

SPA visioning workshop output

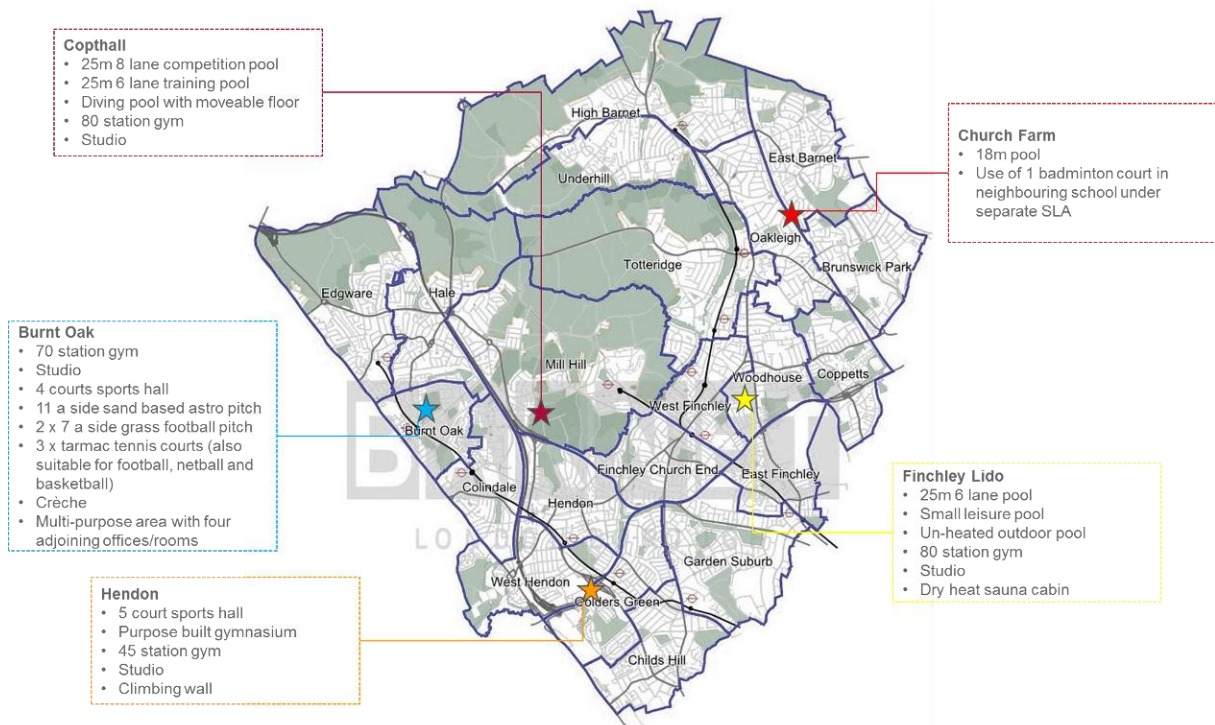
The council ran a workshop with internal stakeholders in February 2014 to define its vision for sport and physical activity based on:

- SPA strategy objectives
- Findings from the SPA needs assessment
- Findings from the consultation with residents
- Understanding of existing facilities and opportunities linked to each facility
- Understanding of the importance of creating comprehensive sport pathways to support participation

During the workshop, it was noted that:

- There is a lack of provision in the west of the borough and a need for facilities targeted at youth in particular
- Walking is a key activity for residents
- School provision could help with increasing participation and the council should look at ways to engage with schools to encourage more community use for their facilities
- London Sport (formerly Pro-Active London) and local clubs have a key role to play in providing a strong pathway from grass roots sport through to elite level sport
- The needs and gaps assessment suggests the current provision is suitable for now but unsustainable in the long term
- Pathways to fitness/physical activity are essential
- Social element should also be a key consideration to encourage participation (e.g. group activity on Saturday morning followed by tea and biscuits). This is not an 'end in itself' but contributes to improved mental wellbeing, social connectedness and reduction in social isolation
- Need to consider provision accessibility across the borough – one London borough has asked its provider to use the council's card to manage membership as part of their procurement requirements
- Of all 5 existing facilities, only Burnt Oak is viable in the medium term:
 - Hendon is part of the regeneration scheme
 - Finchley requires a substantial subsidy from the council
 - Church Farm and Copthall are at the end of their life and need re-developing
- Although Hendon is providing facilities for elite sport which isn't the target audience for council services, such facilities are important to create good sport pathways and provide the motivation for people who are keen to progress
- The report from the residents' consultation found that 75% of people who are active do not take part in organised activities but prefer to do 'their own thing' and that most people also prefer to be active outdoors

- There is a need to better integrate parks and leisure facilities to create 'destinations' and sports pathways. This could also encourage more use of under-used facilities such as tennis courts

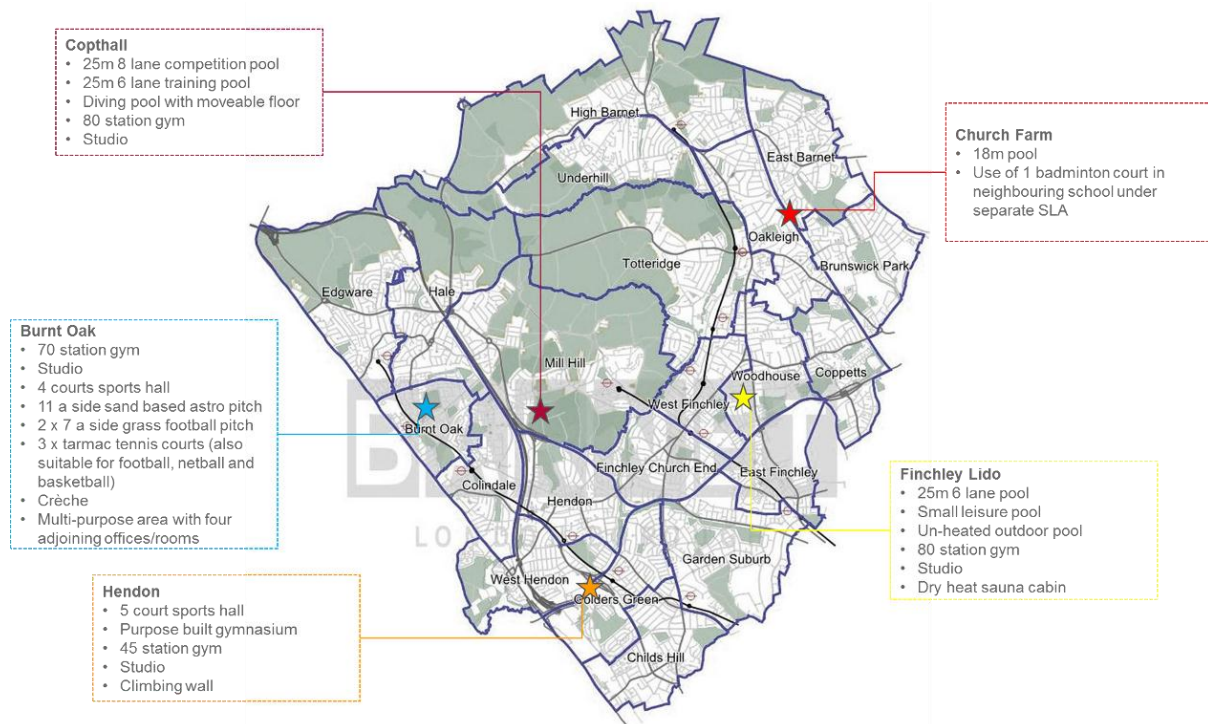


Existing facilities locations and provision

The output of the workshop was a new vision for sport and physical activity for Barnet which would include:

- A **locality-based offer** ensuring people have access to local facilities and that these closely link with their localities including clubs and schools around Hendon, Finchley, New Barnet and Burnt Oak
- A central sports and physical activity 'hub' which would also double as a **centre of excellence for elite sports** at Copthall
- A **better integration of sport and physical activity and green spaces** to create destinations and encourage residents to get onto sport pathways
- A more **pro-active approach to using existing facilities** and create opportunities for sport and physical activity where appropriate in new developments (e.g. new schools, regeneration sites etc.)

The map and tables below set out some options for what the future provision may look like.



Proposed vision for facilities

Copthall

Proposed new provision	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copthall could become an inspirational elite sports hub for rugby and swimming. If a sports hall was part of the provision, there would also be an opportunity to build on the 2012 Paralympic Games legacy and develop an elite disability sports offer (e.g. wheelchair basketball) • 25m competition pool (8 lanes), smaller training pool (which could also be with movable floor to be diving), gym and studio, link up with indoor space from Saracens Rugby Club offer – sports hall attached if possible (6 to 8 courts) • Connected with the athletic stadium • Consider opportunity for a studio school on site • Create flow through with Sunny Hill Park through bridge access and the development of recreational activities e.g. skateboard park (high demand), multi-use spaces, adventure play (e.g. rock play), café etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Copthall site in Mill Hill offers a significant opportunity for an integrated sports and leisure provision. Development here will support the council’s strategic objective of delivering increase participation in sport and physical activity • Currently the site isn’t used to its full potential, partly due to the lack of integration of the sport and green spaces elements • A number of parties are interested in the site and in developing it for further community use. However, the lack of an integrated approach to re-development could lead to missed opportunities and a lack of cohesion in the overall offer • Copthall being on green belt means there will be significant development challenges and only a comprehensive, phased redevelopment plan for an exceptional site can ensure the council achieves its objective of increased participation

Church Farm

Proposed new provision	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redevelop on a new site to provide a pool and sports hall • Consideration is being given to disposing of the site for residential development and developing a new facility at the nearby Gas Works site off Victoria Road in New Barnet, however other sites should also be explored as part of a feasibility study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently limited provision and poor quality. To bring the pool to modern standards, significant capital investment will be required which, unless a new pool building is built, will only provide a limited extension to the life span of the facilities • Council has land available to allow redevelopment • The redevelopment could be financed through a combination of developers input¹ and capital investment from the proceeds of the sale of the current site

Hendon²

Proposed new provision	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring in a pool as part of the new re-development • Use the re-development opportunity to create a collective school, university (UCL has playing fields on site and are looking to expand) and sports hall redevelopment to serve the local area • Link with North Side and the living bridge to encourage more recreational activities (walking, cycling along the canal) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is already earmarked for redevelopment as part of the regeneration scheme and is an opportunity to provide an integrated offer for the increased population coming to the site (7,000 families) • The new provision would also serve Golders Green and West Hendon

Burnt Oak

Proposed new provision	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recommended for this site • Addition of a new third generation (3G) pitch to respond to high demand³ with the potential to work with the FA and Football Federation on this • Ensure support of the Youth SHAPE project that will engage young people and their families using the power of sport and physical activity, providing opportunities to be active, gain skills/qualifications and complete experiential learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current facility also meets BME needs and provides good accessibility • A new 3G pitch could potentially be financed through section 106 or through funding from governing bodies and would help with the commerciality of the site

¹ It is envisaged that some of this investment could be from the existing successful gym on site which is looking at expanding its facilities

² This is likely to be the last part of the vision to be realised as it will be dependent on the phasing of the redevelopment at Brent Cross. It is envisaged that the re-development of the leisure facility would not take place before 5 to ten years.

³ Due to the lack of existing facilities, Barnet is a priority for both the regional and county FA for the funding and installation of 3G artificial playing pitches

Finchley

Proposed new provision	Rationale
<p>Two options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Redevelop the existing facility to increase gym capacity to make the site viable and consider closing the leisure pool• Opportunity to close the existing facility and discuss with the CCG the option to use the green space at Finchley hospital to build a pocket leisure centre which would also act as a wellbeing centre/therapeutic facilities including a pool – this option could look at ways of safeguarding the Lido, for example by transferring the asset to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identical facility nearby run by David Lloyd, highly commercial site, the only differentiator is the leisure pool which is making a loss• Predominance of people with long-term conditions who would benefit from the link with the hospital on a new site at Finchley Memorial if this is a feasible option• LBB owns the freehold of the existing site with a long lease of part to the adjoining owners, who are interested in pursuing a redevelopment.• Finchley Memorial already has a café facility and an outdoor gym is planned for the site which could support it becoming a destination