

APSE Southern and South West Sports and Leisure Advisory Group

Wednesday 22nd July 2009

Sport England's Facilities Improvement Service

John Feetam Strategic Planner

- Introduction

Working with local authorities' to raise the bar in the strategic planning of sports facilities.

- Launched in 2007
- Three year targeted programme
- Designated support to local authorities
- Develop authority wide and tailor-made approaches
- Produce a robust and defendable needs led evidence base
- Facilitate the application of Sport England's strategic planning tools
- To build skills and capacity
- To disseminate good practice



Facilities Improvement Service (FIS) - Drivers

The drivers behind the establishment of the FIS include:

- Recognition of the need to improve strategic planning for sports provision (Audit Commission 2006, CLG 2007).
- The need for a robust evidence base for open space, sport and recreation to support Local Development Frameworks.
- The need to address the age and quality of sports facilities.
- Contribution of sport to the health, wellbeing and obesity agenda.
- Opportunities available within educational build programmes (e.g. BSF).
- Proposals for new housing growth (growth areas/points).
- London 2012



Facilities Improvement Service (FIS) - Progress

81 local authorities to have been engaged in the FIS by the end of 2010-2011

- Nine pilot local authorities established in 2007
- Nine local authorities per region
- 54 local authorities by end of 09/10

Case Studies:

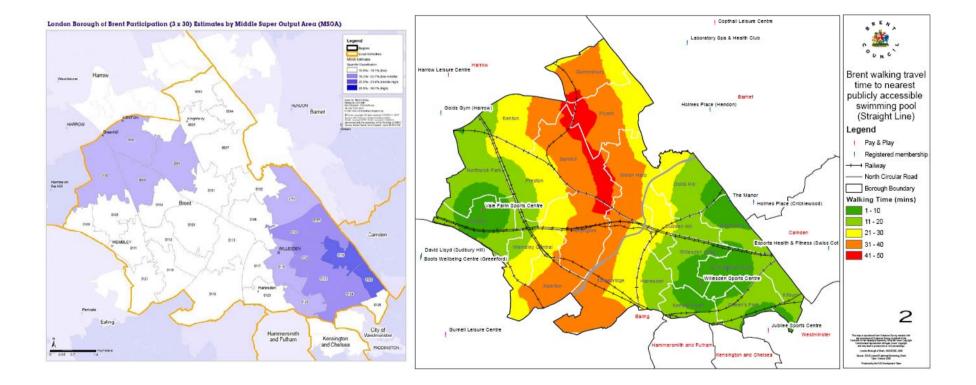
- London Borough of Brent
- Swindon Borough Council
- Southampton City Council



- London Borough of Brent
 - Pilot Authority
 - Some of the lowest participation rates within London
 - Little investment in the Borough's sporting infrastructure
 - Fragmented approach to strategic planning
 - Development of local standards and infrastructure requirements
 - Ensuring sufficient quality and distribution of provision
 - Use of the Facilities Planning Model
 - Informing the BSF programme
 - A framework to assist in seeking developer contributions
 - Positive feedback from the LGA

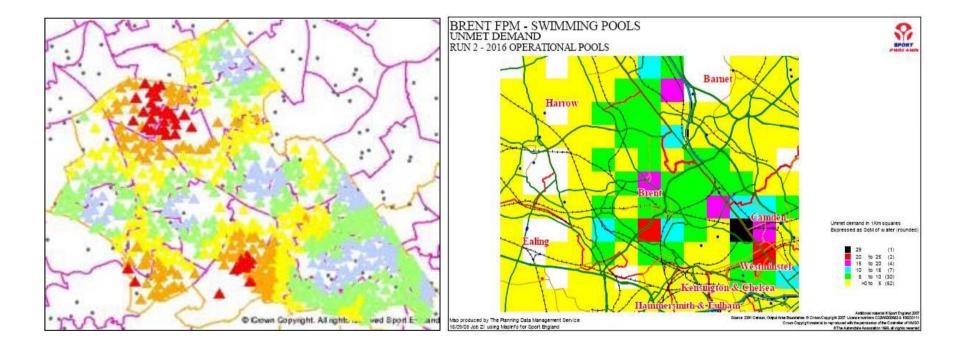


- London Borough of Brent





- London Borough of Brent





- Swindon Borough Council
 - Pilot Authority
 - Infrastructure requirements up to 2026 (pop increase of approx. 70k).
 - Major development areas to the south and east of the Borough.
 - Use of the Facilities Planning Model for scenario testing.
 - Assessing changes in supply/demand and affect on walking catchments.
 - Use of tools to supplement existing work (Leisure Strategy).
 - Incorporating requirements into the Local Development Framework.
 - Up date Developer Contributions Guidance Note.
 - Matching known infrastructure requirements to opportunities for co location (BSF and extended schools agenda).



- Southampton City Council
 - Identified cross authority requirement for robust needs and evidence base.
 - Inform the development of the Local Development Framework (Inc. SPD).
 - Maximise opportunities to influence Building Schools for the Future (Strategy for Change Document).
 - Inform the process of externalising the management arrangements of SCC facilities.
 - Cross authority steering group and 'Active Southampton'.
 - Consultants appointed to 'plug the gaps' in the evidence base and apply strategic planning tools.
 - New Playing Pitch Strategy part funded by Leisure and Education.



Facilities Improvement Service (FIS) - Toolkit

- 81 LA's engaged in the service benefitting from direct support
- Resource for the remaining LA's to access.
- Lessons learnt, examples of good practice.
- The Policy Context
- Diagnosing and Scoping
- Filling the Gaps
- Application of Strategic Planning Tools
- Producing a Needs & Evidence Base for Community Sports Facilities
- Project Management
- The Strategy Process



Sustainable Community Sports Hubs

- Overcoming pressures on local authority resources, expenditure, subsidies.
- Working with all sectors and other funding streams.
- Securing the long term financial sustainability of sports facilities.
- Strategic Planning requirements, prioritising, planning system (AAP, s106)
- Co-location of services, mix of public and private sector provision.
- The creation of a dowry (inc. commercial and other rental opportunities).
- Reduce operating subsidies by generating sufficient income streams.
- Building up ring fenced funds for lifecycle costs.
- Warrington Example Orford Park.



Planning Contributions Kitbag

What's in the Kitbag?

- Planning Contributions: what are they? (Circular 05/05, DCLG Guidance, Community Investment Levy Proposals)
- Developing local frameworks (5 part process)
 - 1. Local Standards of Provision and infrastructure requirements
 - 2. Approved development plan policies
 - 3. Local Framework (SPD)
 - 4. Team approach to negotiation
 - 5. Transparency and accountability
- Good practice and local authority examples (SPD's, site level examples, costings, sports facility calculator)



Web Links & Contact Details

<u>Guidance Documents</u>: Facilities Improvement Service, Sustainable Community Sports Hubs, Planning Contributions Kitbag. www.sportengland.org > Facilities & Planning > Planning Tools and Guidance

London Borough of Brent: 'Planning for Sport and Active Recreation Facilities Strategy' 2008 – 2021 www.brent.gov.uk/tps.nsf/Planning%20policy/LBB-126

Warrington Borough Council: Orford Park Project (Sustainable Community Sports Hub) www.warrington.gov.uk/Leisureandculture/Communitycentresandfacilities/orford.aspx

Contact Details:

John Feetam Strategic Planner

T: 020 7273 1738, E: john.feetam@sportengland.org

