

**Committee:** Uttlesford Planning Policy Working Group

**Agenda Item**

**Date:** 30 March 2015

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**Title:** Uttlesford Sports Strategy consultation

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and Building Control

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## Summary

1. The sports strategy has been developed by Ploszajski Lynch Consulting after being commissioned by Uttlesford District Council. The strategy should be subject to targeted consultation with the sports organisations, updated accordingly and then adopted.

## Recommendations

That the Working Group note the Strategy and the intended targeted consultation.

## Financial Implications

2. The targeted consultation will be carried out using the Councils consultation database, website and press releases. Any costs can be met from the existing budget.

## Background Papers

None

## Impact

3.

Communication/Consultation	The document will be subject to targeted consultation and will be available on the Councils website.
Community Safety	N/A
Equalities	N/A
Health and Safety	N/A
Human Rights/Legal Implications	N/A
Sustainability	N/A

Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	Local Plan Team and Community Engagement Team

## Situation

4. In 2012, Uttlesford District Council undertook a comprehensive assessment of open space, sport and recreation needs in the district, which evaluated the quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of provision. The '*Open Space, Sports Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy*' document is one of the background documents that forms part of the evidence base for the council's draft Local Plan and focuses primarily on how many facilities of each type are required both currently and in the future.
5. What the Strategy does not contain, however, is a detailed action plan for prioritising and delivering projects that will best meet local demand and need and in particular specific local variations between the three main sub-areas of the district (Saffron Walden, Great Dunmow and Stansted).
6. The recent publication of Sport England's '*Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide*' (2014) has provided new guidance on relating sports development needs to sports facilities provision. The Council therefore believes that it is timely to produce a Sports Development Strategy that links a detailed appraisal of local sports needs with the previous facilities assessment.
7. The purpose of the strategy is to:
  - To contribute to the Council's wider aims and objectives for improving health and well-being and increasing participation in sport.
  - To relate facility needs to sports development programmes and patterns of participation.
  - To develop a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies; provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.
  - To provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.
8. To inform the needs analysis the consultants approached a number of different organisations including:
  - Sport England
  - The governing bodies of sport
  - Active Essex
  - Active Uttlesford
  - Saffron Walden Organisation for Sport
  - Local sports groups in the Great Dunmow and Stansted areas

- Local sports clubs and schools.
9. The strategy provides an action plan for addressing any quantitative or qualitative needs highlighted across the district. The action plan is not something for the Council to deliver on its own, although it has a coordinating role, but will fall to be delivered by the various sports clubs, organisation, schools and other venues which host or run sporting activities.
  10. The targeted consultation with sports organisations will commence on Wednesday 1 April 2015 and close on Monday 1 June 2015.

## Risk Analysis

11.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
That the Uttlesford Sports Strategy will be undeliverable.	1. The projects have a range of costs associated with them. They will be delivered over a variety of periods and most will require partnership working, external funding and leadership from different groups.	2. The Strategy sets out goals to aim at and will aim to be delivered over a number of years.	Ensure that evidence is used in formulating the document.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.