

## Action Plans Norwich Indoor Bowls Centres

	Action Plan/Indoor Bowling Centres	Action Required
<b>PROTECT</b>	<p><b>IB1 - City of Norwich to retain the existing supply and capacity for indoor bowling up to 2026.</b></p> <p>The needs assessment for indoor bowling centres has identified that the 2 centres in Norwich provide 10 rinks for public/club use and the Norwich demand is for 7.5 rinks. The Norman Community Centre of 4 rinks is owned by the City Council.</p> <p>The profile of sports participation needs assessment for Norwich has identified that indoor bowling is an important activity/facility type and likely to become more important with the aging of the core resident population (participation is highest over 45 years of age).</p> <p>There are no plans by the clubs to expand their supply. Therefore the number of rinks/centres should be retained up to 2026.</p> <p>Participation and membership of indoor bowling clubs can and does fluctuate, depending on the management of the centre and the promotion of the activity. Therefore any potential consideration to close a centre based on declining membership should be viewed in the long term as the activity and participation rates do support the retention of two centres and this level of supply.</p> <p>The needs assessment has identified that the location and catchment area for the centres is good and some 91% of the Norwich demand in 2014 is met at the two Norwich Centres. So there is a need to retain centres in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City Council development management policy DM8 identifies sites for sports uses through the site allocation plan and to protect existing (pitches) and built sports facilities from development for other uses unless this would lead to an improvement in overall sports provision. The needs assessment endorses this policy. Any subsequent review of planning policy based on the needs assessment should retain this policy to protect and retain existing indoor bowling centres.</li> <li>• Maintain a watching brief on the level of participation/membership of the indoor bowling centres. Any proposals to expand the centres based on increased membership and demand should be supported as the supply and demand positive balance is only 2.5 rinks in 2014.</li> <li>• Any proposals to reduce the supply of centres should be reviewed and the rationale for the reduction, as the long term assessment is that indoor bowling is an important facility type that matches the Norwich sports participation profile now and more so in the future.</li> </ul>

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	<p>these locations. Any re-location up to 2026 is very unlikely to improve on the accessibility. Re-location could be for other factors but not to improve access/travel patterns/catchment areas.</p>	
<p><b>ENHANCE</b></p>	<p><b>IB2 – Support clubs in their leadership of improvement projects at the existing centres.</b></p> <p>The Norman Centre rink opened in 1984 and was refurbished in 2008. The Norfolk Bowling Club opened in 1968 and was refurbished in 2011. So there is City Council/club commitment to support the centres but they are now 30 and 46 years old respectively.</p> <p>There will be a continuing and increasing need to maintain and modernise the buildings. OR consider re-provision based on a feasibility study of the cost/benefits of enhancement and refurbishment, set alongside re-provision. There is need to retain and enhance the overall level of supply.</p> <p>The Indoor Bowling Association does work in support of clubs developing their business case and developing grant aid applications for external funding to support modernisation of the centres. It has previously worked with clubs in Broadland District on both aspects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the basis that indoor bowling is an important facility type/activity for the Norwich sporting population then Norwich City Council to support clubs and work with the Indoor Bowling Association to assist the clubs in capital grant aid applications to the Sport England Capital grant aid programmes for modernisation of the centres.</li> </ul>