

Responses from Leisure Strategy Consultation

Name	Organisation	Comments	Response from BBC
David Morpew	Brentwood Leisure Trust - trustee	I find it interesting the measure for inactivity is at 30mins or less of moderate exercise per week, yet the guidelines for recommended exercise is 150 mins per week. I feel setting the bar at 30 mins per week most people can achieve this so keeping the inactivity figure lower than it really is.	The following definitions are set by Sport England in the Active Lives Survey Inactive less than 30 minutes per week Fairly Active 30-149 minutes per week Active more than 150 minutes per week This is has been referenced in the Strategy on page 6.
		* The figure for inactivity being 16.8% and the number for disabled people in the borough being 15.6% it would be interesting how much of the inactivity figure would be made up of disabled people.	This one of the targeted groups that the Council would look to engage with to increase their activity levels: People with a life-long limiting illness or disability People aged 65+ People from lower socio-economic groups (NS-SEC 5-8) Unemployed people Females Black and ethnic minorities 16.8% for inactivity figure is from the Active Lives Survey from Sport England and the 15.6% long term disability data is from Census 2011. As part of the Council's KPIs we will look to identify how many of these people have a long term disability and measure how we can work with them to increase their activity levels. This has been added to the Action Plan on page 42.
		*Looking at the worrying figures of CV disease, Diabetes etc it would be great to propose a GP Referral Scheme working with all local GP Surgeries, Clinics, Medical professionals participating by referring patients that would benefit from exercise to a subsidised Membership at Brentwood Centre..( this works really well at Aspire, £20 a month membership for 9 months then transferring into an ordinary membership there after)	There is a current GP referral scheme through the Brentwood Centre. There are number of GP surgeries that are involved as part of the Care Navigation package which looks at prescribing activity to people as an alternative to medicines.
		*Although in parts it briefly mentions disability I feel there is not too much and would of liked to see a section on engaging people with all disabilities or Medical Conditions. Assisted Exercise programs at the centre could work well. Offering People with Physical Disabilities help to use the gym equipment that normally wouldn't come along to the gym as they cannot get on or off equipment (Aspire charge £10 for 30mins assistance or £20 for an hour which is kind of like a PT session but done by our fitness instructors) Also we do Seated Classes which work very well.	Noted and we would look to expand this through a number of the workstreams such as the Health and Wellbeing, and engage what other leisure providers to identify what they are doing. The Council would explore looking at assisted equipment when looking at improvements to our leisure facilities such as the Brentwood Centre. This has been added to the Action plan on page 42.
		*Is there any provision for Athletics in Brentwood? as currently Chelmsford or Basildon are the only places I know of. But lot of the strategy is positive especially targeting grassroots, millennials and encouraging the use of the Brentwood Centre with the proposals of improvement.	Brentwood School has the only athletics facility in Brentwood - assessments have not indicated the need for an additional athletics facility in the Brentwood Borough.
Eric Watts	Health and Wellbeing Board representative	I'm concerned by the statement that "the Council needs to reduce its expenditure" as the benefit of adopting healthy lifestyles will be reduced spending in the future. The 'Walking for Health' project is a good example of a very low cost initiative and I'm pleased to see it included but I think it needs more active promotion.	The Council as a whole needs to reduce its expenditure, but the strategy does look at key investment of its leisure facilities to make them future proof to meet the needs of the changing demographics in the Borough. The Council is also keen to identify low cost or free activities that are easily accessible for the community. Part of our communication plan will be how we can improve the promotion of existing and planned activities in the Borough.
Elaine Higgins	Health and Wellbeing Board lead	Page 27: TUCK IN – this should be referenced as TuckIN (no space between the two words). This is a reduction in saturated fats, sugar, salt and calories through portion control (not just salt and sugar) Livewell Campaign – the document refers to Living Well, this is the discontinued ECC scheme and we now need to refer to Livewell www.livewellcampaign.co.uk Your outcomes could include the number of activities in Brentwood listed on Livewell – currently there are very few. P23. The Health and Wellbeing Board would welcome the addition of outdoor gyms where possible, to be integrated in the play provision and re-development of play areas as they occur. The purpose of these is to increase activity levels in adults.	Comments noted and will be amended for inclusion in the final strategy and the Action Plan on pages 41, 43 and 45
Jo Grant	Active Brentwood	Page 17 – Each facility type would be good to have a breakdown of percentage of who owns what – esp LA – swimming pool % etc. That way what % of influence do we have as a L.A. A report to Active Brentwood as an update and involvement expected would be good.	Noted and will include breakdown in the final strategy. We would look to provide an annual report to the relevant Council Committee Committee, but also to Active Brentwood and the Brentwood Health and Wellbeing Board on progress against the action plan.
Kevin Lorikins	Hutton FC	I represent one of the largest football clubs in Essex in Hutton Football Club. We have 60 teams and play on various facilities across Brentwood and Shenfield. We are seeking to develop a hub for the Club at Wynbarns Farm in Chelmsford Road. We need the full support of BBC to achieve this so that we can continue to deliver on the strategic outcomes of your plans.  I am also the League Secretary of the Brentwood Community Football Alliance Youth League which is where all of Brentwood's football clubs look to put their younger teams and are one of the fastest growing youth leagues in the country. The League really needs a hub site as we are beginning to run out of space to play matches. We currently use Shenfield High School and Headley Walter Astro pitches. When we have discussed this with the ECFA it has been stated that we could fill a 3G on our own. We also play Futsal matches indoors and again use Shenfield High School for that but we also have to use facilities in Chelmsford. So we would ask for access to more indoor facilities.  Finally, I am also the League Secretary of the Essex Olympian Football League. A number of Brentwood teams play in that League and need access to better facilities. Too many games get called off because of the weather which costs the Clubs revenue and puts players off the game.  There is a lot we can do in terms of sharing good practice and supporting our Clubs. There is a lot more to running Clubs than just organising and playing matches.  I would be more than happy to share my knowledge and experience with BBC to develop and support our Clubs and their army of volunteers.	Noted and would look to work with the Essex FA and the Borough local football teams to support the improvement of facilities and clubs across the Borough
Bob McLintock	Active Brentwood Chair	Thank you for giving Active Brentwood the opportunity to comment on the Council's Leisure Strategy 2018-2018. The current document acknowledges and reflects the existing objectives and priorities of a number of national, county and local groups and organisations. However, with a strategy designed for implementation over a ten year period the strategic and operational focus of these organisations may well change. At that time, appropriate decisions may be necessary to confirm or amend the strategy now being proposed. The strategy indicates that the Brentwood Borough Council has a significant number of leisure aspirations that the authority wish to pursue. Whilst such an ambitious programme should be welcomed and supported, we have concerns that the staff resources required to deliver the proposals are not currently available. Indeed whilst we obviously support the Council's ambition in their Corporate Plan (2016-19) to make Brentwood a Borough where people feel "safe, healthy and supported" the description of the key issues indicates that "The Council needs to reduce its expenditure on its sport and leisure facilities" and the Council "would like to get to the point where any leisure provision is at a minimum a nil cost to the Council". This gives little confidence that your ambition to improve the health of residence via encouraging exercise and physical activity is realistic or genuine. Surely the Council should be willing to identify funding to achieve this worthwhile objective. With regard to the six specific areas of the Strategy, we would comment as follows:	Noted. Although the Strategy covers 10 years, it is expected that there could be changes in strategic and operational focus and if necessary the Council may well review the strategy earlier than the planned date of 2027. Resourcing the Strategy and its delivery will be part of any business case for future development opportunities and the Council will work with external funders and utilise any developer contributions to support leisure development.
		<b>PRIORITY 1 – Built Facilities</b> The Brentwood Centre and King Georges Pavilion are valuable community assets which already contribute to the physical and mental wellbeing of Brentwood. Any proposal that will increase the opportunities for greater use would be welcomed. Proposals for alternative management options or Asset Transfer should be the subject of further detailed public consultation, which explains the reasoning and implications of any proposed change.	Noted and further consultation would be undertaken if there was a change in the management of facilities or the Council would look Asset Transfer any facilities
		<b>PRIORITY 2 – Open Space</b> Mindful of the limitations for income generation from public open space together with your ambition for leisure facilities to be provided at nil cost the list of improvements proposed seems ambitious and investment intensive. The question has to be raised if these are realistic proposals and if so is there a timetable for the works proposed and is this available to view?	Noted. It is proposed that with investments in key facilities that this would provide increased income to the Council which would be used to ringfence those elements of the Council's leisure facilities that do not generate any income to ensure that they are sustainable.
		<b>PRIORITY 3 – Play Areas</b> Your proposal for a number of destination play areas has advantages and benefits regarding the range of play equipment that can be provided and the potential learning and enjoyment to the children. This part of the Strategy is welcomed. However, there are some housing areas where the opportunities for children for casual play are limited because of flatted living, small gardens etc. In these areas the idea of smaller, more local play facilities should be retained.	This will be looked at in more detail with the Play Area Strategy. It is important that the Council has facilities that are accessible, high quality and can be sustained within current budgets. Any rationalisation of play areas will be looked at as a case by case scenario. Any major housing developments or growth such as Dunton Hills Garden Village will need to identify leisure requirements, including play areas.
		<b>PRIORITY 4 – Sport</b> The number and range of Sports Clubs in Brentwood is one of the Borough's greatest assets. Every effort should be made to engage Clubs in the delivery of the Strategy and encourage them to play a role in the promotion and organisation of sport and physical activity. Their potential role in increasing participation and promoting health and wellbeing cannot be over emphasised.	Noted. The Council will work closely with sports clubs to develop their clubs and support their ambitions.
		<b>PRIORITY 5 – Health and Wellbeing</b> Active Brentwood naturally supports the initiatives and objectives of the Council's Health and Wellbeing Board. In addition to supporting the priorities of the Board, Active Brentwood is committed to encouraging increased physical activity and health living within the community which will hopefully contribute to the improved physical and mental health of residents.	Noted.
		<b>PRIORITY 6 – Leadership Management and Oversight</b> The statement that the "Council needs to ensure that there is the right management and governance in place to ensure that the Leisure Strategy can be successfully delivered" is crucial to the overall success of the implementation phase of the Strategy. Active Brentwood is available to assist the Council wherever and whenever it is felt appropriate. Similarly in Section 9 – Who can deliver the Strategy, is a crucial decision for the future and how the Council decides to move forward. To ensure the maximum involvement and support of stakeholders, partners and the Brentwood community, that decision should be made by the Brentwood Borough Council after a full and detailed appraisal of the options and a public consultation on the preferred choices. In conclusion Active Brentwood is always available to discuss any issue the Council wishes to raise.	Noted.
Tom McLaren		<b>River Road - Play area</b> 1. Replacement of the trees, preferably by fast growing shrubs or trees. The local kids play hide and seek in the current trees so a number of residents were disappointed by their removal, although understood why when it was explained. In addition, that close to the A12 the trees provide a much needed noise and pollution barrier. 2. Accessible equipment. There are two families with disabled children in the immediate vicinity of the park who raised the point that their children are only able to use certain of the existing pieces and would like any new pieces to be more accessible. I guess that this would fit well with your equalities impact assessment as well. 3. Equipment for older kids - a number of residents raised how the current equipment is only suitable for up to, say age 7. They would welcome something for their older kids to use. Given the space being created by the tree removal there is scope for additional pieces. 4. Replacement of the single full size goal posts with 2x 5 a side goals. The single goal is used (allegedly, I've not seen it!) but it was raised about how only having one large goal is not particularly suitable for a proper game. Of the existing pieces, the orange round thing was particularly cited as heavy and unwieldy for children.	Noted and will be fed into the Play Area strategy and with consultation with local residents and councillors.
Stephen Hay	Planning Policy	Page 3 - as a borough	Noted and amended in the final strategy
		Page 4 Physical Wellbeing - I need to capitalise	Noted and amended in the final strategy
		Page 5 - What do we need to achieve Leadership role, Facilitation role and direct delivery	Noted and amended in the final strategy
		Page 11 - HWB strategy - info/note on planning for healthy places - a clearer focus on special issues and active travel for example	Noted and amended in the final strategy
		Page 17 - Do we want to focus upon wider leadership/facilitation and public health etc.	Noted and amended in the final strategy
		Page 18 - Header - could pull out earlier - see previous comments - section feels fragmented	Amended in the final strategy
		Page 22 ref. to recently commissioned sport and open space work (4Global and Active Essex) and we also have a Strategic Green Infrastructure doc. On BBC website and further detailed work to be delivered this year on green infrastructure. Have an emerging GI typology. St Faiths designated local wildlife site Bre62	Noted and amended in the final strategy
		Page 23 - Council proposing substantial housing development with urban areas and on the the fringes of the Brentwood Urban Area (BAU) . Need to ensure the demand for play areas for this new growth is adequately considered . The nature of play areas is changing and this needs to be reflected in the report - part of a multi generational space. Council involved in an academic study and potential commissioning on designing spaces for children and young people with University of Birmingham.	Noted and amended in the final strategy
Page 25 - Sport - how relate to the emerging Active Essex/4 Global. Need to ensure we are clear on asset management site priorities, any emerging local plan sites and potential priorities.	Noted and amended in the final strategy		
Page 27 Health and Wellbeing - creating healthy places through new developments to be included as a focus. Dunton Hills Garden Village will have clear public health agenda running through the scheme design objectives e.g. prioritised cycling and walkway infrastructure	Noted and amended in the final strategy		
Page 28 leadership - management and oversight	Noted and amended in the final strategy		
Page 31 Actions might need to be updated to reflect earlier comments	Action plan has been updated for the final strategy		