



Trafford's Indoor Sports and Recreation

Policy OS3: Indoor Sports and Recreation Provision

A. The Council will:

- i. Protect, enhance and make the most of existing indoor sports and recreation facilities, in particular:
 - Stretford Leisure Centre
 - Altrincham Leisure Centre
 - Sale Leisure Centre; and
 - Partington Leisure Centre
- ii. Support proposals to expand and enhance the range of indoor sports and recreation facilities; and
- iii. Require new high-quality indoor sports and recreation facilities to be provided to meet identified needs.

Existing Indoor Sports Facilities and Provision

B. The following indoor sports and recreation facilities will be protected, and any loss will be resisted:

- i. Leisure centres
- ii. Sports halls
- iii. Swimming pools
- iv. Fitness centres and gyms; and
- v. Other specialist indoor facilities including those for bowls, combat sports, gymnastics, squash and tennis

Access to Indoor Sports

C. All major residential developments must ensure their occupants are able to access at least one type of indoor sports and recreation provision within a repeating radius of 1.2km, starting at the site's centre point, as listed under criterion B.

Provision of New Indoor Facilities



- D. Major developments that are not able to ensure access to indoor sports and recreation provision in accordance with criterion C, will be required to contribute towards new indoor sports and recreation provision and/or existing the improvement or enhancement of appropriate existing facilities.
- E. The Council will support proposals that enable community use of school facilities, particularly where they help to meet indoor sport needs of local communities.
- F. The Council will support innovative proposals within existing and new indoor sports facilities, that create flexible spaces to encourage physical activity and well-being activities alongside traditional sports

Places for Everyone Links

Policy JP-P6; and JP-P7.

Relevant Strategic Objectives

SO2 and SO9

- 9.22. Physical exercise plays an important part in improving the health and wellbeing of Trafford's residents, supporting them to live and remain independent for longer, and in better health.
- 9.23. It is recognised nationally and locally that the impact of sport and leisure is not simply for fitness's sake, and that strategically direct services and facilities can have a significant impact on physical and mental health, educational attainment and reduce health inequalities. Traditionally, the role of leisure centres has been to support fitness and provide access to sporting opportunities. Post pandemic, there is a greater public awareness of the value of physical activity and the role in improving health and wellbeing.
- 9.24. This is underpinned by a change in policy at a national and regional level with a clear shift from delivering fitness to wellness. Equally, there is a growing recognition from health and social care commissioners in the



potential for leisure centres to reduce health inequalities in local communities.

- 9.25. It is therefore appropriate to protect existing and encourage the provision of new indoor sports facilities that cater for a variety sports and needs of a range of residents.
- 9.26. As such, the Council will use Sport England's most up to date Facilities Costs to determine the amount, type and cost of new and/or improved indoor sports facilities required, with further detail and guidance set out in the Planning Obligations SPD.
- 9.27. Requirements and calculations will be informed by the most recent indoor sports assessment or any subsequent updated indoor sports strategy.

Consultation Question 9-3

Do you support Policy OS3? Are there any changes required which would improve the policy? Please provide any supporting evidence which you think is relevant.