

## Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Briefing

### Preparation of a Sport and Leisure Strategy for Chesterfield Borough 2014 – 2031

#### 1. Background:

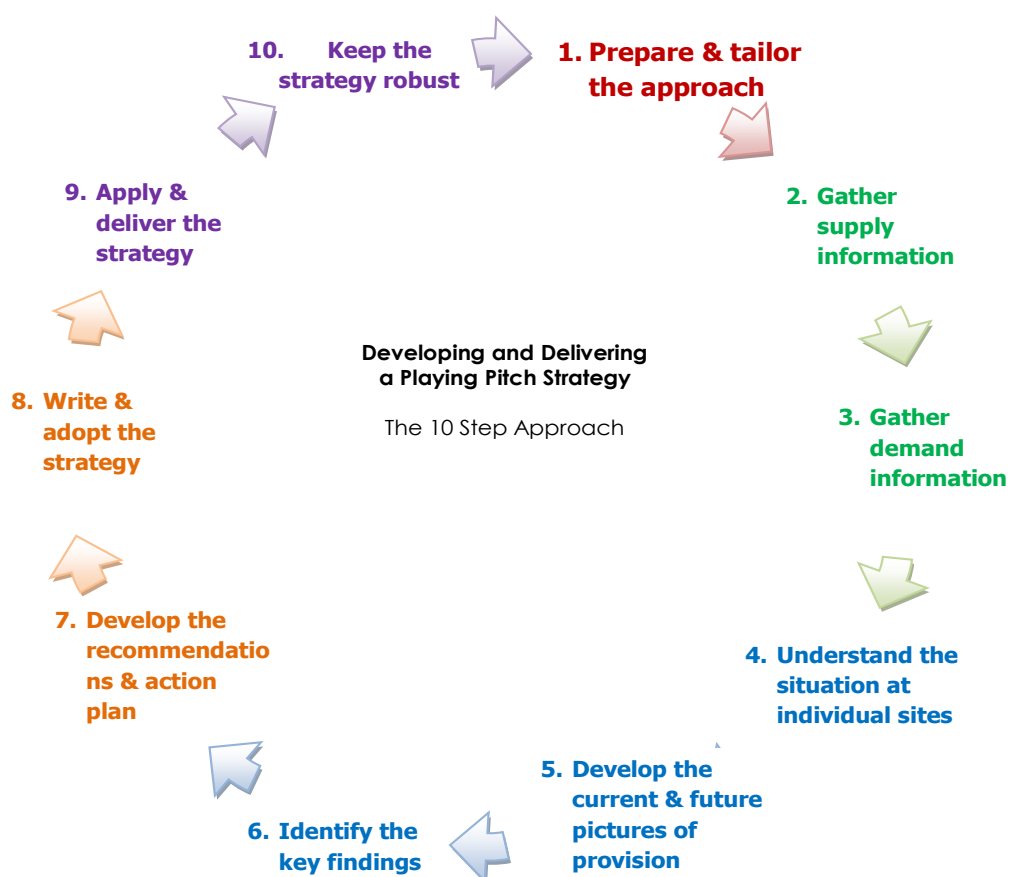
An initial report was presented to the Scrutiny forum on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 outlining the process to be adopted for strategy development. The methodology is attached as Appendix 1 to this note for reference.

The report made three recommendations which were principally related to best practice in approach, use of Sport England tools for analysis, and strategy development taking due account of the needs and evidence arising from both the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) framework and the Facilities Planning Model (FPM) framework. Both frameworks have been developed by Sport England.

It should be noted that Sport England are currently reviewing and updating the framework for strategic facilities planning. This will mean a delay to the original timeline scheduled for the CBC strategy completion as it is considered appropriate to develop our strategy 2014 – 2031 on the most up to date methodology. This will support our future work and any joint initiatives on strategic needs and evidence being assessed against the most current criteria available.

The FPM work is complete and the PPS work has progressed to draft report stage using the new methodology shown below:

Figure 2.1: Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy – The 10 Step Approach



## 2. PPS Project Progress:

We are now at point 7 of the PPS process above and a draft report on the project findings is being prepared on schedule as identified in the methodology for completion by mid to late February.

The work completed has been robust as can be seen from the engagement information below which reflects the return of questionnaires regarding sports club provision and participation in the area – this is both public and private provision. Please note that there are only two Hockey teams in the Borough and a 100% return is anticipated, work is ongoing, further Football feedback also expected but responses to date are extremely good. A sample NGB questionnaire is attached as Appendix 2.

- Football –90%+ of teams, local league secretaries, NGB
- Cricket –100% of clubs, NGB
- Rugby Union – 100%, NGB
- Hockey – 50%, NGB

Tennis and Bowls have also been assessed and will be included in the draft report. All pitch sites have been visited and assessed for quality including accessibility.

The FPM work completed in late 2013 by Sport England has identified needs and evidence that in relation to current and future population estimates our

provision of Swimming Pool water space is challenging. The design proposals for the new Queens Park Sports Centre address this issue with the current proposals applying innovative use of a small pool moveable floor and flexible programming options to respond to the amount of water space available for competent swimming, as well as supporting special needs and learn to swim programmes.

Sports Hall provision has been assessed in the borough. It is noted that the specialist nature of the Queens Park Multipurpose Sports Hall means that within the current mix of hall provision there is a need for development of more of the Queens Park standard of provision to adequately meet demand from a wide mix of sports now and in the future. More access to other community sports halls is also a consideration. The proposals for the new Queen's Park Sports Centre also reflect this need. The structural design and footprint currently planned includes for expansion of the Sports Hall subject to funding being available for the proposed build in 2014 2015 or being strategically planned for a future date in the strategy when funding can be committed.

Artificial Grass Pitch provision is covered in both the PPS and FPM and due to National Governing body (NGB) strategic reviews the true picture of need has yet to be determined. The final outcome of the two framework assessments coupled with the strategic priorities identified by NGBs will allow appropriate strategic facility planning to be addressed in CBC strategy and action plans.

A strategic review meeting took place on 5<sup>th</sup> February primarily focussing on PPS emerging outcomes and the needs and evidence work completed. The attendees included CBC officers from Leisure, Parks and Open Spaces and Planning; and external stakeholders including Sport England and several National Governing Body representatives. No adverse issues were identified regarding the review process or emerging information regarding quality and accuracy. An overall approach to Indoor and Outdoor strategy development and how this needed to be shaped for corporate use was also agreed in principle.

### 3. Current PPS work:

Final actions regarding PPS work are as follows:

- NGB cross check and challenge.....
  - Football Association – data check
  - Derbyshire Cricket Board data check and update
  - Rugby data check
  - England Hockey data check
  - Further discussion with Tennis and Bowls
- Draft assessment report to be presented to lead officers and Elected Members 18<sup>th</sup> March.

- Scenario Testing and Strategy Document development
- Draft recommendations prepared.
- Strategic Action plan developed

As advised the FPM modeling is complete and report recommendations made by Sport England will be incorporated into the planned draft report including PPS findings to Elected Members on March 18th.

#### 4. Current FPM work:

- FPM report and findings completed by Sport England
- Feedback from Consultation meeting with Sport England consultants 5<sup>th</sup> March awaited.
- Facilities Strategy development agreed
- Sport and Physical Community Strategy development agreed.
- Internal consultation on overall CBC strategic planning approach commenced with lead officers

#### 5. Overall Strategy Development

Due to the earlier mentioned Sport England review of the Strategic Planning framework for Facilities, a meeting took place on 5<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the implications on the approach to the CBC strategy with the Sport England lead consultant for this work. This is to ensure that the final CBC document is consistent with best practice which will need to be evident where the Council enters into any future strategic partnership proposals with Sport England or other similar national bodies including NGBs.

This further development will delay the final strategy deadline. However it will not be a detriment to the overall position required to take the Council services forward in relation to the Councils Core Strategy or the Service level strategic strands being developed for Sport and Leisure and Parks and Open Spaces.

M Blythe March 2014.