

# **HOW MANY INDOOR SPORTS CENTRES ARE THERE IN SCOTLAND?**

**Mike Fitzjohn and Malcolm Tungatt, October 2021**

## **Introduction**

1. For anyone who has read our parallel reports on England and Wales it will quickly become obvious that this report is very similar; indeed, it has been written to an identical template. We make no apologies for this because our aim as far as possible is consistency. But it is also important from the outset to make clear that there are important differences in the three datasets for Scotland, England and Wales, which we explain subsequently. In particular, the Sport Scotland 'Facilities Database' was established for a different purpose to the Active Places databases of England and Wales. But there is sufficient similarity for us to draw comparisons in most instances.
2. We gratefully acknowledge the support of Sport Scotland in providing us with copies of its 'Facilities Database', in particular the assistance of Jennifer Edmonstone and Lorraine Jones. We immediately absolve them from any responsibility for the conclusions drawn, which are entirely our own.
3. It will be apparent from a reading of earlier SLLP Chapters that our title is a question for which there is no universally 'right' answer. So this paper can only be an attempt; there can be no definitive attempt. Difficulties include matters of definition, the previous lack of any consistent data gathering, the embryonic nature of the business and its records in the 1960s and 1970s, and the fledgling nature of IT during much of the period under consideration.
4. However, the establishment by Sport Scotland in the 1980s of its 'Facilities Database', the forerunner by some 15 years of similar work in England and Wales, massively helped to overcome some of these difficulties, and provides an opportunity, never previously undertaken to our knowledge, to address the question with rigour and consistency, and this has been our principal source. Further details of the 'Facilities Database', and our research methodology and data tables, are provided in a Technical Annex.

## **Objectives**

5. To document on a consistent basis over time:-
  - a) the opening of indoor sports centres;
  - b) the closure of indoor sports centres;
  - c) the net provision of indoor sports centres;
  - d) the replacement, or otherwise, of closed indoor sports centres;
  - e) the refurbishment of indoor sports centres;
  - f) variance between freestanding Local Authority centres, other freestanding centres, and centres on educational sites;
  - g) and variance between regions.

## **Defining Indoor Sports Centres**

6. The Introduction and Foreword to the SLLP indicates:-

At the heart of developing this story has been the challenge of 'defining' what was originally a new concept, the community indoor sports centre, which has evolved over the 50 or so years. The core definition of a 'community indoor sports centre' for the purposes of 'Harlow to K2 and Beyond' is the one broadly accepted from the early days by the Sports Council and adopted by 'The British Leisure Centre Guide 1993', published by John S Turner Associates in association with Longman Group UK Limited.

***It is – an indoor centre with a sports hall and some other facilities, which may include a swimming pool, and has significant use by the general public.***

7. This is the definition which we have used for our current work.

Thus we have excluded any facility which:-

- a) does not have a sports hall at all;
  - b) only has a hall which does not meet the Active Places definition of a 'Main Hall' (3 badminton courts, or more) in addition to other indoor facilities;
  - c) meets the Main Hall requirement, but has no ancillary indoor facilities, i.e. stand-alone sports halls.
8. This does, of course, rule out quite a number of significant facilities which many would colloquially accept as 'indoor sports centres'. However, the important point here is consistency of definition and consistency of data.
9. It was also important in agreeing a definition that it was capable of analysis within the Active Places and Sport Scotland 'Facilities Database' data frameworks since neither seeks to classify 'indoor sports centres'.

### **The Advantages and Disadvantages of Using the 'Facilities Database'**

#### 10. Advantages

- a) the vast majority of the data appears to be very accurate;
- b) it is presented on a consistent basis;
- c) it has comprehensive coverage;
- d) it has been, and continues to be, regularly reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis.

#### 11. Disadvantages

- a) a very small amount of data is clearly wrong. Where we have clear evidence of this, we have amended the dataset;
- b) it only gives data for individual facilities (e.g. Sports Halls, Squash Courts, Studios, Swimming pools, etc), so we have had to manipulate it in accordance with our definition of indoor sports centres;
- c) build dates of individual facilities are recorded, but it does not identify when public use (e.g. of school premises) actually began;
- d) therefore it tends to overestimate the role of school premises built prior to the 1970s;

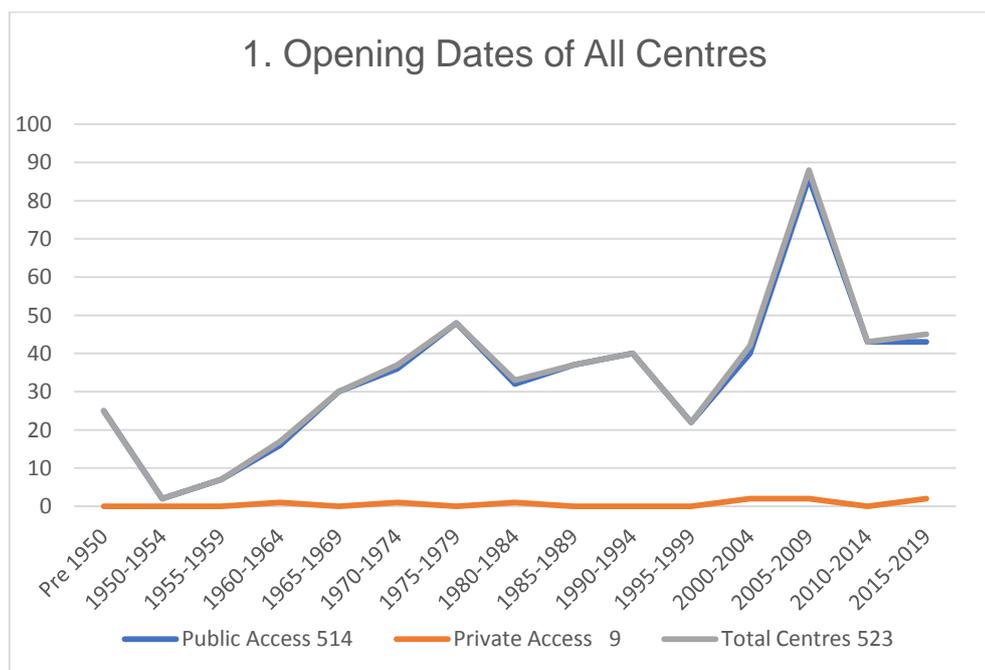
- e) whilst it records the ownership status as it is in 2021, it does not give any relevant history;
- f) although established in the 1980s, the 'Facilities Database' has only retained information on closures since about 2008. We are conscious of some omissions of early centres and have augmented the dataset from other SLLP research, but are of the view that many early centres on school sites may be missing, as we explain later.

## Results

### The Opening of Indoor Centres

#### All Indoor Centres

12. In total the full dataset reveals 523 indoor sports centres have been provided, of which 514 (98%) have public access and therefore meet the project definition, and 9 (2%) are restricted to private access (see paragraph 10 of the Technical Annex). Chart 1 shows their provision over five-year periods from 1950 to 2019 (the data tables on which all charts are based are shown in the Technical Annex). We will not comment on the detail at this point because there is a more detailed analysis in the following sections.

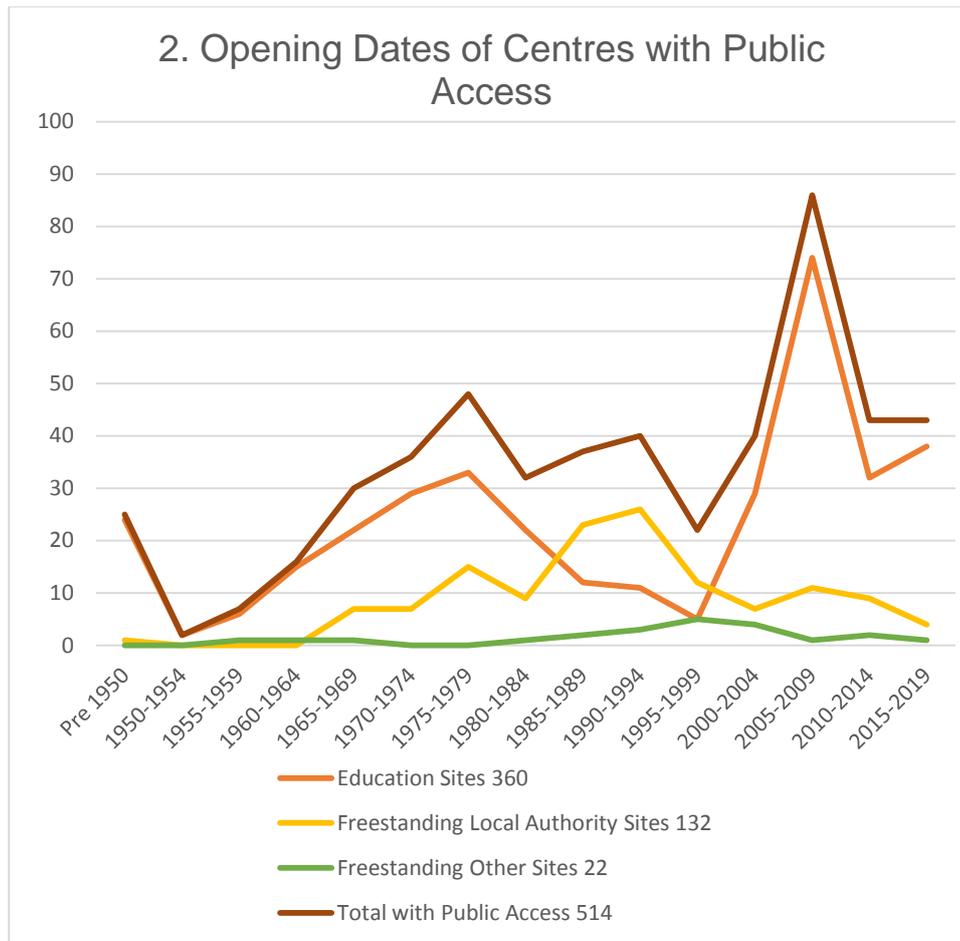


13. However, from hereon we concentrate in our analysis almost exclusively on the 514 'public access' centres which meet the project definition. But the 'private' centres are not unimportant. Firstly 'access' can be a relatively transient variable and, in a short time frame, a centre which currently has private access can 'throw open its doors' to a wider public. Such a change is often observed, for example, when an existing facility is replaced by a new one.

#### Public Access Centres

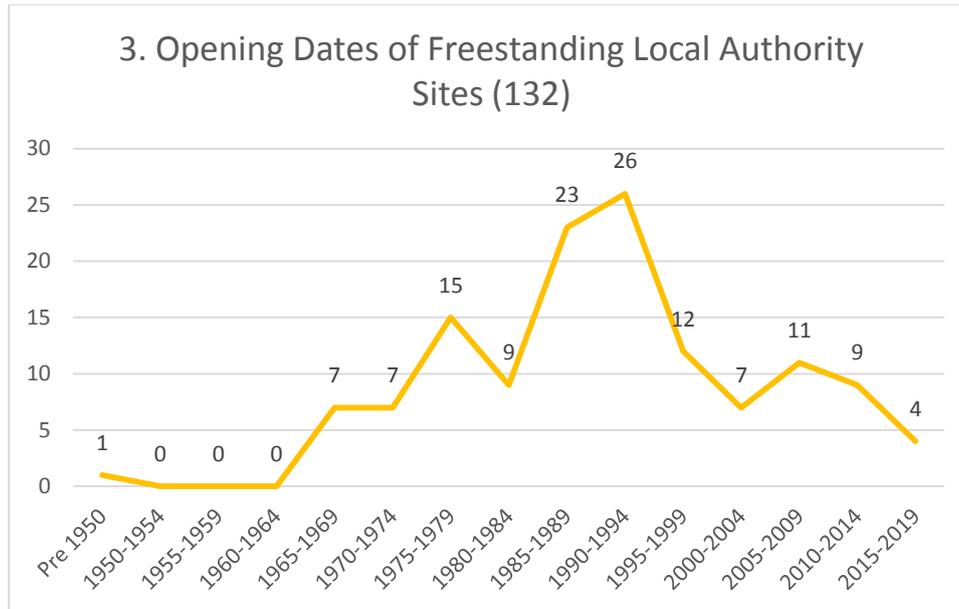
14. Chart 2 shows the provision over time of the 514 public access centres by type of site. By far the largest number, 360 (70%) are on Education sites. Freestanding Local Authority centres account for 132 (26%), and the remainder,

22 (4%), are Freestanding Centres of Other Providers (sports clubs, commercial companies, community organisations, MOD, Trusts, etc).



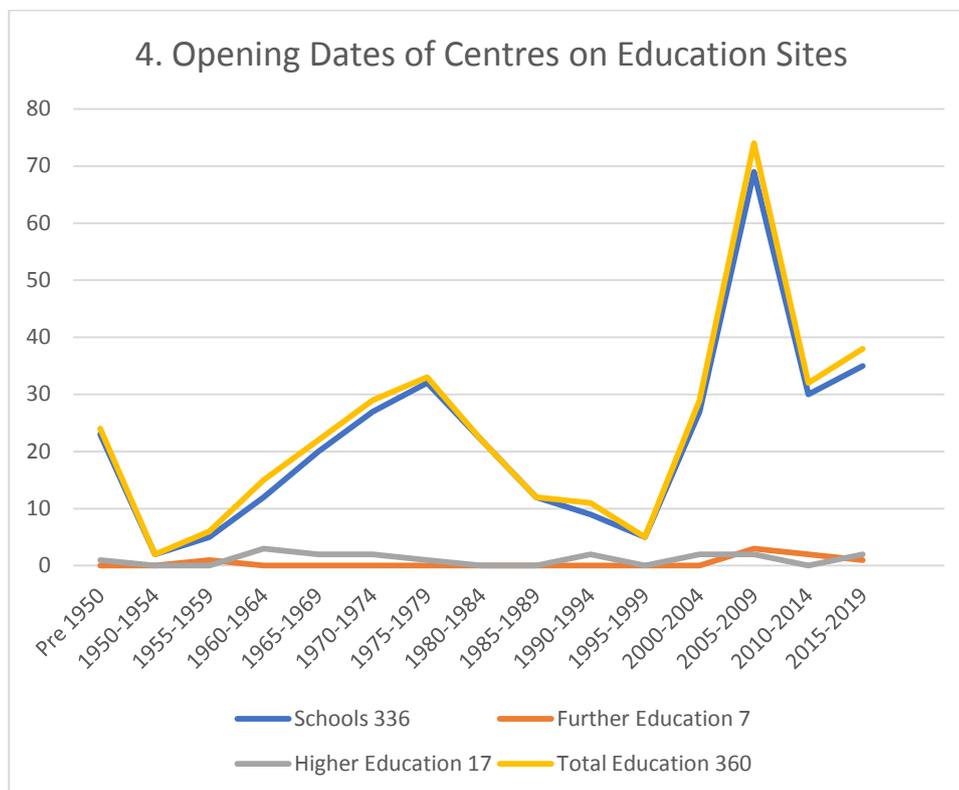
### Freestanding Local Authority Sites

15. It is important to point out at this stage that Freestanding Local Authority sites are not the sum total of Local Authority endeavour in the provision of indoor sports centres. In particular, it excludes centres jointly provided between collaborating Regional and District Councils on school sites in the period of two-tier Local Government between 1975 and 1996, which are included in the 'Education sites' totals. It is impossible for us to distinguish such centres in any systematic, consistent and reliable way.
  
16. Chart 3 shows the provision of centres on Freestanding Local Authority sites over time. The steady rise in provision in the 1970s, as elsewhere in the UK, stuttered in the early 1980s before rising again and peaking between 1985 and 1995. Thereafter new provision fell back again to previous levels.



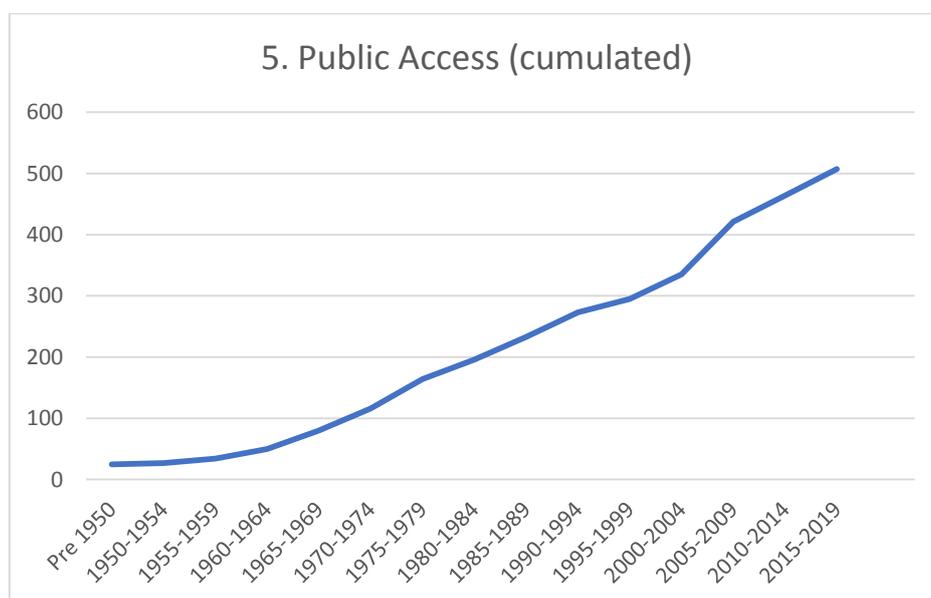
### Education Sites

17. Chart 4 provides a more detailed breakdown of centres provided on Education sites over time. It will be seen that the large majority, 336 (93%), are schools. Eight of these are Independent schools, but the overwhelming majority are State schools. Higher Education, 17 (5%) and Further Education, 7 (2%) provide the balance, both surging between 1995 and 2014.
  
18. It can be seen that there was an increasing level of provision from 1950 through to 1979, probably fuelled firstly by the need for new school building to accommodate the 'baby boomers', and later by the move towards comprehensive education. This was followed by a steep fall in provision for the next 20 years, before a massive surge in new provision in the period 2000 to 2010. Although new provision subsequently fell from the peak in 2010 it nevertheless continued for the next decade at significantly high levels.



## Public Access

19. It is not possible for us to provide comparable information on different types of public access (e.g. 'Pay and Play', 'Registered Membership, etc) to that provided in our parallel reports on England and Wales because of the different way in which the data is collected in Scotland (see paragraph 10 of the Technical Annex).
20. However, Chart 5 shows the cumulative openings of all public access centres. The steady increase over a long period is perhaps the best indicator we have seen of the growth in the number of centres widely available to the public led by Local Authorities and schools providing new facilities.



## Opening of Public Access Centres by European Union Regions

21. Chart 6 shows the percentages of all public access centres opened in each ten year time period, both nationally and in individual EU regions. The highlighting shows that in three instances (Southern twice, and North Eastern) a decade of falling behind the rest of the country was immediately caught up in the following decade. In contrast, Eastern Region closely reflects the national average throughout the period.

### 6. OPENING DATES BY EUROPEAN UNION REGIONS (ALL PUBLIC ACCESS CENTRES)(Percentages)

OPENING YEARS	SOUTHERN	EASTERN	WEST CENTRAL	NORTH EASTERN	HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS	NATIONAL
Pre 1960	4	8	6	7	5	7
1960-1969	4	11	10	11	7	9
1970-1979	21	17	13	11	19	16
1980-1989	11	13	11	28	10	13
1990-1999	4	12	14	13	19	12
2000-2009	34	22	29	11	22	25
2010-2021	21	17	17	19	19	18
%	100	100	100	100	100	100

Highlighting indicates in excess of 3% variance from national average for relevant time period (green above; yellow below).

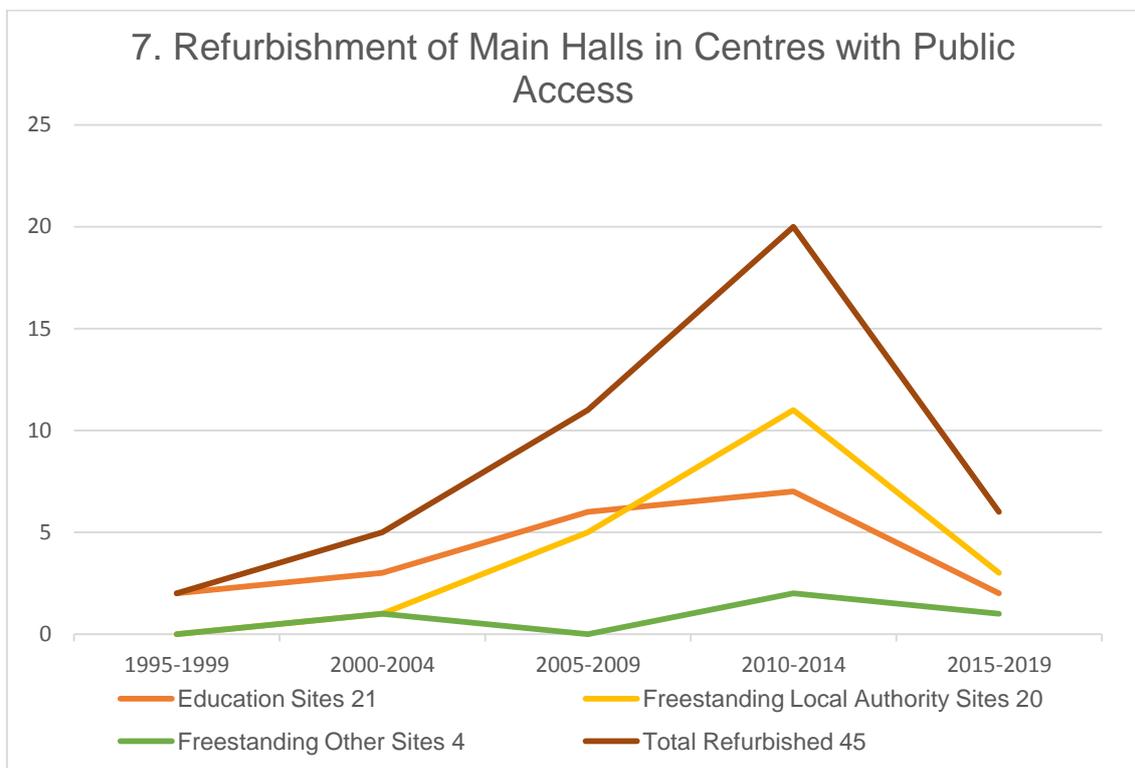
### The Refurbishment of Indoor Centres

22. We assumed at the outset that Sport Scotland used broadly the same definition of 'refurbishment' as Active Places does for England and Wales, i.e. 'significant improvements made to the main hall, activity halls, reception areas associated to the hall (and similar facilities).....not general maintenance and repair of the building'. But our analysis of the data raises serious questions regarding comparability. In particular, only 9% of centres in Scotland appear to have been refurbished compared with 39% in England and 45% in Wales; the discrepancy appears to us far too wide to be explained simply by differences of policy or practice, and is more likely to be in the data definition.

23. Nevertheless, we report the data below as we have found it. We deal primarily with the refurbishment of Main Halls, and not necessarily other parts of centres. Further information is in the Technical Annex.

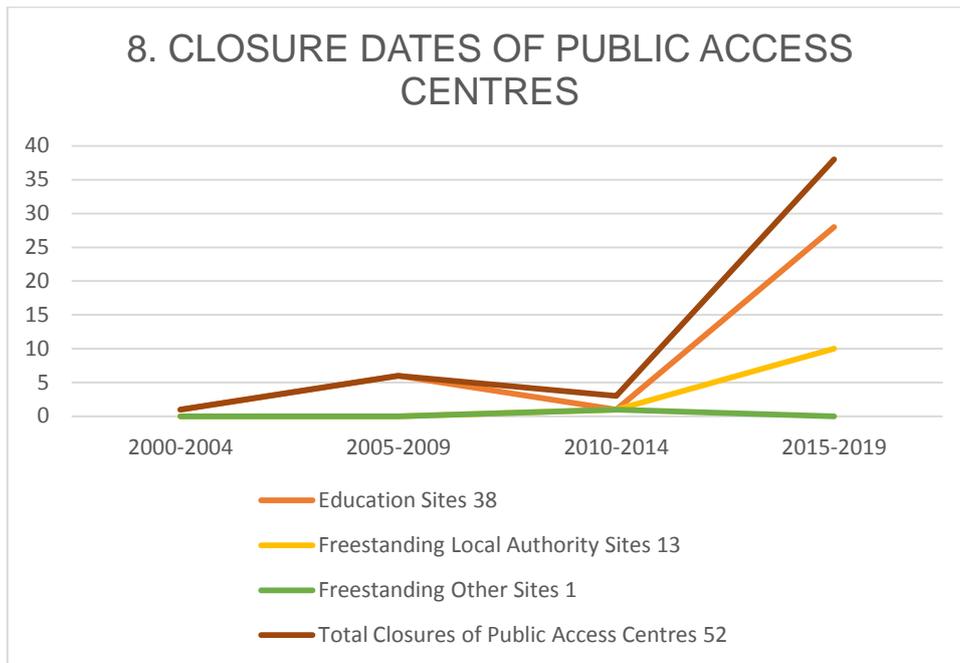
24. In total, 469 centres (91%) have never been refurbished. However, 45 centres have been refurbished, 21 on Education sites and 20 on Freestanding Local Authority sites. Chart 7 summarises refurbishments over time, with the peak occurring between 2005 and 2014, before falling again. The data is unsurprising because by the former date centres built in the 1970s were over 30 years old. The average age of the centres at the time of their Main Hall refurbishment was 35 years.

25. It should be noted that two refurbished Main Halls are in centres which have subsequently closed.

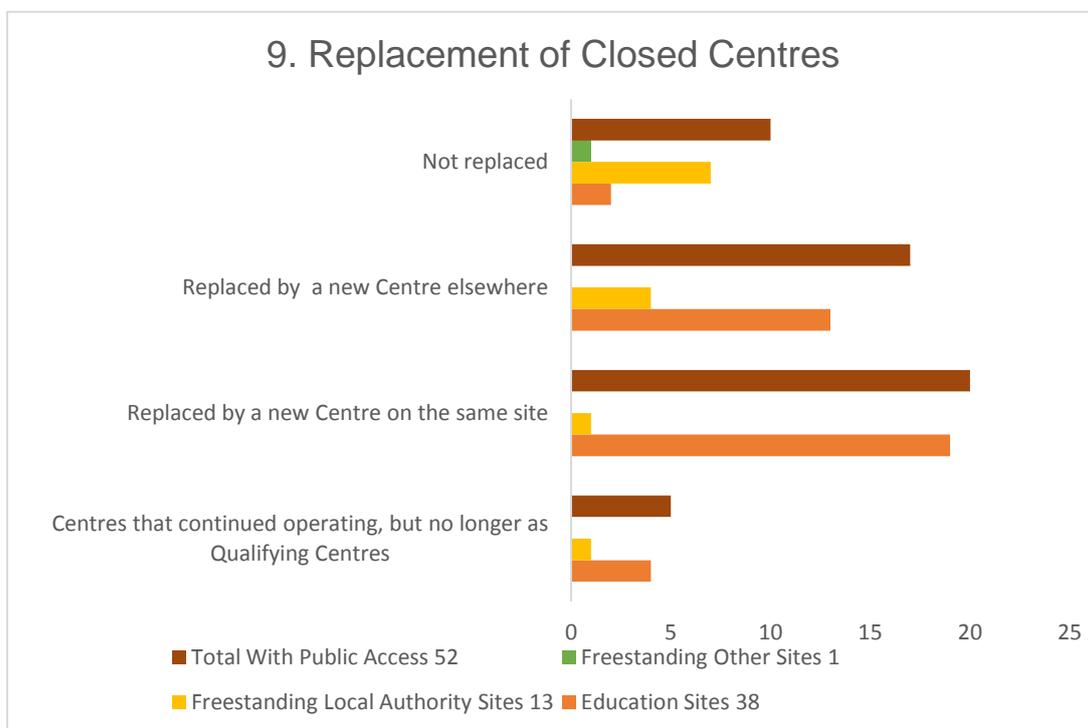


### The Closure of Indoor Centres

26. Our use of the word 'closure' is that the centre no longer meets our definition of an indoor sports centre as set out in paragraphs 6) and 7) above. It can arise for a variety of reasons, such as:-
- a) the whole centre closed, and was usually demolished;
  - b) in the case of Education sites, the whole school/College was closed;
  - c) the Main Hall was closed or converted to another use, so any facilities remaining no longer met the definition;
  - d) all ancillary facilities were closed, so that the Main Hall became stand-alone and no longer met the definition;
  - e) the centre remained, but ceased to be available for public use.
27. The 'Facilities Database' does not in the main cover closures before 2008. We have augmented the database with details of four centres in this category which are known to us, but the case remains that such centres may be underestimated. In particular, we have identified 129 school and college sites which have been closed since 2000 where we have no information on the sporting provision before their closure. Further details are in the Technical Annex.
28. In total 52 (10%) of the 514 public access centres have closed and there is minimal percentage variation between Education sites and Freestanding Local Authority centres. Chart 8 shows that closures accelerated dramatically between 2015 and 2019. However, as with refurbishments, many centres were reaching the end of their serviceable life; the average age of closed centres was 42 years. Moreover, the Scottish Government's school rebuilding programme provided a massive impetus for mergers and rationalisation from 2002 onwards, resulting in the closure of some centres, but also the provision of new buildings on many sites.



29. Chart 9 shows the detailed outcomes of the 52 closed centres. In all, 10 (19%) were not replaced in any shape or form. But 20 were replaced on the same site, and a further 17 replaced elsewhere (71% in total). Closures are often part of a 'strategic review' of needs in an area, particularly in Scotland on Education sites, and may be deemed surplus to changing local requirements.

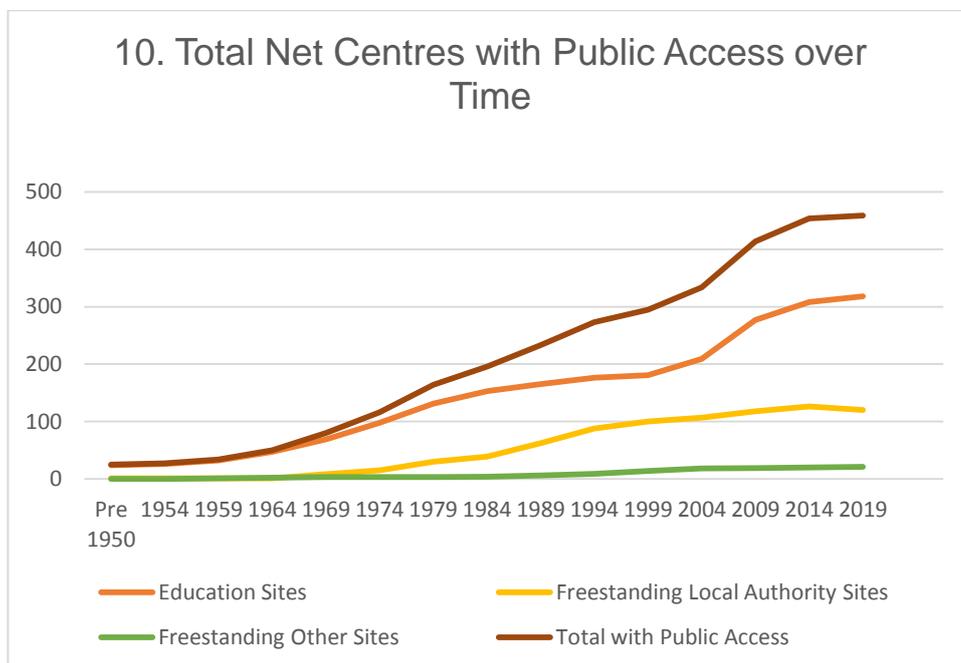


## The Net Position of Centres and the Situation in 2021

30. By integrating the openings data in the first part of this paper with the above closure data it is possible to see the net position over time. Chart 10 shows that the steady increase in the number of centres publicly available since the 1960s has almost flat-lined since 2014. In short, the surge of new provision

largely stimulated by the school building programme from the turn of the Century has almost been offset by the closure of older centres.

31. There is also some evidence emerging in recent years of new centres being built *without* Main Halls, which do not, of course, meet our definition of an indoor sports centre.



32. In 2021 there are 462 indoor centres with public access, as Chart 11 shows. Schools account for 301 of the 322 centres on Education sites, meaning that school sites represent 65% of the overall stock of public access centres. The average age of the stock is 30 years.

#### 11. PUBLIC ACCESS CENTRES IN 2021

	Education	Freestanding Local Authority	Freestanding Other	TOTAL
Centres	<b>322</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>462</b>
%	<b>70</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>5</b>	

33. There is also some regional variation as Chart 12 shows. West Central is the least well provided region per head of population and, as seen elsewhere in England and Wales, the most rural area of Highlands and Islands the best provided. But current levels of provision are a far cry from early standards of provision set out in planning documents from the 1970s of 1:40,000, 1:90,000, etc – a remarkable achievement for the whole sector.

## 12. PUBLIC ACCESS CENTRES BY EU REGION

	Public Access Centres 2021	Population 2019	Provision per Head of Population
Southern	<b>77</b>	<b>948,428</b>	<b>12,317</b>
Eastern	<b>166</b>	<b>2,005,240</b>	<b>12,080</b>
West Central	<b>116</b>	<b>1,550,311</b>	<b>13,365</b>
North Eastern	<b>48</b>	<b>489,880</b>	<b>10,206</b>
Highlands & Islands	<b>55</b>	<b>469,441</b>	<b>8,535</b>
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>5,463,300</b>	<b>11,825</b>

34. In order fully to round off the picture, in addition to the 462 centres with public access there are a further 9 solely with private access, making an inclusive total in Scotland of 471.

### **Conclusions**

35. We return to the point made in our Introduction that this paper can only be ‘an attempt’, not a definitive statement, to answer the question of our title. We have pointed out along the way some of the reasons: matters of definition; imperfections, for our purposes, in the ‘Facilities Database’; some errors in the original database; and no doubt a few errors of our own !!
36. It is best not to get hung up on individual numbers. Nevertheless, we believe the broad trends which we have identified, and the principal reasons for them, provide an accurate picture of the development of indoor sports centres over the past 50 years or more. That development has been nothing short of remarkable.

MF/MT Manchester, October 2021

## TECHNICAL ANNEX

### Sources

1. Our principal source for this work is Sport Scotland's 'Facilities Database' first established over 30 years ago for the purposes of its Facilities Planning Model. The advantages and disadvantages of this approach are shown in the main text, and further details are given below.
2. This was supplemented by four additional sources, in order of importance to the work:-
  - a) Google Maps – every site was examined, in particular to establish whether the facility was on an educational site or freestanding. Some facilities have been built close to education sites and, in these instances, our usual approach has been to establish whether the facility concerned had its own separate access road and/or its own separate car park. If it did, we considered it to be freestanding. Google Maps was also used to track changes and replacements on the ground, in particular changes in educational provision consequent on closures, mergers and name changes.
  - b) Websites of Local Authorities and Individual Facilities – on some occasions it was necessary to use these to clarify uncertainties in the data, particularly in respect of ownership of facilities outside the public sector.
  - c) Government Website ([www.gov.scot/publications/school-contact-details](http://www.gov.scot/publications/school-contact-details)) giving basic data on schools - this enabled us to develop details of schools where there was any uncertainty.
  - d) Other SLLP Documentation – we reviewed both material available on the website and additional material in the possession of the Editor. It was especially useful as a source for facilities which had closed before such facilities were recorded in the 'Facilities Database'.

### The Facilities Database

3. The Sport Scotland 'Facilities Database' was first established in the 1980s for the principal purpose of providing data for the operation of the Facilities Planning Model. It has been continuously updated since by a mix of website searches and data checking with partners (mainly Councils/Leisure Trusts and sports governing bodies). Additional data is provided from ongoing operational programmes, including planning applications, direct funding of facilities and the Active Schools Network.
4. The structure of the 'Facilities Database' is closely similar to Active Places in England and Wales and, indeed, was the forerunner of it by about 15 years. But there are some important differences which we highlight below.
5. As in England and Wales, the 'Facilities Database' records details of each individual facility on a site (sports halls, swimming pools, squash courts, etc), and the address,

postcode, ownership, etc of the site. It DOES NOT attempt any definition of an 'indoor sports centre' nor any such classification. It was, therefore, necessary for us to manipulate that data for our needs, and responsibility for any matters of definition and the manipulation of data remains our own.

6. Within the overall volume and range of data in the 'Facilities Database', our especial concern was with indoor facilities, where the 'Facilities Database' provides four separate spreadsheets of potential relevance:-
  - a) sports halls, gymnasia and studios
  - b) swimming pools
  - c) squash courts
  - d) indoor tennis
7. Sport Scotland maintains two sets of these spreadsheets, one for current facilities and the other for facilities which have closed, and kindly supplied us with copies of each. Unfortunately, the spreadsheet of closed facilities relates only to about 2008 onwards.
8. Sport Scotland classifies sports halls by size (e.g. <3 badminton courts, 3 courts, 4 courts, 6 courts, etc), and we have classified in accordance with this definition – it also classifies halls by size, and we note in passing that we came across, though have ignored, a few halls which did not appear of appropriate size to meet the given classification.
9. For the sake of consistency with our parallel reports we classified any sports hall of 3 or more badminton courts as a 'Main Hall' in accordance with the Active Places definition:-

**Main Multi-Sports Hall** Minimum size is marked out as three Badminton courts and above. Dimensions: Min Width 18m, Max Width 70m; Min Length 27m, Max Length 90m.

10. Sport Scotland also takes a different approach to Active Places in England and Wales in respect of its classification of public access. It again uses a two-fold classification; the first a simple distinction between 'public' management and 'commercial' management, and the second the hours of public access available for inclusion in the Facilities Planning Model. We were unpersuaded by the accuracy of some of this information, nor its usefulness for our current purposes. Accordingly we have developed a simple two-fold classification of our own based on our study of additional sources (see paragraph 2 above of the Technical Annex) as follows:-

**Public use** – The facility is available for public use under various access arrangements, including pay and play, registered membership, and club and community use for at least some of the week.

**Private use** - The facility cannot be used by the public, either on a pay and play basis or through a recreational club, except when playing against the owner of the site. It may be available for use by elite clubs or development squads. Examples of private use are private educational establishment facilities, prisons, MOD, etc facilities that are not available for any public use.

11. We initially assumed that Sport Scotland used a similar definition of 'refurbishment' to that employed in Active Places, viz 'Significant improvements made to the main

hall, activity halls, reception areas associated to the hall (and similar facilities). These works include all significant improvements to the building to ensure the facility meets current standards for indoor sports halls. These improvements must represent a significant investment which improves the quality of the facility. Examples include: replacement of structural elements; installation of lighting and wiring to meet current standards; new floor to halls, or improvement to existing, e.g. installation of shock absorbing flooring system; and major improvements to, or new provision of, reception/community/social areas, to service the sports hall, to make the facility more welcoming for users. IT DOES NOT include general maintenance and repair of building, such as repairs to lifting floors, repairs to lighting, painting of walls, floor polishing’.

12. However, having examined the relevant data we have reservations in this respect, and attention is drawn to paragraph 22 of the Main Text.

### Methodology

13. Sport Scotland supplied us with four spreadsheets (see paragraph 6 above of the Technical Annex) for current facilities on 1 September 2021. Together these provided information on 2,460 individual facilities, e.g. a swimming pool, a squash court, etc.
14. Our principal aim was to convert these by analysis into a dataset of indoor sports centres which met our definition.
15. Firstly, data in the spreadsheets for squash and tennis were checked, and multiple courts on a single site were removed, which reduced the total number of facilities to 2,110.
16. Secondly, the four independent spreadsheets were merged into one, and sorted by Site ID to bring facilities on the same site together. Freestanding swimming pools, freestanding squash facilities, and other facilities not having at least one 3-court Sports Hall were removed, resulting in 1,585 facilities associated, or potentially associated, with indoor centres.
17. The process was repeated for closed facilities when the four spreadsheets were received from Sport Scotland on 1 October 2021. The spreadsheets totalled 351 facilities. After the removal of multiple squash courts (with identical opening/closing dates) on the same site, the number of individual facilities reduced to 310.
18. After the second stage of merging the sheets and removing freestanding swimming pools, freestanding squash facilities, and other facilities not having at least one 3-court Sports Hall, 239 facilities remained.
19. The current and closed facility datasets were then merged resulting in 1,824 (1585 + 239) facilities associated, or potentially associated, with indoor centres for further analysis.
20. Each of the 1,824 facilities in the dataset was examined. It revealed 637 Main Halls (3 - courts or more), and each was coded in line with the details set out below. Additional sources (see paragraph 2 above of the Technical Annex) were used to try to clarify any matters of uncertainty.

21. We introduced into the Sport Scotland spreadsheet six additional columns of our own for analysis purposes:-

a) Ineligible Rows

An analysis of each Main Hall (3 - courts or more) as to its validity in the ongoing dataset; the essential mechanism for reducing the 637 such halls to a dataset of indoor sports centres.

Coding: Single code only, used in order shown if multiple eligibility.

DC Double count or other obvious error

SH Second Main Hall (3 - courts or more) in the same centre

NC Does not meet indoor sports centre definition criteria

For convenience in the later analysis, we also coded any Main Hall (3 - courts or more) which had "Private Use Only" as a "P" code in this column. As paragraph 13 in our Main Report explains, these were analysed in the same way as other eligible Rows, but were excluded from our analysis of indoor sports centres with public access.

b) Effective Operational Date

For many purpose-built Local Authority centres, and similar, this is the same as the building date recorded by Sport Scotland. For centres developed incrementally, especially schools, this is the date when the facilities on a site first met the indoor sports centre definition. It is important to point out, however, that even this date does not necessarily equate to the date when the centre first became available for public use.

Coding: four digit year date

c) Site Type

An analysis of sites, in particular to seek to address the age-old question of the proportion of centres on school and other educational sites.

Coding:

FLA Freestanding – Local Authority sites

FSC Freestanding – Sports Club sites

FO Freestanding – Other sites (commercial, community organisations, MOD, Trusts, etc)

These latter two codes have been merged in our Main Tables as the number of FSC centres is usually too small to analyse meaningfully

E Education sites

NK Not Known

We coded the 50 centres now in the ownership of a Local Authority spawned 'Leisure Trust' either FLA or E according to their original sites.

d) Education Sub Coding

Sites coded 'E' above were further classified into four types to enable distinctions to be made in the analysis.

Coding:

- C 'Community Schools', including all school types which were not Independent Schools
- I Independent Schools
- F Further Education
- H Higher Education

e) Centre/Hall Closure

Since each individual facility was shown on a separate row, any Main Hall (3 - courts or more) closure would be recorded by Sport Scotland, even if other facilities remained on the site. It was important that we were able to distinguish between types of closure.

Coding:

- C Centre closed
- PC Partial Closure (i.e. facility no longer met our indoor sports centre definition even though other operational facilities remained on site).

f) Replacement Type

An analysis of recorded closures to understand which had been replaced (and, if so, how and where), and which had not been replaced.

Coding:

- RS Replaced on same site
- RE Replaced nearby
- FC Some facilities continuing on site, but no longer meeting our indoor sports centre definition or converted to other sporting use
- NR Not replaced

22. We made a limited number of amendments to the Sport Scotland data during this process, as shown below, though this was undertaken sparingly so as not to undermine the consistency of the data:-

- a) Clear and obvious errors, e.g. a few centres recorded as closed where it was clear from websites that they still thrived.
- b) In instances of the closure of a centre in the same year as the opening of a successor, the date given by Sport Scotland for the closure was retarded by one year to avoid a 'double count' of centres in that year.

23. We also made two types of addition to the Sport Scotland dataset:-

- a) Closures – Sport Scotland has diligently recorded facilities which have closed since about 2008, a valuable resource for the historian. But we are aware from the work of the SLLP of a number which closed before that date. We have identified three such centres to be added to the database, though this may be a significant under-estimate. In particular, we have identified 129

Educational sites which have been closed as a result of the Scottish Government's various programmes of school and college rebuilding and mergers since 2000. As noted in paragraph 27, we have no data on the sporting provision on these sites before their closure. However, we believe there are three possible reasons why these former sites do not appear in the 'Facilities Database'. Firstly, schools or colleges which did not have a Main Sports Hall or other indoor sporting facilities; secondly, those which did have indoor sporting facilities, but where these were only available for use by pupils and, thirdly, the closure of any indoor sporting facilities on these sites has not been included in the 'Closure' database for whatever reason. Indeed, we know that 54 of these sites were closed before the 'Closure' database was established.

- b) Additional Centres – We have also identified four centres, admittedly one very new, which do not appear on the Sport Scotland 'Facilities Database', and these have been added to our dataset.

### The Resulting Dataset for Analysis

24. Putting together the above information, the final dataset of indoor sports centres which we have used for our analysis is 523. The number of centres with only private access is 9, resulting in a dataset of indoor sports centres available to the public of 514.

	Para Ref	Number	Total
Main Halls (3 - courts or more) in Original Database	20	637	637
Double Counts and Errors	21a	-2	635
Second Main Hall (3 - courts or more) in Same Centre	21a	-41	594
Not meeting Indoor Centre definition	21a	-78	516
Additional Closures	23a	3	519
Additional Existing Centres	23b	4	<b>523</b>
Private Access Centres		<b>9</b>	
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC CENTRES</b>			<b>514</b>

### Data Tables

**TABLE 1 - OPENING DATES OF ALL CENTRES**

OPENING YEARS	PUBLIC ACCESS	PRIVATE ACCESS	TOTALS
Pre 1950	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>
1950-1954	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
1955-1959	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>

1960-1964	16	1	17
1965-1969	30	0	30
1970-1974	36	1	37
1975-1979	48	0	48
1980-1984	32	1	33
1985-1989	37	0	37
1990-1994	40	0	40
1995-1999	22	0	22
2000-2004	40	2	42
2005-2009	86	2	88
2010-2014	43	0	43
2015-2019	43	2	45
2020-2021	7	0	7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>523</b>

**TABLE 2 - OPENING DATES OF CENTRES WITH PUBLIC ACCESS**

<b>OPENING YEARS</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>FLA</b>	<b>FO</b>	<b>TOTAL WITH PUBLIC ACCESS</b>
Pre 1950	24	1	0	25
1950-1954	2	0	0	2
1955-1959	6	0	1	7
1960-1964	15	0	1	16
1965-1969	22	7	1	30
1970-1974	29	7	0	36
1975-1979	33	15	0	48
1980-1984	22	9	1	32
1985-1989	12	23	2	37
1990-1994	11	26	3	40
1995-1999	5	12	5	22
2000-2004	29	7	4	40
2005-2009	74	11	1	86
2010-2014	32	9	2	43
2015-2019	38	4	1	43
2020-2021	6	1	0	7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>514</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>	

**E** Education Sites  
**FLA** Freestanding Local Authority Sites  
**FO** Freestanding Other Sites

**TABLE 3 - OPENING DATES OF FREESTANDING LOCAL AUTHORITY SITES**

The data on which Chart 3 is based is shown in the FLA column in Table 2 above.

**TABLE 4 - OPENING DATES OF CENTRES ON EDUCATION SITES**

<b>OPENING YEARS</b>	<b>SCHOOLS</b>	<b>FE</b>	<b>HE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Pre 1950	23	0	1	24
1950-1954	2	0	0	2
1955-1959	5	1	0	6
1960-1964	12	0	3	15
1965-1969	20	0	2	22
1970-1974	27	0	2	29
1975-1979	32	0	1	33
1980-1984	22	0	0	22
1985-1989	12	0	0	12
1990-1994	9	0	2	11
1995-1999	5	0	0	5
2000-2004	27	0	2	29
2005-2009	69	3	2	74
2010-2014	30	2	0	32
2015-2019	35	1	2	38
2020-2021	6	0	0	6
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>360</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	

**FE Further Education**

**HE Higher Education**

**TABLE 5 – CUMULATIVE OPENING OF PUBLIC ACCESS CENTRES**

<b>OPENING YEARS</b>	<b>PUBLIC ACCESS (CUMULATED)</b>
Pre 1950	25
1950-1954	27
1955-1959	34
1960-1964	50
1965-1969	80
1970-1974	116
1975-1979	164
1980-1984	196
1985-1989	233
1990-1994	273

1995-1999	<b>295</b>
2000-2004	<b>335</b>
2005-2009	<b>421</b>
2010-2014	<b>464</b>
2015-2019	<b>507</b>
2020-2021	<b>514</b>

**TABLE 7 - REFURBISHMENT OF MAIN HALLS IN CENTRES WITH PUBLIC ACCESS**

<b>YEARS OF REFURBISHMENT</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>FLA</b>	<b>FO</b>	<b>TOTAL REFURBISHED</b>
1995-1999	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
2000-2004	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
2005-2009	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>
2010-2014	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>
2015-2019	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>
2020-2021	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL REFURBISHED</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>TOTAL SITES</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>514</b>
<b>% age of Total Sites Refurbished</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>

**E Education Sites**

**FLA Freestanding Local Authority Sites**

**FO Freestanding Other Sites**

**TABLE 8 - CLOSURE DATES OF PUBLIC ACCESS CENTRES**

<b>CLOSURE YEARS</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>FLA</b>	<b>FO</b>	<b>TOTAL WITH PUBLIC ACCESS</b>
2000-2004	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
2005-2009	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
2010-2014	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
2015-2019	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38</b>
2020-2021	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>TOTAL CLOSED</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>TOTAL SITES</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>514</b>
<b>% age of Total Sites Closed</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>

**E Education Sites**  
**FLA Freestanding Local Authority Sites**  
**FO Freestanding Other Sites**

**TABLE 9 - REPLACEMENT OF CLOSED CENTRES - PUBLIC CENTRES**

	<b>E</b>	<b>FLA</b>	<b>FO</b>	<b>TOTAL WITH PUBLIC ACCESS</b>
<b>Centres that continued operating, but no longer as Qualifying Centres</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Replaced by a new Centre on the same site</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Replaced by a new Centre elsewhere</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Not replaced</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ALL CLOSURES</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>

**E Education Sites**  
**FLA Freestanding Local Authority Sites**  
**FO Freestanding Other Sites**

**TABLE 10 - TOTAL NET CENTRES WITH PUBLIC ACCESS OVER TIME**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>FLA</b>	<b>FO</b>	<b>TOTAL WITH PUBLIC ACCESS</b>
Pre 1950	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>
1954	<b>26</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>
1959	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>34</b>
1964	<b>47</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50</b>
1969	<b>69</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>80</b>
1974	<b>98</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>116</b>
1979	<b>131</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>164</b>
1984	<b>153</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>196</b>
1989	<b>165</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>233</b>
1994	<b>176</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>273</b>
1999	<b>181</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>295</b>
2004	<b>209</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>334</b>
2009	<b>277</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>414</b>
2014	<b>308</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>454</b>
2019	<b>318</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>459</b>

2021	322	119	21	462
------	-----	-----	----	-----

- E Education Sites**
- FLA Freestanding Local Authority Sites**
- FO Freestanding Other Sites**