	One football club responding to the clubs survey indicated that they are 'pretty much at saturation point and are badly in need of new changing rooms and more land for pitch development'. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey (2012)</i> .	There is evidence of frustrated demand for junior football and mini-soccer.
Sports development initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The FA has a national target to increase weekly participation in football by 5% between 2009 and 2013. - '<i>FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012</i>' (2008).</li> <li>Involvement in organised sport fell by 6.2% in Boston and 3.1% in South Holland between 2006 and 2011, so target increases in participation cannot be assumed. - '<i>Active People Survey</i>' (2011).</li> </ul>	It has been assumed that any impact on demand from football development programmes will be counteracted by the falling rates of overall participation locally.
Quality of pitches/facilities	The audit of pitch quality identified that only one junior football pitch (5.6%) and one mini-soccer pitch (4.8%) are rated as below average, so the quantity of football most local pitches can accommodate will not be compromised by quality. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit (2012)</i> .	The high quality of most pitches in the study area has a positive effect on their carrying capacity.
National sporting success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The high media profile that football enjoys as the 'national game' makes it an attractive option for many young players. - '<i>FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012</i>' (2008).</li> <li>The increased media coverage of the women's game has helped it to overtake Netball as the most popular women's team sport. - '<i>FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012</i>' (2008)</li> </ul>	There is no firm evidence that the performance of the national team has specifically influenced local participation rates.
Pricing policies	66.7% of respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that pitch hire charges represent 'good' value for money and the remaining 33.3% that they represent 'acceptable' value for money, so there is no evidence that price is deterring use. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey (2012)</i> .	There is no discernible impact of pricing on latent demand.

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Analysis in South-East Lincolnshire</b>	<b>Impact on latent demand</b>
School sport	Only 8.9% of football pitches with community use in the study area are on school sites. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).	Any increased use of school pitches by schools would have a negligible effect on overall pitch availability.
Long-term impact of mini-sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of junior and mini-soccer teams in the study area increased between 2010 and 2011. - <i>FA 'Local Participation Reports'</i> for Boston and South Holland (2011).</li> </ul>	Increasing junior and mini teams will create demand for additional pitches.
Lifestyle changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing lifestyles (for example more weekend working) have created a trend where larger pools of players are needed to form a team. The FA recognises this phenomenon and has set a target of maintaining the current number of adult men's teams, despite an overall increase in the number of players. - <i>'FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012'</i> (2008).</li> <li>Many players are prolonging their careers, which has led to the development of small-sided versions of the game for older players. - <i>'FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012'</i> (2008).</li> </ul>	Lifestyle changes are unlikely to have any further significant impact upon overall demand for football.

b) **Cricket:**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Analysis in South-East Lincolnshire</b>	<b>Impact on latent demand</b>
Current frustrated demand	None of the cricket clubs responding to the clubs survey identified that they are unable to increase their membership as a result of the non-availability of pitches. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).	There is no evidence of frustrated demand for cricket in the study area.
Sports development initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ECB has a national target to increase weekly participation by 37% per between 2009 and 2013 which if achieved will have a significant impact on demand for cricket pitches. - <i>'Play Cricket - Making a Difference'</i> (2007).</li> <li>Involvement in organised sport fell by 6.2% in Boston and 3.1% in South Holland between 2006 and 2011, so target increases in participation cannot be assumed. - <i>'Active People Survey'</i> (2011).</li> </ul>	It has been assumed that any impact on demand from cricket development programmes will be counteracted by the falling rates of overall participation locally.
Quality of pitches/facilities	The audit of pitch quality identified that all cricket pitches are rated as at least 'average' and as a result, it is unlikely that their quality will limit the quantity of cricket they can accommodate. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).	The high quality of all pitches in the study area has a positive effect on their carrying capacity.
National sporting success	The success of the England team in the recent Ashes Series' does not appear to have had a sustained impact on overall weekly adult participation in cricket, which increased by only 0.03% (from 0.48% to 0.51% between 2006 and 2011). - <i>Active People Survey</i> (2011).	The impact of national sporting success in cricket does not appear to have had a significant sustained effect at community level.
Pricing policies	All the cricket respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that pitch hire charges represent 'good' value for money, so there is no evidence that price is deterring use. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).	There is no discernible impact of pricing on latent demand.
School sports curriculum	23.5% of cricket pitches with community use in the study area are on school sites. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).	Any increased use of school pitches by schools could have a negligible effect on overall pitch availability.
Long-term impact of mini-sports	The number of junior cricket teams is below the number of adult teams and it is therefore unlikely that when age group participation converts into play at adult level, demand for pitches will increase substantially. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).	It is likely that demand for pitches will remain the same as the current numbers of junior players get older.

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Analysis in South-East Lincolnshire</b>	<b>Impact on latent demand</b>
Lifestyle changes	The age band by which adult cricket is defined already extends to 55, so competitive play by older players is an established phenomenon. - <i>'Towards a Level Playing Field: A Guide to the Production of Playing Pitch Strategies'</i> (2005).	Lifestyle changes are likely to have a limited impact on latent demand.

c) **Rugby:**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Analysis in South-East Lincolnshire</b>	<b>Impact on latent demand</b>
Current frustrated demand	None of the rugby clubs responding to the clubs survey identified that they are unable to increase their membership as a result of the non-availability of pitches. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).	There is no evidence of frustrated demand for rugby in the study area
Sports development initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RFU is keen to develop 'Leisure Rugby' as a game, to expand its appeal to a wider range of prospective players. - <i>'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013'</i> (2009).</li> <li>The RFU has a national target to increase weekly participation by 2% for adult males, 30% for adult females and 30% for 16 - 19 year olds per between 2009 and 2013 which if achieved will have a significant impact on demand for rugby pitches. <i>'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013'</i> (2009).</li> </ul>	It has been assumed that any impact on demand from rugby development programmes will be counteracted by the falling rates of overall participation locally.
Quality of pitches/facilities	The audit of pitch quality carried out for this study identified that 3 rugby pitches are rated as below 'average' and as a result the quantity and quality of use will be compromised. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).	The quality of some pitches will have a detrimental effect on participation in rugby in the study area.
National sporting success	Adult participation in rugby increased by 0. 1% (from 0.46% to 0.56% between 2006 and 2008). - <i>Active People Survey</i> (2008).	National success does not seem to be directly linked to participation increases
Pricing policies	All rugby respondents to the sports clubs survey believe that pitch hire charges represent 'good' value for money and so there is no evidence that price is deterring use. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).	There is no discernible impact of pricing on latent demand.
School sports curriculum	18.2% of rugby pitches with community use in the study area are on school sites. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).	Any increased use of school pitches by schools could have an effect on overall pitch availability.
Long-term impact of mini-sports	The number of mini-rugby teams is below the number of adult teams and it is therefore unlikely that when age group participation converts into play at adult level, demand for pitches will increase substantially. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).	It is likely that demand for pitches will remain the same as the current numbers of mini-rugby players get older.
Lifestyle changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many players are prolonging their careers, which has led to the development of veteran's competitions for older players. - <i>'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013'</i> (2009).</li> <li>The development of 'Leisure Rugby' is likely to attract a wider cross-section of players. - <i>'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013'</i> (2009).</li> </ul>	Lifestyle changes are likely to have a limited impact on latent demand.

8.30 **Strategic reserve:** Another important consideration with playing pitches is the issue of maintaining a strategic reserve. This allows pitches to be 'rested' on a weekly or seasonal basis, to allow playing surfaces to recover and regenerate. As a general rule, the strategic reserve should equate to a minimum of 10% of the number of pitches required at the peak demand period.

8.31 **Analysis of PPM results:** The ‘raw’ data outputs of the PPM and the analysis of latent demand have been qualified as follows. Notional surpluses in one type of pitch should not be interpreted as implying that the playing field is not required, because in many instances the space can be used to accommodate pitches of a type for which there is a local deficit:

- a) **Adult football:** There is a notional surplus of 41.1 adult football pitches during the peak demand period on Sunday mornings. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. However, an additional 10% strategic reserve of the 27.9 adult football pitches needed in the peak period reduces the notional surplus by a further 2.8 pitches.
- b) **Junior football:** There is a significant shortfall of 14.3 junior pitches during the peak demand period on Sundays. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. The current deficiency is managed by playing matches on senior pitches. The addition of a 10% strategic reserve of the 29.8 junior football pitches needed in the peak period increases the shortfall by 3.0 pitches to a deficit of 17.3 pitches.
- c) **Mini-Soccer:** There is a notional surplus of 7.6 pitches during the peak period on Saturday mornings. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. The addition of a 10% strategic reserve of the 11.9 mini-soccer pitches needed in the peak period reduces the surplus by 1.2 pitches to 6.4 pitches.
- d) **Cricket:** There is a notional surplus of 5.0 pitches during the peak period on Saturday afternoons. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. However, an additional 10% strategic reserve of the 12.0 cricket pitches needed in the peak period reduces the notional surplus by a further 1.2 pitches to 3.8 pitches.
- e) **Rugby:** There is a shortfall of 4.8 pitches during the peak demand period on Sunday mornings. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. However, an additional 10% strategic reserve of the 14.3 rugby pitches needed in the peak period increases the deficiency by a further 1.4 pitches, to 6.2 pitches.

8.32 Taking account of the above qualifications, the effective position in South-East Lincolnshire at present, based upon the preliminary interpretation of the PPM is as follows:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Effective position</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
Adult football pitches	Surplus of 38.3 pitches	The notional surplus of 41.1 pitches calculated by the PPM reduces by 2.8 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Junior football pitches	Shortfall of 17.3 pitches	The deficit of 14.3 pitches calculated by the PPM increases by 3.0 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Mini-soccer pitches	Surplus of 6.4 pitches	The surplus of 7.6 pitches calculated by the PPM decreases by 1.2 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Cricket pitches	Surplus of 3.8 pitches	The notional surplus of 5.0 pitches calculated by the PPM reduces by 1.2 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Rugby pitches	Shortfall of 6.2 pitches	The deficit of 4.8 pitches calculated by the PPM increases by 1.4 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.

## Local standards of provision

8.33 Based on the evidence above, the following local standards of provision were set:

<b>Pitch</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
Adult football pitches	One adult pitch (1.2ha) per 4,650 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision adjusted for pitch carrying capacity equate to one pitch per 2,081 people. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted surplus of 38.3 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 30.7 of the 68 adult pitches are required to meet existing adult demand levels (one per 4,678 people). - <i>'Playing Pitch Model'</i> (2012).</li> <li>126m x 96m is the prescribed maximum size of an adult football pitch with run-offs. - <i>'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts'</i> (2011).</li> </ul>
	All aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overall quality of all the adult football pitches in the study area is currently rated as 'average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The quality of changing facilities is rated as below 'average' at only four sites in the study area (7.0%), although a further three sites (5.3%) have no on-site changing provision. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
	The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of the nearest pitch.	Football pitch users typically travel by car and around 90% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).
Junior football pitches	One junior pitch (0.75ha) per 4,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 7,978 people. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted deficit of 17.3 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 34.8 junior pitches are required to cater for existing demand levels (one per 4,126 people), compared with the current 17.5. - <i>'Playing Pitch Model'</i> (2012).</li> <li>106.6m x 70m is the prescribed maximum size of a junior football pitch with run-offs. - <i>'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts'</i> (2011).</li> </ul>
	All aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only one junior football pitch (5.6%) in the study area is currently rated as below 'average'. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The quality of changing facilities is rated as below 'average' at only four sites in the study area (7.0%), although a further three sites (5.3%) have no on-site changing provision. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
	The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of the nearest pitch.	Football pitch users typically travel by car and around 90% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).
Mini-soccer pitches	One mini-soccer pitch (0.2ha) per 10,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 7,180 people. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted surplus of 6.4 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 13.1 of the current 19.5 mini-soccer pitches are required to cater for existing demand levels (one per 10,961 people). - <i>'Playing Pitch Model'</i> (2012).</li> <li>54.9m x 36.6m is the prescribed maximum size of a mini-soccer pitch with run-offs. - <i>'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts'</i> (2009).</li> </ul>

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
Mini-soccer pitches (continued)	Qualitative improvements to ensure that all aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities rate 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only one mini-soccer pitch (5.0%) in the study area is currently rated as below 'average'. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The quality of changing facilities is rated as below 'average' at only four sites in the study area (7.0%), although a further three sites (5.3%) have no on-site changing provision. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
	The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of the nearest pitch.	Football pitch users typically travel by car and around 90% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).
Cricket pitches	One cricket pitch (1.2ha) per 10,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 8,447 people. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted surplus of 3.8 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 13.4 cricket pitches are required to cater for existing demand levels (one per 10,716), compared with the current 17. - '<i>Playing Pitch Model</i>' (2012).</li> <li>• 111.56m x 106.69m is the prescribed maximum size of a cricket pitch with run-offs. - '<i>Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts</i>' (2011).</li> </ul>
	All aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The overall quality of all the cricket pitches in the study area is currently rated as 'average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The quality of all changing facilities serving cricket pitches is currently rated as 'above average'. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
	The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of the nearest pitch.	Cricket pitch users typically travel by car and around 90% of them have a journey time of 15 minutes or less. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).
Rugby pitches	One rugby pitch (1.25ha) per 9,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 13,055 people. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted deficit of 6.2 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 15.7 rugby pitches are required to cater for existing demand levels (one per 9,146), compared with the current 9.5. - '<i>Playing Pitch Model</i>' (2012).</li> <li>• 154m x 80m is the prescribed maximum size of a rugby pitch with run-offs. - '<i>Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts</i>' (2011).</li> </ul>
	All aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The overall quality of 3 rugby pitches is rated as below 'average' and as a result the quantity and quality of use will be compromised. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>• The quality of all changing facilities serving rugby pitches is currently rated as 'above average'. - <i>SE Lincs Qualitative audit</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
	The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of the nearest pitch.	Rugby pitch users typically travel by car and around 90% of them have a journey time of 20 minutes or less. - <i>SE Lincs Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2012).

### **Applying the standards**

8.34 **Introduction:** The tables below contain the results of applying the playing pitch standards, both now and in 2031, the latter based upon an anticipated population increase of 30,000 people:

### 8.35 *Adult football pitches:*

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	69 pitches.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 37.3 pitches).</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency for pitches, but improvements in changing provision needed at Memorial Park, Sutton St. James Playing Field, Moulton Seas End Playing Field and Holbeach Bank Playing Field.</li> <li>• No accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.5 additional pitches (accommodated by current notional surplus).</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	37.2 pitches.

### 8.36 *Junior football pitches:*

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	18 pitches (17.5 adjusted for pitch carrying capacity).
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17.3 additional pitches.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed to the pitch and changing facilities at Holland Way Sports Field.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the east of the study area.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7.5 additional pitches once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	42.3 pitches.

### 8.37 *Mini-soccer pitches:*

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	20 pitches (19.5 adjusted for pitch carrying capacity).
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 6.4 pitches).</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at Stricklands Drive Playing Field and changing facilities at Stricklands Drive, Holbeach Bank Playing Field and Glen Park.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the east of the study area.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 additional pitches (accommodated by current notional surplus).</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	16.1 pitches.

### 8.38 *Cricket pitches:*

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	17 pitches.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 3.8 pitches).</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 additional pitches (accommodated by current notional surplus).</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	16.2 pitches.

### 8.39 *Rugby pitches:*

<i>Assessed criterion</i>	<i>Assessed position</i>
Current provision	11 pitches (9.5 adjusted for pitch carrying capacity).
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.2 additional pitches</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.3 additional pitches, once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 20 minutes walk or drive of new developments.</li> </ul>
Total future needs	19.0 pitches.

### **Summary of playing pitch needs**

8.40 *Quantitative needs:* The table below summarises the additional sports facility needs, both now and in 2031, the latter based upon an anticipated population increase of 30,000 people:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Provision in 2012*</i>	<i>Needs in 2012</i>	<i>Extra needs in 2031</i>	<i>Total needs in 2031</i>
Adult football pitches	69	30.7	6.5	37.2
Junior football pitches	18 (17.5)	34.8	7.5	42.3
Mini-soccer pitches	20 (19.5)	13.1	3.0	16.1
Cricket pitches	17	13.2	3.0	16.2
Rugby pitches	11 (9.5)	15.7	3.3	19.0

\* Pitch carrying capacity shown in brackets.

8.41 *Qualitative needs:* The table below summarises the current quality of provision:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>No. pitches below 'average'</i>	<i>% pitches below 'average'</i>
Adult football	69	0	0.0%
Junior football	18	1	5.6%
Mini-soccer	20	1	5.0%
Cricket	17	0	0.0%
Rugby	11	3	27.3%

## **IX. ASSESSMENT OF OPEN SPACE**

### **Introduction**

9.1 This section contains an analysis of open space provision in South-East Lincolnshire. The typologies examined are as follows:

- a) Parks and gardens.
- b) Natural and semi-natural greenspace.
- c) Amenity greenspace.
- d) Children's play.
- e) Allotments.
- f) Cemeteries and churchyards.
- g) Civic spaces.

9.2 Each site in the study area has been defined on the basis of its primary function. In some cases where more than one type of greenspace is provided on a site, the site is sub-divided and the respective areas assigned to the category that best reflects their primary function. The advantage of this approach is that it prevents the total amount of open space from being over-recorded, since each area is counted only once. The disadvantage is that the multi-functionality of many sites is underplayed and secondary uses are unrecorded. For example, an area categorised as amenity greenspace may also serve children's play and green corridor functions.

9.3 ***Sub-area analysis:*** With the exception of parks and gardens, sub-area analysis is based upon the levels of provision at ward/parish level. This scale of sub-area was selected, because it most closely accords with the catchment sizes of most types of green space. Parks and gardens are analysed at district level, because of the wider catchments from which they typically attract users.

### **Parks and gardens**

9.4 ***Definition:*** Parks and gardens are accessible multi-functional greenspaces providing high-quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. They incorporate formal and informal features, such as flower beds, trees, landscaped areas and ancillary provision such as toilets and seating areas.

9.5 **Quantitative analysis:** This was assessed as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are six parks and gardens in the study area, totalling 14.11ha. This amounts to 0.10ha per 1,000 people.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Size</i>
Central Park	Boston Witham	3.49ha
Butterwick Park	Butterwick	2.43ha
Matthew Flinders Park	Donington	0.97ha
Carter's Park	Holbeach	1.90ha
William Stukeley Park	Holbeach	0.98ha
Ayscoughfee Gardens	Spalding St Marys	4.34ha

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the sub-areas is as follows and shows that per capita levels are identical in both areas.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. parks</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha. per 1,000</i>
Boston	59,000	2	5.92ha	0.10ha per 1,000
South Holland	84,600	4	8.19ha	0.10ha per 1,000

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** No detailed comparative information was available on parks and gardens in neighbouring areas, because definitions vary and several councils have analysed parks and gardens provision in conjunction with other forms of greenspace as an amalgamated category.

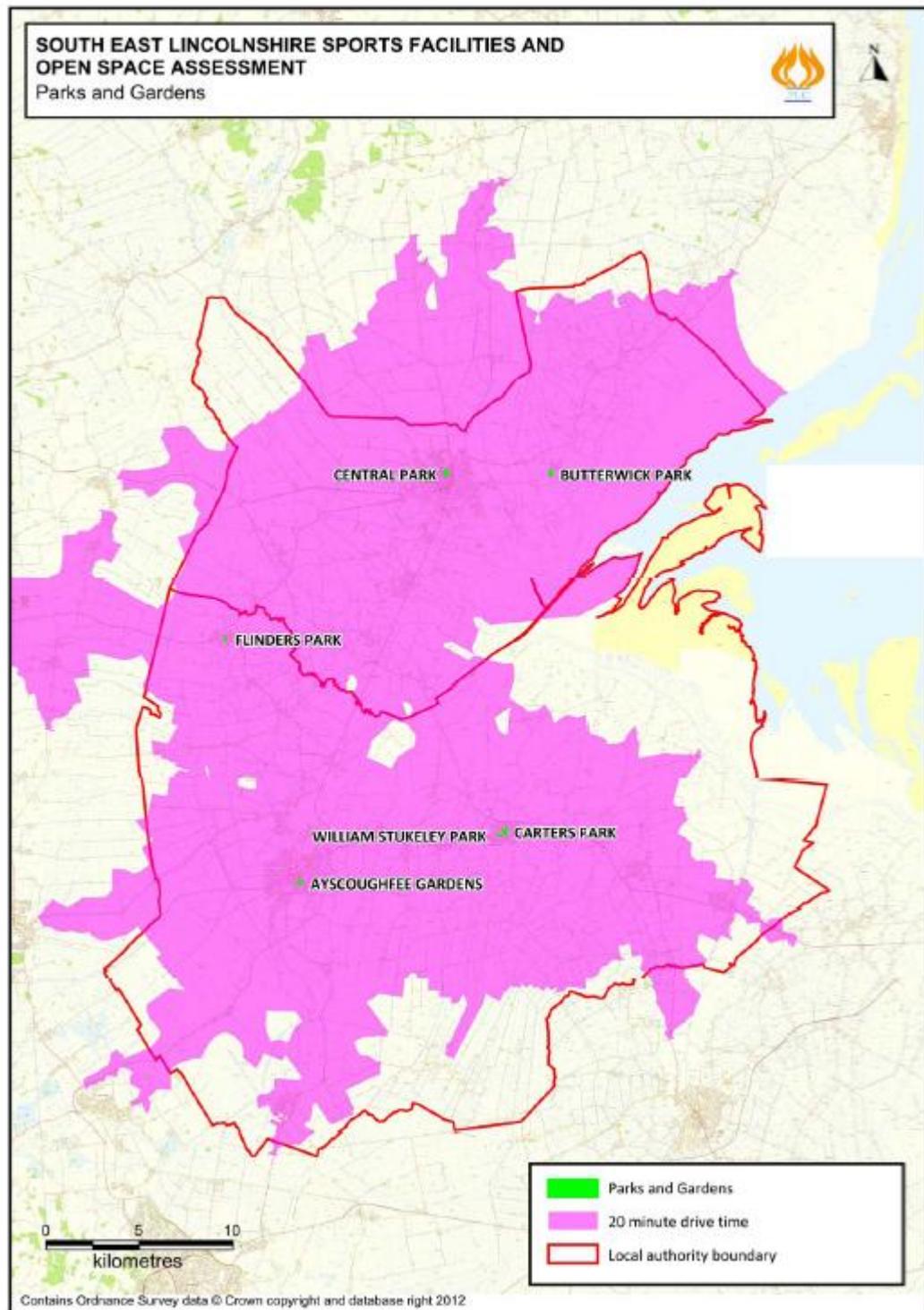
9.6 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit produced the following results. The overall mean score equates to a value in excess of 'above average':

<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Central Park</i>	<i>Butterwick Park</i>	<i>Flinders Park</i>	<i>Carter's Park</i>	<i>Stukeley Park</i>	<i>Ayscoughfee Gardens</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Main entrance	5	3	2	3	2	5	<b>3.33</b>
Site boundaries	5	3	3	5	5	5	<b>4.33</b>
Roads/paths/cycleways	4	5	5	3	2	5	<b>4.00</b>
Planted areas	4	4	5	2	1	4	<b>3.33</b>
Grassed areas	5	5	4	4	3	5	<b>4.33</b>
Litter bins	5	5	4	4	3	4	<b>4.16</b>
Seating	5	5	4	5	2	5	<b>4.33</b>
General cleanliness	5	5	5	5	5	5	<b>5.00</b>
Safety and security	5	5	4	5	3	5	<b>4.50</b>
Parking/general access	4	5	2	5	4	3	<b>3.83</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.12</b>

9.7 **Effective catchment:** Local surveys produced the following indications of accessibility to parks and gardens in the study area:

- a) The most frequent mode of transport (42.0%) employed by parks users in a South Holland interview survey is by car.
- b) 91.1% of parks users in the South Holland interview survey travel for 20 minutes or less.

9.8 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of parks and gardens in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 20 minute driving time catchments and sub-area boundaries is below. It shows that most of the population is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest park:



9.9 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Proposed Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
0.10ha of parks and gardens per 1,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to 0.10ha of parks and gardens per 1,000 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>85.7% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>55.6% of respondents to an interview survey in South Holland are 'satisfied' with parks and gardens provision. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey</i> (2010).</li> </ul>
All aspects of all parks and gardens should rate 'above average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overall quality of all the parks and gardens currently rates 'above average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>60.0% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that the quality of parks and gardens is 'good' and 40% that it is 'average'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of their nearest parks and gardens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>91.1% of respondents to an interview survey in South Holland travel for 20 minutes or less to reach parks and gardens. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey</i> (2010).</li> <li>42.0% of respondents to an interview survey in South Holland travel by car to reach parks. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey</i> (2010).</li> </ul>



*Ayscoughfee Gardens, Spalding*

9.10 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<b>Assessed criterion</b>	<b>Assessed position</b>
Current provision	6 parks and gardens totalling 14.1 ha.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency in the study area as a whole.</li> <li>Quality improvements at some sites.</li> <li>No current accessibility shortfall.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional 3.0ha of parks and gardens.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 20 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>
Total future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parks and gardens totalling 17.1 ha.</li> </ul>

## Natural/semi-natural greenspace

9.11 **Definition:** Natural and semi-natural greenspace sites are defined as those sites with public access where wildlife, conservation, biodiversity and environmental education take precedence over recreational uses in determining management regimes. This includes areas with protective statutory designations.

9.12 **Quantitative analysis:** This was assessed as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 36 accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace sites in the study area, totalling 633.53ha. This amounts to 4.41ha per 1,000 people.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Size</i>
Ingelow Avenue Tree Belt	Boston Fenside	0.15ha
Grange Wood	Boston Fenside	3.58ha
Beech Wood	Boston Fenside	5.56ha
Wyberton West Pond	Boston South	0.27ha
Witham Way Country Park	Boston Witham	11.41ha
Havenside Country Park	Fishtoft	18.30ha
Hobhole Bank	Fishtoft	5.00ha
Fosdyke Cemetery	Fosdyke	0.13ha
Frampton Marsh RSPB Reserve	Frampton	171.45ha
Freiston Shore RSPB Reserve	Freiston	173.37ha
Eno's Wood	Leake	0.11ha
Boston Road Nature Conservation Area	Sutterton	0.70ha
Loves Lane Woodland	Swineshead	2.00ha
Boston Woods Westgate Wood extension	Wyberton	20.21ha
Boston Woods Westgate Meadow extension	Wyberton	11.31ha
Princess Royal Sports Arena woodland	Wyberton	0.62ha
Crowland Woodland	Crowland	2.55ha
West Bank Ponds	Crowland	2.08ha
Willow Tree Fen	Deeping St. Nicholas	114.00ha
Gosberton Road LNR	Donington	2.43ha
Low Bridge Woodland	Gosberton	0.46ha
Westhorpe Pond	Gosberton	0.21ha
Beach Bank Woodland	Gosberton	6.35ha
Boston Road Brick Pits	Gosberton	1.80ha
Holbeach Nature Reserve	Holbeach	0.38ha
The Shrubberys	Holbeach	4.40ha
London Road Pond	Holbeach	0.27ha
Moulton Marsh	Moulton	36.40ha
Pinchbeck Woods	Pinchbeck	1.30ha
Pinchbeck Fen Slippe	Pinchbeck	22.00ha
Surfleet Lows Nature Reserve	Surfleet	3.40ha
Tom's Wood	Sutton Bridge	2.23ha
Jarvis Gate Woodland	Sutton St James	1.72ha
Arnold's Meadow	Spalding St. Mary's	2.60ha
Vernatts Local Nature Reserve	Spalding Castle	3.32ha
Magellan Way natural open space	Spalding St Johns	1.46ha

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the South-East Lincolnshire sub-areas is as follows and shows that the distribution of natural and semi-natural greenspace is very variable, being entirely absent from 32 of the 56 parishes/wards. The two large RSPB nature reserves at Frampton Marsh and Freiston Shore collectively comprise more than half of the accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace in the study area:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Boston Central	1,699	0	-	-
Boston Fenside	3,619	3	9.29ha	2.57ha/1,000
Boston North	3,263	0	-	-
Boston Staniland North	1,701	0	-	-
Boston Staniland South	3,434	0	-	-
Boston West	1,556	0	-	-
Boston Pilgrim	1,709	0	-	-
Boston Skirbeck	5,055	0	-	-
Boston South	1,831	1	0.27ha	0.15ha/1,000
Boston Witham	3,821	1	11.41ha	2.99ha/1,000
Algarkirk	406	0	-	-
Amberhill	268	0	-	-
Benington	569	0	-	-
Bicker	826	0	-	-
Butterwick	1,403	0	-	-
Fishtoft	5,444	2	23.30ha	4.28ha/1,000
Fosdyke	486	1	0.13ha	0.27ha/1,000
Frampton	1,217	1	171.45ha	140.88ha/1,000
Freiston	1,211	1	173.37ha	143.16ha/1,000
Holland Fen	652	0	-	-
Kirton	4,002	0	-	-
Leverton	668	0	-	-
Leake	1,803	1	0.11	0.06ha/1,000
Sutterton	1,124	1	0.70ha	0.62ha/1,000
Swineshead	2,449	1	2.00ha	0.82ha/1,000
Wigtoft	479	0	-	-
Wrangle	1,265	0	-	-
Wyberton	3,790	3	32.14ha	8.48ha/1,000
Cowbit	898	0	-	-
Crowland	3,607	2	4.63ha	1.28ha/1,000
Deeping St. Nicholas	1,323	1	114.00ha	86.17ha/1,000
Donington	2,614	1	2.43ha	0.93ha/1,000
Fleet	2,132	0	-	-
Gedney	2,305	0	-	-
Gedney Hill	616	0	-	-
Gosberton	2,833	4	8.82ha	3.11ha/1,000
Holbeach	9,448	3	5.05ha	0.53ha/1,000
Little Sutton	121	0	-	-
Long Sutton	4,331	0	-	-
Lutton	1,151	0	-	-
Moulton	3,073	1	36.40ha	11.85ha/1,000
Pinchbeck	5,153	2	23.30ha	4.52ha/1,000
Quadring	1,193	0	-	-
Surfleet	1,266	1	3.40ha	2.69ha/1,000
Sutton Bridge	3,936	1	2.23ha	0.57ha/1,000

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Sutton St. Edmund	630	0	-	-
Sutton St. James	926	1	1.72ha	1.86ha/1,000
Tydd St. Mary	858	0	-	-
Weston	1,853	0	-	-
Whaplode	3,323	0	-	-
Spalding Castle	2,170	1	3.32ha	1.53ha/1,000
Spalding Monkshouse	4,324	0	-	-
Spalding St. John's	6,363	1	1.46ha	0/23ha/1,000
Spalding St. Mary's	3,619	1	2.60ha	0.72ha/1,000
Spalding St. Paul's	4,059	0	-	-
Spalding Wygate	4,397	0	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>633.53ha</b>	<b>4.41ha/1,000</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** The only available comparative data from a neighbouring local authority is South Kesteven, which has 69.75ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace, which equates to 0.53ha per 1,000 people, well below the figure for the study area.



*Parking facilities and visitor information at Freiston Shore RSPB Reserve*

- 9.13 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit involved assessing the signposting to the site, information boards or interpretation panels, marked paths, a clear entrance and dedicated car parking. The individual site scores were as follows and the mean score of 2.67 equates to a value between 'average' and 'below average'. In many instances only very basic provision is made to facilitate usage. However, at key sites like Frampton Marsh RSPB reserve, the quality of provision is excellent.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Overall Score</i>
Ingelow Avenue Tree Belt, Boston	2
Grange Wood, Boston	3
Beech Wood, Boston	3
Wyberton West Pond	2
Witham Way Country Park, Boston	5
Havenside Country Park, Fishtoft	4

<i>Site</i>	<i>Overall Score</i>
Hobhole Bank	2
Fosdyke Cemetery	2
Frampton Marsh RSPB Reserve	5
Freiston Shore RSPB Reserve	5
Eno's Wood, Leake	2
Bell Mere Pool Nature Conservation Area, Sutterton	5
Loves Lane Woodland, Swineshead	1
Boston Woods Westgate Wood extension, Wyberton	3
Boston Woods Westgate Meadow extension, Wyberton	3
Princess Royal Sports Arena woodland	3
Crowland Woodland	3
West Bank Ponds, Crowland	3
Willow Tree Fen	4
Gosberton Road LNR, Donington	1
Low Bridge Woodland, Gosberton	2
Westhorpe Pond, Gosberton	5
Beach Bank Woodland, Gosberton	2
Holbeach Nature Reserve	3
The Shrubberys, Holbeach	3
London Road Pond, Holbeach	3
Moulton Marsh	3
Pinchbeck Woods	3
Pinchbeck Fen Slipe	2
Surfleet Lows Nature Reserve	2
Tom's Wood, Sutton Bridge	3
Jarvis Gate Woodland, Sutton St. James	1
Arnold's Meadow	2
Vernatts Local Nature Reserve, Spalding	3
Magellan Way natural open space, Spalding	1

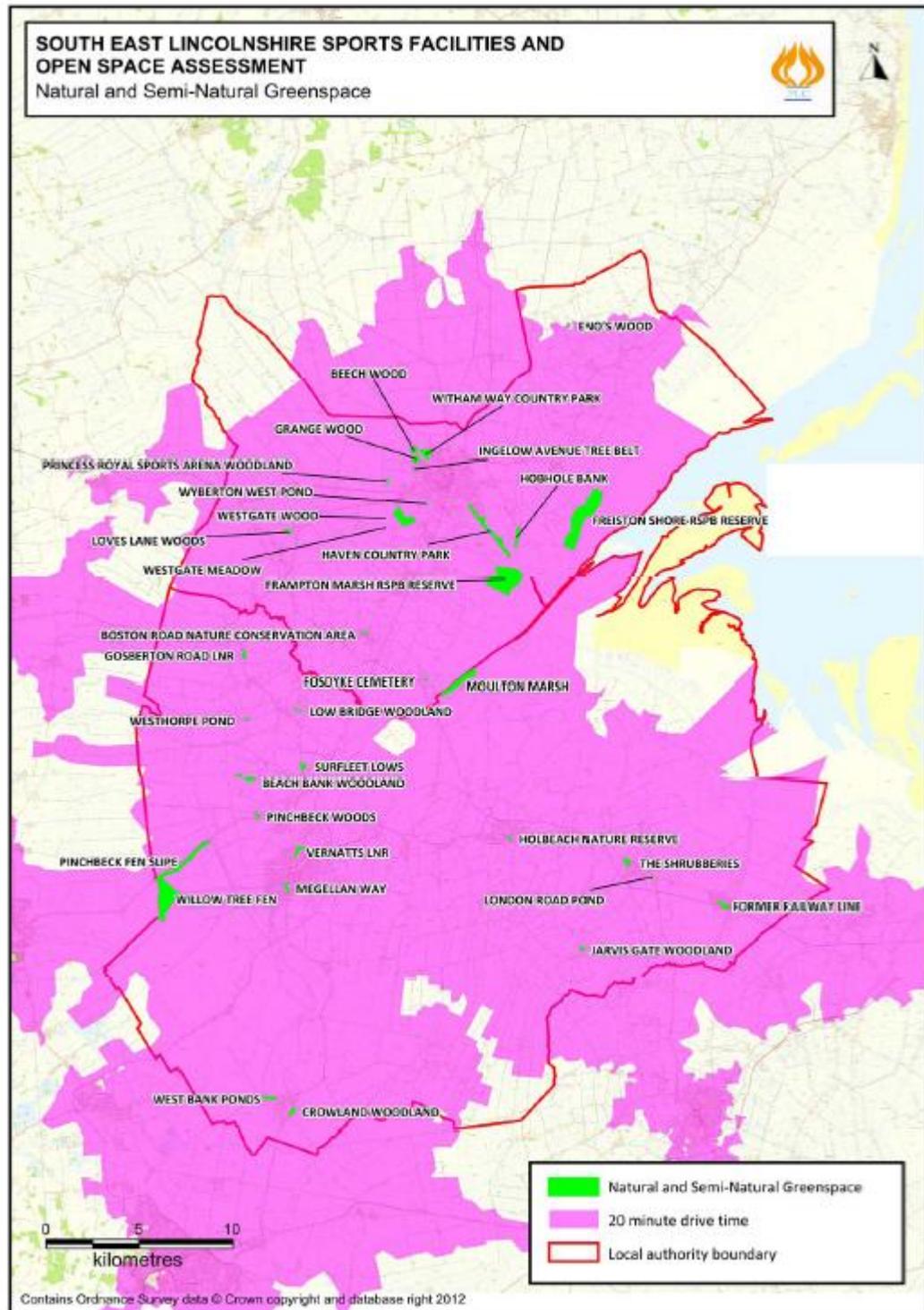


*Visitor centre with full disabled access at Frampton Marsh RSPB Reserve*

9.14 **Effective catchment:** Local surveys produced the following indications of accessibility to natural and semi-natural greenspace in the study area:

- a) 82.7% of natural and semi-natural greenspace users in a South Holland interview survey travel by car.
- b) 85.1% of natural and semi-natural greenspace users in the South Holland interview survey travel for 20 minutes or less.

9.15 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of natural and semi-natural greenspace in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 20 minute driving time catchments and sub-area boundaries is contained below. Almost the whole population is within 20 minutes driving time of their closest site:



9.16 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Proposed Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
4.5ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace per 1,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to 4.41ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace per 1,000 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit (2012)</i>.</li> <li>85.7% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right' . - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey (2012)</i>.</li> </ul>
All natural and semi-natural greenspace should rate as 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overall quality of 58.3% of natural/semi-natural greenspace sites is currently rated as 'average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit (2012)</i>.</li> <li>36.4% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that the quality of natural/semi-natural greenspace is 'good' and 45.5% that it is 'average' . - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey (2012)</i>.</li> </ul>
The whole population within 20 minutes walk or drive of their nearest natural/semi-natural greenspace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>82.7% of respondents to an interview survey in South Holland travel for 20 minutes or less to reach natural/semi-natural greenspace. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey (2010)</i>.</li> <li>85.1% of respondents to an interview survey in South Holland travel by car to reach natural/semi-natural greenspace. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey (2010)</i>.</li> </ul>



*Newly created semi-natural greenspace at Bell Mere Pool, Sutterton*

9.17 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<b>Assessed criterion</b>	<b>Assessed position</b>
Current provision	37 natural/semi-natural greenspace sites totalling 633.53ha.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency in the study area as a whole.</li> <li>Quality improvements needed at 15 sites.</li> <li>No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional 135ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 20 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>
Total future needs	• Natural/semi-natural greenspace totalling 768.53ha.

## Amenity Greenspace

9.18 **Definition:** Amenity greenspace is defined as open space that provides opportunities for informal recreation, close to home or work, or which enhances the appearance of residential or other areas. The size and utility of such spaces varies widely, with some having provision such as paths, benches, rubbish bins and planting schemes, whilst others comprise only grassed areas.

9.19 **Quantitative analysis:** This was assessed as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 426 amenity greenspace sites in the study area, totalling 107.38ha. The full list is contained in the appendix. This amounts to 0.75ha per 1,000 people.
- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the South-East Lincolnshire sub-areas is as follows and shows that the distribution of amenity greenspace is very variable, with no provision at all in five parishes/wards.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Boston Central	1,699	9	0.94ha	0.55ha/1,000
Boston Fenside	3,619	13	4.02ha	1.11ha/1,000
Boston North	3,263	9	1.64ha	0.50ha/1,000
Boston Staniland North	1,701	2	0.17ha	0.10ha/1,000
Boston Staniland South	3,434	15	4.24ha	1.23ha/1,000
Boston West	1,556	9	1.81ha	1.16ha/1,000
Boston Pilgrim	1,709	9	1.94ha	1.14ha/1,000
Boston Skirbeck	5,055	22	6.74ha	1.33ha/1,000
Boston South	1,831	4	0.37ha	0.20ha/1,000
Boston Witham	3,821	5	1.02ha	0.56ha/1,000
Algarkirk	406	1	0.26ha	0.64ha/1,000
Amberhill	268	1	0.63ha	2.35ha/1,000
Benington	569	2	2.01ha	3.53ha/1,000
Bicker	826	3	0.61ha	0.74ha/1,000
Butterwick	1,403	8	0.74ha	0.52ha/1,000
Fishtoft	5,444	17	2.67ha	0.49ha/1,000
Fosdyke	486	1	0.13ha	0.27ha/1,000
Frampton	1,217	1	0.91ha	0.74ha/1,000
Freiston	1,211	0	-	-
Holland Fen	652	0	-	-
Kirton	4,002	15	2.12ha	0.53ha/1,000
Leverton	668	1	0.61ha	0.91ha/1,000
Leake	1,803	4	0.83ha	0.46ha/1,000
Sutterton	1,124	13	2.45ha	2.18ha/1,000
Swineshead	2,449	3	0.65ha	0.27ha/1,000
Wigtoft	479	2	0.78ha	1.63ha/1,000
Wrangle	1,265	0	-	-
Wyberton	3,790	10	3.05ha	0.80ha/1,000
Cowbit	898	2	0.39ha	0.43ha/1,000
Crowland	3,607	12	3.43ha	0.95ha/1,000
Deeping St. Nicholas	1,323	7	2.38ha	1.80ha/1,000
Donington	2,614	7	0.65ha	0.25ha/1,000
Fleet	2,132	2	0.60ha	0.28ha/1,000
Gedney	2,305	7	2.49ha	1.08ha/1,000

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Gedney Hill	616	0	-	-
Gosberton	2,833	7	2.37ha	0.83ha/1,000
Holbeach	9,448	31	6.18ha	0.65ha/1,000
Little Sutton	121	0	-	-
Long Sutton	4,331	24	8.28ha	1.91ha/1,000
Lutton	1,151	2	0.20ha	0.17ha/1,000
Moulton	3,073	8	0.73ha	0.24ha/1,000
Pinchbeck	5,153	15	2.62ha	0.51ha/1,000
Quadrang	1,193	7	0.53ha	0.44ha/1,000
Surfleet	1,266	2	2.85ha	2.25ha/1,000
Sutton Bridge	3,936	9	2.95ha	0.75ha/1,000
Sutton St. Edmund	630	1	0.53ha	0.84ha/1,000
Sutton St. James	926	8	1.01ha	1.09ha/1,000
Tydd St. Mary	858	1	0.29ha	0.34ha/1,000
Weston	1,853	3	1.84ha	0.99ha/1,000
Whaplode	3,323	7	1.25ha	0.38ha/1,000
Spalding Castle	2,170	6	1.98ha	0.91ha/1,000
Spalding Monkshouse	4,324	19	4.59ha	1.06ha/1,000
Spalding St. John's	6,363	11	3.77ha	0.59ha/1,000
Spalding St. Mary's	3,619	9	1.73ha	0.48ha/1,000
Spalding St. Paul's	4,059	18	6.21ha	1.53ha/1,000
Spalding Wygate	4,397	21	6.18ha	1.41ha/1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>107.37ha</b>	<b>0.75ha/1,000</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** Provision in neighbouring areas is detailed below, which shows that South-East Lincolnshire has the highest per capita levels of provision of those of its neighbours for whom data is available:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
East Lindsey	141,600		
North Kesteven	106,400		
South Kesteven	132,300	54.43ha	0.41ha/1,000
KL and West Norfolk	143,600		
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>107.38ha</b>	<b>0.75ha/1,000</b>

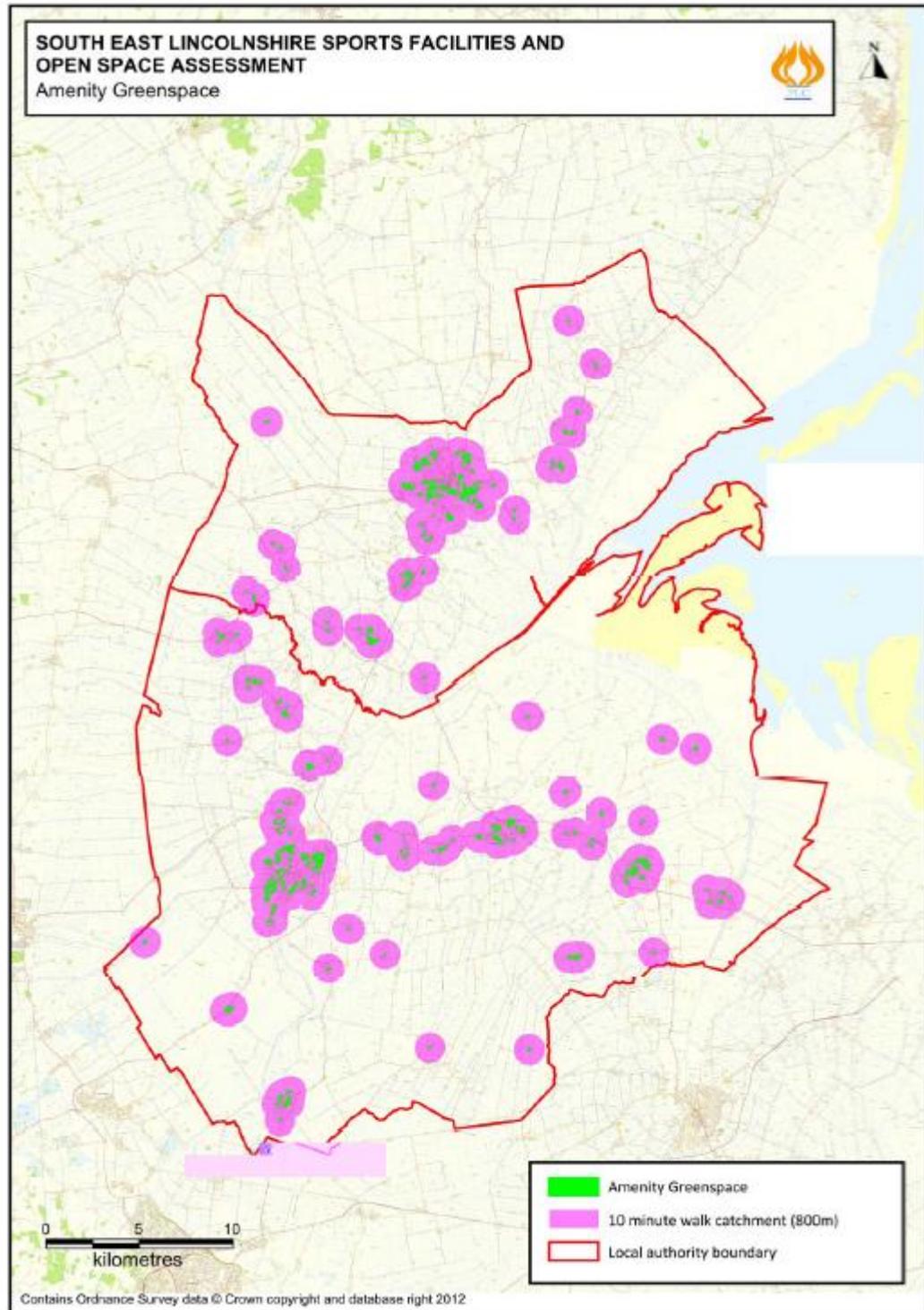
- 9.20 **Qualitative analysis:** The full results of the qualitative audit are set out in Appendix II, but the average score for each assessed criterion is set out below. The low mean scores for bins and seating reflects the absence of these features from most sites, but the quality of grassed areas and overall cleanliness is rated as better than 'above average'. The overall mean score equates to just below an 'average' rating:

<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Paths	<b>2.64</b>
Grassed areas	<b>4.07</b>
Litter bins	<b>1.81</b>
Seating	<b>1.43</b>
General cleanliness	<b>4.56</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>2.90</b>

- 9.21 **Effective catchment:** Local surveys produced the following indications of accessibility to amenity greenspace in the study area:

- a) 77.8% of amenity greenspace users in a South Holland interview survey travel on foot.
- b) 88.9% of amenity greenspace users in South Holland interview survey travel for 10 minutes or less, emphasising the need for accessible local provision.

9.22 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of amenity greenspace in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 10 minute (800m) walking time catchments is below. Given the limited sizes, much of the study area is beyond the catchment of amenity greenspace, although the majority of the urban population is well served:



9.23 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Proposed Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
0.75ha of amenity greenspace per 1,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to 0.75ha of amenity greenspace per 1,000 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>85.7% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All amenity greenspace is should rate as 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overall quality of 70.4% of amenity greenspace is sites currently rated as 'average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>57.1% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that the quality of amenity greenspace is 'good'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
The whole population within 10 minutes walk or drive of their nearest amenity greenspace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>87.6% of respondents to an interview survey in South Holland travel for 10 minutes or less to reach amenity greenspace. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey</i> (2010).</li> <li>95.2% of respondents to an interview survey in South Holland travel on foot to reach amenity greenspace. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey</i> (2010).</li> </ul>



*Aintree Drive Open Space, Spalding*

9.24 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<b>Assessed criterion</b>	<b>Assessed position</b>
Current provision	426 amenity greenspace sites totalling 107.38ha.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency in the study area as a whole.</li> <li>Quality improvements needed at 126 sites.</li> <li>No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional 22.5ha of amenity greenspace.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 10 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>
Total future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amenity greenspace totalling 129.58ha.</li> </ul>

## Provision for children and young people

9.25 **Definition:** This is defined as areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.

9.26 **Quantitative analysis:** This was assessed as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 117 children's play sites in the study area, totalling 14.76ha. The full list is contained in the appendix. This amounts to just more than 0.10ha per 1,000 people.
- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the South-East Lincolnshire sub-areas is as follows and shows that the distribution of children's play is widespread, being absent from only six sub-areas.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Boston Central	1,699	1	0.01ha	0.006ha/1,000
Boston Fenside	3,619	4	0.77ha	0.21ha/1,000
Boston North	3,263	2	1.00ha	0.31ha/1,000
Boston Staniland North	1,701	0	-	-
Boston Staniland South	3,434	1	0.24ha	0.07ha/1,000
Boston West	1,556	0	-	-
Boston Pilgrim	1,709	1	0.07ha	0.04ha/1,000
Boston Skirbeck	5,055	6	0.33ha	0.07ha/1,000
Boston South	1,831	1	0.10ha	0.05ha/1,000
Boston Witham	3,821	2	0.35ha	0.09ha/1,000
Algarkirk	406	1	0.07ha	0.17ha/1,000
Amberhill	268	1	0.04ha	0.15ha/1,000
Benington	569	1	0.07ha	0.12ha/1,000
Bicker	826	1	0.19ha	0.23ha/1,000
Butterwick	1,403	1	0.04ha	0.03ha/1,000
Fishtoft	5,444	2	0.18ha	0.03ha/1,000
Fosdyke	486	1	0.04ha	0.08ha/1,000
Frampton	1,217	0	-	-
Freiston	1,211	1	0.08ha	0.07ha/1,000
Holland Fen	652	0	-	-
Kirton	4,002	4	0.19ha	0.05ha/1,000
Leverton	668	1	0.06ha	0.04ha/1,000
Leake	1,803	2	0.39ha	0.22ha/1,000
Sutterton	1,124	1	0.48ha	0.43ha/1,000
Swineshead	2,449	1	0.03ha	0.01ha/1,000
Wigtoft	479	1	0.08ha	0.17ha/1,000
Wrangle	1,265	2	0.16ha	0.13ha/1,000
Wyberton	3,790	1	0.08ha	0.02ha/1,000
Cowbit	898	1	0.11ha	0.12ha/1,000
Crowland	3,607	4	0.39ha	0.11ha/1,000
Deeping St. Nicholas	1,323	2	0.39ha	0.29ha/1,000
Donington	2,614	2	0.41ha	0.16ha/1,000
Fleet	2,132	2	0.12ha	0.06ha/1,000
Gedney	2,305	1	0.35ha	0.15ha/1,000
Gedney Hill	616	0	-	-
Gosberton	2,833	2	0.14ha	0.05ha/1,000
Holbeach	9,448	9	0.61ha	0.06ha/1,000

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Little Sutton	121	0	-	-
Long Sutton	4,331	4	0.51ha	0.12ha/1,000
Lutton	1,151	1	0.06ha	0.05ha/1,000
Moulton	3,073	2	0.23ha	0.07ha/1,000
Pinchbeck	5,153	4	0.72ha	0.14ha/1,000
Quadring	1,193	2	0.34ha	0.28ha/1,000
Surfleet	1,266	2	0.10ha	0.08ha/1,000
Sutton Bridge	3,936	5	1.34ha	0.34ha/1,000
Sutton St. Edmund	630	1	0.14ha	0.22ha/1,000
Sutton St. James	926	1	0.11ha	0.12ha/1,000
Tydd St. Mary	858	3	0.27ha	0.31ha/1,000
Weston	1,853	2	0.05ha	0.03ha/1,000
Whaplode	3,323	4	0.41ha	0.12ha/1,000
Spalding Castle	2,170	2	1.00ha	0.46ha/1,000
Spalding Monkshouse	4,324	8	0.28ha	0.06ha/1,000
Spalding St. John's	6,363	3	0.13ha	0.02ha/1,000
Spalding St. Mary's	3,619	3	0.55ha	0.15ha/1,000
Spalding St. Paul's	4,059	3	0.19ha	0.05ha/1,000
Spalding Wygate	4,397	4	0.76ha	0.17ha/1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>14.76ha</b>	<b>0.10ha/1,000</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** Compared with the two neighbouring local authorities for which children's play data is available, South-East Lincolnshire has the highest per capita level of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>14.76ha</b>	<b>0.10ha/1,000</b>
South Kesteven	132,300	8.61ha	0.06ha/1,000
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	1.60ha	0.01ha/1,000

- 9.27 **Qualitative analysis:** The full results of the qualitative audit are set out in the Appendix, but the average score for each assessed criterion is set out below. The overall mean score equates to a rating between 'average' and 'above average':

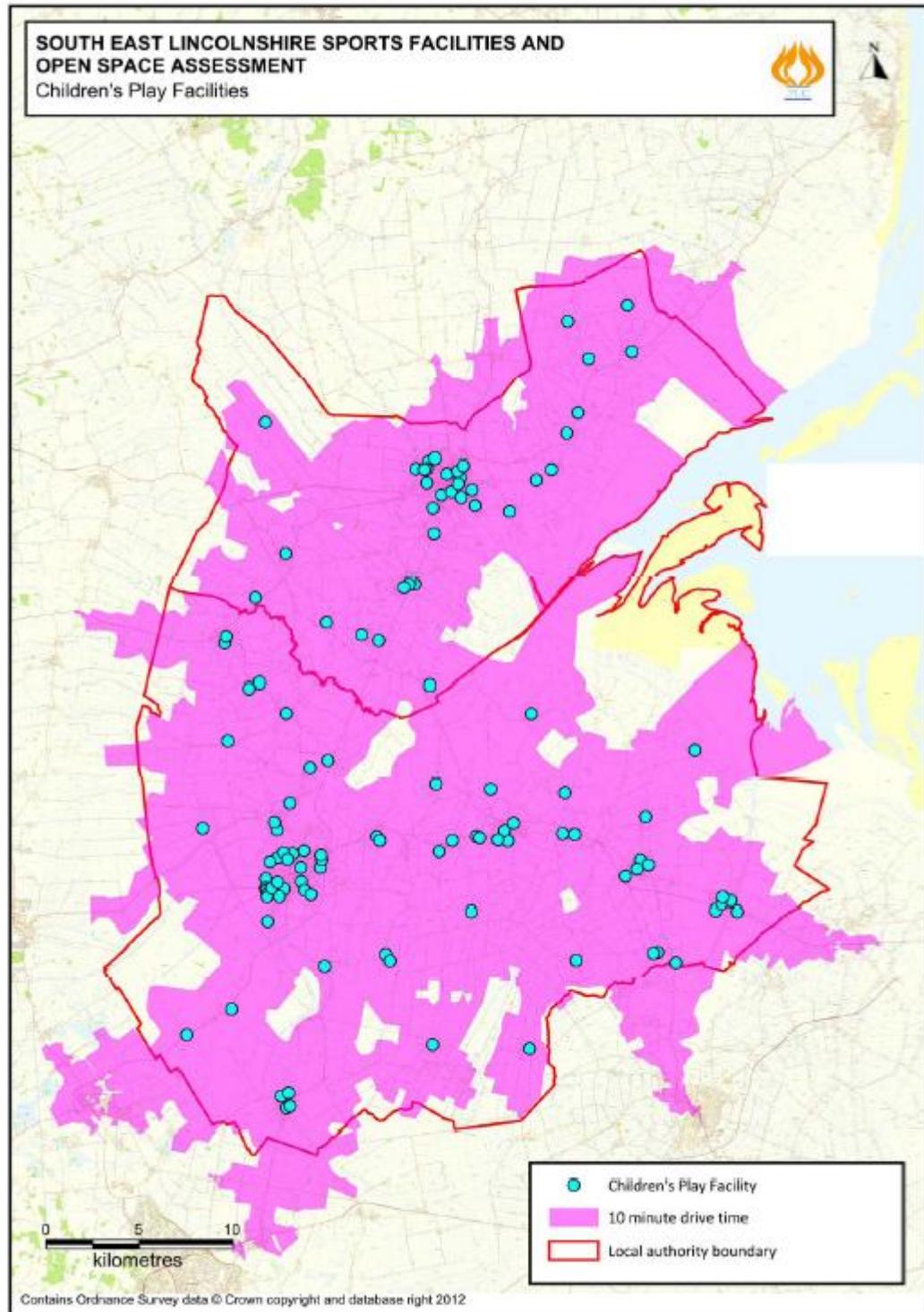
<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Variety of equipment	<b>3.47</b>
Quantity of equipment	<b>3.56</b>
Quality of equipment	<b>3.23</b>
Fencing and gates	<b>3.49</b>
Litter bins	<b>3.35</b>
Seating	<b>3.15</b>
Disabled access	<b>3.02</b>
General cleanliness	<b>3.60</b>
General access	<b>3.14</b>
<b>Overall mean</b>	<b>3.33</b>

- 9.28 **Effective catchment:** Local surveys produced the following indications of accessibility to children's play space in South-East Lincolnshire:

- a) 51.7% of children's play users in a South Holland interview survey travel by car.

- b) 94.9% of children's play users in the South Holland interview survey travel for 10 minutes or less, emphasising the need for accessible local provision.

9.29 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of children's play provision in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 10 minute driving time catchments and sub-area boundaries is contained below. It shows that most of the population of the study area is within 10 minutes drive of a play area:



9.30 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Proposed Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
0.1ha of equipped play space per 1,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to 0.1ha of equipped play areas per 1,000 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit (2012)</i>.</li> <li>71.4% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey (2012)</i>.</li> <li>Existing per capita levels of provision in South-East Lincolnshire are above the figure for two neighbouring local authorities, but given local views on the adequacy of play areas, a standard equivalent to current provision is appropriate. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit (2012)</i>.</li> </ul>
All equipped play areas should rate as 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overall quality of 65.8% of children's play sites is currently rated as 'average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit (2012)</i>.</li> <li>40.0% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that the quality of children's play provision is 'good' and a further 20% that it is average. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey (2012)</i>.</li> </ul>
The whole population within 10 minutes walk or drive of their nearest equipped play area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>94.9% of respondents to the community interview survey travel for 10 minutes or less to reach equipped play areas. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey (2010)</i>.</li> <li>51.7% of respondents to the community interview survey travel by car to reach equipped play areas, so a walking time catchment is justifiable. - <i>South Holland Leisure and Cultural Survey (2010)</i>.</li> </ul>



*SPARC Play Area, Surfleet*

9.31 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<b>Assessed criterion</b>	<b>Assessed position</b>
Current provision	117 equipped play areas totalling 14.76ha.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>Quality improvements needed at 41 sites.</li> <li>No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional 3.00ha of equipped play areas (equivalent to 24 play areas).</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 10 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>
Total future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipped play areas totalling 17.76ha.</li> </ul>

## Allotments

9.32 **Definition:** Allotments are defined as green spaces that provide opportunities for people to grow their own produce, as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.

9.33 **Quantitative analysis:** This was assessed as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 17 allotment sites in the study area as follows, comprising 747 plots and totalling 34.52ha. This amounts to 0.24ha per 1,000 people.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>No. plots</i>	<i>Size</i>
Willoughby Road Allotments	Boston North	64	1.87ha
Spilsby Road Allotments	Boston North	34	1.46ha
Wyberton West Rd Allotments	Boston South	81	2.88ha
Tattershall Road Allotments	Boston Witham	24	0.82ha
Milkinghill Lane Allotments	Bicker	35	1.61ha
Toot Lane Allotments	Fishtoft	44	1.42ha
Cuckoo Land allotments	Wyberton	80	2.03ha
Crowland Allotments	Crowland	55	1.77ha
Chappell Road Allotments	Deeping St. Nicholas	14	0.20ha
Donington Allotments	Donington	16	0.18ha
Northon's Lane Allotments	Holbeach	32	3.20ha
Long Sutton Allotments	Long Sutton	94	3.20ha
Sutton Bridge Allotments	Sutton Bridge	15	0.17ha
Sutton St James Allotments	Sutton St James	12	0.40ha
Tydd Gote Allotments	Tydd St. Mary	9	0.20ha
Horseshoe Road Allotments	Spalding Monkshouse	67	6.29ha
Low Fulney Allotments	Spalding St Pauls	71	6.52ha

- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the South-East Lincolnshire sub-areas is as follows and shows that the distribution of allotments is quite localised, with provision in only 16 of the sub-areas and per capita levels of provision varying quite widely between these areas.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Boston Central	1,699	0	-	-
Boston Fenside	3,619	0	-	-
Boston North	3,263	2	3.33ha	1.02ha/1,000
Boston Staniland North	1,701	0	-	-
Boston Staniland South	3,434	0	-	-
Boston West	1,556	0	-	-
Boston Pilgrim	1,709	0	-	-
Boston Skirbeck	5,055	0	-	-
Boston South	1,831	1	2.88ha	1.57ha/1,000
Boston Witham	3,821	1	0.82ha	0.21ha/1,000
Algarkirk	406	0	-	-
Amberhill	268	0	-	-
Benington	569	0	-	-
Bicker	826	1	1.61ha	1.95ha/1,000
Butterwick	1,403	0	-	-

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Fishtoft	5,444	1	1.42ha	0.26ha/1,000
Fosdyke	486	0	-	-
Frampton	1,217	0	-	-
Freiston	1,211	0	-	-
Holland Fen	652	0	-	-
Kirton	4,002	0	-	-
Leverton	668	0	-	-
Leake	1,803	0	-	-
Sutterton	1,124	0	-	-
Swineshead	2,449	0	-	-
Wigtoft	479	0	-	-
Wrangle	1,265	0	-	-
Wyberton	3,790	1	2.03ha	0.54ha/1,000
Cowbit	898	0	-	-
Crowland	3,607	1	1.77ha	0.49ha/1,000
Deeping St. Nicholas	1,323	1	0.20ha	0.15ha/1,000
Donington	2,614	1	0.18ha	0.07ha/1,000
Fleet	2,132	0	-	-
Gedney	2,305	0	-	-
Gedney Hill	616	0	-	-
Gosberton	2,833	0	-	-
Holbeach	9,448	1	3.20ha	0.34ha/1,000
Little Sutton	121	0	-	-
Long Sutton	4,331	1	3.20ha	0.74ha/1,000
Lutton	1,151	0	-	-
Moulton	3,073	0	-	-
Pinchbeck	5,153	0	-	-
Quadring	1,193	0	-	-
Surfleet	1,266	0	-	-
Sutton Bridge	3,936	1	0.17ha	0.04ha/1,000
Sutton St. Edmund	630	0	-	-
Sutton St. James	926	1	0.40ha	0.43ha/1,000
Tydd St. Mary	858	1	0.23ha	0.31ha/1,000
Weston	1,853	0	-	-
Whaplode	3,323	0	-	-
Spalding Castle	2,170	0	-	-
Spalding Monkshouse	4,324	1	6.29ha	1.45ha/1,000
Spalding St. John's	6,363	0	-	-
Spalding St. Mary's	3,619	0	-	-
Spalding St. Paul's	4,059	1	6.52ha	1.60ha/1,000
Spalding Wygate	4,397	0	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>34.52ha</b>	<b>0.24ha/1,000</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** Compared with the two neighbouring local authorities for which allotment data is available, South-East Lincolnshire has the poorest per capita levels of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Total Ha</i>	<i>Ha. per 1,000</i>
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	135.00ha	0.84ha/1,000
South Kesteven	132,300	47.06ha	0.36ha/1,000
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>34.52ha</b>	<b>0.24ha/1,000</b>

9.34 **Qualitative analysis:** The qualitative audit assessed the presence/absence of fenced site boundaries, water supply to all plots, secure sheds/huts, on-site toilets and dedicated car parking. The overall mean score equates to a value of just above ‘average’, but five sites 27.8% are rated as ‘below average’ or poorer.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Score</i>
Willoughby Road Allotments, Boston	3
Spilsby Road Allotments, Boston	4
Wyberton West Rd Allotments, Boston	5
Tattershall Road Allotments, Boston	3
Milkinghill Lane Allotments, Bicker	1
Toot Lane Allotments, Fishtoft	2
Cuckoo Land Allotments, Wyberton Low Road	4
Crowland Allotments	3
Chapel Road Allotments, Deeping St. Nicholas	2
Donington Allotments	3
Northon's Lane Allotments, Holbeach	1
Long Sutton Allotments	4
Sutton Bridge Allotments	4
Sutton St James Allotments	3
Tydd Gote Allotments	1
Horseshoe Road Allotments, Spalding	4
Low Fulney Allotments, Spalding	4
<b>Mean score</b>	<b>3.1</b>

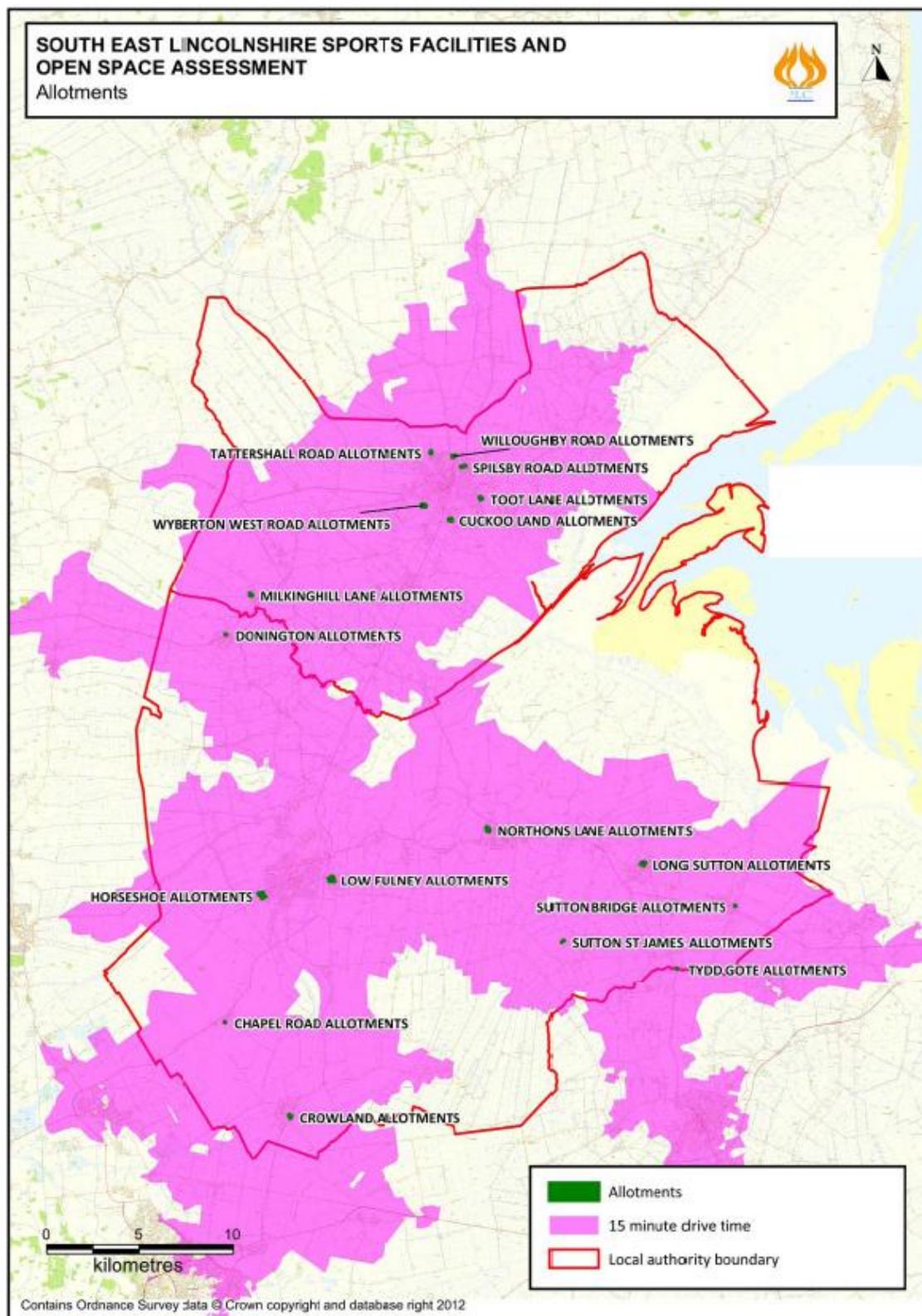
9.35 **Effective catchment:** A national survey produced the following indications of accessibility to allotments in South-East Lincolnshire:

- a) 66.7% of respondents to a national survey travel by car to reach allotments.
- b) 93.7% of respondents to a national survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach allotments.



*Wyberton West Road Allotments*

9.36 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of allotment provision in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is contained below. The map shows that only the sparsely populated rural areas on the edge of the study area are beyond 15 minutes driving time of their nearest provision.



9.37 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Proposed Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
0.30ha of allotments per 1,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to 0.24ha of allotments per 1,000 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>71.4% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that existing levels of provision of allotments are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>Existing per capita levels of provision in South-East Lincolnshire are well below the figure for two neighbouring local authorities, so a modest increase in provision is a justifiable aspiration. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All sites should rate as 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>72.2% of sites are currently rated as 'average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>78.6% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that the quality of allotments in the study area is 'good'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of their nearest allotments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>93.7% of respondents to a national survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach allotments. - <i>National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners</i> (2011).</li> <li>66.7% of respondents to a national survey travel by car to reach allotments. - <i>National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners</i> (2011).</li> </ul>

9.38 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<b>Assessed criterion</b>	<b>Assessed position</b>
Current provision	17 allotments totalling 34.52ha.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>43.08ha of allotments (deficiency of 8.56ha).</li> <li>Quality improvements needed at five sites.</li> <li>No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional 9.00ha of allotments.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>
Total future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allotments totalling 52.08ha.</li> </ul>

### **Cemeteries and churchyards**

9.39 **Definition:** In open space terms, cemeteries and churchyards are defined as green spaces providing opportunities for quiet contemplation. Many sites have historic and cultural value and some sustain wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

9.40 **Quantitative analysis:** This was assessed as follows:

- a) **Provision in South-East Lincolnshire:** There are 79 cemeteries and churchyards in the study area, totalling 81.39ha. The full list is contained in the appendix. This amounts to 0.57ha per 1,000 people.
- b) **Sub-area provision:** Provision in the South-East Lincolnshire sub-areas is as follows and shows that the distribution of cemeteries and churchyards is widespread, being absent from only five sub-areas.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Boston Central	1,699	0	-	-
Boston Fenside	3,619	0	-	-
Boston North	3,263	1	0.21ha	0.06ha/1,000
Boston Staniland North	1,701	0	-	-
Boston Staniland South	3,434	0	-	-
Boston West	1,556	1	0.27ha	0.17ha/1,000
Boston Pilgrim	1,709	0	-	-
Boston Skirbeck	5,055	1	0.49ha	0.10ha/1,000
Boston South	1,831	0	-	-
Boston Witham	3,821	3	22.11ha	5.79ha/1,000
Algarkirk	406	1	0.53ha	1.31ha/1,000
Amberhill	268	1	0.07ha	0.26ha/1,000
Benington	569	1	0.88ha	1.55ha/1,000
Bicker	826	2	0.87ha	1.05ha/1,000
Butterwick	1,403	1	0.42ha	0.30ha/1,000
Fishtoft	5,444	1	0.75ha	0.14ha/1,000
Fosdyke	486	2	0.82ha	1.69ha/1,000
Frampton	1,217	2	1.07ha	0.88ha/1,000
Freiston	1,211	1	1.18ha	0.97ha/1,000
Holland Fen	652	2	0.82ha	1.26ha/1,000
Kirton	4,002	3	2.71ha	0.68ha/1,000
Leverton	668	1	0.83ha	1.24ha/1,000
Leake	1,803	1	1.33ha	0.74ha/1,000
Sutterton	1,124	2	1.15ha	1.02ha/1,000
Swineshead	2,449	1	1.22ha	0.50ha/1,000
Wigtoft	479	1	0.57ha	1.19ha/1,000
Wrangle	1,265	1	0.97ha	0.77ha/1,000
Wyberton	3,790	2	0.77ha	0.20ha/1,000
Cowbit	898	1	0.26ha	0.29ha/1,000
Crowland	3,607	1	1.65ha	0.46ha/1,000
Deeping St. Nicholas	1,323	1	0.83ha	0.63ha/1,000
Donington	2,614	3	2.33ha	0.89ha/1,000
Fleet	2,132	2	1.09ha	0.51ha/1,000
Gedney	2,305	3	1.69ha	0.73ha/1,000
Gedney Hill	616	1	0.58ha	0.94ha/1,000
Gosberton	2,833	2	1.72ha	0.61ha/1,000
Holbeach	9,448	5	6.53ha	0.69ha/1,000
Little Sutton	121	0	-	-
Long Sutton	4,331	3	2.47ha	0.57ha/1,000
Lutton	1,151	2	0.62ha	0.54ha/1,000
Moulton	3,073	3	2.20ha	0.72ha/1,000
Pinchbeck	5,153	3	2.88ha	0.56ha/1,000
Quadring	1,193	1	0.72ha	0.60ha/1,000
Surfleet	1,266	2	0.72ha	0.57ha/1,000
Sutton Bridge	3,936	1	1.18ha	0.30ha/1,000
Sutton St. Edmund	630	1	0.51ha	0.81ha/1,000
Sutton St. James	926	1	0.52ha	0.56ha/1,000
Tydd St. Mary	858	1	0.70ha	0.82ha/1,000
Weston	1,853	2	0.74ha	0.40ha/1,000
Whaplode	3,323	3	2.29ha	0.69ha/1,000
Spalding Castle	2,170	1	8.00ha	3.69ha/1,000
Spalding Monkshouse	4,324	0	-	-
Spalding St. John's	6,363	0	-	-

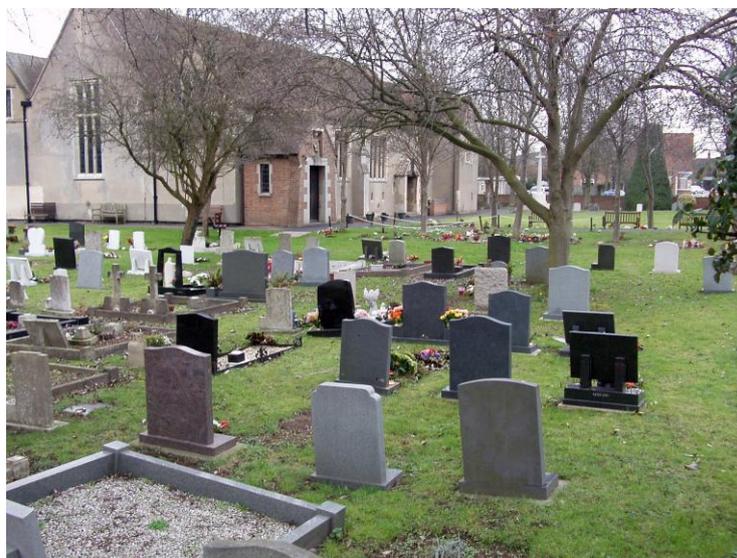
<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
Spalding St. Mary's	3,619	1	0.91ha	0.25ha/1,000
Spalding St. Paul's	4,059	3	0.21ha	0.05ha/1,000
Spalding Wygate	4,397	0	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>81.39ha</b>	<b>0.57ha/1,000</b>

- c) **Provision in neighbouring areas:** Compared with the two neighbouring local authorities for which churchyards and cemeteries data is available, South-East Lincolnshire has the highest per capita level of provision:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Total Ha.</i>	<i>Ha./1,000</i>
<b>South-East Lincs</b>	<b>143,600</b>	<b>81.39ha</b>	<b>0.57ha/1,000</b>
KL and West Norfolk	143,600	78.40ha	0.55ha/1,000
South Kesteven	132,300	49.75ha	0.38ha/1,000

- 9.41 **Qualitative analysis:** The full results of the qualitative audit are set out in Appendix II, but the average score for each assessed criterion is set out below. The low mean scores for bins and seating reflects the absence of these features from most sites, but the quality of grassed areas and overall cleanliness is rated as better than 'above average'. The overall mean score equates to just below an 'average' rating:

<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Paths	<b>3.92</b>
Grassed areas	<b>3.88</b>
Litter bins	<b>1.69</b>
Seating	<b>2.56</b>
General cleanliness	<b>4.69</b>
General access	<b>3.82</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>3.43</b>



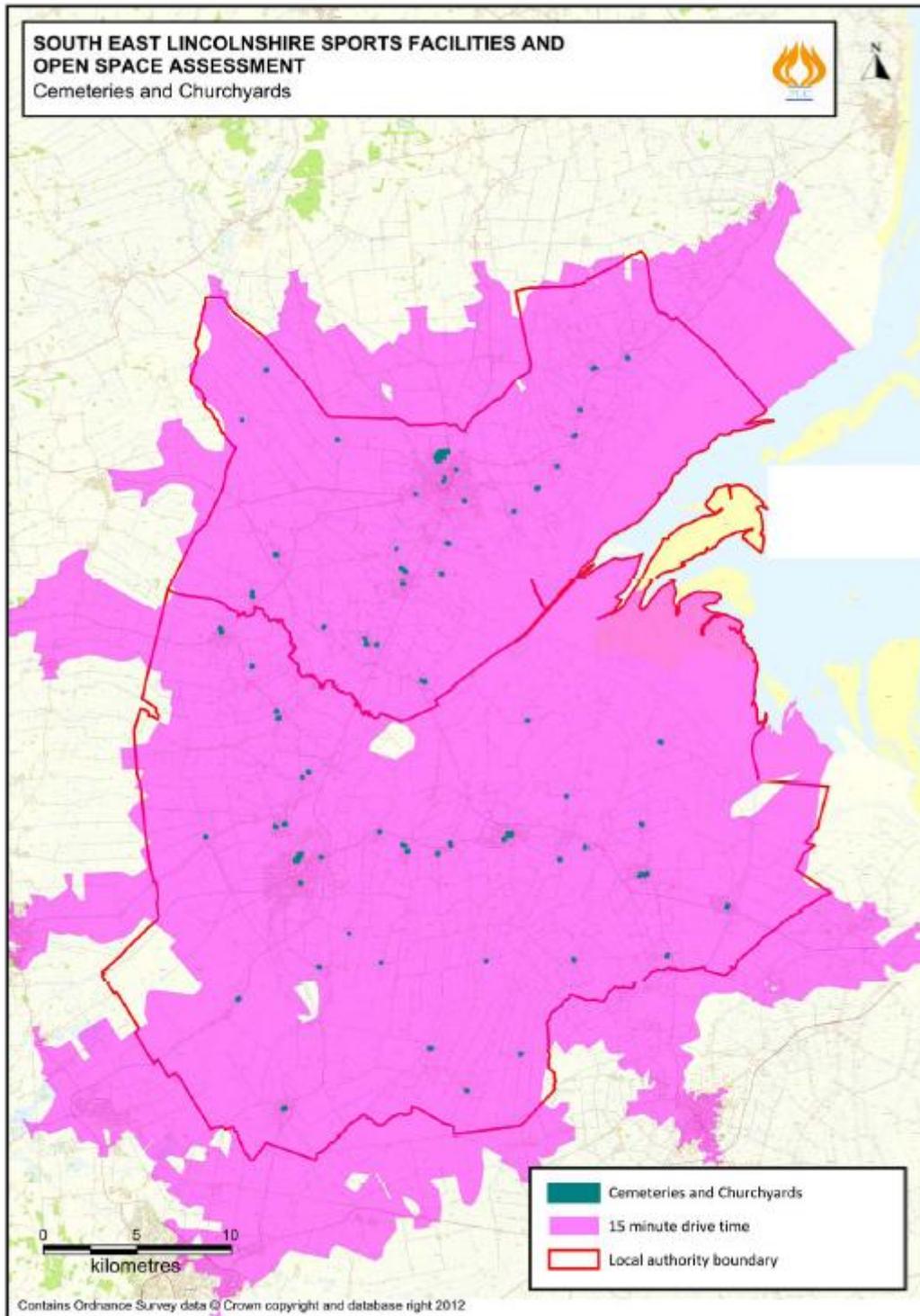
*St. Nicholas' Churchyard, Boston*

- 9.42 **Effective catchment:** A national survey produced the following indications of accessibility to churchyards and cemeteries:

- a) 56.3% of respondents travel by car to reach cemeteries and churchyards.

b) 84.5% of respondents travel for 15 minutes or less to reach cemeteries and churchyards.

9.43 **Patterns of provision:** A map showing the location of cemeteries and churchyard provision in South-East Lincolnshire, together with 15 minute drive time catchments and sub-area boundaries is contained below. The map shows that the whole population is within 15 minutes driving time of a cemetery or churchyard.



9.44 **Local standard of provision:** Based on the evidence above, the following local standard of provision was set:

<b>Proposed Standard</b>	<b>Justification</b>
0.57ha of cemeteries and churchyards per 1,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing levels of provision equate to 0.57ha of cemeteries and churchyards per 1,000 people - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>85.7% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that existing levels of provision are 'about right'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> <li>Existing per capita levels of provision in South-East Lincolnshire are above the figure for two neighbouring local authorities, so a standard equivalent to current provision is appropriate. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
All cemeteries and churchyards should rate as 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>74.7% of sites are currently rated as 'average' or better. - <i>SE Lincs Quantitative Audit</i> (2012).</li> <li>81.8% of respondents to the parish councils' survey believe that the quality of cemeteries and churchyards is 'good'. - <i>SE Lincs Parish Councils' Survey</i> (2012).</li> </ul>
The whole population within 15 minutes walk or drive of their nearest cemetery or churchyard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>84.5% of respondents to a national survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach cemeteries and churchyards. - <i>CABE</i> (2009).</li> <li>56.3% of respondents to a national survey travel by car to reach cemeteries and churchyards. - <i>CABE</i> (2009).</li> </ul>

9.45 **Applying the standard:** The results of applying the standard are as follows:

<b>Assessed criterion</b>	<b>Assessed position</b>
Current provision	79 cemeteries and churchyards totalling 81.39ha.
Current needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current quantitative deficiency based on open space functions.</li> <li>Quality improvements needed at 24 sites.</li> <li>No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>
Future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17.10ha based on open space functions.</li> <li>All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>Within 10 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>
Total future needs	• Cemeteries and churchyards totalling 98.49ha.

### **Overall provision of open space by sub-area**

9.46 The table below assesses the overall provision of open space in each of sub-areas in South-East Lincolnshire. The analysis highlights the wide variations within the study area, with some of the more densely populated urban wards having the lowest levels of provision. Retaining open spaces in the urban sub-areas is therefore a particular priority:

<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Parks (ha)</b>	<b>Natural (ha)</b>	<b>Amenity (ha)</b>	<b>Play (ha)</b>	<b>A'ments (ha)</b>	<b>C'yards (ha)</b>	<b>Total (ha)</b>	<b>Per capita</b>
Boston Central	-	-	0.94	0.01	-	-	<b>0.95</b>	<b>0.56ha/1,000</b>
Boston Fenside	-	9.29	4.02	0.77	-	-	<b>14.08</b>	<b>3.89ha/1,000</b>
Boston North	-	-	1.64	1.00	3.33	0.21	<b>6.18</b>	<b>1.84ha/1,000</b>
Boston Staniland North	-	-	0.17	-	-	-	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.10ha/1,000</b>
Boston Staniland South	-	-	4.24	0.24	-	-	<b>4.48</b>	<b>1.30ha/1,000</b>
Boston West	-	-	1.81	-	-	0.27	<b>2.08</b>	<b>1.34ha/1,000</b>
Boston Pilgrim	-	-	1.94	0.07	-	-	<b>2.01</b>	<b>1.18ha/1,000</b>
Boston Skirbeck	-	-	6.74	0.33	-	0.49	<b>7.56</b>	<b>1.50ha/1,000</b>

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Parks (ha)</i>	<i>Natural (ha)</i>	<i>Amenity (ha)</i>	<i>Play (ha)</i>	<i>A'ments (ha)</i>	<i>C'yards (ha)</i>	<i>Total (ha)</i>	<i>Per capita</i>
Boston South	-	0.27	0.37	0.10	2.88	-	<b>3.62</b>	<i>1.98ha/1,000</i>
Boston Witham	3.49	11.41	1.02	0.35	0.82	22.11	<b>39.20</b>	<i>10.26ha/1,000</i>
Algarkirk	-	-	0.26	0.07	-	0.53	<b>0.86</b>	<i>2.12ha/1,000</i>
Amberhill	-	-	0.63	0.04	-	0.07	<b>0.74</b>	<i>2.76ha/1,000</i>
Benington	-	-	2.01	0.07	-	0.88	<b>2.96</b>	<i>5.20ha/1,000</i>
Bicker	-	-	0.61	0.19	1.61	0.87	<b>3.28</b>	<i>3.97ha/1,000</i>
Butterwick	2.43	-	0.74	0.04	-	0.42	<b>3.63</b>	<i>2.59ha/1,000</i>
Fishtoft	-	23.30	2.67	0.18	1.42	0.75	<b>28.32</b>	<i>5.20ha/1,000</i>
Fosdyke	-	0.13	0.13	0.04	-	0.82	<b>1.12</b>	<i>2.30ha/1,000</i>
Frampton	-	171.45	0.91	-	-	1.07	<b>173.43</b>	<i>142.50ha/1,000</i>
Freiston	-	173.37	-	0.08	-	1.18	<b>174.63</b>	<i>144.20ha/1,000</i>
Holland Fen	-	-	-	-	-	0.82	<b>0.82</b>	<i>1.26ha/1,000</i>
Kirton	-	-	2.12	0.19	-	2.71	<b>5.02</b>	<i>1.25ha/1,000</i>
Leverton	-	-	0.61	0.06	-	0.83	<b>1.50</b>	<i>2.25ha/1,000</i>
Leake	-	0.11	0.83	0.39	-	1.33	<b>2.66</b>	<i>1.48ha/1,000</i>
Sutterton	-	0.70	2.45	0.48	-	1.15	<b>4.78</b>	<i>4.24ha/1,000</i>
Swineshead	-	2.00	0.65	0.03	-	1.22	<b>3.90</b>	<i>1.59ha/1,000</i>
Wigtoft	-	-	0.78	0.08	-	0.57	<b>1.43</b>	<i>2.99ha/1,000</i>
Wrangle	-	-	-	0.16	-	0.97	<b>1.13</b>	<i>0.89ha/1,000</i>
Wyberton	-	32.14	3.05	0.08	2.03	0.77	<b>38.07</b>	<i>10.04ha/1,000</i>
Cowbit	-	-	0.39	0.11	-	0.26	<b>0.76</b>	<i>0.85ha/1,000</i>
Crowland	-	4.63	3.43	0.39	1.77	1.65	<b>11.87</b>	<i>3.29ha/1,000</i>
Deeping St. Nicholas	-	114.00	2.38	0.39	0.20	0.83	<b>117.80</b>	<i>89.04ha/1,000</i>
Donington	0.97	2.43	0.65	0.41	0.18	2.33	<b>6.97</b>	<i>2.67ha/1,000</i>
Fleet	-	-	0.60	0.12	-	1.09	<b>1.81</b>	<i>0.85ha/1,000</i>
Gedney	-	-	2.49	0.35	-	1.69	<b>4.53</b>	<i>1.97ha/1,000</i>
Gedney Hill	-	-	-	-	-	0.58	<b>0.58</b>	<i>0.94ha/1,000</i>
Gosberton	-	8.82	2.37	0.14	-	1.72	<b>13.05</b>	<i>4.61ha/1,000</i>
Holbeach	2.88	5.05	6.18	0.61	3.20	6.53	<b>24.45</b>	<i>2.59ha/1,000</i>
Little Sutton	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>	<i>-</i>
Long Sutton	-	-	8.28	0.51	3.20	2.47	<b>14.46</b>	<i>3.34ha/1,000</i>
Lutton	-	-	0.20	0.06	-	0.62	<b>0.88</b>	<i>0.76ha/1,000</i>
Moulton	-	36.40	0.73	0.23	-	2.20	<b>39.56</b>	<i>12.87ha/1,000</i>
Pinchbeck	-	23.30	2.62	0.72	-	2.88	<b>29.62</b>	<i>5.75ha/1,000</i>
Quadring	-	-	0.53	0.34	-	0.72	<b>1.59</b>	<i>1.33ha/1,000</i>
Surfleet	-	3.40	2.85	0.10	-	0.72	<b>7.07</b>	<i>5.58ha/1,000</i>
Sutton Bridge	-	2.23	2.95	1.34	0.17	1.18	<b>7.87</b>	<i>2.00ha/1,000</i>
Sutton St. Edmund	-	-	0.53	0.14	-	0.51	<b>1.18</b>	<i>1.87ha/1,000</i>
Sutton St. James	-	1.72	1.01	0.11	0.40	0.52	<b>3.76</b>	<i>4.03ha/1,000</i>
Tydd St. Mary	-	-	0.29	0.27	0.23	0.70	<b>1.49</b>	<i>1.74ha/1,000</i>
Weston	-	-	1.84	0.05	-	0.74	<b>2.63</b>	<i>1.42ha/1,000</i>
Whaplode	-	-	1.25	0.41	-	2.29	<b>3.95</b>	<i>1.19ha/1,000</i>
Spalding Castle	-	3.32	1.98	1.00	-	8.00	<b>14.30</b>	<i>6.59ha/1,000</i>
Spalding Monkshouse	-	-	4.59	0.28	6.29	-	<b>11.16</b>	<i>2.58ha/1,000</i>
Spalding St. John's	-	1.46	3.77	0.13	-	-	<b>5.36</b>	<i>0.84ha/1,000</i>
Spalding St. Mary's	4.34	2.60	1.73	0.55	-	0.91	<b>10.13</b>	<i>2.80ha/1,000</i>
Spalding St. Paul's	-	-	6.21	0.19	6.52	0.21	<b>13.13</b>	<i>3.23ha/1,000</i>
Spalding Wygate	-	-	6.18	0.76	-	-	<b>6.94</b>	<i>1.58ha/1,000</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14.11</b>	<b>633.53</b>	<b>107.37</b>	<b>14.76</b>	<b>34.52</b>	<b>81.39</b>	<b>885.41</b>	<b>6.17ha/1,000</b>

## Summary of open space needs

9.47 **Quantitative needs:** The table below summarises the additional open space needs, both now and in 2031, the latter based upon an anticipated population increase of 30,000 people:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Provision in 2012</i>	<i>Needs in 2012</i>	<i>Extra needs in 2031</i>	<i>Total needs in 2031</i>
Parks and gardens	14.11ha	14.11ha	3.00ha	17.11ha
Natural/semi-nat. greenspace	633.53ha	633.53ha	135.00ha	768.53ha
Amenity greenspace	107.38ha	107.38ha	22.50ha	129.88ha
Children's play	14.76ha	14.76ha	3.00ha	17.76ha
Allotments	34.52ha	43.08ha	9.00ha	52.08ha
Cemeteries and churchyards	81.39ha	81.39ha	17.10ha	98.49ha

9.48 **Qualitative needs:** The table below summarises the current quality of provision:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>No. sites</i>	<i>Sites rated 'Average' or above (%)</i>	<i>'Below average'/'poor' sites (%)</i>
Parks and gardens	6	100.0%	0.0%
Natural/semi-natural greenspace	36	58.3%	41.7%
Amenity greenspace	426	70.4%	29.6%
Children's play	117	65.8%	34.2%
Allotments	17	72.2%	27.8%
Cemeteries and churchyards	79	74.7%	25.3%

## **X. SPORTS FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING POLICY**

### **Introduction**

10.1 This section examines the considerations that the South-East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee will take into account in finalising sports facilities and open space policies in the study area.

### **Planning policy principles**

10.2 ***Locally derived standards of provision:*** The National Planning Policy framework states that ‘planning policies should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. The information gained from this assessment of needs and opportunities should be used to set locally derived standards for the provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities’. The standards of provision proposed in the South-East Lincolnshire Sports Facilities and Open Space Assessment are accordingly based upon a detailed assessment of local needs.

10.3 ***Minimum standards of provision:*** The standards of provision should be regarded as the minimum levels required to meet existing needs. This means that it will be appropriate to:

- a) Seek higher levels of provision in appropriate circumstances where opportunities permit it.
- b) Regularly review and amend the standards as needs like increased rates of physical activity evolve over time.

10.4 ***Existing and new developments:*** In many of the more densely populated urban parts of the study area, the potential to meet identified deficiencies in open spaces are limited by the absence of opportunities in such built-up areas. Similarly, in some rural areas where most land is in private ownership, securing public access to open spaces may not be possible. However, the opportunities presented by new developments may offer the flexibility to achieve enhanced levels of greenspace provision, recognising that the current standards represent an assessment of the minimum amounts that are needed.

10.5 ***Quality of provision:*** Quality criteria were set to define the condition to which each typology in the study area should aspire. The quality of each site was assessed in relation to a set of objective criteria relating to wider norms and over time all identified qualitative deficiencies will be addressed progressively as resources and opportunities allow.

10.6 ***Multi-functionality:*** The form of assessment adopted for this study categorises sports facilities and open space provision on the basis of its primary function only. The advantage of this is that there is no ‘double counting’ of sites, but the disadvantage is that the multi-function nature of many sites is downplayed. As an example, an area designated as a playing pitch may be used for its primary function for only 1.5 hours per week and as amenity greenspace for the remainder of the time, but the latter function will not be included in the formal assessment. Even where a site might notionally be surplus to provision based upon its primary function, therefore, it may serve other subsidiary roles.

10.7 ***Provision relating to new developments:*** It is suggested that the following principles should apply:

- a) All new developments which result in an increase in the number of dwellings should contribute towards the provision of sports facilities and open space. For smaller developments where on-site provision is not achievable, a financial contribution will be sought from developers towards the improvement of provision elsewhere, where appropriate schemes can be identified within the defined catchment.
- b) The precise nature, composition and size of sports facilities and open space provision in new developments will be determined in relation to the overall size of the development and with reference to the minimum standards of provision, but for example it is anticipated that financial contributions will relate to the size of each dwelling and their anticipated occupancy rates.

10.8 ***'Surplus' provision:*** In some instances the application of the local standards produces an apparent 'surplus' of provision. However, this should not automatically be interpreted as signifying that the 'surplus' can be disposed of because:

- a) The standards against which the 'surplus' was assessed are the minimum that are required to meet current local needs. Local concentrations of existing demand and future increases in usage will both inflate the amount of provision needed to levels well above the minimum stipulation.
- b) An apparent 'surplus' in one form of provision (for example adult football pitches) will often be required to compensate for shortfalls in other types of provision locally (for example junior football pitches).

### **Summary of policy considerations**

10.9 ***Planning policy principles:*** The key considerations in developing sports facilities and open space policy are as follows:

- a) ***Planning standards:*** The standards of provision proposed in the study are based upon a detailed assessment of local needs and provide a robust and defensible means of defining the adequacy of provision.
- b) ***Minimum standards of provision:*** The standards of provision should be regarded as the minimum levels required to meet existing needs.
- c) ***Existing and new developments:*** New residential developments may offer the opportunity to achieve enhanced levels of open space provision, recognising that the current standards represent the minimum amounts that are needed.
- d) ***Quality of provision:*** Quality criteria were set to define the condition to which each typology in the study area should aspire.
- e) ***Multi-functionality:*** Many open space sites serve more than one open space function and therefore even where a site might notionally be surplus to provision based upon its primary function, it may serve other subsidiary roles.

- f) ***Provision relating to new developments:*** All residential developments should make appropriate provision for sports facilities and open space. For smaller developments where on-site provision is not achievable, a financial contribution will be sought from developers towards the improvement of provision elsewhere.
- g) ***'Surplus' provision:*** In some instances the application of the local standards produces an apparent 'surplus' of provision. However, this should not automatically be interpreted as signifying that the 'surplus' could be disposed of because:
- The standards against which the 'surplus' was assessed are the minimum that are required to meet current local needs. Local concentrations of existing demand and future increases in usage will both inflate the amount of provision needed to levels well above the minimum stipulation.
  - An apparent 'surplus' in one form of provision (for example adult football pitches) will often compensate for shortfalls in other types of provision locally (for example junior football pitches).

## **XI. ACTION PLAN**

### **Introduction**

- 11.1 This section comprises an action plan for meeting the deficiencies identified in this assessment. It contains the following material:
- a) Options for meeting the deficiencies.
  - b) Delivery partners.
  - c) Action plan for meeting existing needs.
  - d) Action plan for meeting future needs.
  - e) A basis for calculating developer contributions.
  - f) Provision for reviews.

### **Dealing with deficiencies**

- 11.2 **Introduction:** A number of options are available for meeting the identified deficiencies in provision, including:
- a) New provision.
  - b) Upgrading and refurbishing.
  - c) Improved capacity.
  - d) Enhanced access.
- 11.3 **New provision:** Providing entirely new sports facilities and open space may be the only means of securing additional provision in the right location. This can be achieved by:
- a) Identifying entirely new sites for provision in appropriate locations.
  - b) Extending existing provision where feasible.
  - c) Disposing of existing facilities to reinvest the capital receipt in new provision.
  - d) Incorporating facilities and open space into new community provision and/or housing/retail/commercial developments.
- 11.4 **Upgrading and refurbishing:** Upgrading and refurbishing existing provision would meet some of the qualitative deficiencies identified. The types of upgrade that would be most beneficial include:
- a) Better provision for visitors at many natural and semi-natural greenspace sites would improve their overall quality rating (although this will need to be balanced against the impact on site biodiversity of enhanced visitor numbers).

- b) Changing facilities are poor at some sports facilities in the study area and improvements would significantly enhance the experience of users.

11.5 **Improved capacity:** Improving the capacity of sports facilities and open space sites will enable them to accommodate more use and users. Examples include:

- a) The provision of floodlights for outdoor sports facilities will extend the period in which they can be used.
- b) Drainage improvements to grass pitches enables them to accommodate more play, with fewer postponed fixtures.
- c) Providing additional play equipment in children's play areas, to expand the range of ages and abilities catered for, will attract additional users.
- d) Habitat restoration and development, such as the Boston Woods initiative, improves the biodiversity value of natural and semi-natural and other greenspace sites.
- e) Intensifying the use of sites will improve their capacity. The current initiative in Boston to support the development of a number of community growing spaces (usually small in size and linked to an existing green space or public facility) and the creation of community orchards is a good example.
- f) Provision of facilities like a creche will improve the capacity of built sports facilities to cater for families with young children.
- g) Physically expanding the area of existing greenspace sites will increase their capacity for use and may enhance their wildlife and biodiversity value. Providing linkages between existing areas of greenspace will help to create green corridors and strategic routes for green travel and wildlife migration.

11.6 **Enhanced access:** Improving access to sports facilities and open space can be achieved in a number of ways:

- a) **Formal agreements:** Securing improved access through the development of formal agreements serves to safeguard public usage of provision without general community access and in some cases may provide sufficient security of tenure to allow external funding applications to be sought, to provide further enhancements. Examples include:
  - Securing the dual use by the community of education facilities, through a Community Use Agreement. Many schools in south-East Lincolnshire already allow external community use of their sports facilities, although in some instances there is no formal Community Use Agreement to secure this. Negotiating community access to education facilities offers an attractive means of securing additional capacity. One prime example is the new 25m indoor swimming Pool at the Giles Academy in Old Leake, which is unable to accommodate public usage at present due to issues with VAT thresholds. If this position can be overcome, an identified deficiency in publicly available pool provision could be overcome.

- The designation of Access Land under the provisions of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000), which allows additional public access at specified sites in addition to traditional linear footpaths and bridleways.
  - The provision or extension of longer-term leases on sports facilities and greenspace sites (typically 21 years or more), to allow tenants to apply for grant-aid from external sources to fund improvements.
- b) **Public transport improvements:** Improvements to public transport (in particular rural buses), would reduce the need for travel by private vehicles.
- c) **Rights of way improvements:** Improving the rights of way network and developing the green infrastructure network will ensure that there are appropriate linkages between key sites in the study area, will improve access and will encourage more sustainable forms of transport.
- d) **Information and awareness:** The provision of interpretive panels at sites with nature conservation interest can help to educate and inform users and enhance the user experience. Similarly, good on-site signposting can improve user confidence in exploring larger sites or following marked trails. By the same token, off-site signposting creates greater awareness of sites by non-users and may therefore encourage usage. Finally, the development and distribution of publicity materials promoting sport and open space provision will also raise awareness amongst potential users.

### **Delivery partners**

- 11.7 **Introduction:** A wide range of organisations will have a role in implementing the Sports Facilities and Open Space Assessment. The type of roles are summarised below.
- 11.8 **South-East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee:** By using its statutory powers to produce a South-East Lincolnshire Local Plan, the Committee will provide the planning policy framework within which sports facilities and open space will be protected and provided in the future.
- 11.9 **Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council:** The councils are likely to play the lead role in co-ordinating the development of the larger, more strategic facilities and sites, in conjunction with other partners where appropriate.
- 11.10 **Parish councils:** Parish councils will continue to play a valuable role in providing and maintaining more local scale facilities and open space in the rural parts of the study area.
- 11.11 **Leisure management contractors:** Leisure Connection and Leisure in the Community are contracted to run the two main leisure centres in South Holland and Nuffield Health runs the Princess Royal Sports Arena near Boston. All are likely to have a role in assisting with facility improvements at these key facilities.
- 11.12 **Schools:** Several schools in the study area already provide facilities from which local communities benefit and there will be further opportunities to extend and formalise community access to a range of provision on school sites.

- 11.13 **Sports organisations:** Local sports clubs are significant providers of facilities, in particular bowling greens, golf courses, tennis courts and playing pitches.
- 11.14 **Environmental organisations:** Local, county and national conservation trusts (such as the Boston Woods Trust, the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) provide and manage many of the natural and semi-natural greenspace sites in the study area, including the creation of new areas from time to time.
- 11.15 **Commercial organisations:** Several commercial sector organisations provide sports facilities, in particular health and fitness facilities. There may be scope for encouraging more provision by the private sector.
- 11.16 **Developers:** The developers of new housing and commercial projects in South-East Lincolnshire can be required either to provide new sports facilities and open space as part of an individual development, or to make a financial contribution towards the costs of such provision on site or elsewhere in the vicinity. The key principle is that the provision must meet the needs of the residents of the new homes, as opposed to rectifying any pre-existing deficiencies. This mechanism is likely to comprise a major component of most new provision in the district.
- 11.17 **Private landowners:** Private landowners may be prepared to allow permissive access across some private open space sites, providing an important supplement to the supply of publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace.
- 11.18 **Partnership arrangements:** Partnership arrangements involving combinations of any of the above providers will help to share the costs of provision, management and maintenance of additional provision.

### **Action plan for meeting existing needs**

11.19 **Introduction:** The action plan identifies the ways in which current and future deficiencies might be met and the partners who will have a role in providing, funding and managing new provision. It specifies what needs to be provided and where and proposes how best this might be achieved.

11.20 **Sports facilities:** The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Current assessed deficiency</b>	<b>Action plan for meeting deficiency</b>
Sports halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current substantive quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Some qualitative deficiencies at Spalding High School facility.</li> <li>• No significant accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Implement qualitative improvements to changing facilities, disabled and general access as resources allow.
Swimming pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional 25m x 13m pool.</li> <li>• No qualitative improvements needed.</li> <li>• Accessibility deficiency in the Holbeach area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of developing community access to the new pool at the Giles Academy.</li> <li>• Explore options for addressing access issues in the Holbeach area, including public transport provision.</li> </ul>
Athletics tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional '3G' synthetic turf pitch in the Boston sub-area.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements to fencing and disabled access at the Peter Paine Sports Centre pitch and disabled and general access at the Gleed Boys School pitch.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage a football club to develop a '3G' pitch in the Boston area.</li> <li>• Peter Paine pitch improvements are scheduled for 2013.</li> <li>• Implement qualitative improvements to Gleed Boys School pitch when resources allow.</li> </ul>
Indoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements to disabled access at the Long Sutton IBC.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support Long Sutton IBC to make external funding applications for disabled access improvements.
Outdoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements needed at most sites.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support clubs to make external funding applications for disabled and general access improvements at most facilities.
Indoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Outdoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deficiency of 4 courts in the South Holland sub-area.</li> <li>• Qualitative deficiencies at several facilities.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support local clubs in making funding applications to the LTA for facility improvements.</li> <li>• Secure community access to the tennis courts at school sites.</li> </ul>
Squash courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Golf courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency</li> <li>• Qualitative deficiencies at 8 facilities.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support qualitative improvements at facilities with elements rated as 'average' or worse, with larger and open access facilities prioritised first.
Village and community halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 village/community halls in urban parts of South-East Lincolnshire.</li> <li>• Qualitative deficiencies at most facilities.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop community access to school halls in areas with the greatest deficiency.</li> <li>• Audit existing halls to establish their respective capacities for accommodating different sports and physical activities.</li> <li>• Implement an improvement programme, prioritising facilities with the greatest potential to accommodate extra activity.</li> </ul>

11.21 *Playing pitches:* The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 37.3 pitches).</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency for pitches, but improvements in changing provision needed at 4 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvement programme at : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorial Park.</li> <li>• Sutton St. James Playing Field.</li> <li>• Moulton Seas End Playing Field</li> <li>• Holbeach Bank Playing Field.</li> </ul>
Junior football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17.3 additional pitches.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed to the pitch and changing facilities at Holland Way Sports Field.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Provide 18 additional junior pitches by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Converting underused adult pitches into junior pitches.</li> <li>• Negotiating secured community access to junior pitches on primary school sites.</li> </ul> Improve pitch and changing facilities quality at Holland Way Sports Field.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 7.4 pitches).</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 3 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiencies.</li> </ul>	Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvement programme at : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stricklands Drive Playing Field.</li> <li>• Holbeach Bank Playing Field.</li> <li>• Glen Park</li> </ul>
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 3.8 pitches).</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	No action required
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.2 additional pitches</li> <li>• No current qualitative deficiency.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Spalding Rugby Club with external funding applications for pitch quality improvements.</li> <li>• Negotiate secured community access to rugby pitches on school sites.</li> </ul>

11.22 *Open space provision:* The action plan to address current needs is as follows:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Parks and gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Quality improvements at three sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility shortfall.</li> </ul>	Implement an improvement programme as resources allow addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The entrance and general access at Matthew Flinders Park.</li> <li>• The planted areas at Carter's Park.</li> <li>• The entrance, paths, planting and seating at Stukeley Park.</li> </ul>
Natural/ Semi-natural greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency in the study area as a whole.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 15 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Qualitative improvement programme by landowners as resources allow at all sites currently rated as below 'average'.
Amenity greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency in the study area as a whole.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 126 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Qualitative improvement programme at 126 sites currently rated below 'average', with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger sites prioritised.</li> <li>• Ancillary provision like seating and litter bins upgraded.</li> </ul> Examine whether sites could be maintained and enhanced by local community groups.

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Children's play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 41 sites.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualitative improvement programme at 126 sites currently rated below 'average', with larger sites prioritised.</li> <li>• Examine whether sites could be maintained and enhanced by local community groups.</li> </ul>
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 9.00ha of allotments.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• No substantive accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with local community groups and parish councils to identify sites to provide additional allotments.</li> <li>• Qualitative improvement programme at 5 sites currently rated below 'average', with larger sites prioritised.</li> </ul>
Cemeteries and churchyards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No current quantitative deficiency based on open space functions.</li> <li>• Quality improvements needed at 24 sites.</li> <li>• No current accessibility deficiency.</li> </ul>	Encourage the Diocese of Lincoln and individual churches to address qualitative features like seats and litter bins that enhance usage for greenspace functions.

### **Action plan for meeting future needs**

11.23 **Introduction:** An action plan is set out below, which lists the future projected deficiencies in provision and identifies ways of meeting the shortfalls.

11.24 **Sports facilities:** The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Sports halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5 additional sports halls.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality 'above average'.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 1.5 new sports halls funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Swimming pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional 25m x 13m pool.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of a new pool funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Athletics tracks	No additional requirement.	No action required
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional synthetic turf pitch.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of a new pitch funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Indoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One additional six-rink indoor bowls facility.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of a new facility funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Outdoor bowls greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 additional outdoor bowls greens.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality 'above average'.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 7 new greens funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Indoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 additional indoor tennis court.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional indoor court, added to the existing facility, funded by developer contributions and located in proximity to new residential developments.
Outdoor tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 additional courts once existing deficiencies have been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure the provision of 5 public tennis courts in sub-areas with a pre-existing deficiency, funded by developer contributions.</li> <li>• Support local clubs in making funding applications to the LTA to secure 5 additional tennis courts at club sites.</li> </ul>

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Squash courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 additional squash courts.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of two new courts funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Golf courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 additional golf course.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Encourage the provision of an 18-hole golf course by a commercial provider, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Health and fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 additional health and fitness facilities.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Encourage the provision of three health and fitness facilities by commercial providers, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Village and community halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 additional village/community halls once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 12 new halls funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.

11.25 *Playing pitches*: The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	No additional requirement (extra demand accommodated by current notional surplus).	No action required
Junior football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7.5 additional pitches once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 8 additional junior pitches funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Mini-soccer	No additional requirement (extra demand accommodated by current notional surplus).	No action required
Cricket	No additional requirement (extra demand accommodated by current notional surplus).	No action required
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.3 additional pitches, once the existing deficiency has been met.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of 4 additional rugby pitches funded by developer contributions, taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.

11.26 *Open space provision*: The action plan to address future needs is as follows:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Parks and gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 3.0ha of parks and gardens.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 20 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>	Provide an additional 2.21ha of parks and gardens in the urban sub-areas, converting 'brownfield' land and creating new links in the green infrastructure network where possible.
Natural/Semi-natural greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 135ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 20 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>	Secure public access to 135ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating and enhancing semi-natural features at other open space sites.</li> <li>• Negotiating permissive public access to privately owned sites.</li> </ul>

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Amenity greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 22.5ha of amenity greenspace.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 10 minutes walk of new developments</li> </ul>	Provide an additional 22.5ha of amenity greenspace in conjunction with residential and other development, funded by developer contributions and creating new links in the green infrastructure network where possible.
Children's play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 3.00ha of equipped play areas (equivalent to 24 new play areas).</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 10 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional 24 equipped play areas funded by developer contributions, located in proximity to new residential developments, but taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 9.00ha of allotments.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 15 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional 9.0ha of allotments funded by developer contributions, located in proximity to new residential developments, but taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.
Cemeteries and churchyards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17.10ha of cemeteries and churchyards based on open space functions.</li> <li>• All aspects of quality above average.</li> <li>• Within 10 minutes walk or drive of new developments</li> </ul>	Secure the provision of an additional 17.10ha of cemeteries and churchyards funded by developer contributions, located in proximity to new residential developments, but taking account of existing accessibility deficiencies.

### **A basis for calculating developer contributions**

11.27 Developer contributions involve the provision of funding by housing developers, as a contribution to the facilities and services that the inhabitants of new residential development will need. The production of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) under Local Development Frameworks provides local authorities with a basis for formalising such arrangements. This section sets out a basis on which developer contributions can be calculated for sports facilities and open space in South-East Lincolnshire.

11.28 **Principles:** The basis on which developer contributions for sports facilities and open space should be developed should involve the following principles:

- a) Policies and planning standards should be comprehensive, but also flexible and simple to understand. Guidance should be clear and unambiguous, to provide practical solutions to meet all circumstances.
- b) There should be clarity about the costs that developers are required to meet.
- c) The basis on which on-site and off-site contributions will be determined should be clear, with thresholds reflecting the planning standards for facilities.
- d) Some types of sports facility provide for participants from specific age ranges and the demographic profile of the inhabitants of new housing should be taken into account in calculating the likely demand that specific developments will generate. Some types of housing may be exempt from developer contributions on this basis, such as sheltered accommodation or care/rest homes.

11.29 **Process:** Sport England advocates a six-stage process for calculating developer contributions. Based on this approach and the combination of known and projected figures, the following is a worked example of the developer contributions that might be attracted for sports provision and open space in South-East Lincolnshire:

- a) **Identify the timeframe for the DPD:** The LDF will cover the period to 2031.
- b) **Establish the number of dwellings to be committed:** It is estimated that 16,000 new dwellings may be provided in the study area in the period up to 2031.
- c) **Agree what type of dwellings should contribute to sports facilities:** In line with local planning policy, all types of residential development will be required to contribute towards sports facility provision.
- d) **Calculate the number and mix of dwellings of each type likely to be provided within the DPD timeframe:** The following is a worked example of the possible mix of dwelling sizes, numbers of properties and numbers of residents.

<i>Dwelling size</i>	<i>No. properties</i>	<i>No. residents</i>
1 bedroom	7,000	7,000
2 bedrooms	5,500	11,000
3 bedrooms	2,000	6,000
4+ bedrooms	1,500	6,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>

- e) **Establish the relevant costs of provision:** This involves calculating the costs of provision of each facility and typology. For the purposes of this calculation, it has been assumed that all additional facilities will be provided as new, although in practice the options for provision include several lower cost possibilities.
  - **Average sports facility costs:** The table below lists the cost of each type of sports facility, based upon Sport England's published cost estimates for the second quarter of 2011.

<i>Type of facility</i>	<i>Land purchase</i>	<i>Site preparation</i>	<i>Design fees</i>	<i>Planning fees</i>	<i>Building costs</i>	<i>Equipment</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Sports halls	£100,000	£200,000	£200,000	£50,000	£2.185 million	£50,000	£2.785million
Swimming pools	£100,000	£200,000	£300,000	£50,000	£2.66 million	£200,000	£3.51 million
Synthetic tracks	£100,000	£200,000	£50,000	£50,000	£765,000	£50,000	£1.215 million
Synthetic turf pitches	£5,000	£10,000	£5,000	£5,000	£780,000	£10,000	£815,000
Indoor bowls (rink)	£20,000	£30,000	£20,000	£10,000	£158,000	£2,000	£240,000
Outdoor bowls	£50,000	£20,000	£10,000	£2,000	£77,000	£1,000	£160,000
Indoor tennis (court)	£50,000	£50,000	£50,000	£20,000	£460,000	£20,000	£660,000
Outdoor tennis	£20,000	£5,000	£5,000	£1,000	£50,500	£1,000	£82,500
Squash courts	£20,000	£5,000	£5,000	£1,000	£75,000	-	£106,000
Golf courses	£1 million	£500,000	£250,000	£50,000	£1.5 million	£50,000	£3.35 million
Health and fitness	£50,000	£50,000	£50,000	£10,000	£500,000	£300,000	£960,000
Village/comm. halls	£20,000	£10,000	£25,000	£5,000	£150,000	£5,000	£215,000
Ad. football pitches	£5,000	£5,000	-	£1,000	£72,000	£2,000	£85,000
Jun. football pitches	£5,000	£5,000	-	£1,000	£57,000	£2,000	£70,000
Mini-soccer pitches	£3,000	£3,000	-	£1,000	£19,000	£2,000	£28,000
Cricket pitches	£10,000	£8,000	-	£1,000	£189,000	£2,000	£210,000
Rugby pitches	£5,000	£5,000	-	£1,000	£107,000	£2,000	£120,000

- **Average open space costs:** The table below lists each open space typology and its cost in terms of land purchase, site preparation, design fees, planning fees, building costs, equipment and total expenditure. The site sizes are based on the average size of sites of each type in the study area at present:

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Land purchase</i>	<i>Site preparation</i>	<i>Design fees</i>	<i>Planning fees</i>	<i>Building costs</i>	<i>Equipment</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Parks and gardens (2.5ha)	£250,000	£100,000	£10,000	£5,000	£300,000	£50,000	£715,000
Nat/semi-natural (20ha)	£50,000	£10,000	£5,000	£1,000	£20,000	£20,000	£106,000
Amenity greenspace (0.25ha)	£2,500	£500	-	-	£3,000	£1,000	£7,000
Children's play (0.15ha)	£1,500	£3,000	£1,000	£1,000	£5,000	£10,000	£21,500
Allotments (1ha)	£100,000	£30,000	-	-	£3,000	£2,000	£135,000
Cemeteries/ churchyards (1ha)	£100,000	£20,000	£1,000	£2,000	£5,000	£1,000	£129,000

- **Inflation:** Inflation will be taken into account via the application of an appropriate indexation to finalise costs, dependent on price changes in forthcoming years.
- **Extra provision needed:** Identified facility and open space needs, based upon anticipated population increases of 30,000 people by 2031 relating to new housing developments and excluding any existing deficiencies, are shown below.
- **Attributable cost of sports facilities:** The table below lists each type of sports facility, its unit cost, the number of extra facilities required in South-East Lincolnshire and total cost of that provision.

<i>Typology</i>	<i>Unit cost</i>	<i>No. extra facilities</i>	<i>Total costs (£)</i>
Sports halls	£2.785million	1.5	£4,177,500
Swimming pools	£3.51 million	1	£3,510,000
Synthetic tracks	£1.215 million	0	0
Synthetic turf pitches	£815,000	1	£815,000
Indoor bowls	£240,000	1	£240,000
Outdoor bowls	£160,000	7	£1,120,000
Indoor tennis	£660,000	1	£660,000
Outdoor tennis	£82,500	10	£825,000
Squash courts	£106,000	2	£212,000
Golf courses	£3.35 million	1	£3,350,000
Health and fitness	£960,000	3	£2,880,000
Village/comm. halls	£215,000	12	£2,580,000
Ad. football pitches	£85,000	0 (contained in current surplus)	0
Jun. football pitches	£70,000	8	£560,000
Mini-soccer pitches	£28,000	0 (contained in current surplus)	0
Cricket pitches	£210,000	0 (contained in current surplus)	0
Rugby pitches	£120,000	4	£480,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	<b>£21,409,500</b>

- **Attributable cost of open space:** The table below lists each open space typology, its unit cost, the amount of extra provision required in South-East Lincolnshire and total cost of that provision.

<i>Type of facility</i>	<i>Unit cost</i>	<i>Amount of extra provision</i>	<i>Total costs (£)</i>
Parks and gardens	£715,000	3.00ha (one site)	£715,000
Nat/semi-natural	£106,000	135.00ha (7 sites)	£742,000
Amenity greenspace	£7,000	22.50ha (90 sites)	£630,000
Children's play	£21,500	3.00ha (45 sites)	£967,500
Allotments	£135,000	9.00ha (9 sites)	£1,215,000
Cemeteries/ chyards	£129,000	17.10ha (17 sites)	£2,193,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	<b>£6,462,500</b>

f) **Divide costs into dwellings:** This is the final stage and involves dividing the costs by the relevant number and type of dwellings, to arrive at an appropriate contribution. The table below lists suggested developer contributions for each type of housing by number of bedrooms, the percentage of residences likely to be built of each type, the total apportioned costs for each type of dwelling, the number of dwellings of each type likely to be built and the apportioned costs per dwelling.

- **Sports facilities:**

<i>Type of housing</i>	<i>% residents</i>	<i>Apportioned costs</i>	<i>No. dwellings</i>	<i>Cost per dwelling</i>
1 bedroom	23.2%	£4,967,004	7,000	£709.57
2 bedrooms	36.4%	£7,793,058	5,500	£1,416.92
3 bedrooms	19.8%	£4,239,081	2,000	£2,119.54
4+ bedrooms	20.6%	£4,410,357	1,500	£2,940.24

- **Open space:**

<i>Type of housing</i>	<i>% residents</i>	<i>Apportioned costs</i>	<i>No. dwellings</i>	<i>Cost per dwelling</i>
1 bedroom	23.2%	£1,499,300	7,000	£214.19
2 bedrooms	36.4%	£2,352,350	5,500	£427.70
3 bedrooms	19.8%	£1,279,575	2,000	£639.79
4+ bedrooms	20.6%	£1,331,275	1,500	£887.52

11.30 **On-site/off-site provision:** On the basis of the above, the criteria for on-site or off site provision of each type of facility and open space in South-East Lincolnshire will be as follows. The table below lists each facility or typology, the threshold for on-site provision and the threshold for off-site provision, based upon the local standards of provision.

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Threshold for on-site provision</i>	<i>Threshold for off-site provision</i>
Sports halls	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 20,000 people.
Swimming pools	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 32,500 people.
Synthetic tracks	No additional provision required.	No additional provision required.
Synthetic turf pitches	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 30,000 people.
Indoor bowls	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 35,000 people.

<b>Type of provision</b>	<b>Threshold for on-site provision</b>	<b>Threshold for off-site provision</b>
Outdoor bowls	Development accommodates 4,500 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 4,500 people
Indoor tennis	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 35,000 people.
Outdoor tennis	Development accommodates 3,000 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 3,000 people.
Squash courts	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 16,000 people.
Golf courses	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 30,000 people.
Health and fitness	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 10,000 people.
Community and village halls	Development accommodates 2,500 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 2,500 people.
Adult football pitches	Development accommodates 4,650 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 4,650 people.
Junior football pitches	Development accommodates 4,000 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 4,000 people.
Mini-soccer pitches	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 10,000 people.
Cricket pitches	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 10,000 people.
Rugby pitches	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 9,000 people.
Parks and gardens	N/A	Developments collectively accommodate 30,000 people.
Natural/semi-natural greenspace	Development accommodates 4,000 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 4,000 people.
Amenity greenspace	Development accommodates 200 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 200 people.
Children's play	Development accommodates 150 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 150 people.
Allotments	Development accommodates 3,000 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 3,000 people.
Cemeteries/churchyards	Development accommodates 2,000 people on site	Developments collectively accommodate 2,000 people.

11.31 **Summary:** Developer contributions are likely to provide the majority of funding for the additional sports facilities needed to serve development-related population increases in the borough and the calculations set out above provide a robust and defensible basis upon which to invite such contributions.

### **Provision for reviews**

11.32 Because sport and physical activity is a rapidly changing environment, to ensure that the proposals in the assessment continue to address local needs and strategic priorities, the situation should be reviewed regularly. Assumptions about population growth will be tested regularly and projected requirements refined accordingly. It is therefore proposed that the following review programme will be undertaken:

- a) Annual reviews of progress towards action plan targets.
- b) A three-yearly review of the overall strategic approach.