

# MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STUDY: ASSESSMENT REPORT

## PART 17: HOCKEY

### Introduction

17.1 There are currently only one hockey team that plays competitive matches in Malvern Hills District. Malvern Hockey Club plays its matches on the STP at Malvern College on Saturday afternoons. Tenbury Hockey Club plays its competitive matches at an STP in Leominster.

### Current hockey provision in Malvern Hills District

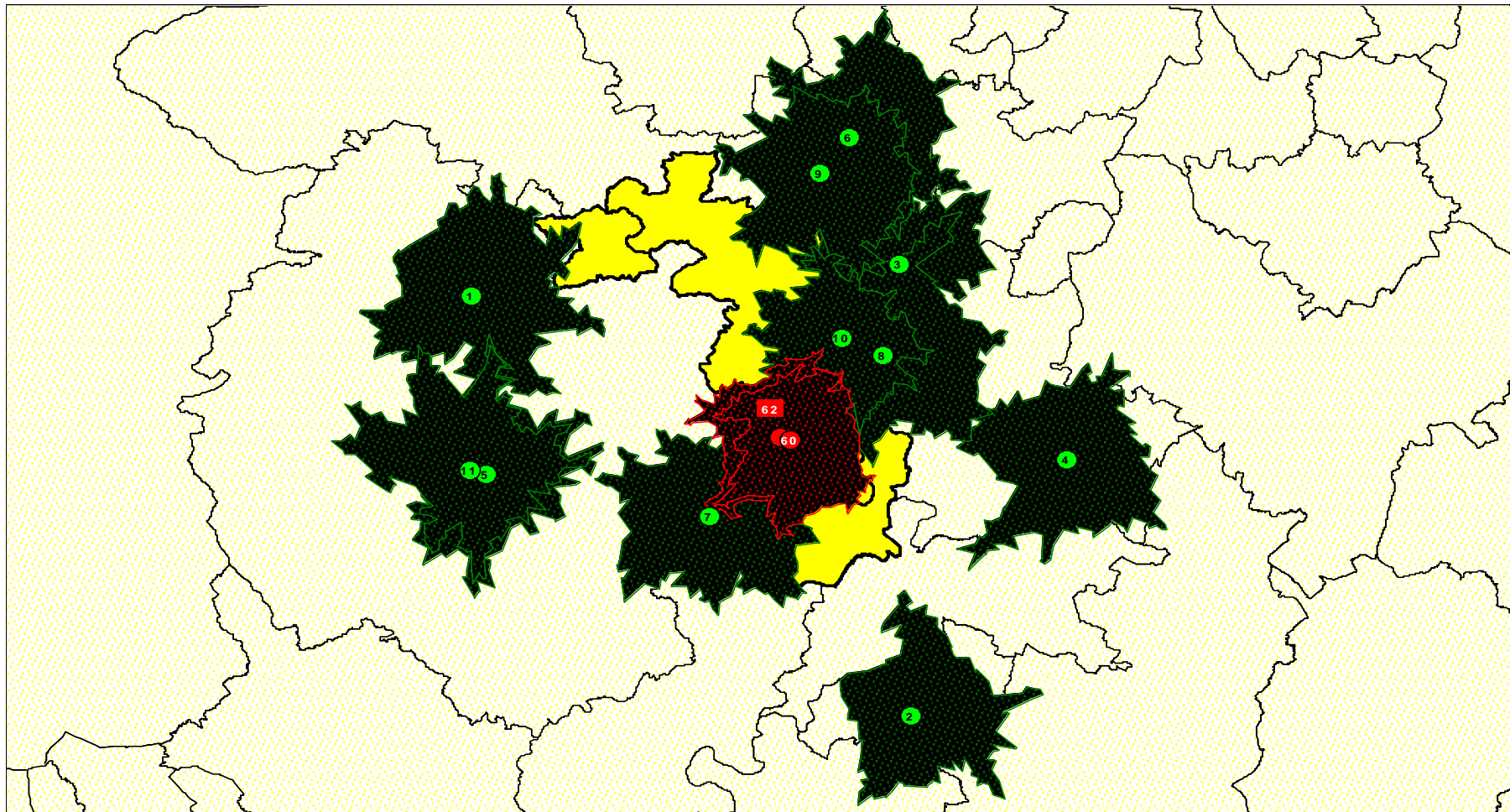
*Table 17.1: Provision of STPs across Malvern District and neighbouring authorities (see next page)*

ID	Facility name	County/Local authority	Type
62	Malvern College	Malvern Hills District Council	Sand
60	The Chase High School	Malvern Hills District Council	Sand
1	Bridge Street Sports Centre	Herefordshire Council	Sand
2	Brockworth Sports Centre	Tewkesbury Borough Council	Sand (upgrade planned)
3	Droitwich Sports & Leisure Centre	Wychavon District Council	Sand
4	Evesham High School	Wychavon District Council	Sand
5	Hereford Leisure Centre	Herefordshire Council	Sand
6	King Charles High School Sports Centre	Worcester City Council	Sand
7	Ledbury Leisure Centre	Herefordshire Council	Sand
8	Nunnery Wood Sports Complex	Worcester City Council	Sand
9	Stourport High School Club	Wyre Forest District Council	Sand x 2
10	University of Worcester Sports Centre	Worcester City Council	Sand
11	Whitecross High Sports Centre	Herefordshire Council	Sand



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Figure 17.1: Location of STP hockey sites with 15 minute drive times



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## Key issues for hockey

### *Tenbury Hockey Club*

17.2 Tenbury Hockey Club is part of the Penlu Sports Association, which includes other sports clubs in Tenbury. It is recognised as one of the strongest hockey clubs in the County and competes in the Worcestershire League Division I. It currently plays its matches in Leominster, which is located in Herefordshire. This is due to the absence of a STP in the north of the District. It presents a number of issues affecting the development of the Club:

- Junior development is stagnating due to the distances necessary to travel for training and matches. This places a reliance on parents and volunteers which is unsustainable. The Club has one junior team at U16 level and relies on a small core group of volunteers to facilitate training sessions and matches.
- The Club can only hire the facility at Leominster on Thursday evenings from 7pm until 9pm. Junior sessions are therefore held in the first hour and seniors from 8pm to 9pm. At other times the facility is hired out to football clubs for training. This restricts the number of juniors able to attend training sessions.
- The Club finished runners up in the Worcestershire Division I last season. The next step for the Club is to compete in the Midlands Conference League and League rules require the Club to play its matches in Worcestershire.

### *Malvern Hockey Club*

17.3 Malvern Hockey Club has a ladies team that plays in the Worcestershire League. It currently plays its matches at the STP at Malvern College and uses the facility for matches. This is a private agreement.

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## Hockey summary and recommended actions

<p><b>Hockey summary</b></p> <p><b>Current provision</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ There are two STPs and one hockey club in Malvern Hills District..</li> </ul> <p><b>Future provision</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Although there is limited demand for an additional STP in Malvern Hills District, Tenbury Hockey Club requires access to a STP facility within the District to enable it to progress.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other issues</b></p> <p>See below.</p>
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Table 17.2: Summary of key issues and recommendations

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Tenbury Hockey Club	Access to adequate facility to ensure continued progression is not hindered.	A dedicated STP in Tenbury Wells is difficult to justify based on current levels of demand from Tenbury Hockey Club. However, access to a STP facility in Worcestershire is necessary for the Club to progress to higher levels of competition. Tenbury Wells falls just outside the drive time catchment area for Bridge Street Sports Centre. Therefore, consideration should be given to assessing the demand across all sports in Tenbury for an STP with a view to assessing the feasibility for a new facility.
Malvern Hockey Club	Strong, Malvern based hockey club.	Work with Malvern Hockey Club to increase its capacity, in terms of volunteers and coaches, so it can accommodate more teams.