

Report for: Children and Young People's Panel: 2nd March 2020

Title: Equality in access to leisure facilities, including children with disabilities/inclusivity/summer programme.

Report authorised by: Eveleen Riordan, Assistant Director, Schools and Learning

Lead Officer: Andrea Keeble; Commissioning Manager for Active Communities.
Andrea.keeble@haringey.gov.uk 020 8489 5712

Ward(s) affected: NA

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Non Key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

This report examines the available data to understand children and young people's access to facilities and holiday programmes from an equalities perspective.

2. Background

- 3.1 Children and young people's access to leisure facilities and programmes is important to ensure that they are meeting the UK's Chief Medical Officers Guidelines on achieving 60 minutes of physical activity a day.
- 3.2 Government guidelines recommend that children and young people should get 30 minutes of their daily physical activity in the school day and 30 minutes outside of school.
- 3.3 Evidence from Sport England's Children and Young People's Active Lives Survey indicates that nationally 46.8% (43.2% for London) of the nation's children and young people are meeting the recommended level. However, there are significant inequalities with 54% of children from the most affluent families considered active compared to 42% from the least affluent families – while from the age of five up, boys are more active than girls at every age.
- 3.4 In the 17/18 academic year, 41.5% of Haringey children and young people were meeting the recommended level. We lack some insight however, due to there being insufficient data available for the 18/19 academic year (this is due to lack of take up by the schools (441 responses) which is being further investigated but is initially understood to be because this national survey is quite long and time consuming). We are discussing with Public Health and Sport England how this data collection can be improved.
- 3.5 However what is clear is that levels of activity for this cohort are an area of concern, both from the perspective of school PE and sports activity as well as the availability and take up of out of school activity. It is also likely that inequalities seen nationally will be evident in Haringey, given the levels of disadvantage in the borough.

- 3.6 This report looks in more depth at the available data for out of school children's physical activity; looking more closely at the available equalities data, from the leisure centres and from the Summer Holiday Programmes in 2018 and 2019.

Equalities

- 3.7 As Sport England's national data illustrates affluent children compared to those less affluent and boys compared to girls are more likely to meet recommended activity levels.
- 3.8 From a local perspective we can examine data to see if those levers we have available to us are working as well as we would expect in order to impact on inequalities and therefore overall activity levels.
- 3.9 This report looks at access to leisure and recreation in the borough with a view to determining if and how there are any barriers to access in terms of the protected characteristics. Further analysis would need to be undertaken to understand the barriers from an affordability standpoint.

Equalities Information

- 3.10 This report's observations and commentary has been developed from the evidence available to us that could be sourced in a relatively short timeframe. Data and other information from the following sources have been analysed.
- Leisure centre card holder information.
 - Leisure centre attendance by target groups.
 - Sport England information.
 - Leisure centre National Benchmarking Survey (NBS) information.
 - Summer holiday programme monitoring information for 2018 and 2019.

Leisure Centre Data

- 3.11 There are a variety of ways for children and young people to access the leisure centres:
- Junior casual pay and play
 - Junior casual pay and play – with a Reward Card (similar in concept to a supermarket loyalty card)
 - Junior Swim School members
 - Junior Gym Card (required to prove an induction has taken place)
 - Junior Concession pay and play members
 - Other junior card holders e.g. part of a Family Membership.
- 3.12 Target group data indicates year on year increases in under 16 attendance, with around 20% of the leisure centre user base being children. Increasing usage by under 16s is likely to continue and specific programming and targeting is being developed to support this.

Junior Card Holder Data

- 3.13 In examining this data, it needs to be kept in mind that many children access the centre without a card/membership, as the traditional way to access leisure

centres is on a pay and play basis without a card. Further to this, other data sets from Fusion indicate some inconsistencies with some of the data; for example it is understood that there are substantially more Swim School members. Nonetheless some general observations can be made.

- 3.14 The leisure centres have 9825 junior card holders. See the tables and commentary below for the data.

Table 1: Junior Card Holder Type

Centre	Swim School	Gym	Concession	Reward Card & Other	Total
Broadwater Farm	0	0	0	3	3 (0%)
Park Road	1053	10	96	3967	5126 (52%)
Tottenham Green	653	15	106	3922	4696 (48%)
Total	1706 (17%)	25 (1%)	202 (2%)	7892 (80%)	9825

Table 2: Junior Card Holder Ethnicity

Centre	White	Black	Asian	Other	Mixed	Not Disclosed	Total
Broadwater Farm	1	1				1	3
Park Road	3649	391	226	224	68	568	5126
Tottenham Green	2001	1429	260	491	163	349	4696
Total	5654 (57%)	1821 (19%)	486 (5%)	715 (7%)	231 (2%)	981 (10%)	9825

Table 3: Junior Card Holder Disability

Centre	Disabled	Not Disclosed/Not disabled	Total
Broadwater Farm	1	2	3
Park Road	228	4898	5126
Tottenham Green	190	4506	4696
Total	419 (4%)	9406 (96%)	9825

Table 4: Junior Card Holder Gender

Centre	Female	Male	Not Disclosed	Total
Broadwater Farm	1	2	0	3
Park Road	2551	2377	87	5126
Tottenham Green	2377	2309	10	4696
Total	4929 (50%)	4799 (49%)	97 (1%)	9825

3.15 Junior Concessions

There are 202 junior concession members. The 2011 Census found that there were 8,948 households in Haringey that had dependent children where there was no adult working. Just utilising a conservative number of one child per household, means that only 2.2% of eligible children are benefiting from discounted prices at the leisure centres.

3.16 Junior Gym Card

The gym card/membership can only be accessed by children aged 14+. Given that there are Council priorities around engaging young people from this cohort into positive activities; to only have 25 junior gym card holders seems like an opportunity missed. When this was queried with Fusion they report that there are more junior gym users and generally many 14+ attending – however for various reasons they are not accurately counted.

3.17 BAME Data

Schools' data tells us that 79.7% of Haringey's school children are BAME. The Fusion junior data reflects that 57% of the card holders are white while 33% are black and other ethnic groups and the remainder did not disclose. Thus, we can conclude that more effort must be made to both encourage BAME children into the centres and get them to sign up for a membership card of some sort.

3.18 Disabled attendance does not seem to relate to the percentage of disabled children in the borough. Schools data details that 14.5% of children are classified as having a Special Educational Need (SEN), whereas the number of disabled children with a leisure card is 4.3%. This is possibly a reporting problem due to non-disclosure and also there are a number of specific sessions such as the disability swimming session on Sunday evenings at Park Road where the children do not swipe in.

3.19 **Gender Data**

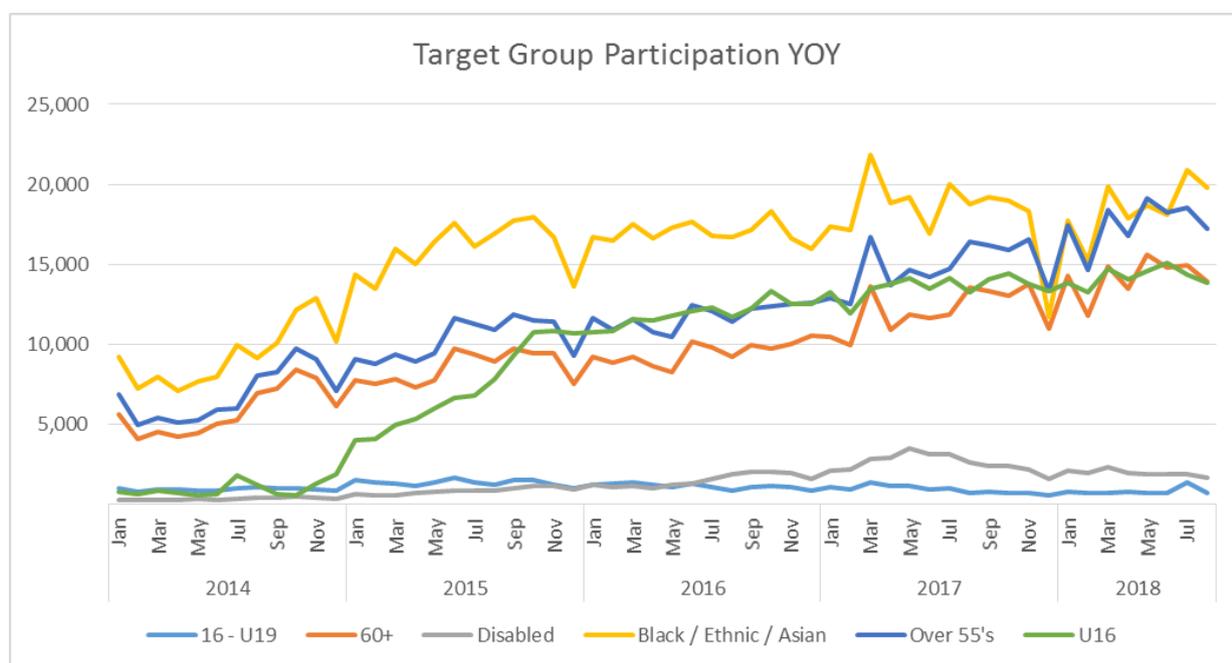
The gender mix among leisure centre members/card holders is around 50/50 and is no cause for concern.

3.20 **Leisure Centre Target Group Data**

Figure 1 below demonstrates that overall participation by target groups is increasing. Performance is particularly strong with members of BAME, over 55s, under 16s and those aged 60+.

3.21 However, participation levels in the following areas are not as strong for those with a disability or young people aged 16 to 19.

Figure 1 Target Group Participation



3.22 **Leisure Centre National Benchmarking Survey (NBS)**

Every two years the leisure centres commission a benchmarking survey utilising Sport England methodology and conducted by Sheffield Hallam University. Approximately 500 customers are interviewed from each of the main sites. Other data is also examined and comparisons are made with leisure centres of comparable facility mix and size.

3.23 The tables below give a snap shot in relation to relevant and available access indicators tested. Note that the vast majority of interviewees were adults.

- 3.24 However, we can draw out from this data that Tottenham Green performs reasonably strongly on a number of measures and particularly strongly regarding, disabled people under 65 and ethnic minorities.
- 3.25 Park Road performs less strongly, particularly regarding usage of the centre by ethnic minorities.
- 3.26 The NBS will be carried out again later in 2020 and we will then be able to observe any continuing trends developing.

Table 5: Park Road NBS Access Indicators

Access Indicators	Bottom Quartile	25%	2 nd Quartile	50%	3 rd Quartile	75%	Top Quartile
14 – 25 years							
Ethnic minorities							
Disabled < 65							

Table 6: Tottenham Green NBS Access Indicators

Access Indicators	Bottom Quartile	25%	2 nd Quartile	50%	3 rd Quartile	75%	Top Quartile
14 – 25 years							
Ethnic minorities							
Disabled < 65							

3.27 To improve performance by the leisure centres the Council will develop specific targets with Fusion, via the Annual Service Plan, to address the issues drawn out in this report (i.e. improve the quality of equalities information, improve BAME attendance, improve concession attendance, improve 16 – 19 attendance and improve disability attendance). Actions associated with achieving these targets are:

- a review of the Leisure Centre Concession Scheme to more equitably target the subsidy;
- more targeted promotion of the concession card benefits to children (and their parents/carers);
- a drive to sign up children to a leisure card of some sort (and get them to bring it to the leisure centre) so that equalities information is of a better quality;
- working with Fusion to ensure reporting data is accurate;

- Fusion’s recording systems to improve to ensure that groups that do not swipe in/report to reception, are more accurately counted and equalities data collected;
- more disability sessions/programmes, through working with disability community groups and leveraging in specific funding e.g. GOGA (see 3.29);
- more junior sessions/programmes, through programme development and leveraging in funding;
- more outreach work with schools particularly in the east of the borough where there are more disadvantaged children;
- progress a leisure centre in the Wood Green area – as walk times to Park Road and Tottenham Green – from Wood Green mean these children effectively have no access a leisure centre.

3.28 **Summer Programme 2018 and 2019**

Table 7 and Table 8 below provides information about who attended the summer holiday programme in 2018 and 2019. This data relates to the significant elements of the programme that was commissioned by the Council. For other elements of the programme provided by the voluntary and commercial sector, without Council support, there is no data. As well because most children access the leisure centres on a pay and play basis we have only overall attendance data for the leisure centres. In future it would be helpful if the majority of children had a ‘Membership Card’ or a ‘Reward Card’ so we could gather equalities data for the summer programme at the leisure centres, but at present there is no pre-requisite for children to have a card.

3.29 This data is positive and tells us that:

- the programme improved in terms of disability provision and access from 2018 to 2019. This is likely to improve over the coming years due to the Council being successful in achieving £280K of funding from the Get Out Get Active (GOGA) Programme. In Haringey the funds will be targeted at young people to provide inclusive sports and related opportunities.
- the programme is well attended by BAME young people, primarily because activities were located in areas of a high BAME population;
- there is reasonable take up by females (although note further examination of data does demonstrate that there is still room for improvement).

Table 7: Summer Holiday Data 2019

2019 Participant Data	
	Number/Percentage
Male	10,740 (51.7%)
Female	10,029 (48.3%)
Ethnicity	
White: All, including other	5,566 (26.8%)
Black: All and mixed	11,984 (57.9%)
Asian: All and mixed	1,080 (5.2%)
Prefer not to say	1,225 (5.9%)
Disability	
Not Disabled	16,677 (80.3%)
Disabled	4,091 (19.7%)

Table 8: Summer Holiday Data 2018

2018 Participant Data	
Male	9,779 (54%)
Female	8,323 (46%)
Not Known	0%
Ethnicity	
White: All, including other	4,885 (27%)
Black: All and mixed	10,494 (58%)
Asian: All and mixed	1,086 (6%)
Prefer not to say	1,628 (9%)
Disability	
Not Disabled/Not disclosed	17,007 (94%)
Disabled	1,086 (6%)

6 Contribution to strategic outcomes

6.1 Work to improve access to leisure facilities and programmes contributes to achieving Borough Plan outcomes and the aims within the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy.

6.2 People Theme: *Our vision is a Haringey where strong families, strong networks and strong communities nurture all residents to live well and achieve their potential.* Work to improve access to leisure facilities and programmes will contribute to the following outcomes:

- ensuring children have the best start in life;
- all children in the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up; and
- all adults are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, with dignity, staying active and connected in their communities.

6.3 Place Theme: *A place with strong, resilient & connected communities where people can lead active and healthy lives in an environment that is safe, clean and green.* Work to improve access to leisure facilities and programmes will contribute to the following outcomes:

- A healthier, active and greener place;
- A cleaner, accessible and attractive place;
- A proud resilient, connected and confident place