

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

PART 21: ATHLETICS

Current athletics provision in Malvern Hills

21.1 There are no formal athletics facilities in Malvern Hills District. The SSP and MHDC acknowledge that this significantly limits what can be offered, both in schools and through clubs.

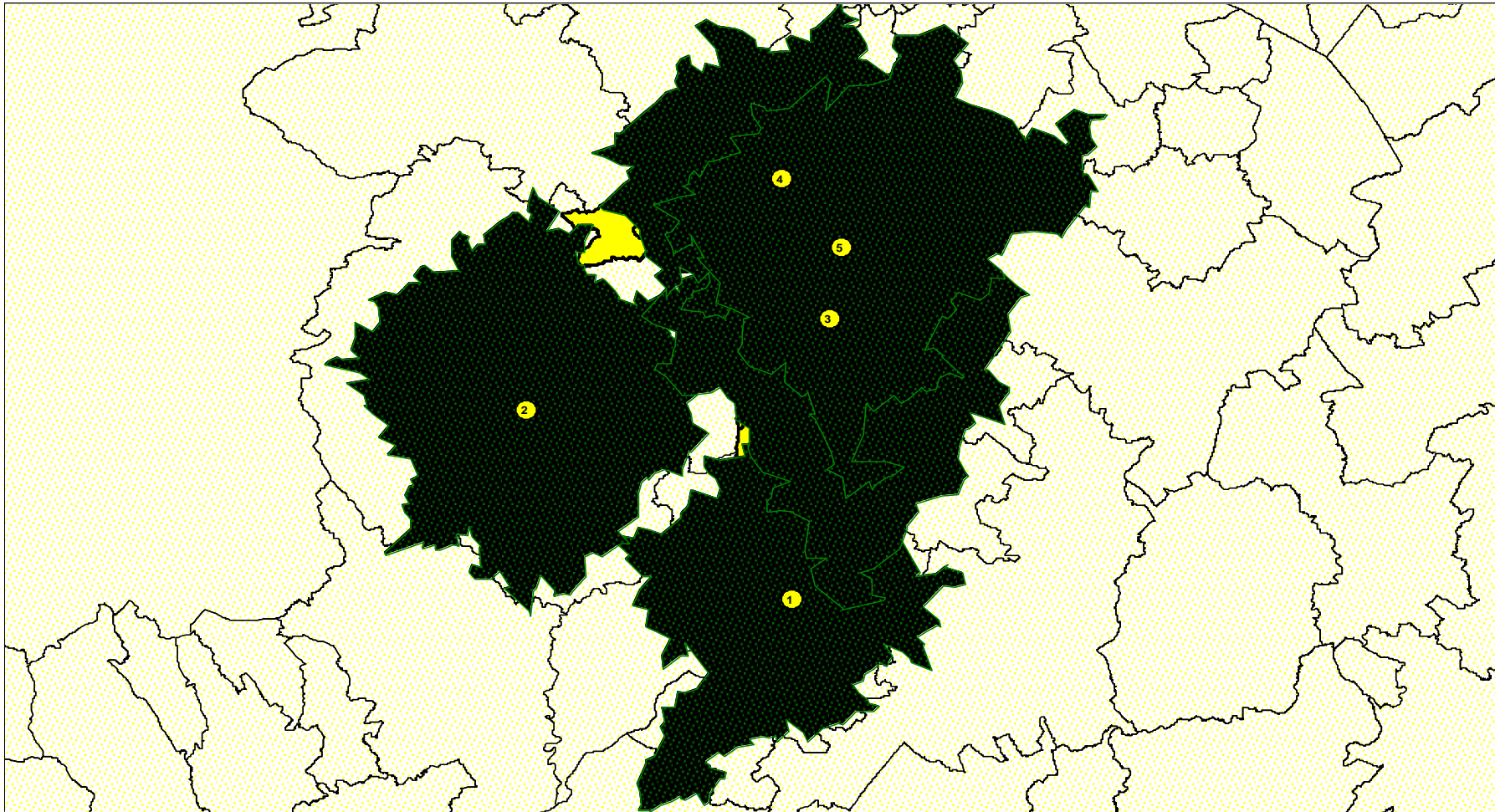
Table 21.1: Location of athletics tracks (see next page)

ID	Facility name	Local authority area
1	Blackbridge Athletics Track	Gloucester City Council
2	Hereford Leisure Centre	Herefordshire Council
3	Nunnery Wood Sports Complex	Worcester City Council
4	Stourport High School Club	Wyre Forest District Council
5	Droitwich High School	Wychavon District Council



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Figure 21.1: Location of athletics facilities with 30 minutes drive time catchment



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Key issues for athletics

- 21.2 The athletics facilities at school sites are generally poor quality. For example, at Dyson Perrins High School none of the facilities are used due to poor location and for health and safety reasons. MHDC has identified the absence of athletics facilities in the District as an issue in delivering the sport as a CSP target sport.
- 21.3 The SSP currently operates an athletics club at Malvern College. This takes place on a Tuesday afternoon and attracts around 20 people. However, it concentrates on long-distance running due to the absence of any formal athletics facilities. The SSP Partnership Development Manager (PDM), along with the Director of Sport at Malvern College, has identified the possibility to install a community athletics track on part of the College site. This could be used by local schools and used as a location from where to establish an athletics club serving the District. However, as previously referenced, most of Malvern Hills District is within the drive time catchment for athletics facilities in neighbouring local authorities.

<p>Athletics summary</p> <p>Current provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> There are no formal athletics facilities in Malvern Hills District. <p>Future provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> There is no need for full size athletics provision in the District – there is potential to develop a 150m ‘j’ bend track. <p>Other issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> None identified.

Table 21.2: Summary of key issues and recommendations

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Athletics	Good quality, accessible formal athletics facility.	Mapping shows that the majority of Malvern Hills District is within a 30-minute drive time of an athletics facility. Consultation does not support a full-size, six-lane synthetic turf track. There is potential to develop a facility at Malvern College if it serves the community, which could be in the form of a 150m track. However, such a facility should be accessible to the community.