

Appendices

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APPENDIX 1 - COPELAND OPEN SPACE, LEISURE AND RECREATION SURVEY

GENERAL INFORMATION

- A** Are you male or female? ☐ Male ☐ Female
- B** Which age group are you in?
- ☐ under 20 ☐ 20 - 25 years ☐ 26 - 34 years ☐ 35 - 41 years ☐ 41 - 50 years ☐ 51 - 64 years ☐ 65 - 74 years ☐ 75 - 84 years ☐ over 85
- C** Does illness or disability limit your activities in any way? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- D** Are there any children / young people in your household? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, how old are your children? Please put the number of children in each age range.
- 0-6 7-11 12-16 17-24
- E** What is your postcode?
- F** Do you have access to a car for transport? ☐ Yes ☐ No

A THE TYPES OF OPEN SPACE AND LEISURE FACILITIES YOU VISIT

- Q1** Please tick how often members of your household visit or use EACH of the following types of open space and other facilities within Copeland Borough (in each row please tick *one box only*).

Type of open spaces and sports facilities within Copeland Borough	Frequency of visit/use					
	Almost every day	At least weekly	At least fortnightly	At least monthly	Less often	Never
Local recreation grounds or parks						
Children's play areas						
Outdoor facilities for teenagers (e.g. basketball, skateboard parks, BMX)						
Playing Fields for football, cricket, rugby etc						
Tennis/netball courts and outdoor bowling greens						
Green open spaces (informal, i.e. not landscaped)						
Footpaths, bridleways, cyclepaths						
Country parks, local countryside, woodlands						
Wildlife areas/Nature reserves						
Allotments						
Artificial turf pitches ('astros') for hockey, football etc						
Community/Village halls Community centres/ Church halls						
Indoor swimming pools						
Indoor sports/leisure centres						
Golf courses						
Outdoor sports e.g. motor cycle scrambling						
Large indoor facilities such as indoor tennis centres and bowling rinks						

B TRAVEL TIMES FOR VISITS TO OPEN SPACE AND LEISURE FACILITIES

Q2 How long would members of your household normally be prepared to travel to visit the following types of facility? Please also tick whether you would walk, cycle, drive or use other forms of transport. We would like your views on all the facilities listed.

Type of open space or leisure facility	Time (in minutes) I am prepared to spend travelling						Preferred method of travel (Please tick ONE only)			
	Up to 5 mins	6 to 10 mins	11 to 15 mins	16 to 20 mins	More than 20 mins	Do not wish to visit/ use	Walk	Cycle	Drive/ car	Bus/ other
Local recreation grounds or parks										
Children's play areas										
Outdoor facilities for teenagers										
Playing fields for football, cricket, rugby etc										
Tennis/netball courts and outdoor bowling greens										
Green open spaces (informal, i.e. not landscaped)										
Footpaths, bridleways, cyclepaths										
Country parks, local countryside, woodlands										
Wildlife areas/Nature reserves										
Allotments										
Artificial turf pitches										
Community halls/centres										
Indoor swimming pools										
Indoor sports/leisure centres										
Golf courses										
Outdoor sports e.g. motor cycle scrambling										
Indoor facilities such as indoor tennis centres and bowling rinks										

Q3 If the quality of your journey on foot or by bicycle to nearby open green spaces and leisure facilities was improved would household members:

- a) Be prepared to walk/cycle further to reach the open space? ☐ Yes ☐ No
b) Make the journey more often? ☐ Yes ☐ No

C ARE THERE ENOUGH LOCAL FACILITIES?

Q4 Do you think there is a need for more, the same or fewer of the following types of open space and recreational facilities (accessible from where you live?) Please tick

Facility/Open space	More	The same	Fewer
Local recreation grounds or parks			
Children's play areas			
Outdoor facilities for teenagers			
Playing fields for football, cricket, rugby etc			
Tennis/netball courts and outdoor bowling greens			

Green open spaces (informal, i.e. not landscaped)			
Footpaths, bridleways, cyclepaths			
Country parks, local countryside, woodlands			
Wildlife areas/Nature reserves			
Allotments			
Artificial turf pitches			
Community halls/centres			
Indoor swimming pools			
Indoor sports/leisure centres			
Golf courses			
Outdoor sports e.g. motor cycle scrambling			
Indoor facilities such as indoor tennis centres and bowling rinks			

D YOUR OPINIONS OF OPEN SPACES, PLAY AREAS AND LEISURE FACILITIES

Q5 In general, how does your household rate the quality of the following provision? *(Please tick)*

<i>Type of open spaces and sports facilities</i>	<i>Very good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Very poor</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
Local recreation grounds or parks						
Children's play areas						
Outdoor facilities for teenagers						
Playing fields for football, cricket, rugby						
Tennis/netball courts & outdoor bowling						
Green open spaces (informal)						
Footpaths, bridleways, cyclepaths						
Country parks, local countryside, woodlands						
Wildlife areas/Nature reserves						
Allotments						
Artificial turf pitches						
Community halls/centres						
Indoor swimming pools						
Indoor sports/leisure centres						
Golf courses						
Outdoor sports e.g. motor cycle scrambling						
Indoor facilities such as indoor tennis centres and bowling rinks						

Q6 Which three of the following issues do you think are most important in relation to parks and open spaces? *(Please tick your TOP 3 only)*

<input type="checkbox"/>	They are easy to get to for all members of the community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once there they are easy to get around for all members of the community
<input type="checkbox"/>	There are good links – by footpaths and cycleways – to them and between them
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cleanliness and a lack of litter and graffiti
<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling safe and secure
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate control of dogs and freedom from dog fouling
<input type="checkbox"/>	To be well supervised and have site-based staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	To have good signposting and good information about what's available
<input type="checkbox"/>	Control of noise and unsocial behaviour
<input type="checkbox"/>	Equipment and grounds should be of high quality and well maintained
<input type="checkbox"/>	They should have a range of facilities including cafés and toilets
<input type="checkbox"/>	There should be places to shelter/sit in poor weather

E PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENTS

Q7 Of the various kinds of indoor and outdoor facilities what are your household's priorities in terms of potential improvements in provision? Please tick your TOP 3 only.

Top 3 Priorities	Facility/Open space
	Local recreation grounds or parks
	Children's play areas
	Outdoor facilities for teenagers
	Playing fields for football, cricket, rugby etc
	Tennis/netball courts and outdoor bowling greens
	Green open spaces (informal, i.e. not landscaped)
	Footpaths, bridleways, cyclepaths
	Country parks, local countryside, woodlands
	Wildlife areas/Nature reserves
	Allotments
	Artificial turf pitches
	Community halls/centres
	Indoor swimming pools
	Indoor sports/leisure centres
	Golf courses
	Outdoor sports e.g. motor cycle scrambling
	Indoor facilities such as indoor tennis centres and bowling rinks

F INDOOR SWIMMING POOLS, LEISURE AND SPORT CENTRES

Q8 If members of your household visit a local indoor swimming pool or sports/leisure centre to participate in leisure activities please state the name/s of the venue you use *most frequently*.

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Q9 How satisfied are you with the indoor leisure facility your household uses most?

Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neutral	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied

Q9a Please add any specific comments below:

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Q10 If household members do not use indoor leisure facilities within Copeland Borough why is this?

<input type="checkbox"/> Activities/facilities not provided locally	<input type="checkbox"/> Transport problems
<input type="checkbox"/> Unaware of opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Health related issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Cost	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability issues
<input type="checkbox"/> No crèche available	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Culture
<input type="checkbox"/> Not enough spare time	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not own or have access to required equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities provided at the wrong time of day	<input type="checkbox"/> Others (please state below)

Other reasons:

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

Please return by Monday 23rd August 2010 to:

FREEPOST RRRR-TUTY-KYKH, 34 Moor View, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot, TQ13 0JB

Appendix 2 - Copeland Borough Review of community-based open space projects (July 2010)

- NEW PROJECTS – highlighted in purple; COMPLETED PROJECTS – highlighted in green; REFURBISHMENTS/ADDITIONS – highlighted in red
- The ticks indicate which Local Authorities/Borough Council Departments are involved; no ticks indicate known community projects currently without specific local authority support.

Project	HOMIE	CDT	Park Team	Locality Team	CCC	Status	Needs	Strengths	Notes
Bootle BMX & MUGA Bootle Groundforce NEW project				✓		Potential Project Designs been drawn Funding applied for	Funding Design Maintenance plan Health and Safety Insurance advice Tendering support Project Management	Proactive group Skilled group Sustainability through Parish council	They need Advice on PAS 35 (BMX standards)? MUGA British standards
Seascale BMX Completed Project			✓			Complete	Maintenance plan	Successful project with facility to national standards	Are there any lessons learnt for other groups? Good experience with company Dragon Downhill
Millom Skatepark Friends of Millom Park - NEW						Potential Project	Issues around lease Location of skate park Access to site Design	Proactive Funding in Place	Group could address if proposed skate park will be in best location?
Bootle – Bootle train station path							Funding Planning Health and Safety	Proactive approach Permissions in place	Can these paths be promoted more? Interpretation signage potential?
Gosforth – Seascale path							Funding Planning/Highways		
Drigg – Seascale path							Funding Planning/Highways		
Ravenglass – Waberthwaite path							Funding Planning/Highways		
Greenbank MUGA	✓						Funding Planning	Consultation carried out	
Jacktrees MUGA Exchange Corner NW			✓	✓	✓		Funding Planning Health and Safety	Potential Project	

Play Areas

Project	HOME	CDT	Parks Team	Locality Team	CCC	Status	Needs	Strengths	Notes
Parton Play Area North Copeland Youth Partnership						Playbuilder funding agreed	Maintenance plan	Proactive approach Good consultation	Awaiting Play builder decision
Ravenglass Ravenglass Village Forum		✓	✓			Some funding in place Community Space stage 2 in process	Lead Professional Maintenance Further/improved consultation Integrate natural play	Proactive group Priority location for tourism	Carry out additional consultation Complete stage 2 bid
Gosforth Playing Fields Association		✓				Stage 1 approval for community spaces	Advice on lead professional	Consultation in place Some funding in place	Complete consultation Complete bid
Jacktrees Exchange Corner NW			✓	✓		Development stage- lease arrangement to be agreed	Funding Project Plan	Proactive group	Lease arrangements to be resolved
Bransty Home Group	✓		✓				Funding Group	Consultation by J. Bigrigg School support Support from HOME	Consultation to be completed
Millom Play Area Friends of Millom						Play area nearing end of life potential site for skate park			Scope for project sounded out
Frizington HOME group	✓						Issues around drainage		
Moor Row			✓				Landownership issues		Lease issues to be addressed
Briscoe Mount Egremont Town Council						Complete			Could be used as a showcase for other groups

Allotments/Community Gardens and Other

Project	HOME	CDT	Parks	Locality Team	CCC	Status	Needs	Strengths	Notes
Egremont Community Farm				✓		Business plan in place looking for funding	Funding	Business plan in place	
Distington Millennium Green	✓						Plans Tender process Funding		
Lamplugh School Allotments				✓					
Ennerdale Play Area/Allotments				✓		Complete		Proactive group Purchase field Community benefit Links with schools	Could be used as exemplar case study?
Cartgate Allotments			✓				Planning advice Meeting room Secure lock up for tools		
Midgey Ghyll Allotments			✓			New group	Signage Interpretation Renewable energy advice Toilets Funding	Proactive group- lots of ideas	
Crow Park Allotments			✓					Proactive group Working consultant Shirley Muir	
Millom Iron Works						Community Spaces bid in progress			
Millom Palladium grounds improvements									
Beach Advisory Network						5 groups working with regeneration team at CBC		Seaside Fund in place Network set up Quality Coast awards	
Community Woodlands				✓			Potential to make links with Woodland Trust		Contact Woodland Trust re Woodland management events etc?

Appendix 3 - Community Survey Findings – Indoor Sports and Pools – Findings re specific facilities (below)

Venue	Very Satisfied	Fairly Satisfied	Neutral	Quite Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Wellbank Swimming Pool (Bootle) <i>9 users</i>	3	4	1	1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long waiting list to use the pool Would be nice if there was a swimming pool in Millom Well used and looked after 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising petrol costs makes travelling expensive Swimming pool could be cleaner 	
Copeland Swimming Pool (Whitehaven) <i>97 users</i>	16	52	18	7	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally well maintained Terrible parking and access Updating the changing rooms was unnecessary More general swimming sessions are needed Changing rooms often smell Very basic, sessions always busy, need another facility Children's usage has dropped since Free Swims Scheme scrapped Bad timetable Clean facilities and very pleasant staff Heating problems Always busy - need more swimming pools Not user friendly for the elderly Too small and inconvenient to get to Needs updating To expensive Would benefit from better changing facilities Changing rooms are poor standard Changing rooms need updating, separate sessions for teenagers 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities have improved since North Country Leisure took over Poor customer service and timetable Sessions are too crowded The planned improvements would have made a major difference Toilet/locker facilities need to be improved and be cleaner Top facilities are not essential Needs to be open to general public more No facilities whatsoever locally Changing rooms need to be better kept and more access Whitehaven hard to get to by bus Whitehaven too far to travel to All swimming pools need to be of high standard Too expensive Needs to be bigger, long waiting list for lessons Needs updating, water and changing tends to be cold Needs urgent upgrading, poor showers, poorly managed Showers inadequate, lighting poor, lack of cafe facilities 	
Copeland Bowls & Sports Centre (Cleator Moor) <i>4 users</i>	3	1			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need a bowling centre in Whitehaven 					
Millom Leisure & Recreation Centre <i>11 users</i>	1	4	2	4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changing rooms are very basic Swimming pool is in desperate need of a facelift Millom needs new swimming pool Need a new modern public swimming pool 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor changing facilities Services and provision in Millom is very poor, gets no funding Area lacks facilities 	

Venue	Very Satisfied	Fairly Satisfied	Neutral	Quite Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
St Bees Swimming Pool <i>2 users</i> No comments	1		1		
Whitehaven Sports Centre <i>11 users</i>	3	5	1	2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very old and outdated • Parking is a problem • Sons football sessions have been cancelled 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main hall was reduced in size without user group consultation • Needs reduced membership fees for senior citizens 	
Wyndham Swimming Pool (Egremont) <i>25 users</i>	3	13	4	4	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School facilities not easily accessible to the general public • Poor showers, often overcrowded, poor changing facilities • Always busy, not big enough and expensive • Swimming classes are too expensive for pensioners • Facilities need to advertise more 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not financially burden local facilities, i.e. no council tax • Needs more staff, long waiting lists for swimming lessons • Please retain Egremont pool, very important facility in the area • Travelling costs money • Would be better if there were a pool closer to home 			

Appendix 4 - Community Survey Findings – Indoor Sports and Pools – Barriers to use – Individual comments

Barriers to use – Other Reasons for not using local indoor leisure Facilities

- Activities restricted to walking the dogs
- Age limits some activities
- All too far away
- Castle Park, Whitehaven is spoilt by teenage yobs, littering and anti-social behaviour - needs tough action
- Copeland swimming pool is 30 miles away
- Cost is a major factor, overcrowding, not enough for children and teenagers
- Disabled facilities and activities for teenagers are desperately required
- Distance
- Do most of my walking by the harbour
- Do not want to use facilities
- Do not wish to drive to facilities or take the busy train
- Facilities' too far away, need to be closer
- Footpaths hard to access with prams
- Gym only takes 5 people at a time, often full
- I live in the remote country, where there are no facilities, I value this
- Why can't we use school facilities?
- Limited facilities
- Local transport needs to be improved
- Most facilities offered are outside our local area, public transport is simply inadequate
- Most of the provision is in Whitehaven, over 35 mins journey, need better provision in Millom
- Nearest pool 24 miles away
- Need a good local swimming pool
- Need a swimming pool
- Need better facilities for the west coast population, esp. young people and subsidise public transport
- Need better facilities to encourage use
- Need better public transport
- Need facilities to be more local
- Need more afterschool activities and more money put into facilities
- Need more facilities for the elderly - special sessions
- No facilities of interest locally
- No swimming pool locally
- Not fit enough to enjoy facilities
- Not interested
- Not really interested in indoor leisure activities
- Not sports orientated
- Outdoors person
- Poor public transport
- Prefer being outdoors
- Prefer outdoor activities and sea for swimming
- Prefer private gym closer to home
- Prefer to be outdoors
- Takes too long to get to most facilities
- The activities offered don't really appeal to me
- The quality of the majority of facilities in Copeland is very poor
- The swimming pools in Egremont and Whitehaven are inferior quality to most others I have visited in other parts of the country
- Too old
- Very poor facilities
- Walk on hills and mountains
- Would attend swimming baths more often if it wasn't on the outskirts of town
- Would be good to have a swimming pool closer to home

Appendix 5 - Sports Focus Groups – Individual comments

Local Parish Council - Most participants seemed to be concerned with Whitehaven in particular and there was hardly a mention of Cleator Moor, Frizington, and the outlying villages such as Ennerdale, Lamplugh, Arlecdon etc. They would almost certainly favour future sports facilities to be developed closer to them (the Swimming Pool area). Otherwise it seemed we wanted lots of the biggest and best, and the most advanced, of just about everything which will hardly happen! It would certainly be helpful to publish in some detail a summary of what is currently available to the public in and around the locality in the way of sporting and recreational opportunities. St Bees and the Stadium are good examples.

Whitehaven Squash club - The club would like a dedicated squash facility with a fitness centre and a minimum of four glass back courts (an all glass show court would be lovely though). The glass back courts would allow for easier viewing both by spectators and coaches. They would also like a seated viewing area for all four courts to encourage parents and other players to watch the games. They think this would work well near a school so that the school could also benefit from it and have already tentatively spoken to St Benedict's school who would be happy to accommodate the facility if funding could be found.

Lakeland Sprinters Cycling Club - club currently uses Rowrah Kart track, ideally need a circuit.

Rough Specifications for cycle track -

- Surface – hard surface such as tarmac – so suitable for most types of bikes, disabled bikes/trikes and wheelchairs
- Length – from 400m up – Tameside (Manchester) is 1km, Salt Ayre (Lancaster) is 1.3km, Preston 1.6km. A longer circuit could have cut throughs (as at Tameside and Preston) or have the 2 sides running close together at one place (as at Salt Ayre which is almost a figure of 8) – this makes it easier to have shorter races suitable for really young children.
- Width – mainly about 3m wide, with a wider finish area about 4 to 5m
- Shape – this is flexible. Some wiggles and bends (not tight ones) would be good.
- Other uses – when not in use for cycle racing, it could also be used by walkers, joggers, wheelchair users (Mayfield Special School is close by if built near swimming pool and athletics track). It could also be used for disabled cycling projects such as the Wheels for All.
- Alternatively – there are several places around the country where banked cycle tracks have been built round the edge of athletics tracks (e.g. Hales Owen). I haven't been to Copeland athletics track for some time, so I don't know if that would be feasible or cheaper or make the planning process easier.

Copeland Netball League – require 4 indoor courts x 35 weeks per year (ideally 6.30 to 9.30 one evening per week (a large space such as WLC or any new tennis centre would suffice)

Short term plans (1 – 2 years)

- Continue to run a successful League
- 1 hour fixtures
- Proactive working committee
- Secure another venue
- Increase number of qualified umpires / coaches for the League
- 3 teams from Copeland in Cumbria Premier League (played at Keswick)
- 1 team from West Cumbria in regional league (played throughout north west)
- Increase participants via 'Back to Netball' sessions
- Celebrate success
- Increase publicity – local media, website, facebook
- Join Sports Focus Group

Medium (3 – 5 years)

- More court time (either additional venues or increased time at current sites)
- Increase number of qualified umpires / coaches – at least 1 of each per team
- Promote 'clubs' to provide outlet for coaches

- CAP's status (national body club mark scheme)
- More teams in League
- Junior league with suitably qualified coaches & umpires
- 4 teams from Copeland in Cumbria Premier League (include matches at a west coast venue)
- 2 teams in regional league (perhaps 1 senior & 1 junior)
- Be at the forefront of women's sport in West Cumbria
- Still have a Netball Development Officer based in Copeland

Long term (5 – 15 years)

- West Cumbria League (covering Millom – Aspatria – Keswick)
- 4 indoor courts – winter league
- 4 outdoor courts (even if it's just 2 courts over split sites – summer league)

The Future: If a 4 court facility could be built within a school area (but run by NCL or a Trust) it could be used 12 months of the year – daytime 50% school / public. Evenings 100% public. Outdoor space (pitches) could also be run by NCL or similar.

Large indoor area could host:

4 x netball	4 x tennis	4 x 5-a-side
12 x badminton	2 or 4 x hockey	Rugby training
Cultural events – plays, concerts	Circuit classes	Football training
Archery	Roller skating	Kids clubs

Could be used for county/regional competitions (links in with tourism) to bring people to the area.

Lots of activities under one roof given plenty of options of participation in a variety of activities.

One of the reasons clubs lose players (potential participants), coaches and general volunteers is due to lack of indoor facilities. School facilities are vastly oversubscribed with long waiting lists – and can't be used outside term time.

Football

- Wants/ needs more indoor facilities during peak times and high season when its dark and cold out

Appendix 6 - Sports Stakeholder Meetings – Notes

DATE: 2 August 2010
ORGANISATION: Copeland Borough Council

INTERVIEWER NAME: MJP

Name of interviewee: Chris Davidson

Role of interviewee within organisation

(Acting) Cultural Services manager, with staff responsibilities for sports development and client side management, arts development. SD staff (2) justified not in their own right but alongside wider agenda (e.g. worklessness, deprivation, rurality, health improvement), deliver a range of activities across the whole borough (currently holiday activities in priority wards etc)

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment/Sports Facilities Study

Leisure needs study is a requirement of the cultural services department and is being done as part of the overall PPG17 study which is required by the planners. Much strategic work has already been undertaken on sport in the borough, and there is a political prerogative to convert the desk-based assessment done by NAA and others into strategic plans and policies, with member support.

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

Built sports facilities generally considered adequate in distribution, though the sports centre and pool in Whitehaven are perceived as at saturation point. E.g. the health and fitness gym has recently been increased in scope but is still short of stations to meet need at certain points

Cleator Moor has an acknowledged lack of outdoor pitches and most teams have to play/train on the astro

Playing pitches in general – there may well be enough overall, but there are certain pinch points

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

Whitehaven SC – as good condition as it has ever been, with heavy investment over the years. Main and ancillary facilities are good, but they cannot be developed further because of a constrained town centre site.

Copeland Pool – similar, pool and plant good, changing a bit tired. Cannot extend easily the water area.

Pitch quality generally good in the area despite climatic conditions, although there are some issues at individual sites.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Physical access – access to facilities in the main towns is good, but there is a perception of lack of accessibility within Whitehaven and in surrounding villages e.g. town centre residents won't necessarily travel to the pool on the top of the hill, spare capacity in St Bees would not be used by Whitehaven people.

Financial accessibility – CBC operates a leisure card for certain facilities, which reflects benefits and the ability to pay, but facilities for sports are generally considered to be fairly priced.

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

General priorities set out in strategic and corporate documents, which seek to improve the quality of life for local residents, which include sports facilities. PPG17 study seen as key planning document. Leisure needs study is an essential document in guiding the LA to make future decisions about the quantity, quality and accessibility of sports facilities over the coming years.

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

Already send at start of process

Any other issues?

CD highlighted some high activity rates – may be down to the same people doing different activities (see APS data). LA delivering more activities year on year which he feels are not being reflected in APS data.

Issue in Copeland of engagement – parents are not seen as investing in their children.

5 a side football very popular in the borough – delivered at Stadium 3G, Pow Beck 3G, Cleator Moor astro (all run by venue) plus Whitehaven SC. Is there scope to get this out of WSC to free up space?

Whitehaven School – little CU of sports hall (6 court), but local LTC has use of courts at school

West Lakes Academy – currently being redeveloped, but existing 6 court hall and climbing wall to remain

St Ben's – 4 court hall but limited non school use

St Bees School – public use of sports hall and pool by village groups

Seascale Sports Hall – 1 court hall run by PC (provided by BNFL?)

Millom Pool – local demand for new pool

Copeland Pool – up to capacity, timetable reviewed (45 minute sessions from previous 1 hour to extend capacity)

Egremont Pool – on school site, managed by pool trust with SLA gap funding from CBC. Pool is 25m in length with diving area (still used)

St Bees Pool – on school site and some local usage outside school

Health – need to incorporate health profile within current study, and also reflect the direct link between health issue and deprivation (see latest IMD data)

Previous NAA and other documents – West Cumbria study commissioned by joint LSP (included Allerdale), no formal involvement of LAs. 2 LAs now moving in separate directions and LSP split. Priority is to get political buy in to NAA's assessments and this strategy, and as a first step to form a steering group to address the issues arising from this study. CD to action

CBC service review - CS sits within Environmental Services department, reporting to Exec Director and then CEO. NCL leisure contract forms 2/3 of CD's budget, currently £968k, need to save £112k in year 1, £300k by year 3. Management (i.e. NCL) budget is end loaded and will reach £700k pa in due course.

DATE: 4 August 2010
ORGANISATION: Cumbria Sport

INTERVIEWER NAME: MJP

Name of interviewee: Eddie Edge

Role of interviewee within organisation

Director of Cumbria Sport (County Sports Partnership) with a team of 10 including business operations, marketing and communications, development. Underpin NGB work in line with new remit of Sport England.

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment/Sports Facilities Study

Supportive of any strategy which assesses the need for sport (facilities and open space) and makes recommendations leading to the development of new facilities.

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

As a representative of a countywide organisation, not sure of the local details applying to Copeland.

Whitehaven seems to have a large range of sports facilities, including LA/NCL, schools, but he is aware of some facility problems elsewhere in the borough.

There is no evidence that the lack of sports facilities in the area is constraining the development of sport, but as the budget holder for Millom Pool he is aware of the local concerns in the town for a new pool. He has some scepticism about the viability of a new pool in Millom, given the small catchment, though aware of the remoteness of the town to other pools nearby. There is a possible analogy with the relatively recent new pool in Grange over Sands, which closed soon after opening, though there may have been local reasons contributing to this.

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

No local knowledge of the quality of facilities in Copeland, but considers it inevitable that facilities will in time at best become tired and less fit for purpose.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Accessibility to sports facilities in rural areas is a common issue in Cumbria and this will apply to Copeland.

Financial accessibility – NCL and others will have concessionary rates for disadvantaged groups to sports facilities, but even half price admission is prohibitive in some cases. There is no evidence that this is a particular problem in Copeland, but may be a need for a more radical approach – e.g. free access to LA facilities during down times

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

Increasing opportunities for participation in sport in line with SE targets (see SE strategy)

Cumbria Strategic Partnership – single community strategy for the county, aiming to position sport within this as part of a wider picture (i.e. enhance the value of sport in itself and as a means of achieving other outcomes),

Current activity rates in Cumbria relatively low (21.0% from 20.9% in APS3), Copeland lower than this. Current stretch target in LAA (to APS4) is 24.9% (probably won't achieve)

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

Sport England Infrastructure Strategy 2008

KPI target (LAA) quarterly report (subsequently sent)

Active Cumbria Framework, with targets for increased activity (sent)

Any other issues?

What will happen to Copeland leisure/culture/sports service as a result of the upcoming service review and how will this affect sports facility provision, management and maintenance?

Sport England (Chris Dodd) currently working with LAs to ensure that culture and sports survive the next few years (e.g. sharing services). MP needs to speak to CD

View Cumbria Obesity Atlas for further information to inform the strategy

DATE: 2 August 2010

INTERVIEWER NAME: MJP

ORGANISATION: NHS Cumbria

Name of interviewee: Kate Mahone

Role of interviewee within organisation

Locality Health Improvement Specialist, 01900 324227, Kate.Mahone@cumbriaPCT.nhs.uk

North Cumbria NHS, responsible for diet and physical exercise though now working on a locality basis offering NHS services across the board

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment/Sports Facilities Study

Primarily concerned with 'more people, more active, more often', dealing with all aspects of physical activity. Sport is one part of this but generally left to sports experts. Involved in 'Let's get moving', an exercise referral scheme. PPG17 offers the opportunity to develop activities throughout Copeland which meet these objectives

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

Open space – there may well be sufficient opportunities for active recreation on existing open spaces but perceived that Copeland not fully convinced of the merits of an active lifestyle. Existing facilities include C2C/railway line walk and cycle routes, the availability of the Lakes and coast (but few people from Mirehouse etc would consider using these). Need places that are secure and safe to use. Whitehaven is considered to be better provided than other parts of the borough.

Sports facilities – need for more facilities at a local level e.g. community centres, primary schools available to the community, village halls. Need all schools to throw doors open to the community e.g. Whitehaven School has adult education use but little else.

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

Open space – Whitehaven is considered generally good for quality open space, particularly around the Harbour, Pow Beck etc. Cleator Moor is less well provided. The secondary schools is closed (to be amalgamated in West Lakes Academy) and the future of the current site including open space is less clear

Sports facilities – NCL facilities run for CBC are considered good (fabric, upkeep, etc) but may require some updating to keep abreast of the times. Location at Pow Beck (or elsewhere) would provide the opportunity to upgrade facilities.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Open space – 10-minute walk to facilities is considered the maximum, although in reality most people would drive. Open space 'with a purpose' (e.g. nature trail) is more likely to be accessible to local people. Facilities need some promotion and stimulation (e.g. by the use of an Active Walk Motivator)

Sports facilities – all sports facilities in Whitehaven are considered accessible though they are on separate sites. The swimming pool is less so (not on a convenient bus route?). There is some merit in relocating facilities on a central site (e.g. Pow Beck or Cumbria Academy). There is a high degree of 'social' inaccessibility – some people would not go into a sports centre (seen as alien)

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

Strategic priority is access to activity and opportunities for this. Probably a quarter of current clients are interested in physical activity as opposed to other activity (so relatively limited potential – compare APS data). NHS support need to improve sports and open space facilities through PPG17 study.

Particular issue in Copeland (as elsewhere) is the ageing population – there continues to be a high emigration rate among local 20 year olds with the lack of employment prospects

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

Copeland Strategy Plan (NHS) – not yet available for public consumption (KM to supply)
West Cumbria Health Improvement Plan 2008-10 (supplied)

IDEA/Univ of Durham Health Impact Assessment for Workington and Whitehaven (supplied) – also see KM presentation (supplied)

Other useful health data at
<http://www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk/>

Any other issues?

Outreach to village communities in village halls and MUGAs also important in a rural area like Copeland e.g. portable equipment (dance mats etc)

No formal exercise referral schemes in the area due to funding. Cardiac referral unit originally a HAZ initiative became a social enterprise after funding – based at Maryport, use Kells gym

NCL – might be interested after discussion in developing a partnership on health and exercise

All NHS and PCT funding now routed through Locality Board (headed by local GP). LB priorities: respiration, smoking and car homes (all important links to exercise and health improvement)

Speak to Craig Robson, Health Improvement Officer at CBC funded by PCT hosted in Environmental Health department

DATE: 5 August 2010

INTERVIEWER NAME: MJP

ORGANISATION: Millom Network Centre/Millom Pool group

Name of interviewee: Paul Stewart/Roland Woodward

Role of interviewee within organisation

Paul Stewart is manager of MNC. Centre is a regeneration agency which arose from the previous Millom Regeneration Partnership. £1m was raised through the NWDA, ERF, CCC etc and the centre built on the HS site. It is concerned with lifelong learning, business growth, developing a business culture and education and training, and has a particular interest in tourism and sport linked to regeneration. Its mission is to *support the sustainable regeneration of the local area through the provision of life long learning opportunities and the development of a local enterprise culture*. The centre provides a range of facilities to support local businesses at all stages, from providing opportunities for people to return to learning and enhance their personal and employability skills, to assisting businesses and organisations to use Information Technology. It is located on the Millom HS site and is among other things responsible for bookings at the pool

Roland Woodward is a leading member of the Millom Swimming Pool group that has been seeking the provision of a new pool here for some years. He has long link with regeneration in the town, and previously worked at the school www.millomnetworkcentre.co.uk

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment/Sports Facilities Study

To secure the provision of a swimming pool in the town, and ensure that the results of previous studies on feasibility etc are considered in the PPG17 and leisure needs study.

Also to merge open space and recreation provision with the overall regeneration remit of the MNC

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

Pool – specifically there is a recognised local demand (?need) for a new pool in the town.

Generally there is perceived to be a shortage of opportunities for sport for women – plenty of men's clubs (eg cricket, rugby).

Scope for additional health and fitness – small gym at the Rec Centre and at various sports clubs in town for members

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

Quality considered generally good, except pool. Cricket and rugby clubs at relatively high level and one club has recent 'groundsman of year'.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Outside Millom public transport poor affecting accessibility to facilities in town

Not aware that cost is a constraint to participation though on prompting think it probably is

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

Swimming pool

MNC runs an adult education programme which includes an activity initiative eg 'Healthy Heart', will be working with Millom Rec Centre. Also 'Walking for Health' initiative to be re-introduced, and cycling initiatives in conjunction with South Copeland Tourism group

Need to accept that facilities and opportunities will be difficult to justify in the Millom area if the real costs are

taken into account – eg there needs to be some flexibility when determining the actual feasibility of a pool in view of the remoteness of the town, and the cost of accessing other opportunities which are currently 20-30 miles away. Also need to include other less tangible benefits arising from such provision.

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

Feasibility study into pool provision – done some 5 years ago and probably not currently relevant

NAA study into pool in Millom (commissioned by CBC). Initial draft pessimistic about feasibility, but now supported by MSG taking into account comment above

Any other issues?

Sport has important role in this area as a contributor towards economic and community regeneration – self esteem of the community, employment, health, etc

Sports events important to tourism and regeneration, and the provision of a swimming pool in this areas improves the critical mass which can stimulate activity

Background to pool – built in 1957 as a school pool. CCC makes annual contribution of £20k towards its upkeep. Needs health and fitness to make a new pool viable. Studies have looked at other sites in Millom, including Rec Centre, but school has many advantages. Possibility of incorporating other facilities on site - eg large school playing fields could accommodate 'sports village'. Access road to MNC still in place, opens up school site and fields and offers alternative access to facilities without using school entrance (there is considered to be an institutional reluctance of some people to use school facilities after leaving school). MSG willing to consider joint management of all sports facilities in the town (including pool, sports hall, health and fitness, STP, pitches, if necessary). There are some considerable economies of scale if all facilities can be so managed. Some promises of funding for construction appear to have been made, but need to check whether still current (£100k already provided for the studies up to now by regeneration agencies)

STP on school site managed by school and used by local groups. £1.6m scheme including changing rooms.

DATE: 5 August 2010

INTERVIEWER NAME: MJP

ORGANISATION: Millom Recreation Centre

Name of interviewee: Marion Giles/Julie Forrest

Role of interviewee within organisation

Trustee and member of staff of Recreation Centre.

History – group of interested individuals in 1988 (including CBC member, TC members, volunteers and enthusiasts) persuaded CBC that sports centre required in Millom. Subsequently the Council built the centre to their spec, and in the early stages ran and owned it with the assistance of a manager and aerobics instructor, but struggled for viability. In 1990 the Millom Recreation Centre trust was formed – a charitable trust and limited company with 4 original directors, and has owned the centre and leased the building since then. Turnover is now about £50k, with annual usage of 49,900. The Council through a SLA contributes £7800 pa. Projects are funded through grant applications (eg Wren £15k, CCC £12k. The centre serves an area including Millom and the rural hinterland to Broughton and Waberthwaite.

www.millomrecreationcentre.co.uk

staff@millomrecreationcentre.co.uk 0129 774985

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment/Sports Facilities Study

Interested in ensuring that the needs of the Millom area are considered in any assessment of sports facilities in Copeland – Millom is distant from the main towns in the borough, and remote from services and facilities.

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

With a sports centre and a pool (albeit in poor condition), Millom is well provided with built sports facilities. There is also a good selection of outdoor facilities and open space, and many teams in Millom 'punch above their weight' (e.g. cricket and rugby Clubs).

There is a perceived lack of play areas for younger people.

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

The pool is in poor condition but the sports hall (given its age) is relatively well kept and in good condition.

Maintenance levels for some open spaces are perceived to be low – there is a lack of grass cutting and evidence of graffiti

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Accessibility to facilities in Millom and Haverigg is good for those who live in the towns, but the area suffers from rural inaccessibility. The main towns (Whitehaven, Barrow) are 30 miles away, and specialist facilities are hard to get to.

Cost of facilities considered to be reasonable and no block to participation.

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

The centre has plans to make some internal changes to the centre to improve the health and fitness facilities – moving them from a small storage area to an upstairs balcony and rationalise the toilets and changing (which meet original requirements but are not used much). Ideally would also like a soft play facility (like Jumping Jack's in Whitehaven) but there is not room within the building. Space is available around the centre for an extension, but cost is the main problem

The centre supports the need in Millom for a new pool, and was originally happy to see this located alongside the centre. Since then the land has been sold and developed. The centre sees some conflict in a pool elsewhere including health and fitness facilities for revenue support, as these are required at the centre for the same reason. The centre is very willing to work with other groups in the town to coordinate future sports facility provision.

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

None

Any other issues?

New management staff brought in about 1 year ago, replacing long standing manager. Trying to introduce a fuller and more varied programme of activities – cricket nets, football training and games, badminton, table tennis, dance/zumba, aerobics, circuit training, summer activities for kids, tri-golf, dodgeball, go-karting. Staff not trained in leisure management and very keen to do courses etc (MP gave information and contact at ISPAL)

Refer to website

DATE: 2 August 2010

INTERVIEWER NAME: MJP

ORGANISATION: Copeland School Sports Partnership

Name of interviewee: Steve Chambers

Role of interviewee within organisation

PDM for local SSP, comprising 4 secondary schools (Whitehaven, St Ben's, West Lakes Academy and Millom), special school (Mayfield) and 39 primary schools. The partnership has no specialist sports college (nearest is in Maryport).

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment/Sports Facilities Study

Keen to work with Copeland to help the development of sports facilities in the borough – pitches and indoor facilities, as a part of school and out of school participation.

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

Generally sports facilities (at schools) are broadly adequate in number for their purpose of delivering curriculum sport, and out of school activities. There are some issues with particular schools, and some sport is delivered despite a lack of some facilities. The 5 hour offer (i.e. at least 5 hours of sport every week, comprising at least 2

hours high quality PE in the curriculum (5-16 year olds) and the opportunity for at least a further 3 hours sport beyond the school day delivered by a range of school, community and club providers (5-19 yr olds)) depends on club involvement, and some club facilities need improvement.

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

Schools

Whitehaven – school sports facilities poor in some instances (pitches flood, constraining school and community use), redgra unplayable, pitches on 3 levels and cause flooding, sports hall is OK

St Ben's – redgra area OK, some investment put into flood protection of pitches, tennis courts good and used by Whitehaven TC, sports hall OK

West Lakes Acad – poor redgra area, only 1 grass pitch, new MUGA to be built, sports hall OK. School currently being rebuilt as part of Academy process

Millom School – STP in school management, pool on school site but very poor, pitches good and large potential area for additional (? sport village in Millom). Recreation centre managed by local trust on separate site.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Normal problems of geographical access in rural areas, and also lack of real community use at school facilities

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

Build up facilities on primary school sites e.g. hard play areas, small synthetic grass MUGA on each site

Community use of rural school facilities in the absence of purpose provided facilities in the village

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

PESSYP data to be provided

Any other issues?

BSF programme originally for £88m, reduced to £66m, now scrapped

School facilities – managerial issues, need also to research hiring costs (need to speak to individual schools)

Whitehaven School – proposal at some stage in the past for a 3G pitch and dojo, etc (document is available – speak to John Barrett at school)

Cumbria Sports Academy – SSP generates many activities at the track and pitches there (athletics track, gym, 3G ¾ sized pitch, 2 grass pitches). Current track is in good condition. There are plans for substantial redevelopment of site. Site originally BNFL funded, partnership with CARLA and BARLA, base for amateur rugby. Originally intended as 8-lane track with full-length stand.

Hensingham – a pool and the track are in close proximity, and also close to local schools. There are good (?) links to town, including a bus route. This could be a good location for a multi use sports facility of existing facilities are rationalised

SC to arrange school site inspections when new term starts

DATE: 3 August 2010
ORGANISATION: Cumbria Sports Academy

INTERVIEWER NAME: MJP

Name of interviewee: Tommy Thompson

Role of interviewee within organisation
Secretary of Academy and of Copeland Stadium Trust. Trust is the GB of the facility, CSA manages and runs it. CSA formed in 2000 to develop the facilities and opportunities. CST has 7 trustees including those from BARLA, CBC and others. Gets grant/SLA from CBC of £5k pa (for 10 years). CSA has committee of 14 – 5 trustees and 9 other volunteers. The whole set up is run by volunteers except for 2 part time staff (cleaner and odd job)!!

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment/Sports Facilities Study
CSA is interested in contributing towards joined up thinking in the delivery of sport/open space/etc in Whitehaven/Copeland

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?
<p>TT considers that the following apply in the area:</p> <p>Copeland pool is at maximum capacity. It is apparent that it is crowded, all opening hours are used, galas take up much pool time and there is extensive club time</p> <p>Sports hall – again there is a shortfall in hall space, much of which is taken up with 5 a side. There is a pitch at CSA but this would only decant a little of the demand</p> <p>STPs – there is considered to be little spare capacity at the existing astros and STPs (including one at CSA)</p> <p>Stadium – there is a need for a good stadium in Whitehaven, and CSA would be prepared to accommodate Whitehaven RLFC and other users here at the CSA, as part of a community stadium.</p> <p>Health and fitness – there is an anticipated shortage of gyms in Whitehaven, (although one is understood to have recently closed and the stadium's own facility lies unused)</p> <p>There may be a need for indoor tennis in the area as the nearest other courts are far distant.</p>

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?
<p>Existing facilities (pool and main sports hall) are generally good, but coming to the end of their useful life.</p> <p>Cleator Moor pitch has problems with its surface</p>

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?
<p>Some geographical inaccessibility in rural area</p> <p>Financial accessibility – CSA currently charges £40 for astro, same for track per session, although there are also block bookings. Athletes attending alone are charged £2.50 per session – considered reasonable.</p>

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?
<p>There is a major aspiration to develop a multi million pound complex in this area.</p> <p>History Track built in 1989 with funding from BNFL, CBC and Open Cast Mining. Originally run by BNFL, who employed a manager and 2 other staff until 1999. Then the Cumbria ARLA took over and ran. Couldn't make it pay so in 2000 Trust formed which is still in existence. BARLA was involved through one of trustees and funding was obtained from them and others (CBC, UK Athletics, Coalfields Regen) for a centre of excellence for rugby league, including drainage of pitch, renovation of track, new equipment, a new second pitch, a small astro and an extension to the building, the total cost being £1.4m. The facility is generally in good condition and well used (see elsewhere). Annual attendance is about 20,000 users, turnover is £30k and the facility is in the black. However there is a lack of use of some of the facilities, because of the lack of promotion, day-to-day management and other issues.</p> <p>IN 2009, with the potential regeneration of the Pow Beck area at a standstill, and as the result of the enthusiasm of the trustees, a competition was held to design a major facility in this area, which resulted in a preferred design by eminent architects at no cost to the trust. This scheme is currently being promoted, though NO FEASIBILITY WORK HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN ON THE OVERALL CONCEPT. The current scheme comprises a major</p>

pool (to replace Copeland pool), a large sports hall (ditto), a stadium (with no end user in mind but a willingness to accommodate Whitehaven RLC and other community groups – capacity 25000!!) and conference and ancillary facilities.

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

Brief for new stadium development

Preferred stadium development scheme (both to be supplied but seen on the day)

Any other issues?

There is a continuing need for facilities for sport and open space, despite the proximity of the national park and coast.

CSA have ambitious scheme to redevelop the existing facility to include a sports hall, main stadium, swimming pool – seen as an ideal location because of space available and status of existing facilities. Pow Beck scheme is seen as dependent on access (in ownership of CISWO and originally dependent on ASDA now lost to Workington), funding and an overall masterplan which appears to change regularly. There are also considered to be flooding problems in that area.

Need for a dialogue in Whitehaven between all interested parties to ensure that facilities are planned strategically

Funding for whatever happens in the town will become an even more difficult issue – BNFL successors (??), NWDA funding now limited, Cumbria Community Fund (speak Roger Hart, Dovenby Hall)

If the CSA is to become a base for future facilities, CSA would be prepared to relinquish control over the current site in the best interests of the wider development

DATE: 4th August 2010

INTERVIEWER NAME: Peter L

ORGANISATION: Copeland Borough Council

Name of interviewee: Bob Collins

Role of interviewee within organisation

Interim Director – Regeneration – working 3 days a week

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment

Pow Beck Stadium proposal

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

Not aware of Borough wide provision

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

Aware of the need/opportunity to improve the quality of sports provision by delivering the Pow Beck Stadium scheme.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Not aware of access issues but sees the stadium as an opportunity for improving access to quality sports facilities.

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

Bob has been brought in to deliver the boroughs key regeneration projects and isn't involved in the overall management of the area.

The Pow Beck stadium scheme is one of the boroughs key regeneration projects others include the provision of an hotel and office scheme in the Whitehaven Harbour area, redevelopment of the Tesco site in Whitehaven, the provision of residential and offices on the former 'baths' site on the harbour front Whitehaven.

It is intended that the Pow Beck scheme should include a shared football and rugby stadium and provide a sports hub (in line with Sport England NW priorities) for the area linked to the sports centre. Phase 1 is to be the joint stadium.

The scheme has been one of the boroughs priorities for a number of years but there are problems with the site in relation to drainage and ownership of the access (previously Miners Welfare now CISWO) and the Rugby League club around which some of the funding bid would be based has just slipped into a lower league.

Well aware of the Cumbria Sports Academy aspirations and is looking to our reports to help define the way forward by providing a solution. They want to look at provision comprehensively and do not want to duplicate provision at the academy. They are more interested in filling in any gaps in provision by identifying what each site can offer in a complementary manner.

Members are very keen on the Pow Beck scheme and it was considered useful to make contact with the appropriate portfolio holders Hugh Branney And Catherine Geil also Pat Graham Director of People and Places for an overview.

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

Britain's Energy Coast Masterplan – West Cumbria has a some reference to sport etc

Copeland's corporate documents have only limited references to sport and leisure.

Any other issues?

Funding for schemes in the future may now become more of a problem. Britains Energy Coast is part of the Western Lakes Renaissance URC which receives considerable funding from NWDA obviously that funding is now under threat.

Some funding comes through the nuclear connection via the Copeland Community fund £10m + £1.5M per annum and £8M from the Nuclear foundation.

From decommissioning £800,000 goes into Copeland and a further £4 into the Energy Coast for regeneration projects.

Even though the existing plant is being decommissioned there it still employs a significant number of people and will continue to do so for a number of years.

Sellafield has also been identified as a potential site for a new nuclear plant together with 2 others in the borough.

They want to use the quality of the leisure and sporting offer in the borough as part of the regeneration objectives aimed at attracting inward investment. They want to make the most of the nuclear potential for attracting/stimulating support industry activity which is based in Copeland rather than elsewhere in the country or abroad.

DATE: 12 August 2010

INTERVIEWER NAME: Peter L

ORGANISATION: North Country Leisure

Name of interviewee: John Maude

Role of interviewee within organisation

Chief Executive also joined by Darren Lamb Director of Operations and Deputy Chief Exec

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment

NCL (a charitable trust) operate the Leisure Centre and Pool in Whitehaven, the Bowling Centre and all weather pitch at Cleator Moor (the Copeland Bowls and Sports Centre) and have been involved in discussions with other facility operators eg Millom and Egremont Pools. They also operate a number of centres in the Northumberland County Council area.

Contract with Copeland has a subsidy of just under £600,000 per annum.

User numbers overall have increased by 35% since initiation of the partnership and a financial surplus has been generated each year for reinvestment into the service.
Contract is for 10 years with an option for a further 5 years.

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

Cleator Moor lacks an indoor sports space there's not even a hall to play badminton in.

Considered to be an unmet demand for gym provision in the Whitehaven area and for space to cater for gymnastics.

There is also a demand for smaller hall/activity space within the leisure centre that can't be met at present due to its current configuration.

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

Quality of the 'trust' facilities is good.

The 10 court sports hall in Whitehaven (built in 1976) had some improvements carried out in 2006/7 and it has a maintenance spend requirement of £1.2m up to 2016.

Although relatively old it is a cost effective, spacious facility trading at a surplus. The work carried out recently provided further gym space and rationalised the courts slightly to help with programming.

Now has 1550 gym club members and usage increased by over 40,000 per annum following the refurbishment.(132,444 2006/7 to 184,000 2009/10) Refurbishment + better marketing and programming are thought to have helped increase usage.

Although the quality of the gym equipment is good the space its in (spectator gallery) is poor.

Quality of other facilities in the area patchy, Millom pool dated and inadequate,
Egremont Pool managed by another charitable trust but desperately short of money.
St Bees school pool small facility but does have some swimming lessons and public use.

The pool was built in 1986 and is in better condition but needs a spend of £500,000 on maintenance up to 2016.

Total pool usage has increased from 137,719 2006/7 to 207,000 2009/10. The more recent increase is mainly due to the introduction of free swimming and the increase may not now be sustainable due to the cessation of the free swimming initiative.

Cleator Moor Bowls and Sports Centre built in 2006 needs a maintenance spend of £25,000 up to 2016.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

People who use it underrep groups women etc meeting demand elsewhere

Have extensive programmes and discount schemes to encourage disadvantaged/unwaged users.

Swimming pool in an out of town location access easy by car less easy by public transport. Is adjacent to a school.

Access to facilities generally a problem in the area, Whitehaven relatively well served but elsewhere, particularly in the south less so.

Copeland has a strong culture of traditional sport, which tends to dominate provision.

Women are less well represented in usage figures and NCL is keen to try and address that, the availability of suitable spaces is the issue here ie either to provide for the block booking groups (mainly 5 a side) or to provide opportunities in facilities closer to home or less daunting than a leisure centre. The better use of school facilities and the provision of new space linked to existing facilities would help.

Currently no GP referral scheme in place.

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

Use of the beActive and beActive plus Leisure cards to provide discounts for regular users and target groups.

Continual review and refinement of programming is intended to address imbalances and address opportunities with the aim of improving access for all potential users.

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?

Business Plan for 2010/11 – 2013/14

Any other issues?

Main issue is the lack of a comprehensive development strategy for sport and leisure particularly facility planning.

The continued prevarication over Pow Beck is having a serious knock on effect.

The changes made to the main leisure centre were limited in nature as the Pow Beck scheme was thought to be imminent when NCL were brought in in 2006.

Further investment is required to capitalise on the space available and increase usage eg mezzanine floor to improve the fitness offer, a number of smaller activity rooms, space for gymnastics.

That investment ie 10 year planning can't be made when the Pow Beck scheme is still being pursued.

The current 10 court hall is unique in terms of capacity and any new facility at Pow Beck would be very unlikely to replicate the space and therefore the opportunities available.

A clear decision is required sooner rather than later as continuing delays means the centre risks losing its competitive edge.

NCL have made proposals to improve the general offer by providing a £650,000 extension to the pool to incorporate a fitness suite and activity rooms and other facilities could be added to the Bowls centre as there is space available.

The use of school sites for genuine community use seems to be an opportunity that hasn't been explored. Again this should be managed on a comprehensive basis to provide for borough wide programming and to ensure that any gaps in provision are filled appropriately.

Any strategy must include a consideration of school sites.

Whitehaven school is understood to be looking at providing a community block to support youth activities. Such initiatives should be looked at in the context of wider provision to prevent duplication and to maximise their benefit.

NCL are keen to be involved in that process and are would be happy to provide management advice and support to assist in providing a quality sensibly programmed service.

Opportunities for comprehensive management and programming include Whitehaven School and St Benedicts (sports hall, St Bees and Mayfield school (pools) the complete leisure mix at Millom (Pool, Sports Hall and All Weather pitch + the Network Centre) and the Towns sports hall.

The Stadium is linked to the Pow Beck initiative- it provides the only athletics track in the area and a small 3G pitch and is a substantial facility. The facilities are adequate but not of a high standard. It is run by volunteers and it is unlikely that there is the capacity to secure and sustain a major redevelopment.

Reinforces the fragmented nature of sports and leisure provision , the lack of consistency, duplication of effort and an apparent inability to determine and deliver what is actually needed.

There is financial pressure on the trust to try and reduce the subsidy provided by the council but that is more difficult to achieve if the future tenure is uncertain and there is no clear view of the provision needed.

le the need for a comprehensive approach to facilities to make better use of what's available.

There is a shortage of coaches in the area and the labour market is seriously skewed by the Sellafeld effect ie the high wages paid make it difficult for other local employers to recruit and retain good staff because they are unable to compete on the wages front.

The Copeland Pool is working at capacity with over 800 on the register for swimming lessons across all ranges. To be able to programme use across more of the available water space across the borough would allow for further development and, through increasing the capacity, more even usage.

There is no GP referral scheme operating in the borough in spite of continued efforts to initiate one.

Sports development is managed by the borough.

Would a more dispersed approach to leisure provision, rather than concentrating everything at a small no of sites(ie Pow Beck) be better for Copeland to reflect the more dispersed nature of the population.

DATE: 4th August 2010

INTERVIEWER NAME: Peter L

ORGANISATION: South Copeland Sports Partnership

Name of interviewee: Simon Bremer

Role of interviewee within organisation

Chair

Main interest of organisation re PPG 17 Assessment

Sports facility provision in the South Copeland area

QUANTITY - Are there sufficient facilities and opportunities to meet known needs?

The area is well provided for all facilities/sports but most are in private club control, the exception being Millom School.

Historically the area has always been separate and distinct from the remainder of the borough and as all facility provision seems to be concentrated in the north, to service the larger population, the area has had to look after its own interests to ensure the provision of sports facilities.

QUALITY - Are facilities and opportunities of sufficient quality?

Quality of existing facilities is variable but most of the club facilities, particularly the pitches, are very good.

The sports centre near Tesco's is a small facility and not very good for training. The all weather pitch at the school is increasingly well used particularly for training.

ACCESS - Are facilities and opportunities easy to reach and use by different sections of the community?

Not considered to be a real issue as most of the facilities are based in the communities they serve and allow open access.

Most clubs are also based on community engagement have followed the CAST processes.

PRIORITIES - Does your organisation have any of its own priorities for encouraging the development of, improving quality, or improving access to recreational facilities or opportunities?

Partnership working to get the best out of the facilities that exist and to work together to achieve joint aims, to fill any gaps in provision and to improve quality is critical.

The partnership is also looking to get short term wins and to counteract the apparent 'everything happens in the north' syndrome

DOCUMENTS –Do you have any strategic documents or research reports of relevance to the study?
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None

Any other issues?

<p>The area has a tremendous sporting heritage and still fields a number of successful cricket, rugby and football teams achieving far more than other parts of the area size for size. It is that heritage that the partnership is trying to protect and enhance.</p>
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<p>Millom School seems to provide a lot of potential for the creation of a sports hub, the size is large it already has an all weather pitch and Millom has 2 football and cricket teams, a Rugby League team and a Rugby Union team.</p>
