

**Shropshire Council Equality and Social Inclusion Impact Assessment (ESIIA)
Part One Screening Record 2020**

A. Summary Sheet on Accountability and Actions

Name of proposed service change
Shropshire Council - Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy for Shropshire, 2019 to 2038 (Version 1, September 2019)

Name of lead officer carrying out the screening
Sue Finnigan Head of Culture, Leisure and Tourism

Decision, review and monitoring

Decision	Yes	No
Part One ESIIA Only?	yes	
Proceed to Part Two Full Report?		no

If completion of a Part One assessment is an appropriate and proportionate action at this stage, please use the boxes below and sign off as indicated. If a Part Two report is required, please move on to full report stage.

Actions to mitigate negative impact or enhance positive impact of the service change in terms of equality and social inclusion considerations
<p>The Strategy sets out to have a positive impact across the Protected Characteristic groupings, particularly the groupings for Age, Gender and Disability, with regard to all ages and with regard to seen and unseen disabilities. During the past 18 months we have sought views from sports clubs, schools and colleges, National Governing Bodies of Sport and communities on this strategy.</p> <p>Through ongoing discussions with specific groups the Council and partners will be able to pick up on equality related matters that may be identified as gaps in the Strategy, which would assist positive outcomes for these age groups as well as for people in the Disability groupings.</p> <p>It is recognised that there will need to be ongoing efforts to engage with people in the Protected Characteristic groupings. Links may usefully also be made with specific target groups such as children and families, people with mental health problems, and people with physical disabilities, through projects and partnership initiatives already under way. Actions may then be more readily identified from evidence gathered to enhance the positive impact of the Strategy for these groupings, leading to better outcomes overall for communities in Shropshire.</p>

Actions to review and monitor the impact of the service change in terms of equality and social inclusion considerations

A five year action plan will be developed once the Strategy has been published, The Action Plan will be reviewed, with stakeholders, on an annual basis. Key performance indicators will be reported and a progress report published on the Shropshire Council website and shared with Councillors through the Councillors Bulletin.

The Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy covers the period of 2019 – 2038, however, the Council has detailed plans to update the document in cohesion with any future refresh of its Local Plan Review (every five years). Please note the timeframe of when the Local Plan Review is updated may be prior to five years which would result in an earlier refresh of the PPOSS.

The Strategy will also need to be read in tandem with the Indoor Leisure Facilities Strategy, currently in draft form, once this has been through consultation and approved. This is anticipated to be early in 2021.

We will liaise with the elected members of the Council as community leaders and with all communities to seek feedback on an ongoing basis about impacts for people in Protected Characteristic groupings and for those at risk of social exclusion.

The Council will continue to look at best practice elsewhere, encourage comments and ideas from local residents and actively encourage the participation of local community groups in the development of alternative approaches for delivering both indoor and outdoor leisure facilities, in ways that will seek to maximise involvement of communities across the county.

The Council will similarly look to continue to share knowledge and good practice across borders with neighbouring authorities, recognising that catchment areas for sporting activity vary, with facilities in Shropshire used by people from other areas and vice versa.

It is also recognised that there will be ongoing implications for safe access to and delivery of sporting activities as a result on the Covid-19 pandemic. The Council will need to remain abreast of latest Government guidance in this regard, and of the need to utilise this in ensuring equality of opportunity across Protected Characteristic groupings, and vulnerable communities within these groupings.

Associated ESIIAs

Relevant ESIIAs are the service area screening ESIIAs carried out in relation to Libraries, to Museums, and to the Great Outdoors Strategy, and the ESIIA in relation to the Local plan Partial Review, given estates and asset management and land use considerations.

An ESIIA has also been carried out for the draft indoors Leisure Facilities Strategy, which is out for consultation as of 5th October 2020, and for which a follow up screening ESIIA will be conducted at the end of the consultation process.

Actions to mitigate negative impact, enhance positive impact, and review and monitor overall impacts in terms of any other considerations. This includes climate change and health and well being considerations

From a health and well being angle, the impacts are likely to be positive for people using outdoor sports pitches.

It is equally recognised that there has been a disadvantage across all groupings in terms of either limited or non viable access to facilities, indoor and outdoor, during and post pandemic lockdown, with associated financial

implications for coaching staff and for amenity providers as well as the negative health and well being impacts for would-be participants.

Using physical activity to raise the aspirations and to support health improvements in young children and young adults is an important aim of this strategy. Requirements for high quality physical education are embedded within the National Curriculum. This strategy looks to improve the facilities where people take part in sport.

Sports Pitches will be part of a range of opportunities that increase physical activity levels, and use physical activity and sport to raise aspirations, support health improvements, tackle inequality, grow the economy, create more jobs and underpin the continued social, physical and economic regeneration of neighbourhoods.

From an economic impact angle, this strategy focusses on partnership working alongside shared services and investment based on community priorities. It will ensure that the Council's services provide value for money to the local community tax payers

From an environmental angle, there are likely to be increased emissions arising from more frequent journeys to access facilities once these are functioning again, with further possible increases as more facilities open to the public. However, this needs to be balanced against the positive health and well being impacts of participation in physical activity.

It will be more important than ever to seek to ensure that facilities are looked after in ways that will minimise negative impacts upon the physical environment, including energy efficient measures, waste disposal measures, etc.

Scrutiny at Part One screening stage

People involved	Signatures	Date
<i>Lead officer carrying out the screening</i>		
<i>Any internal support*</i> Sean McCarthy		2 nd October 2020
<i>Any external support**</i> Mrs Lois Dale, Rurality and Equalities Specialist		7 th October 2020

**This refers to other officers within the service area*

***This refers either to support external to the service but within the Council, eg from the Rurality and Equalities Specialist, or support external to the Council, eg from a peer authority*

Sign off at Part One screening stage

Name	Signatures	Date
<i>Lead officer's name</i>		
<i>Accountable officer's name</i> Peter Davis Leisure Services Manager		

**This may either be the Head of Service or the lead officer*

lois dale, rurality and equalities specialist, standard template version for officer use as from whitsun 2020

B. Detailed Screening Assessment

Aims of the service change and description

This Strategy will deliver on the broader remit of sport and physical activity, will be an ever-evolving document and will be the basis on which Shropshire Council will take forward its Sport and Physical Activity and Leisure Services with partners and stakeholders. The Strategy is about protecting, enhancing and improving our outdoor sports pitches to facilitate engagement in physical activity which also contribute to place-making and the identity of a locality.

This strategy also focusses on partnership working alongside shared services and investment based on community priorities. It will ensure that the Council's services provide value for money to the local community tax payers.

In so doing, it will build upon actions identified within the 2010 - 2019 Strategy, with the emphasis now moving to a focus on community, Sport Club and Town and Parish Council needs and aspirations, and delivery of services in partnership. This is in the light of changing needs and service provision opportunities.

The new strategy is grounded in solid and robust analysis of current provision, and sets out to complement the actions proposed in the draft Indoor Leisure Facilities Strategy and the aspirations set out in the Council's Corporate Plan, as well as very much building on the Council's Place-based approach to service delivery.

Shropshire Council's role will be to create the context that enables outdoor sports pitches to impact positively on the lives. The Council will have a facilitating and enabling role working in partnership with a range of potential providers. Above all, local communities and people will make sports pitches sustainable and successful.

The overall Vision for the strategy remains as: "Shropshire will be a county where healthier, active lifestyles are encouraged, supported and facilitated for everyone."

Objectives set out in the draft Strategy include:

- Ensure that all valuable facilities are protected for the long-term benefit of sport
- Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of playing pitches and management of sports clubs
- Ensure that there are enough facilities in the right place to meet current and projected future demand
- Ensure that all clubs have access to facilities of appropriate quality to meet current needs and longer-term aspirations.

Intended audiences and target groups for the service change

The intended audience for the ***Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy*** is everyone who lives in, works in or visits Shropshire and therefore all groupings within the community, as well as those who serve them. By this we mean the Council, town and parish councils, the wider business sector, the voluntary and community sector, the health and social care sector, and organisations and bodies involved in leisure service provision.

Outdoor sports pitches will continue to provide a "universal" offer from which no one is excluded. However, we also anticipate that the activities provided on sports pitches will support (1) the needs of both ends of the age spectrum, young and older people, and (2) people who live within communities that may be regarded as disadvantaged for a range of reasons including low income, rural location, difficulty accessing services, etc.

Evidence used for screening of the service change

The Strategy will deliver against a number of key strategies:

- Shropshire Economic Growth Strategy
- Shropshire Great Outdoors Strategy
- Shropshire Leisure Facilities Strategy – draft November 2020
- Shropshire Cultural Strategy – due January 2021
- Shropshire Local Plan 2016-2038
- Shropshire Local Transport Plan
- Shropshire Place Plans
- Shrewsbury Big Town Plan
- Marches Local Enterprise Partnership Strategic Plan

Regional and National Strategies that have informed this strategy include:

- Sporting Future Strategy - A New Strategy for an Active Nation
- Sport England – Towards an Active Nation 2016 – 2021
- Public Health England Strategic Plan 2020-2025
- Public Health Outcomes Framework 2013-2016

Plus, a wide range of data and reports, which highlight key needs for leisure development nationally.

The future need for facilities and investment is clearly linked to a number of factors:

- Housing and population growth in specific areas e.g. Shrewsbury
- The age and condition of the facility itself
- The existing facility mix
- The target of carbon neutrality by 2030
- Accessibility
- Changes brought about by Covid 19 and its aftermath

The evidence base document for the Strategy forms an appendix to the report to Cabinet

Specific consultation and engagement with intended audiences and target groups for the service change

This screening ESIIA has been undertaken ahead of the strategy being adopted on 2nd November 2020. Extensive consultation has already taken place with Schools and Colleges, Town and Parish Councils, National Governing Bodies of Sport, Shropshire Playing Fields Association and Energize the County Sports Partnership.

Given the recognition of cross border travel to and from facilities, and opportunities for collaboration that may arise, it is recommended that the Council engage proactively with neighbouring local authorities in order to maximise such opportunities for communities to participate in outdoor sports.

Additionally, the research has established that there are private schools with facilities that are not at present opened up for community use, and a specific target group could be such schools, in order to identify potential usage of these and thereby add to the range of facilities that may be accessed.

Initial assessment for each group

Please rate the impact that you perceive the service change is likely to have on a group, through inserting a tick in the relevant column. Please add any extra notes that you think might be helpful for readers.

Protected Characteristic groups and other groups in Shropshire	High negative impact <i>Part Two ESIIA required</i>	High positive impact <i>Part One ESIIA required</i>	Medium positive or negative impact <i>Part One ESIIA required</i>	Low positive or negative impact <i>Part One ESIIA required</i>
Age (please include children, young people, people of working age, older people. Some people may belong to more than one group eg child for whom there are safeguarding concerns eg older person with disability)				Using sport and physical activity to help children and young people as well as adults to obtain a broad range of skills and capabilities to achieve and succeed
Disability (please include: mental health conditions and syndromes including autism; physical disabilities or impairments; learning disabilities; Multiple Sclerosis; cancer; HIV)				The strategy recommends a proactive approach to investment in the creation of “fit for purpose” sports pitches that provide accessible and inclusive spaces
Gender re-assignment (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				Neutral impact
Marriage and Civil Partnership (please include associated aspects: caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				Neutral impact anticipated
Pregnancy & Maternity (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				Neutral impact
Race (please include: ethnicity, nationality, culture, language, gypsy, traveller)				Neutral impact anticipated
Religion and belief (please include: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Non conformists; Rastafarianism; Sikhism, Shinto, Taoism, Zoroastrianism, and any others)				Neutral Impact
Sex (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				Neutral Impact
Sexual Orientation (please include associated aspects: safety;				Neutral impact anticipated

caring responsibility; potential for bullying and harassment)				
Other: Social Inclusion (please include families and friends with caring responsibilities; people with health inequalities; households in poverty; refugees and asylum seekers; rural communities; people for whom there are safeguarding concerns; people you consider to be vulnerable)				The strategy highlights that we will: -Support positive activity programmes with local sports clubs, voluntary organisations. -Work with partners and community groups to provide local opportunities

Identification of likely impact of the service change in terms of other considerations including climate change and health and well being

ADD

There has been a disadvantage across all groupings in the community in terms of either limited or non viable access to facilities, indoor and outdoor, during and post pandemic lockdown, with associated financial implications for coaching staff and for amenity providers as well as the negative health and well being impacts for would-be participants.

From a health and well being angle, using physical activity to raise the aspirations and to support health improvements in young children and young adults is an important aim of this strategy. Requirements for high quality physical education are embedded within the National Curriculum. This strategy looks to improve the facilities where people take part in sport.

Deprivation

Outdoor sports pitches will be part of a range of opportunities that increase physical activity levels, and use physical activity and sport to raise aspirations, support health improvements, tackle inequality, grow the economy, create more jobs and underpin the continued social, physical and economic regeneration of neighbourhoods.

(a) Overall deprivation

Whilst the Local Authority is one of the least deprived in England, an analysis of small-area geographies indicates that there is a more complex picture of deprivation at the local level.

(b) Health Deprivation and Disability

Shropshire is also one of the least deprived upper-tier authorities in England for Health Deprivation and Disability.

However, there are pockets of deprivation across the county, particularly with regard to access to services, which de facto includes sporting facilities, indoor and outdoor.

Climate change considerations include contribution through this strategy to Council efforts to achieve the target of carbon neutrality by 2030.