

Appendix 5

National, Regional and Local policy influences

Introduction

- 1.1 In this section we set out the key national, regional and local policy influences on sport and physical activity. We identify the key strategies and policies which highlight the importance of sport and physical activity, those driving the strategy on a local level and those with which the Southwark Sport and Physical Activity needs to align.

National strategy and policy context

- 1.2 A comprehensive review of national strategy and policies influencing sport and physical activity is provided in the appendices to this report. A summary of the key strategies is provided below, drawing on strategies from the health and sports sectors. We have not attempted to provide a synopsis of every individual strategy, but focused more on those that provide the strongest drivers or influences on a strategy at Borough level. We provide a headline summary of the key health strategies and sports specific plans driving local delivery.

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Health Context summary

- 1.3 A number of National Strategies, key research papers and other reports provide important context and considerations for the development of a sport and physical activity strategy in Southwark. These include recommendations for the amount of physical activity required to support good health.

Strategy and/or research report	Relevance to the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy
<i>Securing Good Health for the Whole Population (2004) – A paper by Derek Wanless</i>	The report sets quantifiable national objectives for changing the prevalence of the important determinants of health status for the medium and long term. The report highlights the importance of Physical Activity Interventions (PAIs) targeted at groups with low participation in physical activity and their ability to improve the overall health of the nation.
<i>At Least Five a Week (2004) – A report by the Chief Medical Officer</i>	The report highlights the public health issues attributable to physical inactivity and outlines the overall recommendations for levels of physical activity for adults (5 x 30 minutes per week of moderate intensity physical activity) and children (60 minutes of physical activity every day).
<i>Choosing Activity – A Physical Activity Action Plan (2006) – A report by the Department of Health</i>	The report sets out a number of actions under three key themes – Choosing Activity in a Consumer Society, An Active Healthcare System and Choosing Activity in the Workplace. The report highlights the need for co-ordinated delivery, and the need to intervene across a number of settings.
<i>Healthy Weights, Healthy Lives – A cross-government strategy for England (2008)</i>	The strategy is a first step in a sustained programme to support people to maintain a healthy weight. The report highlights the importance of sharing evidence of what works in tackling the rise in excess weight and the need for integrated physical activity and healthy eating interventions.
<i>Health Challenge England -next steps for Choosing Health (Department of Health (DoH) 2006)</i>	The report sets out the Government’s new approach to public health. In addition, there are policies that focus on improving “downstream” interventions, including <i>Our health Our care Our say</i> : a new direction for community services (DoH 2006).
<i>Change 4 Life Campaign</i>	The Change4Life advertising campaign aims to make the subject of weight and physical activity a hot topic. The campaign talks about ‘fat in the body’ rather than ‘fat bodies’ and makes clear the link between fat and preventable illnesses. Free Change4Life materials are now available for download to use to support local initiatives.

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Sporting Context summary

1.4 The sporting context is shaped by a number of National strategies and research reports which provide important context around national priorities for sport, in addition to learning from participation surveys and pilot projects. The figure below does not provide a review of every strategy or policy in place at a national level. It provides an overview of the key strategies and some of the emerging programmes being rolled out at local level.

Strategy and/or research report	Relevance to the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy
<i>Sport England Strategy 2008 -2011</i>	The new strategy aims to address fundamental challenges facing sport, and particularly community sport in England. Key areas of the strategy include placing National Governing Bodies at the heart of delivery, more frontline coaching, developing a modern network of sports clubs and maximising volunteering.
<i>Sport Playing its Part (2005)</i>	<i>Sport Playing its Part</i> provides a series of reports drawing together the growing evidence of the impact of sport on contributing to <i>healthier communities, safe, strong and sustainable communities, economic vitality and workforce development, and meeting the needs of children and young people</i> . Evidence includes good practice examples that can potentially be applied to other settings.
<i>Before, During and After – Making the Most of the 2012 Games (DCMS, June 2008)</i>	This action plan sets out how the DCMS intends to use the Games to boost sport and physical activity participation, among core objectives around job creation, skills development and tourism. It highlights how the Games will impact on regeneration. One of the key ‘promises’ pledged includes inspiring a generation of young people. This will encompass young people engaging in volunteering.

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Strategy and/or research report	Relevance to the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy
<i>Taking Part Survey (2006 – 2007)</i>	The survey has been active since 1995, and uses focused interviews with a sample of adults to explore levels of engagement in sport and physical activity. The most recent survey suggests engagement with sport and culture remained broadly consistent between 2005/06 and 2006/07.
<i>Gameplan and the Framework for Sport in England (Sport England, 2003)</i>	<i>Gameplan</i> reflects the major review of sport in England, concluding that ‘sport is underachieving’. The report sets out the overall targets for increasing participation (70% of the population to be undertaking 30 minutes of physical activity 5 times a week by 2020) that underpin many of the subsequent policies and initiatives developed. <i>The Framework for Sport</i> formed the response to <i>Gameplan</i> . It outlines how many people are estimated to participate in sport in each region, and it highlights seven key drivers for participation.
<i>Understanding Participation in Sport - A Systematic Review (Sport England, 2005)</i>	The report outlines a number of considerations for developing sport and physical activity strategies, policies and programmes. It highlights a number of social and environmental determinants of participation.
<i>Playing to win – a new era for sport (DCMS, 2007)</i>	The report sets out a vision for the UK to become a world leading sporting nation. High quality competitive sporting opportunities are key priorities. An emphasis is made on the need for collective responsibility across stakeholders, and a sustainable and integrated structure for delivery. Aims include engaging a million more people in regular sport and producing a ‘seamless ladder’ of talent development from sport to the elite level.
<i>Government Campaign for Sport – the 5 hour offer</i>	The five hour offer aims to ensure all children and young people aged between 5-16 have the opportunity to participate in five hours of sport per week by 2011 (including two hours of high quality PE and sport at school). The plans include greater emphasis on competition within and between schools, a network of competition managers and a new National School Sport Week.

In addition, a number of other National Strategies and initiatives have a key influence on sport at a local level. These include the ‘Every Child Matters’ programme. *Every Child Matters: Change for Children* is a new approach to the well-being of children and young people from birth to age 19. The Government’s aim is for every child, whatever their background or their circumstances, to have the support they need to:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution

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- Achieve economic well-being

When asked what they regard as their priorities, children and young people consistently reply that they would like more "things to do and places to go". At a National level, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) is working to improve access to culture, sport and play for children and young people, so that they can develop their talents and enjoy the benefits of participation

Regional strategy context

- 1.5 A summary of the key strategies at a regional level influencing the Southwark Sport and Physical Activity Strategy is provided below. We have not attempted to review every single strategy or report, but instead provide a summary of the key strategies driving health promotion work and the delivery of sport and physical activity at a local level.

Living Well in London – The Mayor’s Draft Health Inequalities Strategy

- 1.6 The Strategy sets out the long-term vision for a healthier London and proposals for a package of action to address health inequalities identified. The Strategy outlines six proposed objectives, several of which have particular relevance for the development of local sport and physical activity strategies. Specifically the objectives include:

- **Objective 3** - to empower individuals and communities to take action to improve their health and wellbeing
- **Objective 5** - to develop and promote London as a healthy place for all – from neighbourhoods to the city as a whole

- 1.7 The strategy highlights the importance of Local Area Agreements in coordinating resources. It also outlines the potential to build a lasting legacy from 2012 for well-being and reduced health inequalities – from the physical infrastructure for sports, to the regeneration of parts of London, and provision of new opportunities for training, employment and participation.

The London Plan for Sport and Physical Activity: Working for an Active and Successful Sporting Capital (2004-2008)

- 1.8 The London Plan aims to increase participation in sport and physical activity by an average of 1% per year. The plan also sets out 6 core policy statements:
- The need to maximise opportunities for sport and physical activity through effective and sustainable partnerships.
 - A resolve to overcome barriers and enable excluded or hard-to-reach groups to participate in sport on a daily basis.
 - The need to provide incentives for everyone in a workplace setting to take part in activity within their daily routine.
 - A determination to maximise opportunities for children and young people to make physical activity part of their everyday life.
 - The desire to develop potential within organisations and individuals to maximise personal and sporting success.
 - The potential to change attitudes by raising awareness of the economic, educational, social and health benefits of sport and physical activity.
- 1.9 In terms of raising standards in education, there is a specific commitment within the London Regional Sport Plan (2004 -2008) to:
- Improve education by using sport and physical activity as tools to engage people in education and/or vocational training; as well as encouraging skills development in the sport sector.

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- Develop fundamental skills that underpin participation at an early age, and constantly promote the benefits of being physically active.
- Improve the sporting opportunities throughout the educational setting, both within and beyond the curriculum.
- Build on and develop the DCMS / DfES Public Service Agreement, and ensure appropriate school-club, school-community links are in place in each of the sub-regions across London.
- Develop sub-regional learning networks through links with the Learning skills Council, and both higher and further education to use sport as a tool to engage people in learning.
- Use London 2012 bid as a catalyst for attracting children into participation and an active lifestyle.

1.10 The success of the London Regional Plan for sport will be measured by its ability to deliver the following targets between 2004 – 2008:

- 75% of all schools in London delivering two hours of high quality PE and school sport per child each week.
- 250 sport clubs / organisations having a volunteer support plan in place.
- 40 Space for Sport and the Arts Schemes and 300 NOF PE and Sport Schemes delivered.
- A workforce development plan for the sport and leisure sector implemented across all sub-regions.
- Sub-regional learning hubs created around major sports environments.
- All Learning Skills Councils having a sporting curriculum learning pathway
- 33 local education authority PE entitlement and facility use strategic plans in place
- 56 Specialist Sports Colleges operating

Pro-Active Central London – Sport and Physical Activity Strategy (2007-2016)

1.11 Pro-Active Central London is the Sports Partnership for Central London, part of the National County Sports Partnership Network. The Sport and Physical Activity Strategy outlines the priorities for the partnership for the period 2007-2016 and how it will deliver them. The strategy is supplemented by a two-year delivery plan.

1.12 The Strategy was produced shortly after the Active Peoples results (first survey 2005/06), and acknowledges that the Central London partnership area has the highest collective participation rates of all 49 County Sports Partnerships. However, within this Southwark recorded the lowest participation rate (% of adults taking part in sport and physical activity for at least 3x30minutes every week). At the same time, Southwark had the highest adult obesity rate of the Central London authorities.

1.13 The Strategy highlights four strategic themes. They are:

- **Participation and Progression** – which includes extending participation opportunities, supporting PE and school sport, targeting low participatory populations and building pathways for progression among participants, coaches, instructors, trainers, staff and volunteers;
- **People and Places** – which includes developing and supporting initiatives that increase access to facilities and places for sport, investing in people working in sport and physical activity, building knowledge and raising standards of services;
- **Advocacy and Investment** – which includes influencing partners to raise their commitment to develop sport and physical activity, creating a credible image, attracting investment and maximising the legacy of 2012; and
- **Partnership Development** which underpins the other three themes and involves setting up the necessary structures to ensure effective and efficient operation of the CSP as part of the delivery structure for sport – this involves establishing full coverage of the Community Sport and Physical Activity Network (CSPAN) in Southwark.

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London Sports Forum

- 1.14 London Sports Forum for Disabled People is the strategic development agency for sport and physical activity for disabled people in London. It exists to ensure that all disabled people in London can access the sport and physical activity of their choice, at the level of their choice and the venue of their choice.
- 1.15 London Sports Forum for Disabled People has four clear focus areas:
- To ensure the provision of sporting and physical activity opportunities for disabled people is co-ordinated and synchronized on a London, sub-regional and borough basis.
 - To promote and advocate the interests and needs of disabled people to those with strategic and policy responsibility for Sport and Physical Activity in London.
 - To support organisations, groups, clubs and facilities across London to provide opportunities and activities that are inclusive of disabled people.
 - To provide information regarding which clubs, facilities, activities and opportunities are inclusive of and accessible to disabled people.

In 2007 Sport England, Greater London Authority and London Sports Forum for Disabled People created the 'Inclusive and Active' Action Plan for London. Containing thirty six measurable actions, the plan provides a clear map for working together to increase disabled people's participation levels in sport and physical activity.

Local Strategy Context

- 1.16 Southwark has not had a formal Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for more than a decade. Despite this, sport and physical activity play key roles in a number of wider strategies and action plans across a range of partners in the borough.
- 1.17 The Council and Primary Care Trust have a number of strategic plans in place relating to sport, leisure and physical activity. These are subject to periodic change and review to reflect the changing needs and drivers for sport at a local level. We make reference to the strategies identified in the study brief together with wider relevant strategies and policies which require consideration in developing a strategy for sport and physical activity. We have used the seven strategic themes proposed in the study brief to guide this.
- 1.18 Southwark's **Community Strategy** is a 10-year plan. It sets out what residents of Southwark want the borough to look like over the next decade, and what needs to be done to get there. The strategy outlines three inter-related objectives and a range of more detailed actions. Sport and physical activity links with several of these. For example, 'enjoyment of cultural and leisure opportunities' is a key priority alongside the priority theme of 'Be healthy'. Improving and maintaining the quality of the public realm is also referenced as a priority action area
- 1.19 **Local Area Agreements (LAAs)** set out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government and a local area (the local authority and Local Strategic Partnership) and other key partners at the local level. Southwark's Local Area Agreement (2008-2011) follows the priorities set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy. Despite some links to sport and physical activity, and a role for related services to play in delivering the Community Strategy, there are no specific targets or indicators relating directly to sport and physical activity participation. National indicators relating to obesity rates in Year 6 children and All Age all cause mortality rates are the only indicators linked to physical activity that are included. This may have implications for resource priorities at a Local Strategic Partnership level.
- 1.20 The **Southwark Healthy Weight Strategy** acknowledges the importance of a healthy weight to physical and mental wellbeing. It highlights the high prevalence of obesity among children. Specifically Southwark has the highest rate of obesity among year six children (26% are obese) and second highest among reception year (14.4%) in England. . The Strategy includes a number of specific strands, aims,

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and objectives relating to these facts, together with target groups, possible types of intervention and specific actions. Regular physical activity (alongside healthy eating) is highlighted as a key intervention strand within an overall strategy to 'shifting the curve of overweight' (Strand Two). Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups are a key target group, together with those classified as socio-economically deprived. Delivery of specific programmes in local neighbourhoods and workplaces is highlighted. Specific mechanisms and actions include a Healthy Workplace programme, continuation of the Healthy Schools programme and the development of a Healthy Early Years programme.

- 1.21 Providing quality play space and the promotion of unstructured play, together with a structured sports activity programme is highlighted as key for the short term (within the lifespan of the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy). Minimising environmental barriers to physical activity and reducing car usage are also mechanisms to increase everyday activity, supported by actions to promote cycling, provide safe bicycle storage and help develop personalised travel plans. In addition, public spaces are also highlighted in the strategy as a key resource for physical activity. Adequate public lighting, reduction in crime and disorder, appropriate signage and clean streets are seen as key actions to ensuring these spaces are maximised.
- 1.22 The **Children and Young People's Plan** is the overarching strategic plan for all local services affecting children and young people in Southwark. The overall aim of the Plan is to build a better future for the children and young people of the borough by improving the things that affect their well-being. In relation to sport and physical activity, it is intended the successful implementation of the Children and Young Peoples plan will result in more positive, fun activities for children and young people of all ages and a slowing of the rate of increase in childhood obesity, with the prospect of bringing the rise to a halt in the future.
- 1.23 The **Cultural Strategy** provides a framework and vision for the future aims and priorities for culture, arts, heritage and events with Southwark. The framework has four strands which are intended to shape our approach and drive the Council's work in the future towards a vision of Southwark at the Centre of London life. There are potential links between the arts programme and sports development and events operated by the Council. In the run up to the 2012 Olympics, these include the Cultural Olympiade.
- 1.24 The **Local Development Framework (LDF)** is a replacement for Local Plans and Unitary Development Plans. The LDF is made up of a range of documents including the Core Strategy, Area Action Plans, Supplementary Planning Documents, Local Development Scheme, Statement of Community Involvement and the Annual Monitoring Report. At the time of writing, the LDF is subject to consultation. The plan sets out the vision for Southwark and explains how this vision will be achieved. The vision set out within includes Southwark as a place where access to work, shops, leisure and other services for all members of the community is quick and convenient, and where public transport systems, the road network, walkways and cycle ways enable people to travel quickly, conveniently, safely and comfortably to and from their destination, causing minimum impact on local communities and the environment.
- 1.25 The **Making Good Great** report identifies the challenge for education in the context of the Building Schools for the Future programme (known as Southwark Schools for the Future –SSF programme). The focus of this challenge is to fundamentally transform:
- Learning, teaching and the curriculum;
 - Educational leadership and school organisation; and
 - The way that education providers contribute to the aims of *Every Child Matters* through approaches to inclusion and involvement.
- 1.26 The SSF programme, its potential and its delivery timetable is a key driver for this strategy. Two of the key aims of the education transformation is that 'by 2012 schools, other learning providers and children's services professionals will be able to share resources' and there will be 'measurable improvements in the health and well-being of children and young people are achieved, including reduction in obesity'.

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- 1.27 The **Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy** is a statement of the Council's vision for improving accessibility to schools and colleges and promoting sustainable travel for children and young people. Sustainable travel is defined as those modes of travel which contribute to the physical well being of those who use them and environmental well-being generally. Although not driven exclusively by an objective to increase physical activity participation, the strategy is likely to make a positive contribution.
- 1.28 The **Disability Sport and Physical Action Plan** outlines the priorities and associated work plan for increasing disability sports participation. It feeds into the work of the London Sports Forum and runs a number of the regional programmes on a local level (e.g. Coachability). Disability sport and physical activity is a strong priority for the borough and Southwark Council has led the development of this work to ensure that it can direct local resources and prioritise activity to ensure that the action plan is delivered.
- 1.29 The **London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Pledges** have been made to ensure that its vision of a healthy and active Southwark becomes a reality in time for London 2012. The Pledges are:
- We will continue to invest in the Southwark Community Games
 - We will invest in a new athletics track at Southwark Park
 - We will upgrade our leisure facilities, including Dulwich Leisure Centre and Surrey Docks Water Sports Centre through our £12.3m Leisure Investment Plan
 - We will support our sports clubs to increase their capacity
 - We will maximise opportunities for sports and culture through our extensive "Building Schools for the Future" programme
 - We will ensure that there are varied sports and cultural activities through the Extended Schools programme for people of all ages
 - We will encourage schools to develop Olympic action plans to maximise young people's engagement with and benefit from the games
 - We will use the 2012 games as a catalyst for promoting healthy eating
 - We will increase participation in sporting and cultural activities
 - We will promote the Princes Trust, Y Volunteer and Duke of Edinburgh award schemes as volunteering opportunities for young people
 - We will support volunteering through our "Personal Best" programme and the Volunteer Centre Southwark. We will work with Community Forums to ensure that the benefits are spread throughout the borough
 - We will work closely with Southwark Primary Care Trust to highlight the impact of issues such as smoking, diabetes and obesity on good health and to promote sexual health
 - We will participate in the launch celebrations of the Cultural Olympiad and will act as a channel of communication for the cultural sector during the Olympiad
 - We will develop a programme of cultural activity linking into the key themes of the Cultural Olympiad
 - We will provide information about the 2012 games throughout our libraries and will deliver the "Setting the Pace" programme within Libraries
 - We will continue to promote and support local businesses to access the Olympic Delivery Authority procurement process
 - We will maximise the benefits of any additional job opportunities to the residents of Southwark
 - We will continue to work with other boroughs to ensure that parks and open spaces are welcoming and engaging places to the many visitors to the Games

Major projects

- 1.30 In undertaking our desk research we were made aware of a number of major projects, particularly those aimed at regeneration which will have an impact on the emerging strategy for sport and physical activity. We highlight the key features of these and what the implications might be for sport and physical activity.

Southwark Schools for the Future (SSF)

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- 1.31 We made earlier reference to SSF in the context of the strategy for education transformation. The SSF programme is one of the key drivers for the sport and physical activity strategy. The SSF is the collective term for the schools' improvement programme which includes the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. Collectively it will comprise investing more than £200m in replacing and refurbishing much of the school building stock. The key driver for the programme is to deliver a transformation in learning.
- 1.32 A Local Education Partnership (LEP) is being developed to lead the development. Building and refurbishment will involve twelve secondary schools on thirteen sites and will include:
- Four secondary special schools (one co-located special school academy)
 - One existing school which will become an academy
 - Two brand new schools in order to meet additional demand that will partly result from regeneration in Walworth and on the Rotherhithe peninsula; and
 - 5 voluntary aided schools.
- 1.33 Part of our research has involved reviewing the proposed SSF vision and giving consideration as to how the programme could accommodate existing deficiencies in provision and help deliver the sport and physical activity strategy.

Area based regeneration programmes

- 1.34 There are a number of area based, physical regeneration programmes planned for the borough. Part of our research has included a review of the implications of these for sport and physical activity.

Elephant and Castle

- 1.35 Over the next eight years, Heygate Estate and current shopping centre will be demolished and replaced by a new town centre and six character areas. The scheme will include a new market square and new town park. There will be 5,300 new homes, 75,000 square metres of new shops, five new open spaces, landmark buildings, a tram route and a civic heart for Southwark.
- 1.36 The regeneration will dramatically improve the quality of the physical environment, creating the conditions necessary to stimulate investment, re-invigorate the local economy and promote sustainable long-term regeneration.

Canada Water

- 1.37 Southwark Council is leading a regeneration programme at Canada Water. It will deliver a major new centre for Rotherhithe where people will be able to shop, socialise and sit by the dockside and enjoy the wildlife. The scheme will provide new residential, commercial and community facilities laid out within a series of new streets, walkways, pedestrian and cycle routes.
- 1.38 Other provision includes a new library and civic plaza, private and affordable housing in a mixture of tenures, flexible studio workshops for start-up and small businesses, new restaurants, cafés and local shopping.
- 1.39 Part of the current action plan includes conducting a feasibility study into a replacement leisure centre for the Seven Islands Leisure facility. We understand a feasibility study is underway to test the potential fit of this with other land use priorities. We make further comment on this later in our report, specifically in relation to facility provision.

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Bermondsey Spa

- 1.40 Southwark Council has joined forces with a number of key partners to deliver the masterplan at Bermondsey Spa. The aim is to transform not just the landscape, but also the lives of local people.
- 1.41 When all of the sites are complete, residents and visitors will benefit from more than 2,000 new homes, 40% of which will be affordable. There will also be two new health centres, an NHS dental practice and pharmacy, improved youth and play facilities, including two and a half hectares of newly landscaped open space, extra car sharing spaces and cycle parks, as well as new offices and shops.

Aylesbury Estate

- 1.42 The Council is working in partnership with the Aylesbury New Deals for Communities programme, local residents and a range of external partners such as housing associations to demolish the estate in stages. It will be replaced with around 5,000 homes for rent under housing association control and homes for sale or shared ownership.
- 1.43 The first part of the estate to be redeveloped (phase 1a) will include 260 new homes, a new Aylesbury resource centre (to replace the day centre) and some commercial units will be constructed on the site. The rest of the estate will be developed in a phased manner over the next 15 years. In addition to new housing we will be providing:
- Improved open spaces
 - Health / medical facilities
 - Childcare facilities
 - Youth facilities
- 1.44 An Area Action Plan (AAP) is being developed for the new area. This is a key planning document that will bring together the physical, economic and social agendas to make the new area work.

Emerging Strategies

- 1.45 At the time of writing there are a number of key strategies in development that will have an influence on any emerging Sport and Physical Activity Strategy in Southwark. Specifically the **London Legacy Plans for Sport and Physical Activity** are currently being developed. These are due to become live during Spring 2009 and are expected to be supported by funding in the region of £15m. It will be important to review these with regard to funding opportunities and links to other initiatives and relevant programmes developed as a result of the strategy implementation plan.
- 1.46 On a local level the **Extended Services Strategy** for Southwark is being developed. An Extended Schools Manager is about to be appointed. They will be supported by additional resources for supporting the extended use of all schools in the borough, funding from the Teaching Development Agency disadvantage subsidy and funding for Parent Support Advisors. At the time of writing it is understood that an Extended Services Manager will be in post, supported by eight area coordinators (one for each Community Council area) and revenue funding.
- 1.47 At the time of writing the Council is also due to commission an **Open Space Study for Southwark**, a comprehensive open spaces assessment, following the national guidance detailed in Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17). This is to inform the Local Development Framework (LDF) including the Core Strategy and associated action plans. The study is expected to result in local provision standards being set for the various typologies of open space for quantity, quality, access and design.
- 1.48 The **Southwark Health Inequalities Strategy** is currently being developed. This is subject to consultation at the time of writing, but sets out a number of clear aims and objectives for tackling issues across the borough. The strategy highlights a number of stark inequalities, not least the 15 year

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variance in life expectancy for men across Southwark's wards. The emerging strategy highlights the need for collective responsibility in tackling inequalities and for interventions to be evidence based.

- 1.49 Alongside the emerging strategy, a **Physical Activity needs assessment** has been commissioned. This will involve research to identify geographical areas and specific target groups where physical activity has the potential to make the most positive impact on ill-health in the borough. A key recommendation of the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy is to use the results of this research to target resources effectively.

Other local relevant research reports

- 1.50 A number of recent research studies focusing on various aspects of sport and physical activity provide additional context for the developing strategy.

Understanding sports participation rates in South Central London (January 2008)

- 1.51 Consultants from Quadrant and Hall Aitken undertook research to explain divergent results from the Active People Survey (2005/2006 survey results). Specifically this research looked into potential reasons for differences in the results of KPI1 (3x30 minutes participation) which highlighted a 7.2% variance in sport and active recreation participation rates between Lambeth and Southwark. This is despite similar demography. The study used the Sport England 'Determinants Model' to target our research into this variance, reviewing both supply factors (for example, number of facilities) and demand variables (for example income level).
- 1.52 The research identified no one reason fully explaining the variance in participation. However, the study highlighted that the variance is partly explained by a collection of differences including low participation among women in Southwark and low participation among male 16-24 years group in Southwark. Analysis of the Active People results also revealed low percentages of club members in Southwark take part in sport at the KP1 level (3x30 minutes). This is compared to relative high levels of club membership in Lambeth – with most taking part at the KPI1 level.
- 1.53 Additional to significant variances in certain age and gender groups, the research found notable variances across the geography of the Borough. Specifically research showed low participation across the central zone of the borough. One in three residents live in this area and only 16.5% engage at the KPI1 level. Outside this zone, 21.6% of residents engage at this level. This mirrors the overall London APS average of 21.3% and suggests it is low participation within specific communities that also contributes to lowering the overall participation rate.
- 1.54 The study concluded that **individual determinants are more likely to influence the variance** between the boroughs - rather than variables in the physical and social environment.

An audit of physical activity provision by Primary Care Trusts in London (2008)

- 1.55 This research concluded that although a great deal of action on physical activity is being taken by health trusts it appears to be 'piecemeal' and not part of a clear strategic vision by PCTs. The study suggests physical activity is generally given a low priority in PCTs' commissioning strategy plans. Where physical activity services are being commissioned, it is largely driven by objectives to reduce obesity, followed by the use of physical activity in the prevention of cardiovascular disease. The 2012 Olympics (reflected in the proposed themes for the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy) is generally not seen to be important for the promotion of physical activity by the vast majority of PCTs.
- 1.56 The research mentions links with local authorities as very important in the promotion of physical activity in London. Links with Proactive partnerships are also described as strong. However, actual involvement in the development of policies in conjunction with local authorities was not as high as expected.
- 1.57 Budgets for physical activity are relatively low, although there are indications that they will rise in 2008/9. Physical inactivity is costing the NHS around £17 per person per year. However, PCTs in

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London are spending only an estimated 19p per person in 2007/8 rising to 85pence per person in 2008-9..

Summary of context review

- 1.58 The purpose of the context review is to understand more fully the 'environment' in which sport and physical activity strategy needs to be delivered, the key considerations in terms of aligning and coordinating the priorities and highlight potential issues and opportunities. From our review we can draw the following core considerations for the strategy development:
- Sport and physical activity features a key part of many local strategies and service plans – this will increase with the emerging development of a number of additional regional and local plans around health improvement and education
 - Sport and physical activity contributes to many different aims and objectives – aligning with all of these and producing a cohesive sport and physical activity strategy with a set of agreed objectives and 'buy in' from a range of stakeholders will be challenging
 - A number of important strategies, at both a regional level and local level are in development at the time of writing – although we can ensure the sport and physical activity strategy aligns with the emerging priorities of these, there may be potential issues in ensuring a robust fit with all relevant strategies
 - There are a number of major projects and emerging developments across the Borough that offer potential opportunities for improving the sport and physical activity infrastructure – it is important that the strategy provides clarity on how to maximise these.