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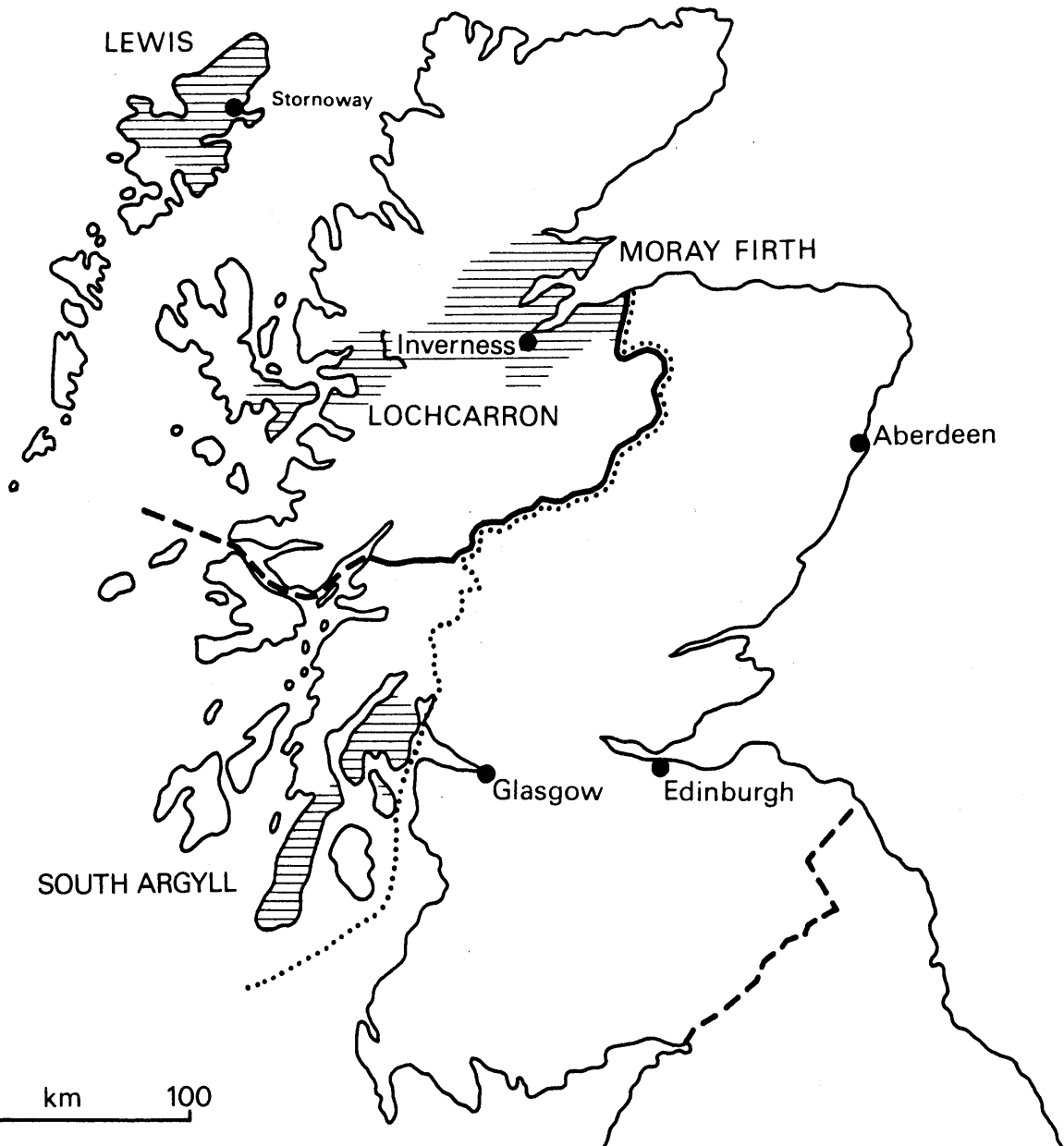
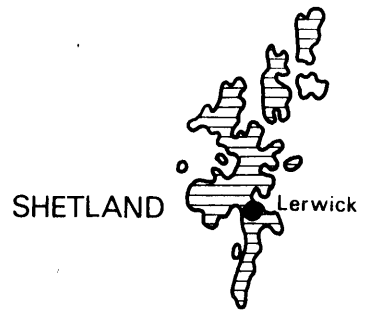
**RESEARCH STUDY INTO PROVISION
FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE IN AREAS
AFFECTED BY OIL-RELATED INDUSTRY
IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND**

Summary report

No. 2 April 1978

Areas Under Study

- Study Areas
- Highland Region Boundary
- HIDB Area Boundary



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FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE IN AREAS
AFFECTED BY OIL-RELATED INDUSTRY
IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND**

Summary report

*by The Tourism and Recreation Research Unit,
University of Edinburgh*

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR REGIONAL POLICY
Directorate Coordination, programmes, studies and analyses – Studies Division

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The present study does not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission of the European Communities on the subject matter of the study nor does it necessarily anticipate the future attitude of the Commission on the topic.

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Preface

The discovery of oil and gas under the North Sea has proved to be the most important single event in Scotland's post-war economic history and its profound effects upon the economic life of the nation have been topics of discussion and debate long before oil began to flow. Assessments of the implications for the national economy and for the communities affected by all stages of the cycle of North Sea Oil developments, viz., exploration, manufacturing, construction and production are continuing, but for those communities in the Highlands and Islands that have long been isolated from the mainstream of national economic development, the impact of oil-related developments has proved to be profound, not only for the local and regional economies but also for the very fabric of social, cultural and community life. In such circumstances of rapid economic and social change it is clear that if the communities in the areas affected are to reap the potential benefits of oil-related developments without dislocation of their distinctive patterns of life, they must match the encouragement of industrial development with the conservation and adaptation of their social fabric. Provision for leisure and recreation is only one, although an important, element in the community life of the areas affected, but in accepting the brief for this research project from the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the European Economic Community, the Tourism and Recreation Research Unit has been very conscious of the intimate relationships between changes in patterns of economic and social activity and the aspirations and needs of individuals for leisure and recreation.

The areas covered in this study were those where oil-related developments had been accompanied by substantial immigration. Six such areas were defined (frontispiece map), although, as the study itself will reveal, there were strong contrasts

Preface

not only between the areas but also in the nature of the scale and duration of oil-related development which precluded a standardised approach to the collection and analysis of data and to the framing of proposals and recommendations.

In order to meet the objectives of the study, a comprehensive programme of survey was undertaken. The main elements of the methodology adopted are described in Appendix 1 and involved not only formal surveys but also extensive field enquiries by both Unit staff and specialist consultants. Another major feature of the study was the use of local consultants with special knowledge of, and insights into, the communities in the study areas, an acknowledgment not only of the distinctive character of these areas but also of the research team's intention that proposals should be compatible with the needs and aspirations of the various communities.

In implementing the programme of survey and analysis outlined in Appendix 1 an extensive repository of data and information has been collected for areas and topics where previously little material was available. It is the research team's view that these data themselves constitute a reservoir of valuable information which those responsible for leisure planning in the Highlands and Islands might usefully continue to tap for many years. Accordingly, in addition to the main survey report and this summary report, the research team have prepared two important and related documents. The first is a Directory of Leisure Activities, which presents detailed information in tabular form about the characteristics of the participants in a wide range of leisure activities and also about the nature of the various activities themselves. The second is a companion volume, the Directory of Leisure Facilities, in which similar relationships are examined for a range of types of leisure facility. To accompany this Directory six Area Inventories of Leisure Facilities have been published, each of which provides a listing and description of leisure facilities in that study area.

It is on this data base that the recommendations for leisure provision have been made, with particular reference to the different *leisure systems* in the individual study areas. The research team believes that the study provides a basis for action for leisure provision in areas affected by oil-related developments, but recognises that the implementation of its recommendations lies in the hands of those responsible for financing planning provision for leisure and recreation, and of the local communities themselves.

Section 1

Leisure Planning, Policy and Provision

Strategies For Leisure Planning

1.1 OBJECTIVES

Planning for recreation and leisure is part of social planning and, as such, it aims to intervene on behalf of the community to achieve particular objectives.

1.1.1 The general object of this study was to provide information and ideas on provision for recreation in the Highlands and Islands...as a basis for urgent action in oil-affected areas. The Research Team accordingly proposed five basic principles as key parameters for the study:

Policies should aim to provide well-balanced recreational opportunities for all inhabitants by increasing the scope for worth-while activities during leisure hours that can be shared by residents of long-standing and newcomers alike.

Any developments should be designed so that they are compatible with existing cultural patterns and identities, though it must be recognised that some change is inevitable and may even be desirable.

Special recreational provision for both the younger and older members of the community should be evaluated; there is abundant evidence to suggest that an inadequate leisure environment for young people contributes to present social problems, while the special needs of the elderly are often overlooked.

Provision for sport and recreation should be seen as part of an integrated social and planning policy for the region that is compatible with other policies, such as those for industry, housing, education and services.

Resources of capital and manpower should be harnessed from national, regional and local government agencies, government-sponsored bodies, commercial interests and voluntary bodies in order to implement the recommendations of the study.

1.1.2 Underlying these principles is the aim of enlarging the choices open to each individual, since the positive use of leisure time can provide many people with a key to a whole range of life satisfactions. A primary objective throughout the research programme has therefore been to meet the needs and preferences of individuals and groups by increasing the range and quality of opportunities available to them within the constraints that exist in each community.

1.1.3 The provision of new or improved leisure facilities is not, of course, a panacea for the social problems posed by oil and oil-related developments, but it can play its part in reducing the adverse effects of such developments and in easing the transition from one phase of cultural development to another. These aims can be achieved by providing helpful buttresses for the traditional processes of socialisation and interaction and also by promoting community development through provisions that will encourage social mixing and harmony between disparate groups.

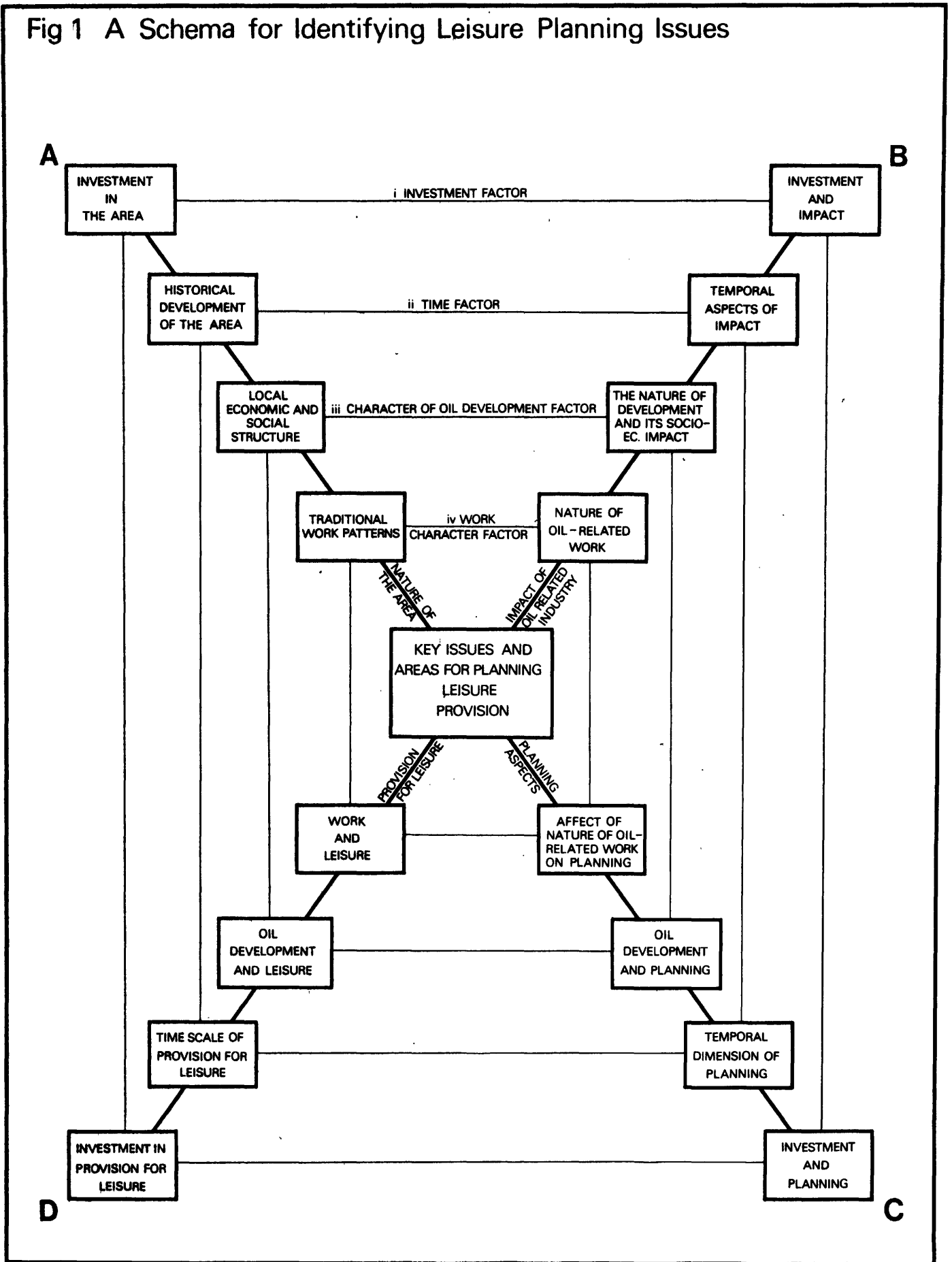
1.1.4 Each of the study areas possesses a distinctive social and cultural identity and there are pronounced differences between communities in their ability to assimilate change. The most recent component of change in many areas has been oil-related investment and the changing patterns of leisure and recreation are but one facet of that process.

1.2 A SCHEMA FOR LEISURE PLANNING

1.2.1 In order to understand the general process of change, a procedure of evaluation has been developed for analysing the changing patterns of leisure and recreation as a part of the social and economic development of the study areas. The purpose of devising a schema for defining key areas and issues for leisure and recreational provision has been to evaluate the existing supply and patterns of demand in order to determine policies that are sensitive to local criteria and take account of past and prospective events.

1.2.2 The schema has four key axes and is presented in Figure 1.

Fig 1 A Schema for Identifying Leisure Planning Issues



A. *The nature of the area* is concerned with the various elements in the economic and social development of the study areas, such as traditional patterns of work, that condition responses to leisure and recreational provision.

B. *The impact of oil-related industry* deals with the general characteristics of oil-related developments and their effect on the local communities in the study areas. The oil-related industries are characterised by distinct phases, each with its own impact; for example, with respect to oil terminals, the construction force, employed over a short period and housed in a *pioneer camp*, has a very different impact from the smaller band of permanent employees who will man the oil terminals once construction is completed. The expected duration of industrial development itself will similarly condition the response of employers and employees in their choice of policies for recruitment, accommodation and assimilation within the wider community. The host community is likewise affected since this factor will influence the length of time for which its protective social structure can be maintained in the face of pressures from oil-related industry. In turn, this will have an important bearing on planning for leisure, since leisure patterns are part of that protective structure.

C. *Aspects of planning* related to the local area are concerned with the framework of decision-making at an international, national, regional and district scale, by examining the relationship between planning and oil-related development. The time factor in planning can also be of fundamental importance for leisure provision, with the scheduling of development not only affecting the timetabling of the construction of social and recreational facilities but also being responsible for related human problems that often occur when provision of such social facilities lags behind industrial and residential development. Such difficulties are particularly acute in times of economic stringency and rapid industrial development, both of which are occurring simultaneously in the study areas. In these circumstances the timing of provision can be as important as the nature of the facilities themselves.

D. *Provision for leisure* is concerned with the contrasting perceptions of leisure in the different communities and deals with the investment and time-scales involved in provision and the relationships between oil developments, work and leisure. In this way, the economic organisation of an area can be evaluated, since this factor can dictate the range of available opportunities in terms of the time and places available for leisure.

1.2.3 Each of the key axes should be evaluated against four factors that will themselves affect the resolution of the forces being studied:

- i) An investment factor.
- ii) A time factor.
- iii) A character of oil development factor.
- iv) A character of work factor.

The fact that the areas of enquiry along all the axes are inter-dependent is the key to the whole framework of evaluation, which is intended to emphasise the impossibility of abstracting questions relating to recreation and leisure from the physical, spatial, social, economic and cultural environment within which they are set.

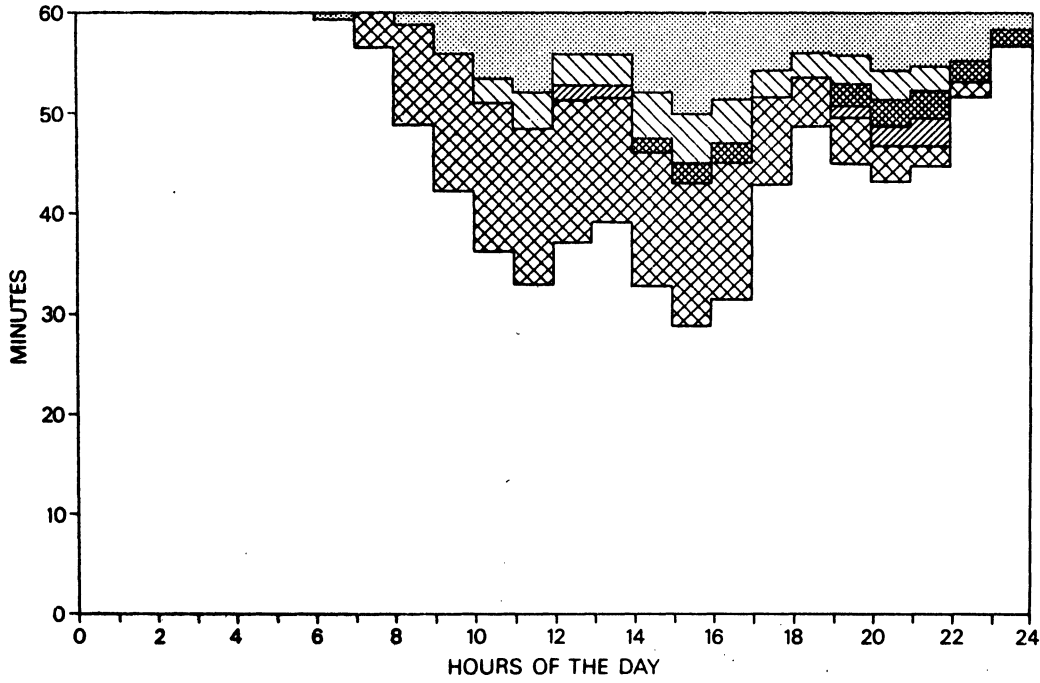
1.3 TIME BUDGETS

1.3.1 The identification of leisure planning issues must be reconciled with the realities of the leisure environments within which people operate. Key elements in these environments are time and space; the former is of prime importance since it is within people's *free time* that leisure activities take place, while the latter highlights questions of mobility and the spatial distribution of resources that are themselves crucial to an understanding of accessibility to the facilities available for leisure.

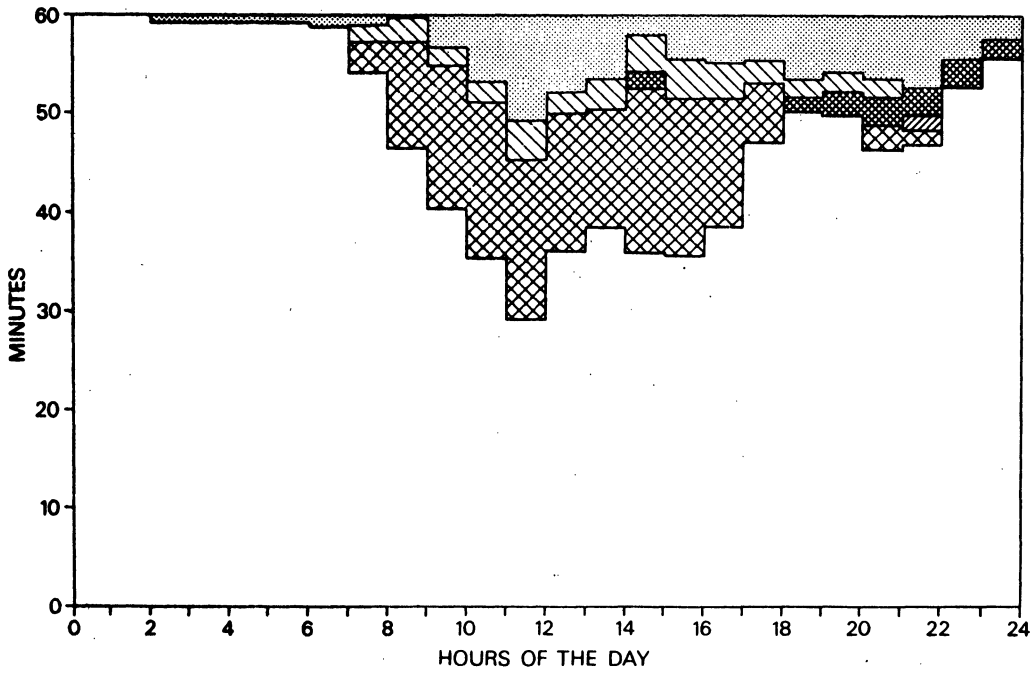
1.3.2 One of the basic features of the distribution and use of leisure time can be seen in Figure 2 which shows the marked differences between weekdays and weekends. On weekdays commitment to work dominates the time spent away from home and for many people this commitment extends into the early evening. Indoor leisure activities take place primarily in the evening, although participation in recreational activities occurs mainly at the weekend. Although there is still a major commitment to work on Saturday morning, Saturday evening emerges as the prime time for indoor leisure activities and for social activities centred around eating and drinking. Other social activities, e.g., visiting friends and relatives, also become important and add to the variety of activities on this day. On Sundays, the largest proportion of time is spent at home, particularly in the morning, and this fact probably reflects the widespread Sunday pastimes of *lying in*, reading newspapers and general relaxation. Sunday is also the most popular day of the week for outdoor leisure, most of which takes place between lunchtime and the early evening. Figure 2 clearly shows the way in which the days of the week each have their own

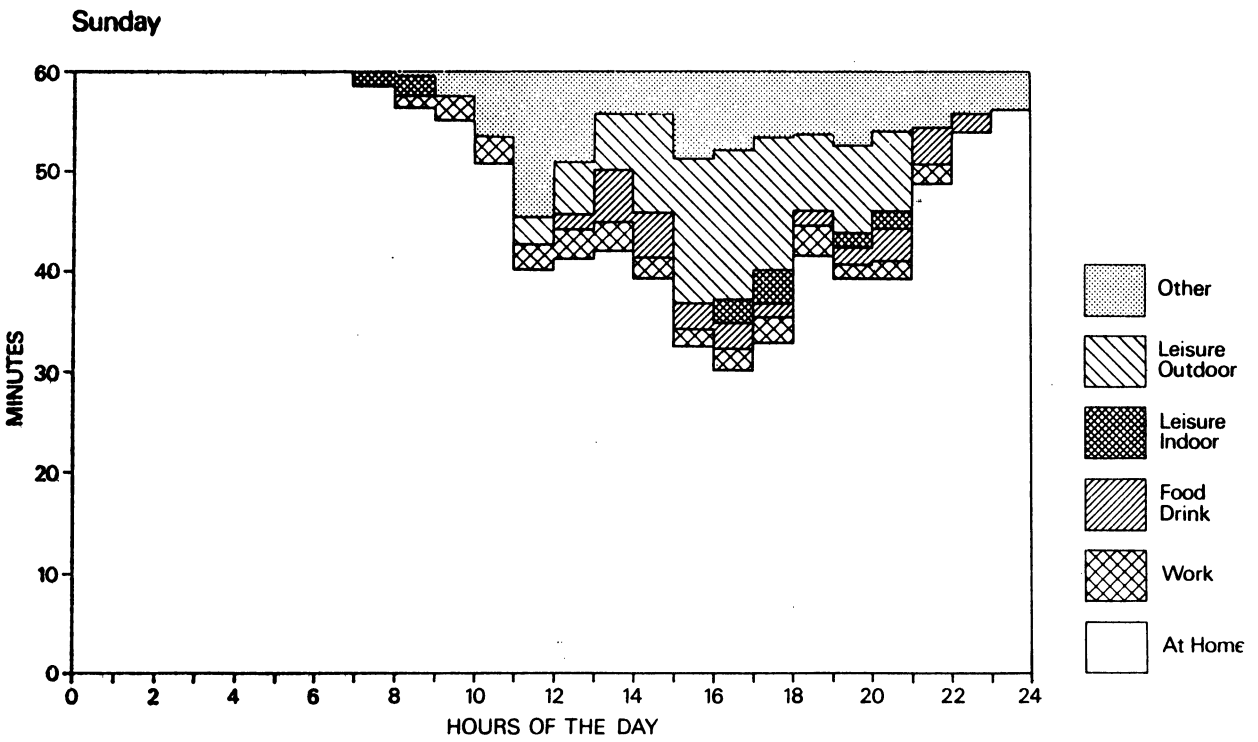
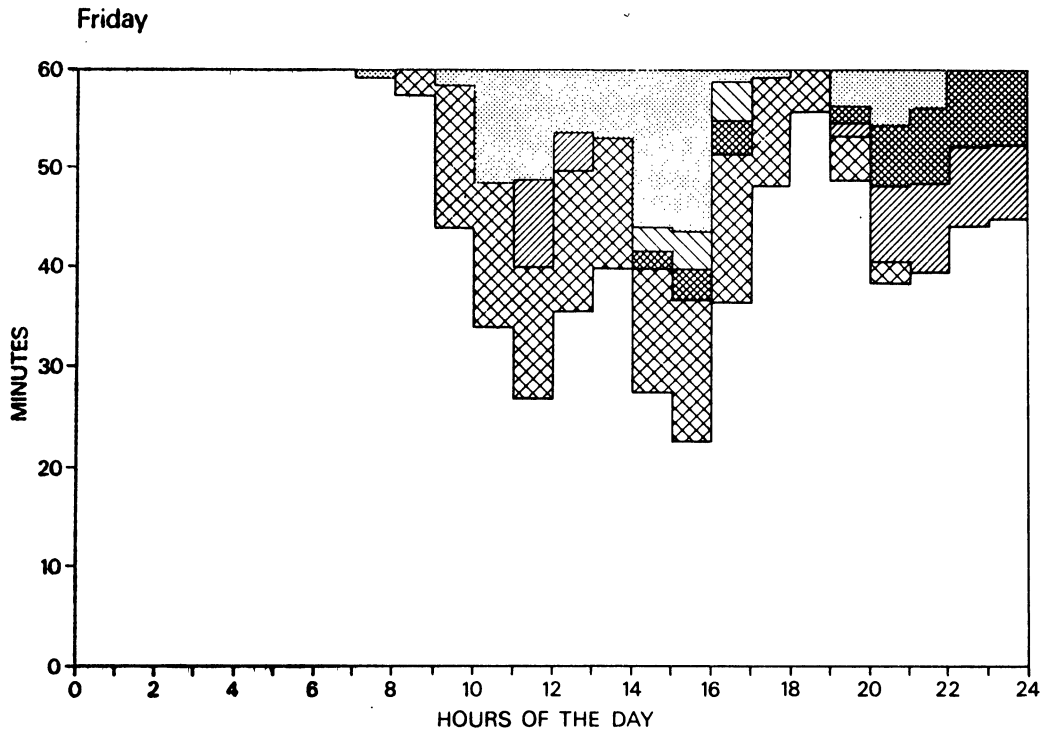
Fig 2 Weekly Leisure Time Budgets


Monday to Thursday



Saturday





-  Other
-  Leisure Outdoor
-  Leisure Indoor
-  Food Drink
-  Work
-  At Home

character, with strong contrasts in the way in which free time is allocated between various activities and locations.

1.4 LEISURE PROVISION, TRAVEL DISTANCE AND MOBILITY

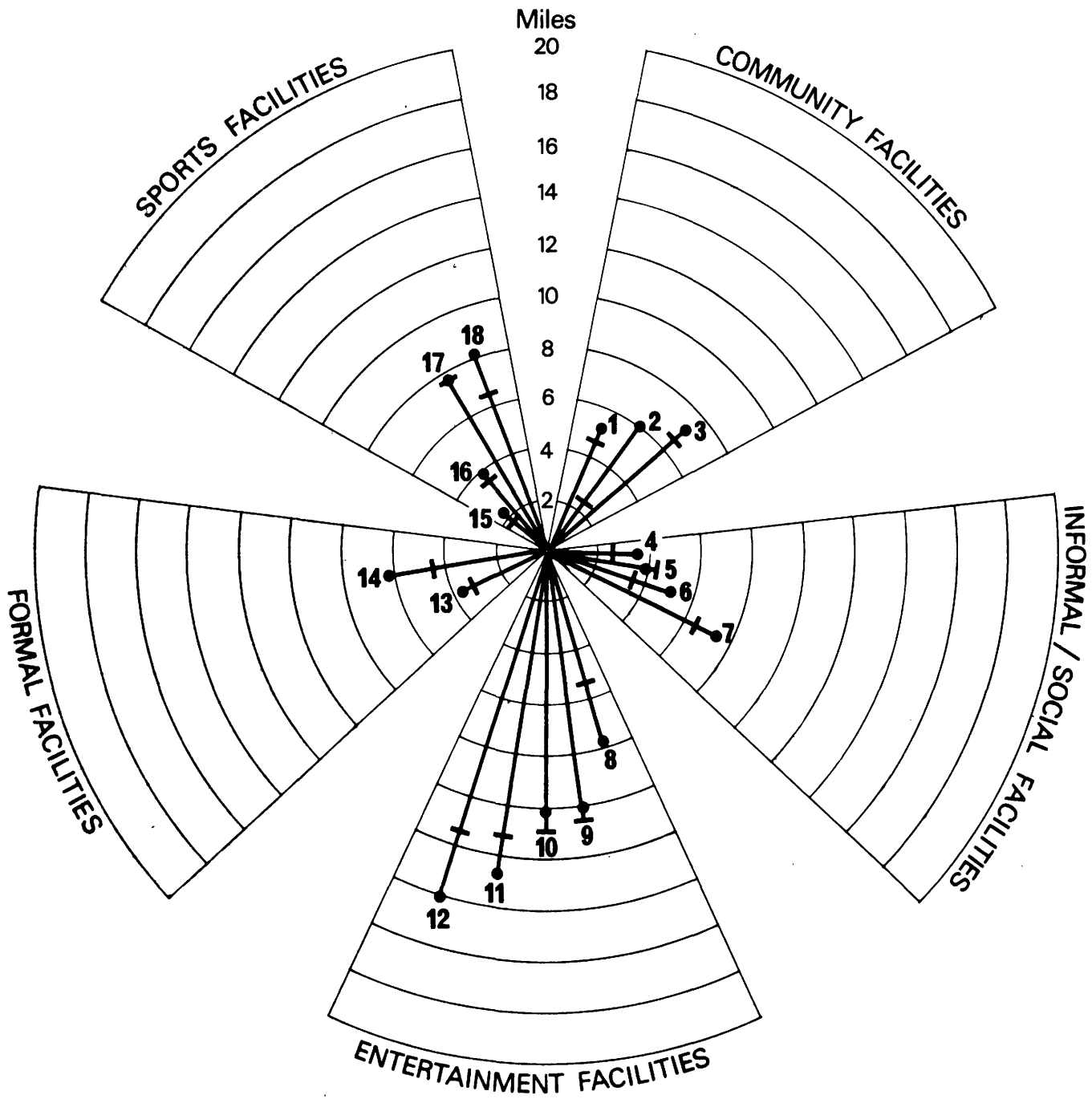
1.4.1 One of the most important factors in formulating policies for leisure provision is the spatial relationships involved; it is important, therefore, to know the distances that people are prepared to travel and the framework of mobility and transport that surrounds leisure provision. One important finding of the study is that there is a hierarchy of travel distance relationships, ranging from the local context, through a second level of facilities that are still community-orientated but to which people were prepared to travel greater distances, to identifiable *central place* activities, primarily facilities for entertainment and specialised recreation.

1.4.2 The concept of an *Individual Action Space* within which a person undertakes a range of activities is related to a wide range of factors, and Figure 3 shows the different perceptions that arise from the differences in the mobility of respondents by recording separate figures for those with and those without access to a motor vehicle.

1.4.3 The distances vary from area to area; in an urban context the distances were relatively small, whereas in Lochcarron necessity has bred a willingness to travel long distances. The ability to make the best use of a hierarchy of facilities within the distances which individuals are prepared to travel is determined by personal mobility, and this will often imply access to, or ownership of, a private motor car. If access to facilities is to be improved policies must be adopted to improve the personal mobility of those who do not have such access to motor cars - about half the population in the study areas. In the recommendations for the individual study areas the need has been stressed for improvement to the transport system, such as the development of intra-area community travel, and the consequent improvements in personal mobility could reduce the cost of providing a wide range of local facilities.

1.4.4 Unless the question of mobility and accessibility to leisure facilities is effectively integrated into strategies for the provision of leisure facilities, large proportions of those living in the study areas will find that, whatever new provision is made, they will be effectively prevented from participating.

Fig 3 Leisure Facilities Distance Relationships



- 1 Community Centre
- 2 Church Hall
- 3 Village Hall
- 4 Old Folks Facilities
- 5 Youth Club
- 6 Cafe
- 7 Restaurant
- 8 Bingo Hall
- 9 Cinema

—●— Opinions of those with access to vehicle
 - - - | - - - Opinions of those without access to vehicle

- 10 Dance Hall
- 11 Discotheque
- 12 Theatre
- 13 Playschool
- 14 Library
- 15 Children's Play Area
- 16 Playing Field
- 17 Squash Court
- 18 Swimming Pool

1.4.5 The ever-increasing costs associated with travel in many areas have resulted in difficulties in maintaining leisure provision, such as library services to the islands, and sustaining recreational activities, for example, mainland fixtures for island-based rugby teams, (which are essential if teams are to survive).

1.4.6 The physical geography and relative isolation of many communities often means uneconomic or inadequate public transport services, although the development of tourism, primarily orientated to the private motorist, and oil-related industry have resulted in a few marginal benefits, such as the new Stromness - Scrabster ferry service and the maintenance of the Kyle of Lochalsh - Inverness railway line.

1.5 ALTERNATIVE POLICIES FOR THE LOCATION OF LEISURE FACILITIES

1.5.1 With the possible exception of Orkney, those responsible for the physical planning oil-related developments have adopted a policy of dispersal related to the physical structure of the land and settlements. The implications of these policies are of great importance for the provision of leisure and recreational facilities, notably the spatial distribution of an increased population. The present level of provision is inadequate in comparison with the rest of Scotland and the expected growth of population in many areas will undoubtedly increase awareness of such under-provision. The main effect of oil-related development in the study areas will therefore be to modify tastes and aspirations in leisure and recreation and consequently to change patterns of activity. These changes must be taken into account alongside population growth in formulating a preferred strategy of development.

1.5.2 One method by which local rural communities can benefit is by providing regional leisure facilities that can be located in rural areas. This approach can also be used for tourist developments which can operate independently of the settlement hierarchy and in allowing access by local people to facilities designed to serve the needs of an incoming work force.

1.5.3 The primary focus for any plan for leisure must be the needs of the community, but the spatial distribution of facilities is often constrained by the local geography, catchment area, personal mobility and available finance. The alternative strategies that might be pursued in both rural and

urban areas are discussed below, but it must be stressed that there is no clear-cut division between policies for provision in towns and those appropriate for the rural areas.

1.5.4 Rural locational policies:

Strategy 1 : This strategy assumes an equal distribution of facilities between areas and focuses on a multi-purpose facility such as an improved village hall. This approach would conform to the present system of grants and reflects the traditional leisure system that is characteristic of many of the study areas; each facility would rely on a small catchment area and the approach would reinforce the existing pattern of independent organisations and activities.

Strategy 2 : This would assume the provision of small facilities in each settlement, with purpose-built facilities in selected communities, serving a wider area. Such selected communities would each accommodate a different specialist function and a district community recreation association would probably be necessary to co-ordinate activities. To increase personal mobility there would have to be improvements in local public transport, for example, by introducing community bus services, although this strategy would probably be severely constrained by the fact that fund-raising would be more difficult than under Strategy 1.

Strategy 3 : A strategy based on a concentration of facilities at one point would have the advantage of the relatively intensive use of such facilities and would again require a co-ordinating body for their management. The success of this strategy would largely depend on the quality of public transport, and capital would be required for the construction of new buildings.

Strategy 4 : The fourth strategy again assumes a concentration of facilities in addition to a major regional recreational facility. This scheme would require a high level of capital investment and would be subject to the same conditions as Strategy 3.

1.5.5 Urban locational policies:

Strategy 1 : This approach assumes a town centre location for virtually all facilities and requires the development of an appropriate public transport system.

Strategy 2 : An alternative to the strategy of concentration could be the concentration of regional, sub-regional and town facilities in the centre accompanied by the development of neighbourhood centres in residential areas.

Strategy 3 : The dispersal of facilities is taken a stage further in this strategy with the deliberate decision to locate certain town facilities in residential areas to supplement the neighbourhood centres.

Strategy 4 : This strategy would supplement urban provision with specially-designed facilities constructed to cater for visitors' needs, and assumes that the town could be developed as a holiday centre.

1.5.6 It will be clear that these strategies are unlikely to evolve without deliberate and conscious implementation since local rivalries between communities can constrain the emergence of key settlements. It would thus be wise to accept that, in practice, there is likely to be considerable variation from the ideal.

1.5.7 Although these strategies represent highly simplified schematic examples of the key choices facing providers of facilities, it is also essential to consider the declared local objectives for social development, and the recommendations for each area have been made with these in mind.

Policies for Leisure Planning

The scope for improving existing provision is largely determined by the character of existing facilities and the emphasis in this study has been mainly on built facilities, since this is where decision-makers can exert most influence in improving the quality of leisure provision and because built provision becomes relatively more important as communities change under the influence of oil-related development.

2.1 POLICIES OF SUPPLIERS OF LEISURE FACILITIES

2.1.1 Existing provision has largely been in the main towns at the expense of the landward areas and the primary role of *local authorities* as providers for leisure and recreation is evident in all the study areas.

2.1.2 Local authorities, with their newly created departments of Leisure and Recreation, have become responsible for a wide range of facilities that are judged to be socially necessary and desirable, and often operate subsidy schemes or provide grant aid for the improvement of facilities and the encouragement of activities. The main objectives of local authorities have been, first, to serve the *community interest*, an objective which is undoubtedly conditioned by political considerations and may have led to the comparative lack of facilities in rural areas. Secondly, the local authority has a statutory responsibility for particular groups within the community, notably the very young, the very old and the handicapped. Thirdly, the development of recreation and tourism will have economic objectives, in providing not only employment but also a suitable range of services for an area. Finally, local authorities are agents of central government policy and thus facilitate national schemes for leisure and recreation.

2.1.3 The education department (to which some of the Leisure and Recreation departments are attached) has a key role within the local authority as many primary schools throughout the study areas are used for leisure activities, although there has been a rationalisation of primary school provision and many have closed. Secondary schools, which often house specialised facilities, are usually located in the main towns, but access is usually limited to organised groups and casual use by the community is generally restricted. The result of these policies, given the constraints of local geography and limited finance, has been to limit the opportunities available for the significant minority who live in the landward areas.

2.1.4 Provision by the *commercial sector* is again primarily in the major towns. Licensed premises are the most important type of leisure provision and the development of tourism has played an important role in establishing hotels in the rural areas, thus providing (in the summer months at least) facilities that otherwise could not be provided. There have been changes in patterns of use in licensed premises, as more women and young people see these facilities as an important centre for their own social and leisure activities, and this is reflected in the modification of the interior design of many public houses and hotels.

2.1.5 Dance halls and cinemas are becoming increasingly unprofitable and this trend has been exacerbated by unattractive interiors, the restricted range of films available and the competition of television. There have been few developments of restaurants and cafes, although those that do exist tend to be well-used, and it is possible that there is scope for greater commercial enterprise in this field.

2.1.6 The experience of commercial providers of leisure and recreational facilities has not been a happy one, and it is in those areas where tourism is best developed that opportunities for the commercial sector remain favourable and a deliberate attempt to encourage community use of facilities developed primarily for holidaymakers seems a wise policy.

2.1.7 *Voluntary organisations* with their own premises make a major contribution to the number and range of leisure opportunities available to residents of the study areas. As with other facilities, those of this type tend to be concentrated in the main towns where over 60 per cent of the organisations have their premises. Sports associations dominate and, on the evidence of the survey of clubs, the age groups best served were those in their late teens. Membership of most

organisations has been increasing, partly because of oil developments, and the majority of clubs believe they can still increase their membership; but many are facing difficulties in obtaining effective leadership and support. Many of these organisations are finding it necessary to seek support from public agencies, although finance tends to be provided only where an expansion of facilities is planned. In general, clubs serve their local area and have fairly restricted catchments; in fact, three-quarters of the membership of clubs live within the town or village where they are located.

2.1.8 Although there are now many problems associated with the running of these organisations, voluntary clubs with their own premises contribute to leisure provision particularly in areas where other providers have played a much less important role than usual. Although individual clubs are small, the survival of this important body of providers should continue to be priority for both local and central government, for their cumulative contribution to provision for leisure and recreation remains of vital importance.

2.1.9 *Local communities* in many of the study areas have a tradition of self-help with regard to leisure and recreation which is usually centred upon a village hall, which may be owned or managed by the community itself, and is often the only type of leisure facilities in use in an area. Most halls are the product of two world wars and are in very varied states of repair, with over 50 per cent requiring extensions or improvement. They are a major focus of leisure activity in many communities, particularly in winter, but are used for only a limited range of activities. The halls are usually run by a local management committee, assisted by the Scottish Council of Social Service or the local authority, and although community ownership is suited to the present system of grants, local fund-raising is becoming increasingly difficult as costs escalate and may be a major obstacle to new initiatives.

2.1.10 The programme and intensity of use depends on the accommodation available and on the quality of local leadership. Halls should ideally consist of a main unit (badminton court size), kitchen and committee rooms. Unfortunately, there is declining support for halls, particularly amongst young people, and this, allied to increasing running costs and the lack of voluntary support, continues to constrain the development of such halls.

2.1.11 In addition to the village halls, there are often halls attached to the local churches,

although these tend to be under-used as most activities are related to the church. These facilities are often well-built and maintained, but in many areas there are difficulties arising from increasing running costs and reduced sources of income.

2.1.12 The managers of these facilities have long been accustomed to cyclical variations in community support, local leadership and organisation. They are now finding that external factors such as the increase in capital costs for new buildings are more difficult to control, but perhaps more damaging in the long term are the increases in running costs.

2.1.13 Village halls play a vital role in the organisation of leisure activities in the landward communities and, as such, they play a vital role in their social cohesion, although conversely, their key position has made them more vulnerable to social change.

2.1.14 Throughout the study area, the local geography and the centralisation of service functions in the main towns have created a strong contrast between urban and rural areas. Only in the Moray Firth is there a genuine hierarchy of settlements. Provision in the landward areas is dominated by village halls, supplemented by church halls and a small number of schools suitable for community use.

2.2 ALTERNATIVE SUPPLY POLICIES

2.2.1 The existing supply of leisure facilities is at present severely constrained by economic stringency. The main aim of an alternative supply policy should therefore be to supplement existing provision rather than to construct new purpose-built facilities which could weaken local resourcefulness, particularly in the more traditional communities, which has been capable of being mobilised to meet the leisure needs of the community.

2.2.2 Any attempt to improve existing buildings must also accept the increased expectations of local inhabitants and incomers alike, which have been brought about by new provision locally, through the media and through the policies of national agencies.

2.2.3 The improvement of existing buildings provides the simplest method of ensuring that the existing stock is maintained. Improvements should aim at increased use per hour and, by the

improvement of management policy and the facilities of the building, at an increase in the total number of hours the building is in use.

2.2.4 To realise these two broad objectives, the following policies are recommended:

- a) Increasing the number of hours for which facilities are available. The present organisation of a facility may preclude its use by certain sections of the community, e.g., housewives, although extending hours for those facilities serving smaller communities may place undue strain on existing voluntary managers. The recently-appointed Schools Councils could supervise the letting of educational facilities, thus allowing maximum access for members of the community.
- b) Increasing the number of users by combining user groups and avoiding duplication of facilities. This policy may well result in centralisation of activities and therefore depends on there being an adequate transport system.
- c) Increasing the range of facilities available in order to attract different groups throughout the longer opening hours.
- d) Effective promotion of new and existing activities and adequate advertising of arrangements for travel and coaching.
- e) Adoption of management policies that will ensure adequate co-ordination of events and the activities of different groups.
- f) Investment in new equipment, possibly using a centralised system in areas where it would be uneconomical to provide each facility with its own equipment.
- g) Internal adaptation of facilities for better use.
- h) Extension of existing buildings.
- i) Improvement to the fabric and internal environment of buildings to enhance their attractiveness and their functional capability.

2.2.5 One method by which costs could be reduced is by adopting a policy of sharing resources between groups of users with compatible interests, even though the activities may be different, by amalgamating voluntary organisations and user groups. New policies for the effective management of facilities would have to be introduced, although the Research Team believes that the sharing of

resources has largely been ignored throughout the study areas.

2.2.6 There are also many examples of buildings throughout the study areas which, although suitable, are not available for community use, such as schools, colleges and hotels. In addition, there are many buildings that could be adapted for leisure purposes, notably those of architectural or historic interest. These buildings could be used for activities which do not have precise space requirements, though their effective utilisation would require expenditure on maintenance and management.

2.3 STANDARD LEISURE BUILDING TYPES

2.3.1 It will nevertheless be necessary to provide new purpose-built facilities in certain places, and it is recommended that a standardised approach is used in place of the *ad hoc* provision that has characterised leisure planning in the past. The aim of the suggested approach is to reduce both the cost and the time involved in constructing facilities, and special consideration has been given to economies that might be gained by:

- a) The standardisation of design and use of pre-fabricated material in order to cut costs and reduce construction time;
- b) the mobilisation of voluntary labour capable of assembling a kit of prefabricated building components;
- c) the exploitation of developments in pre-fabricated proprietary roofing systems within which the internal arrangements could be constructed by voluntary labour;
- d) commissioning existing proprietary building systems specially developed for leisure; and
- e) using modern developments in pneumatic structures.

2.3.2 A considerable initial outlay would be required in designing such standard buildings, but such work might appropriately be done by local or national government or their agencies, which could be expected to recoup such costs quickly as a result of the savings in the expenditure that is currently required by policies of constructing *one-off* buildings. There is now considerable experience in the design of leisure facilities and the adoption of approaches of this kind using standard building types is strongly

recommended. The aim of these suggestions is to provide an economical and flexible method of provision while maintaining the functional role demanded by users and flexibility or individuality in design. A range of sixteen Standard Building Types is presented below, although the individual specification of each *building brick* is not meant to be taken as a fixed or arbitrarily-defined design specification.

(1) *Activity Centre A*

Small local meeting place for hire or club room for voluntary organisations. Multi-purpose room for social activities, meetings, hobbies, games etc.

Style of room 95m² with 4m ceiling height.

Ancillary accommodation includes kitchen, store and toilets.

Gross floor area : 145m²

(2) *Activity Centre B*

Local meeting place for hire (traditional village hall with main hall based on badminton court) or club room for voluntary organisation.

Multi-purpose hall for badminton, drama, dances, dinners, etc.: size of hall 16.5m x 9m with 6.5m ceiling height.

Ancillary accommodation includes committee room, kitchen, store, toilets and changing facilities.

Gross floor area : 300m²

(3) *Activity Centre C*

Local meeting place for hire.

Multi-purpose hall for badminton and occasional drama, music and dances : size of hall 16.5m x 9 m with 6.5m ceiling height.

Multi-purpose room for social activities, meetings, hobbies, games etc. : size of room 95m² with 4m ceiling height.

Ancillary accommodation includes committee room, kitchen, store, toilets and changing facilities.

Gross floor area : 380m²

(4) *Activity Centre D*

Town or district meeting place for hire.

Multi-purpose hall for badminton, drama, dances, music, social activities, etc. : size of hall 20m x 20 m with 6.5, ceiling height.

Multi-purpose room for social activities, meetings, hobbies, games etc. : size of room 140m² with 4m ceiling height.

Ancillary accommodation includes kitchen, store, committee room, office, toilets and changing facilities.

Gross floor area : 720m²

(5) *Indoor Sports Centre A*

Town or district sports centre available to general public and voluntary organisations for indoor sports only.

Sports hall accommodating 2 badminton courts : size of hall 20m x 20m with 7.6m ceiling height. Ancillary accommodation includes store, lounge, office and changing facilities.
Gross floor area : 513m²

(6) *Indoor Sports Centre B*

Town sports centre available to general public and voluntary organisations for indoor sports only.

Sports hall accommodating basketball court : size of hall 28m x 15m with 9.2m ceiling height. Ancillary accommodation includes store, lounge, office and changing facilities.
Gross floor area : 670m²

(7) *Squash Courts*

Two squash courts with changing facilities and viewing gallery for general public and voluntary organisations to hire or own.

Gross floor area : 16.2m²

(8) *Changing Facilities*

Changing facilities for playing fields with changing rooms, toilets and showers and small store.
Gross floor area : 130m²

(9) *Sports Pavilion*

Club room and changing facilities for playing fields with kitchen, lounge, committee room, changing rooms, toilets and showers and small store.
Gross floor area : 290m²

(10) *Indoor Swimming Pool A*

Learner pool or small recreation pool available to general public and voluntary organisations : size of pool 12.5m x 7.5m (or under 100m² water surface) with restricted depth of 1m, ceiling height 4m.

Ancillary accommodation includes entrance, changing facilities, store and plant.
Gross floor area : 250m²

(11) *Indoor Swimming Pool B*

Swimming pool (training pool or recreation pool) available to general public and voluntary organisations : size of pool 16.7m x 8.6m (or under 150m² water surface) with depth of water up to

1.8m, ceiling height 4m.

Ancillary accommodation includes entrance, office, changing facilities, store and plant.

Gross floor area : 360m²

(12) Indoor Swimming Pool C

Swimming pool as sub-regional centre available to general public and voluntary organisations and suitable for 5 lane competitions : size of pool 25m x 12.5m (or over 300m²) with depth of water up to 1.8m, ceiling height 4m.

Ancillary accommodation includes entrance, office, refreshment area, changing facilities, store and plant.

Gross floor area : 734m²

(13) Auditorium : Small Theatre

Small theatre in district of town seating 250-300 in an adaptable auditorium providing facilities for drama, music, lectures and films for amateur groups, professional companies and school use.

Ancillary accommodation includes two changing rooms, store, foyer, public toilets, projection room, control room and office.

(14) Auditorium : Medium-Size Theatre

Medium-size theatre in town with auditorium seating 500 and end-stage for drama, music, lectures and films for amateur groups, professional companies and school use.

Ancillary accommodation includes three changing rooms, store, foyer, public toilets, projection room, control room and office.

(15) Auditorium : Cinema

Cinema in town with auditorium seating 500 and foyer, box office, office, public toilets, projection room and store.

(16) Dance Hall or Function Room

Dance hall, in town, for 800 dancers.

Ancillary accommodation includes foyer, public toilets, bar lounge, store, office and band changing rooms.

Gross floor area : 575m²

2.4 CONSTRAINTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEISURE FACILITIES

2.4.1 There are, however, severe constraints on the development of leisure facilities, notably the problems of acquiring suitable land and capital and the difficulties of running and maintaining the facility and achieving economic viability.

2.4.2 All the study areas are relatively remote and are therefore subject to shortage of suitable materials, high transport costs, lack of labour, since most of the labour force will be employed either directly or indirectly in oil-related developments, and inhospitable climate in winter. Like all other areas, they also feel the general effects of inflation. These factors have been considered in the formulation of Table 1 which outlines the capital costs of the Sixteen Standard Building Types;

Table 1 : Leisure Facilities : Standard Building Types - Capital Costs (£s)*

	Basic Cost	Area Loading Factor				Basic Cost	Area Loading Factor		
		25%	50%	75%			25%	50%	75%
ACTIVITY CENTRE A					ACTIVITY CENTRE B				
Building Costs	29,870	37,340	44,810	52,270	Building Costs	66,440	83,040	99,650	116,260
Fees	3,730	4,670	5,600	6,530	Fees	8,300	10,380	12,460	14,530
Equipment	2,060	2,580	3,090	3,610	Equipment	3,090	3,860	4,640	5,410
Total	35,660	44,590	53,500	62,410	Total	77,830	97,280	116,750	136,200
Annual Equivalent	4,280	5,350	6,420	7,490	Annual Equivalent	9,340	11,670	14,010	16,340
ACTIVITY CENTRE C					ACTIVITY CENTRE D				
Building Costs	78,280	97,850	117,420	136,990	Building Costs	159,650	199,560	238,960	279,130
Fees	9,790	12,230	14,680	17,120	Fees	19,960	24,950	29,930	34,900
Equipment	5,150	6,440	7,730	9,010	Equipment	15,450	19,310	23,180	28,070
Total	93,220	116,520	139,830	163,120	Total	195,060	243,820	292,070	342,100
Annual Equivalent	9,780	13,750	16,490	19,200	Annual Equivalent	23,410	29,260	35,110	40,960
INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE					INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE B				
Building Costs	121,540	151,930	182,310	212,700	Building Costs	158,620	198,280	237,930	277,590
Fees	15,190	18,990	22,790	26,590	Fees	19,830	24,780	29,740	34,700
Equipment	10,300	12,880	15,450	18,030	Equipment	15,450	19,310	23,180	28,070
Total	147,030	183,800	220,550	257,320	Total	193,900	242,370	290,850	340,350
Annual Equivalent	17,640	22,050	26,470	30,880	Annual Equivalent	22,870	28,600	34,310	40,160
SQUASH COURTS					CHANGING FACILITIES				
Building Costs	39,140	48,930	58,710	68,500	Building Costs	28,840	36,050	43,260	50,470
Fees	4,890	6,120	7,340	8,560	Fees	3,610	4,510	5,410	6,310
Equipment	-	-	-	-	Equipment	-	-	-	-
Total	44,030	55,050	66,050	77,060	Total	32,450	40,560	48,670	56,780
Annual Equivalent	5,200	6,490	7,790	9,090	Annual Equivalent	3,890	4,870	5,840	6,810
SPORTS PAVILION					INDOOR SWIMMING POOL A				
Building Costs	59,740	74,680	89,610	104,550	Building Costs	77,250	96,560	115,880	135,060
Fees	7,470	9,330	11,200	13,070	Fees	9,660	12,060	14,480	16,870
Equipment	1,550	1,930	2,320	2,810	Equipment	-	-	-	-
Total	68,760	85,940	103,130	120,430	Total	86,910	108,620	130,360	151,930
Annual Equivalent	8,250	10,310	12,380	14,440	Annual Equivalent	10,250	12,810	15,380	17,930
INDOOR SWIMMING POOL B					INDOOR SWIMMING POOL C				
Building Costs	117,420	146,780	176,130	205,490	Building Costs	173,040	216,300	259,560	302,820
Fees	14,680	18,350	22,020	25,620	Fees	21,630	27,040	29,000	37,750
Equipment	-	-	-	-	Equipment	-	-	-	-
Total	132,100	165,130	198,150	231,110	Total	194,670	243,340	288,560	340,670
Annual Equivalent	15,580	19,450	23,340	27,230	Annual Equivalent	22,960	28,700	34,030	36,530
AUDITORIUM : SMALL THEATRE					AUDITORIUM : MEDIUM-SIZED THEATRE				
Building Costs	128,750	160,940	193,130	225,310	Building Costs	484,100	605,130	726,150	847,180
Fees	16,090	20,090	24,080	28,160	Fees	60,510	75,640	90,770	105,900
Equipment	5,150	6,440	7,730	9,010	Equipment	5,150	6,440	7,730	9,010
Total	149,990	187,470	224,940	262,480	Total	549,760	687,210	824,650	962,090
Annual Equivalent	16,480	22,110	26,530	30,970	Annual Equivalent	65,970	82,460	98,960	115,450
AUDITORIUM : CINEMA					DANCE HALL OR FUNCTION ROOM				
Building Costs	432,600	540,750	648,900	757,050	Building Costs	144,200	180,250	216,300	252,350
Fees	54,080	67,590	81,110	94,630	Fees	18,030	22,530	27,040	31,540
Equipment	3,090	3,860	4,640	5,410	Equipment	5,150	6,440	7,730	9,010
Total	489,770	612,200	734,650	857,090	Total	167,380	209,220	251,070	292,900
Annual Equivalent	58,770	73,470	88,160	102,870	Annual Equivalent	20,090	25,110	30,130	35,150

* Costs are those prevailing August, 1976

annual repayment is based on capital amortized at 12 per cent over sixty years. These factors also affect the adaptation of existing buildings, and while the problem of lack of labour may be solved by local resourcefulness, the high cost of suitable land is a major obstacle. The process of obtaining capital is complex and time-consuming, and voluntary organisations may be unable to bear the financial responsibilities. However, in view of the need to provide leisure facilities at the same time as new housing, it is recommended that either temporary or small-scale buildings be erected first, to be integrated subsequently into carefully-designed leisure complexes, thus minimising the initial capital expenditure. Further temporary solutions could be found in the re-use of existing buildings.

In these ways facilities could be made available at the same rate as the increase in population in the communities affected by oil-related developments.

2.4.3 The actual running costs of leisure facilities have steadily increased through the general effects of inflation and escalating fuel costs.

2.4.4 The four main components of such running costs are:

a) Staff and administrative wages, particularly if staff have to work anti-social hours. Mechanical aids, such as lockers, can reduce costs, whilst the careful planning of the layout, and the time-tabling of use of facilities can also reduce staff requirements; if the facility is community-owned or managed, voluntary support can also reduce costs.

b) Maintenance costs, including repairs, and cleaning, can be reduced if the design of the facility aims at ease of care, although this approach may be constrained by lack of capital in that suitable materials may prove to be expensive. Community ownership may similarly help to reduce costs by harnessing voluntary labour to these tasks.

c) Costs of fuel and lighting have increased sharply and are often critical if a building is used only intermittently. The design of new buildings should therefore ensure that they are light and well-insulated and alternative sources of energy should supplement that derived from fossil fuels.

d) The capital and running costs, such as rates and insurance, can be related to the income that a building will attract, which will in turn depend upon the charging structure and by the frequency and intensity of use. Table 2 indicates the

Table 2 : Leisure Facilities - Capital and Running Costs

	RUNNING COSTS by the hour in use					CAPITAL COSTS AMORTIZED CAPITAL *		
	Staff & administration	Fuel	Maintenance, re- pairs & replacement	Rates & insurance	Running Total	25%	50%	75%
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ACTIVITY CENTRE A	0.50	0.40	0.15	0.10	1.05	5.35	6.40	7.50
ACTIVITY CENTRE B	0.50	1.10	0.35	0.15	2.10	11.65	14.00	16.35
ACTIVITY CENTRE C	0.50	1.25	0.35	0.20	2.35	13.30	15.95	18.70
ACTIVITY CENTRE D	2.60	1.35	0.80	0.30	5.00	29.25	35.10	40.95
INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE	2.60	1.10	0.60	0.30	4.85	22.05	26.45	30.85
SQUASH COURTS	0.5	0.25	0.35	0.10	1.25	12.00	14.40	16.80
CHANGING FACILITIES	0.5	1.05	0.15	0.05	1.75	4.85	5.85	6.80
SPORTS PAVILION	0.5	0.70	0.30	0.10	1.65	10.30	12.35	14.45
SWIMMING POOL A	2.60	1.40	0.35	0.30	4.65	12.00	14.40	16.80
SWIMMING POOL B	3.60	2.20	0.55	0.50	6.85	17.75	21.25	24.80
THEATRE	3.60	4.10	2.40	0.60	10.75	82.45	98.95	115.45
CINEMA	7.75	2.25	2.15	0.60	12.75	73.45	88.15	102.85
DANCE HALL	7.75	2.75	0.70	0.60	11.80	20.10	25.10	35.15

* Capital amortized at 12% over 60 years. Annual equivalent divided by an assumed number of opening hours of 1,000 hours per year.

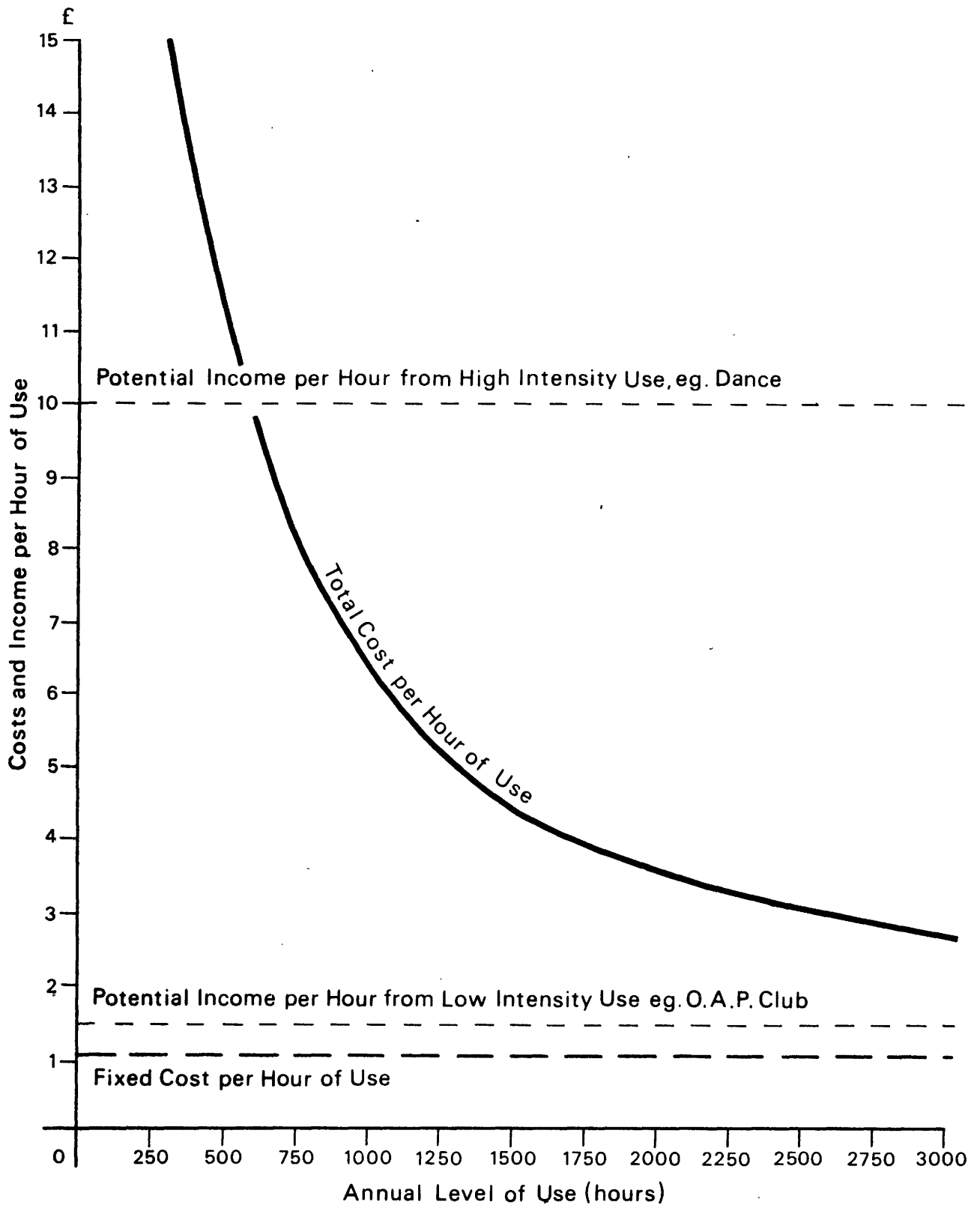
actual hourly costs of leisure provision, based upon an assumed use of 1,000 hours per year, and Figure 4 shows the relationship between cost and income for different levels of use of an Activity Centre A with a 25 per cent loading factor.

2.4.5 The costs of providing leisure facilities are understandably high, although the modification or re-use of existing facilities may provide an alternative to the construction of new buildings. It is also vital to consider capital and running costs together, although the present system of grants does not take this relationship into account.

2.5 HUMAN RESOURCES

2.5.1 Human resources are critical for both the provision of facilities and their operation.

Fig 4 Activity Centre A (25% loading) - Relationship between Costs and Income by Level of Use



The tradition of self-help with regard to leisure provision which characterises the study areas is being undermined, for example, by the increasing association, as part of the changes which the oil-related developments are encouraging, of activities with particular age groups. The continuance of community-based organisations with responsibility for recreation is of paramount importance.

The Financing of Leisure and Recreation Facilities

One of the major constraints regarding the provision of leisure and recreational facilities is their finance. As has already been mentioned, there are three broad groups of investors in leisure and recreational facilities - public bodies, commercial enterprises and voluntary clubs and associations - all of which require finance in order to provide suitable facilities. Given the entrepreneurial basis of commercial provision, the emphasis in this analysis is primarily on finance available in the public sector or from trusts and foundations, although sources of finance from oil-related industry are also examined.

3.1 LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

3.1.1 Legislation, notably the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, has given local government a statutory responsibility to provide facilities, although there is a lack of clarity about the division of responsibility between the various tiers of local government. Section 91(3) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act specified that *regional councils shall have a duty, in consultation with district councils within their region, to ensure that there is an adequate provision of facilities for the inhabitants of their region for social, cultural and recreative activities.* The national exchequer, local taxation and borrowing represent the three main sources of finance, although most of the areas in this study have traditionally been largely dependent on Treasury funds through the Rate Support Grant (Table 3). This has meant a tight control on local authority spending by Central Government and recent cutbacks in public expenditure and the revision of the Rate Support Grant have severely affected the services provided by local authorities, particularly in the field of leisure and recreation which is generally considered as having low priority. The impact of policies of

Table 3 : Local Authorities in Oil-Affected Areas - Rate and Rate Associated Income (1975-76)

Local Authority	Population (000s)	District Rate Income £'000s	Needs £'000s	Rate Support Grant			Total Rate Income (per capita) (£per person)	RSG as % of Total Rate Income %	Oil Related Element as % of Total Rate Income %
				Oil Related Element £'000s	Domestic Resources £'000s	Resources £'000s			
<u>REGION</u>									
Highland	182	7,495	22,803	432	767	4,071	195.4	78.0	1.2
Strathclyde	2,505	150,328	241,986	25	16,304	40,193	179.2	66.5	0.01
<u>ISLAND AUTHORITIES</u>									
Shetland	19	388	2,591	315	30	1,264	241.5	91.5	6.9
Orkney	18	434	2,451	28	37	1,075	223.6	89.2	0.7
Western Isles	30	778	4,717	40	61	1,908	250.4	89.7	0.7
<u>DISTRICTS</u>									
Inverness	53	868	288	58	0	234	27.3	40.1	4.0
Ross & Cromarty	39	735	212	168	0	334	37.2	49.3	11.6
Skye & Lochalsh	10	97	53	0	0	78	22.8	57.5	0.0
Nairn	9	92	49	0	0	51	21.3	52.1	0.0
Argyll & Bute	65	1,470	359	11	0	952	43.0	47.4	0.4

*This includes direct rate income and Rate Support Grant, but does not include other sources of income to the local authority, e.g., rents and fees etc.

central government has been made all the more effective by the Act which also introduced much wider control over local government spending than had been exercised in the past, mainly through Section 94, which states that local authorities should not incur capital expenditure without the approval of the Secretary of State.

3.1.2 There is special provision for oil-affected areas and the Oil Infrastructure Division within the Scottish Office has been given the duty of determining what proportion of local authority spending can be attributed to oil developments. The Division calculates the amount of spending undertaken by local authorities that can be attributed to oil developments, and this figure is then taken into account in negotiations on the level of the authority's Rate Support Grant. The special financial assistance is given in aid of local authorities' current expenditure and the main oil-related services which are being financially assisted by the special grant are housing, education, roads, water and drainage. Also included are other services such as social work, planning and leisure and recreation. To qualify for the grant the expenditure must be essential and must be incurred on or arise in consequence of exceptional works or services carried out because of developments relating to the exploration for or extraction of North Sea oil and gas.

3.1.3 The Scottish Office acknowledges that there is considerable difficulty in drawing a line between those leisure and recreational facilities which can be regarded as essential because of the needs created by oil developments and those which are not. The general principle adopted has been to offer grants where the influx of oil-related workers is large in relation to the existing population and consequently where new facilities or large extensions of existing facilities are essential if the local community is not to be grossly under-serviced. No grant is offered where the incoming oil-related population does not appear to create undue pressure on existing facilities in established communities or for a particular facility which is only remotely connected with oil activity. It is not possible to provide a definite statement of those facilities which might qualify for this form of grant aid although schemes that have been aided include playing fields, public halls and a community centre. Golf courses, swimming pools and sports centres are examples of capital projects claimed as oil-related but which did not meet the grant criteria. Capital expenditure on additional oil-related school provision has included, in a number of cases, the provision of recreational and community facilities which will be available for community use also. Whilst the amount of the additional support has not been very great compared with the total Rate Support Grant (Table 3), the oil-related supplement is an important mechanism whereby additional finance might be made available to local authorities where proposed expenditure can be attributed to the effects of oil-related development.

3.1.4 A survey of local authorities highlighted the common view that current restrictions on the spending imposed by Central Government severely constrained any proposals for providing leisure and recreational facilities. The survey not only indicated the relatively small direct commitment being made to leisure and recreation, but also revealed the equivocal attitude regarding the relative priority given to this form of spending within the total budget. An analysis of the Rating Review for 1976/77 revealed the disadvantaged position of the Highlands and Islands in terms of the estimated expenditure for leisure and recreation (though figures vary widely). As Table 4 and Figure 5 show, proposed capital expenditure for the oil-affected areas is generally lower than the national average, reflecting the traditionally low levels of investment in leisure and recreation in rural areas. The position is confirmed by reference to revenue expenditure (which can be taken as an indicator of the current stock of leisure and recreational facilities), where figures for oil-affected areas are also generally much

Table 4 : Proposed Local Authority Expenditure on Leisure and Recreation, 1976-77^x

Local Authority	Area (acres) (000s)	Population (000s)	Leisure and Recreation*	
			Capital Expenditure Expenditure per Capita+ (£ per person)	Revenue Expenditure
Highland Region (Total)	6,210	182	2.9	6.7
Regional	-	-	-	2.9
Inverness District	692	53	2.2	6.2
Ross and Cromarty District	1,235	39	7.2	2.4
Skye and Lochalsh District	613	10	-	0.3
Nairn District	104	9	-	5.6
Other Districts	3,566	71	1.9	3.3
Strathclyde Region (Total)	3,409	2,505	7.3	13.3
Regional	-	-	0.7	0.7
Argyll and Bute District	1,700	65	4.2	9.7
Other Districts	1,709	2,440	6.7	12.8
Shetland Islands Authority	353	18	NA	13.1
Orkney Islands Authority	241	18	0.4	7.3
Western Isles Islands Authority	716	30	-	7.5
Scotland (Total)	19,069	5,206	5.1	11.4
Regional	-	-	0.6	0.6
District	-	-	4.5	10.8

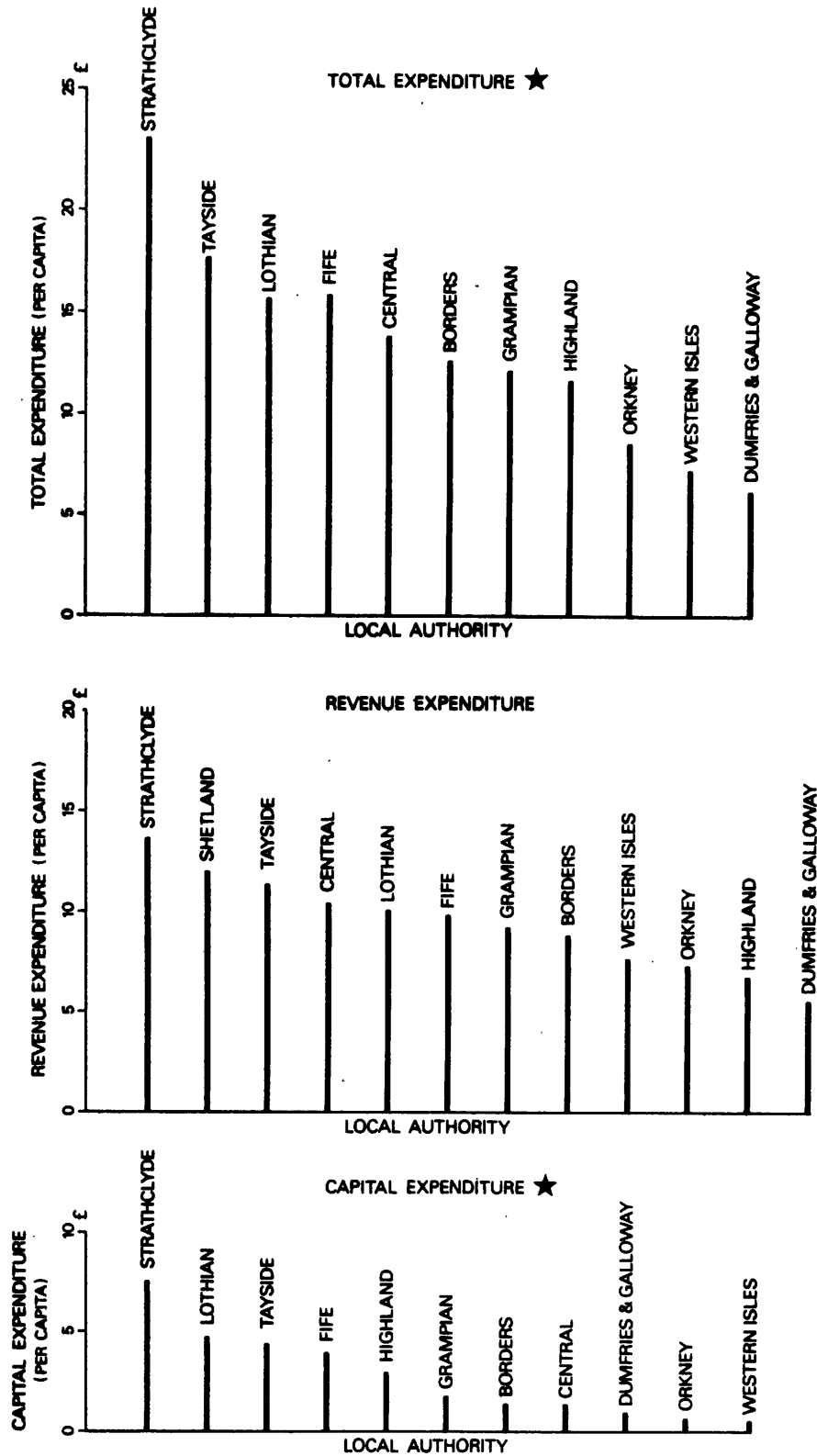
* Including expenditure on Museums and Art Galleries

+ Information abstracted from 'Rating Review - June 1976' and from data made available by W.H. McKay, Hon. Editorial Secretary of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Scottish Branch)

x Estimated expenditure as submitted by Local Authorities to the Scottish Office

lower than estimated expenditures for urban areas. Such low priority places spending on leisure and recreation in an invidious position in relation to other forms of spending by local authorities where, as the Layfield Committee recently reported (Layfield, 1976), expenditure is determined by a complex mixture of past practice, political influences and advice from central government.

Fig 5 Regional, District and Island Authorities Proposed Expenditure on Leisure and Recreation 1976-77



Totals include both regional and district expenditure

★ Proposed capital expenditure for Shetland Islands Council not available

3.2 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

3.2.1 There is a variety of government departments and agencies with some degree of responsibility for the provision of leisure facilities. Chief amongst these are the Scottish Education Department and several statutory bodies with specific responsibilities for certain aspects of leisure and recreation.

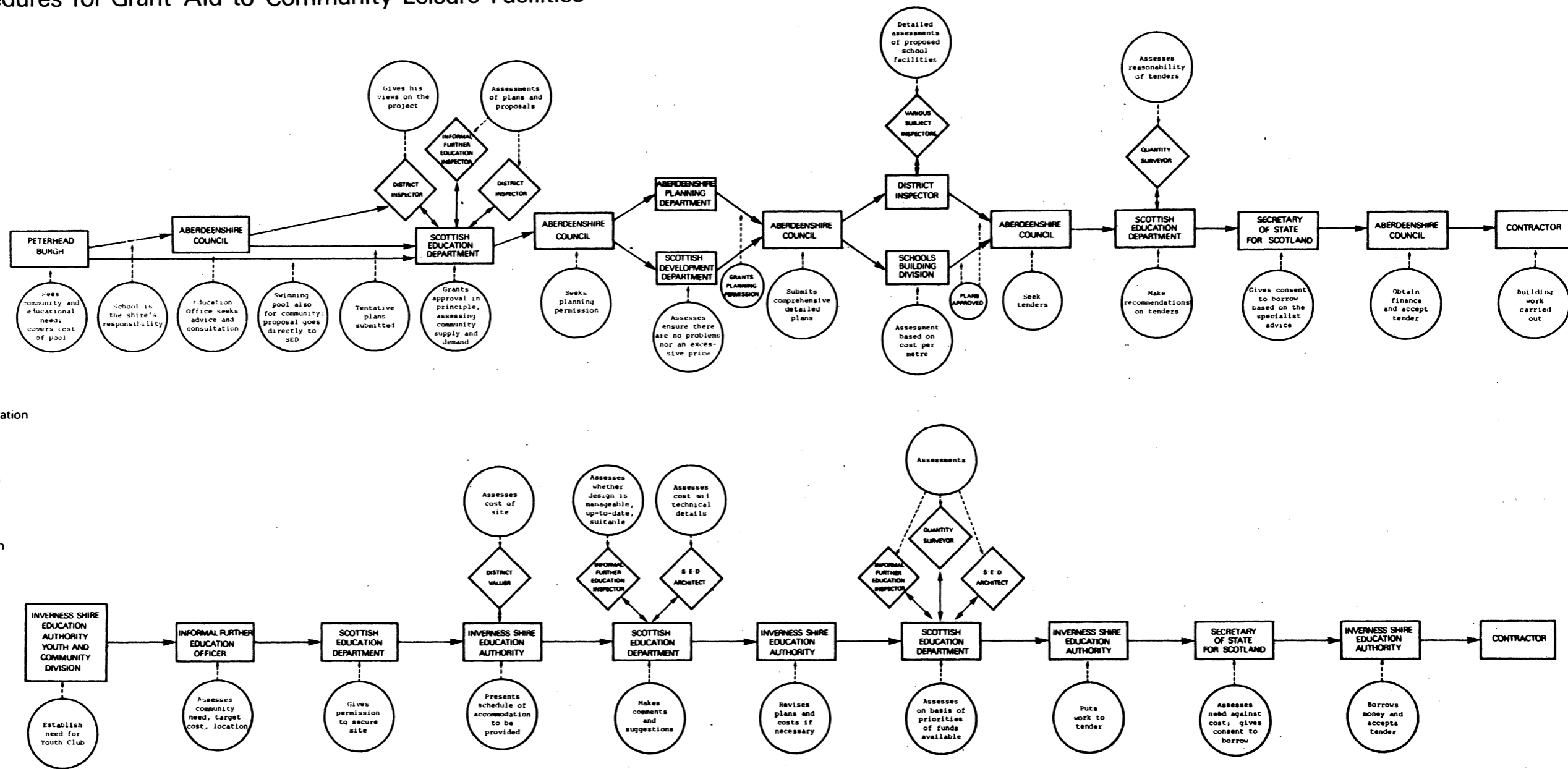
3.2.2 Central Government has a direct influence on borrowing (and thereby upon the nature of provision) by means of the powers exercised by the Scottish Education Department, through which a local authority submits its plans for any proposed provision for recreation in order to obtain consent to incur capital expenditure. The monitoring of applications for this consent relating to leisure and recreational facilities is only one of many responsibilities the Department has in this field, for they also have a central role in any form of community provision for leisure facilities. At present, the Department has the following responsibilities relating to leisure and recreational facilities:

- a) control of building by local education authorities for other than school provision;
- b) control of other building by local authorities for leisure purposes;
- c) responsibility for, and allocation of, funds to the Scottish Sports Council;
- d) limited financial assistance to voluntary clubs and associations; and, of course,
- e) control of school building programmes of local education authorities.

In fulfilling these responsibilities, the Department endeavours to achieve a balance in the nature of the projects it considers and the character of the resulting provision. This balance reflects current government guidelines as well as the appropriateness of the scale of the proposed facility in relation to the area concerned and its population.

3.2.3 The key role of the Department is evident from Figure 6 which examines the procedures involved in a school-based recreational project and in one that is not school-based. One of the key features that has emerged in recent years is the integration of community and school facilities, the provision of which is strongly determined by the policies of the Department. These joint-use facilities

Fig 6 Procedures for Grant Aid to Community Leisure Facilities



are very relevant for recreation in the study areas because of the key role of such community-based and school-related provision, both actually and potentially, in the enrichment of opportunities for leisure.

3.2.4 Although its vetting of proposals for the provision of facilities is perhaps the most important aspect of the Department's role, it also has limited funds which it can disburse directly for such provision. The Department is empowered by Part II of the 1959 Further Education (Scotland) Act to assist smaller projects by distributing funds to local and national voluntary organisations for the provision, or improvement of, youth, village and community centres. In providing these grants, the Department has the following priorities in mind:

- a) to provide facilities in areas of the greatest social need (although this need is not necessarily defined in terms of the lack of existing provision);
- b) to provide for projects catering for all ages, but particularly for those in the 14-19 year age group; and
- c) to assist with projects proposed by two or more organisations.

These grants are available to help in the purchase of land and/or buildings, in the construction of, or modification to, buildings, and in the initial purchase of furniture and equipment; they can also be used to help meet the professional charges associated with a project. Grants are, however, only given by the Department subject to the following conditions:

- a) the Regional Education Authority must also be prepared to contribute;
- b) the organisation receiving the grant must be able to meet the running cost and its share of the capital cost;
- c) planning permission has to be given and there must be security of tenure for at least twenty years;
- d) the provision must be seen to meet a need and not be excessive in the scale of provision;
- e) the facility must be open to all members of the community and be approved by the Secretary of State's Office; and

f) work on the project must not commence before the application is made and the project must not be subject to a mortgage or similar charge.

The administrative procedures for these grants are illustrated in Figure 6 (p.35) which shows the hurdles that must be surmounted by the voluntary association before any grant can be obtained. In the areas of greatest social need, the maximum grant is £35,000 or 60 per cent of the approved cost (whichever is the less). Grants at this higher rate have, however, never been provided for a project in the HIDB area.

3.2.5 The Department also has a recurrent grant scheme operated under the Further Education (Scotland) Act 1959 by which it gives grants to national voluntary organisations. Normally these grants are made to national voluntary organisations only in respect of their headquarters, administration and training expenses insofar as these relate to the provision of further education. This scheme is of relevance in the Highlands and Islands to voluntary organisations such as An Comunn Gaidhealach. The grant scheme has no upper limit although in practice the highest given so far is £55,000.

3.2.6 The *Scottish Sports Council* was established by Royal Charter in 1972 and its role is defined as to further the knowledge and practice of sport and physical recreation amongst the Scottish population and to encourage the provision of facilities for sport and physical recreation. The Council can give grants to local authorities that are developing approved prototype experimental sports facilities or those suitable for national competitions. The Council can also give grants to local sports clubs that are developing or extending playing and changing facilities. The purpose of the latter scheme is to improve the range, capacity and quality of facilities for sport in Scotland. The Council sees its grant-aid to clubs as *priming the pump* and as supplementing local authority grants and funds raised by the clubs' own efforts. The factors the Council takes into account in assessing applications are:

- a) the social need and the likely effect on the participation rate of both sexes in the activity concerned;
- b) whether the grant or loan would be essential to such provision;
- c) whether the club concerned has security of tenure for 20 years;
- d) whether any necessary planning permission has been obtained; and

e) whether the running costs of the provision could be met.

3.2.7 The Council's most recent scheme concerns areas of multiple deprivation and has been adopted in response to the present economic situation and the particular problems that local authorities face. The main objective of this scheme of grant aid is to help the most under-privileged within the community.

The main features of this scheme are:

a) areas of multiple deprivation are eligible for a grant of 75 per cent towards the cost of sports facilities;

b) the projects aided will be small scale, simple and low in both capital and running costs;

c) the projects should be begun and completed within the same financial year; and

d) the scheme not only covers the provision of facilities but also includes access to and the use of existing facilities. It also covers modifications to existing buildings or sites to make them suitable for use in connection with either formal or informal sport.

Although it is clear that the Scottish Sports Council has primarily in mind the urban areas of central Scotland, rural areas are also included. In the opinion of the Research Team social deprivation is either present in some of the study areas or is likely to occur as a result of oil-related developments.

3.2.8 The *Scottish Arts Council*, which is part of the Arts Council of Great Britain, was also established by Royal Charter. Unlike the agencies with responsibilities for other aspects of leisure activities, it is impossible for the Scottish Arts Council merely to play a pump-priming role. The arts are labour-intensive and, as a result of inflation and the escalating costs of artists' salaries and related wage-bills, most require continuing support. In addition, the bulk of the money available (£3,000,000 for the 1975-76 financial year) goes to a small number of beneficiaries (13 in all in the 1975-76 year). The general support available from the Council is thus very limited and this constrains its ability to achieve two of its declared objectives, viz., to develop and improve knowledge, understanding and practice of the Arts; and, to increase the accessibility of the Arts to the public. As far as specific capital projects are concerned, support can be obtained from the Housing the Arts Fund,

although in this respect Scotland competes for resources with the rest of Great Britain.

3.2.9 The *Scottish Tourist Board* is empowered to provide part of the capital costs of tourist projects in Scotland under Section 4 of the Development of Tourism Act, 1969. While the Scottish Tourist Board has overall responsibility for tourism in Scotland, by mutual agreement, the Highlands and Islands Development Board plays a leading role in this respect in the Highlands and Islands. The Scottish Tourist Board's criteria for financial help are:

- a) Projects should conform with the priorities defined in the Scottish Tourist Board's promotional plans.
- b) Projects should be unable to proceed without some support, although they will be self-supporting in the future.
- c) Projects should be designed to attract tourists and to increase direct or indirect spending by tourists.
- d) Small hotel improvements or extensions are eligible but priority will be given to projects in locations away from traditional tourist areas.
- e) Local planning authority approval is required for any changes in use of buildings or for any new buildings.
- f) Evidence is required that the cost of any work carried out is competitive. The applicant must either own the site, be in the process of acquiring it, or hold a lease with not less than 15 years to run.

Where these conditions are satisfied and the Board decides to help, assistance may be by way of grant, loan or equity, the type of assistance offered being at the Board's discretion. Total assistance may not exceed 50 per cent of the total cost of the proposed development and will normally be within the range of 25-50 per cent.

3.2.10 Under the *Countryside (Scotland) Act, 1967*, the *Countryside Commission for Scotland* can give grants to private bodies and individuals in respect of areas designated by the Secretary of State for Scotland as countryside (approximately 98% of Scotland). It is empowered to do so by Section 7 if these bodies are:

- a) providing, developing or improving facilities for enjoyment of the Scottish countryside; or

- b) conserving or enhancing the natural beauty and amenity of the countryside.

A grant is normally a contribution towards the capital costs of projects and rarely exceeds 75 per cent of the total expenditure. In assessing the rate of grant, the following are taken into account:

- a) the potential benefit of the project to the public; and
- b) any income that is likely to arise from the use of the facility.

3.2.11 The *Highlands and Islands Development Board* can give grants and/or loans towards social projects relating to provision for leisure and recreation through their system of non-economic grants; the total amount available for this purpose is small and the number of projects which can be helped in this way is fairly limited. The maximum amount of assistance available from the Board for any one project is £6,000, subject to the application satisfying the following conditions:

- a) the applicant must match pound for pound the amount sought from the Board;
- b) the organisation applying must operate under proper rules and constitution;
- c) where appropriate the organisation must have proper title to the land or building being developed;
- d) the applicant must be able to provide adequate management of the facilities and meet the actual running and maintenance costs; and
- e) where appropriate, the Board will provide assistance only if a project or the facilities provided are available to all members of a community and also to holiday visitors to the area concerned.

As with other organisations it should be remembered that the fulfilment of these conditions will not necessarily lead to a grant being given, for the provision of grants is always at the discretion of the Board itself.

3.2.12 The *European Economic Commission*, through its Regional Development Fund, may contribute to investments in developments in special development areas within the Community. Grants are given for the following categories of investment:

a) investments in industrial, handicraft or service activities which are economically sound and which benefit from state or regional aid and create at least ten new jobs or maintain existing ones. Service activities are those concerned with tourism and those which have a choice of location. The Fund's contribution to such projects would be 20 per cent of the investment costs or 50 per cent of the national aid, whichever is less; in practice, the level of national aid is the usual criterion;

b) investment in the infra-structure directly linked with the development of activities covered by (a) and financed, wholly or in part, by public authorities;

c) investment in the infra-structure in hill farming in less-favoured farming areas which are, of course, extensive throughout Scotland and the areas under study.

The development of social infra-structure is less likely to qualify for grant aid, although it is not excluded and there is clearly scope here for some assistance in the provision of leisure and recreational facilities although it is at present unclear what the attitude of the Commission might be to funding of this kind in the oil-affected areas.

3.3 VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND TRUSTS

3.3.1 There is a variety of voluntary bodies which would seem to be potential sources of finance, but a survey of some of these revealed that many see the provision of finance for leisure and recreational facilities as falling outside their remits. Moreover, most had been severely affected by inflation and consequently it is unlikely that any contribution would be large. Further, inflation has tended to limit support from these bodies to aid to small-scale, modest local ventures, suggesting that only limited help can be expected in the future, even from the more important trusts and voluntary agencies.

3.4 OIL-RELATED COMPANIES

3.4.1 Companies, directly or indirectly related to oil developments, might also be seen as a possible source of finance, for it is not uncommon for private enterprise to provide finance for recreational provision for the local community. Any company-

provided facilities can be seen as desirable although the greater the degree of public access and participation, the greater the general benefits that will be derived from the facility, since it can be better integrated into the general social framework of the area. Indeed, facilities provided exclusively for company use may have some harmful side-effects in that company employees may not integrate properly with the communities in which they work, or, as has happened in some of the study areas, hostile reactions may be expressed by members of the host community who feel disadvantaged because the incomers have exclusive access to better facilities.

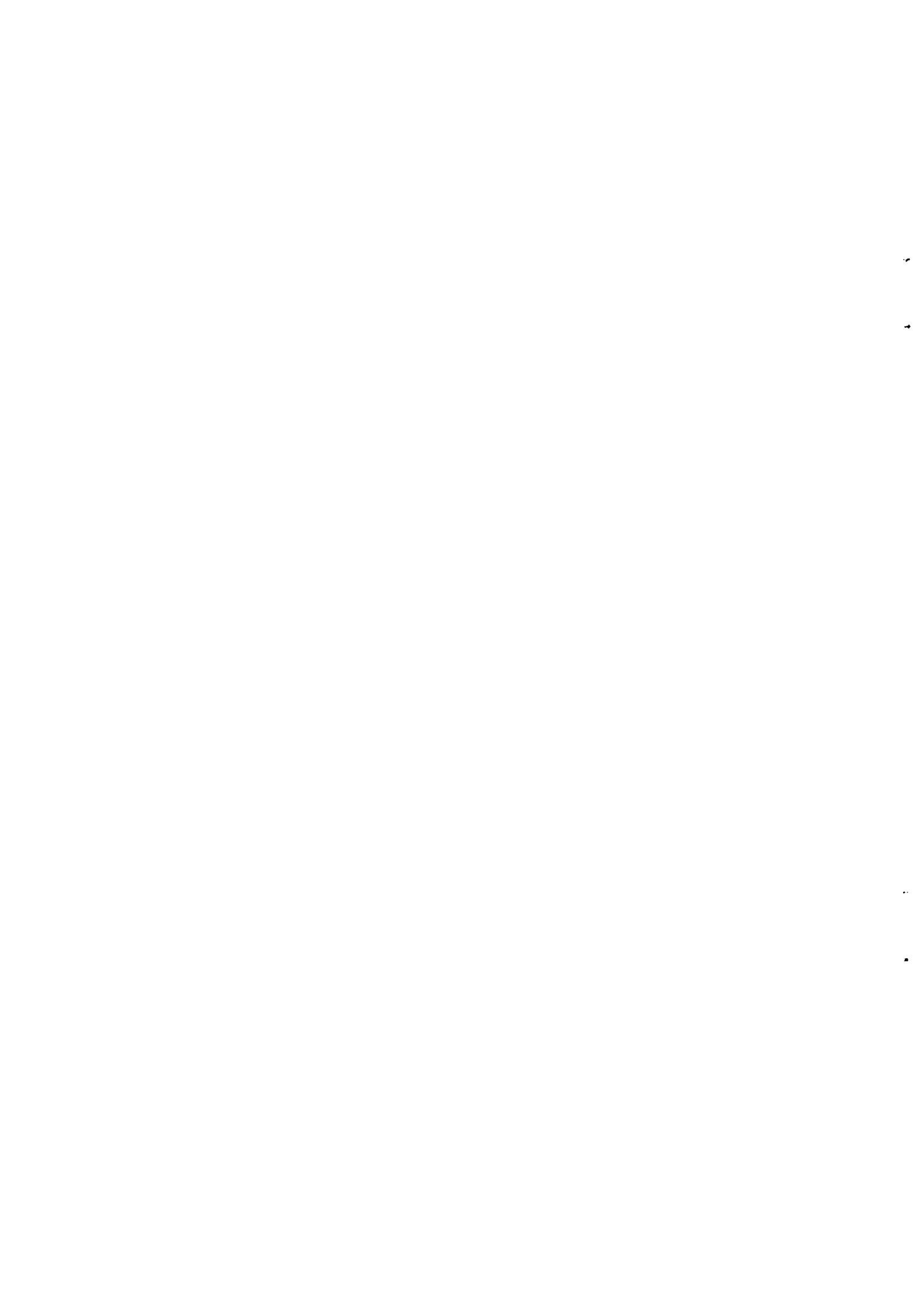
3.4.2 A survey of companies engaged in oil-related activities revealed the wide range and diversity of operations, expected lengths of stay in an area and of many other characteristics, all of which conditioned attitudes to leisure provision. In general, the evidence revealed that the provision of leisure facilities was seen as a method of industrial relations that would result in a more satisfied labour force. The survey demonstrated, however, that the companies were primarily concerned with providing basic facilities only, since it was felt that to provide facilities that were too attractive might discourage men from working overtime. There was a general desire to allow the local community to use facilities, although in practice this seems to receive a low priority. Companies regard provision as an act of freewill rather than an obligation and believe that rates and taxes paid to local and central government who they see as having the prime responsibility for providing leisure facilities, represent their contribution to provision. They also felt that they might lose control of any facilities they provided to public agencies which would not cater for their interest. The prospects of finance from oil-related companies are therefore not good and any provision they make would primarily be aimed at stabilising industrial relations.

3.5 CONCLUSION

3.5.1 Local authority finance, whether from rate income, rate support grants, or borrowing, is severely constrained, and, in the present circumstances, leisure and recreation seem generally to be low priority areas for expenditure. Grants from departments and other agencies of central government generally require matching funds and even the small contributions that fall directly on local communities can present difficulties in such poor and sparsely-populated areas. The current

inflation has severely limited the ability of charities and trusts to help and it seems likely that many of these can only make token payments. Nor do the oil-related industries appear to be a very promising source.

3.5.2 Against this background of possible strategies and sources of finance for leisure provision, it will now be appropriate to consider the actual patterns of participation in leisure pursuits in the study areas as a whole, as revealed by the Home Interview Survey, the Survey of Oil Workers and the Survey of Use of Facilities.



Section 2

Oil Leisure and Society in Oil Affected Areas

Oil, Leisure and Society in Oil Affected Areas

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The first part of this section examines the inter-relationships between leisure and recreational activities and the characteristics of the individuals who participate in them. As M. Kaplan (1975) has noted, the resolution of the key factors which combine to influence the individual's choice of leisure and recreation pursuits, is a synthesis between the conditions of an individual's life (as embodied in a whole series of personal factors, such as age, sex, income, health, work and place of residence), the function and meaning of the activities themselves and the process of selection which the individual undertakes.

4.1.2 Apart from the personal characteristics affecting an individual's propensity to participate in recreational and leisure activities, his or her choice is also influenced by processes of social interaction and by the social institutions within which he or she operates. The scale and influence of these institutions, examples of which are the family and workmates, varies; some may influence an individual's choice in only a casual way, while others may be key determinants.

4.1.3 Within the study areas there are clearly identifiable regional and sub-regional characteristics of culture and society that are reflected strongly in the leisure lives of the inhabitants. The different processes of economic, social and spatial development in the various communities have created a framework of leisure opportunities and collective patterns of social behaviour and attitudes that strongly influence the choices that an individual makes.

Newspapers, radio and television also play a part in making an individual aware of changing leisure aspirations and tastes, as do travel and holidays.

4.1.4 A consideration of these factors alone does not constitute an alternative to planning for aggregated needs, but it does contribute to an understanding of the *leisure system* which characterises community life within a specific area. Such a system will also reflect the institutional framework, social institutions and collective values that predominate within that area, as well as the external pressures to which the society will be subject. Such an approach is particularly desirable in the study areas where externally-induced processes of rapid social and economic change are under way.

4.2 LEISURE PATTERNS AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

4.2.1 The study identified six socio-economic variables that influence individual choice in leisure activities and the analysis in this section relies heavily on the Directory of Leisure Activities which accompanies this report.

4.2.2 The sex of an individual has a major influence on his or her choice, not only because of physical differences which discourage women from participating in some sports, but also, and more importantly, because of prevailing social attitudes towards women. The surveys showed that women's lives were largely centred around the home with 84 per cent of their weekly time budget being spent at home, compared with 76 per cent for men; furthermore, an analysis of the incidence of *free time* within the normal daily time budget demonstrated that women were effectively debarred from participating in numerous pursuits in which men (with perhaps less *free time*) can freely participate. Shopping, welfare, family and domestic duties outside the home all limited the time spent by women on indoor and outdoor leisure to an average of only 6 hours a week. Leisure pursuits in the home were the only aspect of leisure where women were clearly better off than men although such leisure will often be spent in conjunction with other family responsibilities. Men spent half as much time again as women on specific out-of-home leisure activities, no doubt because *premium* leisure time is available to men but denied, because of family responsibilities, to women.

4.2.3 Age has a clear effect upon patterns of recreation and leisure, particularly as it subsumes many other factors relating to an individual's *life cycle*. Physical fitness changes with time and participation in active recreation may therefore decline with advancing years. The influence of age is also affected by social norms; it is not regarded as *dignified* for older people to undertake certain leisure pursuits in which the young may

freely engage, whereas access to public houses and to some films is still denied to the young. Changes in social norms are also likely to be reflected in the age variable since it is most commonly the young who adopt new outlooks and constitute the *vanguard* challenging traditional attitudes to, and norms for, social behaviour. Many of the so-called *problems* of modern times are associated with specific age groups, such as the *young*, and the needs of these distinctive groups were strongly perceived by many respondents who clearly saw (particularly in respect of social, leisure and recreational needs) identifiable, and to some extent stereotyped, problems associated with particular age groups.

4.2.4 One of the most consistent trends revealed by the study is the increasing amount of time spent on activities at home and the decreasing amount of time spent on leisure activities outside the home with increasing age, although the elderly and middle-aged have a greater propensity than those in any other age group to participate in arts, crafts and traditional activities. Young people have the greatest amount of disposable time and are also able to take advantage of leisure opportunities whenever they might occur, since they are free of the time constraints that other groups face. (Although it is also interesting to note that teenagers spent less time than those in any other age group on leisure activities in the home - 47 hours against an average of 53 hours). The group with the greatest commitment to work were those aged between 20 to 29, a reflection no doubt of the higher proportion of working women in this age group. Those in the 30 to 44 age group worked the most overtime and devoted most time to leisure pursuits in the home, presumably because of their family commitments.

4.2.5 Although there exists a general trend of decreasing levels of interest in leisure pursuits outside the home with age, individual groups of activities are nevertheless strongly characteristic of certain age groups. For example, informal and social indoor activities (largely house visiting and the like) were very much favoured by older respondents, with interest rates more than double those recorded by those under 30. Similarly, the older middle-aged and elderly tended to show great interest in church activities, hobbies and club interests while, by contrast, younger people strongly predominated in sporting activities, drinking out and dancing.

4.2.6 The *employment status* of an individual has considerable influence on patterns of leisure as it can affect the time and opportunities available

for leisure, though its role is inevitably complex and will reflect other aspects of an individual's circumstances. Thus, certain types of work carry with them status and opportunities that open up new prospects for leisure, determine friendship circles and provide access to various organisations, such as Rotary Clubs.

4.2.7 Of crucial importance is the attitude of the individual to work. For some, work is seen as a means to an end and leisure activities are a compensation for the alienation that work itself constitutes. Others see leisure as no more than the time left over after undertaking necessary tasks. By such a definition, both the retired and the unemployed are the *leisure rich*, although both groups face severe financial constraints and have the lowest levels of personal mobility, a significant fact in the study areas where mobility itself can have a major influence on the opportunities for involvement in leisure pursuits. Further, it is clear that the unemployed do not realise the full potential of the time available to them. Thus, although the unemployed spent 90 per cent of their time at home, they spent less time than any other group on leisure pursuits in the home and even this was mainly spent watching television and listening to the radio. The most popular leisure activities amongst retired people were arts, crafts and traditional activities, particularly listening to music. The leisure interests of the elderly contrasted strongly with those of other groups, and particular care will be needed in planning for this group's leisure and recreation. Housewives had much in common with retired people, recording below-average participation rates in virtually all active recreational pursuits.

4.2.8 *Income* is a major determinant of leisure patterns and the results of this study confirm that participation increases as household income increases. Although participation in many leisure activities costs little or nothing, there is nevertheless a wide range of pursuits which make financial demands upon participants, while others that cost little have often been associated with the social status that money can bring. While the effects of income are claimed by some observers to be increasingly less important in more developed industrial cultures, this certainly does not seem to be true of the study areas. The weekly time budgets reveal that time spent in the home tended to decrease as income rose, an indication of the trade-off of free time for higher income or of job satisfaction, though those in higher-income groups tended to devote most time to leisure activities despite their greater commitment to work. The relationship between free time and higher incomes

is thus complex and illustrates how inappropriate it is to treat leisure as free time, unrelated to the ability to participate that is at least aided by an increased income. There is a strong relationship between participation in activities and income. Thus, only 11 per cent of those in the lowest income groups named outdoor sports as a leisure interest, whereas 88 per cent of those in the highest income groups did so. The only pursuits showing a reversal of this general tendency were those associated with the church and with informal/social events carried out indoors, pursuits that are strongly related to the cultural traditions of the societies in the study areas.

4.2.9 *Social class* is also related to leisure behaviour, though mainly through income, education and patterns of work. The general impression from the study is of predominantly high levels of participation for professional groups and low participation for semi-skilled groups, but, unlike income, it is not possible to identify a direct relationship between participation and social class. Class differences were most marked in the arts and crafts where there was a closer approximation to the stereotyped division between *white collar* and *blue collar* social groups than was evident in other leisure pursuits.

4.2.10 *Education* influences leisure activities in two main ways: through its effect on an individual's occupation, income and status, and through its effect upon his or her life-style, tastes and values. There was a general tendency amongst those in full-time education to spend comparatively little time on leisure activities within the home, although they had an above-average commitment to watching television. Full time students were, however, the most active group in leisure outside the home except in arts, crafts and traditional activities. Organised leisure provision in school is no doubt a major cause of such high rates of participation.

4.2.11 Amongst the groups who had completed their full-time education certain recurring relationships are identifiable. Most important is the fact that those who finished school before the age of 15 recorded the lowest level of commitment in each sphere of leisure. Similarly, the proportion of those leaving school at the minimum legal age who claimed no leisure interests outside the home was twice that of those who had had secondary and tertiary education. In general the study suggests that the higher the age of leaving school, the higher the level of participation in, and the greater the range of, leisure pursuits although it is difficult to disentangle the effects of education from those of employment and income.

4.3 LEISURE PATTERNS AND SOCIETY

4.3.1 An individual's choice of leisure pursuits is also determined by the social structures of which he is a part and the influence on an individual's leisure patterns of three factors which relate to these structures was examined.

4.3.2 The *composition of the household* can be expected to affect leisure in two ways. First it provides a ready made social unit within which an individual can participate in leisure with the company of others and secondly, it provides a constraint upon leisure activity. Amongst family groups there was a high level of spectator interest in active sports and it was found that families with older children spent less time on leisure activities within the home than those with young children; for these latter groups, the children themselves provided the focus of much leisure activity. Family groups also had the highest levels of participation in informal leisure pursuits; this involvement was highest amongst those families with the youngest children and declined where there were older children.

4.3.3 *Church membership* usually means the acceptance of a prescribed code of behaviour and ethics relating to all aspects of life and, although different churches have enforced these codes with varying degrees of rigour, Christian churches of all denominations exert an influence upon the daily life of their members (including their leisure activities). Even those who are not church members will often be influenced to some degree by the attitudes of the church. A large proportion of church members are middle-aged and elderly and this strongly influences their leisure patterns. Differences between members and non-members were most noticeable in informal and active leisure pursuits in both of which members had lower participation rates than non-members. However, members were much more strongly involved in arts, crafts and traditional activities, a reflection both of the age structure of church members and of the church's association with more traditional societies and the modes of leisure that characterise them.

4.3.4 The *holding of a croft* by an individual is a powerful indication of his relationship with the traditional societies which are characteristic of some of the study areas. Many aspects of a crofter's life may constrain involvement in leisure activities, particularly the time available for leisure pursuits throughout the day. In addition, however, one of the distinctive features of traditional cultures has been the lack of any need to draw a dividing

line between work and leisure. This is partly reflected in crofters' time budgets, for they spent over 3½ hours per week on leisure activities outside the home, compared with an average of 9½ hours per week for all respondents. Crofters also committed only half of the time devoted by others to eating and drinking outwith the home. Whether by choice or necessity, the holding of a croft thus appears to discourage commitment to out-of-home leisure activities. In general, their participation in leisure pursuits was substantially below average, except in activities related to their pattern of economic life, such as sea angling, or alternatively, those such as table tennis, for which village halls have traditionally provided facilities. The highest levels of participation were in traditional pursuits, with almost 90 per cent of all crofters having participated in at least one of the pursuits listed.

4.3.5 While falling short of a full examination of the individual and his or her leisure habits these responses confirm the assumption that ... *ultimately a theory of leisure can be little less than a theory of man and a theory of the emerging culture* (Kaplan, 1960, p.289). This proposition served to guide the studies of individual areas where leisure and recreation had to be placed in the context of evolving societies.

4.4 LEISURE PATTERNS AND THE LOCAL AREA

4.4.1 If the individual synthesises his own personal characteristics and the influences of the society in which he lives, then the geographical context of the study area provides the external factors which influence his choice of leisure activity. Where people live is thus a key determinant of their choice of leisure activities.

4.4.2 The translation of a propensity to recreate into participation must reflect access to, and the availability of, resources to support recreational pursuits. The distinctive social, economic and cultural pattern of societies also profoundly influences leisure patterns and are themselves related to geographical factors; urban areas display life-styles that are quite different from those of rural areas with scattered populations and a sparse network of communications. It is important to recognise that no uniform or stereotyped treatment can be applied to the different study areas and that evaluation and analysis must recognise the distinctive characteristics of geography and society in each area.

4.5 THE CHARACTERISTICS OF LEISURE ACTIVITIES

4.5.1 This section draws freely from the *Directory of Leisure Activities* and attempts to summarise the main features of leisure activities. It is inevitably selective, but particular attention is paid to those aspects which affect planning for leisure, such as the frequency, timing, and nature of participation, in order to highlight key factors that will have to be considered both in providing facilities and in the management and organisation of these activities. A three-fold classification of activities is used.

a) The aspect of *informal leisure* pursuits most appreciated was the company involved and the atmosphere generated. Other significant aspects were the stimulation of change and the relief from work they provided. Drinking out and playing bingo proved to be the most popular activities and Friday and Saturday were the most popular days for participation in informal pursuits, although there were variations according to activity. Very few respondents undertook any informal activities alone, being mostly in the company of family and friends. Levels of participation and satisfaction are inevitably affected by the adequacy of the facilities available, with over two-thirds of respondents who drank out, ate out or played bingo feeling that facilities were adequate; the greatest dissatisfaction was expressed over the provision of cinemas and discotheques.

b) The main source of enjoyment for those participating in *active recreation and good fun*; providing a break from work and the acquisition of a skill were also important for those participating in minority sports such as skiing. The thrill of competition was a notable ancillary reason in organised sports such as soccer and table tennis. Except for badminton and *keep fit*, participation in active recreation was concentrated at the weekends. Of the major activities, only in golf, sailing, badminton and *keep fit* did above-average proportions belong to a club associated with these activities; club membership was mainly associated with minority sports. Walking was the most popular mode of transport among participants, although most of those swimming indoors, fishing, sailing and playing golf used a car; few active recreationists used public transport. It was in organised sports that interest had generally declined, particularly because of the difficulty of *getting a game*; squash was the chief activity in which interest had increased. Only 8 per cent of respondents wanted to take up a particular activity, with skiing, indoor swimming, tennis and golf heading the list. The reason most

commonly given for non-participation was lack of facilities; dissatisfaction with the adequacy of facilities was particularly a feature of participants in minority sports.

c) The most common reason for participating in arts, crafts and traditional pursuits was that they were part of the local culture. Also they were seen as being a relief from work and being *good fun*. Scottish and traditional connections were the aspects most enjoyed by those who read Gaelic/dialect and listened to traditional music, while simple enjoyment of music was advanced as the aspect most enjoyed by over 40 per cent of those who listened to music of all types and those who engaged in folk-singing. The general education value of several activities was also noted. The number of respondents who indicated an increase in interest over the past twelve months was over twice as many as those indicating a decrease in interest over the same period, although most maintained that their level of interest had remained unchanged. The frequency of participation in arts and crafts varied considerably from one pursuit to another, two-thirds of those listening to music or playing musical instruments participated at least once a week, while 90 per cent of those watching drama did so less frequently than once a month. Participation in acting and pottery was heavily concentrated in the winter months when there is less competition from outdoor activities, and levels of participation appear to be strongly related to the season of the year, reflecting the importance of providing indoor facilities for the winter months. Almost all activities occurred on weekdays, and with the exception of watching drama, acting and pottery, these pursuits were often undertaken at home in the company of friends and family. Most respondents expressed no desire to take up other pursuits of this type, but about 11 per cent expressed an interest in pottery. Lack of time and facilities were the reasons most commonly given for non-participation and it was generally felt that facilities were inadequate, particularly for watching drama, acting, listening to classical music, playing musical instruments, folk-singing and country dancing.

4.5.2 An investigation of the relationships between broad categories of leisure pursuits demonstrated that *good fun* and relief from work were the main reasons for participation. Competition was a more important reason for participation in active recreation, but it was less so than might have been expected. The main source of enjoyment in informal leisure pursuits was the company and atmosphere experienced and the stimulating change provided by these activities was also commonly felt among participants, though it was of some significance for participants in all activities.

Unique to active recreation was the enjoyment gained from being in the open air and from exercise, whereas for participation in arts and crafts the main sources of satisfaction were an appreciation of music and the general education gained. Well over two-thirds of participants in informal leisure pursuits and in arts and crafts practised their pursuits all the year round, whereas active pursuits were much more seasonal, with less than half the participants being involved throughout the year. For the seasonal participants in active recreation the summer months were most important, while for those in informal leisure pursuits and arts and crafts, winter was more important. The time of participation also varied between groups of activities on a weekly basis, with Friday and Saturday heavily favoured for informal leisure. To some extent, active recreation and arts and crafts complemented each other, in that the latter were pursued principally during the week, while active recreation was more a weekend activity, being particularly important on Sundays. Because of these differences, participation in arts and crafts was almost entirely confined to the evening, whereas participation in active recreation tended to occur in the afternoon. The different timing of these three broad types of leisure pursuits serves to illustrate both the complex interaction of leisure activities and their additive nature. While friends and family were of paramount importance in providing company for participants in both active recreation and arts and crafts, rather more people involved in active recreation than in the other pursuits were members of clubs, partly because of the need for greater organisation if some sports are to take place and partly because membership of a club is often necessary to gain access to facilities. Certainly facilities were less commonly felt to be inadequate for active recreation than for either arts and crafts or informal leisure pursuits.

4.5.3 An investigation of expenditure on leisure pursuits revealed that those participating in informal leisure pursuits had a higher weekly expenditure on leisure than participants in either of the other two categories of activity. Those engaging in arts and crafts spent less than active recreationists. Factors influencing spending were the terminal age of education, income and access to a motor vehicle. Men spent more than women and there were considerable variations in expenditure between different age groups. Housewives and the retired had low leisure budgets while those in full-time education spent relatively little on leisure pursuits, despite their high levels of activity.

The Oil Worker - Work and Leisure

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 The aim of the second part of this section is to examine the way in which those employed in oil-related industries live and work. Such separate analysis is necessary because, in a very real sense, their lives are abstracted from those of the local communities in which these industries have been established. In most of the study areas, this abstraction is physical, in that members of the work force live in specially constructed camps; but it is more than physical, for their pattern of life is quite different from that of most inhabitants of the United Kingdom, let alone from that of those who live in isolated communities where traditional ways are still strongly entrenched. These workers come from many places, have long hours of arduous work and live for the most part in largely male communities in hatted camps where the pattern of life is dictated mainly by the requirements of their work. Such a work force must seem a race apart to the host community and, although its members experience the hospitality which is extended to all visitors, they are also viewed with some suspicion as presenting a challenge to traditional working relationships, social institutions, attitudes, beliefs and values. For their part, these workers must feel constrained by the demanding nature of their employment and the inevitable discipline and uniformity that characterise the institutional life of the work camp; the areas outside offer an opportunity to enjoy the stimulation of new faces and a cultural and social life very different from their own. Attention is therefore focused on their patterns of leisure activity, on the ways in which their recreational needs can best be met and on their relationships with the host communities.

5.1.2 The time scale over which the oil-related industries will operate varies considerably and those workers employed on the construction of camps

have generally had to make do with very limited facilities and spartan living conditions. This phase is fortunately short and most employees will either move to other construction sites, such as power stations or motorways, or become part of the more permanent labour force in the oil-related industries. Most members of the oil-related work force in the study areas are currently engaged in the relatively short-term manufacturing and construction stages of oil development. The mix of skills may be different at the various sites and the expectation of length of employment depends on the skills required at the different stages of platform and terminal construction and on external factors, particularly the demand for platforms. It may range from months to several years, but, despite variations in the size of the work force and a high turnover of staff, there remains a definable community whose leisure needs must be met both in the interests of the workers themselves and to prevent any adverse impact on the host communities.

5.1.3 Three approaches have been adopted by employers to the accommodation of workers in oil-related industry:

- a) At most of the sites a policy of *containment* has been adopted in which the objective is to meet the needs of the work force in a work camp or similar accommodation.
- b) At at least two sites camps now house only workers in transit, and the work force comprises both local residents and immigrants who live in the surrounding communities and so have leisure needs that are clearly quite different from those living remotely in work camps.
- c) A distinctive policy has been adopted on Lewis, of employing either those already living on the island or expatriate Lewismen, who can be expected to reintegrate easily with the local communities.

5.1.4 It is important to bear in mind the constant state of flux which has characterised the present period of oil development and is likely to be a feature of the immediate future. The current prospects for oil-related industries are uncertain, with a reduction in the demand for platforms and associated equipment. The needs of the permanent work forces that will be employed in the production phase of development must also be evaluated and this will be done in the context of the studies of the individual study areas.

5.2 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WORK FORCE

5.2.1 The work force is distinctive in a number of respects. It is primarily male and is largely segregated from female company, with contact confined to casual interaction across food serving hatches and the like. Although such regulations are perhaps understandable and necessary, they must contribute in no small degree to the desire to mix with the wider community where social events can provide some contact with the opposite sex. The average age of oil workers was approximately 35 years, compared with over 45 for all respondents in the study areas and most employees were in the 20-45 age group. Furthermore, the long continued process of emigration by younger members of the local communities could be expected to heighten the sensitivity of members of local communities to the presence of oil workers both at social events and in the general community (see Table 5 and Fig. 7). Workers are also distinctive in respect of the type of household from which they are drawn in that over one-third of the employees come from single person households and so had few constraints on the disposal of their earnings. Apart from these foot-loose individuals, the other main group of the labour force comprised men with children in the 0-12 years age group, who have very different financial responsibilities. Therefore, it is reasonable to presume that the attitudes of these two groups towards leisure activities will be different. The work force primarily consists of skilled manual workers and are distinguished, particularly from the local inhabitants of the study areas, by their higher than average levels of education and income; for example, workers' incomes averaged nearly £5,000 per annum or nearly double the average for the households sampled in the Home Interview Survey. As a result of all these factors, workers in oil-related industry have a greater propensity to participate in leisure activities than the resident population of the study areas. Nevertheless, workers lack two essentials for a full leisure life: time and opportunity. The high incomes in oil-related industry reflect long hours of work, whilst the location of the work camp usually deprives them of opportunities to participate in leisure and recreation. There can be little doubt that, unless the work camps and their facilities are designed to maximise leisure opportunities for the employees on the sites, there will be growing frustration and an increasing tendency to search outside the camp for leisure opportunities that are lacking within.

Table 5 : Socio-Economic Distinctions Between Oil Workers and Residents of the Study Areas

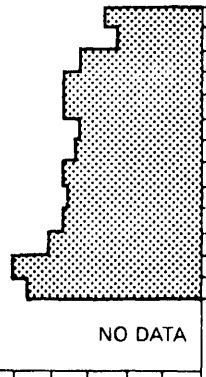
	Oil Workers %	Residents %
AGE		
13 - 19	5.0	12.2
20 - 29	36.8	16.3
30 - 44	39.3	21.2
45 - 64	18.6	29.7
65 and over	0.4	20.8
HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION		
Single person	33.9	16.2
Married couple	12.4	19.0
Family (children aged under 5)	18.2	17.4
Family (children aged 5-12)	16.5	16.2
Family (children aged over 12)	14.5	22.7
Adult with parent(s)	2.9	2.2
Adult with other relative	0.8	5.3
Other	0.4	1.0
SOCIAL CLASS		
Professional	1.7	9.4
Intermediate	11.7	23.2
Skilled (non-manual)	13.4	13.0
Skilled (manual)	45.6	29.2
Semi-skilled	22.2	16.0
Unskilled	5.4	9.2
INCOME		
Less than £781	0.4	12.4
£781 - £1300	2.9	13.7
£1301 - £2080	3.3	20.2
£2081 - £3120	10.7	21.1
£3121 - £4160	23.1	15.8
£4161 - £5200	26.9	7.6
£5201 - £10400	31.8	8.1
More than £10401	0.8	1.1
Average (£)	4960	2660
TERMINAL AGE OF EDUCATION		
Still in full-time education	3.7	8.7
Less than 15 years	14.0	30.9
15 years	46.7	27.3
16 - 19 years	28.5	23.5
19 years and over	7.0	9.6

5.2.3 There are other obstacles to their participating in recreational activities as fully as their age, family responsibilities, education and income might suggest, for the pattern of their lives in the recent past will generally have hindered stable participation in a wide range of leisure pursuits. Over a third of the work force had on average lived in three or more different places in the previous five years, no doubt because of the nature of their employment,

Fig 7 Oil Workers - Age - Sex Pyramids

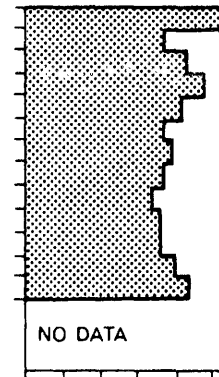
A. RESIDENTS OF OIL - AFFECTED AREAS

MALE



75+
70 - 74
65 - 69
60 - 64
55 - 59
50 - 54
45 - 49
40 - 44
35 - 39
30 - 34
25 - 29
20 - 24
15 - 19
0 - 14

FEMALE



NO DATA

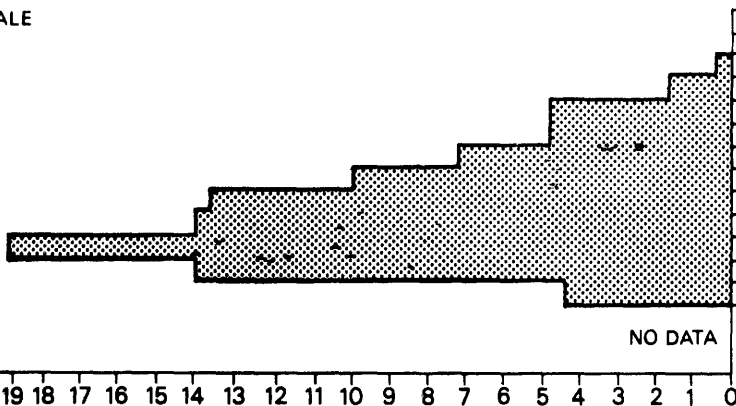
20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Percentage of total population aged 15 and over

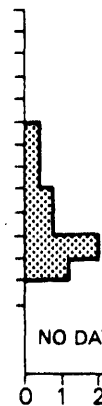
B. OIL WORKERS

MALE



75+
70 - 74
65 - 69
60 - 64
55 - 59
50 - 54
45 - 49
40 - 44
35 - 39
30 - 34
25 - 29
20 - 24
15 - 19
0 - 14

FEMALE



NO DATA

20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

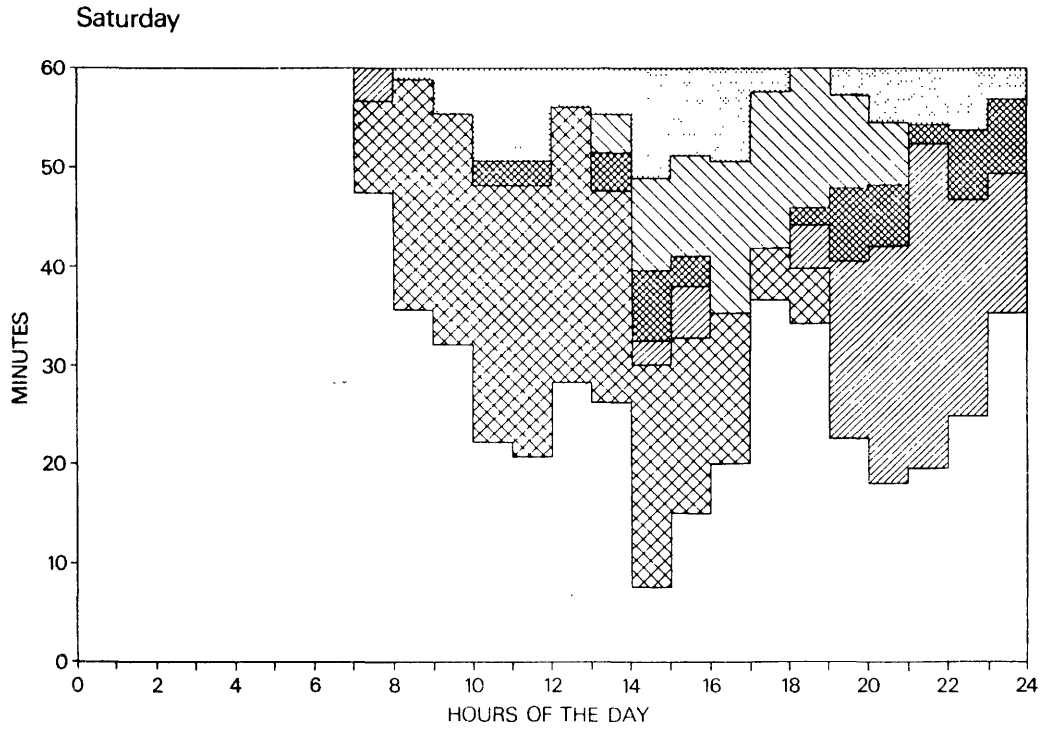
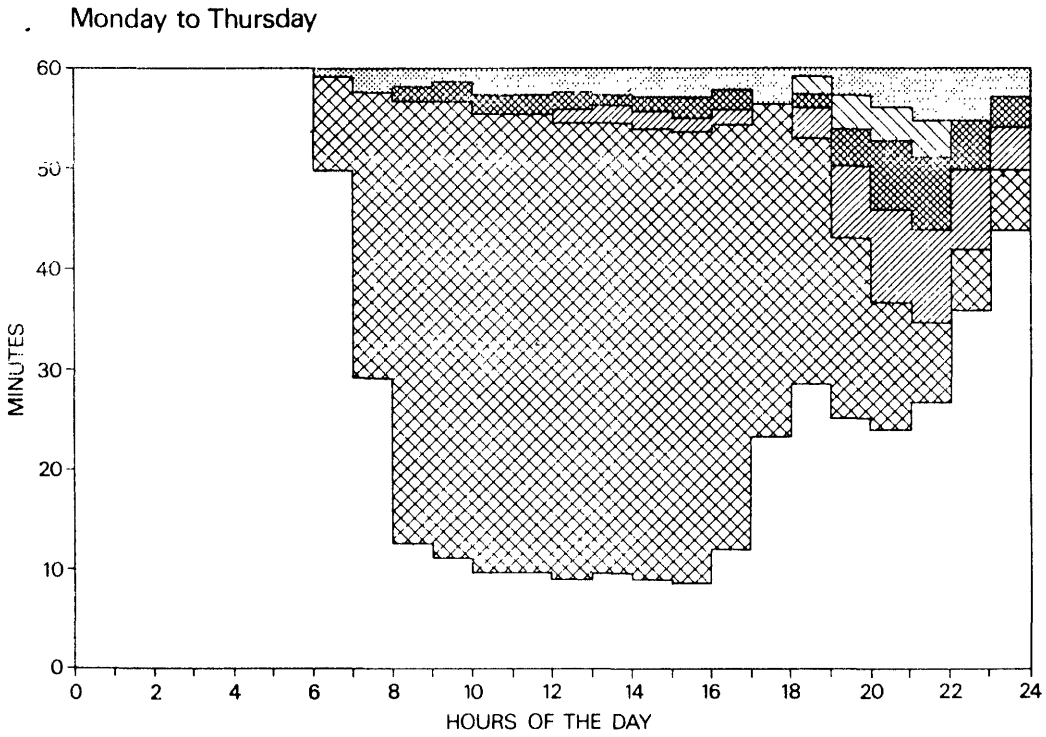
Percentage of oil workers aged 15 and over

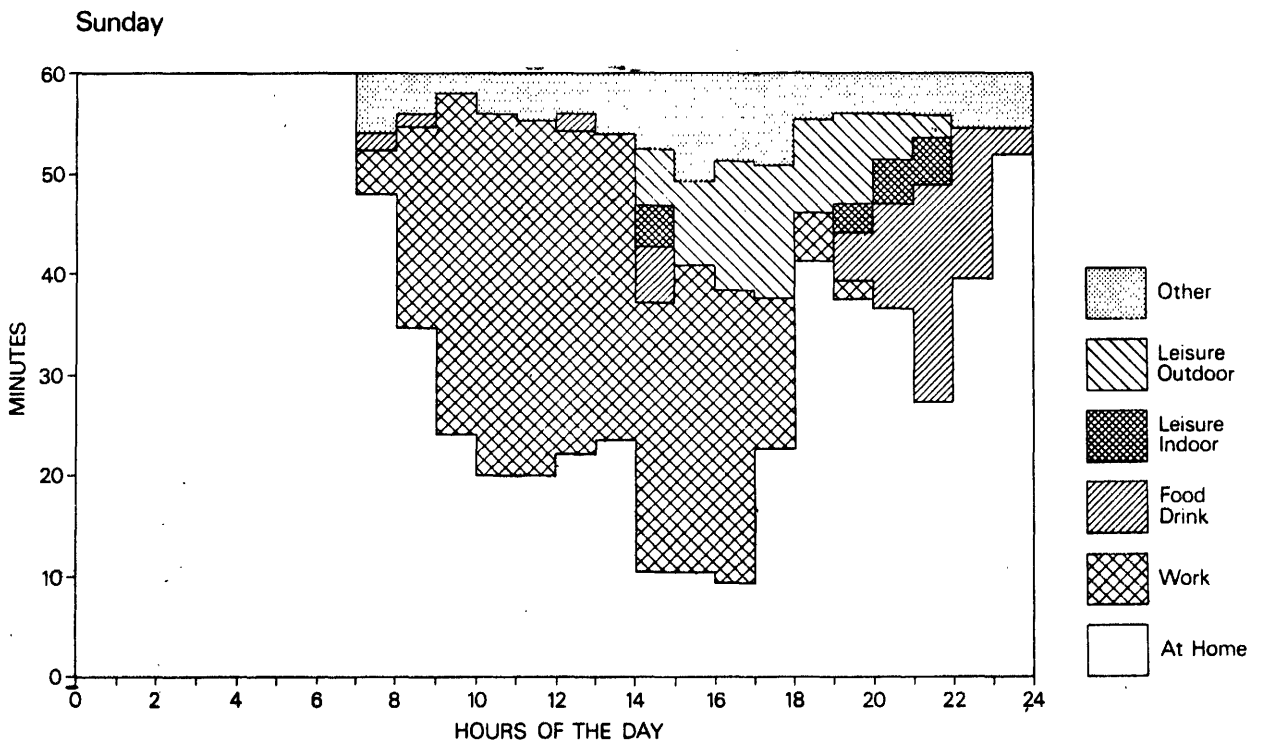
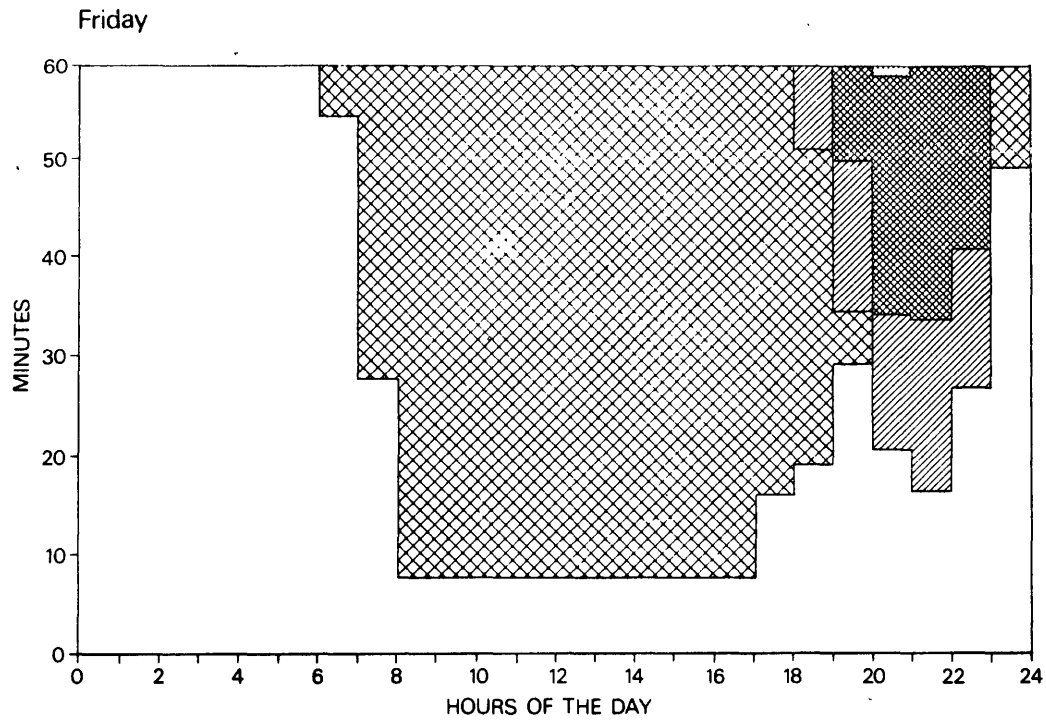
whereas over 70 per cent of residents in the study areas have not moved home in the past five years. The mobility of these workers thus contrasts strongly with the stable pattern, in this respect, of residents in the study areas, and apart from hindering stable and continuing participation in leisure activities, it must also restrict the establishment of satisfying social relationships of any kind.



5.3 THE TIME BUDGET OF WORKERS IN OIL-RELATED INDUSTRIES

5.3.1 As Figure 8 demonstrates the dominant factor in the lives of workers in oil-related industry is work and, on average, they worked nearly 65 hours per week compared to the average of 45 hours

Fig 8 Oil Workers - Weekly Leisure Time Budgets





-  Other
-  Leisure Outdoor
-  Leisure Indoor
-  Food Drink
-  Work
-  At Home

spent working by residents of the study areas. Such hours leave little discretionary time and only at weekends were there blocks of free time, although even then a restraint on participation in leisure activities is imposed by the limited facilities available at the camps. On average, the workers spend 90 per cent of each week day at work or at home on the work camp. During weekdays there was a strong emphasis on indoor leisure activities and on social activities centred on eating and drinking. This pattern changed at the weekend when outdoor recreation accounted for between 1 and 1½ hours of their time on both Saturdays and Sundays. Indoor leisure activities remained important on Saturday but were much less so on Sunday, their place being taken by social visits to friends and relatives.

5.3.2 The main differences between the leisure activities of oil workers and other males living in the study areas is that for the former, drinking and associated social activities constitute the most important leisure activities with indoor leisure (largely of the compensatory variety) occupying second place. Outdoor leisure activities accounted for only 2 per cent of their disposable time, exactly half that recorded for males in the study areas as a whole. These differences can be attributed to the rigid work schedules of oil-related industry, the concentration of their limited leisure time in short periods at the end of each day and at the weekend. The time budget for the period Monday - Thursday demonstrates the very limited discretionary time available to workers in oil-related industry. Work dominates the daily time budget between 6 in the morning and 6 at night, and the very little discretionary time is largely devoted to refreshment at meals and break times; the small amount of time committed to indoor leisure activities suggests the characteristic break time activities of cards, darts and the like. It is only after six in the evening that free time begins to challenge the dominance of work, though the effects of shift-work and overtime are still discernable. Not only is there more time available during the evening but out-of-doors leisure activities begin to feature, particularly in the early evening; but it is time committed to eating and drinking (particularly the latter) that dominates the use of free time in this period, accounting for as large a proportion of each hour as indoor and outdoor activities taken together.

5.3.3 During the working week the demands of extended shift-work deprive the worker of the time, and probably the energy, for other than an extremely limited leisure life. The weekend thus becomes the focus of leisure activity. Friday night and

Saturday night are regarded by the workers as the two occasions they can escape and participate in the social life of the wider community in which they live. On both Saturday and Sunday time off and the working of half-shifts place in the workers' hands larger blocks of discretionary time and give them the opportunity to engage in a wider variety of leisure pursuits.

5.3.4 In general, the host communities are most likely to feel the impact of oil-related workers seeking social relaxation on Friday and Saturday nights. It is also the younger workers who have more free time at the weekends, perhaps because a threshold has been reached when the supposed benefits of additional income are perceived as less important than those from free time.

5.4 LEISURE ACTIVITIES IN WORK CAMPS AND AT HOME

5.4.1 Workers living in camps have few opportunities to engage in many of the traditional in-home activities, such as gardening, hobbies and those centred on the family, and the range of opportunities is usually limited to watching television, listening to the radio and those pursuits, such as reading and the playing of musical instruments, which require few, if any, facilities and no other participants. The relative isolation and the lack of facilities at work camps is reflected in the limited range of in-camp activities engaged in by camp residents. Workers who live in communities near the industrial site, as at Ardersier, not only devote more time to in-home activities but engage in as wide a range of such activities as the resident population. The use even of the limited leisure time that those living in work camps have is thus severely constrained.

5.5 LEISURE INTERESTS OUTSIDE THE CAMP/HOME

5.5.1 The leisure interests of workers in oil-related industries focused on:

- a) outdoor sports - with nearly half those interviewed specifying an interest in these activities;
- b) drinking out; and
- c) informal outdoor pursuits.

5.5.2 Although in general the levels of interest, in other pursuits named by respondents tended to be a little higher among oil-related workers than

among male residents of the study areas, the relative importance of the activities was very similar for both groups and Table 6 demonstrates the range of leisure interests outside the camp/home of workers in oil-related industries.

5.6 INFORMAL LEISURE ACTIVITIES

5.6.1 The leisure of workers in oil-related industries is strongly dominated by informal leisure pursuits. Within the list of informal activities considered, *drinking out* ranks first and was challenged only by *eating out*; but if frequency of participation is taken into account, the dominance of drinking was clearly unassailable, with four-fifths of those who had been drinking out claiming to do so at least once a week, compared with a fifth of those who had eaten out. Most workers sought leisure opportunities outside the confines of the work camp, although many felt that local facilities were inadequate. A large number claimed that off-camp visits provided a stimulating change, thus confirming that no matter how good the facilities for informal pursuits are

Table 6 : Leisure Interests Outside the Home of Workers in Oil-Related Industries

Leisure Interests Outside the Home	Study Area						Total
	Shetland	Orkney	Lewis	Moray Firth	Loch- carron	South Argyll	
	Percentage of oil worker respondents						
Outdoor sports	44	48	77	57	24	36	47
Drinking out	31	8	15	18	57	50	30
Outdoor informal	22	40	31	27	29	24	27
Informal/social (indoor)	18	16	7	8	19	5	11
Dancing	24	8	15	7	0	7	10
Hobbies/clubs	9	0	23	12	5	9	10
Indoor sports	13	12	0	8	0	9	8
Indoor games	16	8	0	10	0	5	8
Music	4	0	23	2	10	9	6
Eating out	4	12	0	1	10	9	5
Cinema	4	8	8	1	0	5	4
None	7	8	0	9	5	9	8

Source: Oil Workers' Survey

in work camps, there will inevitably be a continuing demand to pursue these activities in the wider community because they offer not only an escape from the camp environment, but also the opportunity for stimulating social contacts.

5.7 ACTIVE RECREATION

5.6.1 Participation rates for active recreation were higher amongst workers in oil-related industries than residents in the study areas, although there was substantial dissatisfaction over the adequacy of locally available man-made facilities. In general, higher levels of participation by oil workers than by male residents of the study areas were characteristic of all pursuits and the general order of popularity of activities was very similar to that among the population as a whole so that oil-related workers could be expected to benefit from facilities in the wider community. In general, the workers were much more critical of facilities than were the local residents, possibly because of the difficulties many may experience in using facilities available to local residents. The principal reason stated for participation in active recreational pursuits was that the activities were *good fun*. Another activity-dependent reason, the thrill of competition, was also mentioned frequently. Exercise, competition, and the *open-air* all ranked highly, although the social contact and break from routine that these activities offered were clearly important to many participants, although they were much less so than for informal pursuits; there accordingly seems no reason why much of the provision for oil workers' active recreation should not be located in the work camps.

5.3 ARTS, CRAFTS AND TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES

5.8.1 The participation rates of oil workers in these activities (excepting listening to traditional music) were significantly higher than those recorded by the male residents of the study areas. Clearly, a significant proportion of oil workers found in these so-called minority pursuits the therapy and stimulus they require to counter-balance the day-by-day pressures of their working life. Frequency of participation in musical activities was high while participation in other activities tended to be infrequent and it seems reasonable to conclude that many of these pursuits are undertaken when the workers returned home rather than in the work camp. Despite the limited facilities required for playing musical instruments, such facilities were felt to be inadequate as were those for watching

drama, folk-singing and listening to classical music.

5.9 GUIDELINES FOR PROVISION

5.9.1 Three-quarters of the workers interviewed, participated in informal leisure activities with friends, in marked contrast to the fifth who claimed to undertake these activities alone (Table 7). While the pattern for arts, crafts and traditional activities resembled that of informal activities, that for active recreation was distinctive in two respects, the relatively high proportions participating either alone or in teams or organised parties. For each group of activities approximately half those who participated did so with members of their families. For active recreation, at least, there appears to be great flexibility of opportunity within the work camps and the degree of organised or team sport suggests that such activities could be promoted and developed by management and/or worker-supported groups within the camps. Friday and Saturday were the most popular days for engaging in informal leisure activities; indeed 70 and 80 per cent of participants, respectively, usually pursued these activities on Friday and Saturday, although other weekdays were also popular times for participation. For active recreation, the weekend was the most important period, with approximately half those participating normally doing so on Saturday and Sunday. For arts, crafts and traditional activities, Friday and Saturday were the most popular days, while there were considerable differences from day to day in the popularity of the other days of the week for these pursuits.

Table 7 : Groups in which Workers in Oil-Related Industries Participate

Group Type	Activity Type		
	Informal Leisure Activities	Active Recreation	Arts & Crafts
Percentage of participant oil workers			
Alone	19	43	11
Family	55	48	48
Friends	77	68	62
Team/club	2	17	4
Organised party	0	8	1
Other	0	1	3

Source: Oil Workers Survey

5.9.2 Each of these three groups of activities tended to be associated with different types of enjoyment. With respect to informal leisure activities the main reason for participation appeared to be the change provided from the pattern of work and the enjoyment of the company of others. For active recreation the dimensions of enjoyment were more varied and ranged from the exercise provided, enjoyment of the open-air, of competition and of the educational and creative aspects of involvement, to a desire for social interaction and for the contrast provided with work. In view of the relatively high levels of participation in active recreation, it thus seems likely that new provision will be quite heavily used. Meanwhile engagement in these pursuits will not only help the worker to compensate for his working day but also enhance the quality of his daily life by meeting a range of social, psychological and physiological needs to a far greater extent than can participation in informal recreation. The range of reasons for enjoying arts, crafts and traditional activities was also very wide and included the educational and creative aspects of involvement, and, most importantly, the social environment within which they take place.

5.9.3 The evidence from this study demonstrates that workers in oil-related industry have a considerable propensity to participate in recreation of all kinds and that actual levels of participation are also high. To make inappropriate provision is likely not merely to suppress latent demand, but also create a reservoir of frustrated aspirations which can only harm the interests of all those concerned. The Research Team believes that, while the facilities currently provided in work camps are desirable, they are also insufficient and that there should be an expansion of facilities to cater more adequately for the range of interests, aspirations and leisure skills present in the work force.

5.9.4 Facilities identified by workers as being needed (Table 8) varied from area to area, workers' opinions being influenced by the location of their work camp, the proximity of a main town, and whether they travelled daily to work from their homes or were able to return home at weekends. Frequent contact with home accounted for the less marked levels of dissatisfaction in Lewis and South Argyll and lack of contact with home for the higher levels in Orkney, Shetland and Lochcarron. The views expressed constituted an interesting amalgam of self-interest, i.e., facilities judged to be desirable for workers themselves, and a sense of the wider needs of the host communities; thus, a third of the workers identified a need

Table 8 : Facilities Needed in Each Study Area as Identified by Workers in Oil-Related Industries

Facilities Needed in the Area	Study Area						Total
	Shetland	Orkney	Lewis	Moray Firth	Loch- carron	South Argyll	
	Percentage of oil worker respondents						
Swimming pool	73	60	15	30	38	19	38
Old people's facilities	67	36	8	43	14	12	35
Squash courts	53	28	31	34	5	31	34
Community centre	69	40	0	22	24	31	33
Cinema	51	0	8	20	57	48	33
Restaurant	60	32	0	32	5	12	29
Youth club	73	44	0	22	10	10	29
Children's play area	57	32	0	28	33	3	27
Discotheque	36	36	23	20	24	21	25
Library	69	76	0	6	10	9	25
Playschools and nurseries	71	24	8	23	10	0	25
Theatre	40	16	8	16	19	31	23
Playing field	58	12	8	12	19	12	21
Cafe	51	28	15	16	10	2	19
Dance hall	20	40	0	12	5	7	14
Church hall	29	20	0	1	0	0	8
Bingo hall	22	0	0	3	10	2	6
Public house	13	24	15	1	0	2	6
Village hall	9	0	0	3	0	2	3
Other	0	4	0	2	0	3	2
None	0	8	46	8	5	7	8

Source: Oil Workers Survey

for old people's facilities. The variety of desired facilities reflects the wide range of leisure interests of the work force, which is drawn from predominantly urban areas elsewhere in Great Britain. Many of the facilities suggested could not be justified for a work camp, but may be justifiable if accessible to the whole community.

The Use of Leisure Facilities

6.1 INTRODUCTION

6.1.1 The Survey of Use of Leisure Facilities acts as a bridge between the supply and demand studies, since it yielded information from a range of facilities about the demands that users make upon them and the attitudes of such users towards some factors of key interest to planners. Much of the data must, however, be treated with some caution since only a limited number of people were interviewed at many of the facilities involved.

6.2 PROFILES OF USERS

6.2.1 The profiles of users of leisure facilities are detailed below:

a) *Halls* seem to be used mainly by those under 30 years of age, and over a third of users participated in mixed groups of males and females. Nearly three-quarters were in full-time employment and almost as many were in manual occupations (over a quarter of them unskilled). Nearly half had left school before they were 16, though almost a fifth were still in full-time education.

b) *Community centres* attracted a younger clientele, of whom more than half were under 20 and three-quarters under 30. Most were in exclusively male or female groups, and nearly a third were still in full-time education. Other characteristics were fairly similar to those of users of halls, though unskilled manual workers were relatively less important.

c) *Club rooms* were used by a very different group, nearly three-quarters of users being in their 30s or older and four-fifths members of some type of club. Club rooms were largely a male preserve,

with nearly nine-tenths of users being male and almost as many in exclusively male groups. They were mainly in full-time employment, three-quarters of them were in manual occupations, and two-thirds had left school before they were 16.

d) *Youth clubs* understandably had one of the most distinctive groups of users, for more than four-fifths were under 20, and only a tenth attended in mixed groups. Rather more than half were working full time, though three-fifths were still in full-time education. Here, too, manual occupations predominated, though a relatively high proportion was in skilled employment. Nearly all were members of a youth club.

e) *Hotels, pubs and bars* were patronised particularly by those in their twenties and thirties. These facilities, too, were largely a male preserve and more than four-fifths of users were in full-time employment, particularly in skilled manual work. Nearly a third worked in oil-related industries.

f) *Restaurants and cafes* attracted a diverse clientele, though those under 20 were relatively most important. Most were in full-time employment and here, too, a third were in oil-related industry. Almost four-fifths were in exclusively male or female groups.

g) *Libraries* had an even more diverse clientele, two-fifths of whom were aged 45 or over. No group predominated occupationally or educationally, but housewives and those who had retired were relatively most important (accounting for nearly half the users) as were those in professional and intermediate occupations, who accounted for a third.

h) *Museums and art galleries* attracted rather older users, though here too the pattern was diverse, nearly a third being 45 or older and more than two-fifths retired, housewives or in part-time employment. A notable feature was the relatively high proportion who had experienced further education, a quarter having ended their formal education when they were aged 19 or over.

i) *Cinemas and bingo halls* can be expected to attract rather different groups (though cinemas may be used both for showing films and for bingo and many bingo halls have been cinemas), so that no clear-cut picture is to be expected. Users were young, with more than a third under 20 and two-thirds under 30. They were distinctive in being predominantly female, though nearly a third were in mixed groups.

User's educational status varied widely and members of no social class were dominant, although there was a relatively high proportion of unskilled workers.

j) *Swimming pools* were strongly patronised by the young with two-fifths of their users aged between 13 and 20 and one-third still at school. Although males dominated (constituting three-fifths of total users), over one-third of user groups were mixed. Swimming pools had a broad social appeal although manual groups predominated, accounting for three-fifths of total users.

k) *Ice-rinks* have an almost identical *customer-profile* to swimming pools with users being dominated by young people (three-fifths being under 20) the majority of whom were still at school (two-fifths of those interviewed). Users were predominantly male, three-fifths of the total, and user groups usually single sex on composition, with only one-quarter of groups being mixed. As with swimming pools, users drawn from manual social groups were in the majority accounting for three-fifths of the total.

l) *Golf Clubs* had an homogeneous clientele drawn from a distinctive section of society. Users were primarily middle-aged, only one in five being less than 30. Users were almost exclusively male with 9 in every 10 of those interviewed being men and three-quarters visiting in exclusively male groups. Full-time workers accounted for seven-tenths of users and an equal proportion was drawn from those in non-manual employment groups. Virtually all of those interviewed were club members.

m) *Football and rugby clubs* had more diverse groups of users than golf clubs with, for example, users drawn equally from the various age groups, only those younger than 20 or older than 65 being under-represented. Users were also more evenly spread through the various social groups with manual and non-manual workers equally represented among users. One feature these clubs do share with golf clubs is the domination of men amongst their users; men constitute three-quarters of users, and two-thirds of all groups are exclusively male. Again as with golf clubs, club members predominate, with less than one in ten of users not being a member of an outdoor sports club.

n) *Indoor sports centres* attracted young people, two-thirds of users being under 20 and one in two still at school. Users were dominated by those in manual occupations, seven out of every ten of those interviewed being in these occupations. Users were equally split between the sexes although single sex groups predominated, accounting for three-quarters of visitor-groups. Surprisingly, only one-tenth of users belonged to clubs associated with indoor sports.

6.3 CHARACTERISTICS OF VISITS

6.3.1 Several aspects of visits were analysed, including size of group, number of previous visits, activities undertaken and mode of transport used. Visiting a library, museum or art gallery does not require company and three-quarters of visitors to such facilities were alone (Table 9), as were half the visitors to club rooms, youth clubs, hotels, golf clubs and football/rugby clubs, an indication perhaps of the importance of such facilities in providing company for individuals. At the other extreme, less than a quarter of those visiting halls, cinemas and bingo halls were alone. Large groups were associated particularly with visits to halls, cinemas/bingo halls, swimming pools and indoor sports centres. In the sample as a whole (which is unweighted) most of those not on their own were with friends.

6.3.2 The facilities used were obviously familiar to respondents, for fewer than 10 per cent had never been to the facility at which they were interviewed before and more than half of those interviewed at the facilities in eleven of the fourteen facility groups had made their last visit within the preceding week; the proportions having done so were particularly

Table 9 : Size of Group

Count of people in group	Facilities														
	Hall (town, village, mission, dance)	Community centre	Club rooms	Youth club	Hotel/pub/bar	Restaurant/cafe	Library	Museum/art gallery	Cinema/bingo hall	Swimming pool	Ice rink	Golf club	Football/rugby club	Indoor sports centre	Other
	Percentage of respondents														
1	24	35	52	46	47	43	77	73	22	29	37	51	58	30	47
2	38	22	28	36	34	30	16	22	42	31	27	33	26	24	33
3	18	28	17	13	10	17	5	3	19	22	27	13	13	23	11
4	14	8	3	3	6	5	2	2	6	8	7	4	3	14	5
5 and over	6	4	1	2	3	4	0	0	11	9	3	0	0	6	3
Average size of groups	2.4	2.2	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.3	1.4	2.6	2.4	2.2	1.7	1.6	2.3	1.8

Source: Survey of Use of Leisure Facilities

high in community centres, club rooms, golf clubs and football and rugby clubs. Cinemas/bingo halls, museums/art galleries and halls were distinguished by having relatively low proportions of users whose most recent visits had been within the preceding month. These findings are confirmed by an examination of the number of times respondents visited each group of facilities in the preceding month (Table 10). More than half those visiting libraries, museums/art galleries and cinemas/bingo halls had done so less than once a week. At the other extreme, more than half of those visiting community centres, club rooms, youth clubs, hotels, restaurants, golf clubs, football and rugby clubs and indoor sports centres claimed to have done so at least ten times in the preceding month. There is thus a dichotomy between facilities that are frequently visited and those that are infrequently used.

6.3.3 Visitors to facilities do not have a single objective, as many undertake some activity ancillary to the main one. It is therefore necessary to appreciate these other, often social, aspects of recreation when planning recreational provision. Some facilities are, however, essentially single purpose and libraries, museums/art galleries, cinemas/bingo halls, swimming pools and ice rinks

Table 10 : Frequency of Visits in Last Month

Frequency of visits in last month	Facilities														
	Hall (town, village mission, dance)	Community centre	Club room	Youth club	Hotel/pub/bar	Restaurant/cafe	Library	Museum/art gallery	Cinema/bingo hall	Swimming pool	Ice rink	Golf club	Football/rugby club	Indoor sports centre	Other
	Percentage of respondents														
Once only	8	4	2	4	5	5	16	26	10	10	0	2	0	4	4
2, 3	36	10	11	14	14	14	34	27	72	16	21	4	6	13	23
4, 5	15	22	10	6	14	21	26	25	5	35	26	20	14	9	17
6, 7	6	4	3	11	6	4	2	2	0	7	11	10	6	3	6
8, 9	11	5	14	17	7	6	8	4	10	12	5	14	6	7	12
10 and over	24	57	61	50	55	51	14	15	5	21	37	53	69	63	39

Source: Survey of Use of Leisure Facilities

clearly fall into this category (Table 11). Indoor sports were important not only at indoor sports centres, swimming pools and ice rinks, but also at youth clubs (more than two-thirds of respondents at these facilities having played them); community centres and halls were also used for this purpose. Outdoor sports are, understandably, strongly associated with golf clubs and, less understandably, with indoor sports centres but are also undertaken at community centres and youth clubs, though the

Table 11 : Major Activities at Facilities in Previous Month

	% of users		% of users		% of users
HALL		YOUTH CLUB		SWIMMING POOL	
Dancing	42	Indoor sports	68	Indoor sports	86
Drinking out	39	Indoor games	62	Outdoor informal	16
Indoor games	22	Informal/social	33	ICE RINK	
Informal/social	17	Music	25	Outdoor sports	83
Eating out	14	Eating out	15	Drinking out	43
Music	12	TV/radio	14	Informal/social	36
Indoor sports	10	Dancing	14	Indoor games	30
COMMUNITY CENTRE		Outdoor sports	11	GOLF CLUB	
Eating out	55	HOTEL/PUB/BAR		Indoor sports	95
Indoor games	33	Drinking out	89	Informal/social	26
Indoor sports	24	Informal/social	34	Eating out	11
Outdoor sports	24	Indoor games	19	FOOTBALL/RUGBY CLUB	
Informal/social	21	RESTAURANT/CAFE		Drinking out	97
Drinking out	12	Eating out	66	Informal/social	57
CLUB ROOMS		Drinking out	32	Indoor games	53
Drinking out	81	Informal/social	26	INDOOR SPORTS CENTRES	
Indoor games	45	LIBRARY		Indoor sports	80
Informal/social	40	Library/reading	97	Indoor games	33
		MUSEUM/ART GALLERY		Outdoor informal	26
		Library/reading	94	Outdoor sports	20
		Theatre/art/museum	14	Eating out	13
		CINEMA/BINGO HALL		Informal/social	12
		Cinema	68		
		Indoor games	37		

Source: Survey of Use of Leisure Facilities

role of these sports in the latter facilities is minor. Restaurants/cafes are dominated (but not exclusively) by eating out, which is also a feature of community centres. At both of these types of facility more than half of the respondents had eaten out in the preceding month. Interestingly, eating out was also undertaken, although to a lesser extent, at halls, youth clubs, ice rinks and indoor sports centres - illustrating the importance of activities ancillary to the main one pursued at many facilities. Drinking out was not confined to hotels/pubs and bars but was an important activity at club rooms, golf clubs, football and rugby clubs and was a supporting activity at restaurants and cafes. Dancing was a particularly important activity in halls (a category which includes not only specialist dance halls but also a much larger number of town and village halls that are often used for dancing). Dancing was also a relatively significant activity in community centres and youth clubs.

The facilities thus fall broadly into three groups:

- a) Libraries, museums and art galleries, cinemas/ bingo halls and specialist sporting facilities are essentially single purpose.
- b) Club rooms, hotels, pubs, restaurants, cafes and sports clubs have a specialist function, but also provide facilities for attendant informal activities of various kinds.
- c) Halls, community centres, indoor and outdoor sports facilities and youth clubs are generally multi-purpose.

6.3.4 Walking and travelling by car were the dominant modes of transport used to visit the facilities, a reflection of the extremely limited public transport services in the study areas. Most journeys for leisure and recreation were multi-purpose. A third of stops on the outward journey were for refreshment, compared with nearly half on the return journey, while stops for shopping were twice as frequent on the outward journey. If all stops on the journey to and from the facility are considered together, they show that their main purposes were to obtain refreshment, to shop and to meet friends. Some of these stops may reflect the absence of ancillary services at the facility and suggest that it is important to consider the range of facilities provided, with particular reference to those for refreshment.

6.4 ATTITUDES TO FACILITIES

6.4.1 Respondents were asked whether they felt there were enough leisure facilities in their area and there was found to be general dissatisfaction with existing provision, while those under 30 years of age were much more dissatisfied than older respondents. The lowest levels of satisfaction were expressed by those visiting youth clubs, swimming pools and indoor sports centres, only a fifth of whom were satisfied (though this may largely be a reflection of the age of such respondents). Greatest satisfaction was expressed by users of club rooms, museums and golf clubs, two-fifths of whom were satisfied.

6.4.2 Respondents who were dissatisfied were asked to indicate three facilities they thought should be provided. Further they were asked to rank these according to the degree to which they felt the facilities mentioned were needed. A wide range of facilities was mentioned (Table 12).

Table 12 : New Facilities Desired Locally

New Facilities Desired	Choice of Facility in Rank Order		
	1st	2nd	3rd
	Percentage of dissatisfied respondents		
Sports centre	13	6	6
Cinema	7	10	11
Swimming pool	6	8	5
Dance hall	5	6	4
Youth club	5	4	4
Social club	4	3	3
Bowling alley	4	3	2
Ice rink	4	4	2
Young adult facilities	3	2	3
Night club	3	2	3
Discotheque for teenagers	3	2	3
Football ground	3	4	4
Community centre	2	1	2
Youth facilities	2	2	0
Public house	2	2	4
Extended hours	2	2	2

Source: Survey of Use of Leisure Facilities

Sports centres accounted for the highest percentage of first-rank facilities, and were followed by cinemas, swimming pools, and dance halls. Cinemas ranked first among second-rank facilities, being followed by swimming pools, sports centres and dance halls, and the same four facilities also led the list of third-rank facilities.

6.4.3 Crowding in general of facilities was identified as an important problem, particularly in Lochcarron and South Argyll, as was crowding at the weekend and during the holiday period. Crowding at weekends was seen as particularly important in Orkney and, to a lesser extent, in Shetland, while respondents in Lochcarron and in South Argyll reported crowding in the holiday season as the second most important problem. Only in Lochcarron were oil-related workers seen as a major cause of crowding, with hotels and pubs bearing most of the pressure from workers in oil-related industry.

6.4.4 There are, then, low levels of satisfaction with the facilities available for leisure, while there is a desire for appreciably more indoor facilities. Weather and the long hours of darkness in winter might be expected to be important causes of this latter aspiration. Meanwhile, the earlier analysis has indicated the importance of multi-purpose facilities, where many of the respondents' proposals could be implemented.

6.5 CONCLUSION

This analysis of the use of leisure facilities has, for the most part, treated the study areas as a single unit, though the tables and occasional comments have revealed something of the differences between them. In the following section, each of the study areas will be considered separately and the Research Team's recommendations for them outlined.

Section 3

General and Area Recommendations



General Recommendations

7.1 INTRODUCTION

7.1.1 This investigation has demonstrated the existence of different *Leisure Systems* in the study areas that reflect both the dominant social and economic forces at work in these societies and the local geography. Of particular significance is the strong contrast between patterns of leisure in those areas that are still dominated by pre-industrial *life-styles*, where work and leisure are integrated with other aspects of social life, and those in the more industrialised areas (particularly the Moray Firth) where *leisure and work* are seen as opposites in an increasingly stratified society that lacks the community relationships of the more traditional societies. These contrasts are observable not only in the different leisure activities undertaken, but also in the types of facilities demanded and in the organisational framework within which activities take place. The mix of *pre-industrial* and *industrial* society varies in the different study areas and, in the absence of oil-related developments, there can be little doubt that, while changes would have continued to occur, they would have been slow and evolutionary, and changes in leisure habits would have been accommodated by adjustments in the provision of facilities. The arrival of oil-related industry and the accompanying immigration have accelerated the processes of change and those living in the study areas are now facing, to greater or lesser degrees, the difficult task of making rapid social adjustments.

7.1.2 As far as leisure and recreation are concerned, these communities are generally ill-equipped to cope successfully with these processes of change. The investigations have shown that the study areas are, to varying degrees, deprived, not only in a general sense (for it has long been recognised that the Highlands and Islands present, in exaggerated

form, the problems that face all remote rural areas with marginal land) but specifically in relation to opportunities for leisure and recreational pursuits outside the home. Seen in the context of traditional life-styles, such deprivation was of limited consequence, for leisure activities were centred on the ubiquitous village halls and the lack of organised activity led to low levels of expectation for facilities which most members of an industrialised society would take for granted. An indication of their relative deprivation is given by the much greater dissatisfaction with the facilities available expressed by workers in oil-related industries, for many of these workers are drawn from urban areas where they are accustomed to more comprehensive and sophisticated provision. It is, in fact, the juxtaposition of two standards and two levels of expectation that is one of the most important ingredients of the social impact of oil-related developments. While provision of recreational opportunities will be only one element of the social planning that will be necessary to safeguard these communities and help them through a difficult period of transition, it is likely to be an increasingly important element, both as a positive device for promoting community development and as a means of protecting communities at risk.

7.1.3 However geographically, economically and socially isolated these communities may have been in the past, they are now at the frontier of economic development. As a result, these peripheral and generally underprivileged societies, with distinctive cultures that have long been challenged at a distance by the forces of modern industrialised economy, have suddenly experienced rapid social change that has been imposed from outside, for these changes are the result of decisions by government and by large, often multi-national, corporations. At the same time, there is no certainty that any benefits that they might bring to offset the obvious disruption of existing community life will last sufficiently long to compensate for the disruption.

7.1.4 It is these circumstances that led the Research Team to their main recommendation - *that those areas of the Highlands and Islands affected by oil-related industries should be regarded, within the context of the British Isles as a whole, as PRIORITY AREAS FOR LEISURE PROVISION.* This need for special consideration derives not only from the comparatively poor provision for people living in these areas and from the fact that they are having to cope with changes in society that have been induced by outside forces and not by the choice of the residents themselves (who vary in their views about their desirability); it

arises also from the short-term nature of the developments and from the limited economic multiplier effect these industries have in the study areas. Such a designation for these oil-affected areas should not, of course, preclude other areas of the British Isles from enjoying priority treatment even in a period of financial restraint.

7.1.5 The implications of such a policy are first examined within the framework of specific recommendations that are based on general principles applicable to all study areas. Aims and recommendations are then presented for each of the study areas.

7.2 SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
7.2.1 To finance for provision for recreation and leisure	To provide the financial support for a programme of leisure provision for areas affected by oil-related developments, i.e., Priority Areas for Leisure Provision	<p>A. Central Government should undertake a review of the Oil-Related Element in the Rate Support Grant with the aims of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Widening the criteria by which oil-related spending is defined to acknowledge the <i>social multiplier</i> effects of oil developments and the need to provide facilities to ease the processes of transition that are already occurring. ii) Acknowledging the central role played by leisure and recreation in conserving and developing the processes of socialisation and interaction between and among social groups in a period of transition. iii) Accepting the primary role of the Local Authorities as <i>providers</i> in a sector where commercial investment in the study areas has been traditionally weak and where the lack of large potential markets will continue to limit such investment. iv) Increasing the <i>general</i> level of financial support given to local authorities through the Oil Related Element in the Rate Support Grant and the <i>particular</i> contribution for leisure and recreational facilities. <p>B. Central Government should assist programmes for the development of leisure facilities in the Priority Areas for Leisure Provision by the allocation of <i>cheap</i> money by the Public Works Loan Board.</p> <p>C. The Highlands and Islands Development Board should extend further the assistance given for social infrastructure, particularly provision for</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
		<p>leisure and recreation, in recognition of the role of such provision in community development and in supporting oil-related industrial activity.</p> <p>Such assistance would create employment, and make the areas more attractive to incoming industry in general, as well as sustaining the social structure of the communities affected. Such an extension of monetary assistance might require additional financial support for the Board from Central Government.</p> <p>D. The European Economic Commission should, in line with these arguments, extend further financial support from the Regional Development Fund to provision for leisure and recreation as part of its investment in social infrastructure in Special Development Areas.</p> <p>E. The oil-related companies should pay to the affected communities a standardised Disturbance Payment, in recognition of their role as the direct agent of accelerated social changes.</p> <p>This payment should include an element that was specially identified as being for community investment in leisure and recreational facilities. Since the nature of the impact is primarily related to the scale and duration of the developments, a form of <i>payroll levy</i> seems an appropriate mechanism, to be paid by oil-related manufacturing and construction firms during the full period of their operation.</p> <p>Such payment could be made directly to the local authorities, or alternatively, could be off-set by the provision of <i>community-based</i> facilities by the companies themselves.</p>
7.2.2 The Role of the Local Authorities in Planning for Recreation and Leisure	To define the institutional framework within which leisure and recreation takes place	<p>The local authorities are urged:</p> <p>i) To recognise that it is impossible to abstract decisions relating to recreation and leisure from the physical, spatial, social, economic and cultural environment to which they relate. The Research Team commends the use of the <i>Schema for Leisure Planning</i> adopted for this study as defining policies that are sensitive to local conditions and take account of past and prospective events.</p> <p>ii) To adopt the principle of <i>incrementalism</i> in their approach to planning for recreation and leisure. Incrementalism is particularly relevant at a time when community aspirations and needs may change quite rapidly and in unforeseen ways. By</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
		<p>means of such an approach facilities can better be provided by a sequence of plans, the validity of each of which could be assessed against conditions prevailing at the time, than by a long-term programme that would soon be outmoded.</p>
		<p>iii) To co-ordinate the activities of all departments providing leisure facilities, such as Education, Social Services, Planning and Transport. Corporate management, which is essential for leisure and recreation, requires such an approach, for it is essential to avoid departmental isolationism and too narrow a view of leisure provision. It is presumed that Leisure and Recreation Departments would exercise the primary responsibility for such co-ordination. Corporate management will also ensure that decisions about further provision take their place in investment programmes.</p>
		<p>iv) To agree on an acceptable division of responsibilities between Regional and District authorities in respect of both capital and revenue spending. Such an agreement should be based on the realities of the local situation, particularly the financial resources of the respective authorities.</p>
		<p>v) To insulate provision for recreation and leisure from harmful cuts by incorporating in programmes of house building an agreed allocation of finance for investment in community facilities so that these are provided contemporaneously with new housing. The provision of leisure facilities has always been vulnerable to cut-backs and postponements, particularly in periods of economic stringency. Such provision has too often been seen as an optional extra that depends on finance being available above that required for more necessary expenditure. Such a view has led to under-provision, or what is nearly as damaging, delays between the building of houses and the provision of community facilities, including those for leisure and recreation. If such policies are allowed to persist, especially in a period of rapid social change, they will inevitably contribute to the emergence of social problems that will not only be damaging to individuals directly involved, but will prejudice the community structure itself.</p>
<p>7.2.3 Government Departments and Agencies providing grants for leisure and recreation</p>	<p>To facilitate leisure and recreational provision in oil-affected areas</p>	<p>A. All agencies providing grants should review their grant schemes:</p> <p>i) With the capabilities of small, rural communities and voluntary agencies in mind and with the objective of simplifying these procedures as far as possible. The study revealed that</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
		<p>existing procedures are often complex and demanding of those seeking aid.</p>
		<p>ii) With the aim of revising such schemes so that financial support can be provided in respect of the total cost of provision of facilities, both of capital outlay and running costs (subject to periodic reviews). The study has revealed that, even where capital costs are met, running costs may impose severe obstacles to effective use.</p>
		<p>B. The Highlands and Islands Development Board should further develop its co-ordinating role in respect of grants for leisure facilities. One way of achieving this would be by the collation of information relating to available grant aid from all sources and the publication of a brochure which explains the relevant procedures. The Research Team believes that such a compendium would play a useful role in informing the local communities about the most appropriate steps to be taken in acquiring support for local initiatives for leisure provision and in guiding their choice of which bodies to approach.</p>
<p>7.2.4 Co-ordination of Commercial Development</p>	<p>To ensure the appropriateness of leisure provision made by the commercial sector</p>	<p>The Local Authorities are urged to define appropriate guidelines for development control for any provision for leisure that might be made by the private sector, with particular reference to the character of provision, its location and its potential group of users. The purpose of this recommendation is to ensure that any commercial developments that occur produce the maximum benefit for the communities concerned.</p>
<p>7.2.5 Standards of Provision</p>	<p>To ensure appropriate standards for the provision of leisure facilities</p>	<p>Those responsible for providing, or assisting in the provision of, leisure facilities should employ <i>basic minimum standards</i>, to ensure that there is a base level of accessibility to leisure facilities in rural areas. <i>Per capita</i> standards, largely devised on the basis of urban experience, can have little relevance in the Highlands and Islands, and there is little merit in attempting to devise local criteria since conditions are so diverse within the region.</p>
<p>7.2.6 Locational Strategies for Leisure Planning</p>	<p>To define locational strategies for leisure provision</p>	<p>A. The Local Authorities are urged:</p> <p>i) To adopt a <i>hierarchical</i> approach to the provision of leisure facilities. In the past, the geographical pattern of provision of leisure facilities has been sharply polarised, with a concentration of resources in urban centres, especially the regional, district and island <i>capitals</i> and very limited provision in the rural</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
		<p>communities other than a village or community hall. This investigation has, however, revealed that respondents recognise a hierarchy of travel/distance relationships for different leisure facilities. In view of this finding and of the constraints on accessibility which are found in the study areas, the population available within catchments and problems of funding, the Research Team believes that a hierarchical approach to provision is generally appropriate, although local circumstances must always be taken into account in the definition of area strategies.</p>
		<p>ii) To include in any strategy considerations of the mobility of the populations to be served and the accessibility of leisure facilities to them. If this is not done, many of those living in rural areas will find that they will be effectively prevented from using any new facilities that are provided.</p>
		<p>B. Central Government and Local Authorities are urged to provide financial support for improvements in local public transport, particularly for the provision of community bus services. The prime objective would be to permit movement between settlements <i>within</i> rural areas as well as to urban centres. Such a policy should be seen both as a corollary of the policy of dispersal and selected growth involved in the adoption of hierarchical strategies and an effective and probably cheaper alternative to providing new facilities by increasing accessibility to existing leisure facilities.</p>
7.2.7 Alternative Supply Policies	To define alternative supply policies for leisure provision and ensure that facilities are effectively used	<p>A. All those responsible for the management of existing facilities, particularly where these are intensively used, should review their management policies against the following list of policies that are intended to supplement existing provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) increase the number of hours for which facilities are available; ii) increase the number of users by combining user-groups and by avoiding duplication of facilities; iii) increase the range of facilities available; iv) undertake effective promotion and advertising; v) adopt management policies that ensure the co-ordination of events; vi) invest in new equipment;

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
		<p>vii) undertake internal adaptation of facilities;</p> <p>viii) extend existing buildings.</p> <p>B. Where new purpose-built facilities are necessary the Research Team recommend that a standardised approach be adopted, involving the use of Sixteen <i>Standard Building Types</i> that cover a range of needs and situations.</p> <p>C. The Research Team also recommends that a <i>Design Manual</i>, containing details of these and other appropriate leisure buildings, be completed and published. The information should provide not only details of the design specification for the Standard Building Types, but also indicative capital and running costs for each type.</p> <p>D. The Local Authorities are urged to pay particular attention to the possibilities of integrating community leisure facilities with buildings primarily designed to serve other needs, e.g., tourist developments, and to adopt the appropriate development control policies to achieve this end.</p> <p>E. The Research Team recommends continued and extended financial support for touring companies that provide residents of the study areas with opportunities to view the performing arts. These companies are particularly significant in these areas where both the supply and range of facilities for these arts remain limited.</p>
7.2.8 Leisure Provision in Work Camps	To ensure that ade- quate facilities for leisure are prov- ided in work camps	<p>A. The Highlands and Islands Development Board is urged to commission a study to define design specifications for work camp facilities. The proposed study should define per capita standards of provision and cover a range of multi-use facilities designed to serve a range of leisure activities, both active and passive, formal and informal. The Oil Workers Survey will be very valuable as a guide to the most appropriate forms of provision.</p> <p>B. The Local Authorities are urged:</p> <p>i) To ensure that existing and proposed facilities at work camps match these design standards and equally important, that where the work force is expanding, the leisure facilities be enlarged proportionately.</p> <p>ii) To include the question of community use of leisure facilities at work camps in negotiations with oil-related companies before development</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
7.2.9 Community Development Officers	To assist community initiatives for leisure provision, to support and conserve local leadership and to service the leisure needs of disadvantaged groups within the community, such as the elderly, the young, housewives and the chronic unemployed	<p>occurs. Facilities at camps should be available for community use and the design of facilities at work camps should reflect this objective wherever possible.</p> <p>The Local Authorities are urged to appoint Community Development Officers, with particular responsibilities for leisure and recreation. Such community workers should, wherever possible, work within the departments of Leisure and Recreation, or alternatively, be attached to the Community Education Service.</p>
7.2.10 Community Organisation	To ensure full community involvement in the planning and management of leisure facilities	<p>The communities in the study areas have a long history of self-help and community organisation that reflect their patterns of social and economic life. For the foreseeable future local community involvement on leisure activities and leisure provision will continue to be crucial, particularly in a period of rapid change. It is therefore vital to build upon and encourage community initiatives in the field of leisure, to promote local leadership in this field, and to ensure continuing community participation in leisure activities. The Community Development Officers will help in the attainment of these objectives, particularly insofar as the officers will help to conserve and sustain local community organisations.</p> <p>The implementation of the locational strategies outlined earlier will, however, require a broader geographical organisation extending beyond the immediate locality and bringing together communities at a district level, and it is for this reason that the creation of District Recreation Associations is recommended. In essence, the newly created Community Councils fulfil this role and, by virtue of their broad-ranging responsibilities, should be admirably suited to co-ordinate community action in the field of leisure and recreation. In</p>

recognition of the range of community interests involved, it is recommended that the District Recreation Associations should include representatives from local Schools Councils, other community associations, voluntary groups and user and special interest groups. If local Community Development Officers are appointed, they and representatives of local authority interests could attend meetings as observers. The remit of the associations should be broad-ranging and cover all aspects of leisure and recreation provision - assessment of need, development, location, fund raising and management.

7.2.11
Voluntary
Associa-
tions and
User/
Activity
Groups

To conserve
and stren-
gthen the
role of
voluntary
associations

The Research Team recommends that financial support to local voluntary associations be maintained, despite the current financial difficulties, in recognition of the major role played by such organisations in the field of leisure and recreation.

7.2.12
Recom-
mendations
of the
Research
Team

To ensure
speedy and
effective
implemen-
tation of
the recom-
mendations

The Research Team recommends that a Working Party be established to co-ordinate joint action for leisure provision in oil-affected areas, in view of the overlapping powers and interests of local, regional and national bodies in leisure planning. It is proposed that such a Working Party should consider the Report and make proposals to the appropriate authorities for the implementation of the Research Team's recommendations.

Shetland - Area Description and Recommendations

8.1 INTRODUCTION

8.1.1 The islands comprising Shetland are characterised by their remoteness from the rest of Scotland and have a cultural affinity with Scandinavia, of which the Fire Festival of Up Helley Aa provides the strongest evidence in the field of leisure and recreation. The cultural distinctiveness of the area is enhanced by the Shetland dialect. Society on the isles has been strongly influenced by the often extreme fluctuations in the fortunes of the crofting and fishing bases of the communities. There was, until very recently, a marked trend towards rural depopulation as people either moved to Lerwick or else left the islands altogether. However, the discovery and subsequent exploitation of oil in the East Shetland Basin reversed this trend and, by the beginning of the next decade, the Shetland Islands Council predicts that the population of the islands may have increased to 23,000, a growth of about 30 per cent in ten years.

8.2 LEISURE AND RECREATION IN SHETLAND

8.2.1 There are marked contrasts of many types between Lerwick and the landward areas, while the isolation of the rural communities is not only physical, but is also backed by a certain antagonism towards Lerwick. While society in Lerwick increasingly displays the characteristics of urbanisation, life in the rural areas remains essentially traditional and lacks the polarisation of work and leisure that is characteristic of industrial society. Those in Lerwick tended to have higher participation rates in all spheres of leisure, even in arts, crafts and traditional activities, although this is inevitably related to the concentration of appropriate facilities in the town.

8.2.2 In comparison with the other study areas, Shetlanders display high participation rates in arts, crafts and traditional activities, with an especially strong commitment to dancing, and in spectating. With respect to other activities, only in those depending upon natural resources was participation above average, and this was particularly a feature of water-based activities.

8.2.3 There is a fundamental contrast between the concentration of leisure facilities in Lerwick and the dearth of such facilities in rural areas. This contrast is particularly marked for entertainment facilities. Beyond Lerwick, provision is limited to little more than village halls and local schools, which, especially in the north, are coming under increasing pressure as a result of the influx of population associated with the oil-related developments. The inadequate provision of leisure facilities everywhere for youth is a major cause for concern and is a problem of which the Shetland Islands Council is only too well aware.

8.2.4 Concern in Lerwick tended to focus on provision of an increasingly sophisticated nature that will supplement the existing range of facilities. In contrast, the population in the landward areas has a much more strongly developed and diverse interest in the provision of leisure facilities (Table 13). Many of these facilities were already available in Lerwick, a fact that demonstrates how a concentration of facilities in that town alone cannot hope to serve the whole area. Because of the problems of communication, these facilities are inaccessible to much of the population. Meanwhile, in all parts of the islands, the possession of a car directly affects participation levels in recreational pursuits.

8.2.5 It was those in their late teens and in their twenties who felt the need for new provision most strongly, though they also revealed a tendency to resist the provision of facilities where organised leisure activities take place preferring instead facilities for a more sophisticated range of leisure pursuits, facilities that were less desired by the older generation. The lack of provision of sports facilities stimulated demand for a sports centre, and it is of note that one might be built at Clickimin Loch near Lerwick.

8.2.6 As a result of the Shetland Act in 1974, the Islands Council has been able to exert tight control over oil-related development. At present, the construction of the oil terminal at Sullom Voe and the supply bases on the east coast of the islands employ approximately 2,500 people, although this number will fall to about 1,000 once the construction

Table 13 : Shetland - Leisure Facilities Needed Locally and Considered Unsuitable Locally

	Lerwick	Rest of Shetland	Total
	Percentage of respondents		
FACILITIES NEEDED			
Squash courts	39	6	21
Children's play area	4	35	20
Restaurant	7	26	17
Old people's facilities	16	18	17
Cafe	3	29	17
Community centre	12	18	15
Swimming pool	0	25	14
Discotheque	25	1	12
Cinema	0	14	8
Playing field	0	13	7
Library	0	11	6
None	26	30	28
FACILITIES UNSUITABLE			
Bingo hall	4	28	17
Pub	6	25	16
Theatre	0	10	6
None	86	54	70

Source: Home Interview Survey

phase is completed. About 80 per cent of the present workers are incomers, though the proportion of locals in the permanent labour force will become much higher (Table 14).

8.2.7 The major problem faced by the Islands Council in planning for the future has been to balance the long-term needs of the indigenous population with the relatively short-term requirements of the oil industry. While Lerwick will continue to grow, a number of second order settlements (e.g., Brae and Sandwick) will develop and may aid or necessitate the dispersal of facilities that would otherwise gravitate to Lerwick.

8.3 SHETLAND - AIMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEISURE PROVISION

8.3.1 The policies outlined in the recommendations take full account of the comprehensive nature of

Table 14 : Shetland - Projected Employment and Population Increases, 1976-81

	Jan 1976	1977	1979	1981
Exploration	235	350	410	440
Construction	500	2,000	1,000	200
Production	-	220	300	350
Service	25	80	100	110
Total employment	755	2,650	1,810	1,100
Incoming employees	530	2,020	1,250	515
Dependents	195	365	455	500
Total population	725	2,385	1,705	1,015

Source: Data supplied by companies, with appropriate adjustments in the light of other available information, and TRRU estimates.

the impact of oil-related developments. While the impact upon particular oil-affected areas must be recognised and policies defined for them, it is important that these policies be set in the context of a *Leisure System* for the islands as a whole, which first, takes account of the interdependence of its different elements, and secondly, attempts to avoid creating two groups of communities in Shetland.

8.3.2 The development of a hierarchical system of provision in the islands is proposed, thereby:

- a) ensuring that the leisure and recreational needs and aspirations of all sections of Shetland society are served by appropriate provision;
- b) conserving and sustaining the traditional pattern of life in the landward areas wherever possible; and
- c) promoting the social coherence of the newly-emerging communities that result from oil-related immigration.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
8.3.3 Lerwick	To consolidate the town's role as the centre for specialist leisure provision serving the	Recommend that the primary emphasis at Clickimin Loch Leisure Centre should be on general social and leisure facilities (including a discotheque and snack bar) and provision for specialist sports. Accompanying outdoor provision should include playing fields and pavilion facilities while an athletic track could be provided, to serve the islands as a whole.

	needs of all the islands	Recommend development control policy which ensures that appropriate community provision is incorporated in the design of commercial facilities wherever possible.
8.3.4 Brae	To satisfy the needs of the expanding communities of the North Mainland that are undergoing a rapid transition from traditional to industrial patterns of work and leisure	Recommend Brae for development as a district leisure and recreational centre serving the north Mainland. Recommend the development of secondary school and associated community facilities, including sports centre. Timing of development of facilities must be in step with timing of new housing developments. Open door policy of management recommended and responsibility for management should lie with a District Recreation Association, in conjunction with permanent staff. A wide range of social and informal leisure facilities should be provided to promote integration between locals, incomers and oil workers.
8.3.5 Sandwick	To satisfy the needs of the expanding communities of the South Mainland that are undergoing a rapid transition from traditional to industrial patterns of work and leisure	Recommend Sandwick for development as a district leisure and recreational centre serving the South Mainland. The Research Team commends the planned provision of some community facilities, including a games hall, in a new primary school (Sandwick District Plan) but recommend that the development should be expanded to include a small swimming pool and an outdoor playing field with changing facilities. The development should also include cinema and drama facilities. Management responsibility should lie with a District Recreation Association, in conjunction with permanent staff. Development control policy should ensure that commercial leisure facilities are located in Sandwick.
8.3.6 Voe	To satisfy local community needs	Recommend adoption of proposals in Sullom Voe District Plan.
8.3.7 Mossbank	To satisfy local community needs	Recommend adoption of proposals in Sullom Voe District Plan.
8.3.8 Firth	To satisfy local community needs	Recommend adoption of proposals in Sullom Voe District Plan. The Research Team views with concern the current provision of new housing without appropriate leisure and recreational provision.
8.3.9 Unst	To maintain the social	Recommend adoption of proposals in Unst Local Plan.

	cohesion of the island community	Recommend improvement of community halls and that greater public use be made of the leisure facilities at the RAF base at Saxa Vord.
8.3.10 Yell	To maintain the social cohesion of the island community	<p>Recommend adoption of proposals in Yell Local Plan.</p> <p>Recommend that a multi-purpose sports hall is included in the proposed extension of Mid-Yell secondary school.</p> <p>Recommend construction of new community hall or improvement of an existing hall to serve as community centre for Yell.</p>
8.3.11 Northmavine	To enhance leisure opportunities for those living in Sullom Voe area and provide economic stimulus for the community	Recommend development of a recreation centre for joint visitor and community use serving central and north Mainland
8.3.12 Walls	To assist in the social and economic regeneration of the area	Recommend rural recreation centre for joint community and visitor use, providing facilities for water- and land-based outdoor activities, and with overnight accommodation.
8.3.13 Community and village halls	To sustain the network of halls in recognition of their role as the basic element of leisure provision in the landward areas	<p>Recommend that:</p> <p>a) all rural communities have access to a local facility that at least provides a meeting place of the kind envisaged in Activity Centre Type A (see 2.3.2);</p> <p>b) provision in the more isolated communities be more ambitious and should conform to the standards relating to Activity Centres Types B and C (see 2.3.2);</p> <p>c) Community Development Officers be appointed to increase the effectiveness of use of facilities;</p> <p>d) those officially concerned with aiding leisure projects give priority to schemes that arise through local community initiatives.</p> <p>The Research Team commends scheme of grant aid by the Islands Council from the Reserve Fund, for buildings available to, and used by, young people for leisure and recreational purposes.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
8.3.14 Outdoor activities	To ensure effective provision, as these activities are strongly favoured by age groups from which immigrant workers in oil-related industry are drawn	<p>Recommend that playing fields should be accepted as basic facilities that complement community halls.</p> <p>Recommend that public agencies provide grant aid for the creation of a network of playing fields.</p> <p>Recommend provision of all-weather surfaces at selected sites, particularly in the expanding communities.</p> <p>Recommend encouragement of initiatives for improvement to sailing and boating facilities, particularly if they include shore-based social and leisure facilities.</p>
8.3.15 Community schools	To provide focus for social and leisure activities	<p>Commends community school programme.</p> <p>Recommends appraisal of vacant school buildings with respect to existing or potential community needs.</p>
8.3.16 Transport	To avoid problems associated with accessibility to allow the benefits of centralisation but to avoid the duplication of facilities	<p>Recommend improvement of local public transport services in north and south Mainland, with the needs of the isolated communities particularly in mind.</p> <p>Recommend that local community transport system, linked to existing services, be developed elsewhere, particularly in west Mainland.</p> <p>Recommend physical improvements to road network, notably to routes linking Lerwick and oil-affected areas.</p>
8.3.17 Community development	To help communities to adjust to changes without social problems arising, by ensuring full use of available leisure and recreation facilities	<p>Recommend early appointment of Community Development Officer with responsibilities for leisure and social activities.</p>
8.3.18 Tourism	To promote the expansion of facilities that could also serve community needs	<p>See recommendations for Walls and Northmavine.</p> <p>Recommend consideration of possible tourist use of proposed sailing facilities at Scalloway.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
8.3.19 Shetland dialect	To conserve the language, thus maintaining the cultural identity of Shetlanders during a period of social and economic transition	Recommend general support for initiatives relating to this aim. Recommend local authority aid for <i>New Shetlander</i> .
8.3.20 Revenue from interest on reserve fund	To ensure that social investment will provide the infrastructure and community support that is necessary for the continuing development of the island's economy	Recommend that Islands Council consider the use of oil revenues to finance, or to underwrite capital loans for, the development of appropriate leisure and recreational facilities, thus avoiding delays in provision caused by Central Government restrictions on public expenditure. Recommend continued use of interest on oil revenues for social and recreational projects.
8.3.21 Work camps	To ensure that the level of recreational provision is adequate in relation to numbers of workers accommodated in camps	Ensure leisure facilities in existing and proposed work camps adequately serve the leisure needs of the work force. Recommend community use of existing and proposed camp facilities.

Orkney - Area Description and Recommendations

9.1 INTRODUCTION

9.1.1 In contrast to the relatively barren isles of Lewis and Shetland, the Orkneys are fertile islands with an important agricultural sector based on farms as distinct from crofts. Partly for this reason, the area is culturally closer to the Lowlands of Scotland than to the Gaelic culture of the Highlands. Although Orkney is relatively prosperous compared to the other study areas, it still experienced a decline in population up to 1971, producing a population with a disproportionate number of old people and leaving some of the isolated islands with levels of population close to critical for the provision of essential services. This out-migration has, however, in combination with Orkney's relative prosperity, resulted in low levels of unemployment that have been complemented by a short working week and an average income that is now second only to that on Shetland among the study areas.

9.2 LEISURE AND RECREATION IN ORKNEY

9.2.1 Because of the political power of the landward areas, at least on Mainland, the rural communities have not felt the same degree of isolation and deprivation that was evidenced elsewhere in the study areas, and perhaps on the outer islands of the Orkneys. Nevertheless, the contrast between town and country is still strong in Orkney while there is considerable rivalry between Kirkwall and Stromness which has tended to enrich, and sometimes result in duplication in, the stock of leisure facilities.

9.2.2 The pattern of leisure and recreation in both Kirkwall and Stromness owes much to the network of clubs and associations which is very well-developed in both burghs and has sustained a reservoir

of leadership and interest which is so commonly lacking in the other study areas. In the light of this it is rather surprising that the stated interest in leisure pursuits outside the home was low.

9.2.3 Unlike in the more traditional rural study areas, income emerged as a strong determinant of leisure interest, with those earning more than £4,000 per year being strongly represented within every group of activities considered, other than informal indoor pursuits.

9.2.4 Participation in informal social activities and active recreation was generally high, and with respect to the latter there was evidence of supply-led demand arising from the creation of facilities in the two burghs. On the other hand, arts, crafts and traditional activities were engaged in by a smaller, though very active, group.

9.2.5 Leisure activities in the rural areas were generally focused on the local community halls, but emigration has robbed the more remote of these areas of some of their most active individuals, and this has contributed towards the closure of some of the halls and the demise of local sports teams.

Table 15 : Orkney - Leisure Facilities Needed Locally and Considered Unsuitable Locally

	Kirkwall and Environns	Stromness and Environns	Total
FACILITIES NEEDED			
Discotheque	28	3	22
Cinema	3	30	10
Restaurant	6	21	10
Children's play area	7	13	9
Theatre	6	6	6
Youth Club	8	0	6
Old people's facilities	8	0	6
None	44	38	42
FACILITIES UNSUITABLE			
Bingo hall	6	15	8
None	91	79	88

Source: Home Interview Survey

9.2.6 Leisure and recreational facilities are mainly concentrated in Kirkwall and Stromness. The concentration is most pronounced for entertainment facilities but is less a feature of *formal facilities*. Interestingly, residents of Stromness were quite prepared to use the facilities of Kirkwall, but the reverse is not the case. There was, however, a general satisfaction with the facilities in the two burghs, with a higher percentage of respondents here than anywhere else in the study areas feeling that no further facilities were needed. Nevertheless, in Kirkwall it was felt that provision for the young was inadequate (Table 15), with a discotheque being the facility most widely felt to be needed whilst in Stromness the greatest expressed need was for cinemas and restaurants. Throughout Orkney a policy of making schools available for community use has been successfully pursued. In some instances these schools are designed to play a role at a district level, serving not only the community within which the school is located but also the surrounding areas.

9.3 OIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

9.3.1 Oil-related development on Orkney has been confined to the island of Flotta and, for this reason, generally ambivalent attitudes towards such development prevail on Mainland. Apart from the physical impact, the most important effect on Flotta has been the creation of just over a thousand jobs in the construction of the oil terminal and associated facilities, although most of the workers are immigrants living in work camps on the island. Total permanent employment is expected to be about 200 and approximately 60 per cent of these jobs may be taken by Orcadians. Thus, the eventual changes in employment and population caused by the oil-related development will be of only limited significance and the new population will probably be absorbed into existing communities.

9.4 ORKNEY - AIMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEISURE PROVISION

9.4.1 Because of the nature of the study area, proposals have been presented area-by-area. However, it is important that they be set in the context of a plan for all the islands and the Research Team would therefore recommend that the local authority evaluate the needs of communities outside the study area in the light of the recommendations presented below. In view of experience elsewhere a hierarchical system of provision may be found to be appropriate for Orkney's needs.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
9.4.2 Kirkwall	To devise policies which could enhance existing provision and identify particular groups that could be served by new or modified facilities	<p>Recommend that urgent consideration be given to the development of an <i>open-door</i> leisure and social centre based on the existing accommodation, but enhanced to meet new requirements. Specific attention should be given to timetabling of activities with <i>groups at risk</i> in mind, notably, housewives, young people and the elderly.</p> <p>Facilities at the sports centre should be enhanced. In particular, social facilities, such as a cafe, are needed. Consideration should also be given for a policy of <i>open-door</i> access to the centre</p> <p>The new primary school should include community facilities.</p>
	To provide the necessary leisure and recreational facilities to accommodate the increased demand resulting from residential development in the town	<p>Recommend the early provision of a small neighbourhood community centre in Papdale East.</p> <p>Recommend consideration to be given to the creation of a <i>Town Park</i> in the Bignold area centred on the Pickaquooy Sea.</p>
9.4.3 Voluntary clubs and associations	To allow incremental growth and continuing programme of financial support	<p>Recommend extension of existing facilities run by the clubs and associations.</p> <p>Recommend local authority financial support remain a high priority in local authority spending.</p>
9.4.4 Stromness	To supplement and expand existing facilities	<p>Recommend extension and adaptation of community centre or provision of community facilities in a new Stromness Academy.</p> <p>Recommend the enhancement of outdoor sports facilities at Stromness Market Green.</p>
	to encourage range of activities for sections of the community at risk and to strengthen and support the existing network of clubs and associations	<p>Recommend supplementation of youth and community service.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
	<p>To ensure community use of tourist facilities which are developed in response to the influx of tourists brought about by the new ferry link</p>	<p>Recommend supplementation and extension of the current limited provision for eating out and social recreation.</p>
<p>9.4.5 St. Margaret's Hope</p>	<p>To consolidate this community's role as district centre</p>	<p>Recommend expansion of facilities, particularly for young people who now tend to spend leisure time in Kirkwall.</p>
	<p>to match residential development with leisure provision, thus maintaining identity of community</p>	<p>Commend the adaptations to Cromarty Hall, although the new primary school and associated community centre should be the main focus of improvements to leisure and recreational opportunity.</p>
<p>9.4.6 Herston, South Ronaldsay</p>	<p>To provide for tourist and community needs</p>	<p>Recommend creation of joint tourist/community social facility incorporating modest indoor wet-weather facilities for visitors.</p>
<p>9.4.7 Hoy</p>	<p>To provide social facilities and encourage the growth of tourism</p>	<p>Recommend early construction of the planned community school at Walls, in which ambitious community facilities should be incorporated. The school should also have indoor and outdoor sports facilities to which the community should have access. An indoor sports hall and outdoor playing fields are the major priorities.</p>
		<p>Provision of hotel accommodation and associated social facilities would be beneficial.</p>
		<p>The Research Team supports local initiatives to form a new social and recreational club on the premises that were used by the Lyness Social Club.</p>
		<p>Recommend early appointment of Community Development Officer, serving both Hoy and Flotta, with responsibilities for leisure and social activities.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
9.4.8 Flotta	To provide the greatest opportunities to establish a new community coherence	The need for a new community centre associated with the primary school on Flotta has been recognised and this should be provided as a matter of urgency. Facilities should include a community hall with stage, committee room, small gymnasium, kitchen, indoor changing facilities and a playing field. Recommend <i>open door</i> policy for facilities which might be provided in oil terminal.
9.4.9 Oil-related revenue	To recognise investment in leisure and recreation as an appropriate claim on oil-related revenue	Recommend facilities on Flotta be financed by oil revenues.

Lewis - Area Description and Recommendations

10.1 INTRODUCTION

10.1.1 Over the past 50 years society in Lewis has been strongly influenced by the extreme fluctuations in the island's economy which have led to emigration, particularly in the landward areas, by those in the younger age groups, who have had to seek employment elsewhere in Scotland. The other major influences on society in Lewis have been the continued strength of Gaelic, the central role of the crofting life-style and the powerful influence of the Church.

10.2 LEISURE AND RECREATION ON LEWIS

10.2.1 The Character of traditional Lewis society plays a prominent role in determining leisure patterns but there are other factors, notably income and car ownership, that influence levels of participation in leisure activities.

10.2.2 The influence of the crofting life-style and church membership was evidenced in the very high levels of interest and participation in arts, crafts and traditional activities and the lack of interest and low participation rates in informal recreational pursuits. Interest in active recreation was low, although actual participation rates generally resembled those in the other study areas. However, there were few participants in those active pursuits requiring special man-made facilities, a reflection of the poor provision of such facilities throughout the island.

10.2.3 The essential feature of the current provision of recreational facilities in Lewis is the contrast between Stornoway and the landward areas, with all types of facility being heavily concentrated in the town while provision in the

landward areas is poor. Further important points are the dominant rôle of community facilities, the severe dearth of informal/social facilities outwith Stornoway, the exceptionally limited provision in all parts of the island of facilities exclusively for entertainment, the dominance of schools among formal facilities and the very poor provision of playing fields.

Table 16 : Lewis - Leisure Facilities Needed Locally and Considered Unsuitable Locally

	Stornoway	Landward Areas	Total
	Percentage of respondents		
FACILITIES NEEDED LOCALLY			
Old people's facilities	0	40	27
Community centre	12	32	25
Theatre	26	14	18
Playschools and nurseries	0	23	15
Playing field	0	23	15
Cafe	0	18	12
Children's play area	5	16	12
Discotheque	17	5	9
Squash courts	11	7	8
Youth club	1	12	8
Swimming pool	0	10	7
Village hall	1	8	6
Cinema	0	9	6
Dance hall	1	8	6
None	46	22	29
FACILITIES UNSUITABLE			
Bingo hall	12	53	39
Public house	15	28	22
Discotheque	3	26	18
Theatre	12	13	13
Cinema	0	16	11
Dance hall	1	12	8
None	70	39	49

Source: Home Interview Survey

10.2.4 A large number of residents were concerned that many facilities were relatively inaccessible. There was a fairly generally stated need for a wide range of facilities (Table 16) but many felt that public houses, cinemas, bingo halls, dance halls, discotheques and theatres were inappropriate on Lewis. There were, however, strong contrasts between the views on needed and inappropriate facilities of those living in Stornoway and those living in the landward areas; there were also contrasting views between the differeng groups within Lewis society as to which facilities were needed.

10.3 OIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENT

10.3.1 Oil-related development on Lewis was confined to the Lewis Offshore Development at Arnish Point. The site is equipped for the construction of a wide range of steel structures and company policy has been to recruit local labour or expatriate Lewismen. The yard is capable of producing a wide range of structures and in view of the current recession in the platform construction industry the company's flexible capacity, its ability to obtain orders from its large parent shipping and industrial groups, and the modest growth of its labour force, which is planned to reach 1,000 by the early 1980s, should shield it to some extent from fluctuations in the development of North Sea oil.

10.3.2 On the basis of the expectations with regard to employment a housing policy was devised that envisaged a dispersal of housing throughout the island, but with a concentration at Barvas. The principal aim is to reduce the current dominance of Stornoway in the life of Lewis, and only a very small proportion of the new houses are planned to be built in the town.

10.4 LEWIS - AIMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEISURE PROVISION

10.4.1 The provision of leisure facilities in the appropriate locations could do much to assist the social and economic development of the island, particularly that of the landward areas. The Research Team believes that implementation of the proposals presented below will result in the provision of a hierarchy of facilities that is tailored to the needs of Lewis society, both urban and rural and will be capable of meeting the full range of leisure and recreational aspirations of its population

without conflict or tension. Further implementation of the proposals will allow Gaelic to consolidate its role as a language of everyday life, a language of recreation and leisure as well as of work.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
10.4.2 Stornoway	To consolidate the town's role as a recreational centre, with particular attention being given to the needs of the young	<p>Commend the initiatives under way in the Bay head area which are resulting in a growing complex of facilities, all capable of being welded into a community leisure centre or town park.</p> <p>Recommend provision of a multi-purpose arts and entertainment centre for indoor activities, including those associated with Gaelic.</p> <p>Recommend further provision of both indoor and outdoor recreational facilities at the Nicolson Institute, the provision of a cafe in order that the Institute may have a social role and the employment of improved management techniques for existing facilities. The Research Team expresses concern at the possible adverse consequences of the charging regime.</p>
10.4.3 Barvas	To provide a leisure growth point, with particular attention being given to the needs of the young, while ensuring that the needs of the members of traditional Lewis society are not overlooked	<p>Recommend provision of a multi-purpose community centre, to be supplemented in time by other facilities, notably a swimming pool and playing field.</p>
10.4.4 Landward areas	To supplement built provision, to conserve a valued traditional life-style, to sustain the network of community halls and to ensure	<p>Recommend that all rural communities have access to local facilities that at least provide a meeting place on the lines of Activity Centre Type A (see 2.3.2).</p> <p>Recommend that provision in the more isolated communities be more ambitious and should conform to the standards relating to Activity Centres Types B and C (see 2.3.2).</p> <p>Recommend appointment of Community Development Officers to foster community initiatives in the field of leisure and recreation.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
	provision of outdoor leisure facilities	<p>Recommend that those officially concerned with aiding leisure projects give priority to schemes arising from local community initiatives.</p> <p>Recommend establishment of network of playing fields and changing facilities.</p>
10.4.5 Schools	To supplement existing built provision for leisure	<p>Recommend all future school buildings include community facilities.</p> <p>Recommend adoption of <i>open door</i> policy for community use of primary schools.</p> <p>Develop non-vocational classes in schools.</p> <p>Recommend use of vacant schools and similar buildings for leisure purposes.</p>
10.4.6 Transport	To ensure the maximum use of resources	Recommend development of a small-scale community transport system serving landward areas and using <i>community buses</i> .
10.4.7 Tourism	To develop facilities for joint community and visitor use	<p>Commend development of Stornoway Sea Angling Club.</p> <p>Recommend the development, with grant aid, of facilities for sailing.</p>



Moray Firth Area Description and Recommendations

11.1 INTRODUCTION

11.1.1 The Moray Firth study area covers an extensive zone around the Moray and Cromarty Firths on the eastern Scottish mainland and includes at one end of the scale the *capital* of the Highlands, Inverness, with a population of 40,000, and at the other, the small villages in the sparsely-populated uplands to the west. Between these two extremes is a range of settlements of varying size of which Tain, Dingwall, Alness, Invergordon and Nairn are the most important. In this area there is thus an embryonic urban hierarchy.

11.1.2 Like the other study areas, the Moray Firth has experienced severe unemployment which resulted in emigration, but the features which distinguish this region from the others are the extent of its industrialisation and urbanisation. Related to this is the fact that the region's employment structure is significantly different from that of the rest of the Highlands and more closely resembles that of Scotland as a whole. Culturally, the Moray Firth is a transitional zone that displays a complex mix of Highland and Lowland characteristics. Since the creation of the Highlands and Islands Development Board in 1965, the Moray Firth has been promoted as an industrial development area and the process of industrialisation and urbanisation was dramatically speeded up in the early 1970s with development of oil-related industry. Emigration ceased and was replaced by immigration of workers for the new industries.

11.2 LEISURE AND RECREATION IN THE MORAY FIRTH

11.2.1 While there were contrasts in leisure patterns between the individual settlements, urban leisure patterns tended to be stronger here than in any of

the other study areas and this feature will no doubt become more marked. In this respect, it is noteworthy that the Moray Firth was characterised by the large amount of time, compared with all the other study areas except South Argyll, spent on leisure pursuits in the home, a feature typical of leisure in urban areas. The strong contrasts between the leisure interests of different social groups, which was a feature of other areas, was also absent, although housewives were identified as the group whose leisure interests were least developed.

11.2.2 Participation in leisure pursuits strongly reflects the developing urban nature of this study area, and this was particularly so for informal pursuits in which very high levels of participation were recorded. There were, however, contrasts in levels of participation in leisure pursuits of all types between residents of the major urban settlements, on the one hand, and residents of the landward areas, on the other. In spite of the current high levels of involvement, there was still great interest in taking up active recreational pursuits. Respondents also had a high level of incipient interest in arts, crafts and traditional activities. Current provision for recreation closely reflects the emergent urban hierarchy in the region.

11.2.3 Awareness of the presence of locally available facilities was above the average for all study areas, but there were significant differences between different communities and strong contrasts between the awareness of specific facilities locally within the individual communities. The most important general feature of attitudes to leisure is the way in which recognition of the facilities available locally strongly reflects the emerging settlement hierarchy in the region.

11.2.4 There was also a contrast between the generally high levels of satisfaction with existing provision for leisure and a strongly expressed desire for new provision. This apparent contradiction can be explained by the spatial variations in current provision for recreation, with residents in the larger towns showing much less concern about deficiencies in provision than those in the smaller settlements (Table 17).

11.2.5 By 1981, the dominance of Dingwall in the northern part of the study area will be challenged if the rapid population growth that is forecast for many of the other urban centres is realised. The changing pattern of relationships between the settlements will be crucial in planning for leisure in view of the close affinity of the character of a facility and the distances people are prepared to travel to it. In the southern part of the area,

Table 17 : Moray Firth - Leisure Facilities Needed Locally

	Percentage of respondents							Total
	Inver- ness	Ding- wall	Inver- gordon	Tain	Nairn	Al- ness	Rest of Moray Firth	
Community centre	26	10	63	32	0	0	25	24
Old people's facilities	7	60	51	7	9	21	33	21
Theatre	29	14	15	0	23	11	14	19
Restaurant	2	0	67	12	0	53	19	15
Swimming pool	2	0	25	7	0	42	25	14
Discotheque	8	20	9	12	5	19	21	14
Youth club	5	21	0	15	7	13	16	10
Children's play area	3	0	19	0	5	16	18	10
Cafe	2	0	0	0	0	31	16	9
Squash courts	3	0	16	11	5	17	13	9
Cinema	5	0	0	23	0	22	11	8
Playing field	3	0	0	11	0	21	14	8
Dance hall	12	10	30	11	0	6	12	8
Playschools and nurseries	3	0	0	11	0	10	12	6
None	41	0	11	44	57	23	21	31

Source: Home Interview Survey

the major change in the period up to 1981 should be the emergence of a community centred on Culloden, but in view of its proximity to Inverness, it is unlikely to endanger the role of Nairn, the local district capital, in the urban hierarchy. The new settlement will look towards Inverness and Nairn for services of all kinds. This continuing dependence is likely to apply with respect to the more specialised leisure facilities, though basic recreational facilities will be required in the settlement itself. By 1981, the population of Inverness will also have grown considerably and its position as regional capital will remain unchallenged.

11.3 OIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

11.3.1 At present there is a variety of oil-related firms in the region, employing a total of about 6,000 people, most of whom work in manufacturing activities, although the figure fluctuates with the demand for labour in the platform construction and pipe coating yards.

Prospects for the area are uncertain although a key feature will be the oil refinery to be built at Nigg.

11.4 MORAY FIRTH - AIMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEISURE PROVISION

11.4.1 The rapid increase in population in the area, over the period 1971-75, has generated an increased demand for leisure services over a wide range of leisure pursuits, and this demand appears to have been largely unsatisfied.

It is the opinion of the Research Team that an effective policy of industrial and residential development must be accompanied by an appropriate programme of leisure provision.

Therefore, within the circumstances prevailing in the Moray Firth study area, provision for leisure ceases to be another supportive social service and becomes a *developmental* tool, helping to form, extend and develop communities through the processes of social activity, in much the same way that it satisfies these needs for the individual himself.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
11.4.2 Locational strategy	To maximise the leisure opportunities of the residents in the Moray Firth region and to promote the <i>regional consciousness</i> which is a desirable component of the economic and social development of the region	Recommend adoption of a regional hierarchy of recreational service centres, related to the existing and emerging structure of urban settlements thus avoiding the unnecessary duplication of facilities. Recommend that transport plans include policies that assist in the development of facilities and will ensure the cost-effectiveness and maximum community benefit of leisure provision.
11.4.3 'Priority Areas' for leisure provision	To acknowledge that rapid residential expansion is a valid	Recommend all rapidly growing settlements should have priority over the other settlements in the region. Recommend Social Development Plan incorporating a programme of provision concerned with social infra-

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
	criteria of need for facilities	<p>structure in general, and related to the physical expansion of settlements.</p> <p>Recommend adoption of Strategy 2 (page 13), i.e., sub-regional and town facilities at centre of settlement and neighbourhood facilities in the residential areas, particularly on the larger estates.</p> <p>Recommend needs of young families should particularly be borne in mind in the provision of neighbourhood facilities.</p>
11.4.4 Inverness	<p>To ensure that major facilities intended to serve a regional catchment be located in the town and that these should contain community facilities wherever possible since community facilities are deficient in the town</p> <p>to satisfy the need for informal entertainment facilities within the town, particularly for young people</p>	<p>Recommend that attention be given to the provision of a regional sports centre with associated community facilities, coinciding provision with the completion of improvements to the road communications system to the north.</p> <p>Recommend that regional sports centre should be designed to enable the tourist market to be exploited and an ideal location for the centre would be in the Bught Park on the west bank of the River Ness.</p> <p>Commend the proposed development of children's play areas and indoor facilities in the Merkinch area under the Scottish Sports Council's scheme for provision in areas of multiple deprivation.</p> <p>Recommend that the local authority promotes the development of an entertainment centre, designed both to meet the needs of the local community and to serve the tourist market.</p> <p>Recommend that the local authority considers financial support for the centre, bearing in mind the proposed community use of such a facility.</p>
11.4.5 Dingwall	<p>To consolidate its role as district capital although the continuance of this role depends upon the settlement policy to be adopted</p>	<p>Recommend that priority be given to the needs of the elderly and that a modest community facility geared to their needs be provided.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
11.4.6 Alness	<p>by local authorities. To satisfy the needs of the elderly</p> <p>To satisfy the leisure needs of the community, particularly in view of the recent rapid increases in population</p>	<p>Recommend urgent action for leisure provision, particularly in view of the continuing imbalance between residential development and the provision of recreational facilities.</p> <p>Recommend implementation of the proposals in the Jack Holmes' plan (1975) for recreational facilities, particularly those for a town park and the provision of neighbourhood play areas.</p> <p>Recommend the provision of community playing fields alongside Alness Academy which were a victim of recent financial cutbacks.</p> <p>Recommend encouragement should be given to further commercial development of informal and entertainment facilities, in line with the proposals in the Jack Holmes' plan (1975) which identified the need for <i>places of social interchange</i> - a need confirmed by this study. The feasibility of a joint commercial and local authority funded entertainment centre containing a small cinema, dancing facilities, a restaurant and cafe should be examined.</p> <p>Recommend renewed efforts to secure community access to the proposed Dalmore Social Club, which is intended to serve solely the employees of Highlands Fabricators. Local authority financial support should be conditional upon community access to the proposed facilities which are to be welcomed as a diversification of leisure provision in the town, and in this respect, the proposed athletic track is particularly important.</p> <p>Commend the proposal to enlarge the present 9-hole golf course to one of 18-holes and to construct accompanying social facilities.</p>
11.4.7 Inver-gordon	<p>To satisfy needs of residents, particularly in view of the demand for a community centre and restaurants</p>	<p>Recommend the development of a community centre serving the needs of the residents generally and, more particularly, those of the elderly, by either, in the short-term, undertaking extensive improvements to the District Council Hall in Joss Street, which is in need of repair, or, in the long-term, by the construction of a community wing adjacent to the existing secondary school. This latter course of action would particularly commend itself if houses, associated with the projected oil refinery at Nigg, are built.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
		<p>Recommend commercial development of restaurants linked with tourist activity should be encouraged.</p>
		<p>Recommend that playing fields and play areas should be provided on the Blackpark Estate.</p>
		<p>Recommend extension of the existing 9-hole golf course, either on the existing site or on a new course adjacent to its present location. This is not justifiable at present but would be a viable proposition in the longer term if the town continues to grow.</p>
<p>11.4.8 Tain</p>	<p>To satisfy the leisure needs of the community in view of the town's rapid expansion in recent years</p>	<p>Commend the Town Hall improvement which will supplement existing provision, and will render the Hall capable of supporting a wide range of community activities, including theatre and dancing. These facilities will also meet some of the leisure needs of the expanding communities of the Fearn Peninsula.</p> <p>Recommend a continuing review of the needs of the town's residents, particularly those of its new inhabitants, as the recent increase in population may be expected to bring about an eventual change in the social composition of the town which could result in the need for further provision in the mid-term.</p>
<p>11.4.9 Milton/ Kildary</p>	<p>To satisfy the leisure needs of the community in view of the rapid expansion in recent years</p>	<p>Recommend the provision of basic community facilities.</p> <p>Recommend support for the improvements to Kildary Hall.</p> <p>Recommend support for the provision of a play area and playing field alongside the primary school at Milton.</p>
<p>11.4.10 Cromarty</p>	<p>To satisfy the leisure needs of this expanding community which is badly served by existing provision</p>	<p>Recommend the reconsideration of the postponement, brought about by government cutbacks, of proposed improvements to the Cromarty Hall.</p>
<p>11.4.11 Seaboard villages</p>	<p>To satisfy the leisure needs of these communities which are particularly</p>	<p>Recommend the early provision of playing fields and accompanying changing facilities. The most appropriate location would be at Balintore.</p> <p>Recommend enhancing the existing hall at Balintore to make available further social and sports facilities in view of the demand for these which will materialise</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
	vulnerable to rapid social change because of their distinctive pattern of cultural and social life and their proximity to the projected oil refinery at Nigg	when construction of the oil refinery commences.
11.4.12 Nairn	To satisfy the leisure needs of the district capital of the South Moray Firth	Commend improvements to the harbour, thus enhancing the role of Nairn as a sailing centre, particularly in so far as these facilities could serve the leisure needs of many residents in the whole of the South Moray Firth area.
		Recommend improvements to the swimming baths, The needs of both the community and of tourists should be taken into account in any proposed improvements.
		Recommend the early development of a golf course to serve both community and tourist needs. Although Nairn should be the major beneficiary of such provision, the new course should be strategically located relative to the Culloden/Smithton/Balloch development so as to maximise its use.
11.4.13 Culloden/ Smithton/ Balloch	To satisfy the leisure needs of these new communities which are at present chronically under-provided with leisure facilities. In this way the deleterious social consequences which may result from the inadequate development of the social infrastructure could be avoided	<p>Recommend that immediate action be undertaken to provide basic community facilities.</p> <p>Recommend the implementation of plans for the construction of a secondary school which should be accompanied by an integrated community centre.</p> <p>Recommend that the existing community hall be repaired immediately. Temporary prefabricated accommodation should also be provided to meet needs for leisure provision in the short-term, pending the construction of permanent facilities.</p> <p>Recommend that playing fields and accompanying changing facilities should be provided immediately.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
<p>11.4.14 Institutional framework for provision</p>	<p>To ensure the rapid execution of agreed plans for leisure provision</p>	<p>Commend the discussions between the Regional and District authorities which have done much to clarify relationships between the two tiers of local government in the field of leisure provision.</p>
	<p>to ensure proper evaluation of people's recreational needs within the wider context of inter-departmental interests</p>	<p>Recommend the use of a corporate management approach within local authorities for leisure provision and planning.</p>
	<p>to promote and consolidate community activity, especially in a period of rapid social change</p>	<p>Recommend the appointment of Community Development Officers, particularly in the expanding communities.</p>
	<p>to encourage the establishment of community identity and to provide a focus for community-based activity</p>	<p>Recommend that local authorities encourage the establishment of District Recreation Associations, particularly in the expanding communities.</p>
<p>11.4.15 Smaller urban and rural communities</p>	<p>To provide support for these communities in a period of rapid social change and to maintain their protective social structure. This will help to conserve the</p>	<p>Recommend a relatively small-scale programme of grant aid, not only to improve community facilities, but also to help the regeneration of local leadership and community activity. Recommend that no cutback be made in grant aid to voluntary bodies in the less populous areas.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
11.4.16 Transport	<p>coherence of the communities and thus lessen the adverse effects of rapid social and economic change and of cyclical fluctuations in economic activity in the area</p>	<p>Commend the Highland Regional Council's statement in the Regional Report (Highland Regional Council, 1976) which makes clear their intention to support the extension of public transport and to foster new community transport schemes.</p>
11.4.17 Finance	<p>To provide leisure facilities contemporaneously with residential developments</p>	<p>Recommend that an agreed amount of finance be incorporated in programmes of house-building for investment in community facilities.</p>
	<p>to ensure community use of facilities</p>	<p>Recommend that, where local authority finance is sought in support of providing facilities for employees of oil-related industry, a condition of providing such support should be an agreement that the community will have access to the facilities concerned.</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
11.4.18 Tourism	To develop facilities for holiday-makers which also, especially in the off-season period, serve the community	<p>Commend the Highland Regional Council's statement in the Regional Report (Highland Regional Council, 1976) identifying the need for greater emphasis to be placed on <i>centre-based</i> holidays and for encouragement to be given to the development of all-weather and indoor facilities in the main holiday centres.</p> <p>Recommend that provision, wherever possible, meets both tourist and community demand (see, for example, 11.4.12).</p>
		<p>Commend the Highland Regional Council's desire to extend the winter holiday market, and in this respect welcome its assessment that winter sports development is feasible in the vicinity of Ben Wyvis.</p>
11.4.19 Commercial development	To ensure that commercial provision is appropriate	<p>Recommend that the local authorities urgently define guidelines for development control for private sector provision, with particular reference to the character, location and the potential groups of users, of such provision. With respect to tourist developments, provision should be encouraged which will meet both tourist and community demand.</p>
11.4.20 Existing buildings	To utilise for leisure purposes existing buildings which are not so used. This is important in an area where extensive new building remains financially prohibitive	<p>Recommend that local authorities undertake, as a matter of urgency, surveys to establish the availability of appropriate buildings, with the objective of utilising them, especially those in council ownership, and possibly on a temporary basis, to meet urgent leisure needs.</p>
11.4.21 School facilities	To capitalise on this major source of potential provision	<p>Recommend the lifting of the restriction on public use of some school facilities which has been caused by cutbacks in local authority public expenditure.</p> <p>Recommend that an <i>open-door</i> policy be adopted for school facilities, thus encouraging a more casual use by the community, particularly by individuals and groups who are unlikely to respond to organised activities.</p>
		<p>Recommend the appointment of part-time janitors, particularly in the evenings and at weekends, who</p>

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
11.4.22 Temporary pre-fab- ricated buildings	To satisfy the immed- iate need for purpose- built facilities	could supplement normal staff and thereby permit much longer periods of access to school facilities than would otherwise be possible. Recommend the use of temporary pre-fabricated buildings. These could in time be replaced by more permanent facilities or themselves be en- hanced for longer-term needs.
11.4.23 Management and organ- isation of facilities	To ensure full com- munity use of facilit- ies	Recommend that <i>monopoly</i> use of facilities be avoided where possible. Recommend that, wherever possible, facilities provided for employees of oil-related industry should be available for wider community use.

Lochcarron - Area Description and Recommendations

12.1 INTRODUCTION

12.1.1 The Lochcarron study area is characteristic of the Western Highlands in its remoteness, physical beauty and economic intractability. Communication links between the settlements are poor while crofting is the dominant type of agriculture. Tourism, however, at least in summer, is the major economic activity. The area has a strong Gaelic tradition while the influence of religion remains strong. The area contains large numbers of second homes and it is a popular place of retirement. Like many of the other study areas, Lochcarron has experienced a considerable decline in population, but this has slowed in recent years. There is no major town in the area, the largest settlement being Kyle of Lochalsh, with a population of only 800, and the villages retain a strong sense of their own individuality.

12.2 LEISURE AND RECREATION IN LOHCARRON

12.2.1 Despite the limited range of man-made facilities in the area, little time is spent on leisure pursuits in the home. Further, the absence of facilities has not diminished interest in leisure pursuits outside the home, although it is a matter of concern that many women (particularly housewives) and older people had no such interests. Participation rates in activities requiring man-made facilities are understandably low but the lack of such facilities has tended to lead to high rates of participation in active pursuits based on natural resources. Participation rates in arts, crafts and traditional activities, most of which do not require special facilities, were especially high in Lochcarron and these high rates were not restricted to traditional activities, but extended to the more formal arts, partly because of the interest of incomers in them.

12.2.2 There was a high level of incipient interest in active recreation, particularly in indoor swimming. Community facilities, notably halls, are the principal type of leisure facility in the area and there are very few facilities for entertainment and indoor sports. Hotels are the major type of informal/social facility and provide an illustration of the way in which demand from tourists can sustain facilities that are of value to residents. The Home Interview Survey revealed an antipathy to commercialised, urban-type provision for leisure, though the need for improved provision of leisure facilities was widely felt, and particularly so amongst the young (Table 18). Rising costs, local rivalries, bad communications and a lack of local leadership, however, all hinder the satisfaction of this need.

Table 18 : Lochcarron - Leisure Facilities Available Locally, Needed Locally and Considered Unsuited Locally

	Facilities Available	Facilities Needed	Facilities Unsuited
	Percentage of respondents		
Public house	85	6	6
Library	82	4	0
Village hall	81	2	0
Restaurant	80	5	1
Cafe	65	10	1
Dance hall	63	8	8
Playing field	58	14	2
Church hall	56	1	2
Playschools and nurseries	39	22	0
Discotheque	38	5	14
Youth club	37	28	9
Children's play area	37	30	1
Old people's facilities	23	38	3
Community centre	14	33	7
Swimming pool	10	68	7
Theatre	6	7	15
Bingo hall	4	0	61
Squash courts	3	14	20
Cinema	2	23	14
None	4	12	35

Source: Home Interview Survey

12.3 OIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

12.3.1 Oil-related industry is limited to the Howard Doris platform construction yard at Kishorn. At present most of the immigrant workers live either in the work camp on the site or on a cruise liner on Loch Kishorn, making the site the focus of the largest concentration of population in the area. All housing resources, services and communications in the area are under severe pressure. There is currently concern over the conflict between the interests of the oil developments and those of the tourist industry. An example of such a conflict is provided by the competition for local accommodation in private houses between the oil workers and tourists. Further, there are fears that once the boom is over, those young people who work on the site will leave to seek high earnings, similar to those they now earn, elsewhere and that out-migration will be worse than ever. Meanwhile, the social changes that Lochcarron was previously undergoing have undoubtedly been accelerated by the presence of the oil-related development.

12.4 LOCHCARRON - AIMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEISURE PROVISION

12.4.1 The impact of oil-related developments plays only a limited part in defining policies for leisure provision in the Lochcarron study area, in that the impact of the developments is limited in scale, extent and likely duration. In these circumstances the general needs of the study area should be paramount and satisfying them will require a sensitive strategy of provision that will preserve the essential rural character of the area and sustain the traditional patterns of leisure and society, while at the same time recognising the processes of economic and social change which are already apparent, if only in embryonic form. A hierarchical pattern of provision is recommended as being appropriate to the needs of the area.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
12.4.2 Lochcarron	To avoid socially damaging repercussions the village is facing and to promote social cohesion	Recommend urgent development of a leisure complex focused on a community centre that is capable of catering both for the needs of long-established residents and incomers alike. The centre should be up to the standard of Activity Centre Type D. Playing fields should be provided close to the centre. An all-weather surface should be provided.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
		Recommend as a matter of urgency the incorporation of a children's play area in the residential development in the village.
12.4.3 Kyle, Plockton	To recognise the competing and complementary natures of the two settlements and also of their key roles as twin foci for sub-regional facilities in the study area	Recommend that as far as possible, major facilities, other than those recommended for Lochcarron, should be located in the vicinity of these two settlements and that the dispersal of facilities throughout the area should be avoided. However, wherever practicable and appropriate, new facilities should be located at Kyle rather than Plockton.
12.4.4 Village halls	To sustain existing network of village halls in order that they may play a full role in the emerging hierarchy of facilities and in recognition of their vital role in reducing adverse social impacts	<p>Recommend that improvements to buildings should be financially supported where they arise through community initiatives.</p> <p>Recommend that halls which have already been, or are in the process of being, improved be regarded as district community centres.</p> <p>Recommend appointment of Community Development Officer which would increase effective use of halls (see below).</p>
12.4.5 Outdoor recreation	To provide facilities for a range of outdoor activities	<p>Recommend provision of grant aid, as a matter of urgency, to maintain and improve the existing playing fields.</p> <p>Recommend creation of network of playing fields in conjunction with district community centres.</p> <p>Evaluate feasibility of all-weather surfaces in selected localities.</p> <p>Commend the Navy's intention of placing sailing dinghies alongside Balmacara House and of providing a football pitch there for joint Navy/community use.</p>
12.4.6 Tourism	To stimulate the provision	Recommend entrepreneurial development of resource-based facilities on condition that these be available

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
	of a range of facilities that could not ordinarily be justified in terms of local demand only	for community use. In particular, recommend that the feasibility of a marina be examined. Plockton is the preferred location for this. Recommend provision of indoor facilities to satisfy wet-weather demand, preferably at Kyle.
12.4.7 Swimming pools	To satisfy the unique level of demand	Recommend that financial support be given as a matter of urgency for the proposed pool at Portree on Skye. Commend the choice of Plockton as an appropriate location for provision of pool at secondary school for use by mainland communities and immigrants.
12.4.8 Transport	To ensure efficient use of resources and to facilitate intra-area movement between communities and leisure and recreation centres	Recommend introduction of a pilot community transport scheme
12.4.9 Community Development Officer	To encourage participation in leisure activities	Recommend appointment of community development worker, particularly to work with those groups at risk.
12.4.10 Oil platform construction site at Kishorn	To improve level of leisure and recreation provision so that it relates to numbers of workers employed at the site and to lessen effect of dearth of man-made facilities	Recommend further provision for recreation off site, wherever this is possible, to serve the needs of residents and oil workers alike. Where it is essential that facilities be provided on site, recommend adoption of <i>open-door</i> policy to ensure that members of the local community have access to these facilities.
	to increase financial contributions	Recommend increased financial contribution beyond present level of £25,000 per annum.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
	from company to local communities	Recommend joint funding of facilities which are to serve both workers and residents.
12.4.11 Sabhal Mor Ostaig (Gaelic Educational Centre)	To conserve and sustain Gaelic culture	Commend financial support already given by Scottish Education Department and recommend that this facility is accorded continuing financial assistance.

South Argyll - Area Description and Recommendations

13.1 INTRODUCTION

13.1.1 The Cowal Peninsula has been caught between the social and economic influences of the Highlands and the Glasgow-Strathclyde conurbation and has already been subject to developments, particularly in relation to naval establishments, the impact of which overshadow that of the oil-related developments. Although the area has suffered continued emigration in the past, the population is now slowly growing as an increasing number of people retire to the area, although this latter has contributed to the very large proportion of elderly people in the population. Most employment in Cowal is in the service sector and the level of unemployment remains high.

13.2 LEISURE AND RECREATION IN SOUTH ARGYLL

13.2.1 The inhabitants of South Argyll had a higher commitment than those of any other study area to leisure pursuits in the home, but this did not lower their interest in pursuits outside the home. Indeed, the proportion of residents claiming no leisure interests outside the home was lower than in any other study area. Participation rates in informal/social activities were generally well below the average for all the study areas, while this was also true of participation rates in active recreation and arts, crafts and traditional activities. By contrast, those for spectating were higher than in any other study area, this no doubt being a reflection of the age structure of the population. Meanwhile, the proportion of residents that wanted to take up any activities was very low.

13.2.2 In this area, too, the distribution of leisure facilities is characterised by a concentration

in urban areas and a dearth in rural districts. The area is well provided with informal/social facilities, largely as a result of the tourist trade which supports facilities of this type which could not be sustained by the demands of residents alone.

Entertainment facilities were confined to the towns of Rothesay and Dunoon, but formal facilities were more widely distributed, largely the result of the inclusion of schools in this category of facility.

13.2.3 A range of facilities was considered to be needed locally (Table 19). Apart from the differences in demand for facilities between rural and urban areas, there was a marked difference between Dunoon and Rothesay, for whereas just over 60 per cent of those in Rothesay named no facilities which were needed locally, fewer than 10 per cent did so in Dunoon.

Table 19 : South Argyll - Leisure Facilities Needed Locally

	Dunoon	Rothesay	Rest of South Argyll	Total
	Percentage of respondents			
Cinema	84	0	40	49
Theatre	29	29	18	24
Community centre	32	0	28	24
Squash courts	32	0	18	20
Youth club	16	0	22	15
Old people's facilities	8	0	26	13
Discotheque	18	12	7	12
Children's play area	5	0	16	9
Playschools and nurseries	11	0	5	6
None	8	64	9	20

Source: Home Interview Survey

13.3 OIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

13.3.1 The only oil-related developments are the platform construction yards at Ardyne Point and Portavadie. The latter, however, has received no orders and, in view of the lack of demand for oil platforms, would appear to be unlikely to do so in the future. Portavadie is close to the village of Tighnabruaich which consists largely of holiday or retirement homes and whose inhabitants

rarely mix with the residents of the nearby village of Kames. These communities lack some of the positive features found in other parts of South Argyll and in the other study areas. There is no egalitarian structure and no common interest or social structure. Further, there is no traditional economic base and no tradition of face-to-face interaction. The result is that in Kames and Tighnabruaich there was neither the leadership nor the social cohesion to counter the impact the construction of the Partavadie yard had on these communities. By contrast, naval developments and the regular summer invasion of holidaymakers from the Glasgow-Strathclyde conurbation have created a robustness in the communities around Ardyne Point that has better equipped them to face the impact of the Ardyne site. This impact has, however, been extremely limited since although the work force at Ardyne Point has at times exceeded 2,000, a large number of these workers travel to Ardyne daily from their homes across the Clyde.

13.3.2 The recent decline in the fortunes of the oil-related industries of South Argyll may mean that the tourist industry, rather than being threatened by these developments as the Jack Holmes Report (1974) suggested, may in fact benefit if the sites are converted into tourist facilities.

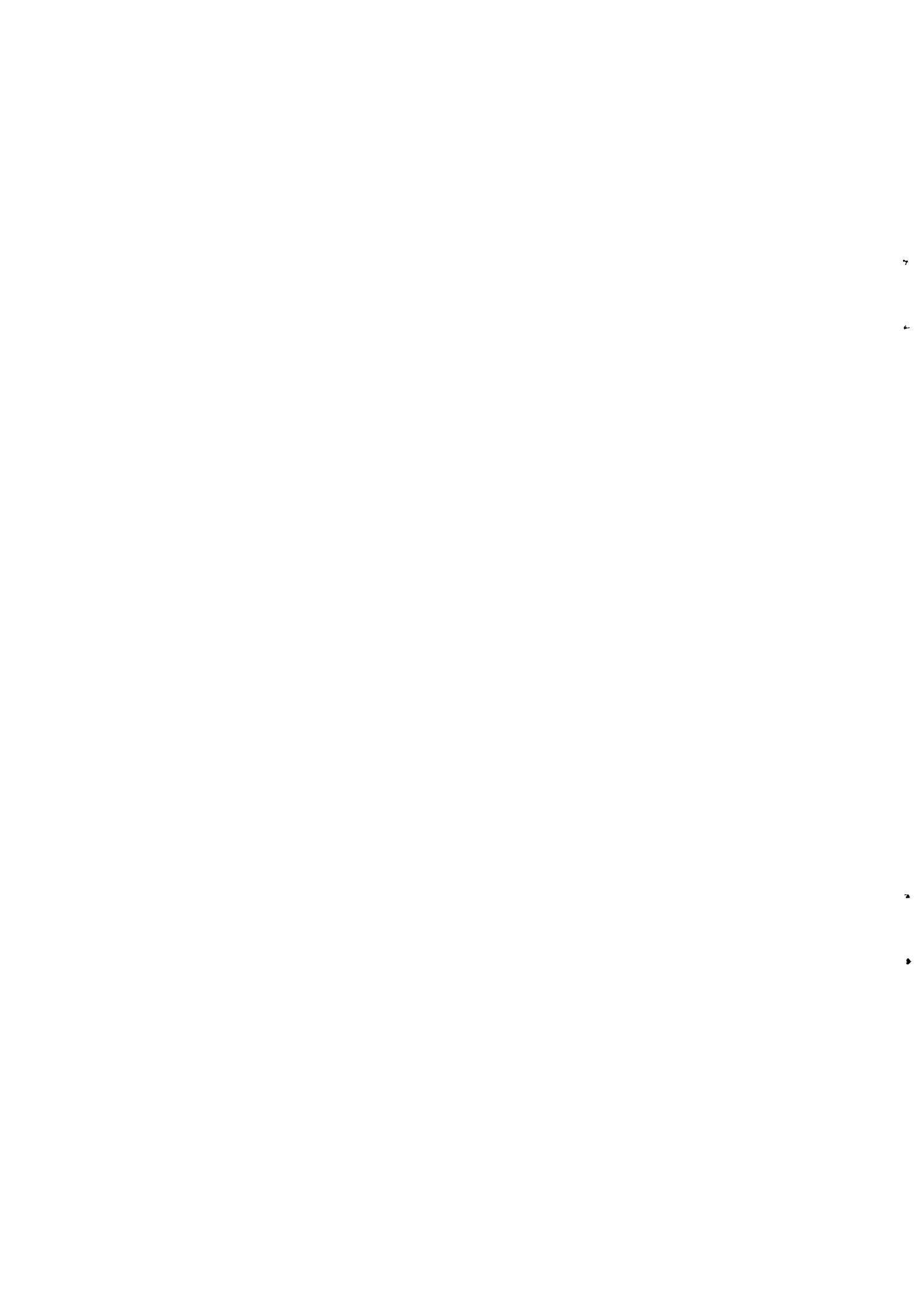
13.4 SOUTH ARGYLL - AIMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEISURE PROVISION

13.4.1 Any plan for leisure provision in South Argyll that is intended to cater solely for workers in oil-related industry is bound to be speculative. The Research Team's proposals therefore reflect a more general assessment of the character of the area, its social and economic structure, and the needs of its residents.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
13.4.2 Portavadie	To ensure the early transformation of site into a major tourist facility, based on accommodation provided by support village and designed to exploit	Recommend the immediate adoption of the proposals for the after use of the site contained in a report to Sea Platform Constructors (Thomas Smith, et.al., 1975). The leisure facilities provided should serve both visitors and residents.

TOPIC	AIM	RECOMMENDATION
	the wealth of natural resources in the area	
13.4.3 Ardyne	To ensure the community derives the maximum possible benefit from re-instatement of site	Recommend the exploitation of the recreational and tourist potential of site, when re-instatement takes place, an alternative outlined in the report by Inland & Waterside Planners (1975).
13.4.4 Tourism	To increase recreational provision in the area which would not be justified in terms of the demand from residents alone	<p>Recommend provision of wet weather and entertainment facilities.</p> <p>Recommend that commercial development of tourist facilities be encouraged throughout the study area.</p> <p>Recommend that any commercially generated facilities for entertainment and for formal recreational activities and sports be located in Dunoon and Rothesay.</p> <p>Recommend that the design of such facilities incorporates provision for spectators, amongst whom the elderly and retired are prominent.</p>
13.4.5 Elderly people	To meet the needs of members of this age group who constitute a large part of the population of the study area	<p>Recommend appointment of Community Development Officers to provide aid and encouragement in respect of leisure activities to the elderly and, indeed, to other sectors of the community.</p> <p>Recommend the development of community transport services with the primary purpose of facilitating communication between the rural settlements but also of providing greater opportunities for those in the rural areas to visit the urban centres.</p> <p>Recommend that as local initiatives develop to improve village halls, the opportunity should be taken to create improved multi-purpose facilities, leading to the establishment of a small number of district community centres. Such centres could also be constructed in association with tourist/community facilities.</p>
13.4.6 Young people	To meet the needs of members of this age group, particularly in the urban areas	Recommend the early construction of a community centre in Dunoon, containing a wide range of facilities. If possible, such a facility could be linked to provision for tourists.

Appendix



Appendix

1. HOME INTERVIEW SURVEY

This survey was based on a random sample of households in the study areas, drawn from the valuation rolls. Interviewing took place from the end of July to the end of September, 1975. The questionnaire included 128 questions and required some 50 to 60 minutes to answer. In addition, 10 per cent of the respondents were asked to give a further in-depth interview in order to elicit information about their attitudes towards community life, work and leisure. A total of 936 interviews was obtained.

2. SURVEY OF OIL-RELATED INDUSTRIES

A detailed survey of recreational patterns, similar to the Home Interview Survey, was carried out at nine oil-related industrial sites. Interviewing was undertaken during August and September, 1975. Again, supplementary in-depth interviews, based on a check list of points to be discussed, were conducted, although in this case with 14 per cent of the respondents. A total of 252 interviews was obtained.

3. SURVEY OF USE OF LEISURE FACILITIES

This survey was based on interviews and was carried out in two halves in order to obtain information on the patterns of use of leisure facilities during both the winter and the summer periods. The winter survey took place from 29th March to 8th April, 1975 and the summer survey from 30th June to 19th July, 1975. A total of 1,259 interviews was obtained from the winter survey and of 1,323 from the summer survey. The full range of leisure facilities was covered in the survey and interviewing was based on a questionnaire comprising 50 questions. Res-

pondents were chosen randomly, either within the facility itself or as they left it.

4. SURVEY OF LEWIS EXPATRIATES

This survey, conducted by one of the Research Team's sociologists, covered a sample of 30 Lewis expatriates, presently living in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Easter Ross, who were given unstructured in-depth interviews, each lasting approximately one and a half hours. All the interviewees were chosen because they had shown, through their involvement in informal expatriate networks, *prima facie* evidence of wishing to retain some form of contact with Lewis and its people.

5. FACILITIES SURVEY

This investigation of the supply of recreational facilities in the study areas was very comprehensive and comprised postal surveys of both facilities owned by voluntary associations and those under public and private control, field work, including visits by the team's consultant architect, and the compilation of inventories of facilities in the study areas.

6. LOCHABER STUDY

This survey was a reconnaissance study of Lochaber to determine whether its experience in accommodating large new industries offered any lessons for the oil-affected areas. The survey took the form of field visits, involving both extensive discussions with a wide range of people and inspections of recreational developments.

7. SOCIAL ATTITUDE STUDY

This survey comprised a programme of interviewing by the team's sociologists, involving in-depth tape-recorded interviews in the study areas with residents belonging to different socio-economic groups. Selection of respondents was made with the help of local contacts. In their study of social attitudes, use was also made by the sociologists of questions asked in the Home Interview Survey.

8. ECONOMIC SURVEY

The investigation of the economics of leisure provision focused on two separate aspects, the financing of leisure provision and the history of leisure provision by oil-related companies for their workers. Both aspects of the study were carried out by economists. Inquiries were made of Central Government departments and agencies, Local Authorities, Charitable Trusts and industrial concerns with regard to their roles in the financing of leisure facilities, using both informally structured interviews and questionnaire surveys. Investigations into leisure provision by oil-related companies involved both a study of relevant published material and field investigations, which included discussions and interviews with representatives of all the major oil-related companies in the study areas.

9. LITERATURE AND NEWSPAPER SEARCHES

A large body of published and unpublished material on the study areas and on the development of the Scottish oil industry was consulted and a careful perusal was made of each issue of 17 different newspapers published in, or containing information about, the study areas.

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