



Please ask for: Jo Hunt
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9 December

Dear Councillor,

Health, Wellbeing, and The Community Scrutiny Committee (Call-In)
6.00pm, Monday 19 December 2002
Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Cannock

You are invited to attend this meeting for consideration of the matters itemised in the following Agenda.

Yours sincerely,

T. Clegg
Chief Executive

To: Councillors:

Haden, P.K. (Chair)
Newbury, J.A.A. (Vice-Chair)
Bancroft, J.T. Kenny, B.
Beach, A. Kruskonjic, P.
Buttery, M.S. Preece, J.P.T.L.
Elson, J. Prestwood, J.
Frew, C.L. Thompson, S.L.
Jones, P.T.

Invitees:

- Councillor A.A. Fitzgerald (Housing, Heritage, and Leisure Portfolio Leader)
- J. Presland (Head of Environment & Healthy Lifestyles)
- T. Walsh (Parks & open Spaces Manager)
- S. Maidment (LTA Parks Investment Delivery Team)
- A. Hart (LTA Parks Investment Delivery Team)
- C. Perrin (Head Coach and Secretary - Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club)
- Councillor J.A.A. Newbury (Call-In Proposer) (*Committee member*)
- Councillor J. Elson (Call-In Supporter) (*Committee member*)
- Councillor J. Preece (Call-In Supporter) (*Committee member*)
- Councillor A. Muckley (Call-In Supporter) (*Non-Committee member*)
- Councillor T. Johnson (Call-In Supporter) (*Non-Committee member*)

Agenda

Part 1

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

(i) To declare any personal, pecuniary or disclosable pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct and any possible contraventions under Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(ii) To receive any Party Whip declarations.

3. Call-In Request: Review of Tennis Provision - Cannock Chase Council

The following documents are enclosed for the Committee's consideration:

- Report of the Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles (Item 3.1 – 3.4).
 - Appendix 1 - Cabinet report of 10 November 2022 re: Review of Tennis Provision - Cannock Chase Council (Item 3.5 – 3.11).
 - Appendix 2 - Extract of the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 10 November 2022 (3.12 – 3.13).
 - Appendix 3 - Call-in Proposer and Supporters Forms (Item 3.14 – 3.16).
 - Appendix 4 - Procedure for Debating Call-in at the Scrutiny Committee meeting (Item 3.17).
 - Appendix 5 - Officers Response to Questions raised by Call-in Members (Item 3.18 - 3.21).
 - Appendix 6 - CCDC Business Case to the Lawn Tennis Association (Item 3.22 - 3.28).
 - Appendix 7 - Community use and Coaching by Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club (Item 3.29 - 3.30).

Report of:	Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles
Contact Officer:	Tom Walsh
Contact Number:	01543 464 482
Portfolio Leader:	Housing, Heritage, and Leisure
Report Track:	Health, Wellbeing, and The Community Scrutiny Committee: 19/12/22

Health, Wellbeing, and The Community Scrutiny Committee

19 December 2022

Call-In: Review of Tennis Provision - Cannock Chase Council

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide information to the Committee regarding the call-in request received in relation to the Cabinet decisions of 10 November 2022 in respect of the Review of Tennis Provision - Cannock Chase Council.
- 1.2 To provide detailed responses to those points raised by the elected members pursuant to this call in.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That Members consider the proposal put forward by Councillor Josh Newbury as set out in report paragraph 3.7, below and the Officers response from the Lawn Tennis Association and the Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club.

3 Call-In Details

- 3.1 Cabinet, at its meeting held on 10 November 2022, considered a report entitled 'Review of Tennis Provision - Cannock Chase Council'. The original Cabinet report is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 Cabinet resolved:
 - (A) The contents of the report be noted.
 - (B) Authority be delegated to the Parks and Open Spaces Manager to start the process of the bid application to the Lawn Tennis Association.

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- (C) The current arrangements between Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club and the Council, in the provision of coaching, be noted.
 - (D) The Council's use of the Lawn Tennis Association's ClubSpark booking platform be approved, including the installation of digital gates, allowing access to players at specific times following an online booking (should the Council's bid be successful).
 - (E) The policy change from free to chargeable tennis provision, in accordance with the Lawn Tennis Association's proposal, be approved (should the Council's bid be successful).
- 3.3 The relevant extract from the 10 November 2022 Cabinet minutes is attached at Appendix 2.
- 3.4 **Decision (E)**, 'The policy change from free to chargeable tennis provision, in accordance with the Lawn Tennis Association's proposal, be approved (should the Council's bid be successful)', **is the subject of this call-in.**
- 3.5 The request for the call-in was submitted by Councillor Josh Newbury, and supported by Councillors, Jo Elson, John Preece, Andrea Muckley and Tony Johnson. The call-in request is attached at Appendix 3.
- 3.6 The reasons given for the call-in are:
- "Whilst we very much support the prospect of much-needed investment in our tennis courts, we believe that a £7 per hour booking fee cannot be described as "nominal" and that in light of the ongoing cost of living crisis, it could present a barrier to many residents and their families accessing local exercise facilities and learning the sport of tennis.
 - We believe that any proposal which may exclude some residents from accessing sports facilities which they can access currently is a backwards step which does not promote 'health in all policies.'
 - We note that Staffordshire County Council charges a rate of £5.70 per hour, the West Walsall Academy charges £6 per hour whilst Cannon Hill Park in Birmingham and the tennis facilities in the Walsall Borough are free of charge; both of the latter authorities use the LTA ClubSpark system.
 - We feel that more could be done to explore sources of funding to keep tennis courts free, as other local authorities have done.
 - If this is not possible, we believe that further work needs to be done on protecting access for our most vulnerable residents, for example by guaranteeing free access for leisure centre concession holders or offering discounts to certain groups of residents in financial hardship.
 - We also ask that consideration be made for whether tennis equipment could be lent to residents, as would be possible at our leisure centres.

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- We appreciate reference to free sessions, but we believe a clear decision needs to be taken on a minimum number of these sessions across all sites during a calendar year to ensure residents who cannot afford a booking fee are able to access courts.
 - This will be particularly important should courts be handed over to private operators, as is mooted in the cabinet report.
- We would ask for more clarity around the statement regarding “frustrations” due to an inability to “guarantee access to courts.”
 - The cabinet report also states that this LTA initiative and the introduction of a booking fee "may" encourage others to take up exercise.
 - It is therefore confusing as the courts are clearly not underused at present, but we also wish to encourage more people to get active.
 - If we are seeking greater take-up, the report concedes that the proposals only "may" work and we believe that they could, in fact, limit the amount of people who are able to use the facilities.”

3.7 Councillor Newbury et al. is proposing that:

“We propose that this initiative be referred to full council so that a debate can be held on the specifics of the proposal outlined above, particularly:

- the policy change from free to chargeable service provision
- sources of funding to retain free provision, as is the case in neighbouring authorities
- discounts or exemptions for vulnerable residents and those in financial hardship
- setting a minimum number of free sessions held annually across all courts
- the objectives of this policy e.g., restricting access to paying residents or encouraging more residents to take up tennis.”

3.8 The procedure for debating a call-in request is attached at Appendix 4.

4 Implications

4.1 Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

The report to Cabinet on 10 November 2022 referred to the financial implications arising from Cabinet’s resolutions. Any changes to those resolutions resulting from the outcome of this call-in process will form part of further reports to Cabinet, if applicable.

4.2 Legal

The powers of the Scrutiny Committees are limited by the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) and the Council's Constitution. The Committee cannot substitute its own decision for that of the Cabinet as it has no power to make decisions on Executive functions.

In determining the call-in request, the Committee may:

- (a) reject the motion, or
- (b) refer the decision back to the Cabinet for reconsideration with a recommendation, or
- (c) Refer the matter to full Council with a recommendation for a decision.

The Cabinet must, if the Committee refers the matter back, reconsider the decision having regard to the Committee's recommendation, but is not bound by the recommendation proposed.

4.3 Human Resources

None.

4.4 Risk Management

None.

4.5 Equality & Diversity

None.

4.6 Climate Change

None.

5 Appendices to the Report

Appendix 1: Cabinet report (Review of Tennis Provision-Cannock Chase Council - 10 November 2022).

Appendix 2: Extract of 10 November 2022 Cabinet Minutes.

Appendix 3: Call-in Proposer and Supporters form.

Appendix 4: Procedure for considering a call-in request.

Appendix 5: Officers Response to Questions raised by Call-in members.

Appendix 6: CCDC Business Case to the LTA.

Appendix 7: Community use and Coaching by Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club.

Report of:	Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles
Contact Officer:	Tom Walsh
Contact Number:	01543 464 482
Portfolio Leader:	Housing, Heritage, and Leisure
Key Decision:	Yes
Report Track:	Cabinet: 10/11/22

Cabinet
10 November 2022
Review of Tennis Provision - Cannock Chase Council

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide details of the outcome of the negotiations with the English Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) relating to the provision of improved quality tennis facilities across the district.
- 1.2 To seek Members' approval to enter into a tripartite agreement between the LTA and their select list of specialist contractors. This means the Council will agree to make their tennis courts available to book online via the Clubspark System and use the LTA selected specialist contractors to refurbish its courts.
- 1.3 To agree the change in policy of offering district wide free tennis to a chargeable model.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That Cabinet:
- (i) Notes the contents of this report.
 - (ii) Delegates authority to the Parks and Open Spaces Manager to start the process of the bid application to the LTA.
 - (iii) Notes the current arrangements between Great Wyrley Community Tennis Club and the Council in the provision of coaching, as per the report.
 - (iv) Approves the Council's use of the LTA's ClubSpark booking platform, including the installation of digital gates, allowing access to players at

specific times following an online booking, should the Council's bid be successful.

- (v) Approves the policy change from free to chargeable tennis provision in accordance with the LTA's proposal, should the Council's bid be successful.

3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendations

Key Issues

- 3.1 In 2020, following a visit from the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to review the Council's tennis courts provision, the Council was encouraged to investigate the further potential of a partnership approach to allow for the refurbishment of its tennis courts across the district and bid for an LTA grant.
- 3.2 Following a string of national successes by British tennis players, the Government announced a package of funding (£22M), administered by the LTA, to further improve grass roots tennis courts.
- 3.3 The Council's historic coaching arrangements, with Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay Community Tennis Club, was also discussed with the LTA. The LTA recognised the excellent work that had been undertaken by the club, which in part led them onto scooping two national awards at Hednesford Park, from Tennis-for-Free (a tennis-based charity).
- 3.4 Since 2007 the Council has offered free tennis court use across the District, ironically, over the years this has caused some issues and frustrations for players who were not able to guarantee access to courts when they wished to play. The openness, ease of access, and lack of court security has also led to a number of incidents of anti-social behaviour across each of the sites.
- 3.5 Across the country the LTA are currently promoting to, local authorities, clubs, and other bodies / providers, the use of the ClubSpark system to improve grass-root take up of the sport.
- 3.6 Cannock Chase Council currently has 13 full size courts and 4 junior courts, at 4 locations across the district, Cannock Park (6), Hednesford Park (4 adult / 4 junior), Heath Hayes Park (2) and Ravenhill Park (1).
- 3.7 As part of the scheme proposal the LTA have agreed to fund a considerable proportion of the work and appoint specialist approved national contractors on behalf of the Councils, clubs, and other bodies, taking part.
- 3.8 The tennis courts at Heath Hayes Park are in a particularly poor condition, they are no longer considered to be fit for purpose by the LTA and will require significant funding to improve them.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.9 The Council's tennis courts are in need of significant investment. Partnering with the LTA on their ClubSpark programme is a way of achieving that with a minimum capital requirement from the Council, allowing capital funds to be spent elsewhere.

- 3.10 By introducing the ClubSpark system and electronic gating the Council will improve its tennis provision and accessibility for residents across the district.

4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities

4.1 This report supports the Council's Corporate Priorities as follows:

- (i) Health and Wellbeing - To encourage and support residents to lead healthy and independent lives.
 - a. The availability of high-quality tennis courts within our Parks may encourage more people to use the parks, helping them to improve their physical and mental health and well-being.
 - b. The offer of a family ticket will encourage the playing of tennis to a younger generation of players which is at the heart of the LTAs drive for the game.
- (ii) The Community - To ensure Cannock Chase is a place that residents are proud to call home.
 - a. It will help to maintain our local parks to a high standard.
- (iii) Responsible Council - To be a modern, forward thinking, and responsible Council.
 - a. Income from the charge for tennis court hire will be in-part reserved to fund future maintenance and refurbishment of the tennis courts, thus making the facilities more sustainable.

5 Report Detail

Background

- 5.1 In 2006 the Council as part of its Policy Options decided to offer free tennis in its parks. There were varying factors behind the decision but key to it was the requirement to have parks staff approach users and collect monies and issue tickets. As with all cash collection on site this was not without its challenges and reduced the amount of maintenance work on the sites where staff were required. As staff could not be there all the time, some users used this as an opportunity either by saying they had no money to pay, or they would leave before paying, staff also had no way of knowing when users arrived. There were also issues of storing cash on sites that had no safes. Subsequently, the income budget was removed in 2009.
- 5.2 The national ClubSpark concept offers users the opportunity to review availability at their preferred tennis venue and book a court online at their convenience. Payment for the court is made online and a code is sent to their smart phone, device, or PC. The electronic gates on the courts contain the necessary software to recognise the code from the smart phone / device and will allow access to the court for a set time. Once the court time has expired the gates will automatically lock as the players leave.

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- 5.3 The ClubSpark concept relies on offering users the opportunity to book a slot on the tennis courts at their convenience as the electronic system contains the necessary software to receive payment and issue a code to a smart phone, device, or PC to allow access at the electronic court gate.
- 5.4 The LTA are currently promoting to local authorities, clubs, and other bodies / providers, the use of the ClubSpark system to improve grass-root take up of the sport across the country.
- 5.5 The LTA see this as a step to encourage people to play tennis as there is a guaranteed court availability when they wish to play. It also means that tennis can be played up to the twilight hours in the summer, as opposed to the courts been locked at 7pm, when parks staff normally finish work. As the gates are self-locking there will be no free access, which should deter anti-social behaviour around them. Cannock Chase Council currently has 13 full size courts and 4 junior courts, at 4 locations across the district, Cannock Park (6), Hednesford Park (4 adult / 4 junior), Heath Hayes Park (2) and Ravenhill Park (1).
- 5.6 As part of the scheme proposal the LTA have agreed to fund a large proportion of the work and appoint specialist approved national contracts on behalf of the Councils, clubs and other bodies taking part.
- 5.7 Table 1. below, shows the works required, as identified with the LTA, their approximate cost, and whether the works are proposed to be funded by the LTA.

Existing Tennis facilities and works identified within Council-owned Parks (Table 1.).

Court/s Site	No. of Courts	Work required	Cost (£)	Funded by LTA (Y/N)
Cannock Park	6	Tree removal due to root damage	TBC	Y
		New Nets	TBC	Y
		Resurface 3 courts/Paint and clean	TBC	Y
		Install 2 Smart Access Lite Gates	£89,350	Y
Hednesford Park	4 Adult and 4 Junior Courts	Close off Junior courts with fencing	1,000	Y
		Install power 1 Smart access gate (lite)	£4,000	Y
		Resurface with binder and remark	£20,000	N
Heath Hayes Park	2 courts	New Built tarmac	TBC	Y
		New Fencing	TBC	Y
		Recoat surface and remark	TBC	Y

Court/s Site	No. of Courts	Work required	Cost (£)	Funded by LTA (Y/N)
		Install 1 Smart Access Lite Gates	£54,375	Y
Ravenhill Park	1 court	Clean and paint	£2,250	N
		Install 1 Smart Access gate/frame	£4,000	N
		Install Aco drain to solve water run off	£7,000	N
		Break out existing posts, refix and supply new net	£1,220	N

6 Review of the Existing Tennis Facilities

In 2019 the Playing Pitch Strategy acknowledged that the existing tennis facilities ranged from poor at Heath Hayes Park to good at Hednesford Park. This was later endorsed by the LTA technical director when he conducted his inspections in 2021. Overall, it is considered that the playing experience will be greatly improved by the Council undertaking the above works, in partnership with the LTA and by using the LTA approved contractor network.

Heath Hayes Park, one of the tennis court sites, will in general need further development as part of a longer-term master plan, but the proposed works should complement and in no way hinder that plan.

Analysis of Costs

- 6.1 The LTA will tender a full basket of works, including those in Cannock Chase, and the Council will be required to enter a contract to pay the LTA contractor the grant received by the Council from them. The Council will also need to enter an agreement with Clubspark to ensure the Council's courts are made available through the Rally system.
- 6.2 The LTA will be tendering works on a UK wide basis, covering 3-4 geographical regions, therefore ensuring best value is achieved.
- 6.3 Table 1 (above) only shows capital costs; however, it is recognised by the LTA that revenue will be required to maintain the tennis courts that they have invested in across the country. To that end, the LTA have asked to see a sinking fund established as part of the bidding process. This is to ensure that their investment into top quality facilities will be maintained. This is dealt with under financial implications but was also agreed, in principle, as part of the Playing Pitch Strategy adopted by Council in 2019.

7 Implications

7.1 Financial

Currently there is no capital budget set aside to undertake the improvements outlined in this report. If the Council is unable to take the opportunity to enter into

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the proposed agreement with the LTA, the courts will remain in their current condition unless an alternative source of funding is found.

- i) The Council will be required to pay the maintenance costs of the ClubSpark gates and software (£320 per gate or £1,920 per annum for all 6 gates). These costs are to maintain the software, transfer income to the Council and provide usage figures for the LTA and the Council. The Council will get a logon to the system operator who provide a breakdown of income at regular intervals. This analysis of usage will be used to target when free usage can be allowed, by opening gates remotely, during the free period.
- ii) The LTA suggest that a sum of £1,200 per annum per court is retained so that courts can be refurbished in the future.
- iii) This would require 143 bookings of pay and play (3 per week) at £7.00 per Hour and 4 family tickets (at £52 per annum) per court.
- iv) Given the penetration rates calculated by the LTA based on coaching stats, the predicted annual income will be in the region of £35,000. After taking into account free use slots at 2 of the sites and the sinking fund this offers a minimum of £12,000 worth of income from facilities where there is currently none.
- v) The LTA have advised that there a number of private tennis operators who would be interested in taking on these facilities. In this scenario the operators would guarantee the Council a set income/agreed free use but run the schemes for the Council in respect of tennis coaching and market the courts for the pay and play market. They do, however, retain all the income although the Council would still have a say in the amount of free use.
- vi) Currently the coaching at Hednesford Park and Cannock Park is provided by Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay Community Tennis Club, who will only charge a minimal amount for coaching after the Tennis for Free funding has expired. It is recommended to continue with this provider for two years and review the business model with external providers over that time frame.
- vii) The cost of adding surface binder and remarking the 4 courts at Hednesford Park can be met from existing budgets using the HLF Reserve which is entirely in keeping with the conditions of the HLF Grant. The works at Ravenhill Park can be paid for from the Sc106 (£21,000), received following the loss of tennis courts at the Lea Hall Social Club, Rugeley, post development of the site. The LTA advice to the Council's Planning Department, at the time of the above development, was that this Section 106 should be used to pump prime schemes across the entire district such as the one proposed within this report.
- viii) The LTA will provide £148,725 of funding as follows;

Cannock Park £89,350

Hednesford Park £5,000

Heath Hayes Park £54,375

CCDC will provide £35,470 from Sc106/HLF Grant to fund the remaining works at Hednesford and all the works at Ravenhill Park.

7.2 Legal

A standard contract will be provided by the LTA and CCDC will need to commit to this contract with the winning contractor for this region. The tennis court at Ravenhill Park was managed by Brereton and Ravenhill Parish Council, under a 5-year Heads of Terms. However, this expired in 2012 although the Parish Council maybe holding over on the Lease. The Parish Council are aware that the court needs upgrading as no work has been undertaken since the Council built the court in 2013. This court has also suffered from anti-social behaviour resulting from the court being left open.

7.3 Human Resources

The LTA will tender the work although there will still be a requirement to clerk the Contracts on the ground. The Parks and Open Spaces Section will undertake this from within existing resources.

7.4 Risk Management

As the LTA provide the funding up front there is limited risk to the Council. The issue of price changes because of national/international factors is covered in the main by the LTA.

7.5 Equality & Diversity

All new gates and court improvements will be DDA compliant.

7.6 Climate Change

There are no climate change implications in this report.

7 Appendices to the Report

None.

Previous Consideration

CCDC Playing Pitch Strategy 2019 - Knight Kavanagh & Page

Background Papers

None

Cannock Chase Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the
Cabinet

Held on Thursday 10 November 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

In the Esperance Room, Civic Centre, Cannock

Part 1

Present:

Councillors:

Lyons, O.	Leader of the Council
Jones, B.	Deputy Leader of the Council and Community Safety & Partnerships Portfolio Leader
Sutherland, M.	District and High Street Development Portfolio Leader
Johnson, J.P.	Environment and Climate Change Portfolio Leader
Jones, V.	Health, Wellbeing, and Community Engagement Portfolio Leader
Fitzgerald, A.A.	Housing, Heritage, and Leisure Portfolio Leader
Hughes, R.J.	Innovation and Resources Portfolio Leader

50. Apologies

None received.

51. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

No other Declarations of Interest were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests.

57. Review of Tennis Provision - Cannock Chase Council

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles (Item 8.1 - 8.7).

The Housing, Heritage, and Leisure Portfolio Leader advised that references in the report to 'Great Wryley and Cheslyn Hay Tennis Club' / 'Great Wyrley Community Tennis Club' should read 'Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Tennis Club'.

Resolved:

That:

- (A) The contents of the report be noted.
- (B) Authority be delegated to the Parks and Open Spaces Manager to start the process of the bid application to the Lawn Tennis Association.

- (C) The current arrangements between Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Tennis Club and the Council, in the provision of coaching, be noted.
- (D) The Council's use of the Lawn Tennis Association's ClubSpark booking platform be approved, including the installation of digital gates, allowing access to players at specific times following an online booking (should the Council's bid be successful).
- (E) The policy change from free to chargeable tennis provision, in accordance with the Lawn Tennis Association's proposal, be approved (should the Council's bid be successful).

Reasons for Decisions

The Council's tennis courts needed significant investment. Partnering with the Lawn Tennis Association on their ClubSpark programme was a way of achieving that with a minimum of capital requirement from the Council, allowing capital funds to be spent elsewhere. Introducing the ClubSpark system and electronic gating would improve the Council's tennis provision and accessibility for residents across the District.



Request for Call-in of a Decision of the Cabinet (Executive)

Date of Cabinet Meeting: **16/11/2022**

Minute Reference / Number: **57**

Subject: **Review of Tennis Provision – Cannock Chase Council**

Decision to be called-in: (please provide the wording of the decision you wish to call-in, as detailed in the relevant Cabinet minute):

Resolved:

That:

(A) The contents of the report be noted.

(B) Authority be delegated to the Parks and Open Spaces Manager to start the process of the bid application to the Lawn Tennis Association.

(C) The current arrangements between Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Tennis Club and the Council, in the provision of coaching, be noted.

(D) The Council's use of the Lawn Tennis Association's ClubSpark booking platform be approved, including the installation of digital gates, allowing access to players at specific times following an online booking (should the Council's bid be successful).

(E) The policy change from free to chargeable tennis provision, in accordance with the Lawn Tennis Association's proposal, be approved (should the Council's bid be successful).

Reasons for Decisions

The Council's tennis courts needed significant investment. Partnering with the Lawn Tennis Association on their ClubSpark programme was a way of achieving that with a minimum of capital requirement from the Council, allowing capital funds to be spent elsewhere. Introducing the ClubSpark system and electronic gating would improve the Council's tennis provision and accessibility for residents across the District.

Reason for Call-In (please explain):

- Whilst we very much support the prospect of much-needed investment in our tennis courts, we believe that a £7 per hour booking fee cannot be described as "nominal" and that in light of the ongoing cost of living crisis, it could present a barrier to many residents and their families accessing local exercise facilities and learning the sport of tennis.

- We believe that any proposal which may exclude some residents from accessing sports facilities which they can access currently is a backwards step which does not promote 'health in all policies'.
- We note that Staffordshire County Council charges a rate of £5.70 per hour, the West Walsall Academy charges £6 per hour whilst Cannon Hill Park in Birmingham and the tennis facilities in the Walsall Borough are free of charge; both of the latter authorities use the LTA ClubSpark system.
- We feel that more could be done to explore sources of funding to keep tennis courts free, as other local authorities have done.
 - If this is not possible, we believe that further work needs to be done on protecting access for our most vulnerable residents, for example by guaranteeing free access for leisure centre concession holders or offering discounts to certain groups of residents in financial hardship.
 - We also ask that consideration be made for whether tennis equipment could be lent to residents, as would be possible at our leisure centres.
- We appreciate reference to free sessions, but we believe a clear decision needs to be taken on a minimum number of these sessions across all sites during a calendar year to ensure residents who cannot afford a booking fee are able to access courts.
 - This will be particularly important should courts be handed over to private operators, as is mooted in the cabinet report.
- We would ask for more clarity around the statement regarding "frustrations" due to an inability to "guarantee access to courts".
 - The cabinet report also states that this LTA initiative and the introduction of a booking fee "may" encourage others to take up exercise.
 - It is therefore confusing as the courts are clearly not underused at present, but we also wish to encourage more people to get active.
 - If we are seeking greater take-up, the report concedes that the proposals only "may" work and we believe that they could, in fact, limit the amount of people who are able to use the facilities.

What are you proposing?

We propose that this initiative be referred to full council so that a debate can be held on the specifics of the proposal outlined above, particularly:

- the policy change from free to chargeable service provision
- sources of funding to retain free provision, as is the case in neighbouring authorities
- discounts or exemptions for vulnerable residents and those in financial hardship
- setting a minimum number of free sessions held annually across all courts

- the objectives of this policy e.g. restricting access to paying residents or encouraging more residents to take up tennis.

Please indicate below who should be invited to the Scrutiny Committee meeting?

Councillor(s)	Officer(s)	Representative from organisations / public
Andrea Muckley	Joss Presland	An LTA representative
Tony Johnson	Tom Walsh	
Adrienne Fitzgerald		

The request for call-in will only be valid if a total of 5 Members* have supported it, and it is returned to the Managing Director by no later than the deadline date on the published Cabinet Minutes.

**2 of whom must be Members of the relevant Scrutiny Committee, and none of whom may be Cabinet member.*

Request made and supported by:

Councillor	Signature	Date
Josh Newbury (Proposer)	Confirmed via email	23/11/2022
Jo Elson	Confirmed via email	23/11/2022
John Preece	Confirmed via email	23/11/2022
Andrea Muckley	Confirmed via email	23/11/2022
Tony Johnson	Confirmed via email	23/11/2022

Procedure for Debating Call-in of Cabinet Decisions at Meetings of the Scrutiny Committees

Notes:

Prior to members of the Committee debating the call-in, other Members of the Council present and other invited persons who are not members of the Scrutiny Committee will be requested to sit in the public gallery.

The relevant Cabinet Member may remain in the chamber and answer questions put through the Chairman. The Cabinet Member may speak at any time if invited by the Chairman. The Chairman will invite the Cabinet Member to exercise a right of reply at the end of the debate before the Proposer of the motion exercises their right of reply.

A Scrutiny Committee may exercise their statutory powers to invite such persons and request such information as they consider necessary to facilitate their examination of the matter and then adjourn the meeting if necessary to facilitate this.

Members of the Scrutiny Committee should be present for all of the debate prior to them exercising their vote to ensure that the Committee makes an informed decision based on the evidence presented.

Procedure

1. The Proposer (who must be one of the members of the Scrutiny Committee requesting the call-in) shall read their motion, formally propose the motion and give reasons for the call-in.
2. If none of the members of the Scrutiny Committee who requested the call-in are present, the Chairman shall ask if any other member of the Scrutiny Committee will propose the motion. If no member proposes the motion the call-in will be deemed to have been withdrawn.
3. Once the motion has been seconded, the Chairman shall allow those others of the five members who requested the call-in and who are present to speak before any debate.
4. During the course of the debate members of the Committee may propose minor amendments to the motion with the consent of the Proposer (or the stand-in Proposer).
5. The Committee may:
 - (a) reject the motion, or
 - (b) refer the decision back to Cabinet for reconsideration with a recommendation.
 - (c) refer the matter to full Council with a recommendation for a decision.
6. A formal written decision will be made on the call-in within ten days of the Scrutiny Committee first meeting.

5 Officers Response to the reasons for call in are positioned below the reason for the call in which is shown in bold.

5.1 Whilst we very much support the prospect of much-needed investment in our tennis courts, we believe that a £7 per hour booking fee cannot be described as “nominal” and that in light of the ongoing cost of living crisis, it could present a barrier to many residents and their families accessing local exercise facilities and learning the sport of tennis

- The Council stopped charging for tennis in 2006-7 and the last charge agreed by the Council was £7 per session per court (typically 45 minutes). The income as alluded to in the report, created difficulties in collecting all the fees achievable as staff were not specifically employed to just collect fees. The fee of £7 is therefore based on the previous figure and the potential generation of income based on the penetration rates calculated by the LTA and allowing for 15% free use -see Appendix 6.

5.2 We believe that any proposal which may exclude some residents from accessing sports facilities which they can access currently is a backwards step which does not promote ‘health in all policies.’

- As with all leisure provision it must be based on known demand and the report makes the point that the data that the Council will receive from Clubspark will allow the Council to assess the supply and demand of its services. We do not know that this change in policy will act as a barrier. Research from the LTA on 4 pilot schemes with similar indices of multiple deprivation as CCDC have suggested that this is not the case and does increase access by targeting free session times.

5.3 We note that Staffordshire County Council charges a rate of £5.70 per hour, the West Walsall Academy charges £6 per hour whilst Cannon Hill Park in Birmingham and the tennis facilities in the Walsall Borough are free of charge; both of the latter authorities use the LTA ClubSpark system.

- Staffordshire County Council do not provide any tennis courts. The West Walsall Academy does charge £6 per hr for daytime use (£9 per hour for floodlit courts), but this is not available as walk in and play nor a booking system like club spark. Enquiries to them have confirmed that you need to be part of a club (Reedswood). Cannon Hill Park and Walsall do use Clubspark but this is only to manage the bookings-there is no requirement to establish a sinking fund with these older schemes. It maybe that these two authorities can budget for refurbishment of the courts using their own capital.

5.4 We feel that more could be done to explore sources of funding to keep tennis courts free, as other local authorities have done.

- If this is not possible, we believe that further work needs to be done on protecting access for our most vulnerable residents, for example by guaranteeing free access for leisure centre concession holders or offering discounts to certain groups of residents in financial hardship.

- **We also ask that consideration be made for whether tennis equipment could be lent to residents, as would be possible at our leisure centres.**
- As discussed above the schemes that are not charging for the tennis play do not have the LTA requirement to establish a sinking fund of £1,200 per year and such schemes would not now gain approval under the LTA Clubspark scheme. To mix the concessions with the wider IHL concessions would be difficult as this is not part of the IHL Contract and even if it were, there is no guarantee that tennis players are members of the other IHL services/offer. The Council already allow free access to coaching, via its partnership with Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club formed in 2013, whose aim is to 'open up' tennis to all ages and abilities by providing accessible, quality, and inclusive tennis opportunities.
- The group has had a significant impact on health and social inclusion with many users from challenged backgrounds. The group has successfully collaborated with the Council and Friends groups at Cannock Park and Hednesford Park to provide Tennis for Free sessions, Disability Tennis, LTA Serves and Chase It programmes with all equipment provided. This has totalled well over 1,100 hours of free coaching/tennis development since 2015.
- The Community group are passionate about developing the tennis offer further in the area by providing more tennis sessions and events in addition to supporting the Council with Tennis. An event organised this year at Hednesford Park saw 2 British professional tennis players providing coaching at Hednesford Park to inspire local players.
- They are a local Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) group and want to develop tennis to benefit the local community :
 - They understand the Cannock Chase local area and community of all ages and abilities.
 - With local coaches from the area, they work with young coaches from the area who have played tennis in the parks/schools and support them to coach with appropriate qualifications and training.
 - Happy to provide support to the Council on any tennis matters.
 - Successful at linking with LTA, Tennis for free charity, Bright Ideas for Tennis and disability.
 - Support friends of parks groups
 - Develop ideas for community: Special events, Community Mix ins, LTA Youth Tennis, Cardio Tennis, expansion of disability tennis, Adult Tennis Parks Singles Tennis Leagues.
 - A breakdown of their free coaching is provided in Appendix 7.

5.5 We appreciate reference to free sessions, but we believe a clear decision needs to be taken on a minimum number of these sessions across all sites during a calendar year to ensure residents who cannot afford a booking fee are able to access courts.

- **This will be particularly important should courts be handed over to private operators, as is mooted in the cabinet report.**
- These are not mutually exclusive items that can be linked together. As referred to in 5.4 the Council already provides significant free use through its coaching partner and is looking to identify periods of under usage to include as free to -play tennis slots that can be booked. These will simply be shown as free in the Clubspark dairy. Regardless of who manages the coaching/tennis courts going forward these free tennis slots are still going to be provided. The business case put forward to the LTA is recommending that CCDC retain **15%** of its total potential court use which equates to 6896 hours per annum (See Appendix 6).

5.6 We would ask for more clarity around the statement regarding “frustrations” due to an inability to “guarantee access to courts.”

- **The cabinet report also states that this LTA initiative and the introduction of a booking fee "may" encourage others to take up exercise.**
- **It is therefore confusing as the courts are clearly not underused at present, but we also wish to encourage more people to get active.**
- **If we are seeking greater take-up, the report concedes that the proposals only "may" work and we believe that they could, in fact, limit the amount of people who are able to use the facilities.”**
- The frustrations around the access to courts is in relation to courts that are locked when staff leave the site. So at Cannock and Hednesford these are closed between 7pm and 9 am in the summer when they could be playable until dusk. The loss of hours is not so great in the winter as none of the courts are floodlit. Members of the public turning up after 7pm in the summer cannot therefore access the courts. At Ravenhill Park, the Tennis Court are opened and closed by the Parish Council and will depend on when their caretaker is available. This proposal removes the need for the caretaker to be available. The courts at Heath Hayes Park are not available as they are not fit for purpose and this proposal make the two new courts available at all times.
- The issue of uptake is therefore dependent on whether people who are time poor will go out and play on a quality facility at a time of their choice if they can guarantee that the courts will be available. There is clear evidence of people turning up to play tennis and not been able to get on a court due to them been full and them not having time to wait. Clearly in these cases the uptake will be greater.

5.7 Councillor Newbury et al. is proposing that:

“We propose that this initiative be referred to full council so that a debate can be held on the specifics of the proposal outlined above, particularly:

- **the policy change from free to chargeable service provision**

- **sources of funding to retain free provision, as is the case in neighbouring authorities**
 - **discounts or exemptions for vulnerable residents and those in financial hardship**
 - **setting a minimum number of free sessions held annually across all courts**
 - **the objectives of this policy e.g., restricting access to paying residents or encouraging more residents to take up tennis.”**
- The report makes the point that this scheme will allow Council Capital Funding to be used elsewhere whereas to not proceed with the scheme will see the courts deteriorate and the courts at Heath Hayes Park not rebuilt. Whilst the potential income after expenses is not significant the fact that some of it, is reserved i.e., a sinking fund to refurbish the courts ensures superior quality tennis court provision into the future. As already indicated in para 5.3 above the LTA will not fund the provision of improvements for schemes with no sinking funds. In the case of neighbouring authorities these Council's are not using the Clubspark scheme in this way and therefore have to pay for the court refurbishments from their own funds. The report also highlights the need for solid data on the users of its facilities where at present we have none, therefore it is proposing to establish free tennis sessions across all its courts based on a 15% allowance for free use (this equates to 6825 Hours per annum). At present this is not possible at Heath Hayes Park (condition of courts) or Ravenhill Park (limited access). From the foregoing it can be seen that the overall improvements in the Council's facilities will benefit from the investment of £148,725 from the LTA. The Council will also be getting competitive prices for the work it intends to procure at Ravenhill Park and Hednesford Park meaning that at the end of the project the Council will have 13 top quality courts. The issue of free use will need to be considered across the sites as free use at single sided courts will need to be less than at multi-sided venues so the mix of pay and play and free use is balanced.

CCDC Business Case to the LTA

Local Authority Details			
Local Authority Name	Cannock Chase Council		
LA Lead Contact	Tom Walsh		
LA Lead Contact details	Email:	tomwalsh@cannockchasedc.gov.uk	Tel: 01543 464482
LA Lead Contact Address	Cannock Chase Council, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG		
LTA Lead Contact	Van Willerton (Participation Development Partner)		
Desired Installation time	December 2022		

Project Overview

Please give us an insight into the venue and why you feel it would benefit from a gate access installation. If there are capital expenditure projects planned, please give us this detail.

Cannock Chase District Council (CCDC), their local tennis coaching operator (Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club) and the LTA have forged an active partnership, in the pursuit of opening tennis up across the District.

The Partnership aims to, **“Open up tennis within the community through affordable, inclusive and quality experiences all year-round.”** The groups current objectives are to maintain and refurbish the Council owned courts and to make them self-sustaining, as well as supporting local partners in education/ community partnerships. Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club delivery has centred around Hednesford Park since 2015, and more recently in Cannock Park in 2019. This has been driven by the energy and enthusiasm of Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club (CTC). This community organisation was formed in 2013 and were originally based at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre (outside of CCDC) and have now expanded the programme to include **Hednesford** Park and Cannock Park. The Community Tennis Club were **awarded** ‘LTA Community & Parks Venue of the Year’ in 2020 for Hednesford Park and has over 2250 unique tennis participants accessing it is three venues. The programme doubled in a short space of time. In 2016 Hednesford Park was named Tennis For Free’s (TFF) site of the year, having had the largest number of unique users in the Country (circa 1000). The site at Hednesford Park is unique in that it has created mini tennis courts not only for offering junior tennis coaching and development but also offering a family orientated coaching scheme.

- <https://www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/council/news/articles/tennis-partner-scoops-communities-and-parks-award>
- <https://www.lta.org.uk/about-us/tennis-news/news-and-opinion/general-news/2020/july/lta-tennis-awards/cheslyn-hay-tennis-win-communities-and-parks-award-at-lta-tennis-awards/>

Etching Hill TC is now the only Club located within the District, which has a small membership of 35 members. A new coach is developing the modest programme and introducing ClubSpark, as well as considering the benefits of introducing gate access systems. CCDC has an unusually small number of club members residing in the District (136 taken from LTA mapping report).

The loss of four courts at Lea Hall Tennis Club (based at a Miners Welfare and Social Club) in Feb 2021, approved by CCDC, Sport England and the LTA has highlighted the lack of provision in the District. The courts fell into disrepair, with 14 members being displaced and some have been accommodated by CCDC at Hednesford Park. It is proposed that the sale of the site will support the rest of the Miners Welfare Club facilities remain available for their community.

The Sc 106 funding to mitigate the loss of courts is to be used as partnership funding to contribute to this Parks tennis application (circa £19K).

Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase CTCs intention is to fully utilise the range of modules on Club Spark and plans to capture new interest in tennis. CCDC intend to launch pay and play initiatives and sign up to LTA Rally System. CCDC in partnership with the CTC forecasts continual growth in pay & play users and converting them to new season ticket holders, which has been modelled using the LTAs feasibility tool.

Both CCDC and the CTC have really engaged with the LTA since embracing the idea of opening tennis up and modernising tennis provision. The Partnership are keen to develop Gate Access technology and see this as their next step to securing income and preserving the long-term tennis offer. This technology will support the Partnership to better manage pay and play gate access, which has proved challenging for CCDC during times of fiscal austerity.

Project

2022-23 proposes upgrading court surfaces and gate access systems at:

1. Cannock Park (extremely poor condition)
 2. Hednesford Park (poor to average condition)
 3. Ravenhill Park (poor to average condition)
- Court upgrading forecast: £128,820 (£94,350 paid by LTA Grant).
4. Heath Hayes Park (extremely poor condition).
- Total Court refurbishment forecast: £54,375

Venue Penetration, Demand

Venue 1	
Name and postcode	Cannock Park (WS11 4AL)
Deprivation index	5
Penetration	1337
Ranking No.	
Demand	
National Rank for 4 or more	
Number of Gates Required	2 Smart Access Premium
No. of courts gate(s) will grant access to	6 (2 blocks of 3 courts)
Court hours made available per week.	21,000
Renovation Forecast	£89,350
<p>Background: Most of CCDCs concentration of poorest quality courts are located here, which need significant investment. The park is a strategically important venue for developing tennis. It is a TFF venue that re-launched on 9th May 2021 (circa 250 unique TFF players). Located near the town centre, it is a destination park with an 18-hole golf course, offers football pitches and pavilion, children's play area, skateboarding facilities, formal landscaped gardens, as well as the tennis courts with adjacent parking.</p>	

Venue 2	
Name and postcode	Hednesford Park (WS12 1BT)
Deprivation index	6
Penetration	1416
Ranking No.	
Demand	
National Rank for 4 or more	
Number of Gates Required	x1 Smart Access Premium
No. of courts gate(s) will grant access to	4 (free access to 4 mini courts will be retained)
Court hours made available per week	14,000
Renovation Forecast	£25,000
<p>Background: Has the largest concentration of tennis users in the District with approaching circa 2000 unique users, it is one of the TFF largest programmes, so much so that it was awarded TFF site of the Year in 2016, having reached 1000 unique users. The programme has doubled since then. The courts are in poor to average condition and are based in a destination park in the town centre. The park was upgraded significantly between 2014 and 2019 by £2.2 million of National Heritage Lottery Heritage funding and other partnership funding. This refurbishment will be funded by the Council except for the gate and fencing which will be funded by the LTA £5,000.</p>	

Venue 3	
Name and postcode	Ravenhill Park (WS15 1DX)
Deprivation index	6
Penetration	605
Ranking No.	
Demand	
National Rank for 4 or more	
Number of Gates Required	x1 Smart Access Premium
No. of courts gate(s) will grant access to	1
Court hours made available per week?	3,500
Renovation Forecast	£14,470
<p>Background: A popular park, 1.5 miles outside of Rugeley Town Centre, with play area and a large, refurbished paddling pool, as well as a community centre run by the local parish council. This is the closest tennis venue to Lea Hall TC and so elements of the Sc 106 funding to mitigate the loss of courts will be directed at this venue and Hednesford Park where the displaced tennis players are being accommodated.</p>	

Venue 4	
Name and postcode	Heath Hayes Park (WS12 0RT)
Deprivation index	6
Penetration	1703
Ranking No.	
Demand	
National Rank for 4 or more	
Number of Gates Required	x1 Smart Access premium
No. of courts gate(s) will grant access to	2
Court hours made available per week?	7,000
Renovation Forecast	£54,375
<p>Background: This is an informal park with many natural areas. There is a children's play area, two football pitches, changing accommodation and a stoned car park, as well as the MUGA (formerly two tennis courts). The courts have fallen into disrepair and need totally rebuilding.</p>	

Operational Model

Please give us an indication of what operational model will be employed and how gate access will support this. Please include proposed charging levels etc if known.

The partnership is convinced of the benefits that gate access systems bring. This will allow CCDC to enable residents to find, book a court and pay online through LTA Rally and ClubSpark. It will enable a clear customer journey for parks tennis across the District and secure income to sustain tennis for the long term. Introducing these systems will make the courts attractive to a potential operator to run and manage a coaching programme,

CCDCs operated courts are currently free of charge. CCDC have agreed to introduce a 'pay & play' model to secure the long-term future of the courts, using LTA Rally, Gate Access technology and ClubSpark to manage the process. This process will still allow for the continued free use of the courts at certain times of the day (15% of daily court time will be free for public use) - but the LTA Rally system will allow the tennis courts to be used later into the evening than currently happens as the courts are locked when the parks staff finish work.

CCDC are reviewing different management models, like a coach provider management model for the parks programme. Here the coaching team manage bookings, season tickets and run the coaching programme. This scenario could include the coaching provider leasing the courts to pay the sinking fund and keeping the generated income. However, until the project is completed and CCDC can assess these options it is proposed that CCDC run the courts and retain generated income from pay & play and season tickets.

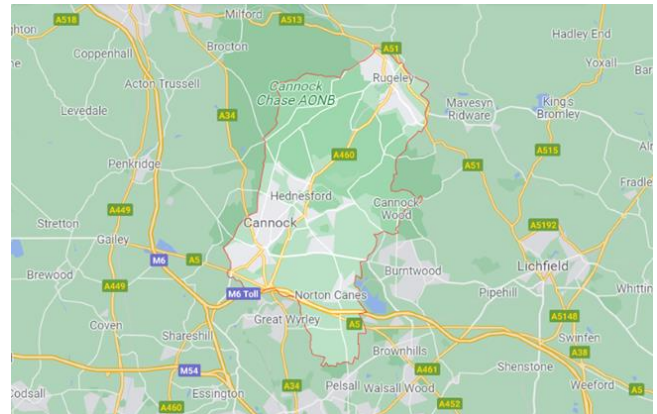
An appointed operator could work with CCDC and the LTA Midlands Team to ensure that a comprehensive inclusive programme is delivered that includes an LTA Youth and adult programme, an LTA Serves programme, Local Tennis Leagues along with the current commitment to TFF to ensure that the site is truly affordable and accessible to the local community.

CCDC have agreed 'in principle' to a £52 a year annual pass, making tennis accessible to households for £1 a week. A 'pay and play' charge has been modelled at a charge of £7 an hour, which is the same as the previous fee when the Council charged for tennis court hire in 2006-7.

Pricing modelling is based on the LTA Feasibility Tool, which shows that there is a potential plausible court booking income of £60,532 (total court hours available 38,544 Hours, of which 5,782 [15%] are dedicated to free use). With the complete refurbishment of Heath Hayes Park there is a potential plausible court booking income of £82,602 (total courts available 45,970 hours, of which 6,896 [15%] are dedicated to free use). After the provision of sinking fund, Club Spark Fees, Gate Access and code lock generator maintenance contract the net profit will be circa £23,000.

Population, Demographics & Surrounding Tennis Facilities

Cannock Chase is situated in central/southern Staffordshire and contains urban settlements and small villages set within highly attractive countryside. It falls within the LTA County of Tennis Staffordshire, and the West Midlands sub-region. It borders the Staffordshire districts of Stafford, East Stafford, Lichfield, as well as Walsall, a vast metropolitan Borough in the Black Country.



Cannock Chase is resident to 99,126 people (2017) and is *estimated to grow to 100,000 over the next 10 years*.

The District is comprised of densely populated urban areas, which includes the towns of Cannock, Rugeley and Hednesford as well as covering a large part of the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Chase is known for its rolling hills and miles of quiet woodland routes. The idyllic setting, laden with walks, cycle tracks, and the former Royal forest make it a popular place to visit and so tourism flourishes.

The District is characterised as having three distinct economic sub-areas: 1) Cannock, Hednesford and Heath Hayes; 2) Rugeley in the north of the District; and 3) Norton Canes in the south-east. Most of the economic activity takes place in the Cannock, Hednesford and Heath Hayes, which benefits from excellent transport connectivity with the M6 Toll. The District is accessible and has helped to stimulate considerable economic growth in recent years.

Cannock Chase Tennis Provision

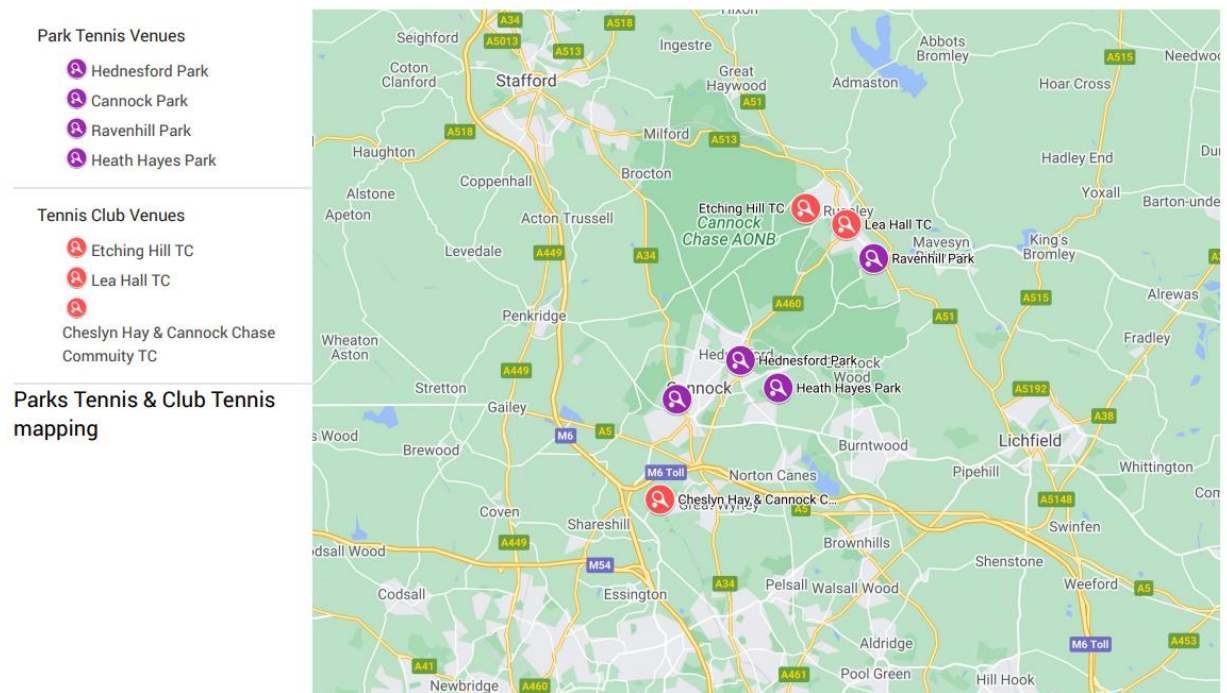
Across the District there are a total of 33 tennis courts located across nine sites. 20 or 60% are considered available for community use (this figure accounts for the recent loss of four courts at Lea Hall Tennis Club). The remaining courts are private/school owned and are therefore unavailable for community use.

CCDC own and operate a total of 17 courts across the District at the following four sites (where 4 of these are specific mini courts at Hednesford Park). Of the 17 courts 8 are in poor or extremely poor condition.

CCDC's commissioned Playing Pitch Strategy in 2018 recognised that there is a potential to lose further tennis courts across the District as has happened with Lea Hall. This and the closure of the courts at Rugeley Power Station has increased the latent demand for CCDC tennis courts, with Cannock Park being mentioned specifically as being a strategically important venue. Investment is required, in the fabric, as well as new operating systems to enable income generation that will prolong the life of the courts for the long term and make tennis sustainable.

Cannock Chase Tennis Venues

Penetration of parks venues is over 5,000.



1. Cannock Park (6 courts) – 3 poor, 3 extremely poor condition
2. Hednesford Park (4 courts + 4 mini courts) – poor to average condition
3. Ravenhill Park (1 court) – poor to average condition
4. Heath Hayes Park (2 courts) - 2 extremely poor condition

There is one only tennis club based in the CCDC area:

- Etching Hill TC (3 floodlit courts) Low and aging membership and ongoing discussions around the lease.

NB: Lea Hall TC (4 tennis courts lost to housing development in 2021)

NB Outside of District - Cheslyn Hay TC (6 floodlit - in South Staffordshire Council.

Free Coaching Sessions provided by Cheslyn Hay and Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club

Tennis for Free at Hednesford Park in 2021 reached 10,000 recorded bookings recorded and over 2000 unique participants have been engaged.

Sunday Tennis for Free Participants since 2019 (Cannock)													
	Junior 5&U		Junior 6-8		Junior 9-15		Adult 16-24		Adult 25-49		Adult 50+		
Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Admin
2006	37	26	102	91	268	176	195	124	355	408	129	85	10

Sunday Tennis for Free Total Attendance since 2015 (Hednesford)															
	Junior 5&U		Junior 6-8		Junior 9-15		Adult 16-24		Adult 25-49		Adult 50+				
Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Admin	No. Events	Av. per Event
10618	67	167	381	232	1532	490	1410	352	1665	1402	1418	659	843	253	42

In addition, Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase run free junior disability Tennis sessions on Sunday 11:10-12:10pm at Hednesford Park. There have been over 30 participants in the scheme and have had fantastic engagement and uptake.

Tennis for free and Cheslyn Hay & Cannock Chase Community Tennis Club have funded free coaching and equipment with Cannock Chase Council provided for Tennis for Free. It has been a great to support to new participants who may not have any tennis equipment.

Alongside providing affordable community sessions and coaching (all ages) for those who need someone to play with / develop competence/confidence in playing so can play recreationally at the park.

2015-2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2hrs of free coaching per week with 3 coaches x 50 weeks mini tennis, juniors, and adults @ Hednesford only – <p>100 hrs per year/ 300 coaching hours per year</p>
2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.5hrs of free coaching per week with 3 coaches mini tennis, juniors and adults @ Hednesford x 50 weeks – 100hrs • 1.5hrs of free coaching per week with 3 coaches mini tennis, juniors and adults @ Cannock x 25 weeks – 50hrs <p>150hrs overall / 450 coaching hours</p>
2020 (Covid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1hr of free coaching per week @ Hednesford x 20 weeks – 20hrs • 1hr of free coaching per week @ Hednesford x 15 weeks – 15hrs • Special 100hrs of free individual coaching provided by community group – replacement for TFF – 100hrs <p>(Note: 12yrs+ only in 2020 and 1 hour due to agreement with Tennis for free)</p> <p>155hrs overall / 155 coaching hours</p>
2021 (Covid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1hr of free coaching per week @ Hednesford x 30 weeks – 30hrs • 1hr of free coaching per week @ Cannock x 25 weeks – 25hrs <p>(Note: 12yrs+ only in 2021 and 1 hour due to agreement with Tennis for free)</p> <p>55hrs overall / 55 coaching hours</p>
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1hr of free coaching per week with 3 coaches –mini tennis, juniors and adults @ Hednesford x 30 weeks – 30hrs • 1hr of free disability Junior Tennis with 2 coaches @ Hednesford x 25 weeks – 25hrs <p>55hrs hrs overall / 140hrs coaching hours</p>